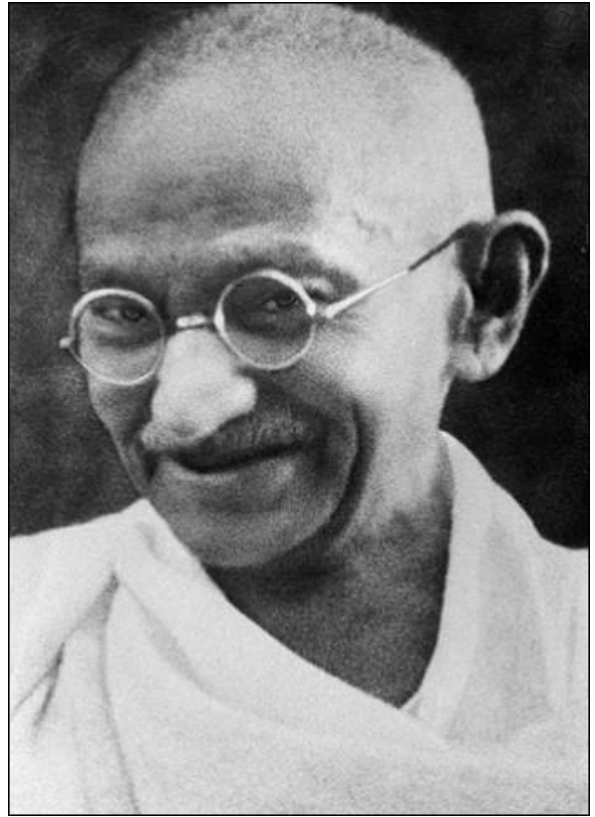


Mahatma Gandhiji,
The Father of our Nation



Compiled from the speeches of
Sadguru Sri Nannagaru

A Common Man turned into a Mahatma



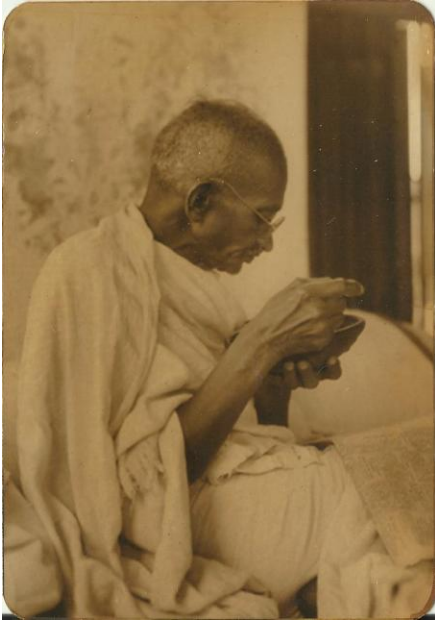
Gandhiji is a common man just like anyone of us. He transformed from Mohandas to Mahatma by working hard, by making effort and inculcating discipline. Bapuji used to say: "I am a common man like any other person. There is nothing special about me."

Gandhiji adored Bhagavad Gita as his own Mother



Gandhiji adored Bhagavad Gita as his own Mother. He said: “Gita has removed the void created in my life with the loss of my mother.” He used to read at least one chapter of Gita per day. Whenever he had doubts, he used to refer to the Gita. Some or the other verse in Gita cleared his doubts. As per Gita, there are three gateways to hell: desire, anger and miserliness. Gandhiji transcended all of them.

Gandhiji transcended his tongue



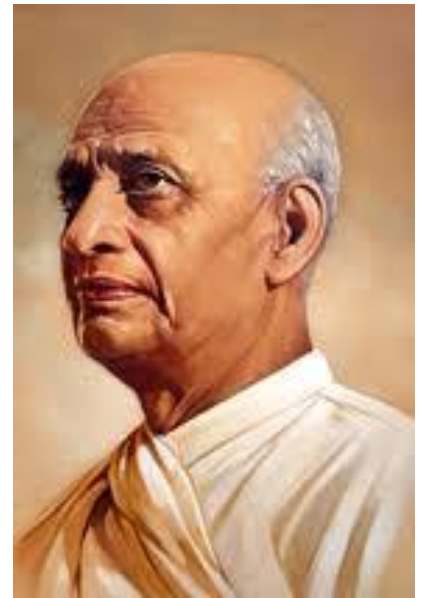
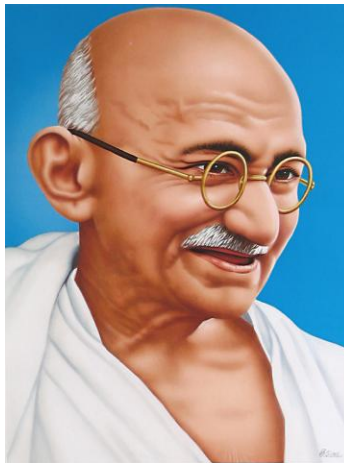
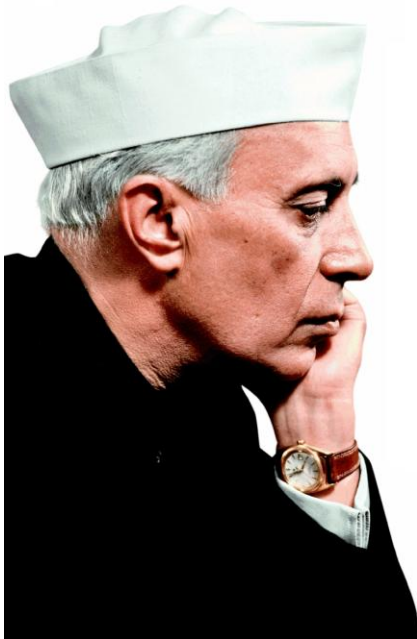
Once, Rabindranath Tagore invited Gandhiji for dinner. When Gandhiji arrived, he saw that his plate contained many eatables that he wouldn't eat. Gandhiji didn't peep into other's plate. Rather he asked, "Where is my plate?" Such was his self control and sense control.

