

Gandhi – 150: A Public Lecture
on *Building a Non-Violent Society Today: Gandhian Paradigms*

IDCR, Loyola College (Autonomous) Chennai celebrated “Gandhi-150” with a Public Lecture on “Building a Non-Violent Society Today: Gandhian Paradigms” on Tuesday 21 January 2020. The occasion provided the faculty members of all institutions on Loyola Campus and the public opportunity to seek to learn Gandhian values and strategies for a creative resolution of conflicts in the contemporary scenario. Some of the points that dominated the discussion were the climate for ethical governance, people-centred development, and inter-religious harmony, the ways and means of promoting inclusive community-building and celebration of the secularism with the spirit of Indian Constitution with non-violent attitudes and approaches.

Mr. Rajmohan Gandhi, the eminent Historian, Journalist, Peace Builder and Research Professor at the College of Education, University of Illinois, USA who enthralled the participants with clarity of thoughts said that Gandhi wanted India to be one, Hindus and Muslims are one. According to the speaker, Gandhi wanted India to be liberated from all sorts of divisive forces. Further, he highlighted equality, freedom of speech, secularism as the core values to keep the nation as one. Listening to others, working as a team and encouraging heterogeneity are some of the means that Raj Mohan Gandhi suggested to cultivate secularism. In the context of protest today in India, he is overwhelmed with the spontaneity with which the youngsters raise the slogan for the preservation of constitution and annihilation of discrimination and show the world the vision of just and equal society.

Rev. Dr. Jebamalai Irudayaraja, S.J., Provincial, Jesuit Chennai Province, Rev. Dr Francis P. Xavier, S.J. Rector, Rev. Dr D. Selvanayakam, S.J., Secretary, Rev. Dr A. Thomas, S.J., Principal and Dr. Maria Arul Raja, S.J., Director, IDCR were present during the occasion and felicitated the chief guest.