

Gandhi's Experiment with Truth

It is not my purpose to write a real autobiography. I simply want to tell the story of my numerous experiments with truth, and as my life consist of nothing but those experiments it is true that the story takes the shape of a autobiography. Nevertheless, I shall not mind, if every page of it speaks only of my experiments.

I believe, or at any rate flatter myself with the belief that a connected account of all these experiments will not be of benefit to the reader. My experiments in the political field are now known , not only in India, but to a certain extent to the civilized world.

For me, they have NOT much value; and the title of MAHATMA that they have won me as therefore less.

Often the title has deeply pained me; and there is not a moment I can recall when it may be said to have tickled me. But I should certainly like to narrate my experiments in the SPIRITUAL FIELD which are know only to myself and from which I have derived such power as I possess for working in the POLITICAL FIELD.

If the experiments are really spiritual, then there can be no room for self-praise. They can only add to my humility. The more I reflect and look back on the past, the more vividly do I feel my limitations.

What I want to achieve,--what I have been striving and pinning to achieve these thirty years—is self-realization, to see GOD fact to face. I live and move and having my being is pursuit of this Goal.

All that I do by way of speaking and writing, and all my ventures in the political field are directed to this same end. . But as I have all along believed that what is possible for one is possible for all my experiment have not been conducted in a closet, but in the open.

And I do not think that this fact detract from their spiritual value. There are some thing which are known only to myself and one's maker. They are clearly incommunicable. The experiments I am about to relate are not such. But they are spiritual, or should I say moral; for the very of religion is morality.