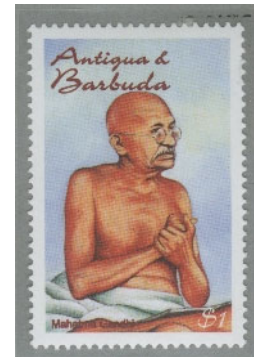
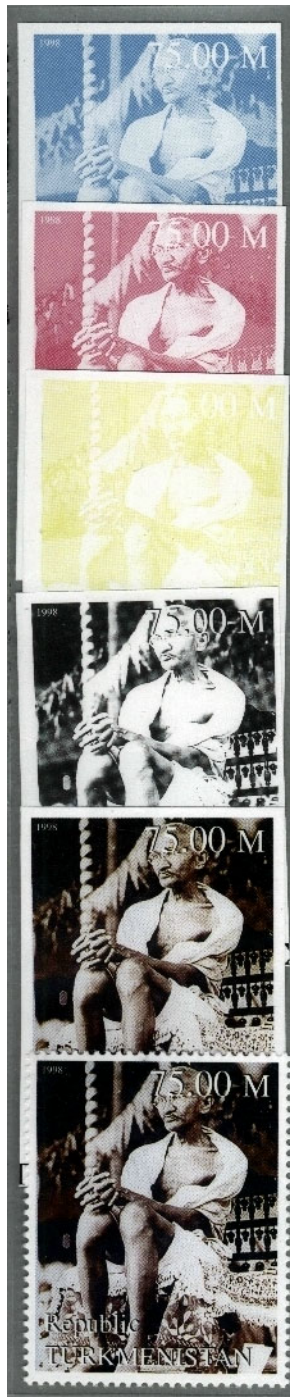


The Modest Attire

Why did someone who took pride in sporting fancy western clothing when he was younger adopt this modest native attire?



Antigua (1998)

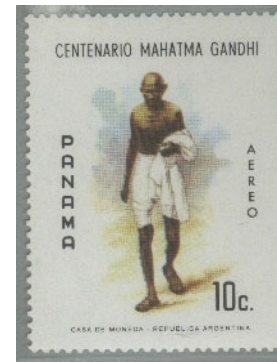


Turkmenistan
(1999)
Progressive
color proofs.

Gandhi first saw men scantily dressed in a “loincloth” during his visit to Madras. When he chastised them for being dressed indecently, the villagers replied that this was all they could afford to wear.



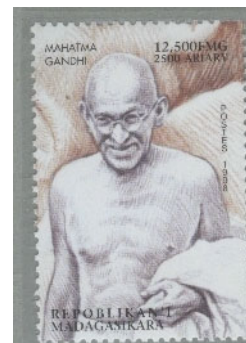
Chad (1997)



Panama (1971)



Somalia & Yemen (1969)



Madagascar
(1999)

The incident made a strong impression on him. Since he believed that a true leader should “live and feel” like his people, he adopted this attire.

Looking at these stamps, it is interesting to note that one country that has issued a lot of Gandhi stamps is still uncomfortable with his modest attire- India!



Mali (1999)

The Spinning Wheel

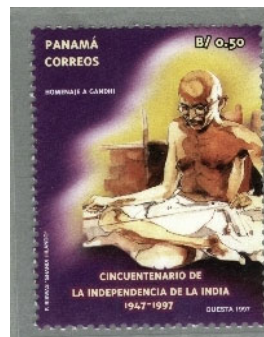
Gandhi was using the spinning wheel as a tool to organize and energize the boycott of machine made yarn from England. He also believed that handloom would lead to social upliftment in a predominantly rural economy.



Grenada & Dominica (1998)



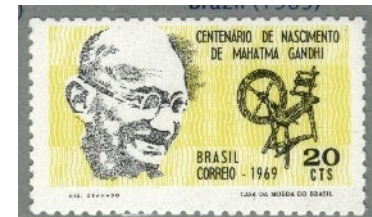
Comoro Is. (1991)



Panama (1997)



