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Mahatma Gandhi's Thoughts & Its Present Relevance

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SWATIDHAN PUBLICATIONS



Gandhi's View on cleanliness and Swach Bharat Abhiyan and its present status

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Introduction:

India got freedom under the leadership of Gandhiji. Gandhiji's universal himanshu value such as Non violence, Truth, peace, etc. brought an extremely drastic change in Independent India as well as in every individual. Yet, some of the dreams of Gandhiji related to India or Indian culture are still unfulfilled. Mahatma Gandhi were always in an positive aspects regarding to their thinking. The universal values of Mahatma Gandhi are still alive in an Indian's behaviour.

Mahatma Gandhi said "Sanitation is more important than independence". According to Gandhian way of living, cleanliness and sanitation is the integral part of life. Mahatma Gandhi had realized early in his life that the primary poor condition of sanitation and cleanliness in India is at high level and lacking the important and prevalent sources of sanitation such as adequate toilets, water supply, etc.

Concept of sanitation and cleanliness :

Sanitation :

As per World Health Organization Sanitation generally refers to the provision of facilities and services for the safe disposal of human urine and feces. The word Sanitation also refers to the maintenance of hygienic conditions, through services such as garbage collection and wastewater disposal.

A range of sanitation technologies and approaches exists. Some examples are community-led total sanitation, container-based sanitation, ecological sanitation, emergency sanitation, environmental sanitation, onsite sanitation and sustainable sanitation. A sanitation system includes the capture, storage, transport, treatment and disposal or reuse of human excreta and wastewater. [4] Reuse activities within the sanitation system may focus on the nutrients, water, energy or organic matter contained in excreta and wastewater. This is referred to as the "sanitation value chain" or "sanitation economy".

Several sanitation "levels" are being used to compare sanitation service levels within countries or across countries. The sanitation ladder defined by the Joint Monitoring Programme in 2016 starts at open defecation and moves upwards using the terms "unimproved", "limited", "basic", with the highest level being "safely managed". This is particularly applicable to developing countries.

Cleanliness:

Cleanliness is both the abstract state of being clean and free from germs and dirt, and the habit of achieving and maintaining that state. Cleanliness is often achieved through cleaning. Cleanliness is a good quality, as indicated by the aphorism: "cleanliness is next to godliness" [1] and may be regarded as contributing to other ideals such as 'health' and 'beauty'. In emphasizing an ongoing procedure or set of habits for the purpose of maintenance and prevention, the concept of cleanliness differs from purity, which is a physical, moral, or ritual