

**A study of awareness regarding Gandhian Economics
concept in Gujrat region**

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Abstract:

The modern India, whose foundations has been built on the concepts of Gandhian economics. So many thinkers have many times discussed about Gandhian philosophy of economics, they have written so many things and the policy are talked about so many a times but when it comes to implement, it is observed that people think that the implementation of Gandhian principles are difficult to be implemented or it is rather an out-of-date concept which cannot be practically implemented, or it is hypothetical. Seven and half decades down the line, India today faces all kinds of problems across the segments of the population and across the length and breadth of the country. The fusion of the ideas of Mahatma Gandhi with the ideas of the modern world would create a more complete and multicultural holistic society. It would deliver more happiness, generate more selfless economic surplus, and bring about a more democratic society than what is now available to us.

Key words: Gandhian economics, Trusteeship, Non-Cooperation, self-sufficiency , Sarvoday

Introduction:

The modern India, whose foundations has been built on the concepts of Gandhian economics. So many thinkers have many times discussed about Gandhian philosophy of economics, they have written so

many things and the policy are talked about so many a times but when it comes to implement, it is observed that people think that the implementation of Gandhian principles are difficult to be implemented or it is rather an out-of-date concept which cannot be practically implemented, or it is hypothetical. For example, the concept of trusteeship of Gandhiji is very much articulated in the concept of undivided family where the business is owned by a family and that means the ownership of the business belongs to that family and not with the person. and the entire family will look after this business collectively these concepts demonstrate this trusteeship concept very well but over a period it is observed that we cannot find themselves detached from the family wealth and the problems will keep on nurturing after a period. The concepts of spiritualism and socioeconomic development are the foundations of Gandhian economics. The unique concepts of trusteeship and Sarvodaya has catch the eyes of world. The principles of need satisfaction of all, protectionism, nationalism, non-violence, and non-materialism have made the Gandhian economics a special area of research. The term "Gandhian economics" was given by Shree J C Kumarappa who was intimate follower of Shri Mahatma Gandhiji.

literature Review

Mahatma Gandhiji had never created a specific body of knowledge or literature known as 'Gandhian Economics.' Neither he was claimed to be an economist, nor he was great reader of economic concepts or trained in economics. His ideas were more associated with a life then only economics. Gandhiji himself was a renowned author and he was a writer who has proclaimed his ideas to a great extent on various platforms. In autobiography "Satya na prayogo" in Gujarati which is translated in many other languages including English and in newspapers like Navjivan Gandhiji had expressed his views on various aspects but on economics his ideas were always revolutionary. Students of Gandhian thought and writing collated his reflections on economics and created a body of literature known as 'Gandhian Economics'. The literature thus created is known to be huge enough to be unmatched in the history of modern Indian economic thought. The term "Gandhian economics" was coined by J C Kumarappa who was hard follower of Shri Mahatma Gandhiji.

Krishnan Nandela had expressed his dip knowledge of concepts of Gandhian philosophy and its relevance in economic field. A comprehensive expression of concepts clears the idea of Gandhian economics from an economist viewpoint.

Rangarajan and Rajkumar (2009) had expressed for Need of Alternative model for Village's makeover in India. They believed planning and implementation of policies at village level is a difficult task, so a new model of village transformation must be identified and implemented.

Suryakant Waghmare (2008) had certain objections to the adoptability of Gandhian rural reconstruction, since certain academic and political groups express the view that rural social stratification

and social hierarchy may be hindrance to the development of the deprived and backward sections in society. But at same time, he argues strongly for a new approach for the welfare of the huge masses of rural India.

Research Gap

From above discussion it is observed that the Concepts of Gandhian Economics are well discussed amongst people but a proper research need to be conducted to check awareness about the concept. The writers are discussing about the concept but the status of practical implementation and its awareness amongst the public would help to strengthen efforts towards that.

