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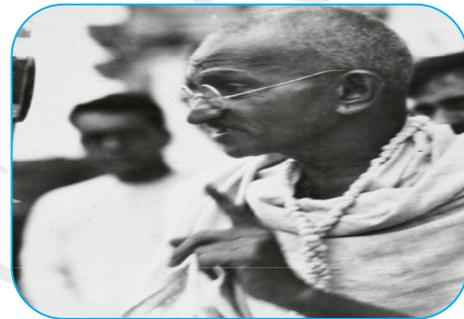
GANDHI'S WORLD VIEW: UTOPIA OR REALITY

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ABSTRACT:

Strength comes from indomitable will, and not from physical capacity and it's the power of truth which makes the will indomitable. It is with this belief in Satyagrah and ahimsa that mahatma Gandhi became the harbinger of a new dawn to the ailing humanity and at the same time achieved sainthood. He saved the world civilization from extinction and became mahatma in the true sense. This paper discusses the values that inspired Gandhi's actions and the effect of his ideas/works all around the world



KEYWORDS: *Strength , physical capacity , world civilization, ahimsa and satyagraha.*

INTRODUCTION

Over many centuries, world civilization has witnessed countless instances of warfare, battles, and conflicts duly capable of employing the power of transmuting the human kind into forms what the emperors and rulers had never thought of. There existed peerless and rarest men among the human species who preached and practiced theories of peace that made the human race to evolve into a more enlightened genre living of what he is today on this planet. Mahatma Gandhi is the greatest apostle of peace the world has seen after Buddha and Christ. His notion of peace is centered on nonviolence, individualism, soul force and

forgiveness.

Strength comes from indomitable will, and not from physical capacity and it's the power of truth which makes the will indomitable. It is with this belief in Satyagrah and ahimsa that mahatma Gandhi became the harbinger of a new dawn to the ailing humanity and at the same time achieved sainthood. He saved the world civilization from extinction and became mahatma in the true sense. His epic struggle to bring the people of, together, in the crusade for freedom is unparalleled and matchless. This "half-naked fakir" when walked the stairs of Vice-regal palace of London, the entire world could the trembling of one of the most powerful

empire. In fact, the freedom which India gained became the saga of his faith in truth and justice for which he not only lived, died. He firmly upholds that there is an element of truth in every individual, howsoever, cruel or just he is. We have to just make him realize. Satyagrah or Civil disobedience imbues in this spirit. It was this emphasis on Ahimsa that Gandhi rescued the entire humanity from violence and killing at a time when the world has just observed the violence and bloodshed of the First World War and was heading towards the second. Einstein's homage to this great man shakes and awakes us from our deep oblivion of his teachings when he says, "Generation to come will

scarce believe that such as one as this walked the earth in flesh and blood.”

The greatest contribution of Gandhi, not only to politics, moreover, to the entire humanity is his teaching and preaching of Ahimsa. He was not the originator of it, but it was he who, first and foremost, implemented in the field of politics. He writes Ahimsa, for me, is not only a philosophical theory, it is an essence of my life, and it is concerned with my heart, rather my mind. Mahatma Gandhi's struggle to achieve the freedom for the country is a singular one in the world history, though afterwards a host of world leaders fell in his footsteps. He showed the world how the power of love, peace and harmony that even the most powerful empire can be bowed down. With the power of Ahimsa that not only India won freedom, rather it was by dint of it that Gandhi became the savior of humanity. Bloodshed and killing was avoided and the world could see the peaceful and silent transfer of power from an empire which had not seen the setting of sun on its coasts. He says, "non-violence is the law of our species as the violence is the law of the brute. The spirit lies dormant in the brute and he knows law but that of the physical force. The dignity of man requires obedience to a higher law- the struggle of the spirit....Non-violence is a perfect state. It is a goal towards which entire humanity moves naturally, unconsciously" it is Satyagrah in brief, which means one should fight with one's all moral and spiritual power against evil and injustice. It is not passively surrendering; rather it is warfare of the ascetic.

Though the objective of all the freedom fighters was to attain the freedom and Gandhi was no exception to it. In spite of all that Gandhi's experiment with his faith and belief commenced in South Africa and therein he stood up in a favor of the oppressed and exploited. In South Africa he fought for the humanity, and, in fact, the Civil Disobedience movement began therein only. It received warm welcome there, and its influence was far reaching. The entire humanity could see how Gandhi emerged as a savior not merely to the Indians alone, rather to the entire world. Once asked what is his nationality. Gandhi replies that his "nationalism is intense internationalism" what could be the better answer from a man who knows no boundaries or barriers of any kind? To him the entire "world is stage" and one has to dedicate oneself with one's all integrity and honesty. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. felt the fascination for Gandhi when he says, "If humanity is to progress Gandhi is inescapable. He lived, thought and acted, inspired by the vision of humanity evolving to towards a world peace and harmony. We may ignore him at our own risk," and it is pitiable to see that the risk is bigger than ever now. Our world is not merely facing the challenge of terrorism, extremism and violence, the terror of nuclear war is looming large. Its threat can be curbed, if not completely ruled out in the present scenario by Gandhian methods only. His principle of love, peace and brotherhood infused with the theory of non-violence can be the only solution, otherwise deep sigh and remorse will be left and nothing else. Disarmament and Proliferation Treaty are on their way, but the truth is that they are very much rooted in prejudice and preferences, and at the same time expanding nuclear colonialism. Gandhi ji believes as long as the nuclear arsenal is not empty, the world cannot rest in peace and the devastation, damage and destruction will be our fate one day. If the entire humanity wishes to put aside the threat of nuclear wars, it is the Gandhian principle alone which will be our rescuer. Dalai lama, the spiritual leader, says that Gandhi ji, "made every effort to encourage the full development of the positive aspects of human potential and to reduce and restrain the negative." And this positive aspect of human potential can be realized only when each and every one has the equal chance and opportunity for one's progress and welfare. The economic policy based on liberalization and globalization hinders and hampers the objective and, moreover, it widens the economic disparity, resulting into unrest and disbelief in our system. Gandhi ji had the answer in the policy of the Swadeshi movement. He believed that small scale industries can generate the employment and poverty will gradually disappear. The unrest and, the violence, which our political system is facing, will be no longer. Gandhi has touched upon every aspect of human life, be it economics or education, political system or social system and cultural concerns or international affairs and the solutions which he has presented to the world, they are not only relevant to his own time, more than they are valuable and useful till this date and the times to come also. His principles, his beliefs and faiths reflect that Gandhi has a true concern for humanity and whenever the time demanded he not only led the world with his ideals and values more than that he appeared in person for the cause, for the aggrieved and ailing humanity. This is what makes Gandhi a true saint and

savior of mankind and nonetheless an individual who holds our deep reverence and veneration. To sum up, Barack Obama's homage is worth quoting." In my life, I have always looked to Mahatma Gandhi as an inspiration, he embodies the kind of transformational change that can be made when ordinary people come together to do extraordinary things."

CONCLUSION

Gandhi yearned for a future grounded in the values of the past. Practically, he desired that solutions for all problems are essentially inspired from great Indian values of non-violence, purity and morality. His ideas based on non-violence are entirely important in the new world. They are completely relevant today and will remain so in the future as well.

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