The House of Representatives
State of Hawai'i

Hale o nā Lāna, Moku 'āinana

hereby presents this certificate to

GANDHI INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR PEACE
8th Annual International Yoga Day Celebration

"Yoga means union of individual consciousness with the Universe, it emphasizes discipline in daily routine and activities, and encourages one to lead a simple, harmonious and spiritual life." – Dr. Raj Kumar

WHEREAS, Mahatma Gandhi, born on October 2, 1869, led India to independence through nonviolent civil disobedience and became a global symbol of peace, justice, and moral leadership because of his steadfast commitment to *ahimsa* (nonviolence) and *satyagraha* (truth); and

WHEREAS, Mahatma Gandhi embodied the discipline and principles of a yogi, practicing meditation, self-restraint, and spiritual devotion as pathways to inner strength, clarity of purpose, and resilience in the face of adversity; and

WHEREAS, yoga, an ancient practice rooted in mindfulness and self-awareness, promotes physical health, mental clarity, and emotional balance, while fostering harmony among mind, body, and spirit; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, the State officially recognized June 21, the summer solstice, as International Yoga Day in Hawai'i, making Hawai'i the first state in the nation to formally celebrate and honor the practice of yoga; and

WHEREAS, based in Hawai'i, the GANDHI INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR PEACE, founded by Dr. Raj Kumar, advances the principles of nonviolence and truth championed by Mahatma Gandhi through educational, cultural, and wellness initiatives, including the promotion and practice of yoga to facilitate peace, well-being, and community connection; and

WHEREAS, on June 21, 2026, the GANDHI INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR PEACE, will hold its 8th Annual International Yoga Day Celebration in Waikiki, bringing together community members in the shared pursuit of health, peace, and cross-cultural understanding; now, therefore,

The House of Representatives of the Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii hereby recognizes and congratulates the GANDHI INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR PEACE on the momentous occasion of its 8th Annual International Yoga Day Celebration and commends the organization for its steadfast leadership in promoting yoga as a pathway to peace, wellness, and community connection in Hawai'i.

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The 33rd Legislature, 2026

Representative Mark J. Hashem

Nadine K. Nakamura, Speaker of the House

Brian L. Takeshita, Chief Clerk