



**UN SCHOOL
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India

The National UN Volunteers-India

"Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi

Gandhi's Khadi Movement

Uniting People, Fashion, and Freedom

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“There is no beauty in the finest cloth if it
makes hunger and unhappiness.

This October 2nd marks the birthday of the wonderful Mahatma Gandhi. Born in 1869, Gandhi achieved many great things in his lifetime, famously freeing India from British rule through peaceful protests and inspirational movements that united the nation.

To people across the globe, Gandhi has become an icon of peace, inclusivity, and sustainability, thanks to his revolutionary attitude that led India and its people to economic freedom and independence.

To this day, Gandhi's wisdom and perspective still resonates with those of us who choose to hear and act on the lessons he taught.

One of Gandhi's most amazing achievements that resonates deeply with us at Vino Supraja is his Khadi movement. It is a movement that continues to live on in Indian culture and will forever connect fashion with freedom in its truest form.

What was the Khadi Movement?

Khadi means hands-on and handwoven cloth, but unlike your average cloth, Khadi holds a very special place in India's history of freedom and independence. In 1918, Mahatma Gandhi used Khadi cloth as a key part of the Swadeshi movement, a movement designed to boycott the use of imported products and materials. Doing this would help to lift India out of poverty by creating industry and jobs locally. It would also free India from its

reliance on expensive, imported goods which were being brought into the country from Britain even though the raw materials originated in India. Gandhi knew that it was crucial for the people of India to take back what was theirs, using their own produce and skills to create their own wealth. Khadi cloth became the heart of this strategy when Gandhi asked every man and woman to plant and harvest their materials for the yarn needed to create Khadi fabric. He also asked everyone, whether rich or poor, to spend time each day spinning Khadi.

This country-wide initiative helped to bring unity through shared labor. People of all classes came together to do as Gandhi asked, and their efforts helped the country in its bid to become self-

sufficient. Entire villages adopted the movement, weaving their way to economic freedom through fashion.

“Earth provides enough to satisfy every man's need but not any man's greed.””

MR. MUNEEER ABASS

Social science teacher, G D Goenka Public
School, Srinagar

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