



**The
Gandhi
Foundation**

www.gandhifoundation.org

**Lord Attenborough, The Patrons and Trustees of
The Gandhi Foundation**
have much pleasure in inviting you to participate in
“The Festival of Nonviolence”
from **Tuesday 25th March to Saturday 12th April**

The British Library will launch their exhibition **“The Life of Gandhi”** on Tuesday 25th March 2008. It will mark the 60 years that have passed since his death in January 1948 and will travel around the UK until January 2009.

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(Editor, *The Gandhi Way*)

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The Gandhi Foundation will hold **“The Festival of Nonviolence”** in London from **25th March to 12th April** to complement the exhibition. The aim of The Festival is to bring to the attention of every Londoner the depth and power of Nonviolence and its ongoing critical relevance in solving many of the major problems of our day - from personal conflicts to the environment.

We believe that you and your organisation are one of many committed to the basic principles of Nonviolence and that your work reflects this. We also note that there are huge numbers of other people and groups in London whose work is also aimed at creating and maintaining social cohesion, communal harmony, authentic race and inter-faith relations, justice or environmental integrity using nonviolent means. They range from the Faiths, not-for-profit groups, most businesses, central and local governments to teachers, police, journalists, trades unionists, social and community workers, lawyers, managers, academics, artists, counsellors and politicians.

Mark your own commitment to Nonviolence by participating in The Festival: simply put the title and logo on your publicity for your normal work and activities that you will do during these 18 days. We will offer extra publicity for any special event that you put on for The Festival. The greater the visibility The Festival has, the greater the awareness of the power of Nonviolence as a positive force.

When you register, we will send you an **Invitation to the Launch Party** of “The

Annual Lecturers

Paul Blau, Adam Curle, The Dalai Lama, Madhu Dandavate, Scilla Elworthy, David Ennals, Martin Ennals, Johann Galtung, Simon Hughes, John Hume, Bruce Kent, Mairead Maguire, Jonathon Porritt, LM Singhvi, Donald Soper, Helen Steven & Ellen Moxley, Mark Tully

Gandhi Peace Award

Michael Harbottle, Nicholas Gillett, Jubilee 2000, Helen Steven & Ellen Moxley, Denis Halliday, Clive Stafford-Smith



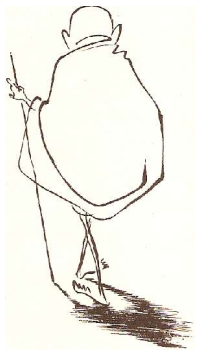
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TITLE:

“THE FESTIVAL OF NONVIOLENCE”

LOGO:



SUB-TITLE - Select your own [many more on attachment]:

“Nonviolence is the greatest force at the disposal of mankind. It is mightier than the mightiest weapon of destruction devised by the ingenuity of man”.

“Be the change you wish to see.”

“Live simply so that others may simply live.”

“The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated.”

“I hate privilege and monopoly. Whatever cannot be shared with the masses is taboo to me”.

“It has always been a mystery to me how men can feel themselves honoured by the humiliation of their fellow beings”.

THE FESTIVAL PROGRAMME:

You can participate in any of the three elements of The Festival:

A. Public Debates

People from all walks of life will be invited to discuss the problems and difficulties of putting the principles of Nonviolence into practice in their area of concern and expertise e.g. in schools, interfaith relations, in the home, at work, towards the environment, in business and in community relations. Venues already slated include The British Library, Kingsley Hall, House of Lords and The Nehru Centre. Debates could also take place in Town and Community Halls, Places of Worship, Clubs, etc. If there is sufficient interest in these debates, local and national media will want to report them.

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B. Education

Our core mission is to show the power and the relevance of Nonviolence to every day life. We will approach schools, colleges and universities and ask them to discuss the merits of practising Non-Violence with their students. We intend to offer both teachers and appropriate resources to those interested. Our aim will be to show that learning about and practising Nonviolence can be exciting and fun as well as profoundly beneficial. We will also reach out to Faith leaders, Editors, CEO's and those addressing audiences during the Festival asking them to address the relevance and benefits of Nonviolence.

C. The Arts and Science of Nonviolence

Nonviolence has a long history in all cultures and has been examined and expressed in myriad different ways. We hope to reflect this through events and activities in each of the following categories:

Film, Photography and the Fine Arts
Live Theatre [plays, music, dance, song, opera, etc]
Literature and Poetry
Philosophy, Faith, Law and the Humanities
Science, Technology and Architecture

PLEASE REGISTER NOW AND PASS THIS INVITATION ON

NOTES:

- 1. Gandhi's statue in Parliament Square.** The Mayor will be persuaded to act if enough support is evident.
- 2. Gandhi's birthday [2nd October]** was chosen last June as **The International Day of Nonviolence** by The UN General Assembly. The Statement "invites all Member States, NGO's and individuals to disseminate the message of Nonviolence through education and public awareness" and "requested the Secretary-General to recommend ways and means [to] assist Member States in organizing activities to commemorate the Day." "**The Festival of Nonviolence**" might serve to offer the Secretary-General a range of activities and ideas that he could recommend to Member States for their own celebrations of Nonviolence on 2nd October 2008.
- 3. The Life of Gandhi** will travel outside London to Hull, Kent, Sheffield, Leicester, Birmingham, Glasgow, Cardiff, Southampton until January 2009.

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