Importance of study:

The study undertaken was with the intention of contributing to thinking of Gandhian Economics. India, being country nurtured by such great visionaries like Gandhiji, Nehru and many others. But as time passes, it is necessity to review that the concepts relevant at time are now relevant or not... and what is up-to-date status of their applicability. At the verge of Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav, it is now time to review Relevance and awareness of Gandhian Economics in recent times.

Objectives of studies

The study which should be undertaken should progress for predefined objectives. The objectives will confine the research potential. The study which is undertaken should cater to the objective like:

1. To study current trends regarding awareness of Gandhian Principles
2. To analyze whether the people are knowing about Gandhian economics and whether they are using these principles in their daily life.

Statement of the Problem

Post Covid conditions Indian Economy had struggled a lot on several aspects like world trade was on hold because of complete sluggishness in world trade. There were very few chances of survival of many big economies of world. Few countries have moved towards retrenchments of employees. And so much more this led to a rethink of our old solutions which have been tasted by the time, so it was a need to study once again the Gandhian economics which was more dependent on self-sufficiency of country. As it is an old concept of 75 years of age it was time to reassess applicability of that concept in today's scenario.

Research Methodology

For confirming any theories, we must validate theories, we must check practical application of the same in the world. For confirming these the concepts, the research is undertaken for the said concept. To validate the facts a sample survey for primary data is undertaken where a random sample of 50 respondents was conducted and analyzed.

Research Design – Sample design

Research design is the roadmap which helps us to proceed for the research. Research undertaken was of exploratory in nature. For checking the awareness level of people regarding concepts of Gandhian economics, primary research was undertaken. The research undertaken was done by using a closed-end questionnaire having 11 questions. Research was undertaken using internet - data collection was done by sending the questionnaires by a google form on respondent's email address or a link was sent. They filled in the questionnaire – google form. The data collection was done from various cities of Gujarat. No of respondents across the Gujrat were 50. The questions selected in questionnaire are multiple choice or selection of applicable answers. The data analysis would be done using methods like percentage, graphical presentations like bar charts or pai charts, cross tabulation, or chi-square technique.

Hypothesis setting

For research, the setting of hypothesis is the pathway which decides progress of research.

Ho: There is no significant impact of knowledge of Gandhian Economics in society

H1: There is significant impact of knowledge of Gandhian Economics in society

Data Representation, analysis, and findings

Research undertaken had 50 responses across Gujarat. Out of that most questions were being replied by all the participants. To meet the specified research objectives, both qualitative data and quantitative data analysis were used for the study purpose. Both inferential and descriptive statistics methods of data analysis were employed. Descriptive statistics like frequency distributions, correlation, and cross-tabulations was used to obtain meaningful information. The data entry - analysis were performed by using Microsoft Excel and Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS)

The first question was regarding the name of the respondents and second question was about age of the respondents the age group of majority respondents i. e 36 respondents were of 0-50 years. This group is actual buyer of the products, so it seems that it fairly represents universal data.

The gender of respondent in that total 50 persons responded out of that 28 were female and 22 were male responded affirmatively which primarily confirms that people responded were distributed fairly. For research it is important that respondents are fairly indicative of universe.

The respondents had qualification of graduation, post-graduation, and professional degree i.e., 42. From this this can be said that respondents had fair educational background. We could say that the responses would have fairly responded.

Another question was regarding occupation which can be used for further analysis for awareness and other factors.

The respondents had replied in next question regarding whether they agree to buy the product from the local market. Majority respondents had replied affirmatively. And for further analysis it was cross tabulated with awareness factor.

H0: There is no significant impact of Awareness regarding Gandhian economics on buying decision of product from local market.

