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## **From the Desk of the Chief Editor**

India, along with the rest of the world, celebrates the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of our Nation. Still there are divergent views on the life and work of the Mahatma. It is because of the fact that there are at least three distinct interpretations of Gandhiji and his legacy. First, Gandhi, the person; second, Gandhi, the symbol; and third, Gandhi, the idea or ideal.

Gandhi, the person was born; he had his share of good and bad of life; and, finally, he left for his heavenly abode. Followers worship him and the detractors criticize. Then comes Gandhi, the symbol. We have a host of Gandhian symbols around us such as the Gandhi cap, Gandhi specs, Gandhi timepiece, Gandhi dress or Khadi, or Gandhi surname. These symbols continue in India in different forms and variations and are used and misused by people according to their necessity and convenience. Lastly, there is Gandhi, the idea or ideal. It is eternal, universal and timeless. It continues and it will be there till humanity is there. This ideal has influenced millions of individuals throughout the world irrespective of nationalism, religion, caste, creed and other differences. Among numerous other eternal messages of Gandhiji, we are reminded of a few significant quotes, ie. Be the change you want to see in the world or My life is my message or India's soul lives in her villages. We dedicate the current issue of our journal to the everlasting memory of Mahatma Gandhi.

Srinibas Pathi  
Chief Editor