

New Kids On The Block:

# sesquicentennial

- Aryan Khatuwala, XI

*the 150th anniversary of a significant event*

‘Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever’, said Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, ‘the Father of the Nation’. Gandhi is undoubtedly one of the world’s greatest visionaries who’s vision channelled India’s struggle for independence and because of whom we breathe in the air of democracy and freedom. He was the fire that caught the imagination of the world and showed that protests, the most poignant of them, need not be violent.

‘An eye for an eye only ends up making the whole world blind.’

We all know that violence is bad in all aspects but how many of us really follow this principle? It is now only constricted to the text books of History and used as a bait to fetch marks. I agree that some of us do believe in this but very few follow it. The School song, ‘Pass it on’ is sung with great joy and gusto at every important event but very few heed the wise words and pursue it in principle in their lives.

Very few of us aim to pass on a helping hand or even an encouraging smile. ‘Promoting ideas that usher change and a greater good for society’ is also a Gandhian principle. Gandhian principles and ideologies today exist

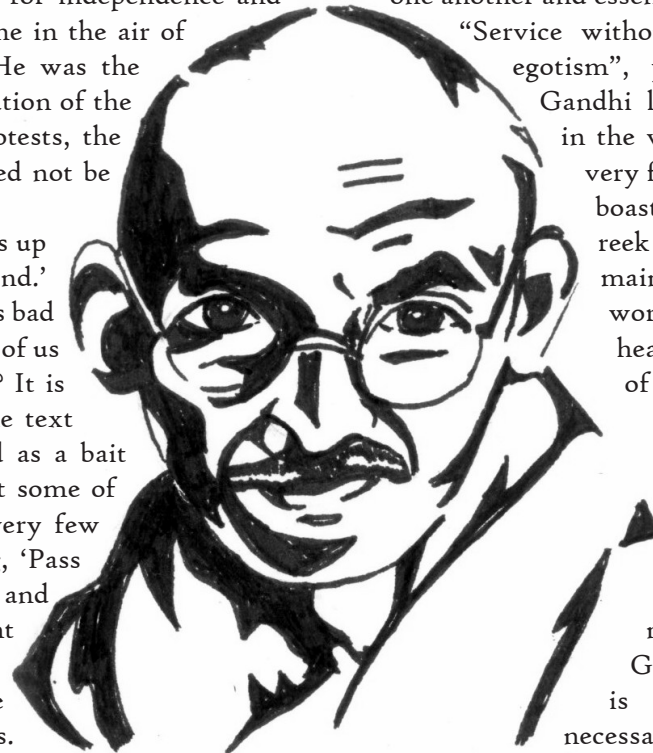
only on Facebook quotes and WhatsApp messages sent on family groups on Gandhi Jayanti. Gandhi focused on purifying the soul but how can our souls be pure when we are full of jealousy, prejudices and hatred towards one another and essentially ourselves.

“Service without humility is selfishness and egotism”, yet another pearl of wisdom Gandhi left behind that shines brightly in the world because of the works of a very few. Feeds on social media which boasts of social service carried forth, reek blatant commercialism. He maintained that each person should work out a diet that allows them a healthy life lived in the betterment of society. An advice that ought to be adhered to by a world where one half struggles from an obesity crisis while the other half dwindles through starvation.

What the world desperately needs today is peace.

Gandhian principle of *ahimsa* is perhaps more pertinent and necessary in today’s world strife with violence in every aspect of life. Whether

or not we remember *Bapu*, we need to remind ourselves of the principles he left behind lest Armageddon be on us sooner than we perceived.



Illustrator: Eloziini Senachena

# The Bad Guy

- Sourish Dutta, XII

It’s been more than a year since I joined this school and yet it feels like I have been here for a considerable amount of time. It’s probably because of the people I am with. However, those who do not know me have a very different perspective of who I am. The way they perceive me is similar to how everyone instinctively perceives, a *Big boy* at school, the perfect poster child

of a rebel who would be up to no good, who refuses to follow the rules, does not respect others and has a bad attitude in general.

