

The International Day of Non-Violence is observed on October 2nd in honor of the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, one of the most influential political activists of all time. Gandhi used nonviolent civil disobedience to eventually overthrow the British, who ruled India at the time. Despite being thrown in jail numerous times, but nothing ever caused him to abandon his peaceful approach, which eventually resulted in India finally gaining the independence they'd wanted for years.

## #GANDHI JAYANTI

## Engaging Tasks for Kids

Gandhi Jayanti is not just a day to remember Mahatma Gandhi; it is an opportunity to celebrate important values.



Gandhi Jayanti is a significant day in India. On this day, the country commemorates the birth anniversary of the father of the nation. Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi (also known as Mahatma Gandhi). This day is not only a holiday, but also a showcase of the life and teachings of Mahatma Gandhi, a remarkable leader who helped secure independence for India from the British Empire. It is a wonderful opportunity for parents to introduce their children to principles of non-violence, truth and simplicity, and thus help them develop valuable life skills in a fun and engaging way. Here are some engaging tasks for kids during their Gandhi Jayanti celebration.

### Storytime with Bapu

Reading is one of the best ways to introduce children to historical figures like Mahatma Gandhi. Start by picking age-appropriate books that tell his life story. There are many beautifully illustrated books with Gandhi Jayanti information available for children. They beautifully depict Mahatma Gandhi's journey from childhood to becoming the leader of the Indian independence movement. You will be surprised how much children can absorb in one reading.

### Gandhi's Spinning Wheel Craft

A great way to spend your Gandhi Jayanti celebration is by doing a fun craft project. Mahatma Gandhi was a strong advocate for spinning and weaving cloth as a way to promote self-reliance and the use of Indian products. Teach your children this value by organising a craft activity! With the use of cardboard, pencils and string, help them create their own mini spinning wheel. As they put their own wheels together, you can explain the importance of the spinning wheel in Gandhi's philosophy and how it symbolised the empowerment of rural India. There is nothing like the gift of self-reliance through a creative and fun activity for your children.

### Dandi March Re-enactment

Another way to share more about Gandhi Jayanti is through theatre! Children love role-playing, and putting on a skit with your kids can be an enjoyable and informative activity. The Dandi March, also known as the Salt March, was one of Mahatma Gandhi's most famous acts of civil disobedience. Invite your kids and their friends to re-enact this historic event in your backyard or living room. Provide them with all the necessary props such as white clothes, wooden sticks and a container of salt. Explain the significance of the march, by introducing the concept of a 'peaceful protest'. Narrate the tale of

# Infrastructure Funds Et Al Were Not The Deterrents

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The 19th Asian Games, delayed by a year because of Covid is now on in the Chinese city of Hangzhou where the People's Republic of China is hosting the Games.

Sports giants of various Asian countries will be seen in action at Hangzhou. This Asian Games will see the inclusion of both men's and women's cricket and both Indian and Pakistan are likely to face each other for gold medal in the first-ever Asian Games contest.

The Asian Games will be crucial for those who are aspiring to participate in the next year's Olympics in Paris. The performance in the Asian games will give a ticket to athletes of various disciplines to go to Paris Olympiad.

Seventy two years ago, the dream of staging the first-ever Asian Games was materialized when in 1951, India, a nation who barely four years ago got Independence ventured to hold the Asiad in Delhi with meager resources. Today the Asian Games has taken a gigantic shape with huge sponsorship and funds for raising infrastructure. But the first Asian Games could be conducted largely because of the efforts of a handful of dedicated sports organizers like late Maharaja of Patiala, Yadinder Singh, Anthony de Mellow, Guru Dutt Sondhi and a band of grass-root workers like SS Dhawan. Mehar Chand Dhawan, S K Bhoot and a host of others.

In fact, the games could become a reality mostly because of Mehar Chand Dhawan, a teacher in Ajmer's Mayo College and his brother Sheri Dhawan, who bravely that challenged the British salt monopoly. This activity will help children appreciate the power of peaceful resistance. Not only that, it will also strengthen teamwork, cooperation and interdependence!

