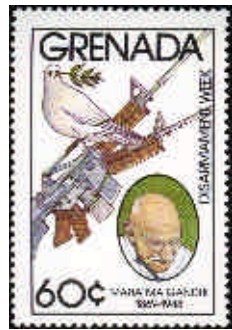


Anti-War Movements [1940-]

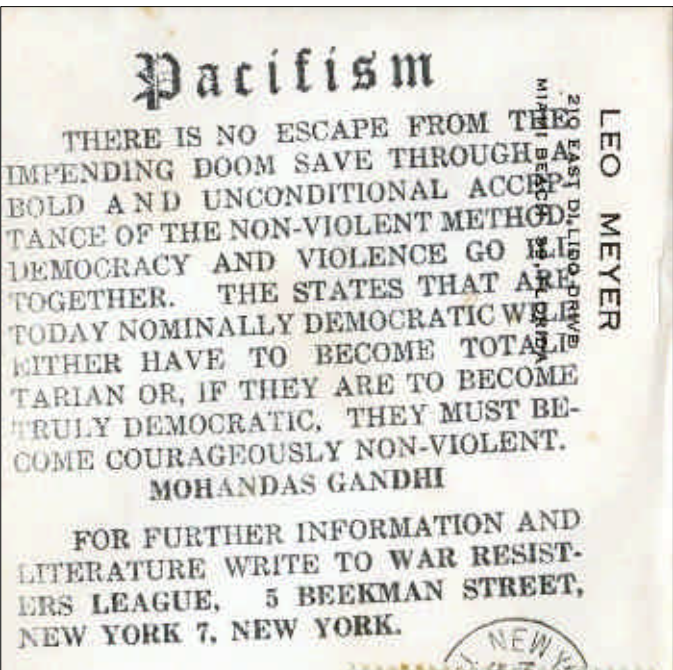
While Gandhi has always opposed wanton destructive force and the amassment of weapons, his opinions on participation in war appeared to be mixed, during his lifetime.

His writings clearly state that if we oppose war and actions that promote war by our government, we have the moral obligation to try and change the social structure that supported that government. Every moment we enjoy the fruits of living in that society.

He was, however, co-opted as the mascot for part-time pacifists and the international game of disarmament that just helped destroy obsolete weapon systems, to be replaced by deadlier ones!



Grenada (1986): Stamp commemorating World Disarmament Week during the International Year of Peace



Gandhi specifically rejected the notion of war-resistance from people who otherwise participated in a society that has engaged in war.

He was more in line with Thoreau, who refused to pay taxes to support the government that fought the war with Mexico and went to jail for it.



USA (1950): Cover from the War Resister's League mailed on Memorial day, preprinted with selected quotes from Gandhi promoting pacifism.

In recent decades, the hotbed of anti-war activism in the west has been post-war Germany. Several scholars who have studied Gandhi's life and ideals have shaped the German movement to be proactive and engaged in politics.

This has helped change the policies of their elected representatives and German social priorities to reflect their beliefs. This is in contrast to the sister movement in England and the United States, which continue to be perceived as anti-social and unpatriotic!



Germany (1969): Color trials (Horizontal and vertical pairs) from the West German Gandhi centennial issue.



Also shown, a specimen overprint on the stamp as issued.



Anti-Apartheid Movement [1946-1994]

One cause that the world banded together to fight for was racial equality in South Africa. Governments in all continents, assisted by the United Nations, steadily joined the largest non-cooperation movement in the history of the world.

The successful economic boycott of the apartheid establishment in South Africa was a non-cooperation that would have made Gandhi proud!

Non-aligned nations like India led the effort to expand this fight against apartheid to South West Africa, leading to the creation of Namibia.



India (1987): Stamp dedicated to the Africa Fund, established to support the cause of anti-apartheid activities in South and Southwest Africa.

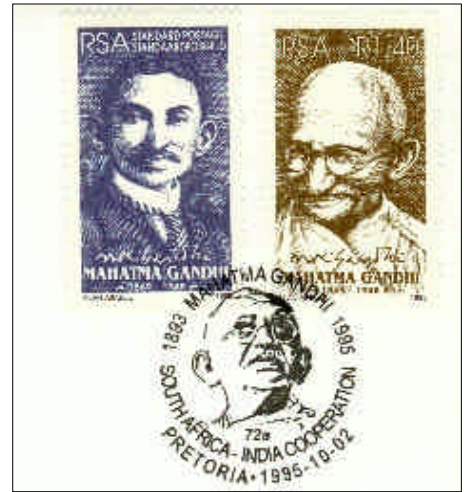
Western industrialized nations have a record of resisting the anti-apartheid movement for long. This attitude for promoted by their industrial interests and sold to the populace under the guise of "constructive engagement".

Also promoting this attitude has been a failure of the west to come to terms with its own past that included colonial exploitation and slavery.

Leaders of the South African movement against apartheid like Albert Luthuli, Nelson Mandela and Desmond Tutu, adopted the Gandhian non-violent approach to resistance. A memorial to Gandhi was erected in post apartheid Pietermaritzburg, where Gandhi had first experienced racial injustice in 1893!

The Congress for a Democratic South Africa began organizing the domestic struggle against apartheid in 1947, following widespread unrest in 1946.