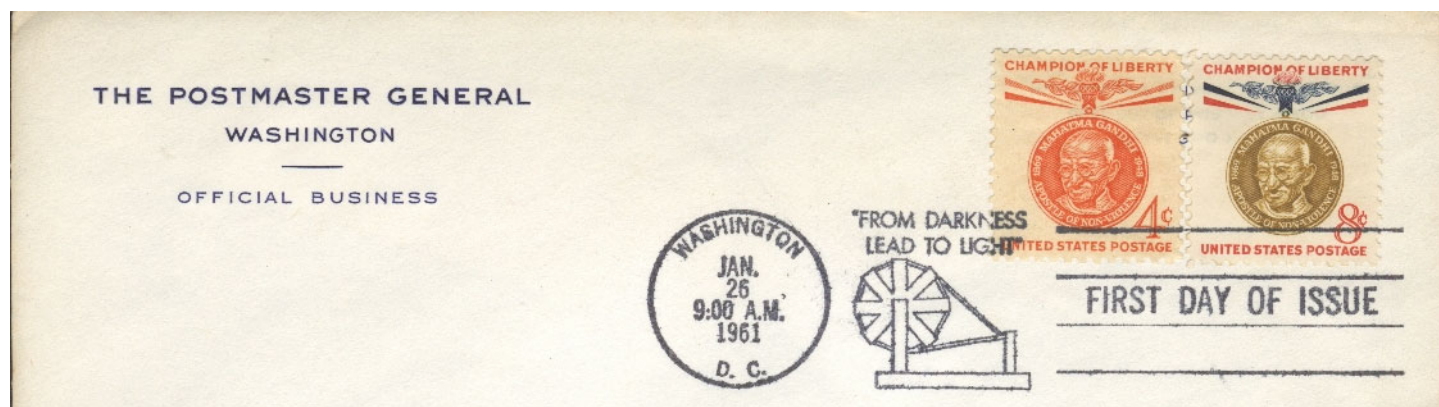
India (1998)



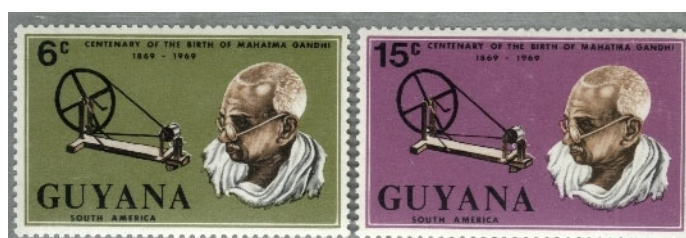
Brazil (1969)

The spinning wheel is featured in more philatelic material than any other subject related to Gandhi. Margaret Bourke White made his spinning so popular that Eleanor Roosevelt gave it a hand, while in India!

Venezuela (1971)



USA (1961): Pictorial cancel on Postmaster General's Corner Card.



Guyana (1969)



India (1963 and 1969)

The Tri-Color Flag

The image of Gandhi with the tri-color is splashed so often that many give him credit with designing the flag! It was designed by a geophysicist from southern India who served in the Boer War with Gandhi when he was 19.



India (1994): 125 years since Gandhi's birth.



UK (1969): Uncommon use of commemoratives (two in the back) to pay for telegraph charges at St. Aubin (Jersey, Channel Is.).



The original two color flag, which was introduced to Gandhi in 1921, had saffron for Hindus and green for Muslims. Gandhi suggested that white be added to represent all minorities.

Trình Tông về dượt
Ngày 30.10.1984
K. V. Trương V. Bình gửi H.H.H.
[Signature]
Nguyễn Đình Văn
Phân. Văn. Khâm.

Vietnam (1984): Unique original artist's watercolor essay (unadopted) of Gandhi portrait. Note the dates on top (1969-1984). The original artist's design notes were dated October 30, 1984, the day Indira Gandhi was killed!

The Zodiac Sign: A Consummate Libran?



Fujeira (1978): Miniature sheet showing Zodiac Constellation and images of famous personalities in margin, including Gandhi. Stamp with the symbol for Libra.

