

STUDY CIRCLE

March 2021

The Challenges of Socio-Economic Transformation: Gandhi and E.F. Schumacher

Meets Online Tuesday Evenings from 7:30 to 9:00 pm

For the month of March 2021, the Study Circle will look at the writings of Mahatma Gandhi and E. F. Schumacher for their ideas how to meet the socio-economic challenges we are now experiencing on a global level. A short article or essay will be posted on the Institute website for each meeting. It would benefit the discussion if everyone could read the article beforehand. If you are not able to print the article, please contact donna@worldculture.org. There will be a brief introduction to the topic at the beginning of each meeting and the rest of the time will be open for discussion. We very much look forward to your participation.

Topics for Discussion

Be sure to check <http://www.worldculture.org> for more information and readings

Mar 2 **Gandhi's Critique of Modern Civilization**

Gandhi writes in his essay "Hind Swaraj" that Western civilization is such that one has only to be patient and it will be self-destroyed." He also provides a powerful paradigm for an alternative civilization, pointing out that Self-rule is only possible through the force of love and self-reliance.

Mar 9 **Gandhi on Human Nature and Perfectibility**

Gandhi asserts in his writings that human nature is essentially good and capable of perfectibility. This is important because it provides an optimistic basis for transformation.

Mar 16 **Gandhian Economics for a New World Culture**

Dr. Shobana Nelasco, Professor, Development Economist and Researcher in South Asian Studies, will join us on this occasion to share her concept of Gandhian economics. She has recently edited a volume on M.K. Gandhi: Gandhi, A Global Perspective.

Mar 23 **Elegant Simplicity**

Reflections on what it means to live simply by E. F. Schumacher, from his book "Small is Beautiful."

Mar 30 **Economic and Moral Progress**

Gandhi makes the case that economic progress is often antagonistic to moral progress, and he explains the nature of voluntary poverty and its benefits.