Gandhiji was the Lover of Rama and Bhagavad Gita

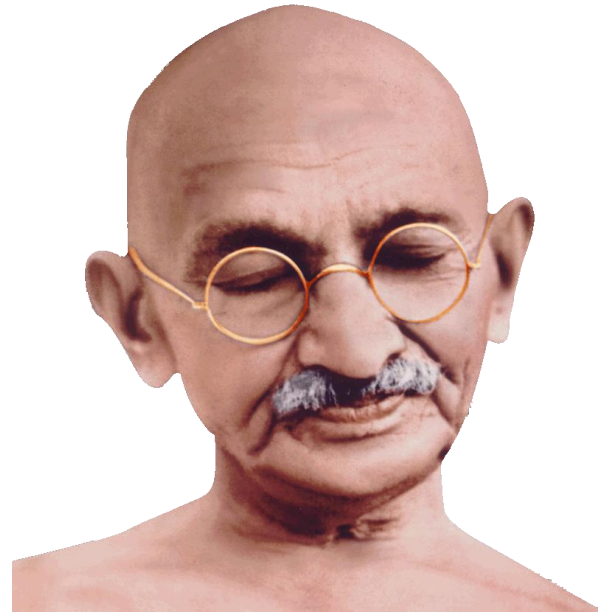


How much ever Gandhiji was involved in politics, he never left Bhagavad Gita and devotion towards Rama. Even when he was shot dead, he chanted only the name of Rama.

Gandhiji, the Modern Buddha

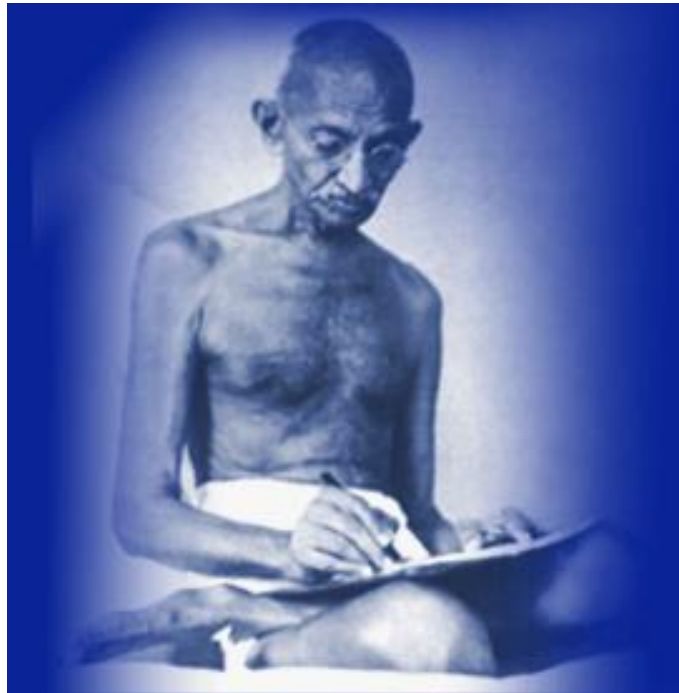


It was Gandhiji who gave the positions of Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister to Nehru and Patel respectively but he himself never accepted any position. Gandhiji rejected ministerial portfolios not only for himself but also for his children. He asked them to perform



whatever possible service they could do. He suggested one of his children to go back to South Africa and serve there. Even Buddha had only one son. He did not desire that his only son should rule the kingdom in his absence. That is Sacrifice. Similar is the case with Gandhiji. Therefore Gandhiji can be considered as 'Modern Buddha'.

Gandhiji always saw only good in others



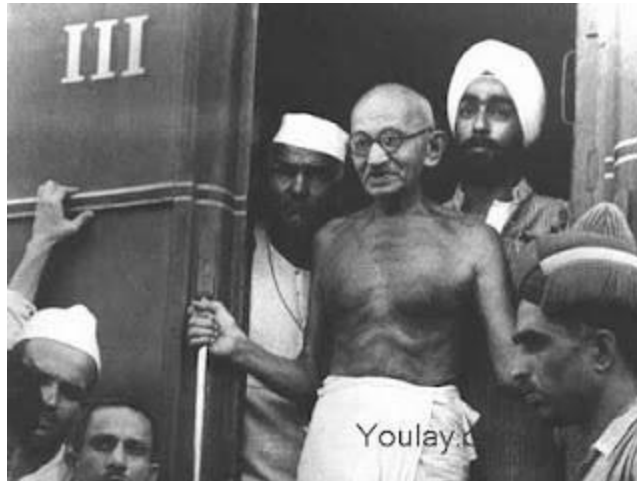
Gandhiji knew about the good and bad of everyone who visited him but he always saw only the good in them. If he saw anything bad in them, he would pray GOD asking for their release from that habit. If any of his critics approached Gandhiji, he used to talk to them very lovingly, patiently and carefully without any disgust.

