



Relevance of Gandhian Philosophy in Contemporary Period

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ABSTRACT

Mahatma Gandhi was one of the most dynamic personalities of India who molded the very outlook of the world. His greatness, is both for his winning the freedom for India, on his being the pioneer of non-violence and non co-operation movement. Gandhian philosophy has still great relevance in contemporary period also. There are many who think it rather odd that we should still consider it worthwhile to debate the relevance of Gandhian ideas to contemporary India. The most relevant Gandhian theory in contemporary India are – Gandhiji's Democracy, Gandhiji's Non-violence, Decentralization of power, Panchayatiraj system, Satyagraha, Techniques of Satyagraha (Non co-operation, Civil disobedience, Strike, Fasting, Hijrat), Sarvodaya, Swaraj, Economic ideas, His view on Swadeshi, etc. There was no aspect of economic life which Gandhiji left untouched. Gandhiji was not a theorist but a karmayogi and had a practical approach to problems before him. He realized the circumstances under which he was giving his ideas. He was a practical idealist. He settled all disputes between Britishers and Indians by peaceful means. To him peaceful means is a proper means to settle any conflict. Mahatma Gandhi always wanted to establish unity among the diversity for establishment of permanent peace in India. For some time it was considered that Gandhian Philosophy and methods of struggle could not be put into actual practice and provide no practical solution against oppression, but as the time has passed with that these methods have established their effectiveness and we find that through these methods Gandhiji could relieve Indian from the world's mightiest empire. These methods, however, require proper discipline and proper training of mind.

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