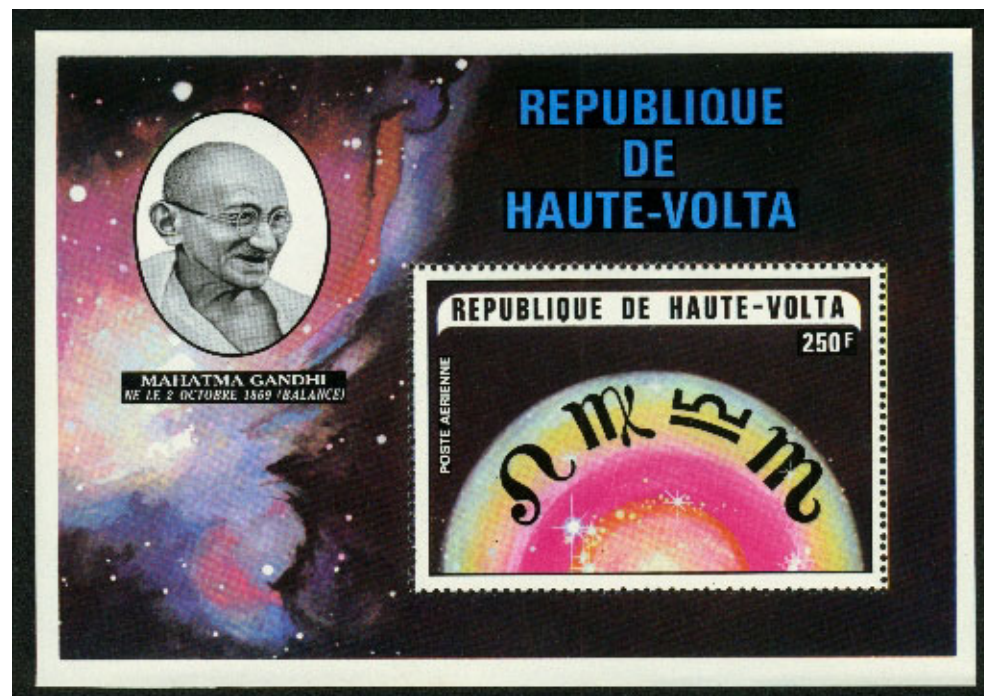
libra ♎
23 september - 22 october

Zodiac Influence? Gandhi's life is said to epitomize that of a true Libran!

His drive towards social justice, peace and harmony has been compared to fellow Libran Eleanor Roosevelt.

The perceived duality of "aggressive non-violent action" has also been associated with Dwight Eisenhower- a General who warned us against the military-industrial complex.

His sarcasm and dry wit has been compared to the likes of Oscar Wilde, Truman Capote and Gore Vidal.



Upper Volta (1973): Gandhi's association with Libra depicted in margin illustration.

A catalog of Libran virtues and shortcomings reads like a listing of many of Gandhi's dualities: involved but objective; compassionate detachment; fight for "balancing the scales"- through compromise rather than confrontation; most centered and balanced in solitude but always seeking people; vacillation- the appearance of chronic indecision...

Vegetarianism and Animal Rights

Gandhi practiced vegetarianism and encouraged reverence to all forms of life. Hindu communities in India have taken a militant approach to implementing this- particularly in establishing “cow protection homes” in defiance of many Muslim communities.



India: Pre-independence fund-raising labels for GANDHI GO-SHALAS for cow-protection.

While traditional Indian culture has a preponderance of nature worship and reverence to life, much of India’s wildlife was decimated under the Princely states, in their attempt to impress Europeans with their “hunts”.



Printer’s proof sheets of embossed monograms for several princely states. Most symbols contain game or trophy animals. In the bottom right of both sheets is a quote from Gandhi- IN THE MIDST OF DARKNESS, LIGHT PERSISTS, VIJAYANAGARAM RAJ- BANARAS.