The toy of three monkeys is
the Guru of Gandhiji



Gandhiji always kept the toy of three monkeys with him in which one monkey closes its eyes, one closes its ears and another closes its mouth. It implies do not see bad, do not hear bad and do not talk bad. He used to consider that toy itself as his Guru.

Gandhiji's identification with the common man



Gandhiji used to travel only in third class. Once it started raining heavily and water entered the coach in which Gandhiji was travelling. The ticket collector asked Gandhiji to change his coach as he was getting drenched. But Gandhiji said, " You are thinking about me alone but what about all the other people in this coach." Such was the identification of Gandhiji with Common man.

**I don't deserve to wear the shoes stitched
with your own hands**

When Gandhiji was imprisoned in South Africa, he stitched shoes that were gifted to the then Prime Minister of South Africa. The Prime Minister at first accepted and then again returned them back after a month writing a letter addressing Gandhiji: "Your methodologies are against the Government. Hence you have been imprisoned. I personally don't have any hatred for you. I may be the Prime Minister and you may seem to be a common man. However I am aware as to how great personality you are. I don't deserve to wear the shoes stitched with your own hands."

If this Swarajya doesn't convert into Su-Rajya,
it is equivalent to a blade of grass



Nehru sent an invitation to Gandhiji through a messenger asking him to participate in the first Independence Day celebrations. When the invitation arrived, Gandhiji was seated under a tree. On looking at it, Gandhiji said: "I don't have the necessity of coming to Delhi (for the



sake of honor). I stay where ever I have work to carry on. If this Swarajya (Independence) doesn't convert into Su-Rajya (happiness of people) it is equivalent to a blade of grass. If no one is happy, why do we require Swarajya? Swarajya is for the happiness of people. Swarajya is for administering ourselves. If people are not happy even when administered by ourselves, what is the use of such Swarajya? Swarajya is for attaining Su-rajya. Swarajya, devoid of Surajya is only for name sake and is only on paper."

Gandhiji's Surrender



Gandhiji wrote in his biography: “The lesson that I learnt from Life is that the more I surrender unto the Lord, the more is the Peace and Bliss I experience. It is irrespective of whether I possess happiness or sorrow.”

**I will be happy only when you sacrifice the
giver of donation**



Once Gandhiji was given a donation of 1 lakh rupees at a time when a rice bag costed just 4rs. The donor asked Gandhiji: "Are you happy with the donation?" Gandhiji replied: "I am not happy with the donation. I will be happy only if you sacrifice the sense of giving."

You will remain alive as long as GOD wills



Gandhiji wrote the following letter to his wife Kasturbha in her last days: "I am getting several letters mentioning the doctor's opinion that you may not live for many days. My only advice is that you don't waste your precious time. Just because the doctors are of such opinion, don't consider that your death is very near. You will remain alive as long as GOD wills. I am unable



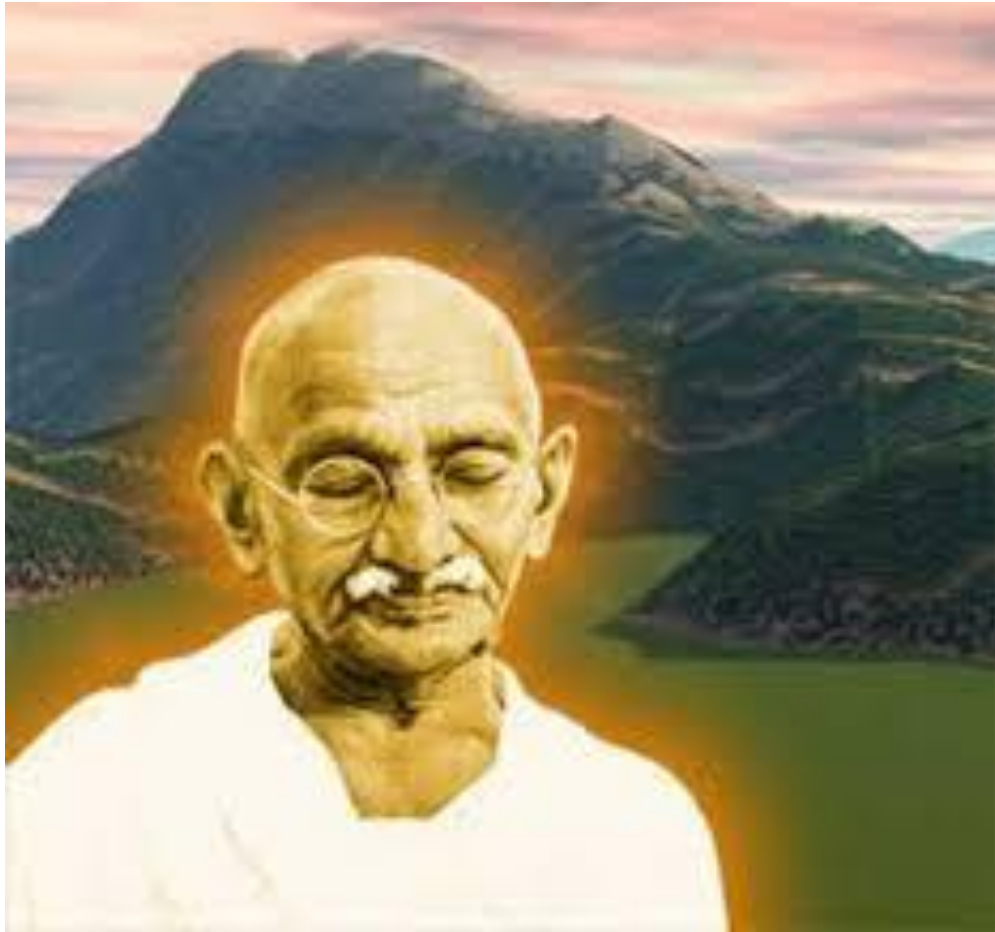
to come to you immediately. Don't trouble yourself with the thought of my absence. We get fear only because we consider that we don't exist after the body's death. But we do exist after the body's death. You can transcend the fear of death only if you can experience the deathless Self before the body's death. At present what you need to attain is to overcome the fear of death. If you experience Self, it shouldn't make any difference whether I come or not.