H1: There is significant impact of Awareness regarding Gandhian economics on buying decision of product from local market.

byloproduct * awerness [count, row %, column %, total %].				
byloproduct	awerness			Total
	no	Yes	may be	
no	.00	2.00	.00	2.00
	.00%	100.00%	.00%	100.00%
	.00%	9.52%	.00%	4.00%
	.00%	4.00%	.00%	4.00%
yes	19.00	19.00	10.00	48.00
	39.58%	39.58%	20.83%	100.00%
	100.00%	90.48%	100.00%	96.00%
	38.00%	38.00%	20.00%	96.00%
Total	19.00	21.00	10.00	50.00
	38.00%	42.00%	20.00%	100.00%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
	38.00%	42.00%	20.00%	100.00%

Chi-square tests.			
Statistic	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)
Pearson Chi-Square	2.88	2	.237
Likelihood Ratio	3.59	2	.166
Linear-by-Linear Association	.00	1	.979
N of Valid Cases	50		

(Table 1: Cross tabulation of Awareness of concept of Gandhian economics to decision of buying from local market and chi -square analysis of the same)

From the above calculation it can be derived that value of Chi-Square test is 0.237, which is greater than 0.05. So, it is evidently said that null hypothesis is rejected which means that people do have

awareness about Gandhian economics and when they buy the product, unknowingly also they are following principles.

Another question was regarding whether they agree buy products made by small manufacturers. Majority respondents had replied affirmatively. And for further analysis it was cross tabulated with awareness factor.

H0: There is no significant impact of Awareness regarding Gandhian economics on buying decision of product from small manufacturer.

H1: There is significant impact of Awareness regarding Gandhian economics on buying decision of product from small manufacturer.

Summary.							
		Cases				Total	
		Valid		Missing			
		N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
smallmfg * awerness		50	100.0%	0	0.0%	50	100.0%

smallmfg * awerness [count, row %, column %, total %].				
smallmfg	awerness			Total
	no	Yes	may be	
no	1.00	1.00	.00	2.00
	50.00%	50.00%	.00%	100.00%
	5.26%	4.76%	.00%	4.00%
yes	2.00	2.00	.00	4.00
	18.00	20.00	10.00	48.00
	37.50%	41.67%	20.83%	100.00%
Total	94.74%	95.24%	100.00%	96.00%
	36.00%	40.00%	20.00%	96.00%
	19.00	21.00	10.00	50.00
	38.00%	42.00%	20.00%	100.00%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
	38.00%	42.00%	20.00%	100.00%

Chi-square tests.			
Statistic	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)
Pearson Chi-Square	.53	2	.768
Likelihood Ratio	.92	2	.632
Linear-by-Linear Association	.47	1	.494
N of Valid Cases	50		

(Table 2: Cross tabulation of Awareness of concept of Gandhian economics to decision of buying from small manufacturers and chi -square analysis of the same)

From the above calculation it can be derived that value of Chi-Square test is 0.768, which is greater than 0.05. So, it is evidently said that null hypothesis is rejected which means that people do have awareness about Gandhian economics and when they buy the product, the fact is also evidently in their mind about principles of Gandhian Economics.

Another question was regarding whether they agree pay salaries to their staff in time. Majority respondents had replied affirmatively. And for further analysis it was cross tabulated with awareness factor.

H0: There is no significant impact of Awareness regarding Gandhian economics on pay salaries to their staff in time.

H1: There is significant impact of Awareness regarding Gandhian economics on pay salaries to their staff in time.

Summary.							
		Cases					
		Valid		Missing		Total	
ontimesalary * awerness		N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
		50	100.0%	0	0.0%	50	100.0%

ontimesalary * awerness [count, row %, column %, total %].						
ontimesalary	awerness			Total		
	no	Yes	may be			
yes	19.00 38.78% 100.00% 38.00%	21.00 42.86% 100.00% 42.00%	9.00 18.37% 90.00% 18.00%	49.00 100.00% 98.00%		
2	.00 .00% .00% .00%	.00 .00% .00% .00%	1.00 100.00% 10.00% 2.00%	1.00 100.00% 2.00%		
Total	19.00 38.00% 100.00% 38.00%	21.00 42.00% 100.00% 42.00%	10.00 20.00% 100.00% 20.00%	50.00 100.00% 100.00% 100.00%		

