

REPORT OF NATIONAL SEMINAR ON "GANDHIAN VISION FOR 'विकसित भारत', October 3-4, 2024, Organized by  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES,

2 messages

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Bcc: hmfc@iul.ac.inREPORT OF NATIONAL SEMINAR ON  
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The National Seminar on "Gandhian Vision for 'विकसित भारत'", conducted (online) from October 3-4, 2024, was organized by the Department of Humanities & Social Sciences, Integral University. The seminar aimed to delve deeply into Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy, examining its potential to guide India's transformation into a "विकसित भारत". Discussions centered on Gandhian principles such as non-violence, self-reliance (Swaraj), and social equity (Sarvodaya), analyzing how these ideas can shape policies to address contemporary challenges like sustainable development, social inclusion, and ethical governance. The seminar effectively demonstrated the enduring relevance of Gandhian thought in shaping modern India's journey toward becoming a developed nation. Across two days of discussions, participants consistently underscored that Gandhi's values are not only practical frameworks that can guide current developmental policies. The emphasis on Swaraj, Sarvodaya, sustainable development, and women's empowerment provides a comprehensive approach to societal well-being. Sessions on Gandhian thought in governance, environmental stewardship, and education illustrated that his ideas continue to address issues in today's rapidly evolving socio-political landscape.

**Day 1: October 3, 2024****Session 1: Inaugural Session**

Day 1 began with an inaugural session at 10:00 AM, introduced by Prof. (Dr.) Zeba Aqil, Head, Department of Humanities & Social Sciences. In her opening remarks, she highlighted the significance of Gandhian philosophy as a timeless resource for individual and societal reform. She emphasized that Gandhi's vision extends beyond his era, offering a framework to address India's present challenges. Dr. Anas Jameel, Assistant Professor (Political Science) introduced the objectives of the seminar, emphasizing the urgent need for a Gandhian thought to meet modern demands in governance, environmental sustainability, and social welfare.

The Keynote Lecture for the session was delivered by Prof. (Dr.) Parwez Nazir from the Department of History, Aligarh Muslim University, who offered a comprehensive overview of Gandhian philosophical contributions and their relevance in current times. Dr. Nazir's lecture focused on the values of non-violence, self-reliance, and communal harmony as the foundation for economic resilience. He argued that in a globalized world marked by social inequality and environmental crises, Gandhi's ideas of simple living and moral governance are more relevant than ever. Through various examples, Dr. Nazir demonstrated how applying Gandhian principles could address social disparities and foster a more inclusive and self-reliant society. The session concluded with a vote of thanks from Dr. Anshali Anjum, Assistant Professor (History) & Co Convenor.

The second session of Day 1 of the National Seminar on "Gandhian Vision for 'विकसित भारत'" began with a welcome address by Dr. Zeeshan Warsi, Assistant Professor (History). Dr. Warsi introduced the session's theme and emphasized the significance of revisiting Gandhian thought to address present-day challenges in India. The keynote speaker, Dr. Syed Tahseen Raza, Assistant Professor, Department of Strategic and Security Studies at Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh. Dr. Raza's presentation, titled "Gandhian Thought in Contemporary Times," explored how Gandhi's ideals of non-violence, self-reliance, and communal harmony remain critical in addressing today's complex social, political, and economic challenges. He discussed the application of Gandhian values in contemporary contexts, particularly in promoting ethical governance, social cohesion, and sustainable practices. The session was followed by a series of paper presentations (28) by researchers & faculty from various institutions, each contributing a unique perspective on the relevance of Gandhian philosophy to modern India. The day concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Tabinda Anjum, Assistant Professor (History) who expressed gratitude to the speakers and participants.

**Day 2: October 4, 2024****Session 1:**

The second day began with a Welcome note by Dr. Anshali Anjum, Assistant Professor (History). The keynote speaker, Dr. M. Christhu Doss from Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research, Pondicherry, delivered a lecture on the theme "Envisioning a Sustainable Swaraj: A Gandhian Approach for Viksit Bharat." Dr. Doss emphasized the environmental aspects of Gandhi's philosophy, arguing that his principles of minimalism, ecological balance, and self-sufficiency offer critical insights for sustainable development in modern India. Dr. Doss discussed the idea of an approach to development that respects natural resources and promotes economic models aligned with environmental preservation.

