

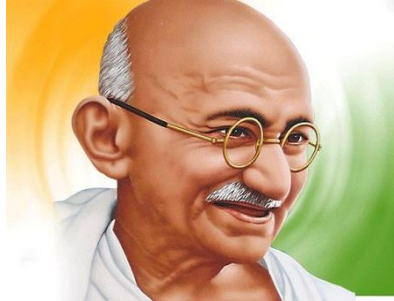


“The Relevance of Gandhi in the 21st Century”

A One-Day State-Level Seminar (Under the Aegis of RUSA 2.0)
To Commemorate the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi

Sophia College (Autonomous), Mumbai.

Saturday, 18th January 2020



ORGANISERS: The Departments of Education, Life Sciences and Political Science, Sophia College (Autonomous), Mumbai.

COLLABORATORS: 1. Gandhi Foundation 2. Mani Bhavan Gandhi Sangrahalaya
3. Khadi Gramodyog 4. The Dept. of DDGM, Sophia Polytechnic.

SCHEDULE

8:00 am **Registration and Breakfast**

Venue: SOPHIA BHABHA AUDITORIUM

9:10 am **Inauguration and Felicitation of the Eminent Speakers**

Keynote Address: Dr Usha Thakkar “*Insights From Gandhi*”

Speakers:

Dr Jignasa Shah: “*Khadi: India’s Signature Fabric*”

Dr Kannama Raman: “*Gandhi’s Views on Education: A Critique of the Colonial Education System and Western Civilization*”

Tushar Gandhi: “*Are We Worthy of Gandhi ?*”

Venue: SOPHIA CENTRAL LAWN

12:45 pm **Lunch**

2:00 pm **Fashion Exhibition** of Khadi garments, designed by DDGM Sophia Polytechnic students and modelled by Sophia College and DDGM students

3:00 pm **Vote of Thanks and National Anthem**

Venue: SOPHIA CANTEEN EXTENSION:

11 am to 4 pm:

Book Exhibition by Gandhi Book Centre, Bombay Sarvodaya Mandal, Tardeo, Mumbai.

Sale of articles by Khadi Village Industries Commission, Khadi Gramodyog, Irla, Mumbai.

3:30 to 4:30 pm: **A visit to Mani Bhavan Gandhi Sangrahalaya**

Registrations are open to all students, faculty, NGOs and the public.

Please be in your seats by 9.00 am.

Mahatma Gandhi is often called “a Saint and a Politician”. In fact, he was a great humanist who gave a new definition to religion: religion is to serve humans. Gandhi advocated an activist philosophy of non-violence by using diverse methods to campaign for social change, including critical forms of education and persuasion, mass non-cooperation, civil disobedience, nonviolent direct action with social, political, cultural and economic forms of intervention. Gandhi was a man of self-reliance. He urged Indians to return to their roots through small-scale farming, while spinning *khadi* fabric on a *charka*, sitting cross legged on the floor, practicing vegetarianism, with a reverence for life and nonviolence. Gandhiji rejected any kind of discrimination or victimization of mankind on the basis of race, religion, place of birth, wealth or health. Gandhism opposes every form of discrimination and violence, and proposes love and nonviolence. Thus, Gandhian humanism is a much-needed antidote to the contemporary crises in human values.

Our Eminent Speakers:

DR USHA THAKKAR is the Honorary Director, Institute of Research on Gandhian Thought and Rural Development. She is also the Honorary Secretary, Mani Bhavan Gandhi Sangrahalaya, Mumbai. She was formerly, Professor and Head, Dept. of Political Science, SNDT Women’s University, Mumbai.

DR JIGNASA SHAH is the Head, Department of Dress Design and Garment Manufacturing, Sophia Polytechnic. She is actively involved in bringing out an awareness of the use of environmentally-friendly textiles and printing alternatives and has successfully incorporated her research into her professional work.

DR KANNAMA RAMAN is a Political Scientist and Retired Professor, University of Mumbai. She has numerous publications to her credit and specialises in Human Rights and Healthcare.

MR TUSHAR GANDHI, the great-grandson of Mahatma Gandhi, is best known for establishing the Mahatma Gandhi Foundation in 1998. He is the President of the Gandhi Research Foundation, Mumbai. He is also the Director of the Gandhi Research Foundation, Jalgaon, Maharashtra.

Sophia College (Autonomous), Mumbai, founded in 1940, is affiliated to the University of Mumbai. Though it is a Christian Minority Institution, students of all faiths are welcome. The main goal of Sophia is *the relentless search for wisdom, through an education that is holistic and transformative*. The Governing Body of the Society for the Higher Education of Women in India runs the College. It is dedicated to the all-round education of youth. According to a long-standing tradition, the staff takes a personal interest in the harmonious growth of each student entrusted to their care. Sophia College was NAAC re-accredited (3rd cycle) with an ‘A’ Grade in 2015, and achieved a CGPA of 3.70 on a scale of 4. Sophia College was granted Academic Autonomy in 2018, and it continues to strive for excellence. Many events are being conducted in keeping with the theme of the year 2019-2020, *Fostering Secularism and Social Responsibility*.

Organisers of the Seminar:

Seminar Convenor **Dr Paul Rozario**, *Head, Department of Political Science* (9082444035)

Dr Hemalatha Ramachandran, *Head, Department of Life Sciences* (9892735761)

Dr Andrea Coutinho, *Head, Department of Education* (9870423813)

Sophia College Address: Sophia College (Autonomous), Bhulabhai Desai Road, Mumbai 400026

The college campus can be accessed easily from both Bhulabhai Desai Road and Pedder Road. The Sophia College Lane branches off from Bhulabhai Desai Road, in front of Breach Candy Hospital near the Raymond showroom and it leads straight up to the main gates of the campus. The rear gate entrance is accessed from Vivek Singh Lane, which skirts Sterling Apartments, on Pedder Road.

Local Public Transport: Grant Road (Western Railway) is the nearest station. BEST bus routes 155 and 157 connect Grant Road station to the college via Pedder Road. Several bus routes on Bhulabhai Desai Road (37, 39, 63, 81, 133, 151) and on Pedder Road (28, 33, 57, 83, 84 Ltd, 86, 88, 93) connect the college to various points in the city.

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