

Two Day International Conference on  
**Relevance of Gandhian Philosophy in achieving UN SDGs & Rule of Law**  
24–25 October 2025

**Invitation:**

The Gandhian Studies Centre, Andhra University and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar College of Law, Andhra University, are jointly organizing a Two-Day International Conference on “*Relevance of Gandhian Philosophy in achieving UN SDGs & Rule of Law*” on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> October 2025, as part of the centenary celebrations of Andhra University scheduled to commence in 2026. The conference aims to highlight the relevance of Gandhian philosophy in addressing global challenges and achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The collaborative venture also seeks to focus on how Gandhian philosophy aligns with the SDGs. The conference would discuss and deliberate a wide range of themes and sub themes that include non-violence, truth, trusteeship, women’s empowerment, sustainability, peacebuilding, and environmental harmony, community engagement and so on. Academics, doctoral students, NGOs, policymakers, and students are welcome to contribute to the discourse by way of presenting papers, which will culminate in a Global Gandhian Declaration on SDGs.

**Background**

Mahatma Gandhi’s philosophy presents a timeless vision for addressing of the complex challenges of the twenty-first century. Rooted in non-violence (Ahimsa) and truth (Satya), Gandhian thought serves as both a moral compass and a political instrument for social transformation. For the Mahatma, non-violence was not passive resistance but an active force for reconciliation, justice, and inclusion. His principle of trusteeship provides a framework for economic justice, where wealth is held in trust for the greater good, aligning with SDGs on reducing inequalities (SDG 10) and responsible consumption (SDG 12). Equally significant is Gandhi’s promotion of village industries and self-reliance. Through Khadi and handicrafts, he advocated for decentralized economies that uphold dignity of labour and minimize resource exploitation. Gandhi’s model of local production offers pathways that respect both people and the planet amid climate crises, growing unemployment, and economic disparity. Gandhiji also championed women’s empowerment, recognizing them as equal partners in freedom and social progress. This is in keeping with the

modern - day gender equality debates (SDG 5). His dictum, “The Earth has enough for everyone’s need, but not for everyone’s greed,” emphasizes sustainability and ecological balance (SDGs 13–15) and was well ahead of times.

Today’s global challenges climate change, poverty, inequalities, conflicts, and fragile institutions mirror his foresight. His principles of simplicity, decentralized governance, ethical leadership, and community participation offer practical guidance for inclusive, peaceful, and sustainable development. Gandhiji, thus, remains as a global guide for generations seeking justice, peace, and equity.

**Objectives:**

The proposed international conference on “*Relevance of Gandhian Philosophy in achieving UN SDGs & Rule of Law*” has the following objectives:

1. To examine Gandhian philosophy vis-a-vis each Sustainable Development Goal (SDG).
2. To bring together global perspectives and case studies related to the SDGs.
3. To foster an enabling environment for promotion of South-South dialogue and academic collaborations.
4. To produce a policy-oriented document (Global Gandhian Declaration on SDGs).
5. To explore ways to engage the youth and future leaders in Gandhian pathways to achieve the SDGs

**Main Themes (including but not limited to)**

- Gandhian Philosophy and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Poverty, Inequality, and Gandhian Economics
- Education, Youth, and Social Transformation
- Women’s Empowerment and Gender Equality
- Peace, Justice, and Non-violence in a Globalized World
- Environment, Climate Action, and Sustainable Living
- Health, Well-being, and Community Care
- Urbanization, Rural Development, and Sustainable Communities
- Global Partnerships and South–South Cooperation
- Gandhi in the Digital Age: Relevance and Challenges
- Gandhian Philosophy & Rule of Law

**Sub-Themes**

- Gandhian ethics: truth, non-violence, and trusteeship

- Sarvodaya: upliftment of marginalized and vulnerable groups
- Nai Talim: holistic and value-based education
- Youth as torchbearers of Gandhian values in the 21st century
- Gandhi’s vision of women as equal partners in social transformation
- Gandhi’s idea of community engagement and *Shramdan* (voluntary labour).
- Non-violence as a tool for peacebuilding and conflict resolution
- Ecological sustainability and the balance between “need” and “greed”
- Community participation in health and wellness programs
- Self-sufficient villages, Khadi, and decentralized governance
- Gandhian perspectives on international cooperation and South–South solidarity
- Role of Gandhian thought in digital media, technology, and artificial intelligence
- Access to Justice
- Gende Justice & Legal Education

**Visakhapatnam**

Visakhapatnam, the largest city of Andhra Pradesh and district headquarters, is a vital port city on India’s east coast, housing the busy Visakhapatnam Port and the Indian Navy’s Eastern Naval Command. Known as the “City of Destiny” and the “Jewel of the East Coast,” it has grown into a hub of industry, IT, tourism, and healthcare. The city is an educational powerhouse with Andhra University, GITAM, Damodaram Sanjivayya National Law University, IIM Visakhapatnam, and several engineering, medical, and research institutes. Its healthcare network is anchored by premier facilities, notably the historic King George Hospital (KGH), serving millions across north coastal Andhra. Blessed with wonderful beaches, the scenic Kailasagiri hilltop park, ancient temples, and rich cultural landmarks, Visakhapatnam blends progress with heritage, standing tall as the pride of Andhra Pradesh.

