India today is witnessing a crisis in every sphere of life. The growing cult of violence along with a devaluation of values is eroding civilized life and the democratic fabric of the nation. The schools and colleges in India, too, are deeply infected by the erosion of values and the cult of violence. Disharmony grows unchecked and it breeds anomie, frustration, hatred and selfishness.

An agonizing re-appraisal of our systems and institutions seems to be called for in the prevailing situation. The place to start with, surely, is our educational institutions, for they are at the sensitive centre of the nation's life. The tradition and culture of a nation is preserved and made dynamic and handed on to generations chiefly through education. Education is also the purveyor of a proper value system. Those in the schools and colleges today will take charge of the nation tomorrow. There is hope for a nation where the younger generation is properly moulded.

There are no easy solutions to complex human and national problems. Rational and relevant solutions, however, can be attempted, aided by the insights of psychologists, the wisdom of the ages and the examples of great and noble leaders. Young people are licked into shape in schools and colleges and their personalities are being constantly formed through their education. In order to achieve the formation of a whole, integrated personality of the students a model personality who has shown in his life the clear possibility of the transformation of character and personality is of great importance. This
is a prerequisite for teachers for transforming their own personalities before they start moulding the personalities of their students. This great model for India is Gandhi.

Gandhi, different from others, highlights through his personal example the fundamental values of Indian heritage as well as a dynamic ethic of work and service. His life is a classic example of the transformation of an ordinary boy into a Mahatma. It is an open book and every one can learn from him. Gandhi showed by his life and example that non-violence is the only successful remedy for violence at all levels and that self-realisation is the ultimate goal of life. Self-realisation, for Gandhi, was the corollary of a life of love identified with a life of service.

The personality of Gandhi that has emerged over the years is the result of rigorous self-discipline and intensive self-training. His uniqueness was in combining theory with practice and pursuing a methodology of action centred on Truth and love. Gandhi projected through his personality transformation, how deliberate actions, when repeated, form habits and how habits shaped character and in turn change the personality. Gandhi realised that the path to Truth is love. This love enabled him to identify himself with the millions of poor Indians and this helped him to develop a harmonious and integrated personality.

In order to assist the young people to transform their personality and to maximize their human potential teachers have to undergo the process of transformation inspired by Gandhi, based on abiding values, giving importance to an action-oriented life. The Gandhian perspective
of personality development transcends that of psychologists like Abraham Maslow. An effort on the part of the teachers with Gandhi as their role model, it is hoped, would make them effective agents in the transformation of their students and this will eventually have a salutary impact on the nation as a whole. This is the perspective in which this study has been conceived and carried out.

L.P.