South Africa (1997): Special cancel on souvenir sheet showing the memorial statue in Pietermaritzburg. Sheet commemorates 50th anniversary of the Congress for a Democratic South Africa Cancellation reflects the honorary notation of "Mandela-Gandhi Freedom of the City".

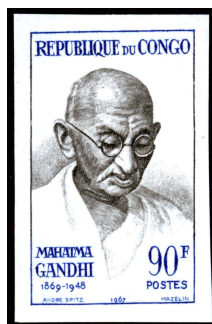


South Africa (1995): Special cancellation recognizing the leadership India provided in international organizations during the struggle against apartheid.

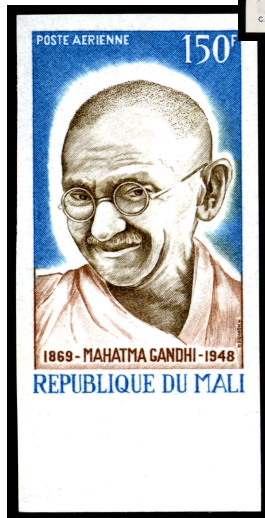
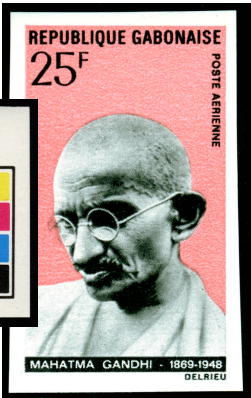
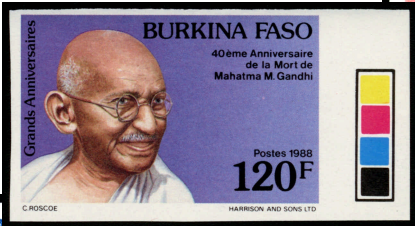


South Africa (2001): Special cancel used during the UN World Conference Against Racism. Issues of reparations for slavery, apology for colonialism and the mention of Zionism kept the US from active participation.

African Nationalist Movements [1950-]



Congo (1967) and Gabon (1969): Imperforate stamps of Gandhi.



Mali (1969) and Burkina Faso (1988): Imperforate Margin specimens of Gandhi stamps.

Chad (1969): Margin block of four Gandhi stamps with date of issue on selvedge.

Unfortunately, the varied tribal histories of many of these new nations [ignored by the creation of modern nation states] have clashed with the idea of peaceful co-existence. This, coupled with their vast mineral wealth (particularly uranium), has resulted in constant military coups and armed intervention ("upon invitation") from France.

After gaining their independence, former French colonies in Africa pursued the model of free association with France, similar to the model espoused by Gandhi for a British Dominion in India before WWII.

Congo, Gabon, Mauritania, Mali, Upper Volta (Burkina Faso), became republics within the French Community in 1958.

Like Chad, Niger and Senegal, these countries subsequently declared full independence from France in 1960.

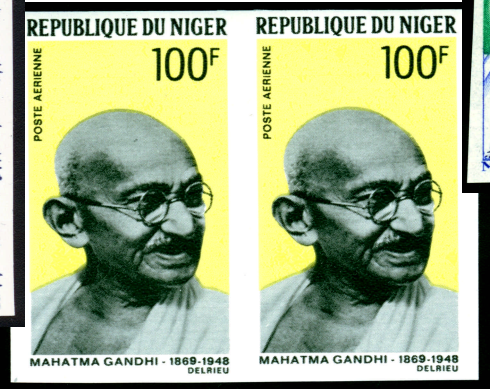


Chad's civil war from 1965 lasted over 30 years. Gabon and Niger often staved off coups with French military assistance from 1964 to 1993. Upper Volta, Niger Mali and Mauritania have had countless coups though the 1990s.



Mauritania (1968), Niger (1968)

Upper Volta (1968) and Senegal (1969): Archival imperforate pairs of stamps issued in honor of Gandhi.



Senegal is one of the few countries in former French West Africa that was not subject to violent overthrow of governments after independence.

Khilafat & Pan Arab Nationalism [1918-]

Modern Arab nationalism dates back to the breakup of the Ottoman Empire after WWI. While many of Indian nationalists who were liberal Muslims did not recognize the Turkish Caliph's sovereignty over them, there were others who sympathized with Turkey's treatment by the British and French.

Gandhi, who had returned to India from South Africa in 1915, urged India's Hindu leaders to support the Muslims traditionalists in what was referred to as the "Khilafat Movement". Spearheaded by Sunni Muslims in India, the movement aimed to preserve the traditions of Islam that appeared to be eroding under Turkish society's assault from the West. Ironically, the movement inspired in India was killed when modern Turkey abolished the Khilafat (Caliphate). Countries in the region later remembered Gandhi's solidarity with the cradle of Islam.

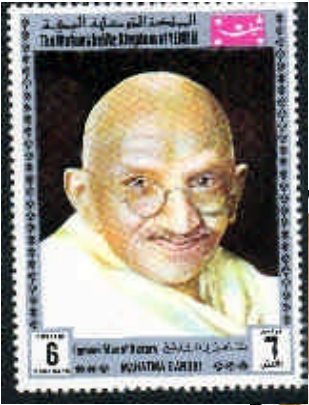


Syria (1969): Set commemorating Gandhi's birth centenary, with first day cancel. One of the Turkish provinces that became an Arab Kingdom after WWI, Syria was overrun by the French military and remained under European control until 1946.