Chi-square tests.			
Statistic	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)
Pearson Chi-Square	4.08	2	.130
Likelihood Ratio	3.30	2	.192
Linear-by-Linear Association	3.32	1	.068
N of Valid Cases	50		

(Table 3: Cross tabulation of Awareness of concept of Gandhian economics to decision of paying salaries to workers on time and chi -square analysis of the same)

From the above calculation it can be derived that value of Chi-Square test is 0.130, which is greater than 0.05. So, it is evidently said that null hypothesis is rejected which means that people do have awareness about Gandhian economics and when they pay salary to their staff in time, they also have same ideology in their mind which are like principles of Gandhian Economics.

Next question was regarding equality of opportunity, and everybody affirmatively replied which indicates that there is overall uniformity about the opinion of equality in opportunity for development irrespective of any cast – community or gender. And next question was regarding trusteeship. That whether concept of trusteeship is relevant in recent times. From the responses it can be concluded that still majority feels that it is still relevant concept. And rather it is observed in many advance concepts of

human resource management that management is observing concepts of trusteeship. Analysis outcomes were also validating the fact.

H0: There is no significant impact of Awareness regarding Gandhian economics on relevancy of Trusteeship in recent times.

H1: There is significant impact of Awareness regarding Gandhian economics on relevancy of Trusteeship in recent times.

equality * awerness [count, row %, column %, total %].				
equality	awerness			Total
	no	Yes	may be	
Yes	19.00	21.00	10.00	50.00
	38.00%	42.00%	20.00%	100.00%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
	38.00%	42.00%	20.00%	100.00%
Total	19.00	21.00	10.00	50.00
	38.00%	42.00%	20.00%	100.00%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
	38.00%	42.00%	20.00%	100.00%

Chi-square tests.			
Statistic	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)
N of Valid Cases	50		

trustee * awerness [count, row %, column %, total %].				
trustee	awerness			Total
	no	Yes	may be	
no	5.00	6.00	4.00	15.00
	33.33%	40.00%	26.67%	100.00%
	26.32%	28.57%	40.00%	30.00%
	10.00%	12.00%	8.00%	30.00%
yes	14.00	15.00	6.00	35.00
	40.00%	42.86%	17.14%	100.00%
	73.68%	71.43%	60.00%	70.00%
	28.00%	30.00%	12.00%	70.00%
Total	19.00	21.00	10.00	50.00
	38.00%	42.00%	20.00%	100.00%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
	38.00%	42.00%	20.00%	100.00%

Chi-square tests.			
Statistic	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)
Pearson Chi-Square	.62	2	.734
Likelihood Ratio	.60	2	.741
Linear-by-Linear Association	.58	1	.448
N of Valid Cases	50		

(Table 4: Cross tabulation of Awareness of concept of Gandhian economics to decision of management to treat employees with equality and following concept of Trusteeship and chi-square analysis of the same)

And result of above table shows Chi-Square vale of the analysis is 0.734 which is greater the 0.05 which means the Null hypothesis is evidently rejected. The derived fact from the above fact confirms that even today concept of trusteeship is relevant.

Another question was regarding whether they agree that customers are not to be cheated as they are the king of market. Again, people replied affirmatively to this question. And 48 replied positively. And cross tabulation with awareness suggests that irrespective to awareness people do agree that customers must be treated good.

