

Gandhiji's Satyagraha and Humanitarian Thoughts – In Today's Context

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Citation: Agrawal, J., Munet, S., & Kishore, B. (2025). Gandhiji's Satyagraha and Humanitarian Thoughts – In Today's Context. International Journal of Education, Modern Management, Applied Science & Social Science, 07(03(III)), 123–125. [https://doi.org/10.62823/ijemmasss/7.3\(iii\).8162](https://doi.org/10.62823/ijemmasss/7.3(iii).8162)

ABSTRACT

It is well known and crucial that Gandhiji, through Satyagraha gave a new direction not only to India but to the world. A direction that could enable the world to play a new role in many ways. He used Satyagraha as a tool alongside truth and non-violence. This is the fact that, In this way he played a new role by showing the path and paving the way for future by adopting Satyagraha as a tool and fighting for the Independence of the country on its basis, the people of India along with Gandhiji, inspired the world to understand how any problem or any issue can be resolved. There can be many ways to resolve any issue. But it has always been beneficial for all human beings to pave the way for their own progress peacefully. As we all know that it is the duty of a person to work for their own development in such a way that they can contribute to the development of all and also to the preservation of Humanity. Therefore, when Gandhiji used the tool of truth in the Indian national independence movement, its usefulness was self-evident. However, today, when the world is constantly changing and various changes are constantly taking place in various fields, it is worth considering what we can achieve through Gandhiji's tool of Satyagraha, how suffering humanity can be made happy, and how we can solve our problems by keeping this in mind. Thus, especially in today's circumstances, when there is an environment of tension in the world and we have to find a new path for the future it may be appropriate to consider Gandhiji's tool of Satyagraha can prove useful to us.

Keywords: Truth, Non-violence, Satyagraha, Humanity, Development, Movement.

Introduction

Gandhiji, emerges as a personality in the history of India who, on the strength of his resources and his qualities, has presented before us a presence which will always be needed by the human society. Because whenever the human society is unhappy or whenever it finds no way out or whenever it has to decide between truth and false, just and unjust, right and wrong, moral and immoral, at that time it needs some great man who can help it in various ways, who can tell it what is right and what is wrong, what is appropriate and inappropriate, what is moral and immoral and what is its responsibility in such a situation, by following which kind of moral, right and appropriate approach it can achieve its goal and can face such adverse circumstances appropriately.

In such a situation, when it needs those kinds of leaders, it is also necessary for it to see what kind of means it can achieve its goal without harming its development or without harming any other person or creature. In such a situation, Gandhiji presents before us as such a great man.

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We believe that what is called satyagraha, works as a supreme power along with truth and non-violence, as Gandhiji proved to us by showing the usefulness of all three- truth, non-violence and satyagraha as special means during the struggle for Indian national independence movement that whenever a man becomes confused about what to do, he should use these means while contemplating on them.

In reality, when the people of India were suffering from the atrocities of the British rule and were extremely troubled by its anti- India policies and unjust policies, at that time Gandhiji was able to bring India out of this difficult time on the strength of satyagraha. It was the power of satyagraha in which Gandhiji had such unshakable faith that he knew that if the people of the entire country firmly followed this method, then the British rule did not have enough power to rule the country any longer.

It was able to rule for so many years because the people of this country did not get to use the power of satyagraha as an example. If this had happened earlier then India would have become independent long ago. Imperialism and similar concepts always cause suffering for the people of the subjugated nation, because imperialist nations always grow richer by exploiting the wealth and people of the that nation.

It is the exploitation and oppression of that country in every way that helps the imperialist nation prosper. That is why, imperialist nations do not even consider developing subjugated nations, because it is not even part of their conception. When imperialism was adopted as a concept worldwide and many countries were subjugated, not only were the various nations politically subjugated or troubled, but it was an attack on humanity itself.

This posed a grave question mark for humanity, as some individuals were subjugating other nations and committing various atrocities against the human race, thus in this way sustaining and uplifting themselves. This can not be said to be in support of any principle of humanity.

In such a situation, individuals like Gandhiji manage the system because managing it, is not everyone's cup of tea. It can only be achieved by those who internally empower themselves to protect the interests of all humanity and to embody human values. As we see in Gandhiji's personality, Gandhiji held truth, non-violence and satyagraha so highly in his heart and, on their basis empowered himself so strongly that he was now in a position not only to solve various other problems of India and but also to force the British to leave India.