Reputation can be a two sided mirror. One where a person sees a reflection they know is them while others see the mirror from an angle that shows them only grime. Perceptions they say must therefore be made

with care, backed with adequate knowledge. Corridor talk can be dangerous for any student given their size, shape or colour. I think rumours are born from little information which are then misconstrued beyond the realms of reality.

I often find myself being saddled with consequences whose actions have not been perpetrated by me. I am asked questions by people I rarely meet or have very little to do with on events that I am clueless about. What leaves me embarrassed are the labels that come

with such curiosities which initially would leave me upset. Overtime, however, I have learnt to skirt such situations and have found myself grow through difficult times. I tend to be loud and prefer to have fun, like most students but then I am of an age where wisdom dictates to me to do what I love and love what I do.

I am told I have a streak of childishness in me but is it essential to drum in maturity way before it is destined to set in? I am not the 'big bad boy' and I am not going to let prejudiced people define who I am.

# FACTS ABOUT MAHATMA GANDHI

- Param Nongmeithem, XI

1. During India's struggle for freedom, Gandhi used to walk around 18 km every day; nearly for 40 years, equivalent to encompassing the Earth twice.
2. Gandhi spoke English with a tinge of an Irish accent; because one of his first English teachers was Irish.
3. Whilst in South Africa, he saw the radical apartheid against the native black population and fought against it.
4. He famously burned the passes which all non-white people had to carry, signifying his first action against oppressive British Colonialism.
5. Gandhi and Russian author, Leo Tolstoy, wrote letters

to each other. The author and the activist both came from backgrounds leaning toward aristocracy and they both advocated for social equality.

6. A stamp was released in Britain; honoring Gandhi's 100th Birthday, even though Gandhi had spent his entire life pushing the British to leave India.
7. Around 53 major roads in India and 48 roads around the other parts of the world are named after him.
8. His actions inspired many other movements around the world such as the Civil Rights Movements in the United States of America.

## CAMPUS NEWS

The AVS contingent comprising of musicians and singers escorted by Mr. Arvind Benjamin and Mr. Mallar Rakshit participated in the All India IPSC Music Fest held at Mayo College, Ajmer held from the 28th September to the 1st of October. Shanmen Riddi was recognised for his performance in the solo category and was adjudged 'Outstanding'.



Photo Credits: Jirmeen Tok Camdir

## THE OUTPOST

Beijing celebrates the 70th anniversary of the Communist rule in China. For the first time in four months of unrest, lethal forces were used as protests took a violent turn whereby a man was shot by the police in Hong Kong's Tseun Wan district. A fresh fear of unrest in Catalonia, as it awaits the verdicts of the trials of 12 separatist leaders. Coup d'état, Peru has been thrown into political crisis after President Martín Vizcarra dissolves the Congress, only to have his Vice President resign. Nearly a month after Hurricane Dorian pulverized the Bahamas, 600 remain missing.



Illustrator: Eloziini Senachena

# Is Gandhi's *ahimsa* a forgotten concept?

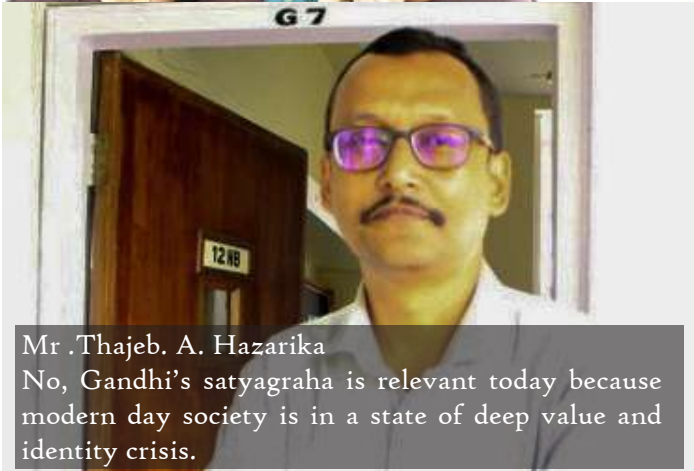
Compiled by: Srishti Bajaj, Hriyanka Bhuyan, Yuthika Kejriwal