The Arab lands of Morocco [with close proximity to Spain and France] were European protectorates from the late 19th century- until 1956- when a Sultanate was established.

Morocco (1969): Stamp commemorating the Gandhi centenary from the North African Kingdom.



Sharjah (1968) and Yemen (1972): Both the Emirate and Royal Kingdom in the Arabian Peninsula issued stamps to honor Gandhi.

Closer to India and outside the Ottoman Empire, Iran was never overtly under European control. Centuries of close ties with Persian culture helped India preserve relationship with this non-Arab Muslim nation, even after the partition of the subcontinent.

Egypt, a country Gandhi visited on his way to England, was close to Gandhi's heart. He supported its nationalist movement and is known to have inspired Anwar Sadat, who mentioned reading Gandhi's speeches a lot as a teenager (in his autobiography).



Iran (1969): Stamp issued for the Gandhi Birth Centenary.



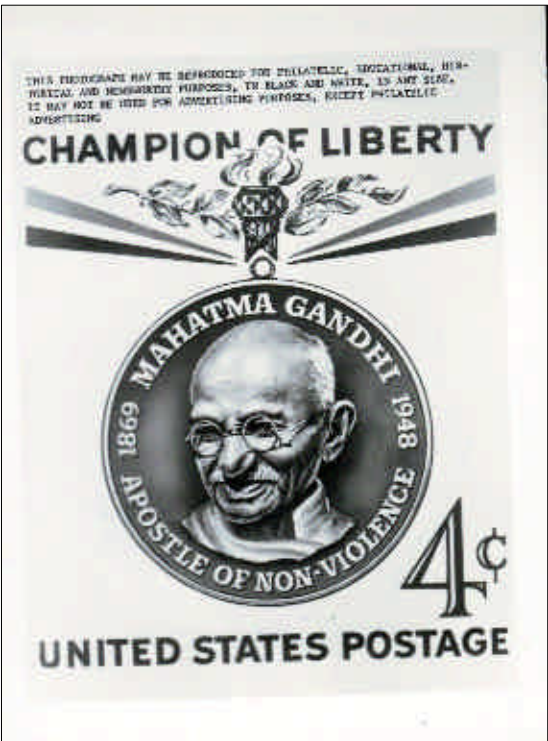
Egypt (1969): Gandhi stamp on cover mailed to the USA from Alexandria. Gandhi's name in Arabic, Hindi and English (misspelt Ghandi).

Civil & Workers' Rights in the Americas [1960-]

Long before the modern civil rights' movement in the United States, Gandhi had prophesized that "it may be through the American Negro that the true message of nonviolence be spread to the rest of the world." How true!

Martin Luther King began his role in the civil rights movement with the Montgomery bus boycott of 1955. A year later, the Supreme Court came to his side. King was arrested over 20 times, assaulted 4 times and never wavered from his faith in nonviolence.

USA (1961): Pre-release publicity photo of Gandhi stamps issued as part of the Champion of Liberty series. King, who was released from prison in late 1960, celebrated the birth of his third child four days after issue of this stamp.



Perhaps the most popular contribution to the memory of Gandhi comes from Hollywood, USA. While it took Sir Richard Attenborough decades to get the project financed, the epic film won several Oscars and will serve as a lasting memorial to his life.

Nicaragua (1995): One of five known copies of first day legitimate rate use of the stamp featuring the film Gandhi (based on records from the Managua Post Office, provided to the Nicaragua Philatelic Study Group).



Congo (1992): Stamp depicting the civil strife in the USA during the 1960s, aptly featuring the inspiration for the modern civil disobedience movement (Gandhi) and the man who spearheaded it (King). The Nobel peace prize, which King was the youngest recipient of (at age 35), is also mentioned in the stamp's design.

Latin American governments, particularly in Mexico and Brazil, focused on their social agenda after WWII- targeting agrarian reform and workers' rights.

Mexico (1969): Gandhi centenary stamp on cover to USA.

Brazil (1972): Special pictorial cancel of Gandhi on 150th anniversary of Brazil's independence.



Sr. Emilio Salazar
Apartado Postal No. 2815
Managua, Nicaragua

Under a newly formed socialist government, Chile initiated radical agrarian reform in 1969. Soon after, multinational agribusiness and mining interests prevailed in a violent overthrow of the government, replaced by a right-wing totalitarian regime for decades.



Chile (1970): Gandhi centenary stamps on cover to USA. Note the postage used (2.30 Escudos).

Chile (1974): Revalued Gandhi stamps on another cover to USA. Note new postage rate of 250 Escudos and 40 centesimos.

Costa Rica is a classic example of a Gandhian Utopia in one aspect, being the only country in the western hemisphere that has constitutionally rejected a standing army. Gandhi had similar hopes for independent India, lamenting in 1947 *that he saw "no place for him in a new order where they wanted an army, a navy, an air force and what not"*.

Costa Rica (1998): Stamp commemorating the 50th anniversary of Indian independence.

High value multiple usage on large registered airmail package to USA.



Fighting Totalitarianism in Central Europe [1953-]

Following WWII, most of eastern and central Europe came under the control of totalitarian socialist regimes. The threat of “cold war” aggression from the West helped these governments keep a tight grip on power. Totalitarianism was finally defeated from within, by the will of the people on the streets, not by the military might of the West.

The famous Solidarity Movement in **Poland** did not begin in the 1980s. It was a continuation of Polish working class and intelligentsia movement that began with the “Polish October” in 1956.

