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## Gandhi's agitation was political but not like today's politics: Kerala Governor

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MAHATMA GANDHI'S agitation was also political, but it was not like today's politics, which is considered bad, said Kerala Governor Arif Mohammad Khan Sunday.

Delivering an address at the Sabarmati Ashram in Ahmedabad on the International Day of Peace and Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary, Khan said, "Bapu's agitation was political but not this politics... Those doing politics in the House and outside the House tell their opposition that this issue is of national interest so look at it by rising above politics, as if politics in itself is only doing bias... this was not Gandhi's way."

Khan was addressing the au-

dience during a prayer meet organised at the Ashram by the Sabarmati Ashram Preservation and Memorial Trust.

Adding on Gandhi's idea of India and a politician, he said, "A politician who has taken an oath of public service should be ready for greater sacrifice. He should have knowledge, culture and most importantly, see everyone equally." The Kerala Governor added that had Gandhi been around today, he would have talked about nation's unity and national solidarity more than Hindu-Muslim unity.

"Mahatma Gandhi would talk about Hindu-Muslim unity because that time the legal system did not consider country as a nation. They would say that this country is a coalition of different

religious and social units. They didn't consider us as a nation. Any religious or social units were considered as building blocks for the community. But today our Constitution says we are a nation and nation's unit is citizen and not community," he said.

Referring to the caste system, Khan said that no one needs to feel proud or guilty. "It is our responsibility to think beyond what we have no control over. Nobody asked me where I need to be born. Where I was born was my destiny and what I achieve depends upon my hardwork," he said. Khan also delivered a special lecture on "Global Peace and Sustainability" organised by Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII), Ahmedabad and India Think Council, New Delhi.