

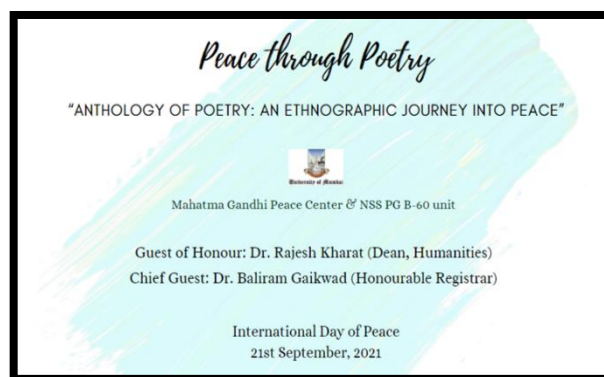
Peace through Poetry

“Anthology of Poetry: An Ethnographic Journey into Peace”

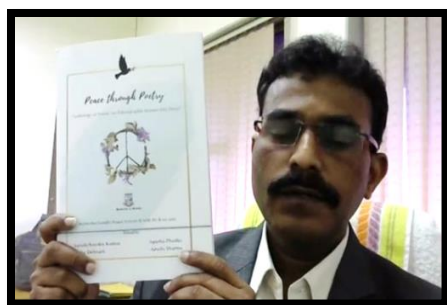
Organized by Mahatma Gandhi Peace Centre & NSS PG B60 Unit

University of Mumbai

On 21st September, 2021, the Mahatma Gandhi Peace Centre and NSS PG B60 unit hosted a book release of an anthology of poetry along with a poetry recitation session featuring a select few poets who contributed to the anthology, to mark the occasion of International Peace Day.



To begin the session, Dr. Aparna Phadke welcomed the poets, guests, the Chief Guest Dr. Baliram Gaikwad (Honourable Registrar, University of Mumbai) and the Guest of Honour Dr. Rajesh Kharat (Dean, Humanities, University of Mumbai). Dr. Phadke briefly introduced the organizers and invited Dr. Satishchandra Kumar to shed light on the conceptualization of the event. Dr. Kumar shared with the guests that this idea was conceived and developed within a short span of a month with the intention of upholding a unique form of expression, poetry. Dr. Phadke then



Dr. Baliram Gaikwad

invited the Chief Guest, Dr. Baliram Gaikwad and the Guest of Honour, Dr. Rajesh Kharat to share their thoughts on Peace and Poetry as a medium of expression. She then invited them to release the book, “Peace through Poetry –



An anthology of Poetry: An Ethnographic Journey into Peace”.

Dr. Phadke then handed over the session to Dr. Arushi Sharma who introduced the featured speakers of the day and invited them to share their piece with the audience. The poetry reading session began with



Ms. Mridula Ghai

Mr. Ramakant Dayama, a renowned actor reciting his piece in Hindi conveying a profound social message, followed by Ms. Mridula Ghai who recited her work that was an ode to the journalists working tirelessly through the pandemic, many of whom lost their lives to it. The session continued with Dr. Santosh Rathod's recital of three poems, one each in English, Marathi and Godboli.



Mr. Ramakant Dayama



Ms. Aishwarya Bellam

Moving on from social peace to individual peace, the session witnessed Ms. Branca Teixeira, a special educator, shares her experience and understanding of inner peace. The next recital by Ms. Aishwarya Bellam was based on a psychological concept of personal constructs, highlighting the diverse perspectives on peace based on an individual's experiences and guiding philosophy. The session progressed to a recital

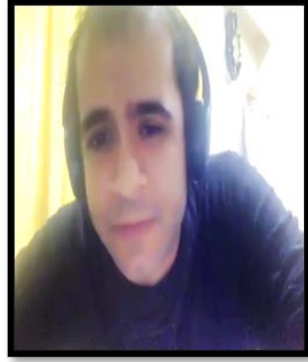


Dr. Santosh Rathod

by Mr. Nikhil Katara, a renowned writer whose words reminded us of the importance of finding peace and time for ourselves amidst the chaos of daily life. The final recital in this session was by Mr. Faraz Khan, a Concept Composer, Singer, and Music Director of Raag Gandhi. He presented his piece in the form of a song that relates to all age groups alike. Mr. Khan also sang a piece written by his father Mr. Eklaq Khan, who is a celebrated writer and director himself.



Ms. Aishe Debnath



Mr. Nikhil Katara



Ms. Branca Teixeira



Dr. Arushi Sharma

Dr. Sharma concluded the poetry reading session by thanking all the poets for sharing their beautiful thoughts with the audience and handed over the session to Dr. Phadke who thanked all the poets for contributing to the anthology and also for joining the online book launch and poetry reading session. She then invited Ms. Aishe Debnath to conclude the session with a formal vote of thanks. Ms. Debnath thanked the entire team and on behalf of the team expressed gratitude to the Chief Guest, Guest of Honour, the Vice Chancellor, and Pro Vice Chancellor for their constant support and motivation. She also expressed appreciation and gratitude for all the poets, the speakers for the day and the audience for making the event a success. The session was concluded with the idea of celebrating and sharing peace.

Dr. Satishchandra Kumar

Ms. Aishe Debnath

Dr. Aparna Phadke

Dr. Arushi Sharma