Czechoslovakia, a Soviet-style state from 1948, began moving towards liberal policies after Stalin’s death in 1953. This peaked in the “Prague Spring” of 1968 and led to armed invasion by the Warsaw Pact.

In **Hungary**, youth in society, inspired by sister movements in Poland, began to mobilize against totalitarianism in the 1950s. This led to Soviet armed invasion of Budapest in 1956, followed by three decades of political repression. Voluntary abdication of power by the socialists led to peaceful transition to democracy in 1990.



Czechoslovakia (1969): Prague commemorated the Gandhi centenary with this special cancel. Within months, Alexander Dubcek, architect of the “Prague Spring”, was ousted from office and repression continued until the success of the Velvet revolution in 1991.



In 1967, a military Junta seized power in **Greece** and controlled the country for 8 years, followed by right-wing totalitarian control until 1999.

In 1967, a military Junta seized power in Greece and controlled the country for 8 years, followed by right-wing totalitarian control until 1999.



Poland (1969): Special airmail postal card issued for the Gandhi centenary, during the period when repressive government re-emerged in Poland, after the “political thaw of 1968”.



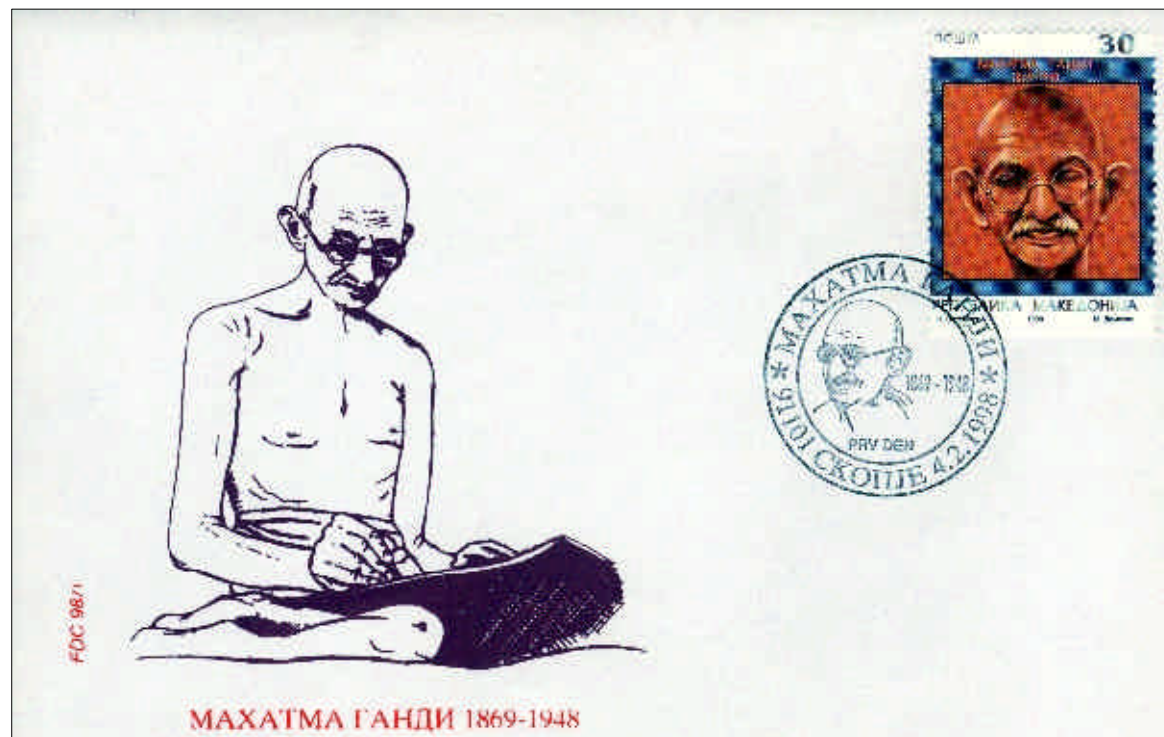
Hungary (1969): Stamp commemorating the Gandhi centenary. First day use on registered cover to Australia with special cancel and Budapest CDS.

With the abdication of King Michael in 1947, **Romania** joined the other central European counties in establishing a repressive socialist state. Nicolae Ceausescu, who began by condemning Soviet invasion of Hungary and Czechoslovakia, later turned to be harsh, arbitrary and capricious. The Romanian revolt of 1989 was the only violent one in central Europe, leading to his execution and the death of over 1500 people in street fighting.

