The Global Peace March

On October 2, 2019 – the 150th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi’s birth, a 10,000 km, one-year global march for justice and peace, called Jai Jagat 2020, will start from New Delhi to Geneva. Winding through 10 countries with nonviolence training and events on key justice themes along the way, and joining with separate marches starting from a number of countries in Europe and northwest Africa as well as delegates from around the world, participants will be welcomed and hosted by the City and Canton of Geneva for a week (26 September – 2nd October 2020) of workshops, advocacy meetings and cultural events.

This initiative urges the implementation of UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in a dialogue with UN agencies in Geneva. Four Pillars of Advocacy related to the SDGs are at the core of the Jai Jagat campaign. These are: eradication of poverty, social inclusion, climate justice and the nonviolent resolution of conflicts.

Key Facts:
- March in India (including launch) 121 days
- March internationally (including Geneva) 244
- Total days of march: 365 days
- No. of countries: 10
- No. of marchers: 200 in India; 50 internationally
- Expected numbers of people meeting on the march 10,000 internationally
- Expected number of people trained in nonviolence in India: 2019: 2500.
- Expected number of people to impact over the course of the year 10 million

Local committees all along the route will organize daily events, and there will be daily non-violence trainings, making this a year-long practice of non-violence. In some countries new families and new individuals with different stories will be included in the march.
INDIA

Beginning at: Rajghat, New Delhi
Ending at: Ahmedabad
Dates: 2nd October 2019 to 3rd February 2020

Nonviolent Trainings:

The overall objective of nonviolent training is to develop peace-builders. Having the training “on the road” is a unique opportunity in experiential learning. In the 4-5 day training programs along the route in India, and in each of the nine countries, people will learn first hand how to manage differences. It is also an opportunity to see how others manage conflict in the various countries through which we travel, and in the process grow to understand cultural and religious differences.

In the training itself, we begin by identifying indirect conflict, and determining the causal chain that leads to conflict. From this, we can also learn how to pre-empt conflict and violence. We follow Gandhi’s framework in so far as we start with the presumption of nonviolence and work to see how this can be integrated into social settings and development interventions.

The “learning on the road” trainings will also be transmitted through social media for others to understand who are not physically present and for them to follow what is going on. The training in nonviolence also helps to direct the dialogues along the route with various governments and civil society groups and also in Geneva.
### Proposed Itinerary - India

#### 121 Days of Foot March

**Tentative Schedule**

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<tr>
<th>S.No.</th>
<th>From</th>
<th>To</th>
<th>Distance</th>
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<td>Shivpuri</td>
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IRAN

Distance: 2260 km
Total Days in Country: 35
Dates: February 1" to March 5" 2020
Cities Covered:
- Shiraz
- Farashband
- Kagan & Shiraf
- Evaz
- Bandar Abbas
- Qeshm
- Gandom Berian
- Esfahan
- Lorestan
- Borujerd
- Tabriz
- Norduz (Armenian Border)

Proposed Events:
1. Cultural Program Tehran: 24th February 2020

Islamic Republic of Iran
Capital: Tehran

Population 80 million
Area 1.65 million sq km (636,313 sq miles)
Major language Persian
Major religion Islam
Life expectancy 75 years (men), 77 years (women)
Currency rial

UN, World Bank
ARMENIA

Distance Covered: 570 km
Total Days in Country: 41
Dates: March 5th to April 16th, 2020
Means of travel: Short marches and bus (winter weather)
Cities Covered:
- Meghri
- Yeravan

Proposed Events:

The Republic of Armenia
Capital: Yerevan

Population 3.1m
Area 29,743 sq km (11,484 sq miles)
Major languages Armenian, Russian
Major religion Christianity
Life expectancy 71 years (men), 77 years (women)
Main exports Diamonds, machinery, foodstuffs
UN, World Bank
GEORGIA

Distance Covered: 450 km
Total Days in Country: 37
Dates: April 16th to May 23rd, 2020
Means of travel: Bus / Walk
Cities Covered:

1. Sadakhio
2. Tbilisi
3. Kutaisi
4. Zugdidi
5. Mitskheta
6. Sori
7. Samatredia
8. Batumi
9. Georgia to Bulgaria via Ship (23rd to 25th May 2020)

Proposed Events:

1. South Caucasus Peace Conference in Memory of Mahatma Gandhi May 7th to 9th, 2020 at the Parliament of Kutaisi

Georgia
Capital: Tbilisi

Population 4.3 million
Area 69,700 sq km (26,911 sq miles)
Major languages Georgian, Russian widely spoken
Major religion Christianity
Life expectancy 71 years (men), 77 years (women)
UN, World Bank
BULGARIA

Total km in Country: 450 km
Total Days in Country: 4
Dates: May 25th to 28th, 2020
Means of travel: Ferry / Bus
Cities to be Covered:
- Varna
- Sofia

Republic of Bulgaria
Capital: Sofia

Population 7.4 million
Area 110,994 sq km (42,855 sq miles)
Major language Bulgarian
Major religion Christianity
Life expectancy 71 years (men), 78 years (women)
Currency lev

UN, World Bank
Serbia

Total km in Country: 523 km
Total Days in Country: 25
Dates: May 28th to June 25th, 2020
Means of travel: Bus / Walk
Cities to be covered:
- Dmitrograd
- Niš
- Belgrade

Republic of Serbia
Capital: Belgrade

**Population** 9.8 million (UN, 2012, includes Kosovo; UN mission estimates Kosovo population as circa 2 million)

**Area** 88,361 sq km (34,116 sq miles) (includes Kosovo)

**Major language** Serbian

**Major religion** Christianity

**Life expectancy** 72 years (men), 77 years (women)

**Currency** Dinar

UN, World Bank
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Total km in Country: 350 km
Total Days in Country: 21
Dates: June 25th to July 16th, 2020
Means of travel: Walk / Bus
Cities to be covered:

- Belgrade
- Tuzla
- Sarajevo
- Mostar

Events:

- Peace Conference: Regional Peace and Global Challenges in the 21st Century (July 10th), Sarajevo

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**Bosnia and Herzegovina**

Capital: Sarajevo

**Population** 3.5 million

**Area** 51,129 sq km (19,741 sq miles)

**Major languages**
Bosnian, Croatian and Serbian

**Major religions**
Christianity, Islam

**Life expectancy** 74 years (men), 79 years (women)

**Currency** convertible marka

UN, World Bank
CROATIA

Total km in Country: 140 km
Total Days in Country: 7
Dates: July 16th to 24th, 2020
Means of travel: Walk / Ferry
Cities to be Covered:
- Nova Sela
- Split
- Ferry - Split, Croatia to Ancona, Italy (July 24th to 25th, 2020)
ITALY

Total km in Country: 725 km
Total Days in Country: 42
Dates: July 25th to September 5th, 2020
Means of travel: Walk / Bus
Cities to be Covered:
- Ancona
- Assisi
- Arezzo
- Florence
- Bologna
- Parma
- Milan
- Domodossola
- Domodossola, Italy to Brig, Switzerland: Italy-Switzerland border – September 5th, 2020

Events:
- Peace Conference (Assisi/Rome): Conflict Transformation Through Inter-Religious Dialogue” (August 1st to 4th, 2020)
SWITZERLAND

Total km in Country: 208 Kilometres
Total Days in Country: 20
Dates: September 5th to 25th, 2020
Means of travel: Walk
Cities to be Covered:
• Brig
• Sion
• Montreux
• Lausanne
• Geneva

Swiss Confederation
Capital: Bern

Population 8.3 million
Area 41,284 sq km (15,940 sq milos)
Major languages
German, French, Italian, Romansch
Major religion
Christianity
Life expectancy 81 years (men), 85 years (women)
Currency Swiss Franc

UN. World Bank
The arrival of the great march of Jai Jagat bearing the message of Gandhi and the voice of the voiceless is the perfect occasion, through a nonviolent dialogue, to promote various solutions for a world that works for everyone. To welcome the march, a festival/forum of change will be launched; combining, according to Gandhi’s vision, individual transformation with collective change. An innovative contribution to the key role of Geneva in the success of Agenda 2030 of the United Nations.

