



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
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Gandhi Peace Prize

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Why is in news? Gandhi Peace Prize for 2021 to be conferred on Gita Press, Gorakhpur

The Gandhi Peace Prize for the year 2021 is being conferred on **Gita Press, Gorakhpur**.

Gandhi Peace Prize is an **annual award instituted by Government of India in 1995**, on the occasion of 125th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi as a **tribute to the ideals espoused by Mahatma Gandhi**.

The award is **open to all persons regardless of nationality, race, language, caste, creed or gender**.

The award carries an amount of **Rs. 1 crore, a citation, a plaque and an exquisite traditional handicraft/handloom item**.

Past awardees:

It includes organizations such as ISRO, Ramakrishna Mission, Grameen Bank of Bangladesh, Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari, Akshaya Patra, Bengaluru, Ekal Abhiyan Trust, India and Sulabh International, New Delhi.

It has also been awarded to luminaries like Late Dr. Nelson Mandela, former President of South Africa, Dr. Julius Nyerere, Former President of Tanzania, Dr. A.T. Ariyaratne, Founder President of Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement, Sri Lanka, Dr. Gerhard Fischer, Federal Republic of Germany, Baba Amte, Dr. John Hume, Ireland, Mr. Vaclav Havel, former President of Czechoslovakia, Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa, Shri Chandi Prasad Bhatt and Shri Yohei Sasakawa, Japan.

Recent awardees include Sultan Qaboos Bin Said Al Said, Oman (2019) and Bangabandh Sheikh Mujibur Rahman (2020), Bangladesh.

The Jury headed by the Prime Minister, after due deliberations on 18th June, 2023 **unanimously decided to select Gita Press, Gorakhpur** as the recipient of the Gandhi Peace Prize for the year 2021, in **recognition of its outstanding contribution towards social, economic and political transformation through non-violent and other Gandhian methods**.

The jury chaired by the Prime Minister and other members are the Chief Justice of India, the leader of the single largest Opposition party in the Lok Sabha, Lok Sabha Speaker and founder of Sulabh International.

Established in **1923, Gita Press is one of the world's largest publishers**, having published 41.7 crore books in 14 languages, including 16.21 crore Shrimad Bhagvad Gita.

The institution has never relied on advertisement in its publications, for revenue generation. Gita Press along with its affiliated organizations, strives for the betterment of life and the well being of all.

Gandhi Peace Prize 2021, recognizes the important and unparalleled contribution of Gita Press, in contributing to collective upliftment of humanity, which personifies Gandhian living in true sense.

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