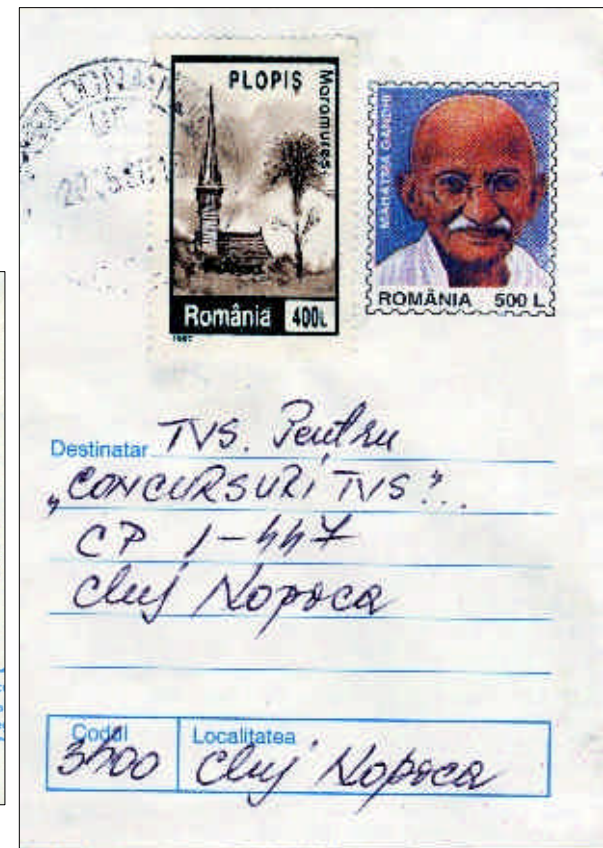
Romania (1998):
Special pictorial
cancel issued to
commemorate
50th anniversary
of Gandhi's
death.



Claimed by Bulgaria and Greece during and after WWII, **Macedonia** became an autonomous republic under the federation of Yugoslavia in 1943. Following a popular referendum in 1992, Macedonia seceded peacefully from Yugoslav. Part of the land once ruled by Philip of Macedon and Alexander the Great, Macedonia is struggling to establish a modern multi-ethnic state with its minority Albanian population.



Macedonia (1998): Stamp commemorating 50th anniversary of Gandhi's death, shown on FDC with special pictorial cancel



Romania (1997): Domestic use of pre-stamped postal envelope with image of Gandhi, commemorating 50th anniversary of Indian independence. Issued during INDEPEX '97 World Philatelic Exhibition in New Delhi.

The Indian Diaspora

Diaspora in East Africa. English speaking countries of southern and eastern Africa have all shared the common history of indentured labor from India. This migration dates back to the official consent of the Government of British India in 1860. Early white settlers of Southern Africa approached the British government in India to provide “reliable non-native labor”. Few returned to India, like Gandhi. Most stayed and adopted Africa as their homeland.

Uganda (1998): Pair of 600 UgSh Gandhi stamps on large commercial cover. Stamp portrays image of the South African lawyer. Corner card that it was mailed from the Office of the Indian High Commissioner in Kampala.

B. S. PRAKASH
High Commissioner of India
Kampala (UGANDA)

Most Indians who remained in East Africa were merchants, unlike the predominant labor class in southern Africa. Merchants and Lawyers were often from Bombay and Gujarat western India [like Gandhi himself], while laborers in the mines and plantations were from South India and Bengal.

While native Africans suffered the most repression under colonial rule, things changed after independence. Like many of the 177,000 Indians in Kenya, Ugandan Indians have suffered more discrimination in the hands of native African rulers than in the watch of white colonial masters.



Over 95,000 native born Indians were kicked out of Uganda in 1972 in Idi Amin’s “Africa for Africans” drive.

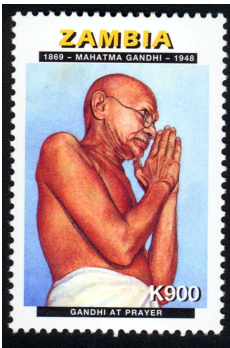
Uganda (1998): Margin illustration in the souvenir sheet of stamps shown in the cover above, showing a stylishly posing Gandhi during his early legal career.

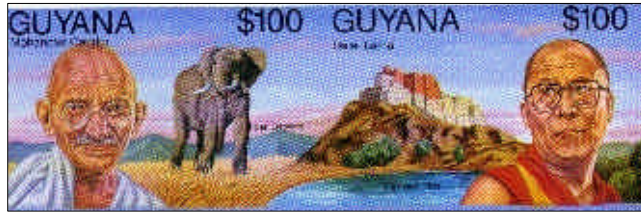


Uganda (1997): Another cover with stamp showing an older Gandhi. 700 UgSh was the lowest airmail rate to the USA.

While Indian immigrants were pioneer merchants in East Africa, they supplanted European merchants in Zambia, until restrictive laws were enacted. Many of these laws remained in the books after independence, leading to an efflux of Indians from Zambia to the West.

Zambia (1997): Gandhi, shown in traditional Indian greeting posture, in a stamp issued to commemorate 50th Anniversary of India’s Independence.





Guyana (1993): Imperforate copy of souvenir sheet featuring Gandhi and several other world leaders like the Dalai Lama.

Guyana, while the only British colony in mainland South America, preceded Indian indentured labor immigration history to Africa. This began in 1838, shortly after the abolition of slavery, but their treatment in plantations was so bad that the colonial government in India refused to send them from 1840 to 1844!

Marriage across caste lines became the rule rather than the exception for Indians in the Caribbean. Racial relations between the Afro-Americans [30%] and Indians [50%] of Guyana were at their best in the 1950s.

The rise of “black power” ideology in the 1960s and different political ideologies have polarized race relations in the Caribbean. Nobel laureate Sir V. S. Naipaul has written that his native Trinidad “teeters on the brink of a racial war”.

Closer to home, Indian merchants, predominantly from the south, followed European colonization to Southeast Asia. Just in the 1880s, over 140,000 migrated to Malaya, 165,000 to Burma and nearly 500,000 to Ceylon.