INTRODUCTION

Climate crisis, loss of biodiversity, land depletion, deforestation and desertification, increasing inequalities with the poverty and forced migration that they entail… Humanity has never been confronted with such immense peril, capable of calling into question its very survival and endangering the Earth system.

In July 2019, temperatures around the world were the warmest on record, illustrating the vital urgency of fighting climate change before it becomes irreversible. Biodiversity is declining at such a rate that we are talking about the 6th mass extinction of species. In 2019; “Earth Overshoot Day”, the date on which humankind has consumed all of the resources that the planet is capable of regenerating in a year, took place on July the 29th…

To address these multiple challenges, a roadmap exists- *Agenda 2030* of the UN with its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) signed by 193 States in 2015, a true “survival plan for humanity”. Solutions and initiatives are aplenty. However, a shared vision of the change necessary is lacking: political, economic, cultural, philosophical, spiritual at the individual and collective level. To take shape, real change requires an approach based on four main axes: individual, collective, inner and outer (according to the definition of the integral philosopher Ken Wilber).

The “Jai Jagat-be the Change” festival/forum (in reference to Gandhi’s phrase “Be the change you want to see in the world”) will be the launch of an annual event that could continue until 2030. It will reinforce Geneva’s position as a leading centre for the SDGs but equally as a capital of peace and change. This festival sees itself as a meeting place that encourages everyone (NGOs, associations, political and economic decision-makers, institutions, local authorities, artists, citizens, young people, businesses, etc.) to personally become architects of change to create a “world that works for everyone”. At this stage, the 2020 edition will be organised by 4 initiator partners: Jai Jagat (Geneva and International), Alternatiba Léman, The Samadhi Project; and The Meal- a meal for our future. Numerous other partnerships are currently being discussed.

HOSTING JAI JAGAT, THE GLOBAL MARCH FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE

The idea for this festival was born whilst preparing to host the Jai Jagat Great March for Justice and Peace taking place in Geneva in 2020, which will leave Delhi on the 2nd of

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1 Ken Wilber is an American writer whose life work covers fields related to psychology, epistemology, the history of ideas, sociology, mysticism, ecology and evolution. His work attempts to formulate what Wilber calls an “integral theory of consciousness”.

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2019, on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of Gandhi. A journey of more than 9000 km, initiated by the Ekta Parishad movement and its leaders Rajagopal P.V and Jill Carr-Harris who defend landless peasants and the most marginalised in India. This march in true Gandhian tradition has the central objective of promoting a model of global development that is inclusive of all (“Leave no one behind”), that aligns with the SDGs. This peaceful action was named Jai Jagat, which in Hindi means “the victory of the world or the victory of all”. See description in the annexe.

The Jai Jagat marchers will arrive in Geneva on Saturday the 26th of September and will be joined by thousands of others from all over Europe and beyond: France, Spain, Belgium, Sweden, Germany, the United Kingdom, Italy, and Africa. At the welcome of the march, and during one week (until the 2nd of October 2020), a series of events will take place to allow for internal dialogue between the marchers, as well as an external dialogue between the marchers and the population of Geneva, local authorities and international institutions. This week in Geneva will be decisive in putting the 2030 Agenda at the heart of the debate by allowing civil society to take advantage of it within a festive and non-violent perspective.

The Jai Jagat Geneva association, rather than preparing a unique event, has developed the concept of a festival that links different themes and partners around “Be the Change”: climate, inclusion, personal transformation, etc. The first edition in 2020 will have as a flagship event the reception of the Jai Jagat march. It could then evolve into an annual event that monitors the implementation of the SDGs until 2030. Various partner projects, including “Geneva 2030”, are moving in this direction.

The Jai Jagat Marche is an audacious epic of our time. For a whole year, it will cross half the planet to carry the message of Mahatma Gandhi in favour of change through non-violence, as well as the voice of the voiceless. All the events organized during its welcome will be under the hat “Geneva, Capital of Peace”, with the central theme “Be the change”. They will all reinforce the message of peaceful transformation embodied by the marchers from India and elsewhere.