### Gandhi's Favourite Foods

We all want our kids to eat healthy food, but often struggle to find a balance between 'healthy' and 'tasty'. An interesting way to promote a healthy diet could be the backdrop of Mahatma Gandhi's dietary habits on Gandhi Jayanti. Mahatma Gandhi believed in the importance of a simple vegetarian diet. So why not make yummy vegetarian food with your kids? Bring the celebration into the kitchen and prepare some of Gandhi's favourite vegetarian dishes like khichdi or vegetable stew!

### Gandhi's Quotes Wall Art

Gandhi's wisdom and words continue to inspire people around the world today. Choose a few of his famous quotes, such as "Be the change you want to see in the world," and turn them into a creative art project. Provide your children with art supplies and let them design their own posters or wall art featuring these quotes. Hang their creations around the house to remind them of Gandhi's timeless principles.

### The Salt Experiment

If your children are a curious bunch and love science, then another engaging activity related to Mahatma Gandhi's principles is the salt experiment. Fill a small container with water and add a few spoonfuls of salt. With the help of a magnifying glass, ask your children to observe what happens when the water evaporates. Allow your children to try different combinations of water and salt quantities to see if the results vary. Use this simple experiment to explain how Gandhi's fight against the salt tax was symbolic of his larger struggle for justice and equality. So, this Gandhi Jayanti, let's celebrate not only the man but also the ideals he stood for, while creating lasting memories.



worked for the Northern Railway in Delhi. Another man from Rajasthan, Mehar Singh, the sports instructor of Ajmer's Government College, who was also an athletic official contributed immensely for the success of the first-ever Asiad. It was during the 1948 Olympics in London when Guru Dutt Sondhi, a member of the International Olympic Committee with the generous backing of Maharaja of Patiala, the President of the Indian Olympic Association, took the opportunity to talk to the representatives of the Asian countries participating in the London Olympic Games and float the idea of staging Asian Games. The efforts paid dividend and the die was cast with the formation of the Asian Games Federation (AGF).

The five charter members forming the federation were Afghanistan, Burma (now Myanmar), India, Pakistan, and the Philippines. The decision was made to organise the Asian Games Championships in four-year intervals since the inception of the Games in Delhi in February, 1950. Maharaja Yadavindra Singh, who also became the president of the organisation committee of the Games, sent the formal invitation to several other Asian countries to

## #ASIAD



participate in the 1950 Asian Games.

The staging of the first-ever Asian Games stadium was postponed twice and finally it was decided to hold it in March 1951. Then, Guru Dutt Sondhi, who was a Professor and a pioneer of starting the Olympic movement in not only India, but also in various other Asian countries was made the Director of the Asian Games organising committee. The burden of organising the first-ever Asian games with no infrastructure and funds fell upon him. A much harassed Sondhi, six months before the Asian Games, resigned.

Anthony de Mellow, who was one of the founders of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), who was a Goan and was educated in Cambridge and worked for a Delhi based transport company owned by R E Govan, who served as the first President of the BCCI. He was made the Director of the Asian Games replacing Sondhi. Anthony Stanilus de Mellow had the knack for organisation and had corporate experience of handling difficult situation. Tutu Dhawan, the son of Sheri Dhawan, the right hand man of de Mellow, was a little toddler when the Asian games were held in 1951. But, he has kept all the records that his father Sherri and mother Parkash Dhawan left which gave an



authentic account of the first Asiad.

This first Asian Games was an Indian initiative, which was intrinsically linked to the larger Indian self-image of being a major Asian power and the Nehruvian idea of India's centrality in a new global order. The Games were deeply tied to the ideals, hopes, and aspirations of Nehruvian India. They are also a useful prism to understand the struggle for Asian leadership that unfolded thereafter. As Indian administrators went about creating the Asian Games Federation and the first Delhi Asiad of 1951, they were also driven by the idea of a resurgent independent India and Nehru's notion of a new world order: decolonized states, led by India, marching forward to take their rightful place. At the heart of the story of the Delhi Asiad was a desire for newly independent India to be noticed, the moment of arrival signified by an international event of Olympic proportions. Writing in 1959, Anthony de Mello, the Director of the organising committee, recounted the opening ceremony, "What was the greatest

moment in Indian sport? There was never an occasion to beat that of March 4th, 1951. On that historic day for the sports of India—indeed for the sports of Asia, even the Olympic ideal of 'Citius, Altius, Fortius'—faster, higher, stronger...India—the 'Big Brother of Asia'—had given the lead in this the finest sporting venture of the Orient."

