

ಡಾ. ಮನ್ಮಹನ್ ಸಿಂಗ್  
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾನಿಲಯ



DR. MANMOHAN SINGH  
BENGALURU CITY UNIVERSITY



## Mahatma Gandhi Study Centre

To commemorate the 78<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Martyrdom

*Presents*

A Photo Exhibition on Life and Principles of Mahatma Gandhi  
And  
A Musical Tribute to Mahatma Gandhi

*by*

**Dr. K.S. VAISHALI**

Accomplished Hindustani Classical Vocalist

*on the theme*

***GANDHI, MUSIC, AND CIVILIZATIONAL PLURALISM***

*In the presence of*

**Prof. B. RAMESH**

Hon. Vice-Chancellor

**Dr. Manmohan Singh Bengaluru City University**

**Prof. D. JEEVAN KUMAR (Retd.,)**

**Managing Trustee, Sarvodaya International Trust**

*And*

**Mr.NAVEEN JOSEPH A**  
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**Prof. RAMESH KUD ENATTI**  
Registrar (Evaluation)

**Mrs.VIJAYALAKSHMI M.V**  
Finance Officer

**Members of the Syndicate and Academic Council of**  
**Dr. Manmohan Singh Bengaluru City University**  
**Bengaluru**

**Day and Date:** Friday 30 January 2026  
**Time:** 10.30 AM  
**Venue:** Jnana Jyothi Auditorium  
Palace Road, Bengaluru-560001

**Dr.Jyothi Venkatesh**  
Director  
**Mahatma Gandhi Study Centre**  
**Dr. Manmohan Singh**  
**Bengaluru City University**

The Programme will unfold with unveiling of the Photo Exhibition by the Hon. Vice-Chancellor. This will be followed by a musical homage to Mahatma Gandhi's ethical universe, where truth, harmony, and spiritual universality found expression not only in politics but also in culture and music.

Dr. K. S. Vaishali will open the programme with a twenty-minute Hindustani classical *khayal*, a form that itself embodies India's composite cultural heritage. Evolving in its present form from the eighteenth century onwards, *khayal* represents a profound synthesis of Hindu and Islamic aesthetic traditions, standing as a living testament to the possibilities of communal harmony and shared creativity—values that Gandhi consistently upheld as the moral foundation of Indian society.

This will be followed by a *Nirguni Kabir* bhajan, evoking the saint-poet's radical spiritual humanism that transcended sectarian boundaries. The rendition will also draw upon the bridal mysticism associated with figures such as Meera and Akka Mahadevi, where divine love dissolves distinctions of caste, creed, and gender—resonating deeply with Gandhi's vision of an inclusive spiritual democracy.

Dr. Vaishali will then present a Kannada rendering of Rabindranath Tagore's “*Antar mama vikasita karo*”, a prayer for inner awakening and moral blossoming. Tagore's humanist universalism, much admired by Gandhi despite their philosophical differences, finds here a lyrical expression of ethical self-cultivation and harmony with the world.

This will be followed by “*Raghupati Raghava Raja Ram*”, a bhajan that Gandhi transformed into a prayer for communal unity by consciously invoking both Ram and Rahim, symbolizing his unwavering commitment to interfaith concord, even in the darkest moments of India's history.

The programme will conclude with “*Vaishnava Janato*,” one of Gandhi's most cherished hymns. Its gentle yet demanding moral vision—of empathy, humility, and service to the suffering—captures the essence of Gandhian ethics, reminding us that true religiosity lies in compassion and action, rather than ritual or dogma.

Dr. Vaishali will be accompanied on the tabla by Shri Akshay Joshi, and on the harmonium by Shri Surya Upadhyaya.



#### ***About Dr. K.S. Vaishali***

*Dr. K. S. Vaishali is a Bangalore-based Hindustani classical vocalist. She is the disciple of late Pandit Seshadri Gawai and Gana Saraswati Pandita Kishori Amonkar. She is a Sangeet Visharad degree holder from Gandharv Maha Vidyalay and has obtained the first rank in Vidwath examination of the Govt. of Karnataka. She has given numerous music recitals and lecture demonstrations in prominent music festivals all over the country and in UK, USA, Canada, Thailand, etc.*

*Dr. Vaishali is the recipient of Karnataka Rajyotsava award in Hindustani classical vocal music. As a music columnist, she has published over 100 articles on music in The Hindu. She has also brought out commercial compact discs on classical music.*

*Dr. Vaishali is the Hon. Joint Secretary of the prestigious Academy of Music, Chowdaiah Memorial Hall, Bangalore. Currently Dr. Vaishali is a Senior Professor at the Department of English at Bangalore University.*