Dr. Doss proposed that modern India's developmental policies could greatly benefit from integrating Gandhian principles, particularly in the context of climate change and sustainable development. He argued that a true Swaraj in Gandhi's sense would involve not only political autonomy but also ecological stewardship and respect for future generations. Dr. Doss's lecture sparked provoking discussions among participants, with many agreeing that sustainable development rooted in Gandhian values could help address pressing global environmental challenges and build resilience in Indian communities. The morning session concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Zeeshan Warsi, Assistant Professor (Pol. Sci.) at 11:50 AM, followed by a break.

**Session 2:**

The afternoon session resumed with a welcome note to the participants by Dr. Pallavi, Assistant Professor (History). Dr. Shreya Pathak from Banaras Hindu University delivered a lecture in this session titled "Gandhi on Women: From Principles to Praxis towards Viksit Bharat." Dr. Pathak explored Gandhi's progressive views on women's rights and his belief in the importance of women's roles in social and national development. She highlighted Gandhi's advocacy for gender equity and social reform, examining contemporary policies promoting women's inclusion and empowerment. Dr. Pathak argued that women's active participation is essential for a "Viksit Bharat," an inclusive, egalitarian society. The session concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Anas Jameel, Assistant Professor (Pol. Sci.).

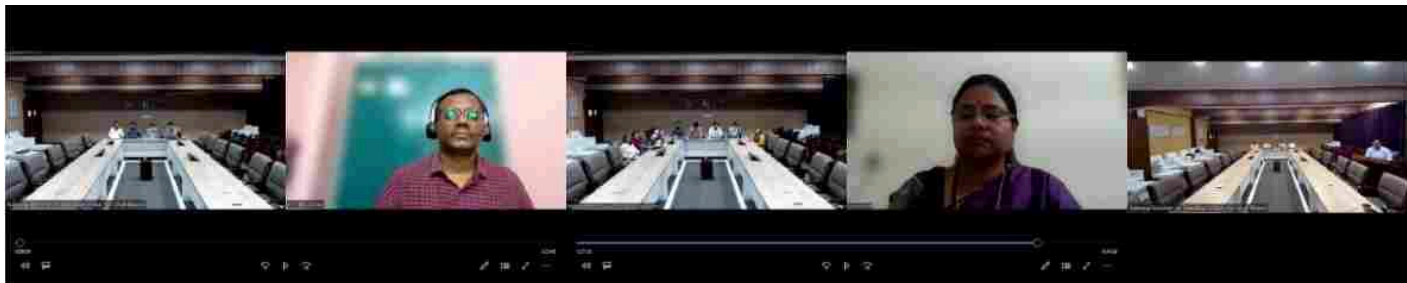
**Valedictory Session:**

The seminar concluded with a valedictory session chaired by Prof. (Dr.) Zeba Aqil, who provided closing remarks & summarized the seminar's accomplishments. She expressed appreciation for the participants' contributions, highlighting the valuable insights shared on applying Gandhian principles in contemporary settings. She emphasized the importance of continuing the dialogue on Gandhian thought in the journey toward a sustainable and inclusive India.

Gandhi's legacy, not only as a historical figure but as a guiding force for social and economic transformation in India. **Prof. Aqil** reiterated that Gandhian values of social and social equity hold the potential to navigate India toward holistic development and urged the attendees to continue exploring and applying these principles in their respective domains. The seminar was successful in fostering interdisciplinary discourse, bridging historical Gandhian philosophy with contemporary development goals. It underscored the role of education as a catalyst for policy innovation, social reform, and ethical governance. The seminar concluded on an optimistic note, with participants expressing renewed commitment to contribute toward a "विकसित भारत," aligning with Gandhi's vision of an inclusive, self-reliant, and morally guided nation.

Almost 75+ participants from different parts of the country & institutions participated in the National Seminar. The program was well organized and conducted by **Anshal Ali Tiger, Dr. Zeeshan Warsi, Dr. Anas Jameel, Dr. Tabinda**, under the able leadership of **Prof. Zeba Aqil**, Head, Humanities & Social Sciences, Integral University, Lucknow.

**Glimpses of the event:**



Regards,  
**Prof. Zeba Aqil**,  
Head,  
Humanities and Social Sciences,  
Integral University, Lucknow

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Mon, Sep 15, 2025 at 11:51 AM

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