**Andhra University:**

Andhra University, established in 1926, is a globally acclaimed institution of excellence known for its strong focus on postgraduate education and critical and informed

research. It offers 313 courses in the streams of Arts, Science, Engineering, Law, and Management through five constituent colleges and multiple campuses. The university has earned NAAC 'A' grade accreditation and was the first in India to receive ISO 9001:2000 certification. Andhra University is recognized for its pioneering academic programs and its precious contributions to research, with internationally renowned faculty and notable alumni like Nobel Laureate C.V. Raman, Suri Bhagavantam, BR Rao, KS Murthy and G Parthasarathy – to name a few. Titans like Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, Humayun Kabir, M Venkata Rangayya taught and enriched the educational milieu of the varsity. The university can boast of the strong presence of its alumni in the Indian diaspora.

#### About the College:

The Law College at Andhra University was established in 1945 to address the need for legal education in the region, which was then part of the Madras Province. It was founded under the leadership of Dr. C.R. Reddy, the university's first Vice-Chancellor, with guidance from notable jurists like Sri Lionel Leach and Sri P.V. Rajamannar. Many great legal luminaries, public servants, renowned politicians, honourable members of the Judiciary had learnt their first lessons of law in the portals of this great institution. In 1991 it was renamed as Dr. B.R.Ambedkar College of Law. This college is acclaimed as a premier institution with immense potential.

#### About the Centre:

The Gandhian Studies Centre, Andhra University, established in 2007 actively promotes Gandhian values through various initiatives such as workshops, seminars, and conferences. It organizes lecture series and school programs aimed at imparting education and social awareness. Additionally, the Centre conducts literacy and law awareness programs and holds professional essay writing competitions for children. It also invites guest speakers for charkha (spinning wheel) demonstrations, creating an engaging platform to connect people with Gandhian principles and inspire social change.

The centre invites scholars, researchers, practitioners, social activists, NGO representatives, students, policy-makers, and women entrepreneurs to contribute papers on the above themes. Selected papers will be presented during the International Conference and considered for publication in peer reviewed journal and an edited volume which will be made available on payment.

We request to submit your abstracts and full papers to **email: aungsc@gmail.com** for consideration. Kindly note the following important dates:

- Abstract: 250 words
- Full Paper: 3,000 - 4,000 words
- Abstract Submission : October 10, 2025
- Full Paper Submission: October 18, 2025
- Email: aungsc@gmail.com

**For contact:** Phone No's: **9440084024/ 9059280647**

#### Registration Fees:

- Students: 500/-
- Research Scholars: 1000/-
- Academicians/NGO's: 1,200/-

**Registration Link:** <https://forms.gle/3STraYioJofgSAb17>

**Whats App Link:** <https://t1nk.dev/GkZuz>

We look forward to your valuable contribution and participation in making this event a success. Please note that no Travel Allowance (TA) will be provided. However, hospitality will be extended to outstation participants.

#### Chief Patron

**Prof. G.P. Raja Sekhar**

Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor

Andhra University, Visakhapatnam

#### Patrons

**Prof. N. Kishore Babu**

Rector, Andhra University

**Prof. K. Rambabu**

Registrar, Andhra University

**Prof A. Narasimha Rao**

Principal, Colleges of Arts & Commerce  
Andhra University

**Prof. K. Sita Manikyam**

**Principal, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar College of Law**

Conference Convenor/ Director

**Gandhian Studies Centre**

Andhra University, Visakhapatnam

Andhra Pradesh, INDIA-530003

#### Co-Convenors

**Dr. L.V.K.Prasad & Dr. K. Pallavi**

Asst. Professors, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar College of Law, AU

**Dr. P. Kishore Kumar**

ICSSR Senior Research Fellow, New Delhi

Research Associate, Gandhian Studies Centre, AU



## Centenary Celebrations of Andhra University

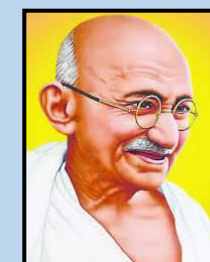
Two-Day International Conference

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24th-25th October, 2025

(Hybrid Mode)



**Gandhian Studies Centre**

&

**Dr. B.R. Ambedkar College of Law**

**Andhra University, Visakhapatnam**