

## Programmes / Activities 2014

Report by Dr.Nisha Bala Tyagi,Deputy,Dean Academics

Focusing on the need to promote Gandhian Ideology and actions, the following programmes were conducted at Gandhi Bhawan during 2014 with due permission from the Managing Committee .

**On 3<sup>rd</sup> January**, Mr. Arun Gandhi, Great grandson of Mahatma Gandhi was invited to speak on 'Message of Nonviolence.' Mr Gandhi spoke about his experiences with the Mahatma, highlighting Gandhiji's message that a diary of 'good and bad' thoughts should be maintained by everyone to be able to see where one goes wrong.

A **musical programme** by 'Keystone Boychoir' group, Pennsylvania was also organized the same day in which 50 students from U.S. participated and sang peace songs.

**On 15<sup>th</sup> January**, 42 case studies for the 'Community Outreach' competition were received . To reinforce the need to familiarize younger generation with Gandhiji's idea of *Sarvodaya*, students were asked to do a case study of 'people who need us'. Students were asked to talk to beggar's, old people, rickshaw pullers and women in distress and submit their reports before the deadline. The best three were awarded prizes.

**On 20<sup>th</sup> January** Dr. Ravi Bhatia, Member, M.C., Gandhi Bhawan gave a lecture on 'Gandhiji ke vichar aur vyavahaar' Dr. Bhatia spoke on the value system of Mahatma Gandhi and how they should be implemented in our life. He promoted the need to be honest and truthful in one's practical life.

**On 22<sup>nd</sup> January**, a meeting of Teachers-in-Charges of Gandhi Study Circle of colleges were organized to share their views for promoting Gandhian thought and action and were requested make a calendar of events to be held in their colleges.

**On 30<sup>th</sup> January**, the Martyrs' Day, Gandhiji's favourite bhajans and prayers were held, followed by a two-minute silence. In January a Music Composition Competition took place on the lyrics of the winner of the 'lyrics writing competition' on nonviolence held on 2.9.2013. The song was released on the Martyrs' Day by Dr.Asram Parvaiz, Chairperson of Gandhi Bhawan.

**On 7<sup>th</sup> February**, a Shramdaan – Cleanliness drive was organized in collaboration with NSS(former co-ordinator Dr Aarati Saxena), Delhi University. Around 70 students of campus colleges participated in 'clean-up' their college surroundings programme. Brooms, hand gloves and masks were provided by Gandhi Bhawan.

**On 12<sup>th</sup> February**, the first Charkha spinning Certificate Course was started with the approval of the Managing Committee, Gandhi Bhawan.

**On 4<sup>th</sup> March**, a competition 'Naming the Trees' of Gandhi Bhawan was held to familiarize the students of various trees at Gandhi Bhawan. Around 40 trees were identified with their English and Botanical names with the help of Dr. Sushma Moitra ,Dept. of Botany,MH.

**On 6<sup>th</sup> March**, an Ex-Tempore competition was organized. Students were given quotes of Mahatma Gandhi and students were asked to speak on the same. Interesting points emerged from the young minds were noted down.

**On, 7<sup>th</sup> March**, the International Women's Day, a symposium was organised in collaboration with All India Radio on 'Education and Security of Girl Students of North East'. The Pro Vice Chancellor was the Chief Guest on this occasion. The ideas generated gave directions towards national integration.

**On 12<sup>th</sup> March**, one-day yatra(visit) to National Gandhi Museum, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti and Birla House was organized for the volunteers of Gandhi Bhawan. At National Gandhi Museum, the students were introduced to various kinds of Charkhas and Gandhiji's belongings Library and Exhibitions.

**From 12<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> March**, at the 'Gandhi screening week' Gandhi Bhawan screened documentaries/ films on Mahatma Gandhi. This was appreciated by the audience.

**On 28<sup>th</sup> March**, a lecture by Dr. N. Radhakrishnan was organized. He spoke on 'Gandhiji's Talisman: Its Relevance in the Socio-Political Scenario'. Large number of students attended the same and appreciated his thoughts on how sharing and caring can help one make one selfless.

**On 22<sup>nd</sup> March**, Competition on 'Depictive Images of Mahatma Gandhi' was held. A large number of students participated in the same and enjoyed the event by sketching their reflections on the Mahatma's images.

**On 30<sup>th</sup> March**, a Creative Writing Competition on the quotes of Mahatma Gandhi was organized for Students, Teachers and Non-teaching employees of Delhi University. The completion required the practical experience of sharing one good action with the society. Wonderful experiences were shared by the participants.

