

VEV740 Special Module on Professional Ethics

SUBTITLE

Gandhian Ethics for Value Education in Engineering

RESOURCE PERSON

Y. P. Anand

Former Chairman, Railway Board, Indian Railways

Former Director, National Gandhi Museum, Rajghat, New Delhi 110 002

A. Annamalai

Director, National Gandhi Museum, Rajghat, New Delhi 110 002

PREAMBLE

The world is rushing for development of material wellbeing and comfort through sophisticated system of technology. We are experts in handling machines and its technology. But we are unable to handle the issues of interpersonal relationships and especially our own personal life. In the developmental race, the first casualty is Peace within. Our ethical and moral standards in public life are declining day by day. Our lives have become too complicated to enable us to get out of the trap we are in.

International environment has become very volatile. Given the alarming proliferation of conflicts around the world especially Asia and Pacific, it is not enough for United Nations or Leaders of the world to try and protect innocent citizens from the holocaust. We, the people, must address the causes of conflict and inspire a culture of Peace and Nonviolence. Because the collective consciousness can bring tremendous effects in the minds of the leaders. Gandhi elevated Nonviolence to an empowering political force, which inspired world leaders like Martin Luther King, Nelson Mandela, Walesa, etc.

Not only these leaders, Gandhi's life and thought inspired many peace movements, human rights organizations and they have taken Gandhi as a guiding force. His views, mostly developed in the context of a struggle in South Africa and India during 1894 to 1948, show an amazing insight into the problems of today's global economy and society.

It is an honest attempt to take the messages of the life and works of Gandhi to the young technocrats of IIT Delhi and afford an opportunity to study and analyze the relevance to their own life and society at large.

OBJECTIVES

- To acquire knowledge on Gandhi's own works, speeches and writings and original source materials including audio-visual materials available in various institutions.
- To study the life and philosophy of Gandhi in a systematic and critical way
- To analyze relevance of his ethical and moral standard at the personal and society level
- To study and analyze the political, social and economic concepts in the light of present day political, social and economic environment.
- To open up our mind and engage in experimenting some of the vital concepts in Gandhian Philosophy and study the implications.
- To discuss, debate and dialogue openly his method of struggle to bring about the changes

CONTACT TIME

Lectures: 12 x 1 hour each = 12 hours

Practicals: 4 x 1 hour each = 4 hours, considered to be = 2 hours

Total 14 hours

THEMES AND TOPICS

Lectures

1. Introduction
2. Selected Sources from Mahatma Gandhi's Writings
3. Foundation of Gandhian Ethics -- Truth and Non-violence
4. Gandhian Ethics: Directives for Ethical Social Behaviour
5. Gandhian Ethics for Conflict Resolution
6. Gandhian Ethics in Economics, Ecology and Sustainable Development
7. Gandhian Ethics in Public Administration and Law
8. Gandhian Ethical Lessons for Business Management
9. Gandhian Ethical Lessons for Leadership Roles
10. Gandhian Ethics against Corruption
11. How to make Indian Social Order more Ethical
12. Summing Up, &, Some Instances from Gandhi's own Life

Practicals : 4 sessions of 1 hour each

MAXIMUM NUMBER OF STUDENTS: 50

EXPECTATIONS FROM THE STUDENTS

- Attendance: at least 12 hours out of 14 hours
- Sincerity
- Desire to learn, and willingness to unlearn

ASSESSMENTS

The course is an audit-only course. Hence the grade awarded will be only **Pass / Fail**.

Pass criterion: at least 12 hours of attendance out of 14 hours.