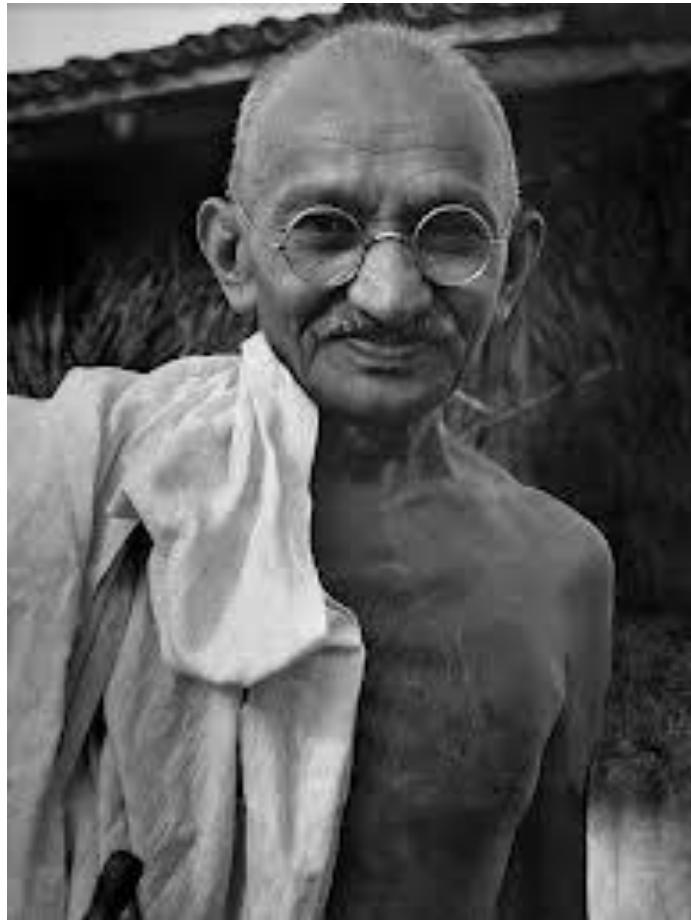
Now He has become Immortal!



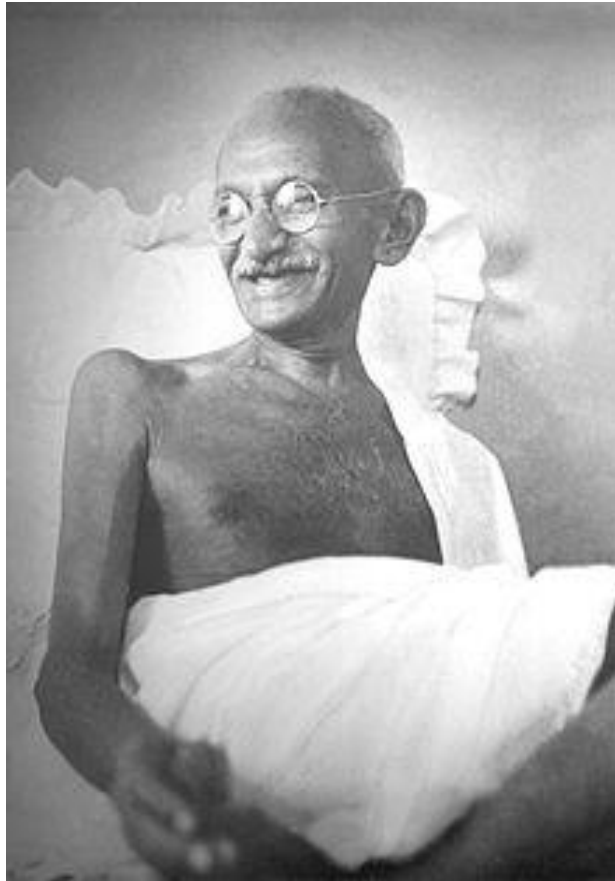
When Gandhiji was assassinated, Nehru said: 'The Light has gone away'. However Rajaji said, "Till now Gandhiji was mortal but now he has become immortal."

