

**QT**

# Indian Experience



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## When the going gets tough, this young **GIRL** GETS GOING

**Anvi Amit Joshi**, a grade 11 student, recently climbed the Kang Yatse II (also called KY II) peak, an altitude of 6,250 metres, becoming the youngest from Qatar to achieve this amazing feat



It was an amazing feeling for Anvi as she reached the peak of KY-2 and held the Indian Flag in her hands.

**"T**HE mountains are calling and I must go." – John Muir.

"John of the Mountains" and "Father of the National Parks", as he was also known as, John Muir, the Scottish-born American naturalist, author, environmental philosopher, botanist, zoologist and glaciologist, was an early advocate for the preservation of wilderness in the United States.

It's never easy, though, to take this call of the mountains as it requires exemplary courage and determination. And the challenge is expected to double down if you're a young girl or boy, merely in your teens.

Anvi Amit Joshi, a grade 11 student in Qatar, is made of tough mettle, an example of dogged courage and determination. She's come up trumps in her mission to reach the Kang Yatse II (also called KY II) Peak, an altitude of 6,250 metres.

Having conquered the challenging climb on August 8 this year, Anvi says she feels "very pleased to have made my country proud with my achievement."

I hope my certifications and felicitations will help inspire others to set out on their own adventures. Motivating more [people] to join our community of trekking is an opportunity I truly enjoy."

Kang Yatse or Kang Yatse is a mountain located at the end of the Markha Valley in the Himalayas in the Ladakh region of northwest India.

When asked about the challenges she faced in her mission, Anvi says, "Climbing at an incline of 75-80 degrees with a weight of around 10kg on my back was a very new yet tough experience where mental strength was my only support."

Getting comfortable with the technical equipment, she points out, proved to be no easy task as the snow boots were making it extremely painful to walk with the weight of each being approximately 4kg.

"With every step we took, the gaining altitude proved to be yet another obstacle we had to cross, not to mention the numbing cold that was freezing our fingers," she avers. This, however, was not her first major climb. Her previous trek to Mt Kilimanjaro was a height of 5,895m. "As an eager mountaineer just waiting for any opportunities to gain more experience in this field, I wanted to surpass my previous record and achieve a height of 6,000m-plus," she tells Qatar Tribune.

Anvi's journey of trekking kicked off at the age of seven and she credits her parents for this. "Being the ones to introduce me to the sport, they [her parents] have done everything to push me forward to achieve greater heights and make my country proud. Their immense support and encouragement have helped me to accomplish eight successful treks. As for my school, they have always appreciated my climbs. They've supported me with extra classes due to my absence while on treks," she says with a feeling of gratitude.

And finally, Anvi has a message for her ilk of young girls and boys: "Get out of your comfort zones to achieve your dreams. With all the distractions nowadays, it's very easy to be drawn into a luxurious and lethargic routine."



Anvi being felicitated at the Indian Cultural Centre for her marvelous achievement.

## Indian expatriates pay tributes to non-violence icon Mahatma Gandhi

**O**CTOBER 2 marks a very special occasion for every Indian citizen. This day, 'Gandhi Jayanti', is celebrated every year to mark the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi.

For Indians living in their country or earning their livelihoods as expatriates abroad, as well as for the global community, Gandhi Jayanti is a day to reflect on the values that Mahatma Gandhi stood for – truth and non-violence. An epitome of resilience and determination, Gandhi employed nonviolent resistance to lead the successful campaign for India's independence, inspiring movements for civil rights and freedom across the world.

A cross-section of Indian expatriates living in Qatar shared their thoughts with Qatar Tribune and paid their tributes to the icon of peace and amity, on Gandhi Jayanti. Excerpts:

**'We owe our success and eminent position to Mahatma Gandhi'**  
**Yasir Nainar**

Mahatma Gandhi left the world as a leader without an office but with a world inspired by his position on justice, peace, and non-violence. India owes it to the Mahatma that we have had visionary leaders who anchor the governance of such a huge country so



smoothly. Following in Gandhi's footsteps, we have had to struggle against many odds to achieve the progress that we rightly deserve.

**(Yasir Nainar is an educationist and a certified leadership coach)**

**'Mahatma's relevance cannot diminish with the passage of time'**  
**Dr Deepika**

The spirit of existence, be it on professional front, which is about the fulfilment of duties and responsibilities, or the personal front, reflecting the virtues of humility, graciousness



etc., shaping our personality on a holistic ground, all have roots in the profound thoughts and ideals propagated by Mahatma Gandhi. If we look at the personal front, the basic qualities of envisioning an idea and clinging to the dream until it manifests beautifully, having the steely resolve and the strength to fight the odds with integrity in character, being truthful in thoughts and honest in opinion, all these find their origin in the thoughts upheld by Mahatma Gandhi. The Father of the Nation saw a dream of a free India and led the country to Freedom overcoming all obstacles.

**(Dr. Deepika works as a faculty of English at DPS Modern Indian School, Qatar. She loves to explore the world through writing)**

**'Gandhi's thoughts have become much more relevant today'**  
**Garima Mehdiratta**

In the present-day world, the buzzword is polarization and we have become more fragile and divided deep down than before, especially in terms of opinions, ideologies and thoughts which are tearing us apart. Still, there's optimism about noble values and thoughts because of Mahatma Gandhi and this optimism goes



beyond race, religion and nation-states. Gandhi's thoughts have made a deep impact on various facets of life and governance. To put it in Gandhi's words: "Earth has not enough for human needs, but not for human greed." This shows that we need to go back and bring up the essence of 'Gandhism' by awakening and spreading awareness of his ideologies. 'Gandhism' is not only about Ahimsa (Non-violence), Swaraj (Self-Rule) and Satya (truth), but goes way beyond.

**(Garima Mehdiratta is a lawyer and legal researcher)**

**'Environmental sustainability, a top concern today, was part of Gandhi's vision'**  
**Amanat Solanki**

Mahatma Gandhi's thoughts and ideals hold immense importance and relevance in today's world, aligning. His emphasis on unity

serves as a powerful reminder of our global inter-connectedness, urging us to work together to address pressing issues such as climate change and poverty. Gandhi's unwavering belief in the transformative power of education resonates deeply with the abiding need for commitment to empowering individuals through knowledge. In a world where information is key, his advocacy for education's centrality is more vital than ever. Environmental sustainability, a top



concern today, was inherently part of Gandhi's vision for a simple, sustainable lifestyle. His teachings guide us towards responsible stewardship of our planet. Interfaith tolerance, a cornerstone of Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy, remains essential in our diverse world, fostering harmony and understanding among different religious communities.

**(Amanat Solanki a long-term resident of Qatar, founder of Mission20 Foundation)**

**'Mahatma's principles are as relevant today as in the past'**  
**Nahid Raunaq Tarique**

Mahatma Gandhi played a key role in India's Freedom Movement. His principles of non-violent resistance or civil



resistance are still relevant in today's world. His principle of Satyagraha influenced Martin Luther King Jr. and James Bevel's campaigns during the Civil Rights movements in the United States. Satyagraha also influenced Nelson Mandela's struggle against apartheid in South Africa. Mahatma Gandhi worked for the uplift of untouchables and weaker sections.

**(Nahid Raunaq Tarique did her schooling at International Indian School Dammam and graduated from AMU)**