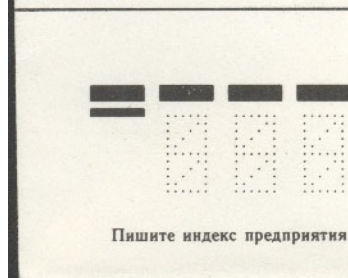
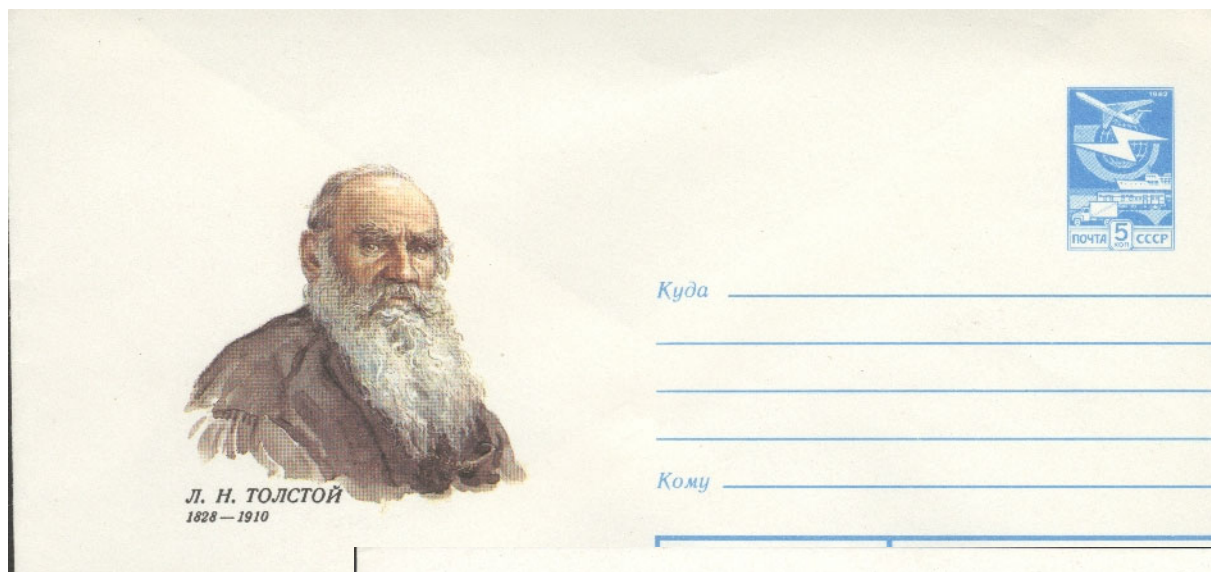
Those Who Shaped His Thoughts

Gandhi's legal assistant Polak speaks of giving him a copy of Thoreau's writings to read. While Gandhi advanced the passive resistance in South Africa long before he read Thoreau. Searching for a more dynamic expression, he coined the word Satyagraha. When he read Thoreau's Essays on Civil Disobedience, he concluded that it was the best name to communicate with a western audience.



USA (1978)
Thoreau

Count Leo Tolstoy was a living spiritual influence on Gandhi. The two corresponded frequently and Gandhi named his second Ashram in South Africa – Tolstoy Farm.



USSR:
Commemorative
postal
stationery with
portraits of
Tolstoy and a
picture of his
estate.



12b. No Man is an Island

Adversaries and Associates

Gandhi met Churchill in London as part of the Transvaal Indian delegation in 1906. Churchill gave him the now famous title “half-naked fakir”. Churchill biographers have stated that he could not help “but foam in the mouth” whenever he heard Gandhi’s name mentioned!



Swedish Local (1974). Progressive color proofs.

Amongst India’s Muslims, Gandhi had more associates than adversaries. One was Khan Abdul Ghafar Khan, the “Frontier Gandhi”, a pathan leader who sat out independence celebrations in Pakistan. Another was Abul Kalam Azad, the “Maulana”, who was born in Mecca and was by Gandhi’s side through thick and thin.

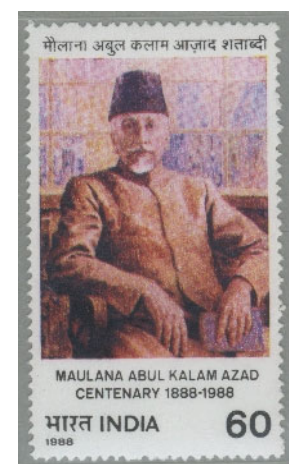


Mohammed Ali Jinnah had personally welcomed Gandhi on his return from South Africa. Within years, the Hindu core of the Congress party alienated him and history has cast him as Gandhi’s adversary, due to his support for partition of India.



India (1993): Khan Abdul Ghafar Khan

Pakistan (1998): Commercial cover to USA with stamps of Jinnah and two other of Gandhi’s Muslim associates- Muhammad Iqbal and Liaquat Ali Khan- who left for Pakistan.