H0: There is no significant impact of Awareness regarding Gandhian economics on fact that customers should not be cheated

H1: There is significant impact of Awareness regarding Gandhian economics on fact that customers should not be cheated

H0: There is no significant impact of Awareness regarding Gandhian economics on fact that overstocking is due to easy availability of funds

H1: There is significant impact of Awareness regarding Gandhian economics on fact that overstocking is due to easy availability of funds

cheatcust * awerness [count, row %, column %, total %].				
cheatcust	awerness			Total
	no	Yes	may be	
no	1.00	1.00	.00	2.00
	50.00%	50.00%	.00%	100.00%
	5.26%	4.76%	.00%	4.00%
yes	2.00%	2.00%	.00%	4.00%
	18.00	20.00	10.00	48.00
	37.50%	41.67%	20.83%	100.00%
Total	94.74%	95.24%	100.00%	96.00%
	36.00%	40.00%	20.00%	96.00%
	19.00	21.00	10.00	50.00
	38.00%	42.00%	20.00%	100.00%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
	38.00%	42.00%	20.00%	100.00%

Chi-square tests.			
Statistic	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)
Pearson Chi-Square	.53	2	.768
Likelihood Ratio	.92	2	.632
Linear-by-Linear Association	.47	1	.494
N of Valid Cases	50		

(Table 5: Cross tabulation of Awareness of concept of Gandhian economics to decision of not cheating customers and chi -square analysis of the same)

Analysis of above cross tabulation rejects null hypothesis and validates the fact with 0.768. another question asked whether easy availability of money leads to overstocking. And again, people feels that overstocking is result of easy availability of money. Cross tabulation validates this fact by rejecting again null hypothesis with value 0.174

(Table 6: Cross tabulation of Awareness of concept of Gandhian economics to decision of overstocking so can charge high in future and chi -square analysis of the same)

easymonyoverstock * awerness [count, row %, column %, total %].				
easymonyoverstock	awerness			Total
	no	Yes	may be	
no	1.00	4.00	.00	5.00
	20.00%	80.00%	.00%	100.00%
	5.26%	19.05%	.00%	10.00%
yes	2.00%	8.00%	.00%	10.00%
	18.00	17.00	10.00	45.00
	40.00%	37.78%	22.22%	100.00%
Total	94.74%	80.95%	100.00%	90.00%
	36.00%	34.00%	20.00%	90.00%
	19.00	21.00	10.00	50.00
	38.00%	42.00%	20.00%	100.00%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
	38.00%	42.00%	20.00%	100.00%

Chi-square tests.				
Statistic	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)	
Pearson Chi-Square	3.49	2	.174	
Likelihood Ratio	4.22	2	.121	
Linear-by-Linear Association	.22	1	.636	
N of Valid Cases	50			

Another question was whether labour transfer from villages to cities is advisable for development. And 40 respondents were opined that they should transfer to big cities for betterment and development. This opinion prevails in society because there are less developmental scopes of development in villages. But if these opportunities are increased that situation may be promising again.

labourtrans * awerness [count, row %, column %, total %].				
labourtrans	awerness			Total
	no	Yes	may be	
no	4.00	3.00	3.00	10.00
	40.00%	30.00%	30.00%	100.00%
	21.05%	14.29%	30.00%	20.00%
yes	8.00%	6.00%	6.00%	20.00%
	15.00	18.00	7.00	40.00
	37.50%	45.00%	17.50%	100.00%
Total	78.95%	85.71%	70.00%	80.00%
	30.00%	36.00%	14.00%	80.00%
	19.00	21.00	10.00	50.00
	38.00%	42.00%	20.00%	100.00%
	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
	38.00%	42.00%	20.00%	100.00%

Chi-square tests.				
Statistic	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)	
Pearson Chi-Square	1.07	2	.587	
Likelihood Ratio	1.04	2	.594	
Linear-by-Linear Association	.34	1	.562	
N of Valid Cases	50			

(Table 7: Cross tabulation of Awareness of concept of Gandhian economics to decision of labore transfer from villages to urban location and chi -square analysis of the same)

And another question was addressing important question of regarding over stocking that whether easy availability of goods leads to over stocking of goods. Again 35 affirmatively responded. Further verification for the fact was done with cross tabulation with the hypothesis

H0: There is no significant impact of Awareness regarding Gandhian economics on fact that easy availability of goods leads to overstocking