BRIEF PROFILE OF THE RESOURCE PERSONS

Y. P. Anand, *former* Director, National Gandhi Museum, Rajghat, New Delhi

Name YOGENDRA PAL ANAND (date of birth - 12 December, 1934)

Academic Qualifications: B.Sc (Hons.) in Civil Engineering (1955)
Ph D (IIT, Delhi) (1991)
Post-graduate Diploma in Gandhian Studies (1984)
Post-graduate Diploma in Econometrics (1993)

Professional Memberships

Fellow, Indian National Academy of Engineering; Fellow, Institution of Engineers (India); Life Member, Indian Building Congress; Life Member, Solar Energy Society of India; Fellow, Indian Institute of Bridge Engineers; Fellow, Institute of Urban Transport (India); Fellow, Indian Arbitration Council; Fellow, Institute of Rail Transport; Fellow, Indian Inst. of Perm. Way Engrs. (India).

Professional Experience in Indian Railways

Joined Indian Railway Service of Engineers (IRSE) in 1957 as Asst. Engr.. Worked as Asst. Engr., Exec. Engr., Dep. Dir. (Research), Divl. Supdt., Dy Chief Engineer, Addl. Chief Engr., Chief Engr. (Track), Divl. Rail Manager, and Chief Engineer; as General Manager, Member (Engineering) in Railway Board, and finally as Chairman, Railway Board, & ex-officio Principal Secretary to Govt. of India; retired on Dec. 31, 1992.

After retirement from Indian Railways

Worked with UNDP on a 10-week assignment for a study on India's Transport Sector (1993); was associated with the Asian Inst. Of Transport Development, New Delhi, as Senior Res. Scholar from Apr 1993 to May 1996, and jointly authored books on 'Non-motorised Transport of India: Current Status and Policy Issues' (1996), and 'Transport Energy Nexus – Towards Sustainability (1999), both published by AITD. Also participated actively in a project to upgrade the Cycle Rickshaws.

Was honoured as an 'Engineering Personality' by Institution of Engineers (India) in 2004, & with 'Outstanding Contribution Award' by Indian Building Congress in 2010.

Was Chairman, International Institute of Waste Management, Bhopal (2009-2010).

Am Member: INAE's Technology Foresight and Management Forum (since 2012).

Since Sep. 1994, functioning as Chairman, GODHULI (an NGO for educating slum children in Delhi).

Experience in the Gandhian Field

From June 1996 to July 2006, worked as Director, National Gandhi Museum and Library, Rajghat, New Delhi.

Participated in an Intl. Conference on Gandhian Concept of Non-violence, in Santa Cruz, USA (1995); in Intl. Seminar on Gandhian Concept of Freedom in Calgary University in Canada (1997); in a Seminar on Gandhian Political Thought, in University of Trieste, Italy (2000); and, on invitation by the Indian Council of World Affairs, to deliver Keynote Address on 'Gandhian Legacy: Its Relevance in the 21st Century' at III Spain – India dialogue Forum 2007 at University of Valladolid in Spain on October 16, 2007.

Presently:

Member, Indian Society of Gandhian Studies.

Vice-Chairman, Working Committee, Gandhian Seva & Satyagraha Brigade, New Delhi.

Member, High Level Dandi Memorial Committee (under Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India).

Honorary Fellow, Centre of Gandhian Studies, GITAM University, Visakhapatnam.

In addition to numerous articles/ pamphlets on Gandhian subjects, Published books and major compilations include:

- *The Essential Relationship between Netaji Subhas Bose & Mahatma Gandhi* (1997).
- *Birth of Free India's National Anthem: A gift from Netaji Subhas Bose* (1997).
- *Non-violence in a Violent World: A Gandhian Response* (1995).
- *What Mahatma Gandhi Said about Atom Bomb* (1998).
- *Mahatma Gandhi & the Railways* (English and Hindi editions, 2002).
- *Mahatma Gandhi on Lord Buddha and Buddhism* (2003).
- *Mahatma Gandhi and Art* (2003).
- *Mahatma Gandhi and Satyagraha: a Compendium* (2006).
- *Albert Einstein and Mahatma Gandhi: The centenary of Physics, War, Satyagraha and Peace* (2006/ 2010)
- *Mahatma Gandhi's Works and Interpretation of the Bhagavad Gita* (in 2 Volumes) (2009).
- *Gitapadarthakosh* (by Mahatma Gandhi), trans. into Hindi (2010).

