

MAHARASHTRA

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Harishchandragad

Bhatukali



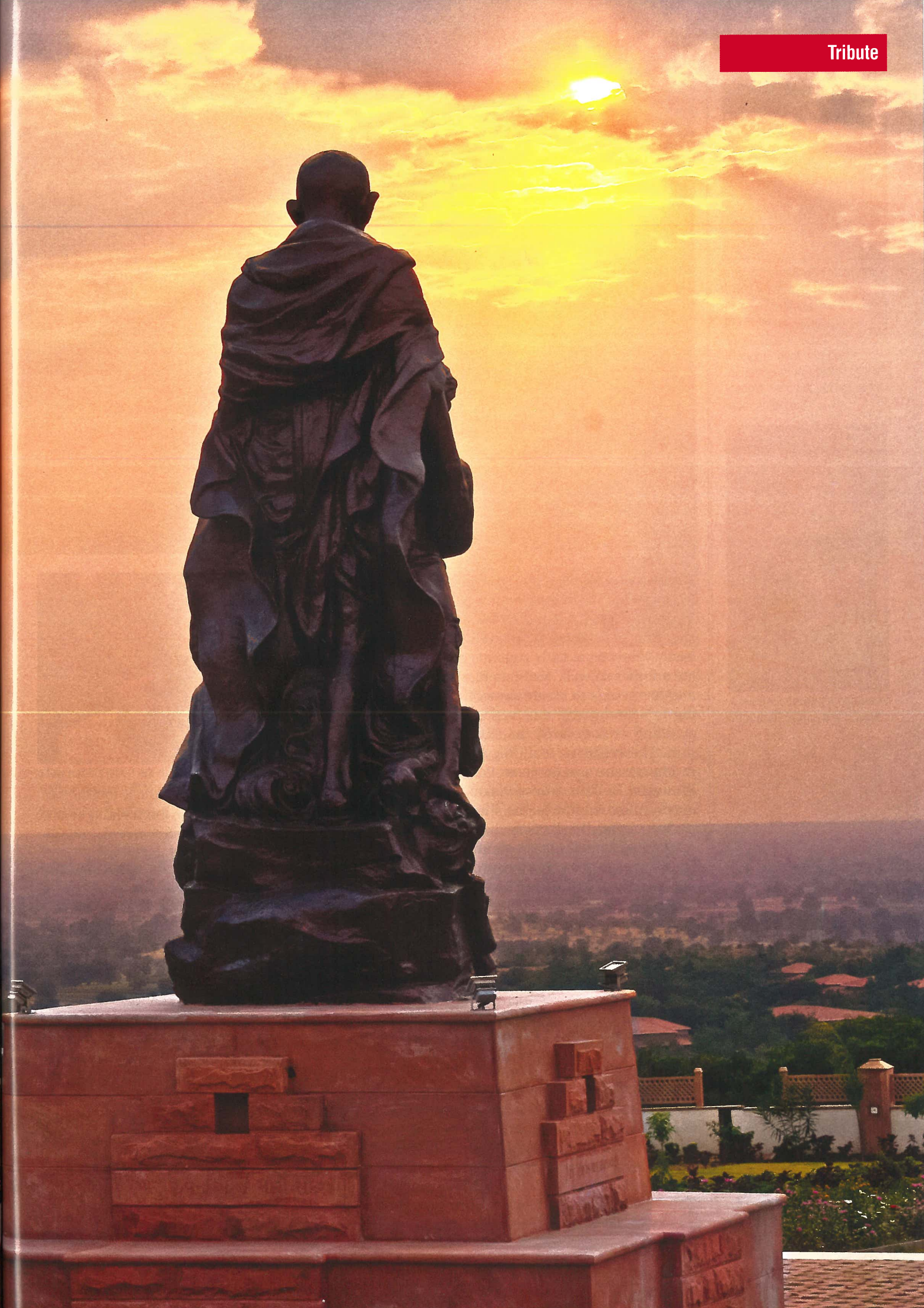


Keeping Gandhian Values Alive

Gandhi Teerth

Text and Photographs © Gandhi Teerth

The principles that Mahatma Gandhi advocated are as true today as they were when he fought for the country's independence through his belief in non-violence. And these are best reflected and propagated by Gandhi Teerth in Jalgaon which attracts people from far and wide not only as a treasure house of information and insights but also for its scenic setting and tranquil ambience.



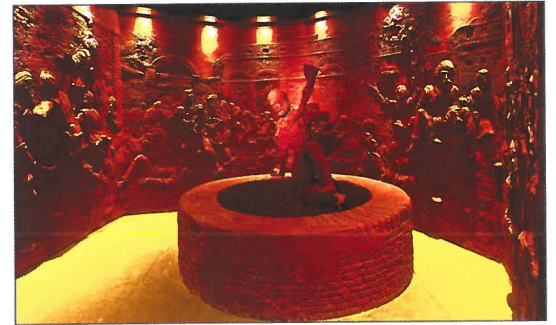


Padmshri Dr. Bhavarlal Jain
Founder, Gandhi Teerth
Founder Chairman,
Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd.