Learnings from Gandhiji

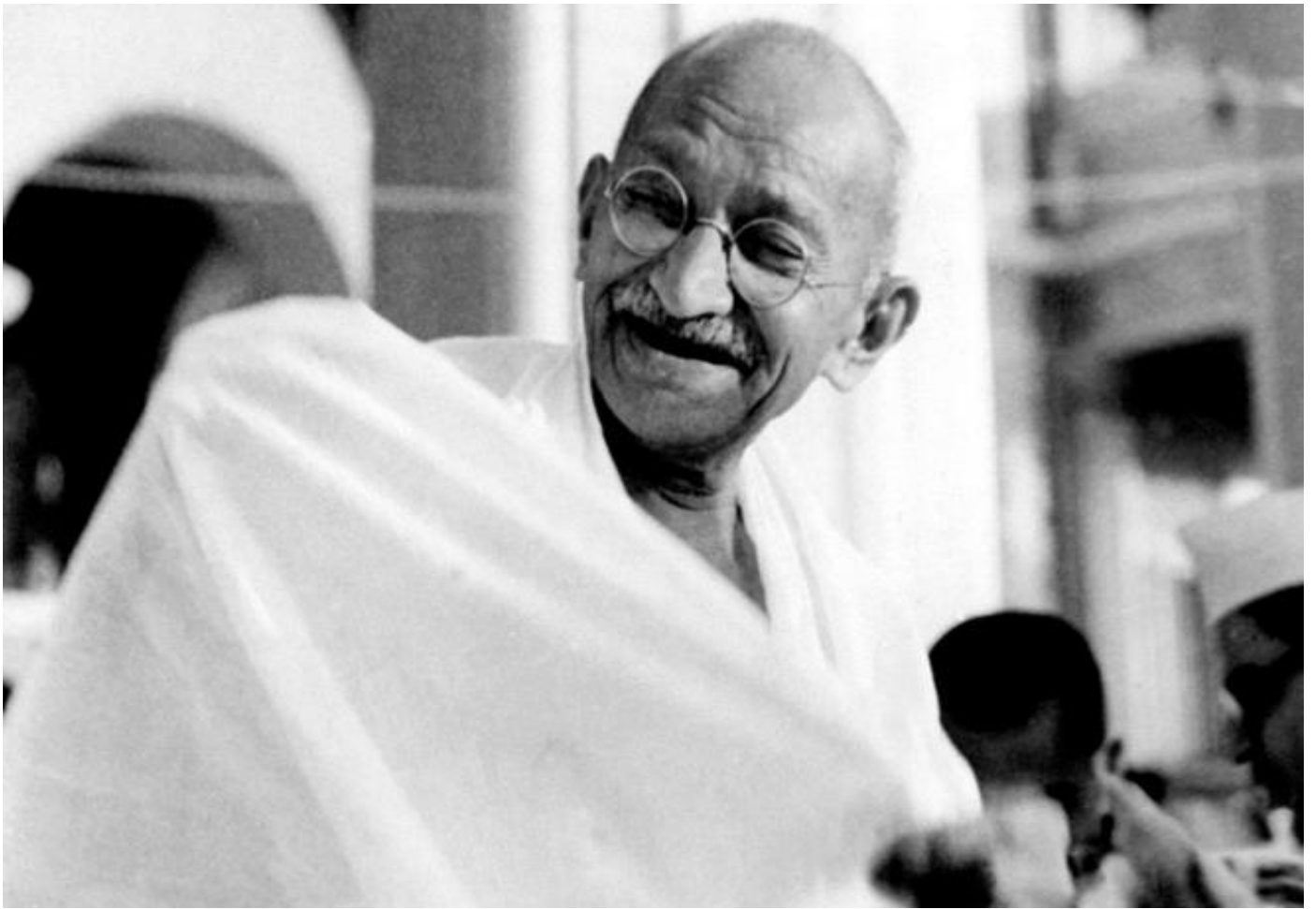




Concentrate on the work and not on its result; If you concentrate on the result, you are left out only with burden.



Don't neglect your household duties. You must carry out your duty towards society in the same manner as you carry out your household duties.



We must not hate other religions and should carry out the duties as mentioned in our religion.



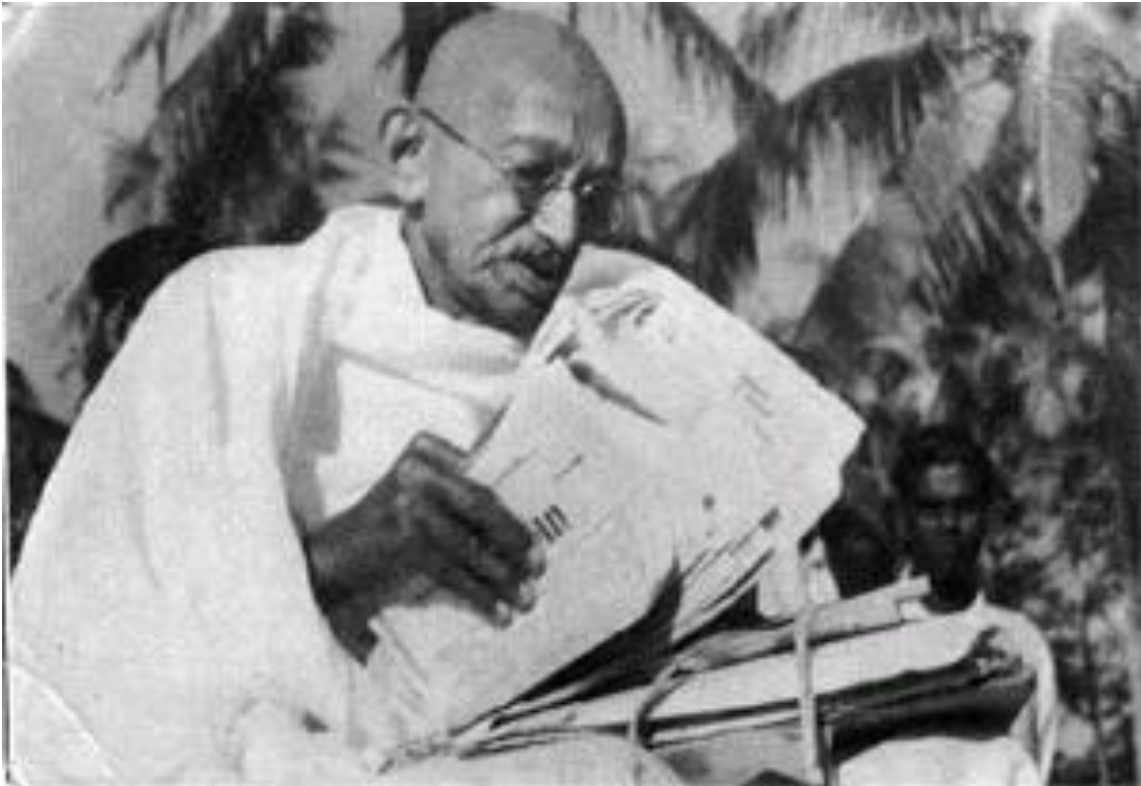
Not everyone may like our views and opinions. We must not cultivate anger and hatred for them.