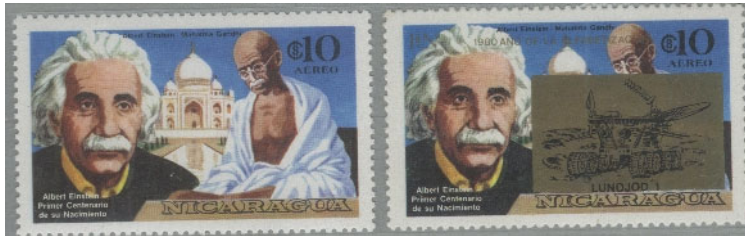


India (1988): Maulana Azad

12c. No Man is an Island

Friends and Admirers

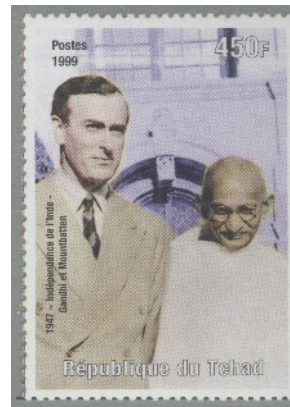
Rabindranath Tagore was a friend and close associate of Gandhi and is credited with coining the title "Mahatma". Both shared an interest in experimenting with ascetic communities (ashrams). They disagreed on several issues- a national language (which Tagore opposed) and support for Bose and the Indian National Army in 1939 (over which they parted ways).



Nicaragua (1979):
Unissued (w/o OVPT) and
issued (w/ OVPT) stamps.

Albert Einstein was a great admirer of Gandhi and invited him to America in 1931.

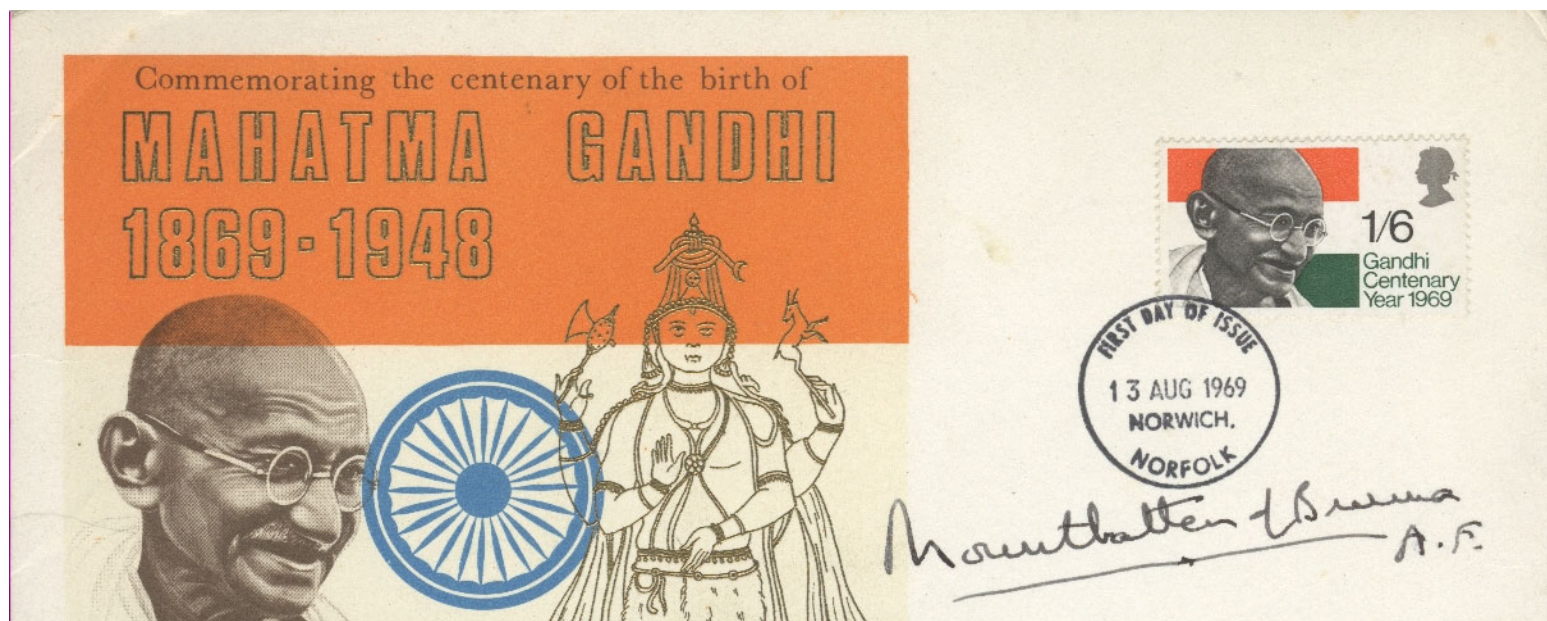
Mountbatten's association with Gandhi and Nehru was strong enough for them to pick him to be the first Governor General of independent India. He called Gandhi his "one man security force".



