



Bapu isn't just about brooms or khadi: Grandson

Bengaluru: Gandhi is not only about fasting, drinking goat's milk or spinning khadi. It is as important as his beliefs, said Gopalkrishna Gandhi, grandson of Mahatma Gandhi. He was responding to a youngster's query on the many versions of the Father of the Nation that are in circulation.

“It is a matter of concern what the youth believe in. But you as a young citizen of India are asking this question which is itself a reflection that empowered intelligent youth cannot be fooled,” said the former governor of West Bengal. He was in the city to deliver a Gandhi Memorial Lecture on Gandhi's India at Raman Research Institute on Friday. “The India he (Mahatma) worked and lived for started dying soon after him. Gandhi needs to be liberated from Gandhians, unshackled from institutions run in his name. Gandhi is not only about brooms. Those who have taken up the mechanical aspects of his living limit his identity to smaller boxes,” he added.

Gopalkrishna criticized the way nuclear waste is treated in India “which now talks of Swachh Bharat”.

“Gandhi would have never let saffron groups dominate ... he would have seen through political amendments... how they included ‘socialist’ and ‘secular’ in the Preamble. Now we are so stifled by the two words,” he pointed out.

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