

# THE HINDU

Bengaluru

1 September, 2017

## The life and times of Gandhi's mentor

Unknown to most, Mahatma Gandhi received his ideas on Ahimsa from his mentor Shrimad Rajchandraji. A play will be staged on this

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There have been 850 shows of *Yugpurush* in over 220 venues. The Kannada translation of the original *Yugpurush: Mahatma na Mahatma* has been done by Krishna Hebbale, who has also directed the play. *Yugpurush* is no ordinary story. It revolves around the interaction between Mohandas Karmachand Gandhi and his mentor, Shrimad Rajchandraji. The 41st show in Kannada and a premiere show in English will be staged. "I was approached to translate the play into Kannada. The translation took about three weeks and rehearsals for 45 days," says Krishna

"The play has been staged in Bengaluru before

and in every district of Karnataka, except Kanakapura. It has been staged in seven different states, from Tamil Nadu to Gujarat too," beams Krishna, attesting to the public acclaim the play has

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received.

"Every great man has a support system behind him. Most of us don't know that what led Gandhi to non-violence and celibacy was his mentor Shrimad Rajchandraji," explains

Krishna adding it was a unique experience translating the play to Kannada. "I did my research before translating it, and discovered that Gandhiji while he was in South Africa exchanged 200 letters with his mentor. The contents of the letters were spiritual in nature. Considering that we live in a reckless society, Rajchandraji had simple, yet profound explanations for complex issues."

*Yugpurush*, presented by C Krishniah Chetty Foundation, will be staged on September 1 in Kannada at 2 pm and in English at 6 pm at Chowdiah Memorial Hall.

Tickets are available on [bookmyshow.com](http://bookmyshow.com) at ₹1,000, ₹600, and ₹300.