When you are doing the work that is close to your heart, do not fear even when criticized by others.

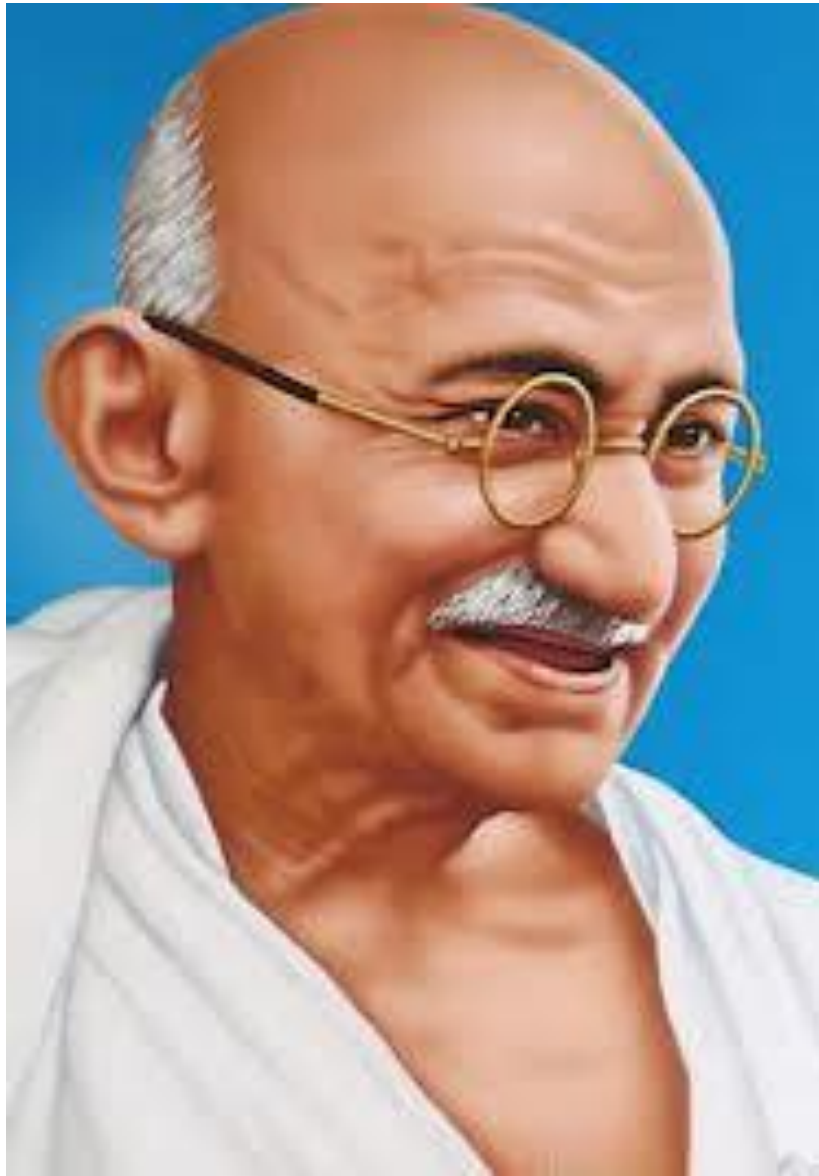


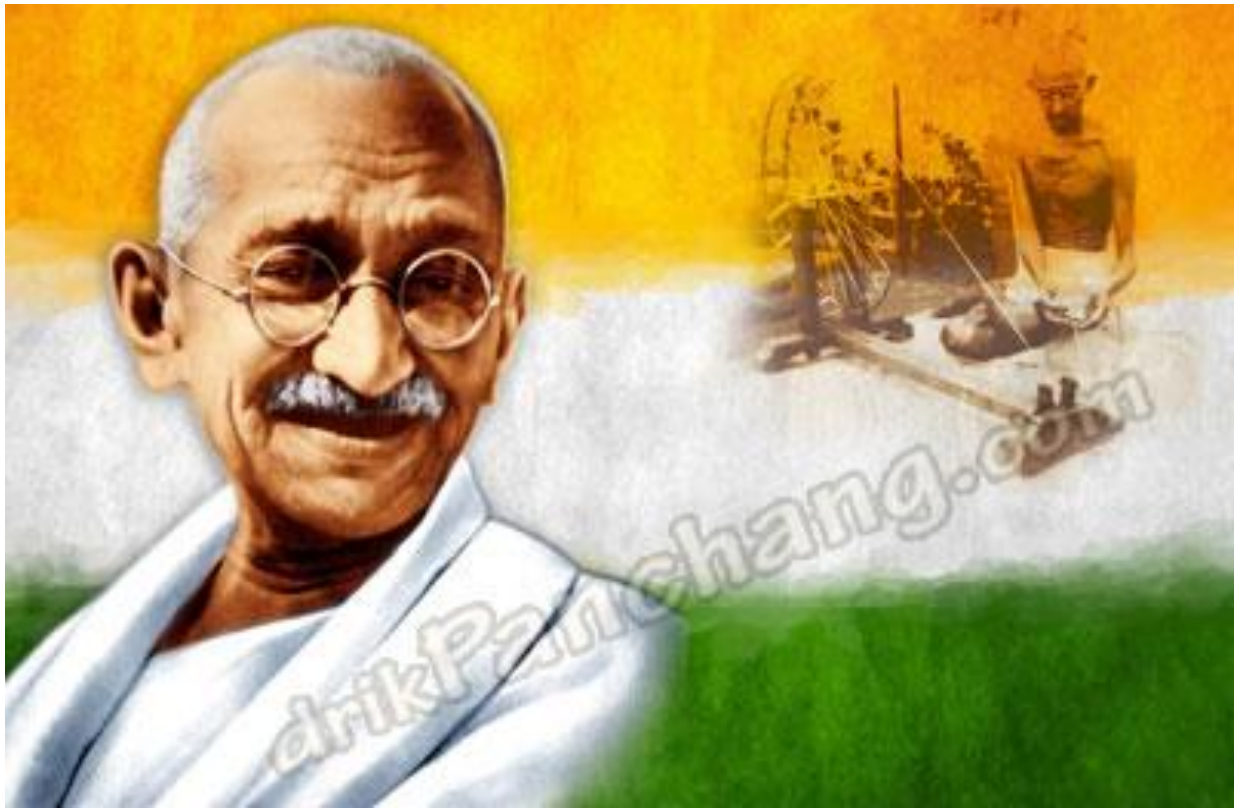
