M. K. Gandhi continues to have an influence on the modern world. What is unique about this impact is that it extends to multiple and diverse domains of human life and their study. The popular interest in Gandhi casts him in an almost spiritual role—as a faultless saviour or messiah who strove for the marginalised and downtrodden—whereas the academic work on Gandhi ranges from discussions of the effectiveness of his political mobilisations and machinations to debates on his obsolescence with regards questions of caste or gender.

An oscillation from Gandhi as a Mahatma to Gandhi the shrewd leader to Gandhi the deliberate obscurantist, and back, can distract from interesting and problematic aspects of Gandhi’s work that continue to inform our understanding of the environment, literature, philosophy and history across the world. This workshop offers critical perspectives on the nuances of his enduring influence on contemporary life.
Schedule

9.30am -10.00am: Introduction and Opening comments by Ashis Nandy
10.00am -10.45am: Debjani Ganguly
10.45am -11.00am: Coffee/Tea
11.00am -11.45am: Kama Maclean
11.45am -12.45pm: Lunch
12.45pm - 1.30pm: Thomas Weber
1.30pm-2.15pm: Assa Doron
2.15pm-2.30pm: Coffee
2.30pm-3.15pm: Peter Friedlander
3.15pm -4.00pm: Meera Ashar
4.00-4.30: Closing remarks