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11 March 2011
Character Poem

Hapless Hand

*I object to violence because when it appears to do good,
the good is only temporary; the evil it does is permanent.*
Mahatma Gandhi

Though Tagore
called him Mahatma (Great Soul),

Ghandi

whacked his wife, Kasturba,
once, as legend has it.

From fourteen on,
she bore four sons and followed

sandaled, draped in white,
she marched with him
to harvest salt
for twenty six days to Dandi,

to home and the ashram
filthy toilets she refused to clean,
so he hit her.

It shows his humanness,
I hear as pardon,
his pressure to achieve
a higher good.

She took his place
in prison.
She'd have stood by him
when the pistol fired
had she not been dead.

Pardon me, but I want to hear
that he was wrong.