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## PART:1

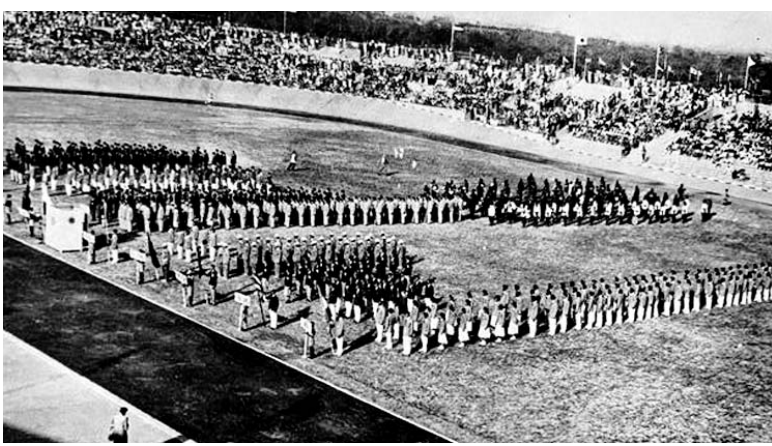


Then president of the Asian Games Federation, the maharaja of Patiala, along with then President Dr Rajendra Prasad at the inauguration of the first Asian Games in 1951



moment in Indian sport? There was never an occasion to beat that of March 4th, 1951. On that historic day for the sports of India—indeed for the sports of Asia, even the world—the first Asian Games were opened...It was Asia marching ever nearer to the great Olympic ideal of 'Citius, Altius, Fortius'—faster, higher, stronger...India—the 'Big Brother of Asia'—had given the lead in this the finest sporting venture of the Orient."

It is to be noted that nationalist India was invested in the idea of Asian unity and solidarity before its Independence – the Congress Working Committee in the 1920s proposed and later passed a resolution for the Asian Federation with India as its leader. "There was no stadium in Delhi, no cinder track, no equipments, no funds. The Union government refused to provide any funds and the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) had no money with them. Anthony De Mellow, managed to get Rs one lakh loan from National Sports Club of India (NSCI) of which de Mellow was one of the founders and Chief Executive. De Mellow, as my father had told me enjoyed a good clout in Delhi's bureaucracy. When the issue of billeting 1000 athletes and setting up the Asiad village came,



Indian athletes standing in the stadium.

## #TOWARDS-PEACE

# Predictable Patterns

"If we're going to design effective counter-messages for radicalization, it is necessary to understand how the radicalization process is happening in the first place," says Hahn



New research finds predictable patterns in terrorist propaganda that attempt to persuade otherwise morally grounded people to join violent causes. The findings provide a foundation for developing counter-messaging that seeks to neutralize those appeals or provide leverage for encouraging people to leave terrorist groups, the researchers say. "TERRORISTS OFTEN EXPLOIT IN-GROUP LOYALTY AND PURITY,"

Lindsay Hahn, an assistant professor of communication at the University at Buffalo, along with her research team, examined 873 items created by 73 violent terrorist organizations, including websites, rally signs, videos, and notes left at crime scenes. All of the material is now part of an expansive database, dating from the 1920s, which future researchers can use to advance knowledge in this area. Besides trying to understand the degree to which terrorists' appeals are predictable, the study also looked at the effects of terrorist propaganda by concentrating the analysis on messages created at times the groups were known to be violent.

Results of the content analysis showed an emphasis toward in-group loyalty and fairness across all propaganda, while purity-based language was directly related to the frequency of an organization's attacks and an increase in the number of deaths and casualties. "If we're going to design effective counter-messages for radicalization, it is necessary to understand how the radicalization process is happening in the first place," says Hahn, an expert in media psychology and morality and lead author of the paper, published in the Journal of Communication.