H1: There is significant impact of Awareness regarding Gandhian economics on fact that easy availability of goods leads to overstocking

overstock * awerness [count, row %, column %, total %].				
overstock	awerness			Total
	no	Yes	may be	
no	6.00 40.00% 31.58% 12.00%	6.00 40.00% 28.57% 12.00%	3.00 20.00% 30.00% 6.00%	15.00 100.00% 30.00% 30.00%
yes	13.00 37.14% 68.42% 26.00%	15.00 42.86% 71.43% 30.00%	7.00 20.00% 70.00% 14.00%	35.00 100.00% 70.00% 70.00%
Total	19.00 38.00% 100.00% 38.00%	21.00 42.00% 100.00% 42.00%	10.00 20.00% 100.00% 20.00%	50.00 100.00% 100.00% 100.00%

Chi-square tests.			
Statistic	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)
Pearson Chi-Square	.04	2	.979
Likelihood Ratio	.04	2	.979
Linear-by-Linear Association	.01	1	.933
N of Valid Cases	50		

(Table 8: Cross tabulation of Awareness of concept of Gandhian economics to decision of overstocking so can charge high in future and chi -square analysis of the same)

And cross tabulation figure of 0.979 is far greater than 0.05 value, which rejects the Null hypothesis. There is significant impact of awareness regarding Gandhian economics on thinking regarding over stocking is result of easy availability of Goods.

Findings

- ✓ The respondent's the age group of majority respondents i. e 36 respondents were of 0-50 years. This group is actual buyer of the products, so it seems that it fairly represents universal data.
- ✓ The respondents had qualification of graduation, post-graduation, and professional degree i.e., 42. From this this can be said that respondents had fair educational background
- ✓ People do have awareness about Gandhian economics and when they buy the product, or paying salaries in time, or trusting people for their work, unknowingly also they are following principles.
- ✓ Consciously or unconsciously general public is following Gandhian principals in Economic decisions , may be the reason can be personal ideology or social requirements.

Limitations of the study

The study undertaken for this research was for writing a research paper which carries limitations, and this research was also not free from those limitations. Limitations of time for data collection, reach of the research and attitude of the respondents can be listed for example. So, if these limitations can be removed then better results can be explored from the same study.

FUTURE SCOPE

From the above study, it is observed that the subject is still in the primary stage of evolution so there can be vast scope for various research possible. And more detailed analysis of various Gandhian principles need to be propagated so that India can come out with flying colors of its own ethnicity and unique identity at world level.

CONCLUSION

Seven and half decades down the line, India today faces all kinds of problems across the segments of the population and across the length and breadth of the country. In Gandhiji's times, there were seven lakhs plus villages and today we have six lakhs plus villages. More than one lakh village has been transformed into urban areas. There are overcrowded villages and overcrowded cities. Unemployment is prevalent across India - both in the cities and in the villages. Poverty is widespread across the country. There is mal-nutrition, disease, and early death amongst many poor. Then organic farming and organic food is the passion of the day. Today, the prosperous is willing to pay double the price for what is called organic food, and which is sold through the modern retail food chains. What was consumed by the ordinary person until the early century and even today, in the villages, has become fashionable amongst the urban elite community. The fact cannot be ignored that rapid industrialization and growing economies have made the India a powerful nation and yet the journey of development is still on. However, the problem confronted by Gandhiji during his times continues to mystify us to this day. In the name of modernization, India have neither modern cities nor modern villages. The heavy industry centric model of development has proved less impressive over service sector but less rural development is leading to massive rural to urban migration. Today the big metros are not furnishing any comfort to a lay man. Model Village concept of Government can be a probable solution to this all problems, where modernization is combined will traditional lifestyle of India. The fusion of the ideas of Mahatma Gandhi with the ideas of the modern world would create a more complete and multicultural holistic society. It would deliver more happiness, generate more selfless economic surplus, and bring about a more democratic society than what is now available to us.

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