



ITL Commemorates the Birth of Mahatma

Venue: School Auditorium

Participants: Students of Classes I-II and VI- XII

“You must not lose faith in humanity. Humanity is an ocean; if a few drops of the ocean are dirty, the ocean does not become dirty.”

Mahatma Gandhi

ITL Public School organized a special assembly to pay homage to the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi. The year 2019 marks the **150th birth anniversary** of the Mahatma. It was a celebration of the world as imagined by him. The words quoted above show us the power they exhibit on the minds and hearts of people. Similar, was the power of the man who said them.

The assembly began with the ritualistic lighting of the lamp by the **School Principal Ms. Sudha Acharya** followed by All Faith prayers by the teachers to highlight the virtue of **Unity in Diversity**. **Aakriti Saini of IX C** presented the thought for the day to accentuate the significance of the principles laid and followed by Mahatma Gandhi. The man dreamt of a nation where everybody was equal and there was no disparity between people on the basis of caste or religion. To emphasize on the value of equality, the students of classes **VI- VIII** sang the bhajans **Raghupati Raghav** and **Vaishnavjan** which were later elucidated by **Tripti Goyal of XI A** and **Parth Makhija of VII E**. Through the elucidation, the audience realized that they are not merely bhajans but, a way of life in themselves. The programme proceeded with a **Nukkad Natak** which further emphasized the **importance of cleanliness**. Cleanliness formed an integral part of the Gandhian way of living. He dwelt on cleanliness and good habits and pointed out its close relationship to good health. The students, through their performance proclaimed the importance of **Swaccha Bharat Mission** that started in the year 2014. The students through their performance brought forth various environmental issues that hold a great deal of importance today. The audience lauded the performance. Students of classes **I and II** added a glitter to the assembly when they came appealingly dressed as various characters for the fancy dress competition. **Palash Khatri (I C)**, **Pradyuta Goswami (I E)**, **Sohum Kakkar (II C)**, **Aditya Jain (II A)** and **Avani Kothari (II D)** became the highlight of the day with their endearing performances.

Gandhi said, ***“Recall the face of the poorest and weakest man you have seen, and ask yourself if this step you contemplate is going to be any use to him.”*** It is this thinking, which was reflected in the Millennium Development Goals and is now even more central in the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**. United Nations has always honoured Mahatma Gandhi for his commitment towards humanity and non-violence. It is no doubt that his principles had a constructive effect on the UN in bringing up a paradigm shift in development thinking. **Akshat Verma of X E** presented a speech on the relevance of Gandhian principles in the formation of **Sustainable Development Goals** which include **No poverty, Zero Hunger, Quality Education, Climate Action, Clean Water and Sanitation** to name a few. The speech focused on the fact

that Gandhi's ideas were quite contemporary for twenty first century world, grappling to uphold sustainability, wholly and substantially. Furthermore, **Vanshika Verma** of **XII F** confabulated on the role played by Gandhiji in the Indigo Movement, whereby he taught people that there are fights that can be fought without raising arms if one is resolute. He was a great leader who focused on inculcating confidence in people so that they could fight their own battles.

Later, the school principal addressed the students. In her address, she deliberated upon the kind of life led by Mahatma Gandhi and the values that he left for the generations after him. She stressed on the meaning and importance of **Swaraj** that has politics, economy, morality and religion as its four pillars. She also stressed on the need to follow the values left by Mahatma Gandhi for a peacefully developing world.

Later, the students took pledge to be responsible citizens and **save water** and **reduce the use of single use plastic** to elevate the environment.

The event concluded with the students zealously singing the national anthem.



