

**Mahatma Gandhi Peace Centre & Department of Applied Psychology,**  
**University of Mumbai**

**Special Lecture on the occasion of **INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE****

**Date: September 21, 2016 at 11.00am**

**Venue: Auditorium, University Department of Applied Psychology,  
C.D. Deshmukh Bhavan (Kalina Campus)**

*“Peace is not the absence of conflict; it is the ability to handle conflict by peaceful means.”*

*~ Ronald Reagan*

The concepts of conflict and peace have been widely talked about since the beginning of civilization, the evidence of which can be found in the words of Socrates, who spoke about the conflict between an individual's current beliefs and actions; in the writings of Plato, who wrote about conflict in the soul; and in the writings of Aristotle, who discussed conflict in terms of community and politics.

As much alluring the idea of peace is, it has a customized meaning which varies from one person to another. Oxford Dictionary defines peace as “freedom from disturbance.” This definition implies that in order to define peace, one firstly needs to define disturbance, which again has unique individual and societal connotations. Since a long time, even psychologists have talked about different forms of conflicts, such as intrapersonal conflict (Sigmund Freud), inter-personal conflict (Eric Berne, William Schultz, Carl Rogers) organizational conflict (Udai Pareek, Rahim) and intolerance of differences in opinions, beliefs, values and cultures leading to a feeling of “US” and “THEM” (Tajfel & Turner).

21<sup>st</sup> September, 1982, saw the first celebration of International Peace Day, as established by United Nations General Assembly in 1981 – the theme of which was the Right To Peace of People. In 2001, the General Assembly designated the day as a period of non-violence and cease-fire and invited all people to honor a cessation of hostilities during the day, through education and awareness of concepts and issues related to peace.

Just as experiencing sadness gives a deeper meaning to one's happiness and the presence of black deepens the impact of white; similarly, the understanding of conflict can enhance the understanding of peace. Conflicts that may be experienced across different stages of human development.

On this occasion of International Day of Peace, we - Mahatma Gandhi Peace Center (MGPC) and University Department of Applied Psychology & Counselling Center – invite you to take this one-of-it's-kind step, and join us for a lecture on “**Mindless Media and Active Children**” by **Dr Pratiba Naithani, Head Department of Political Science, St. Xavier College, Mumbai** which will be chaired by **Retd. Professor Dr. Priscilla Paul.**

**Satishchandra Kumar**  
Co-ordinator MGPC

**Gautam Gawali**  
Professor & Head, UDAP.