Be egoless. Reduce the arrogance called 'i'.



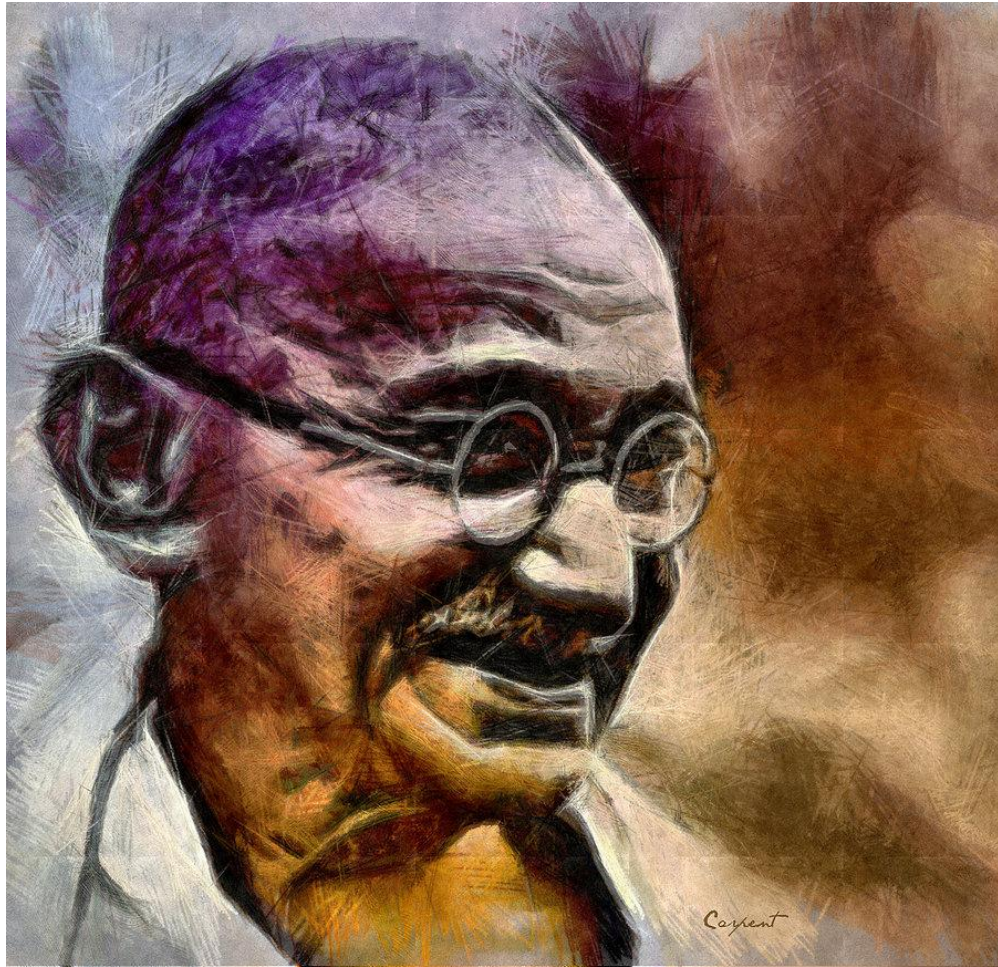
Worshipping God in temples alone doesn't constitute worship; but adoring Him who exists in the Hearts of all constitutes true worship.

