

THE WORDS OF MAHATMA

(Taken from Bapu's Autobiography "The Story of My Experiments with Truth")

1. Bad handwriting is a sign of imperfect education.
2. Jealousy does not wait for reasons.
3. Nothing is impossible for pure love.
4. Knowledge of sanskrit must for every hindu boy and girl.
5. Indian curricula should include hindi, sanskrit,persian, arabic and english.
6. Physical training should have as much place on the curriculum as mental training.
7. A man of truth must also be a man of care.
8. Only between like natures can friendship be altogether worthy and enduring.
9. I regard women as an incarnation of tolerance.
10. Accept the interpretation honestly put on the pledge by the party administering it. - Golden Rule
11. A convert's enthusiasm for his new religion is greater than a person who is born in it.
12. Supplication, worship, prayer are no superstition; they are acts more real than acts of eating, drinking etc. It will be no exaggeration to say that they are alone real all else is unreal.
13. Selfishness is blind.
14. All my life through, the very insistence on truth has taught me to appreciate the beauty of compromise. It has often meant endangering my life and incurring displeasure of friends.
15. Truth is hard as adamant and tender as a blossom.
16. I learned at the onset not to carry on public work with borrowed money.
17. One could rely on people's promises in most matters except in respect of money.
18. The hearts earnest and pure desire is always fulfilled.

19. Howsoever you may repair it, a rift is a rift.
20. Things heard from a distance appear bigger than they are.
21. Service which is rendered without joy helps neither the servant nor the served.
22. Justice can be won quickest by rendering justice to the other party.
23. All become one in face of the common danger.
24. With disappearance of danger also disappears the name of god.
25. It is not good to run public institutions on permanent funds.
26. Mind is the root of all sensuality.
27. There is no limit to the possibilities of renunciation.
28. Without infinite patience it is impossible to get the people to do any work.
29. It is the reformer who is anxious for the reforms.
30. Truth is like a vast tree, which yields more and more fruits the more you nurture it.
31. The deeper the search in the mine of truth, the richer the discovery of gems buried here in the shape of openings for an ever greater variety of services.
32. Public worker should not accept no costly gifts.
33. Service is no mushroom growth. It presupposes the will first and then experience.
34. Heavy is the toll of sins and wrongs that wealth, power and prestige extract from man.
35. I am sternly opposed to giving alms to sturdy beggars.
36. Life of a lamb is no less precious than that of a human being.
37. It is wrong to accept certainties.
38. The quest for truth is the summum bouum of life.
39. The chief thing about theosophy is to cultivate and promote the ideal of brotherhood.
40. A clean confession combined with a promise never to commit the sin again, when offered before one who has the right to receive it, is the purest of repentance.

41. Religion in its broadest sense means self-realization or knowledge of self.
42. Account for everything that comes in and goes out of pocket.
43. Real seat of taste is not the tongue but the mind.
44. An Elephant is powerless to think in terms of an ant, in spite of the best intentions.
45. Who can say thus far, no further to the tide of his nature?
46. Every case can be seen in seven different points of view. All of which are correct by themselves, but not correct at the same time, in the same circumstances.
47. As a man eats so shall he become.
48. Hate the sin and not the sinner.
49. Newspaper press is a great power, but just as an unchained torrent of water submerges whole country sides and devastates crops, even so an uncontrolled pen serves but to destroy.
50. Useful and useless must like good and evil generally go on together and man must make his choice.
51. A public worker should not make statements of which he has not made sure.
52. A votary of truth must exercise the greatest caution.
53. Limited reading enabled me to thoroughly digest what I did read.
54. He who would go in for novel experiments must begin with himself.
55. True beauty consists in purity of heart.
56. Indian parents who train their children to think and talk in english from their infancy betray their children and their country. They deprive them of the spiritual and social heritage of the nation and render them to the extent unfit for the service of the country.
57. The brute by nature knows no self restraint.
58. Man is man because he capable of and only in so far as exercises self restraint.
59. Perfection or freedom from error comes only from grace.
60. One should eat to keep the body going.

61. There are none so blind as those who will not see.
62. Self denial is good for soul.
63. True education could be imparted only by the parents and that then there should be minimum of outside help.
64. I always gave first place to building of character.
65. Children take in much more and with less labour through there ears than through their eyes.
66. Children wrapped up in cotton wool are not always proof against all temptations or contaminations.
67. A votary of truth is often obliged to grope in the dark.
68. A satyagrahi is born to be deceived.
69. One who has faith reads in them the merciful providence of god.
70. Satyagraha is a sovereign remedy.
71. Service without humility is selfishness and egotism.
72. Disinterested service of people in any sphere ultimately helps the country.
73. Physical weakness in men manifests itself in irascibility.
74. Civility is the most difficult part of satyagraha.
75. When the fear of jail disappears, repression puts heart into the people.
76. The end of satyagraha campaign can be described as worthy only when it leaves the satyagrahis stronger and more spirited then they are in the beginning.
77. Salvation of people depend upon themselves, upon their capacity for suffering and sacrifice.
78. If all had the same belief about all matters of religion, there would be only one religion in the world.
79. You can wake a man only if he is really asleep, no effort that you may make will produce any effect upon him if he is merely pretending sleep.

80. Those who want to lead the people to satyagraha ought to be able to keep the people within the limited non-violence expected of them.

81. The only means for the realization of truth is ahimsa.

82. So long as a man does not of his own free will put himself last among his fellow creatures, there is no salvation for him.

83. Ahimsa is the furthest limit of humility.

84. Only when one sees one's own mistakes with a convex lens and does just the reverse in the case of others, that one is able to arrive at a just relative estimate of the two. A scrupulous and conscientious observance of this rule is necessary for one who wants to be a satyagrahi.

85. A reformer cannot afford to have close intimacy with him whom he seeks to reform.

86. Morality is the basis of things, and that truth is the substance of all morality.