

GIIS and GOPIO Singapore commemorate UN International Day of Non-violence 2014; mark 145th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi

Singapore, October 2, 2014 – Global Indian International School (GIIS) and the Global Organization of People of Indian Origin (GOPIO) commemorated the **UN International Day of Non-Violence** to observe the 145th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi at GIIS Queenstown Campus, Singapore. The gathering saw eminent speakers address students of the school on the relevance and importance of Mahatma Gandhi's principles and values of non-violence.

H. E. Ms Vijay Thakur Singh, High Commissioner of India to Singapore, presided as the Guest of Honour at the event. In her address to students, she said, “Do your best to integrate with the community (in Singapore), and make your life more meaningful”.

As the keynote speaker, **Prof Seeram Ramakrishna**, Vice President (Research Strategy), National University of Singapore, expressed how Mahatma Gandhi inspired him. “He (*Mahatma Gandhi*) creatively and innovatively united people with diverse motivations and rallied them behind common goals. I believe that such abilities are due to his deep understanding of society and philosophical underpinnings, and compassion for the people,” said Prof Ramakrishna.

Mr Lee Kwang Boon, Vice President, United Nations Association of Singapore (UNAS) presided on the occasion to deliver a special message from United Nations' Secretary General, Ban Ki-moon, on this occasion. “We have to foster a culture of peace, built on dialogue and understanding, for living together in harmony while respecting and celebrating humanity's rich diversity. There is no greater tool than education to enhance human dignity, promote a culture of non-violence, and build lasting peace. Through education, we can craft new ways of living with each other and the planet,” read the message.

H.E. Ms Hazel Francis Ngubeni, South African High Commissioner to Singapore was also present at the event. In her message, she penned, “Bapu Mahatma Gandhi would be at peace if his principles lived on in each one of us, honouring his memory”.

GIIS' IB Year 2 student, **Harshjot Singh** addressed the audience and emphasised on the relevance of Gandhian values which are imparted through a structured 'Peace Curriculum' across GIIS campuses worldwide.

GIIS is the only Indian international school in South East Asia to have set up a dedicated centre for imparting the teachings and philosophies of Mahatma Gandhi, viz. **Global Indian Mahatma Gandhi Centre for Universal Values (MGCUV)**.



H.E Mrs Vijay Thakur Singh (6th from left) with H.E Ms Hazel Francis Ngubeni (7th from left), H. E. Mr K Kesavapany (4th from left), Mr Lee Kwan Boon (5th from left), and Prof Seeram Ramakrishna (7th from right) along with members from GOPIO Singapore and management team & students of Global Indian International School (GIIS) on the occasion of the UN International Day of Non-violence 2014 at GIIS in Singapore.

*****END*****



Global Indian
International
School

PRESS RELEASE
DEPT. OF COMMUNICATIONS

About Global Indian International School

Global Indian International School (GIIS) – established under the guiding principles of Global Schools Foundation – is an international network of award-winning institutions, with 20 campuses in 7 countries. Known for their skill-based and learner-centric curricula, GIIS schools offer holistic learning and personality development opportunities for students.

GIIS schools have been honoured with several international and national awards over a span of 5 years for achieving Excellence in School Education. Today, GIIS boasts a strong multicultural student body, as children from diverse nationalities have enrolled across its campuses.

Adopting a holistic approach to learning and character development, **Nine Gems™** model is a proprietary tool to achieve a balance between academics and experience, mental and physical development, fine arts and performing arts, language skills and creativity, personality development, ethics and entrepreneurship.

For media enquiries, contact:

Dheeraj Ramchandani (Mr)

Communications Executive

Global Indian International School

+65 6508 3700 | Ext 789

dheeraj.ramchandani@globalindianschool.org