Quotes of Gandhiji





Any amount of Spiritual practices without practicing righteousness will not be fruitful.



Authority will not beget Morality.

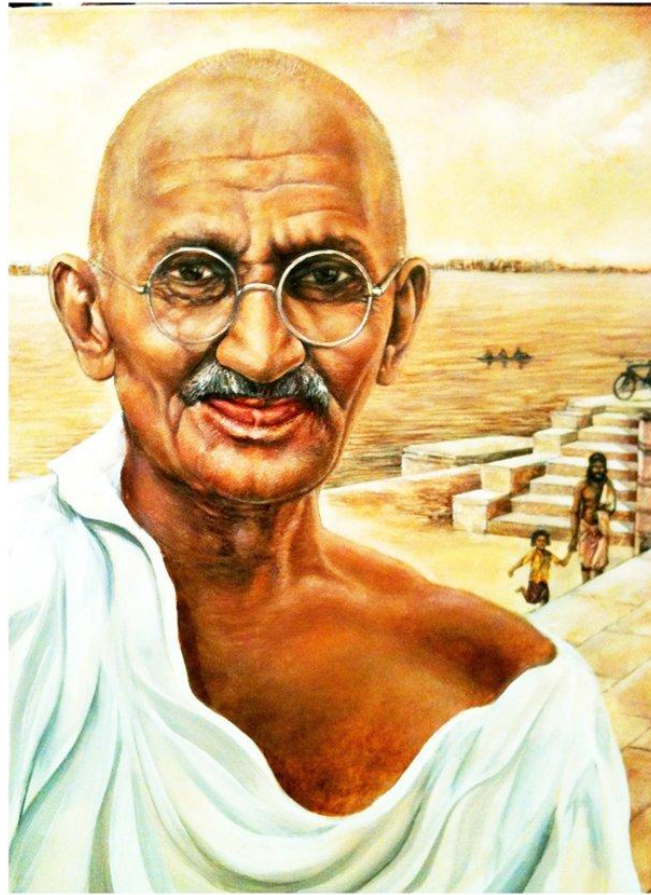
I am not happy that we attained Swarajya (ie Independence). I will be happy only when we attain Rama Rajya.



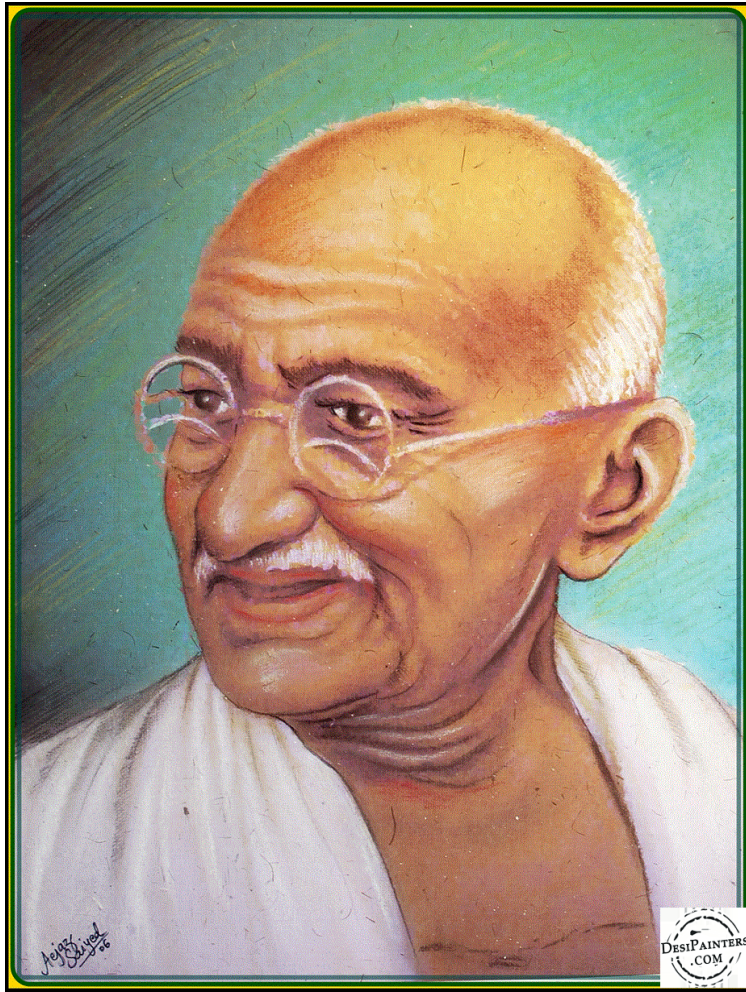
Will the river in your village get heated with the fire that you light up on its shores? Similarly will GOD get heated with your stupid words filled with atheism?



It is irrelevant as to how your behaviour is towards me. What is more important is whether I am right in my behaviour towards you.



None could insult me till now because I never acknowledged the same. It is better that I consume poison rather than acknowledge the insult.



Some people have great thinking and also speak out great things. However when it comes to work, they prove out to be zeroes. If your thinking is great, great things should happen through you.



MY LIFE IS MY MESSAGE.