Chad (1999): Gandhi and Mountbatten in New Delhi.



Romania (1999). Postal stationery commemorating Tagore.



UK (1969): While the Earl was not eligible for free franc privileges, he shared his respect for Gandhi with his MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA, A.F. autograph on this FDC.

12d. No Man is an Island

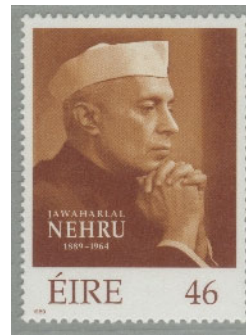
Followers and Adherents

Nehru was Gandhi's most trusted lieutenant in India. But they did disagree on politics—particularly with Nehru's background following the Irish National movement while in England in 1911. Gandhi had to remind Nehru that *“there is no room for Shin feinism in Indian Politics”*.

As president of the African National Congress, Albert John Luthuli upheld the goal of non-violent resistance in the tactics he pursued against the apartheid government of South Africa.



Togo (1970) Gandhi and Luthuli.



Irish stamp of Nehru and archival gutter-pair of Gandhi.



Luthuli was a lasting symbol of Gandhian influence in Africa, that later manifested itself in the likes of Nelson Mandela.



Tanzania (1996): Gandhi and Mandela



Belgium (2000): Registered mail with Gandhi and Mandela, who shared a history of being political prisoners.

12d. No Man is an Island: Followers and Adherents

Gandhi predicted that it “it may be through the American Negro that the true message of nonviolence be spread to the rest of the world”. His predictions came through with Martin Luther King, Jr.



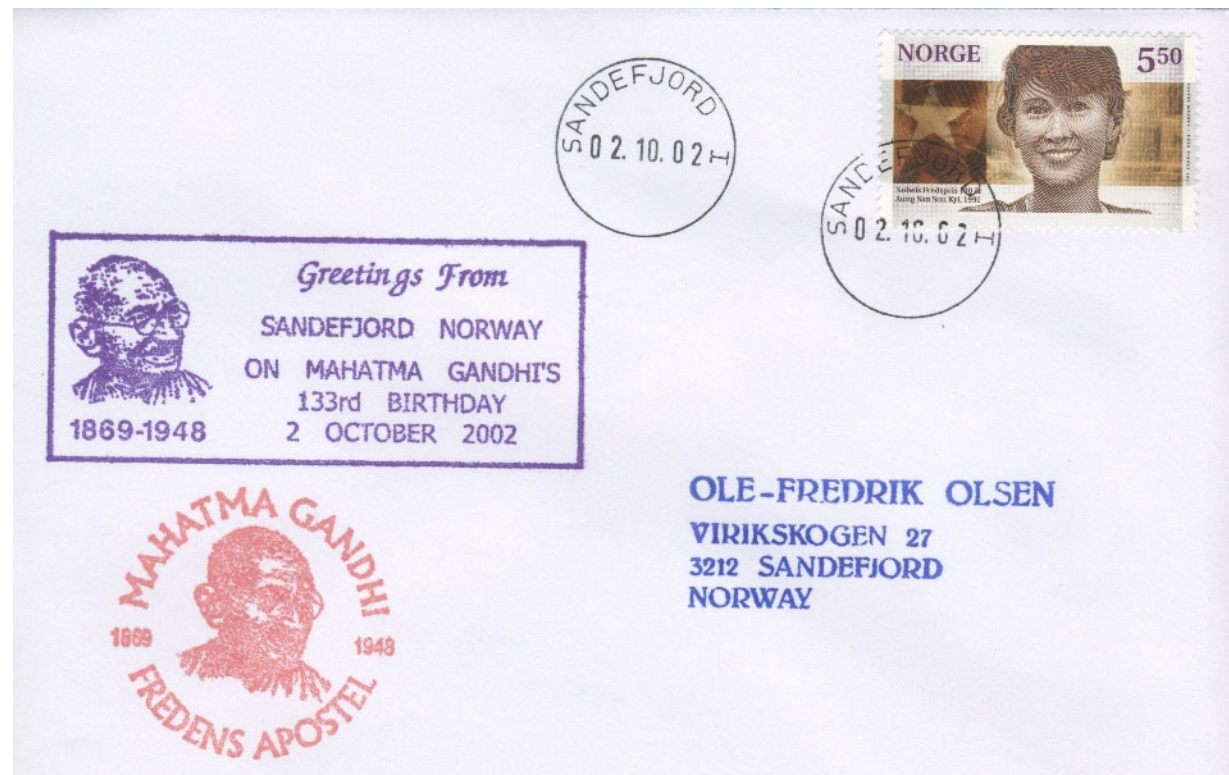
Belgium (2000): Registered airmail with stamps of Gandhi and King.