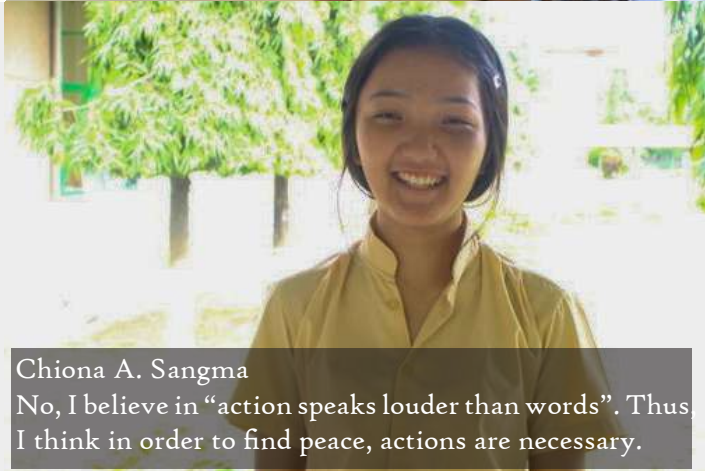
Saifi, Astha, Jaharvi, Juri and Prisha  
Every small protest turns into a violent or aggressive display so, non-violence fails to work in today's world.



Natasha  
Yes, because violence seems to be the norm of the day.



Mr. Thajeb. A. Hazarika  
No, Gandhi's satyagraha is relevant today because modern day society is in a state of deep value and identity crisis.



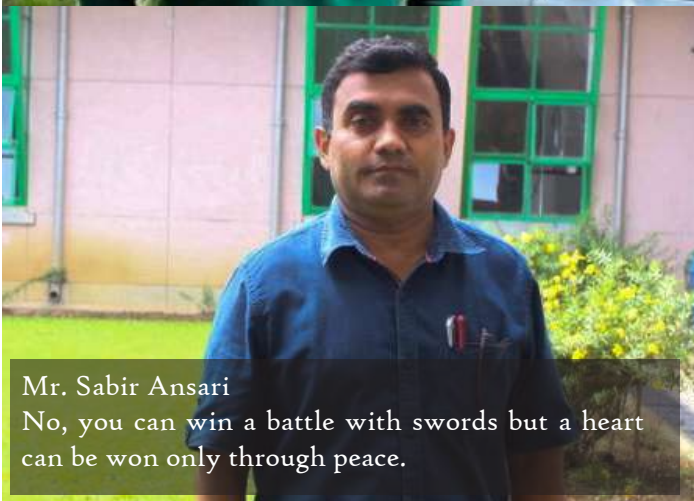
Chiona A. Sangma  
No, I believe in "action speaks louder than words". Thus, I think in order to find peace, actions are necessary.



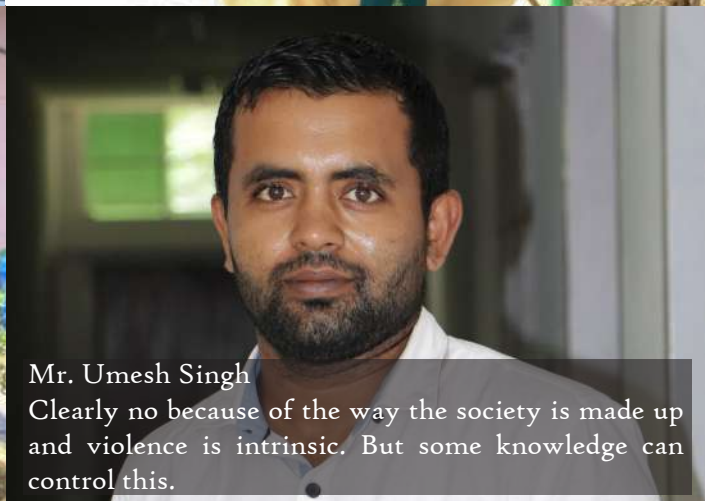
Aryan Khatuwala  
No, Non-violence is a choice.



