



Congress of the United States

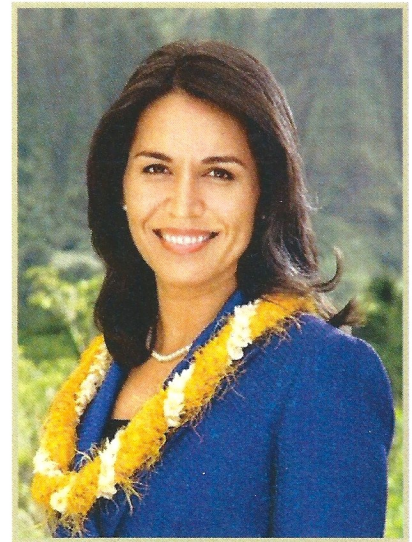
A message from

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TULSI GABBARD

in celebration of

Mahatma Gandhi Day 2016

The International Day of Non-Violence



Aloha and Namaste Friends,

Mahalo to all of the families, visitors, performers, and champions for peace who are gathered here today to celebrate the 11th annual Mahatma Gandhi Day & International Day of Nonviolence.

Mahatma Gandhi once perfectly stated, "A small body of determined spirits fired by an unquenchable faith in their mission can alter the course of history."

I truly believe in this statement. When we take on big challenges, when we attempt to make change in our culture and societal institutions to serve the greater good, we will experience resistance. Often, the more resistance we experience, the more we can be certain we're on the right track to enact real, lasting change.

Change is difficult. It requires that we accept hardship and sacrifice. But if we are focused and motivated by love—love for God, our fellow man, our planet—then we will understand that only love will give us the strength to endure sacrifice and hardship. Love will give us the intelligence to make the right decisions. Love will give us the courage to act—to fight for what's right. It is when we are motivated by this spiritual love that we can bring about change in our own lives, in our communities, in our country, and in the world that is positive, lasting, and revolutionary. This is the ultimate message of Mahatma Gandhi, who we are honoring here today.

Mahalo nui loa to the Gandhi International Institute of Peace, its president Dr. Raj Kumar, the Board of Directors, Board of Advisors, Event Coordinators, guests, and everyone who worked to make today's celebration possible. Thank you for your work to share Mahatma Gandhi's legacy and the lessons he dedicated his life to perpetuating—peace, love, humility, faith, and servant-leadership.

With aloha,

Tulsi Gabbard

*Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard
Serving the People of Hawaii's 2nd District*

Presented on this 2nd day of October 2016