Burkina Faso (1988): Gandhi and King

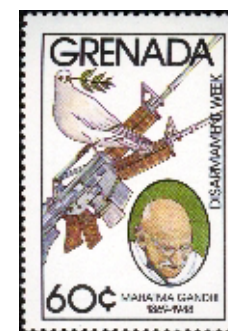
Norway (2002): Stamp commemorating Aung's Nobel Prize, on cover with special markings honoring Gandhi.

A living example of a non-violent Gandhian leader is Burma's Aung San Suu Kyi, winner of the Nobel Peace prize who continues to be a political prisoner.

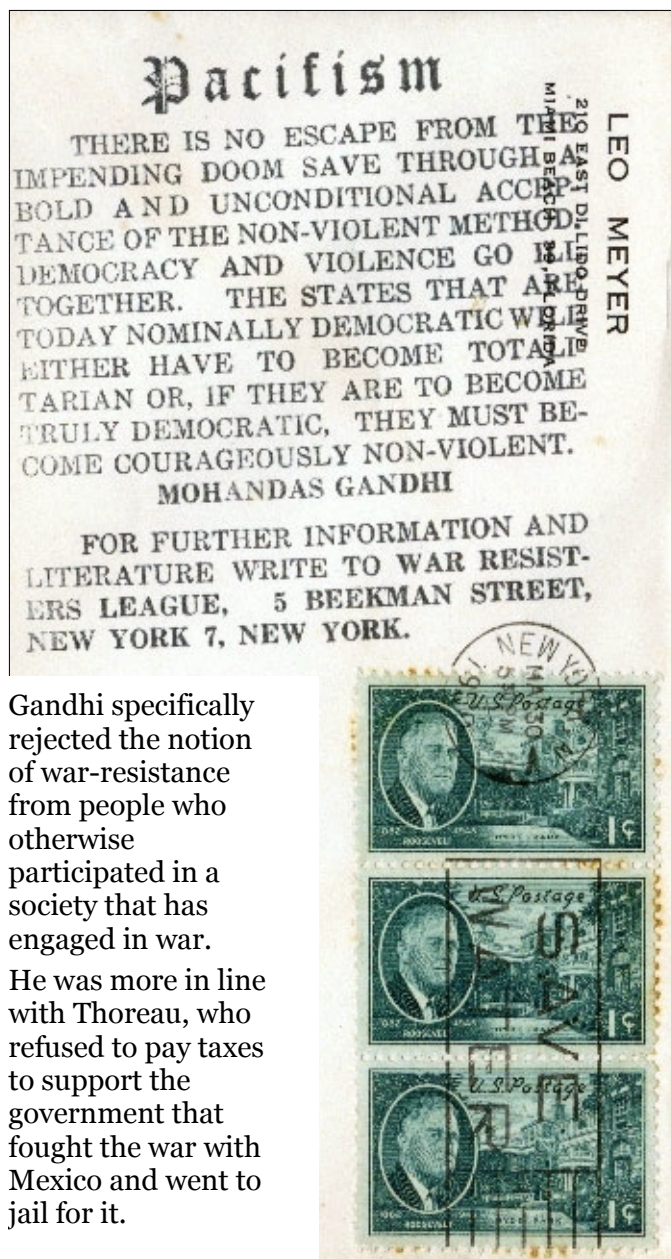


Anti-War Movements (1940-)

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):
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): Block with two stamps with one imperforate side.

Also shown, a specimen (MUSTER) overprint.



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 was 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.



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

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 commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Congress for a Democratic South Africa. Cancellation reflects the honorary notation of “Mandela-Gandhi Freedom of the City”.



