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**From**

**Editor's Desk**

Mohandas Karam Chand Gandhi, popularly known as Mahatma Gandhi, was born on 2nd October in 1869 at Porbandar in Gujarat. His name 'Mahatma'; stands for a great soul, a soul with unique character, was conferred on him by the world renowned poet Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore. But Gandhi himself never considered as Mahatma because of his simplicity and own limitation. He was the man who sacrificed and dedicated his entire life for the upliftment of Vulnerable Community. Gandhi was not only a dreamer but also a practical idealist and most importantly a man of action. Gandhi's ideas and thoughts came from his action. The most important idea of Gandhi was the conception of truth or non-violence which is the foundation of all his merits and virtues. Gandhi was able to mobilize the support of the millions of Indian people and to expel the Britishers from Indian soil through the means of non violence. To him, non-violence is the greatest force at the disposal of mankind. It is mightier than the mightiest weapon of violence. For Gandhi, Ahimsa is the means and truth is the end. And there is nothing on the earth that cannot be attained through the means of non-violence. Gandhi's words and deeds deeply influenced the minds of people all over the world. African-Americans were particularly impressed by the way in which he was fighting against injustice without nurturing any hatred against the perpetrators of hatred. Albert Einstein had described Gandhi as the greatest political genius of the twentieth century and remarked that his death was truly glorious. Gandhi is the symbol of peace and non-violence, a symbol of India's past and would remain the symbol of India's future. In fact, he will forever remain the symbol of the future of all of humanity and planet earth. Mankind can save themselves from the consequences of devastation only if they



follow Gandhi's principles of non-violence, truth and respect for nature and justice for the poor.

In this context, Gandhi's thoughts and principles are unquestionably relevant in the present socio-economic scenario. The Gandhi Study Centre of the college organized National Seminar on Gandhian Philosophy in collaboration with teachers' unit, JHNS college and now has decided to publish the proceedings in book form on the title Gandhi: "Thoughts and Principles". The book seeks to make an attempt to focus the different dimensions of Gandhi Marg which are great and inevitable for each and every society even in the era of globalization. Here I want to take an opportunity to express my deep sense of gratitude to all participants in the National Seminar on Gandhian Philosophy (20th & 21st March, 2015) for their inspiration and cooperation to make the seminar a successful one and bringing out the proceedings in the book form. I express grateful thanks to the UGC for providing financial assistance without which the programme would have been nearly impossible. I am also sincerely thankful to the principal, teaching and non teaching staff, students and others who provided constant support and suggestion to achieve our goal. The editor is thankful to the advisors and members of the 'Editorial Board' for extending co-operation to bring out the present volume. I am also grateful to Binayak Offset for printing. I also convey my heartfelt gratitude to all who have shared with me directly and indirectly to fulfill the desired goal. I apologize to the hon'ble readers for my distortions that may have crept in spite of my sincere endeavour.

August, 2015

Bijoy Phukon

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