I had recently completed a thesis on '*Historical background to Mahatma Gandhi's taking up Satyagraha against Salt Tax (1930), as the Key Issue for the Civil Disobedience Movement for Poorna Swaraj*' and it has been published by the Ministry of Culture (2015).

After leaving the Museum, have undertaken a long-term study of Gandhian Political Economy and its relationship with the mainstream economics. I am also working on a thesis on 'Leo Tolstoy and Mahatma Gandhi'. Also continue to write papers for the Centre for Gandhian Studies, GITAM University, Visakhapatnam.

Contact information

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A. Annamalai, Director, National Gandhi Museum, Rajghat, New Delhi

After Completing my college education in Madurai my search to understand the meaning of life began. I planned to join the Armed Forces. So I took rigorous training in the N.C.C. in the college and became Senior Under Officer, passed B and C certificates and attended two regular Army Attachment Camps. But the experience I gained through such training transformed me to take to Non-violence

As a student I was mediocre both in the high school and college. But the innumerable but different experiences I received from my friends made my life today easy and natural and helped me to understand Gandhi.

I finished two year M.Sc. Peace Making and then one year M.Phil in Gandhian Thought and Peace Science. It was a good experience with Dr. Jayapragasam, Head of the Department, Gandhian Studies, Madurai Kamaraj University, during my three year Doctoral Research in Gandhian Thought. My Co-Guide Dr K.J. Charles was an eminent Professor of Economics in Lakehead University, Canada. At the instant of presenting my Research Paper there was a constant struggle in me to decide whether to continue the research work or to drop it. Finally I quit myself completely from the University and believed that experiencing Gandhi would be the better way to understand him.

I came to Chennai in 1987 and worked at Gandhi Study Centre. The founder Secretary of the Centre late Sri T.D. Tirumalai inspired me to learn about clear vision of Gandhi.

The Life and the Message of Gandhi had created amazement and a transformation in me when I studied books on and by Gandhi and kindled an insatiable thirst for reading his books. Hence my life style was changed

I am the humble Gandhian worker who feels very much for having lost the opportunity to live during the period of Freedom Struggle led by Mahatma Gandhi.

The Library in The Gandhi Study Centre ignited my interest to read more about Gandhi and propagate the ideals of Gandhi through Films, Photographs and documentary evidences and made the centre the best resource Centre of learning and understanding Gandhi.

I toured throughout Tamilnadu to propagate Gandhian values among the youth through youth camps, Propaganda tours, Cycle Tours Film Shows and Photographic Exhibitions on the Life and Teachings of Gandhi. These activities generated in me an eternal love towards Gandhi and strengthened me to continue the work.

Gandhi visited Tamilnadu for 20 times from 1896 – 1946 and we have also visited and documented all the places Gandhi visited in Tamilnadu.

I am now the Director of the National Gandhi Museum, New Delhi and associated with all other six Gandhi Museums in India. I am also the Vice-Chairman of the Holding Trustee Mandal of the Gandhi Smarak Nidhi, New Delhi.

We have prepared many photographic Exhibitions captioned as 'Tamilar, Tamilnadu and Gandhi', 'Gandhi's Vision: Freedom and Beyond', 'Gandhi and Children', 'Gandhi and His Ashrams', and recently 'Women in Gandhi's Mass Movements' to make it known to the people in India about Gandhi's love towards the people, and his energetic Leadership.

I have been giving a Programme on Gandhi called "The lofty thoughts of world leader" ULAGA UTTHAMARIN UYARIYA CHINTHANAIGAL" in Doordharsan-Pothigai Channel it crossed 400 episodes.

I presented papers in various National and International Seminars and visited Sri Lanka, Poland and Mauritius.

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