Gandhi visited both Burma and Ceylon explicitly to help the Tamils understand and bridge their social and cultural differences with the Singhalese and Burmese.

Unfortunately, little changed and many a “*Chettiar money changers with the bloated abdomen*” [as Prime Minister U Nu put it] was booted out of Burma in the 1950s and 60s.

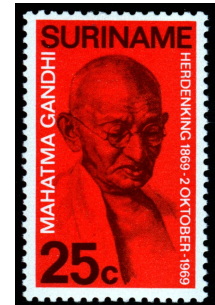


Sri Lanka (1988): Stamp featuring Gandhi was issued as appreciation to the Indian Peace Keeping Forces that responded to an invitation from the government.

Long before Gandhi was even born (beginning in the 1830s), thousands of Indians came to lands in and around the Caribbean. This included over 20,000 to Jamaica, 30,000 to Surinam, over 143,000 to Trinidad and over 239,000 to Guyana.

While most Indians in Africa came from western and southern India, those from the Ganges basin in eastern India populated the New World. In contrast to the urbanized Indians in Africa, Indians in this region are predominantly rural and agricultural.

Surinam (1969): Portrait of Gandhi issued to commemorate his birth centenary.



Trinidad & Tobago (1969): Portrait of Gandhi and Indian flag, also issued to commemorate his birth centenary.



Burma (1969): Special cancellation commemorating the Gandhi centenary. Used for one day only from the Rangoon post offices.

The saddest and most belligerent conflict has been between the predominantly Hindu Tamils and Buddhist Singhalese in Ceylon. Ironically, both groups migrated from India. The latter came from Eastern India centuries before Christ. The former, while often grouped together, came as two distinct groups. “Ceylon Tamils” have been on the island for centuries, long before the Singhalese came. “Indian Tamils” came from India between 1830 and 1930.

Together, Indians make up a fourth of the island’s population and their tensions with the Singhalese has deteriorated into bloody large-scale ethnic conflict.

Service, Duty and Community

Gandhi always insisted on duty and service to community above self-indulgence. He also stated that there could be no “rights” without associated duties.

Quoting him to inspire civic pride has been an ongoing project for governments in India since the dawn of independence.



India (1973): Special slogan cancel - “True Source of Rights is Duty- Gandhi” in Hindi and English. Issued as first day cancel during National Philatelic Exhibition.

The almost religious fervor with which Gandhi committed himself to social service has manifested itself in the likes of others like Mother Teresa.

Sounds-bytes like the one shown here helped mobilize even the largely apathetic but god-fearing masses.

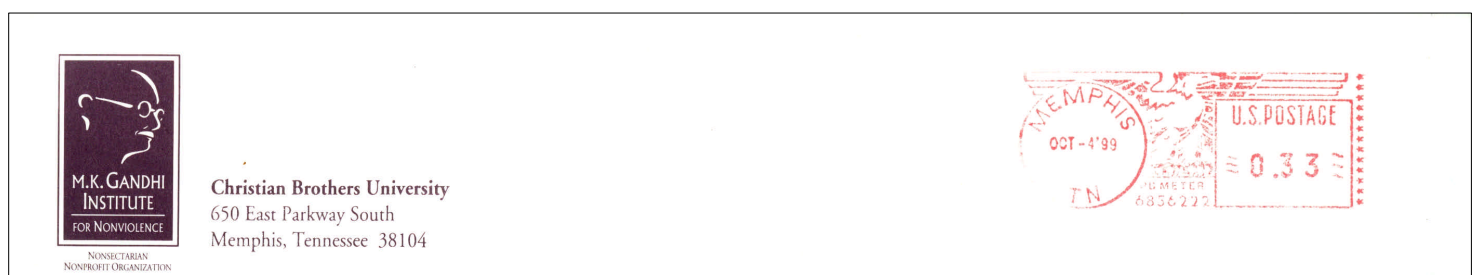


India (1970): Special slogan cancel - “Service is Worship”, a quote from Gandhi often seen goading civil servants in government offices. Used here with the first day cancel of stamp celebrating electric passenger rail service.

While generations and oceans separated him from Gandhi, John Kennedy’s Peace Corps inspired young Americans to serve much like Gandhi’s calls in the 30s to Indians. *“Ask not what your country can do for you....”* is very much in tune with Gandhian ideals of social service.



Antigua & Barbuda (1985): Archival Horizontal Gutter Pair of Kennedy and Gandhi stamps.

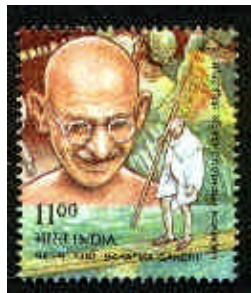


Carrying the torch of grandfather’s service to his adopted communities everywhere he went, Arun Gandhi has established the M.K. Gandhi Institute for Non-Violence in Memphis, USA. With his wife Sunanda, he works on projects to encourage conflict resolution and mitigate urban violence.

USA (1999): Domestic Metered Mail from the Gandhi Institute in Memphis.

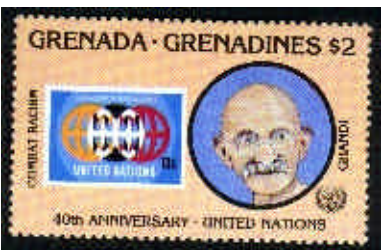
Race, Religion and Humanity

Time and again, Gandhi tirelessly worked to instill ethnic and religious tolerance in India. He dreamt of a world that was not race or class conscious, particularly in South Asia steeped in history and tradition.