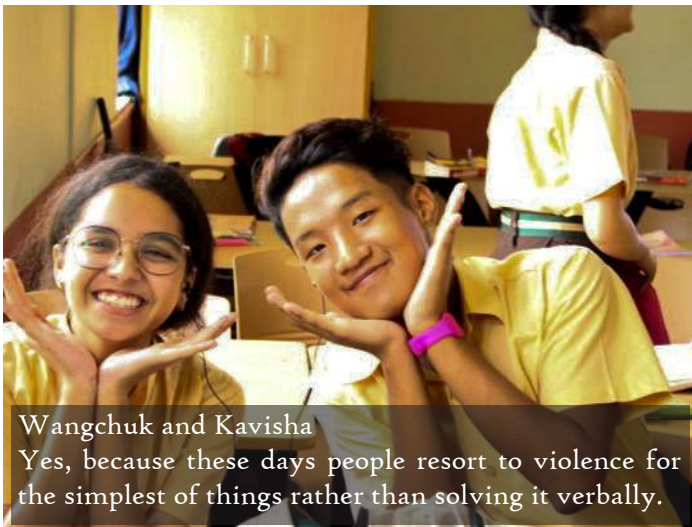
Charmak  
No, discussion helps sort things.



Mr. Sabir Ansari  
No, you can win a battle with swords but a heart can be won only through peace.



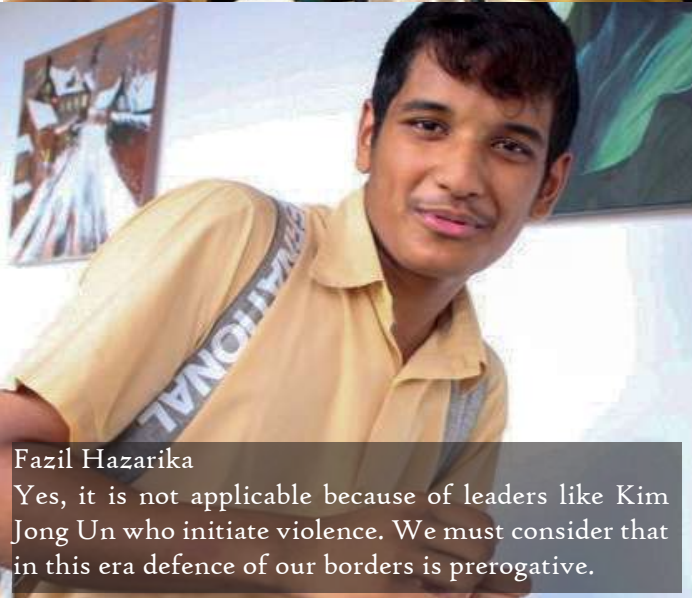
Mr. Umesh Singh  
Clearly no because of the way the society is made up and violence is intrinsic. But some knowledge can control this.



Wangchuk and Kavisha  
Yes, because these days people resort to violence for the simplest of things rather than solving it verbally.



Jayant Agarwal  
Yes. In today's world, self preservation comes first.



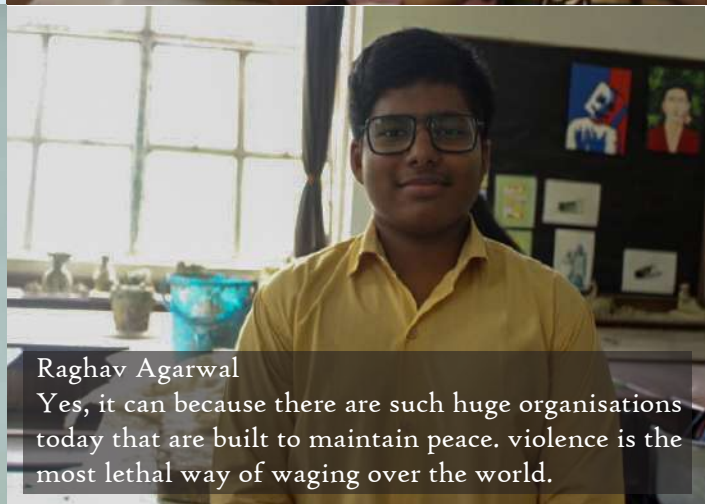
Fazil Hazarika  
Yes, it is not applicable because of leaders like Kim Jong Un who initiate violence. We must consider that in this era defence of our borders is prerogative.



Mesam Laloo and Magdalene Lamin  
We feel that non-violence is not applicable in today's world because today raise their fists for the smallest of reasons.