**In the month of May**, 'Naming the Trees of the Core Campus' project was given to Dr. Sushma Moitra, Department of Botany, Miranda House. She submitted a good report with pictures and other relevant details.

**On 12<sup>th</sup> August**, 'Gandhi Quiz Competition' was held from the autobiography of Mahatma Gandhi. The questions were framed by Dr. Nisha Bala Tyagi.

**On 19<sup>th</sup> August**, a Creative Writing Competition on topic 'There is a higher courts than Courts of Justice' (Mahatma Gandhi) (bilingual) was held for college students of Delhi University. A large number of students participated.

**On 26<sup>th</sup> August**, a Creative writing competition for the non-teaching employees of Delhi University was held on the topic 'Morality is rooted in the purity of our hearts'(Mahatma Gandhi)

**On 25<sup>th</sup> to 29 August**, a Film week was organized in Gandhi Bhawan. Films like 'Maine Gandhi ko Nahin Maara', 'The Making of the Mahatma', Gandhi – My Father', 'Gandhi: An Emerging Reality', 'Gandhi En Mexico' were screened. Students gave good feed back.

**On 2<sup>nd</sup> September**, a Creative Writing Competition on topic, 'Man's Happiness really lies in Contentment (Mahatma Gandhi)' for M.Phil. and Ph.D. students was organized.

**On 3<sup>rd</sup> September**, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Charkha Spinning Certificate Course was started. This was opened for all after the request from the students of other Universities. Around hundred students registered for the same.

**On 9<sup>th</sup> September**, a debate competition on the topic, 'Women is the companion of man gifted with equal mental capacities (Mahatma Gandhi).' 35 teams from various colleges participated.

**On 16<sup>th</sup> September,** a poetry writing competition on 'Humility' was organized. Around 200 students participated in the same.

**On 2<sup>nd</sup> October,** Gandhi Jayanti Celebrations was organized. The programme started with the Swachhata Abhiyaan by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, thereafter followed by skits and bhajans from different colleges. The first Charkha spinning certificates were awarded to 13 students by the Vice Chancellor, Pro Vice Chancellor, Director South Campus and Members of Managing Committee.

**On 17<sup>th</sup> October,** a poster making and slogan writing competition was organized on the theme 'Peace'. A large number of students participated and the best three were uploaded on the DU website.

**On 31<sup>st</sup> October,** to mark the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, books on Sardar Patel were displayed. A movie 'Sardar' was also screened.

**On 24<sup>th</sup> November,** a programme on Community Harmony was organized. Along with the display of books on 'multi-faith reading', a suggestion box inviting suggestions for communal harmony was also placed which received a large number of suggestions from the students community. A group discussion was organized on topic, 'Nationalism is greater than Sectarianism' (a quote from Mahatma Gandhi). Dr. Ravi Bhatia, Dr. Ved Mitra, Dr. Nisha Bala Tyagi and some Non teaching staff from DU participated. This was also recorded by the Delhi University Radio 90.4 FM for broadcast. Since Gandhi had faith in the ethics of all religions as conveying the message of love, peace and compassion, a creative writing competition for the students was also held on topic, 'Sharing experiences of actions promoting communal harmony, unity, compassion and love'

**On 25<sup>th</sup> November,** a poster making competition on the theme, 'Communal Harmony' was also organised. This was followed by 'Interfaith Dialogue: Reflection on Religions'. Students, teaching and non-teaching staff of Delhi University participated. The discussion concluded with the opinion that since every religion teaches the principles of good moral life, the basic tenets of all religions should be a part of the educational curriculum. The same was recorded by the DU FM 90.4 for the broadcast.

**On 24<sup>th</sup> December,** to mark the birth anniversary of the former Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpai, Good Governance day was observed. A seminar on the 'Use of Technology and Innovations in promoting Good Governance' was organized. The session was concluded by summarizing the benefits of technology and giving examples of Mahatma Gandhi and Shri Atal Bihari Vajpai, leaders who promoted social and personal values. The youth was called upon as responsible in building value systems by using technological advancement for good governance. The seminar was concluded by the suggestion that a noble mindset and innovative ideas are needed for making the best use of modern technology.

On the same day, an Oratory competition was held for the students on the topic 'Role of Technology in promoting Good Governance.' Students expressed the need of more value oriented interactive sessions for the betterment of the society.

After every event, feedback taken from the participants and those who attended the programmes were well taken care off. All results were posted on the Delhi University website.

I would like to thank all jury of events (teaching faculty from different colleges) , the participants and all volunteers who were of great help in making the programmes successful. Feedback recorded were very encouraging . I would also like to thank all members Managing Committee for their constant support and guidance.