As we saw during the Indian independence movement, he led various movements based on satyagraha, informing the public that the era of British rule in India was over. Its 200-year rule would no longer endure. India, like other independent countries of the world, now deserves to enjoy the benefits of independence and govern itself.

The people, who will govern themselves and determine their own policies and programmes, will thus be able to do so. Now the people of India would be able to breath freely. This was essential not only for India as a nation but also for the protection and development of humanity itself. Furthermore, a look at the social situation in India at that time reveals that the country was grappling with other social problems as well. As India was already facing various problems in various sectors.

In the social sphere, caste-based discrimination and untouchability were prevalent here as well, which Gandhiji opposed, thus reinforcing the idea of equality for all individuals. In today's world, as we all know, the entire world needs not only a personality like Mahatma Gandhi but also a deep understanding of his principles and their implementation.

Gandhiji implemented satyagraha as a form of power combined with truth and non-violence. Similarly, it can be said that such power is needed to establish peace in the world today and free future generations from any kind of worry.

Currently, war and insecurity are prevalent everywhere. Therefore, humanity is facing a deepening crisis. If everyone works together in one direction and considers a peaceful solution, we can permanently overcome this crisis. In this context, this is the fact that Gandhiji's principle of satyagraha and his humanitarian view can play a significant role and the world can avoid the horrors of war. War can never be considered safe for humanity. It always results in various types of losses. The current war is being said to be so technologically driven that it threatens the entire human race. It is being considered as a general thought that destruction is possible. Therefore, for the safety of humanity and to keep the world bright and prosperous, it is essential to follow the principles like Gandhiji's satyagraha.

Along with this, it is also worth mentioning here in the context of welfare direction of the awakening of humanity in the social sphere of India that Gandhiji awakened, is also visible in today's society, where different sections of the society live together with love and contribute to each-other's progress. This is what should happen because only then will society become strong. If society becomes strong, our entire focus will be shifted towards strengthening the nation. On the other hand, it is also true that the individual serves as the foundation of the society and the society serves as foundation of the nation. If society is strong in all aspects, then the country will become strong automatically without any hindrance. Thus, we see that Gandhiji's satyagraha and the ideas of humanity for which he had so many dreams in his mind and eyes not only for India but also for everyone, have become more relevant in today's era and are needed more because the circumstances of Gandhiji's era were different from those of today. We must say that Gandhiji's philosophy is desperately needed in today's circumstances for the future of whole world as it all depends on them for their protection and survival as well, therefore, his philosophy and principles should not only be propagated but also wholeheartedly embraced by the individual.

It should be made a part of life and all the works should be done by following that path and others should also be inspired for the same so that the welfare of the society, individual, nation, and the entire world can be achieved. Thus, human society is filled with countless possibilities. In this context, it is also true that possibilities have no fixed form. Therefore, nothing can be said about the future's visibility by observing the present. However, the future can certainly be determined by observing the present. Therefore, when we talk about truth, non-violence and satyagraha, we must keep the future in mind. So, current society is also analysed from this perspective, so that we can also understand what the future holds if the current circumstances are such. Because the usefulness of a means like satyagraha is constantly increasing in the changing circumstances, that is, the tendency of people to think in terms of peaceful means is constantly increasing.

Therefore, we see it as extremely necessary and important element in the context of the future as well. Thus, Gandhiji's thoughts on satyagraha and his humanitarian approach have been as important in history as they are in the present and the future. Although, in this regard, we can also hold the view that the future itself may be happier than today. However, this philosophy relies on a highly positive view of humanity, which assumes that, despite the good and bad aspects of human life, humans will always harbor their negative side and maintain good behaviour and good will towards everyone.

The ideas of truth, non-violence and Satyagraha work as a shield to safeguard the future. Similarly, Gandhiji's humanitarian perspective teaches us that we must always set an example of living for others, and that we must act now to ensure the safety of future generations, not just in the present. Order and harmony will prevail in society only when humans continue to act with a dedication to all humanity in mind. Following the path of Satyagraha is a resolution demonstrated by Gandhiji which, if fulfilled whole heartedly by every human being will never face any problem. Similarly, Gandhiji's humanitarian perspective also teaches us this very purpose of life.

Because both these concepts and perspectives in Gandhiji's thinking are based on love, it is a force that will help humanity in every form. Therefore, a positive perspective and idea regarding Satyagraha emerges, this path shown by Gandhiji is actually his humanitarian perspective, which also encompasses many other ideas, including the concept of Vasudhev Kutumbkam.

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