Renowned scientist Albert Einstein had this to say about Mahatma Gandhi: "Generations to come will scarce believe that such a one as this, ever in flesh and blood walked upon this earth." How true! Only a genius can appreciate another so well. And just like that it took another genius to create something everlasting to acknowledge and appreciate the outstanding work done by the Father of the Nation. The credit for building Gandhi Teerth in Maharashtra must go to Padmashree Dr. Bhavarlal H. Jain, whose vision created this outstanding tribute to the life and work of Mahatma Gandhi. Dr. Jain had long dreamt of building something substantial in order to "preserve for posterity the profound legacy of Gandhiji's life, thought and work." It aims to carry forward the legacy of Gandhiji's philosophy as solutions to contemporary issues facing the world today, and give the generation ahead the opportunity not just to learn about but to actually experience living the Gandhian way.

This exalted vision of Dr. Jain, fondly called Bhau, took a physical shape in the form of Gandhi Teerth in just 16 months! Located at Jalgaon, Gandhi Teerth is far from an ordinary monument. Apart from a statue and gardens, it hosts a museum and research school on Gandhiji's work. The museum contains a vast collection of literature by Gandhiji himself as well as on him. It hopes to reintegrate Gandhian thought and values in present day society by keeping his legacy alive and pro-



Jallianvalabagh comes alive with the bullet ridden walls and cries of the hapless victims

moting his philosophy in both thought and action.

Gandhi Teerth or Gandhi Research Foundation (GRF) was dedicated to humanity by the then president of India, Pratibha Devisingh Patil, on March 25, 2012 in the presence of such eminent personalities as Justice C S Dharmadhikari, chairman of GRF, and members of the advisory board, Dr. Raghunath Mashelkar and Dr. Anil Kakodkar. GRF is set within a beautifully landscaped garden and mango groves on the top of the picturesque immaculately landscaped and pollution-free Jain Hills, spread over 650 acres. Close to the world-famous caves of Ajanta (55 kms) and Ellora (140 kms), it has wonderful biodiversity with a wide range of flora and fauna that includes over 90 species of birds, including peacock and *langoors*.



Gandhi Teerth: Front view

Treasuring a Rich Legacy

The magnificent 81,000 square feet edifice of Gandhi Teerth has been built to exacting sustainability norms and awarded a 5-star GRIHA rating while being on the track to receive the LEED Platinum status, which will make it one of the few projects in India to attain the highest recognition in both the LEED and GRIHA rating systems. This is estimated to last for at least 300 years!

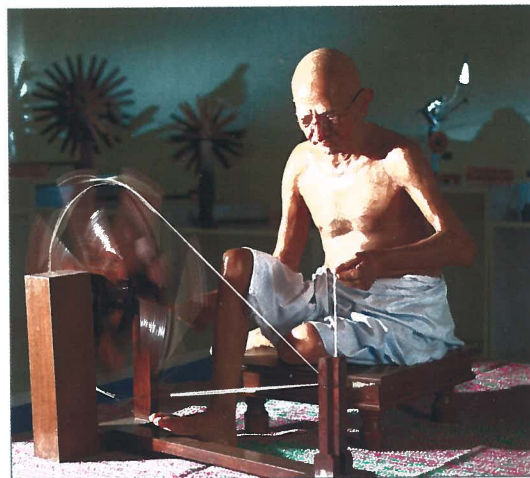
The monumental museum has more than 30 sections equipped with an amalgamation of modern technologies such as touch screen, bioscope, digital books, 3-D mapping and animation. A guided audio tour is available in three languages – Marathi, Hindi and English. Other languages are to be added soon. An auditorium and an amphitheater both accommodating 250 persons are equipped with world-class facilities. There is also a souvenir shop selling books, *khadi* clothes and hand-made gift items.

The Academic Wing

GRF's Gandhi Teerth International Research Institute (GIRI), which is affiliated to Gujarat Vidyapeeth founded by Gandhiji himself and the North Maharashtra & Cytes University of Mexico, offers certificate, diploma, undergraduate and postgraduate courses as well as M.Phil, Ph.D and further research facilities to propagate the importance and relevance of Gandhian thinking in resolving contemporary issues. GRF provides quality accom-



Khadi loom - A section of rural self reliance research & training centre



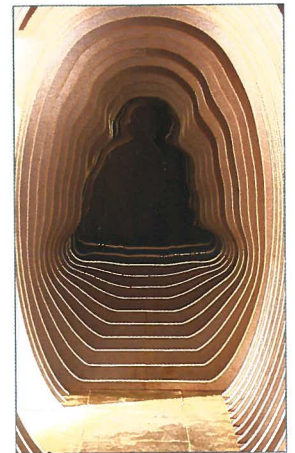
Auto-animated hyper realistic statue

modation to students in eco-friendly houses and will soon embark on a placement programme for its students. Though GRF's Multidimensional Rural Development Program, the Jalgaon-based Jain Irrigation Systems Limited adopts small villages and trains villagers in soil-water conservation and management. They also promote artisans, farmers and tribals to attain agricultural progress and self-reliance.