India (1998): Showing Gandhi's historic walk for communal harmony through Bengal in 1946. Bengal continues to be a tinderbox for Hindu-Muslim conflict until today.

Guyana (1998): At age 77, Gandhi undertook a 116-mile walk through Bengal, to promote understanding and end the bloody conflict between Hindus and Muslims in what is today Bangladesh.



Grenada (1985): "Combat Racism" served as the slogan to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the UN, with Gandhi symbolizing unity among nations and peoples.

Leaders of international bodies like the UN have often quoted Gandhi and his life to invoke the spirit of "common cause" amongst nations.

Mr. James E. Fonnah
H. du. no. Hospital
Kemakui via
Makeni.

Sierra Leone (1969): Special cancel that started listing what Gandhi stood for: "Truth, non-violence, and then said it all... Humanity! Ethnic hatred has manifested itself violently in Sierra Leone recently.

"I am a Hindu, a Moslem, a Christian and a Jew- and so are all of you", said Gandhi to his fellow Indians, who had studied religious texts in all these faiths.



Kazakhstan (1993): Artwork showing Gandhi with silhouettes of a Russian Orthodox Church, a Mosque and a Temple in the background. Commercial cover with "stacked" Gandhi stamps to meet airmail rate to the USA. Violent repression of Muslim traditionalists by a Soviet-trained establishment continues to plague Kazakhstan and other Central Asian republics.

Apostle of Nonviolence

"The real test of nonviolence lies in its being brought in contact with those who have contempt for it."

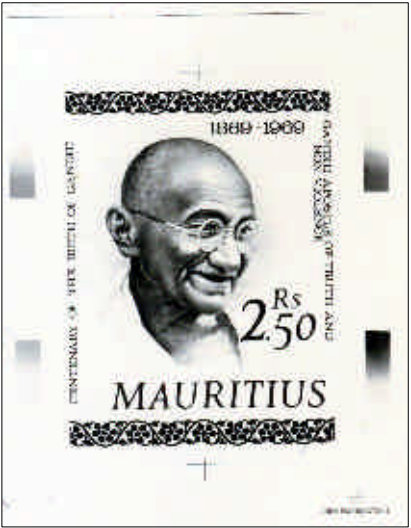
Gandhi



Mauritius (1969): Printer's Die proof of stamp titled "Apostle of Truth and Non-Violence" (approved w/ signature and stamp of engraver on back).

"Nonviolence is not easy to understand or practice because we are weak."

"Nonviolence becomes emaningless if violence is permitted for self defense."
Gandhi.

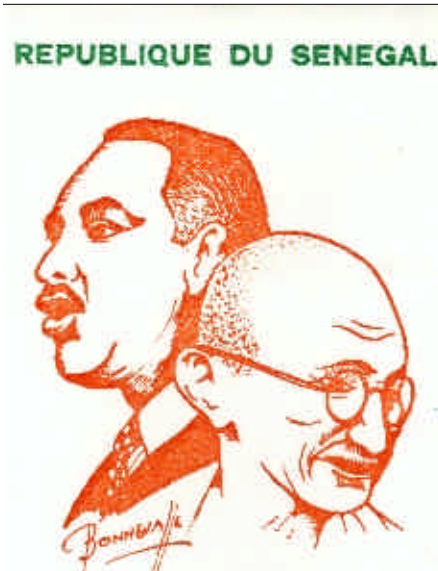


Mauritius (1969): Printer's Die proof of stamp titled "Apostle of Truth and Non-Violence" (approved w/ signature and stamp of engraver on back).

"Nonviolence calls for strength and courage to suffer without retaliation, to receive blows without returning any."

"My nonviolence does not admit of running away from danger and leaving the dear ones unprotected."

Gandhi.



Senegal (1978): Special first day cancel paying "Homage to the Apostles of Nonviolence- M. Gandhi and M.L. King", the two steadfast proponents of nonviolence in the 20th century.

"Just as one must learn the art of killing in the training for violence, so one must learn the art of dying in the training for nonviolence."

Gandhi.

San Marino (1987): Stamp commemorating organization dedicated to the practice and training of nonviolent activism. Shown here on cover with special first day cancellation.



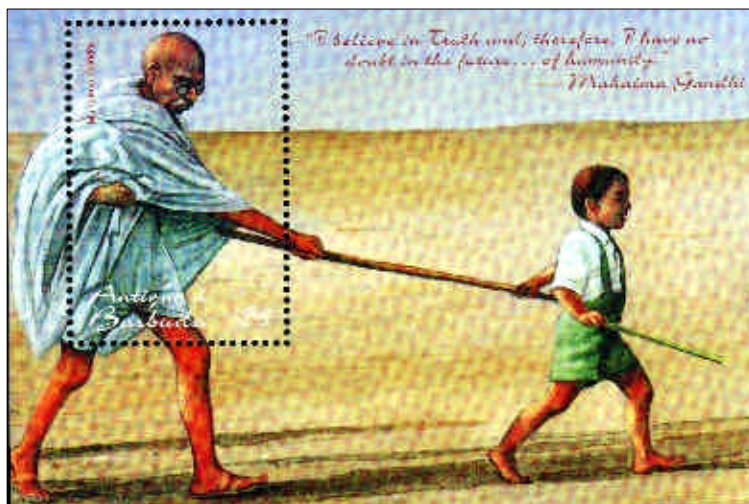
Champion of Human Rights and Peace

"Mankind is at a cross-roads. It has to make its choice between the law of the jungle and the law of humanity."