Ms. MboboThoko
Private Bag x505
Pretoria 0001
RSA



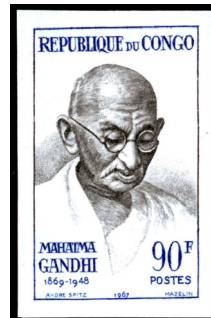
South Africa (2001): Special cancel used during the UN World Conference Against Racism. Issues of reparations for slavery, apology for colonialism and the mention of Zionism kept the US from active participation.

African Nationalist Movements (1950-)

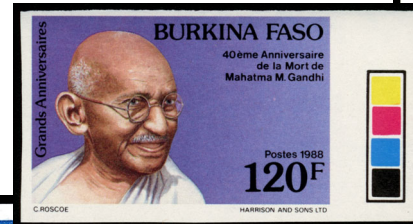
After gaining their independence, former French colonies in Africa pursued the model of free association with France, similar to the model espoused by Gandhi for a British Dominion in India before WWII..

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

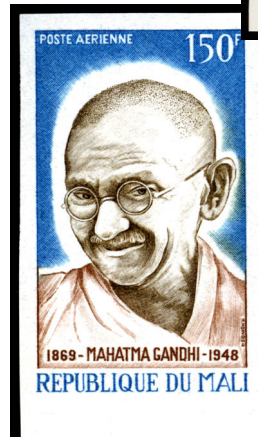
The varied tribal histories of many of these new nations [ignored by the creation of modern nation states] have clashed with the idea of peaceful co-existence. This, coupled with their vast mineral wealth (particularly uranium), has resulted in constant military coups and armed intervention ("upon invitation")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



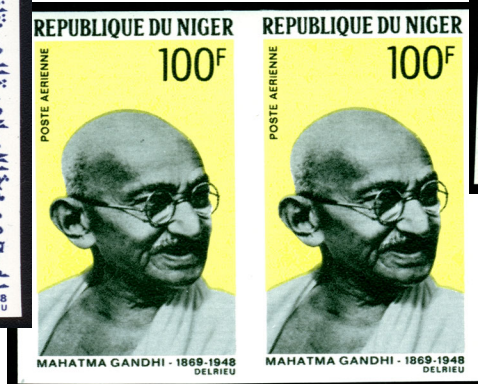
Congo (1967) and Gabon (1969)



Mali (1969) and Burkina Faso (1988)



Mauritania (1968), Niger (1968) Upper Volta (1968), Chad (1969) and Senegal (1969)



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. Many Indian Muslims 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.



Morocco (1969)

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.



Syria (1969)



Iran (1969)

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.

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).



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

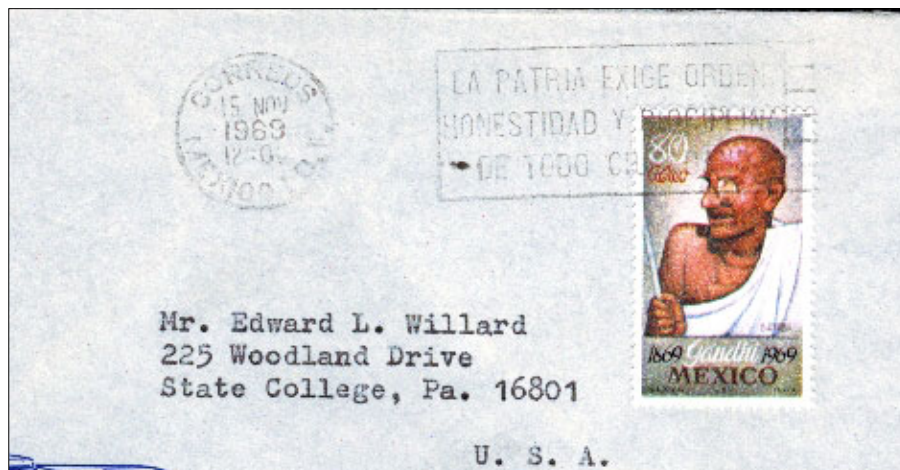
Civil & Workers' Rights in the Americas (1960-)

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.

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



Congo (1992): Stamp depicting the civil strife in the USA during the 1960s. The Nobel peace prize, which King was the youngest recipient of (at age 35), is also mentioned in the stamp's design.



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

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



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).



13e. Inspiration and Legacy: Civil and Workers Rights in the Americas

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 uprated cover to USA.

Costa Rica (1998): Stamp commemorating the 50th anniversary of Indian independence. High value multiple usage on large registered airmail package to USA.

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"*.