The paper doesn't propose potential messaging strategies, but the findings do offer some possibilities. "Terrorists often exploit in-group loyalty and purity," says Hahn. "When these are stressed in propaganda we see a correlation with a greater number of attacks and a greater number of deaths and casualties," says Hahn. "Interventions focused on these two moral values would be a good place to start developing counter-messaging."

In 2019, terrorists killed over 20,000 people around the world. The assumption is that these violent actors are amoral, but previous research finds that extremists believe their actions are virtuous to the point of justifying violence. "They are actually driven by what they see as moral righteous-

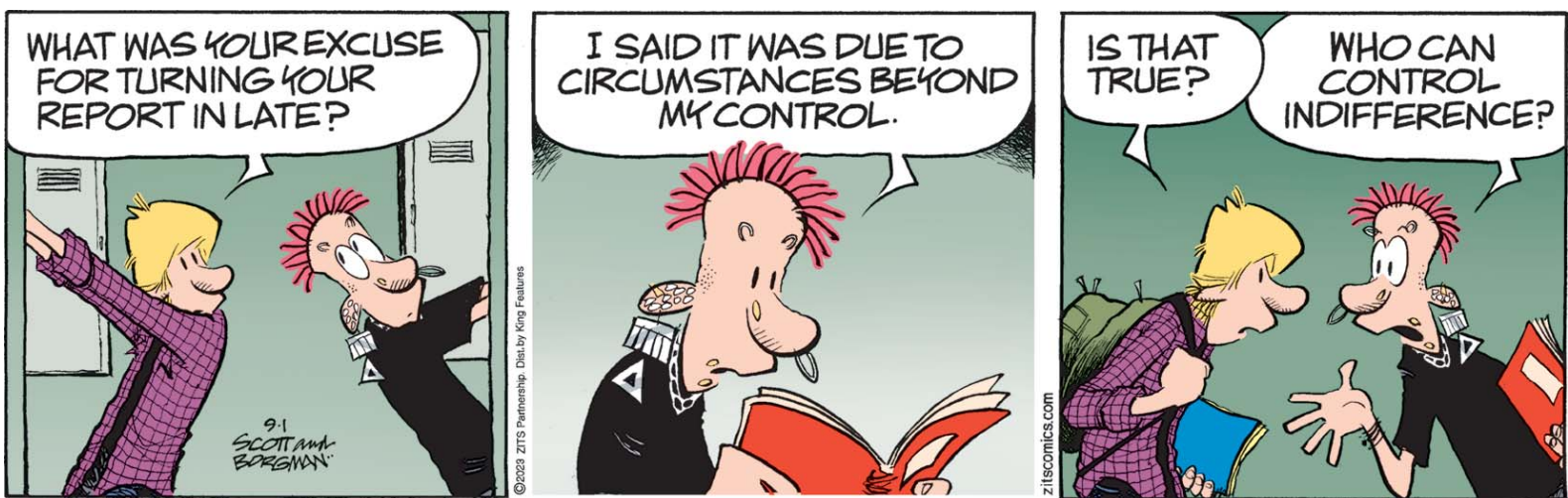


ness," Hahn says. "Although they are using violence to achieve some end, they believe their ends are justified." Hahn says that to her knowledge this is the first study to examine terrorists' media production alongside its antecedents and effects. It is, however, an area of communication research that began with a famous set of studies called "Why We Fight" that explored the effectiveness of WWII recruitment films. Those studies suggested that propaganda does little to change people's minds unless it appeals to an audience's pre-existing attitude. "That's what's happening here: a moral value an audience already holds is exploited by terrorists." Guided by that early work, Hahn's team looked at these various sources to determine how terrorist organizations persuade people with moral appeals. "And it turns out that it's almost always about morality," she says. "Terrorists are using mass media, social media, and other means to send out their message, but the appeals are focused and aimed at certain groups of people to bolster pre-existing attitudes."



By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

## ZITS



By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman

## BABY BLUES



## THE WALL