"No charter of freedom will be worth looking at which does not ensure the same measure of freedom for the minorities as for the majority."

"Mankind has eternity on its side to mend its ways."
Gandhi.

Despite the terrible human tragedies that continue to plague the nations of the world through today, we have to believe that our children will lead us to a better world.

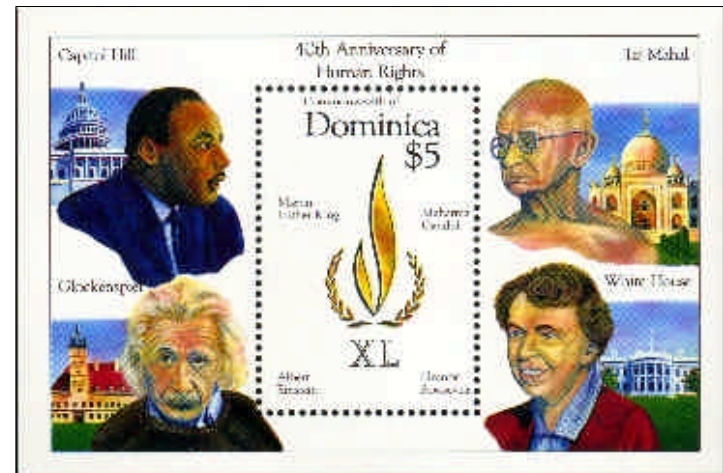


Antigua & Barbuda (1998): Souvenir sheet overprinted "Barbuda Mail" for local use, features Gandhi led in a walk on the beach by his secretary's nephew. Includes quote from Gandhi: *"I have no doubt in the future.... of humanity."*

"In the secret of my heart I am in perpetual quarrel with God that He should allow such things [that disrupt peace, as war and violence] to go on. My nonviolence seems almost impotent. But the answer comes at the end of the daily quarrel that neither God nor nonviolence is impotent. Impotence is in the man."

Gandhi.

Somalia (1969): Stamp commemorating Gandhi's birth centenary shows the globe and the release of a dove, signifying Gandhi's influence on promoting world peace.



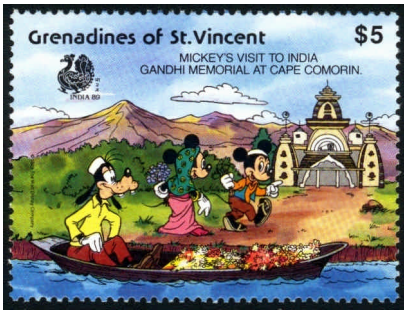
Dominica (1980): Souvenir sheet commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, with Gandhi featured in the margin illustration.



Sao Tome and Principe (1987): Set of stamps commemorating the International Year of Peace, featuring two winner's of the Nobel Peace Prize (King and Luthuli) and one who did not win the peace prize (Gandhi).



Monuments/Memorials (or Statues, Streets and Stamp Shows)



Grenadines of Saint Vincent (1989): Stamp part of a set featuring Mickey's visit to India. Shows a visit to the Gandhi Memorial at the southern tip of the Indian Peninsula (Cape Comorin- now Kanyakumari).

Luxembourg (1969): This special cancel coincided with the unveiling of a Gandhi statue in the park in Luxembourg City during birth centennial celebrations.



Trinidad and Tobago (1969): Stamp featuring a statue of Gandhi in Trinidad, issued to commemorate Gandhi's birth centenary.

The tradition of naming streets after Gandhi began early. While still in British India, the Bombay Municipal Council, administered by members of the Indian National Congress, had begun the process.



India (1945): Cover mailed in Bombay shows a return address on "Mahatma Gandhi Road". Typically, most of these early names were changed from King George, Queen Victoria, Parliament St. etc..



India: Covers with special cancel from Lincoln Gandhi Philatelic Exhibition (1967), Gandhipex, Chicago (1971) and Gandhipex, Bombay (1977).

Every few years since Gandhi's birth centennial, there have been philatelic exhibitions carrying his name. The earliest was in Hyderabad, India. The first in the USA was Gandhipex in Chicago, followed by a Gandhipex in Bombay and most recently, Mahatmapex in Ahmedabad, India (2001).



Note: The Chicago Gandhipex cover carries the special exhibition cancel and a second CDS from the Bombay RMS, after it was flown there by Air India.

"Mahatma Gandhi has become the spokesman for the conscience of mankind..." said General George C. Marshall.

The story presented in this exhibit shows that the life thus remembered started much like millions of others did, in a remote corner of British India. Moral strength and divine inspiration turned this mediocre student and timid lawyer into a shrewd politician and a revered leader who motivated humanity like few have in the history of mankind!



Mauritius (1969) Printer's Die Proof of this Souvenir Sheet, depicting the metamorphosis of Gandhi from an ordinary young man to a virtual saint, was prepared from original artwork for the Gandhi Centenary issue. This photographic proof signed and stamped by the engraver, is the only one believed to exist, based on records from the Crown Agents' Archives*.

* Reference: George Alevizos Public Auction, Sale #100, Lot #1485, December 17th 1997