



The Senate

HONORING AND COMMENDING THE GANDHI INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR PEACE UPON THE CELEBRATION OF THE 18th INTERNATIONAL DAY OF NON-VIOLENCE AND MAHATMA GANDHI DAY IN HAWAI'I

Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi is commemorated annually on October 2nd with a national holiday in India and with the International Day of Non-Violence worldwide, established by the United Nations General Assembly in 2007. The UN stated that the recognition of this day reaffirms "the universal relevance of the principle of non-violence" and the desire "to secure a culture of peace, tolerance, understanding and non-violence."

Gandhi is known as a Mahatma, which means "great souled", given as a title of honor to one who is loved and highly respected. Gandhi was inspirational as a leader of Indian nationalism in British-ruled India between approximately 1920 and 1948. He led India to independence through the pioneering use of nonviolent civil disobedience and passive resistance. His teachings and actions remain a legacy for human rights efforts worldwide to this day.

"We are living in an age of darkness (ignorance) and the world is going through major turmoil. This is the right time to raise awareness about Mahatma Gandhi's wisdom to counter violence with nonviolence, so there can be peace on earth and the future generations can live in a safer world."
-Dr. Raj Kumar

In Hawai'i, the **Gandhi International Institute for Peace** was founded by Dr. Raj Kumar, Ph.D., with a mission to provide information, consultation, education, and training to resolve conflict in a non-violent manner. Dr. Kumar's initial efforts resulted in the Hawai'i State Legislature unanimously adopting Senate Bill 332 to designate October 2nd of each year as "Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi Day", a day of recognition and observance. On April 9, 2015, Governor David Ige signed the bill into law as Act 5, making Hawai'i the first state to so honor Gandhi.

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."
-Mahatma Gandhi

The State Senate honors and commends the **Gandhi International Institute for Peace** upon the celebration of the 18th International Day of Non-Violence and Mahatma Gandhi Day Celebration. We are grateful for your efforts to serve our state by championing the cause of non-violence and reminding us of the true Aloha Spirit. We wish you continued success in the fulfillment of your mission to honor the legacy of Mahatma Gandhi, while promoting a culture of global peace, tolerance, and understanding.



The 32nd Legislature
Certificate No. 750

Dr. Michelle Tidari *Jessie Chao* *Karl Rhoads* *Bob*
D.K. *Mike* *BT* *C*
Done this 1st day of October 2023
State Capitol, Honolulu, Hawai'i
Mike Gabbard
Mike Gabbard, Sponsoring Senator
Ronald D. Kouki
Ronald D. Kouki, President of the Senate
Carol Taniguchi
Carol Taniguchi, Clerk of the Senate