A Wonderful Experience

There are many 'do it yourself' activities you can indulge in such as spinning a charkha or weaving a khaddar cloth. You can also relish authentic Khandeshi meals comprising *bharit bhaakri, dal baati, thecha, sev bhaaji*, etc. in natural rustic surroundings. And sit back against a setting sun to enjoy a programme of Khandeshi music immortal poetry of the legendary Bahinabai.

Some of the facilities available include a food court, a souvenir shop and a book shop as well as tourist attractions such as joy rides on horses and camels, bullock cart rides and boating. Comfortable accommodation is available on the GRF premises at reasonable cost. Prior intimation is necessary to reserve the rooms and avail of meals. The best period to visit is from August to February.



Gandhiji went into deep contemplation - realising that people were not yet ready for non-violence.



A feature showing a bonfire of imported clothes and fabrics





Periodicals edited and published by Gandhi



Postage stamps of 119 countries



Spin a Charkha

For those who are interested in getting in-depth information about Gandhiji's life, thought and work, the following are available at Gandhi Teerth:

Collection of more than 5,000 periodicals edited and published by Gandhiji.

Collection and preservation of the literature authored by and articles used by Gandhiji.

Diaries written by Mahadevbhai and Manuben.

Collection of 125 speeches of Gandhiji in his own voice.

Collection of 85 films (including actual footage filmed in his lifetime) on Gandhiji's life.

Collection of almost everything written about Gandhiji, including the first edition of the books authored by him.

An extension library containing 9,000 books written on the various aspects of Gandhi's life.

Photo archives containing 5,000 photographs on Gandhiji, 4,250 photographs on Vinobaji Bhave and 15,000 images of different events and personalities related to Gandhiji and the Swaraj Movement.

Postage stamps of 119 countries on Gandhiji.

1.9 lakh digital pages containing correspondence and documents related to Gandhiji.

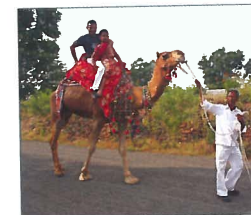
Do it yourself:

Spin a Charkha

Weave a Khaddar cloth

Enjoy authentic Khandeshi foods such as: Bharit-Bhaakri, Dal-Baati, Thecha, Sev-Bhaaji etc. in natural rustic surroundings under the open sky

Harvest fruits in an orchard, farm in a field ... and in the introspective mood of setting sun get mesmerised by Khandeshi Music & Dance and immortal poetry of great Bahinabai.



Joy rides and delectable food



Comfortable accommodation at Gandhi Teerth

Distance from Mumbai: 412 kms

How to reach:

By Air: Closest airport is Aurangabad.

Aurangabad to Jalgaon by road via Ajanta Caves - 157 km.

By Rail: 60 Trains from various cities halt at Jalgaon.

By Road: Jalgaon connected to main highways. N.H.No. 6 from Mumbai

Where to stay:

Gandhi Teerth has its own facility and several hotels are available in Jalgaon City.

What to eat:

Enjoy Khandeshi specialities like Bharit-Bhaakri, Thecha, Sev bhaaji etc.

Contact:

Gandhi Teerth, Jain Hills, Jalgaon-425001

Tel: +91 257 2264939, +91 940495357, +91-9422776708

E-Mail: info@gandhifoundation.net ; Website: www.gandhifoundation.net

Open everyday from 9:30am to 6:00pm, Except Monday.

Eco Tourism

To compliment and carry forward the timeless legacy of Gandhiji, GRF arranges for agro tourism over 650 acres of lush green habitat at Jain Hills which showcase:

- Research and development of farmlands with modern technologies.
- Live demonstrations of land, water and soil management systems.
- Watershed management.
- Practical aspects of micro-irrigation.
- Aspects of renewable energy such as bio-gas, bio-electricity, bio-fertilisers and solar energy.
- More than 100 acres of mango orchards with ultra-high density plantation of the Alphonso breed.
- Tissue cultures of pomegranates.

Some of the other programmes and visits that can be arranged with prior intimation and limited to groups of 50-100 people include:

- Bio-agro technology and tissue culture park at Takarkheda.
- World's largest tissue culture centre of bananas.
- Onion and vegetable dehydration processing facility.
- Fruit processing and canning of mango, banana, papaya, guava, pomegranate, tomato, etc.
- Sustainable living and use of renewable energy with an 8.5 MV solar power plant.
- Manufacturing of solar photo voltaic panels and other solar appliances.
- Study of a bio-gas power plant.
- A field trip to see the rich flora and fauna of Jain Hills that includes 150 varieties of trees numbering approximately 1,16,221, 91 species of birds, 20 types of mammals, and 30 species of insects and reptiles.



Tissue Culture Lab, Growth Room



Tissue Culture, Hardening Stage 3



Mango Orchards, Jain Hills



Birds at Jain Hills

