

**Faculty of Social Sciences
and
Department of Sociology
South Asian University**

**In collaboration with
India International Center & Society and Culture in South
Asia**

(Journal co-published by Department of Sociology and Sage, India)

Present

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO CONTEMPORARY
KNOWLEDGE LECTURE - 2017**

By

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On

Gandhi, Hinduism and Humanity

Chair & Discussant

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Excerpt of the Lecture

As a critic of modern civilization Gandhi was deeply suspicious of its desire for universality. While universal ideals like freedom, therefore, were enthusiastically taken up by many anti-colonial thinkers, the Mahatma focused instead on their darker aspects and links with imperialism. And yet he refused to become a partisan for the particular either, recognizing it as a category belonging to the universal as well. Hinduism provided Gandhi with an important example of a phenomenon that he thought might avoid the violence of the universal while at the same time denying relegation to a mere particularity. This lecture will explore how Gandhi posed Hinduism against what he saw as the violent appeal to humanity as a universal ideal, looking in particular at his understanding of three contentious issues: caste, conversion and cow protection.

On 26 October 2017, At Seminar Hall I, II& III, Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay Complex, India International Center, 40, Max Mueller Marg, New Delhi - 110003

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