

**High Commission of India
Nairobi**

**Commemoration of the Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and the
International Day of Non-violence in Nairobi**

#BapuAt150 #GandhiJayanti

On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the High Commission of India in Nairobi in association with the United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON), the University of Nairobi (UoN) and Kenya-India Friendship Association (KIFA) organized a grand event to commemorate the International Day of Non-violence on 2 October 2018 at the University of Nairobi. The event was attended by over 500 people including members of the Diplomatic Corps, faculty and students of the University of Nairobi, media and representatives of Indian Community in Kenya.



2. As a tribute to Mahatma Gandhi, a video of the soulful rendition of Gandhiji's favourite bhajan 'Vaishnav Jan To' by popular Kenyan singer Ms. Atemi Oyungu was played. A short documentary titled "the Visionary Dreamer" produced by Prasar Bharti was screened. A presentation titled 'a simple man, the world calls Mahatma' produced by XPD Division, Ministry of External Affairs was screened prior to the event. A special photo exhibition of 14 panels prepared by the High Commission on the life and message of Mahatma Gandhi both in English and Swahili was displayed at the University.



3. Ms. Hanna S. Tetteh, Director General of United Nations Office at Nairobi; H. E. Prof. Kivutha Kibwana, Governor of Makueni County; Prof. Peter M. F. Mbithi, Vice Chancellor of the University and High Commissioner Ms. Suchitra Durai along with other dignitaries paid a floral tribute to the statue of Mahatma Gandhi at the University which was installed in 1956 by the then Vice President of India Dr. S. Radhakrishnan. They also released a special commemorative postal stamps issued by the Government of India on Mahatma Gandhi. The event concluded with joining of these dignitaries in commencement of digital projection of motion pictures on Gandhiji on the façade of University of Nairobi Towers and on heritage building of Bank of India, Nairobi (formerly National Assembly of Kenya Building).



4. In her opening remarks, the High Commissioner underlined the importance of Mahatma Gandhi’s ideals of non-violence and truth in today’s world. She informed the audience about the International Sanitation Convention organized by the Government of India on the importance of cleanliness. Director General of UNON urged the International Community to work towards achieving peace and sustainable development. Prof. Gilbert Edwin Meshack Ogutu of University of Nairobi delivered a keynote address on “the ideals of Gandhiji on Non-violence & their relevance in today’s world”.



[Nairobi, 2 October 2018]