



ISSN Print: 2394-7500  
ISSN Online: 2394-5869  
Impact Factor: 3.4  
IJAR 2014; 1(1): 330-331  
www.allresearchjournal.com  
Received: 14-10-2014  
Accepted: 20-11-2014

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## Relevance of Mahatma Gandhi today: A note

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### Abstract

Gandhiji's principle of morality in society and politics inspires the spiritual development of a person as well as fulfilling his social and political obligations. It is necessary for the creation of values and a just and social and political system and motivates the person to know his Jnanam. Therefore, solutions to current social and political problems are possible only when one recognizes feels and assimilates Gandhi's values and ideals.

**Keywords:** Globalization, global warming, democracy, environment, non-violence

### Introduction

**Preface** in the turbulent times where the world is grappled with so many problems, it is imperative to strive to inculcate Gandhian philosophy in various facets of life and governance. The present age is an era full of challenges where humanity itself is cursing humanity. At present, moral values are declining in politics. The main economic problems of the country are poverty, unemployment and economic inequality. In the name of globalization, multinational companies are entering into housing for profiteering and domestic industries are also being damaged due to this. The problem of environmental pollution is an international problem. The whole world is scorched by the fire of terrorism. Therefore, the development of the world can only take place on the path of non-violence, love, peace and justice. Therefore, with a view to resolving all the above problems and safeguarding human values, the idea of Mahatma Gandhi is relevant at the present time.

### Relevance of Mahatma Gandhi

The concept of Sarvodaya propounded by Gandhiji is based on freedom and equality, which is the basis of modern public welfare state. Gandhian idea of decentralization of power can be implemented in democracies through empowered local self governments at grass root level. Democracy can be achieved in real sense only when there is a situation of freedom and equality in all spheres of life, social, economic and political. Gandhiji's idea of modernization of politics is an important contribution to solve political problems and make politics a means of public welfare <sup>[1]</sup>. In order to remove the distortions present in Indian democracy, the idea of decentralization, ie Panchayati Raj, as propounded by Gandhiji, is relevant. Adopting the vision of Mahatma Gandhi, democracy will have to be restored and only then the trust of the people will be able to be established and the existing institutions will be able to give something to the people. Relevant for diagnosis of economic problems.

Gandhi was tolerant towards all religions and the world today needs more and more religiously and faith wise tolerant people in societies where violence is committed in the name of religion. Tolerance in the society will help in neutralizing the ethnocentric bias in the globe that is taking place day by day on the basis of religion, caste, ethnicity and region etc. Gandhiji was against the caste system and coined the term Harijan to pay respect to the lower caste people. As the Caste system is still prevalent in the Indian society, the Gandhian philosophy is useful to create a casteless society where everyone is treated equally irrespective of their caste. Gandhian view of socialism is not political but more social in its approach, as Gandhiji thought of a society with no poverty, no hunger, no unemployment and education and health for all. These Gandhian ideologies will continue to act as the lighthouse for Indian policy makers.

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The problem of environmental pollution is an international problem. Industrially developed countries are responsible for the increasing balance between oxygen and carbon dioxide in the environment <sup>[2]</sup>.

Today, the change in climate has become a problem, due to which the warming in the atmosphere poses a risk of melting of frozen ice on the icy glacier and the northern and southern fog. The day is not far when coastal cities of many countries, including India, will get in the sea due to the rise in sea level. Therefore, decentralized power testifies to the concept's relevance.

Mahatma Gandhi provided the weapon of moral strength to the habitual world of violence and cruelty. War is not a problem option. On the first International Day, United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said that today's society, which is prone to violence, terror and inequality, needs Gandhiji's principles more than ever. In fact, the objectives for which the United Nations was established (peace, tolerance and human dignity) are those for which Gandhiji fought throughout his life.<sup>3</sup> Declaring International Non-Violence Day shows the relevance of Mahatma Gandhi. When 53 Nobel laureates in Geneva explored the global crisis, the reason for this was to blame the principled politics and look at Mahatma Gandhi with hopeful eyes <sup>[4]</sup>.

Today terrorism is an international problem. On September 11, 2001, the US World Trade Centre and the Department of Defence Pentagon were terrorized. On December 13, 2001, the Indian Parliament was attacked by a terrorist. Today, the Peace Nobel laureates around the world are considering Gandhi as their inspiration, saying that history is not developed by any domination and sovereignty but by love, peace and justice. At this time Mahatma Gandhi is the only man in the world who represents the suffering humanity <sup>[5]</sup>.

Finally, in the developmental course of civilization, the use of force in resolving disputed matters before mankind is not only fundamentally wrong, but it contains the seeds of self-destruction. Gandhiji's philosophy based on moral strength is like a cool ray of hope, it can establish peace in the world.

## Conclusion

In today's scientific age, if humanity is to be saved from the destruction of the third world war, then Gandhi's model has to be adopted, otherwise human civilization will cease to exist from this earth. India is a country of villages, so rural development is the cornerstone of Indian development. Only through the Gandhian concept of decentralization will the establishment of democracy in real sense be possible by resolving public participation, equality and economic problems. Centralized economic power led to pollution of the environment. The water of the rivers becomes poisonous, acid rain causes destruction of crops, aquatic organisms and global warming is also a consequence of industrialization which is indicative of Gandhi's relevance. Terrorism is an international problem. Mahatma Gandhi's idea is relevant with a view to stopping terrorism and protecting human values. Gandhiji's political contributions offered us Independence but his ideologies enlightened India as well as the world even today after so many years. Every individual, thus, should follow the key Gandhian ideologies in their day to day life for a happy, prosperous, healthy, harmonious and sustainable future.

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