PRESS RELEASE

Indian Consulate celebrates Mahatma Gandhi in a unique and special way

Consulate General of India, Jeddah celebrated the 152\textsuperscript{nd} Birth Anniversary of India’s ‘Father of the Nation’ Mahatma Gandhi, whose birthday i.e. 02\textsuperscript{nd} October is also celebrated worldwide as UN’s International Day of non-violence.

2. Paying tribute to Mahatma Gandhi, the apostle of peace and non-violence in a unique and special way, Consulate General of India, Jeddah arranged a gathering of over 100 students adorned as Gandhi, with the participation of students of International Indian School, Jeddah (IISJ) and support of Indian community network “India Forum”. The first of its kind gathering of over 100 Gandhi-lookalike, which was a record number in Saudi Arabia, and perhaps anywhere outside India, was orchestrated beautifully while ensuring proper health-safety protocols. The gathering of spirited students gave a clear message of non-violence and peace which is even more relevant today. H.E. Mohd Shahid Alam Consul General of India congratulated and thanked the students who enthusiastically participated in the event. He extended appreciation to India Forum for support in the flawless execution of the unique idea to spread the message of Mahatma Gandhi.

3. Marking the celebration of the Mahatma, a program was also conducted in the auditorium of IIS Jeddah. Addressing the gathering, H.E. Mohd. Shahid Alam, Consul General spoke about the immense contribution of Gandhi to the humanity, how Gandhi’s life was a powerful message of peace and how those messages are relevant in today’s world. During the celebration, the students of IISJ also presented a beautiful and heart-touching skit on Mahatma Gandhi.
4. On the occasion, Consulate General of India, Jeddah also had conducted 'I love Mahatma Gandhi Contest' and the Consulate received an overwhelming response of over 400 entries. Winning entries were awarded prizes and facilitated.

5. Consulate General of India, Jeddah also partnered with Indian community network Indian Pilgrim Welfare Forum (IPWF) for the Cyclothon-2021 challenge of riding 75 Kms in 7.5 days, commemorating of 75 years of India's Independence. Concluding and Award ceremony of the Cyclothon-2021 was held at the Consulate as a part of celebrating the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, who promoted sustainable mode of transport and encouraged cycling.

6. In connection with India’s ‘Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav’ or 75 years of independence, CGI Jeddah has been organizing a series of activities covering diverse aspects including culture, business & commerce, sports, Hajj and entertainment.

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