Jai Jagat is supported by an honorary committee made up of international dignitaries, including the former President of the Swiss Confederation, Ruth Dreifuss. Locally, a support committee consisting of elected representatives of all parties was constituted. Let’s recall that the City Council of Geneva and the Grand Council adopted in October 2017 a motion of support to Jai Jagat by a large majority. Jai Jagat now requests the support of the authorities for the reception of the march and the organisation of related events.

FESTIVAL/FORUM “JAI JAGAT 2020”: FOUR HIGHLIGHTS

1. A welcome weekend (Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th of September 2020) for Jai Jagat and supporting marches, in Parc des Bastions, with a tribute to the Indian and international marchers and their message of non-violence. The reception will be organised in synergy with local authorities and the population of Greater Geneva; Alternatiba, The Meal- a meal for our future and the Samadhi Project. A welcome message from the authorities, a convivial meal, inner change workshops, solidarity marches, exchange forums, a village of

2 This Geneva-based project working on the continuous monitoring of the 2030 Agenda, started by civil society youth is supported by three organizations: the International Peace Bureau, Civicus and the World Democratic Forum.
creative alternatives, concerts, workshops and an SDG carnival (theatrical and creative representation of the Sustainable Development Goals) are on the agenda.

2. A joint event with the UN on the inclusive economy, already in preparation with the Working Group on the Social and Solidarity Economy, which brings together all UN agencies. The group is chaired by Vic van Vuuren, Director of the Enterprises Department at the ILO. Mr. van Vuuren confirmed, on the 19th of June 2019, his interest in including Jai Jagat in a joint forum specially convened for the arrival of the march. The event is expected to, for 1-2 days, bring together representatives of the UN, the private sector and NGOs, economists, as well as representatives of marginalised populations and experts in the nonviolent economy brought by Jai Jagat. The Director-General of the ILO will be invited to open discussions and the ILO website will be available for meetings and communication.

3. A “Jai Jagat” forum of debates and meetings between Jai Jagat participants, civil society and international institutions for 4 days (Monday 28th of September to Thursday 1st of October 2020) on the following themes: 1. Eradicating extreme poverty, 2. Youth and climate, 3. Women’s leadership, 4. Education for peace and non-violence. The forum will be held in partnership with many local and international organisations.

4. A Closing Day of the “Be the Change Forum” on the legacy of Gandhi and the relevance of his message in the 21st century, on the occasion of the anniversary of his birth on Friday, the 2nd of October, 2020. Several leading international figures such as Rajagopal PV, Vandana Shiva, Satish Kumar, Christian Delorme and Pierre Rabhi are in agreement in principle.

PARTNERS-

The list of partners is a testament to the diversity and complementarity of actors working on change in Geneva. This list continues to grow due to interest in the project. As of the end of August 2019, it is as follows:

- Jai Jagat Geneva Association
- Jai Jagat International (and Jai Jagat European groups)
- Alternatiba Léman
- The Meal—a meal for our future
- The Samadhi Project organised by Sarah Marcuse who will do doing a residency with her play “l'invisible chemin” at the Pitoëff Theatre from mid-September to mid-October 2020.
- The City and Canton of Geneva who signed motions of support for Jai Jagat (M-1318 and M2414)
- Faculty of Geosciences at the University of Lausanne (UNIL)
- The City and agglomerated community of Annemasse for Greater Geneva
- The City of Meyrin and other Geneva municipalities
- The Geneva Department of Public Instruction
- The Geneva Federation of Cooperation
- The Geneva Tertiary College of Music
- Geneva Tertiary College of Social Work
- Geneva 2030 (Civicus, International Peace Bureau and World Democratic Forum)
- B Lab Switzerland / Best for Geneva
- The SDG Lab (UN)
- The United Nations Task Force on the Social and Solidarity Economy (UNTFSSSE)
- The Inner Transition Laboratory (Bread for All)
- The International House of Associations (Geneva)
For more details visit:
www.jaijagat2020.org
Jai Jagat 2020, Gandhi Bhawan, Shyamala, Hills,
Bhopal-462002, MP, IN