

A REPORT
GANDHI JAYANTI WEEK
26 SEPTEMBER – 2 OCTOBER 2015





Gandhi Bhawan, University of Delhi is a center dedicated to the events and activities related to Mahatma Gandhi. Gandhi Bhawan regularly organizes educational programs upholding the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi. This year on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, a week long program starting from 26 September 2015 was organized in the Gandhi Bhawan complex. Events started with *Rangoli* competition where participants were from the age of seven to seventy! Beautiful *Rangoli* with creative designs was made by one and all. The judge made a painting of Gandhi ji that has been put up on the Notice Board of Gandhi Bhawan. The next day was the time for *Geeta Discourse*, Swami Shantatmananda Ji Maharaj of Ramakrishna Mission had an interactive session with the audience. The Discourse ended with a beautiful Bhajan. *Geeta* class takes place every Sunday in Gandhi Bhawan. On Monday, a film *Gandhi My Father* was screened. This film depicts an extraordinary story about the relationship between Gandhi ji and his eldest son Harilal Gandhi. The same day *Legal*

Counselling was arranged. A lawyer of Delhi State Legal Services Authority (DSLISA), Patiala House Courts listened to the problems and gave suggestions. It is a regular program in Gandhi Bhawan. The next event organized was a Special Talk on 'The Science and Art of Healthy Eating' by Dr. Neelanjana Singh, President, Indian Dietetics Association, Delhi Chapter and a well-known Nutrition Therapist. Recently she has also published a book titled *Our Kid Eats Everything* that is very well received not only by young moms but also by others. This session was very informative and fruitful. Exhibition-cum-Sale Counter was put up that day for Khadi products by Khadi Ashram, Kamla Nagar. Also Book Stall was put up by Gandhi Literature Center, National Gandhi Museum, Rajghat, New Delhi. *Charkha Spinning Demonstration* was the main attraction on 29th September 2015. Many youngsters joined in learning spinning that day. This is also a regular program in Gandhi Bhawan that attracts young and old alike. Another event organized the same day was an Interactive Session on 'Ayurvedic Acupressure for a Long and Healthy Life' by Ms. Madhavi Chakravarti, an Acupressure Therapist. She explained how to use pressure points to cure diseases. She taught various points in the body by showing pictures and charts. The next day a few events were organized simultaneously. *Blood Donation camp* by Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hospital was started in the morning and continued till afternoon. In the *Dengue Awareness campaign*, pamphlets were distributed and people were made aware to keep their surroundings clean. At that time a *Nukkad Natak* in Sanskrit was performed by the students of Hindu College. They covered themes like girl education and cleanliness. It got very warm applause. Afternoon session had two hour *Yoga and Meditation* session. On the Gandhi Jayanti Day, everybody participated in *Swachhta Abhiyan*. Inauguration of Gandhi Bhawan Graffiti Wall also took place. It was followed by *Sarv Dharma Prarthna Sabha*. It got started with Buddhist Manglacharan and followed by Geeta, Bible, and Quran holy verses recital. Non Collegiate Women Education Board students of Mata Sundari College presented *Shabad* and *Gandhi ji ke Priya Bhajan* were sung by Dr. Prerna Arora. Prof. Dinesh Singh, Vice-Chancellor, Delhi University delivered Gandhi Jayanti Message of Peace. Finally Prizes and Certificates were distributed to the participants of various events and volunteers. Exhibition and sale counter of Books on Gandhi ji was set up throughout this week by Gandhi Book House, Gandhi Peace Foundation, New Delhi. This was the first time that week long events were organized in Gandhi Bhawan to commemorate the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi.

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