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GDC Batote celebrated the 157th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi with great zeal

Press Release
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Government Degree College (GDC) Batote celebrated the 157th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation, with great enthusiasm and reverence. The programme witnessed active and enthusiastic participation from faculty members and students of the college. The programme commenced with the offering of floral tributes to the portrait of Mahatma Gandhi by the Principal, Dr. Arti Pandoh Gupta, faculty members, and students.

Prof. Mushtaq Ahmed Bhat delivered the welcome address, which was followed by the keynote address by Dr. Arti Pandoh Gupta, Principal of the College. In her address, she highlighted the significant role played by Mahatma Gandhi in India's struggle for freedom from British colonial rule. She emphasized how Gandhi employed peaceful means such as Ahimsa, Truth, Satyagraha, non-cooperation, civil resistance, and Swadeshi in pursuit of India's freedom. The Principal further highlighted Gandhi's contribution towards transforming the Indian national movement into a genuine mass movement by involving people from different sections of society in the struggle for independence. She observed that Gandhi's teachings, ideas, and philosophy continue to hold considerable relevance in the contemporary world, which is marked by regional conflicts, loss of human lives, hunger, inflation, destruction of property worth billions of US dollars, and disruptions in global supply chains. She stressed the importance of cherishing and promoting Gandhian values, ideas, and philosophy in order to contribute towards building a more peaceful and harmonious world.

Thereafter, Dr. Kousar Muzamil, Head, Department of Urdu, shared his thoughts, particularly focusing on Mahatma Gandhi's contribution to securing civil rights for people of Indian origin in South Africa during the period of British rule. He also reflected on the relevance of Gandhian methods of peaceful dissent and his way of life in contemporary times, particularly in the context of peaceful democratic expression and the adoption of sustainable lifestyle practices. He further deliberated upon Gandhi's influence on the struggle of Black people against the apartheid regime in South Africa and his impact on the Civil Rights Movement led by Martin Luther King Jr.

Students from different semesters also participated in the programme and delivered short yet impactful speeches highlighting the enduring legacy and relevance of Mahatma Gandhi in different spheres of life. The speakers included Arti Devi (5th Semester), Sumaiya Banoo (5th Semester), Jameela Akhter (5th Semester), Mohd. Tahir (1st Semester), and Heena (1st Semester).

The programme was organized under the able guidance of the worthy Principal, Dr. Arti Pandoh Gupta. The event was coordinated by Prof. Sunil Kumar, Head, Department of Dogri; Prof. Danish Khatana, Head, Department of Sociology; Mr. Pankaj Manhas, CDPE; and the non-teaching staff of the college.

The programme concluded with a formal vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Ashaq Hussain Parray, Head, Department of English, who expressed gratitude to the Principal, faculty members, students, and all those associated with the smooth and successful organization of the event.

Sd. /
Media Secretary