

# 15<sup>th</sup> August 2020- 74th Independence Day



Freedom for Justice

Indian Independence

(The idea of Freedom)

We take our freedom for granted. We understand now that every person is important, that each person is different from all others and has the right to decide for himself how his life is to be led. Yet it was not always natural to believe this. There was a time when slavery was accepted as a natural state of affairs. Some men were free and others slaves, and no one thought this strange. In every ancient civilization, it was the slaves' hard work that built great monuments and made progress possible.

Individual freedom cannot be properly exercised if a country is not free. Every country has its own heritage and achievements of which it is proud, which it wants to pass on to each new generation. Every country is best fitted to make plans for its own future, because it is more concerned with its people's needs than any foreign government can ever be. Only in a free country can men and women direct their lives and achieve the best of which they are capable.

But freedom from a foreign power, or political freedom, is only a starting point. The greatest Indian of our time, Mahatma Gandhi, believed that freedom would be a

reality only when we had succeeded in wiping the tear from every eye, and when every citizen has the opportunity to live with dignity.

There is a soul to soul relation between Gandhi and Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. As a Sanatani Hindu, his eclectic mind was open to assimilate the message of Jesus in the Sermon and to make it as his own. In modern times, than many Christians, Gandhi drew the attention of the world to the noble message of the Sermon on the Mount. He reiterated its relevance for the peaceful living of humanity. Moreover, he has practically shown its application, especially its teaching on non-violence to the public affairs of life. This article is an attempt to see Gandhi's views on the Sermon and his unrelenting effort to bring its worthiness to modern life.

The Bible says:

Galatians 5:13

For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

Galatians 5:1

For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

2 Corinthians 3:17

Now the Lord is the spirit and where the spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

Psalms 33:12

Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom He has chosen as His heritage.

John 8:36

So if the son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

So now it is clear that our Saviour Jesus Christ has set us free and we having faith in Him, celebrate this Independence Day with Him along with our fellow men. Amen.

Article by Mr Samuel Madhukar David