



A H I M S A C E N T E R
NONVIOLENCE IN THOUGHT AND ACTION

California State Polytechnic University, Pomona • College of Letters, Arts & Social Sciences

Pradeep and Meenakshi Iyer Public Lecture on Nonviolence

David Thomas

The Relevance of Gandhi for Our Fractured World

October 19 (Saturday), 2019. 10:30 a.m. Followed by Lunch
Bronco Student Center, Ursa Major Room



David Barun Kumar Thomas is a Gandhian scholar, an activist, an author and a social entrepreneur based in Kodaikanal in Tamil Nadu, India. He studied engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur and history at the Jawaharlal Nehru University in Delhi.

After working in the Information Technology industry in Europe and India for more than two decades, David dedicated himself to the development and empowerment of women through his organization, [India Nirman Sangh](#) (INS). The INS currently serve more than 6000 women in some of India's poorest villages in Palani hills and work with farmers to improve methods for cultivating crops in the area. The INS received the best NGO award from the Government of Tamil Nadu.

For his work in rural development, David was awarded a Distinguished Alumnus Award by IIT, Kanpur. Through this work he rediscovered the significance of Mahatma Gandhi's thought leading to his establishment of a **Gandhi Centre for Values** in Vadakavunchi, near Kodaikanal in 2016.

In his talk, David will examine Gandhi's relevance for addressing some of the vexing challenges such as divisions, poverty, intolerance and violence.

RSVP to ahimsacenter@cpp.edu by October 14, 2019.

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