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The Role of Ashrams in the Making of Mahatma Gandhi

This paper is an attempt to discuss the role of *ashrams*, communal settlements, Gandhi established – two in South Africa and two in India – where he experimented with concepts, codes, and norms, such as *ahimsa* (non-violence), *satyagraha* (clinging to truth), *swaraj* (self-rule, self-realization), which became tools in the decolonization and transformation – remaking – of self, society, and state in India.