Adversaries & Associates

Rabindranath Tagore

Probably the only other Indian contemporary of Gandhi who had garnered the admiration and attention of the rest of the world.

Tagore was a close associate of Gandhi in the nationalist movement between 1919 and 1939 and coined the title "Mahatma".





Their association dates back to the period when both were experimenting with ascetic community life in Ashrams in South Africa and India.

Tagore and Gandhi disagreed on several issues- a "national language" being one. Congress' rejection of militant tactics of fellow Bengali Subhas Chandra Bose led to their parting of ways in 1939.

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Gautam Pal: GURUDEV RABINDRANATH TAGORE (1861 -1941) Bust dezvelit în amintirea cuvântării ținute de G. R. Tagore la Teatrul Național din București (1926) (Donație a Ambasadel Indiel pentru Teatrul Național)	Codul Localitatea

Tagore, who visited Bucharest in 1926, commemorated in this stamped cover from Romania.

Gurudev Tagore.

True to the title bestowed upon him by Indians [means eminent teacher], Tagore poured all of his Nobel Prize into starting the Visva-Bharati [Indi an University] in Shanti ni ketan [abode of peace] in Bengal.

FDC commemorating the 50th anni versary of the founding of Visva-Bharati.





Tagore's winning the 1913 Nobel Prize in Literature, commemorated by a stamp from Central Africa.

7 MAY 1961 200 मारत INDIA INDIA POSTAGE <u>Sir Rabindranath- Poet to Patriot</u>. Tagore's stature in India, particularly among patriots and nationalists, was enhanced when he rejected the Knighthood that was bestowed upon him in 1919. He did this to protest the massacre of civilians in Amritsar

[Punj ab] by General Dyre and the subsequent handling of the tragic event by the British.

861-1941



Argentina issued this stamp to honor the Tagore Birth Centenary.



Next to Gandhi, Nehru has had the most stamps issued of any Indians.

A skillful diplomat and a pragmatic politician, Nehru galvanized third world nationalism into the unified force of the non-aligned movement.



This is obvious from all the socialist bloc countries that have commemorated him in their stamps!













Nehru was also influential in Africa, with his leadership in the antiapartheid movement and his effort to support panafricanism.

It is not by accident that Nehru has been called a true "internationalist". While Gandhi spent his early years as "citizen of the empire", Nehru was dreaming of a unified world- he was a true "citizen of the world".



Gandhi and Nehru Differ on Irish Nationalism





Nehru was in England as a student in 1911 and was impressed with the Irish nationalist movement.

Gandhi, while he sympathized with the Irish, always reminded Nehru that "there is no room for Shin Fein*ism* in Indian Politics. No dual track approach with a political path and a militant path.



Gandhi Gutter pairs and First day use cover from Ireland.

Friends and Admirers

Albert Einstein



Albert Einstein was a great admirer of Gandhi.

When Gandhi was in England attending the Round table Conference in 1931, Einstein specifically invited him to come to America.

As a fellow pacifist, Einstein expressed amazement at how Gandhi managed to "move the masses".

Interesting that Einstein and Gandhi ranked as the two most prominent individuals of the Millennium!



This set from Nicaragua was prepared for issue under the *Somosa* regime by an agency in New York. When the *Sandanistas* took control of the country in 1979, this issue "slipped through the cracks". By the time it was detected, it is reported that some unissued sets made it to the market. Nicaragua sued the agency and recovered the remainder of the issue.

<u>Some unissued sets</u>, like the one shown above, made it to collectors when the printing house, Format Security Printers, went bankrupt and auctioned their archives.

The recovered stamps were overprinted on three different occasions outside the US and were issued with overprints in 1980. Shown here is the high value with Gandhi and the <u>"space vehicles" overprint.</u>



The set was also overprinted in blank for the first anniversary of "liberation" by the Sandanista Government.

The Gandhi stamp was in souvenir sheet form, in a larger format.



India issued a stamp of Einstein, probably influenced by his association with Gandhi.



Charlie Chaplin

Official First day cover cachet from India, commemorating Charlie Chaplin, shows Chaplin visiting Gandhi during his 1931 trip to London. Note the uncommon 56 APO cancellation.



Followers and Adherents

Albert John Luthuli



Deluxe Sheets of the 1968 Luthuli-Gandhi issue from Upper Volta

<u>Set of Gandhi-Luthuli stamps from Togo,</u> with and without the "Charles DeGaulle" overprints.

As President of the African National Congress, Luthuli upheld its goal of non-violent resistance.

In the tactics he pursued against the apartheid government, he was compared to Gandhi.

Luthuli was a lasting symbol in southern Africa that manifested itself in the likes of Nelson Mandela.



Nelson Mandela



Like Gandhi, Nelson Mandela spent several years in prison for opposing a repressive political establishment.







Registered airmail cover to US from Belgium, with Gandhi and Mandela stamps.



Martin Luther King



<u>Gandhi and Martin Luther King in an issue</u> <u>from Burkina Faso.</u>

Gandhi said that "it may be through the American Negro that the message of nonviolence be conveyed to the world. Gandhi and King, celebrated as Apostles of peace and non-violence, by Senegal.

200

POSTES 1978

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200

SENEGAL

He was right. Martin Luther King turned out to be the most significant Gandhian in the west.



Deluxe souvenir sheet of Gandhi and King from Mauritania.



Registered cover from Belgium with Gandhi and King stamps.



PRIOR

Many of the people featured in this sheet from Guyana have had a lot to carrying the torch of Gandhian principles.

Mother Teresa, The Dalai Lama and Bishop Tutu



From Asia, the most prominent adherents to Gandhian principles today is the Dalai Lama from Tibet.

Mother Teresa's spirit of service to the destitute reminded us of Gandhi.













Bishop Desmond Tutu's truth and reconciliation commission in South Africa sounds like something Gandhi would have initiated, had he lived long enough after partition.

Inspiration and Legacy Anti War Movements [1940-]





While Gandhi has always opposed wanton destructive force and the amassment of weapons, his opinion on participation in war is mixed, for a pacifist.

<u>Gandhi and King featured in Disarmament/</u> <u>peace stamps from Grenada.</u>



He has stated clearly that if one opposed war and similar actions by one's government, one had the moral obligation to try to change things. Every living moment. He specifically rejected the notion of war-resistance from people who otherwise participate in the society that has engaged in a war.

Thus, we could say that Gandhi was more an "activist" than a "pacifist".

An Icon for Post-War Pacifists in Germany [1950-]

Studying Gandhi and his ideals became popular in post war Germany and there are several scholars there today.



Specimen Overprint of 1969 German issue of Gandhi.

Shown below is what appears to be a set of color trials.

However, the artwork is crude and they appear to be cheap color forgeries.





Examples of commercial multiple-copy use of the German issue to different destinations.

Anti-Apartheid Movement [1946-1994]

The effort of the world in "noncooperation" with the apartheid regime in south Africa is reminiscent of the tactics of Gandhi.



India was active in leadership in the antiapartheid struggle,



<u>There is a statue of Gandhi erected in Pietermaritzburg, to celebrate his South African</u> <u>Legacy.</u>