



भारत का राजदूतावास, अदिस अबाबा

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PRESS RELEASE

Celebration of 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi

As part of celebration of 150th Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, programme was organized in the premises of the Embassy which included singing of bhajan, speeches, skits, screening of documentary on Mahatma Gandhi, Dandi March, etc. While addressing, Mr Mohan Lal, Cd'A summarized the events and activities organized by the Embassy during the last two years which included release of the album 'Vaishnav Jan Toh' sung by popular Ethiopian artist Ms. Betty G, a Gandhi Heritage walk, tree plantation events, talk series on 'what Gandhi means to me', an exhibition on Khadi products under the theme "Khadi as an "idea" and not merely a "garment"" , Digital projection of Gandhi photos/moving pictures on the facade of Chancery building, Vegetarian Food Festival, outreach to school students to create more awareness about Mahatma Gandhi, etc and he appreciated the cooperation of the members of Indian Community and local authorities in successful conclusion of the above activities. He also mentioned that 2nd October is observed as International Day of Non-Violence because of Gandhiji's philosophy and strategy of non-violence and United Nation while acknowledging it, adopted 2nd October, the birthday of Gandhiji in 2007, as the International Day of Non-Violence .

Among the other speakers were Professor Ashok Vohra, (Retd) Professor of Philosophy of Delhi University, Ms Betty G, a renowned Ethiopian singer who also sung the bhajan "Vaishnav Jan To Tene Kahiye Je" in Gujarati as a part of the 2- year long celebrations. All speakers stressed universality and the eternal relevance of Mahatma Gandhi's messages.

Earlier this morning, tributes were paid to the great soul of Bapu at the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Hospital in Addis Ababa by Mr. Mohan Lal, Cd'A , Dr Ketsela Lema Eshete, CEO of the hospital and members of the Indian Community. After garlanding the bust of Mahatma Gandhi, the Embassy in association with Indian Women's Association (IWA) presented gifts –Water dispensers, Face masks and Sanitizers to the hospital. While accepting the gifts, CEO of the hospital Dr Ketsela

Lema Eshete expressed his gratitude to the Embassy and IWA for the gifts and said the gifts will serve greatly to the patients visiting the hospital.

The Embassy started the celebrations on 26th September 2020 with Essay/painting/Quiz competitions, observance of Swachhta Hi Sewa Week. On 4th October, "Gandhi Katha" by Dr Shobhana Radhakrishna, an Internationally acclaimed speaker on Mahatma Gandhi, will be live cast through facebook/youtube.

2nd October 2020