Apurva Agarwal  
Yes, it cannot be practised as implementing peace today require violent methods.



Raghav Agarwal  
Yes, it can because there are such huge organisations today that are built to maintain peace. violence is the most lethal way of waging over the world.



Samiksha , Mahi , Aditi and Tatiana  
No, because non-violence promotes peace and peace is never an outdated concept.



Yayum , Yaza and Jirmin  
Non-violence can no longer exist because everything has to be implemented by force.

# BAZINGA

-Mrs. Dayita Dutta, Chair, Department of History

How much do you know about the Father of the Nation?

1. The story of 'My Experiments with Truth' was originally written in Gujarati. Who translated it into English and gave it the title by which it is known?
2. Mahatma Gandhi was shamefully never given the Nobel Peace Prize, but he did get a sort of international recognition in 1930, the only Indian to get this recognition. What was this?
3. We all know Tagore returned his knighthood to protest The Jalianwala Bagh Massacre. Less well known is Gandhi's return of a medal he had received for his work as a stretcher bearer in the Zulu and Boer Wars. What was this medal?
4. What role did Raj Kumar Shukla play in Mahatma Gandhi's first satyagraha in India?
5. To represent which Indian company did Mahatma Gandhi go to South Africa in 1893 and eventually spend two decades there?
6. Gandhi spent many years in prison, often in poor conditions. But during the Quit India Movement he was interned in fairly comfortable surroundings. Where did Gandhi spend these years 1942-44?
7. For ninety years, which organization has had the exclusive copyright of Gandhi's works?
8. With whom does Mahatma Gandhi share his birthday – a largely forgotten Prime Minister of India?
9. Two persons were hanged for the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi. One was Nathuram Godse. Who was the other?
10. Gandhi's death anniversary 30th January is celebrated as \_\_\_\_\_ Day in India.

- Answer
1. Mahadev Desai, Mahatma Gandhi's long 4. He persuaded Gandhi to come to standing secretary and close companion. Champaran to lead the struggle of the 9. Narayan Apte and Bengali
  2. Gandhi was named Time Magazine 6. The Aga Khan Palace, Pune
  3. Kaiser-i-Hind Medal
  4. Lal Bahadur Shastri -
  5. Dada Abdulla and Co.
  6. Desai was fluent in Gujarati, Hindi, English long suffering indigo peasants
  7. The Navjivan Trust
  8. Person of the Year 1930
  9. Martys Day
  10. Martyrs Day

## TO THE RESCUE

- Moom Lego, X



## Ripple #111

- Saziia Selvia, XII

Pain is beauty, I  
thought to myself.  
They didn't  
understand, no one  
did. But I knew I had  
to do this. Taking a  
deep breath I gripped  
the ceramic edge and  
got ready to throw  
up and be beautiful.

## Tongue of Slip!!

1. You fall sleepy - Dikshita Bhuyan, X  
(Because you are so boring)
2. I want to listen to the book - Tatiana  
Lakiang, X (Suggestion: How about reading it  
instead?)
3. Don't sit to her - Sempisang Toy, XII (You  
deserve a standing ovation)
4. I am going to finish my shampoo yesterday  
- Namera Alem, XI (Back to the future with  
you)
5. We school is the third (You aren't even in the  
ranking) - Samar Mazumdar, XI
6. It is stinking in here, can you see it? -  
Namrata Baruah, XII (No, I am legally blind)

## Keep It Reel!

### JETLAGGING

- Letminlun Haokip, XI

Editor-in-Chief: Nandini Garodia

Deputy Editor: Sieyina Meru

Associate Editor: Aakangsha Dutta & Sempisang Toy

Correspondents: Saziia, Jeremy, Anoushka, Letminlun, Parthiv, Eloziini, Moom & Ojas

Design & Layout: Moom Lego & Jeremy Jahau

Illustrator: Takhe Tamo Reela

Photo Credits: Letminlun Haokip

Mistress-in-Charge: Ms. Sarmistha Paul Sarkar

Publisher: The Assam Valley School, P.O. Balipara, Dist. Sonitpur, Asom-784101, India

E-mail: ave@assamvalleyschool.com

Telephone: 09678074320/08812009627 Website: www.assamvalleyschool.com