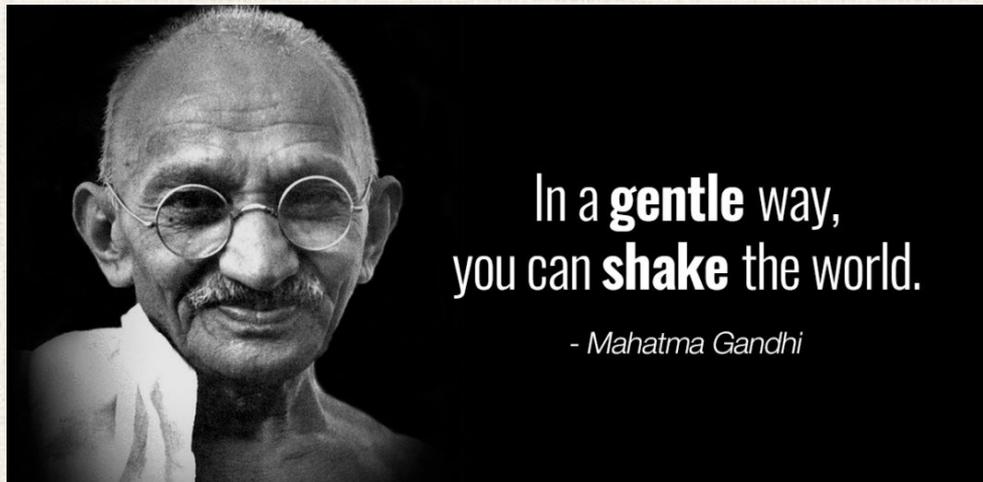


## Human Values Mahatma Gandhi and World Peace

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Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi is widely recognized as one of the twentieth century's greatest political and spiritual leaders. Honored in India as the father of the nation, he pioneered and practiced the principle of Satyagraha—resistance to tyranny through mass nonviolent civil disobedience.



While leading nationwide campaigns to ease poverty, expand women's rights, build religious and ethnic harmony and eliminate the injustices of the caste system, Gandhi supremely applied the principles of nonviolent civil disobedience, playing a key role in freeing India from foreign domination. He was often imprisoned for his actions, sometimes for years, but he accomplished his aim in 1947, when India gained its independence from Britain.



*Mahatma Gandhi with his spinning wheel in 1925. Source: R uhe/Ullstein Bild, via Getty Images*

This year, we will be celebrating the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. For over a century, his thoughts, philosophy and vision had a profound impact on not only the Indian subcontinent but also across the world. If innovation is defined as original ideas implemented to change the way we live, Gandhi was definitely creative, with innovative ideas of great relevance even today.



During a period when many countries went through violent wars to free themselves from colonialism, the non-violent struggle was definitely an original idea. So was the idea that the fight for independence does not end with the end of colonial rule; the struggle to provide a dignified life to millions of Indians fighting poverty, gender discrimination, caste, class, etc continues.

The concept of self-reliance and dignity of labour has a great underlying message, especially in the age of industrialisation and digitalisation. Should we try to reduce work or value work? Economic value is often created by reducing work but the approach to consider work as a beautiful activity gave a different value to work and the people engaged in it.

How can people understand democracy if they have not experienced it? A child who has experienced dictatorship and discrimination at home in the family and at school cannot understand the values of democracy.

Helping all sections of society, bringing back dignity, respect and love for work; making clean sustainable cities; focus on education and instilling democratic values can have a long-term effect towards creating a strong nation.