

## **GANDHI JAYANTHI**

India's 3rd national festival, Gandhi Jayanti, was celebrated at VFSTR to commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of the father of our nation- Mahatma Gandhi. Gandhi Jayanti was celebrated vibrantly along with the students and faculty of Vignan's deemed University, Vignan's Lara, Vignan's Nirula, Vignan pharmacy, and Vignan Junior college with great zeal, enthusiasm, and patriotism. VFSTR has launched the week-long celebrations of Gandhi Jayanti which commenced on 25<sup>th</sup> of September, 2019. This landmarking event is celebrated in a beneficial manner by fixing a theme for each day.

The theme for the **first day** (25-09-2019) is, **“EXPERIMENTS WITH TRUTH”** where students were motivated to follow righteous way and speak truth. Dr.M.S.S.Rukmini, (Dean, Student Affairs) presided over the meeting and explained the events and competitions that are going to be conducted this week in a detailed way. The first lecture of this week was inaugurated by M.S.Raghunathan (registrar) where he cited the greatness of Mahatma Gandhi.

The **second day** (26-09-2019) is followed by the theme of **“SWADESHI MOVEMENT”**, which was part of the Indian Independence Movement and the developing Indian nationalism, was an economic strategy aimed at removing the British Empire from power and improving economic conditions in India by following the principles of **SWADESHI** which had some success. Dr.Koteswara Ram Prasad, chief guest of the day graced the students and shared his knowledge. He raised the question **“THE THOUGHTS ABOUT GANDHI BY PRESENT GENERATION”** and specified the students about his life principles. He took an interactive session with the students and faculty members in the convention. On this occasion, VFSTR also conducted Inter Quiz competition (preliminary round) on the topic **Life History of Mahatma Gandhi** for the students of Vignan Group of Institutions, in which 210 teams of 3 fervent participants in each team gave tough battle to each other.

The **third day** (27-09-2019) of the celebrations started with the theme **“ERADICATE UNTOUCHABILITY”**, which involved abolishing the practice of untouchability. Chief guest Mr. Mora Bhupal Reddy, who is esteemed principal commissioner of income tax, Vijayawada, commenced his speech with the two words supported by Gandhi **“Truth and Non-violence”** and cited the outlook of Gandhi towards truth and non-violence. On this day, the second round of quiz competition is conducted on the topic **“NON-VIOLENCE AND SATYAGRAHA”**.

The **fourth day** (28-09-2019) of the celebrations involved with the theme, **“COMMUNAL HARMONY”**, which means No human being enjoys disharmony or violence. This celebration had undergone through the gracious presence of Mr.Addanki Sridhar Babu, who is Indian Tobacco board secretary and senior IAS officer. He memorized the participation of Gandhi various revolutions and movements. He also cited the 10 best qualities of Gandhi and suggested the students follow them. As part of these celebrations, the final round of the quiz is conducted with the topic covering all the major historic moments led by Mahatma Gandhi. On this day, there is also elocution where the participants are expected to speak on the given topics for a duration of 3 minutes. The topics were **“Voice to the voiceless and power to the powerless”**, **“My experiments with the truth”**, **“End should justify means”** and **“Gandhian socialism”**.

The **fifth day** (30-09-2019) of the celebration intricately the theme of **“NON-VIOLENCE”**, which is the personal practice of being harmless to self and others under every condition. An international award-winning film named **“Gandhi”** was played in this session to indulge Mahatma's thoughts and to pass Gandhi's message to the hearts of students. The rivalry of essay writing was held with an aim to remind

the thoughts and virtues of Mahatma on this day, where participants are expected to write an essay with a minimum of 250 words on given topics.

The **sixth day** (01-10-2019) involved the theme of **“ANTI-BRITISH INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT”** where Dr.B.Sambasiva Prasad, M.A.Ph.D., who was awarded the ICPR Senior Research Fellow (2017-18) for his project on Gandhian Economics was the esteemed chief guest for the day, where he emphasized the two essential standards to be followed from Gandhi which were TRUTH (SATHYA) and NON-VIOLENCE (AHIMSA).As a part of these celebrations, a debate is held among the faculty of VFSTR, where a participant should speak ‘for’ and the other participant should speak ‘against’ the given topic. The topic prearranged is **“Non-Violence is the most effective way to achieve results.”**

The **seventh day**(02-10-2019), which is the **150<sup>TH</sup> BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF MAHATMA GANDHI**, Gandhi Jayanthi is celebrated in an ostentatious custom.On this occasion, VFSTR celebrated Gandhi Jayanti under the gracious presence of the Chief guests, ShriK.BalaSubramanyam, and Justice ShriJastiChelameswar. Dr.LavuRathaiah(Chairman), comde. M.S Raghunathan(Registrar),Dr. M.Y.S. Prasad(Vice-Chancellor),Dr.M.S.S.Rukmini (Dean of Student Affairs) and principals of Vignan’s Lara, Vignan’sNirula, Vignan pharmacy, and VignanJunior college appeared at the event. Dr.M.S.S.Rukmini(Dean of Student Affairs) addressed the gathering and appreciated the efforts of students for celebrating Gandhi Jayanthi for one week. She reminisced the commemoration, theme of each day, competitions conducted and student involvement. A devotional ambiance prevailed as the program started with Vignan’s theme song which was then followed by the drama portraying the life history of Mahatma Gandhi which was presented by the three clubs of Culturals, (Dance, Music and Theater Arts), which received a standing ovation from the dignitaries.

Honorable Chairman Dr.LavuRathaiah addressed the gathering and confessed the prominence of Gandhiji, his methodologies and cherished the students who performed the drama conjointly said almost reasons behind his victory like Non-violence it is the most noteworthy accomplishment done by Indians which isn't conceivable by any other nation within the world and **"India is the only country which accomplished freedom through Non-violence"**.

Chief Guest ShriK.BalaSubramanyamgaru, who is is an active advocate practicing in the Supreme Court by profession and is also the BJP parliamentary party office secretary begun his speech by greeting the students, dignitaries and the faculty and added that he was elated with the celebration of Gandhi Jayanthi in VFSTR. He stated the standards of Gandhi and motivated the students to follow Gandhian principles.

The event further continued with the greetings of the Chief Guest, Justice Shri Jasti Chelameswar, who is the senior Supreme court judge of India presided over the gathering and cited the extraordinary qualities and the principles followed by the Mahatma conjointly he told about the occurrences which persuade the Gandhi to take to the standards like ahimsa and truth. The guests were felicitated by the dignitaries and the prize dissemination has taken put for the students and faculty who showed their participation and won in Essay writing,Quiz, Debate and Elocution competitions. The program concluded at 01:00 PM with vote of thanks and taken after by National anthem.