

## Nonviolence in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

October 2, 2021

### Chat box edited\*<sup>1</sup>

**16:00:10 From Alyn Ware:** This event is being streamed on facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/BaselPeaceOffice>

**16:10:43 From Ellen Barfield :** Sadly that attitude that the "modern" "civilized" western world is the only way is very widespread. But I like what Gandhi said about western "civilization". "It would be a good idea." Yes, act civilized, as in STOP killing and stealing.

**16:25:01 From Elizabeth Shafer:** Greetings from Saugerties, N.Y., USA. Violence is on the rise in this rural community, in part due to rising stresses from increasing divisions caused by racial tensions, Climate Crisis, covid, and other factors, so all the more reason for the importance of this conference on Non-Violence! Thank you, Elizabeth J. Shafer J.D.

**16:26:50 From Andre Sheldon:** Namaste! Happy B'day to Gandhi! Gandhi and King were famous for movements of nonviolence. Therefore I humbly, but boldly, would like to announce a new global peace movement is prepared -- a Global Movement of Nonviolence, For the Children (GMofNV). A GMofNV is a Gandhi / King-like is an EMERGENCY PLAN to unite the people of the world to address the world's crises and is ONE STEP AWAY from beginning. Secretary-General Guterres set the stage when he issued a call for a Global Cease-Fire. Guterres's one act is the most profound and important global actions because STOPPING WAR AFFECTS ALL ISSUES! A GMofNV is the perfect follow-up plan and strength to sustain and perpetuate the Cease-Fire. The whole world can promote the Cease Fire! For more information, please contact Andre (at) GlobalStrategyofNonviolence.org

**16:27:22 From Bashir Nuckchady:** Non-violence means not only passivity or pacifism but a common commitment to promoting peace, for example Gandhi's salt march. Anger is a feeling over which we have no control. It happens. But we can decide not to act under the influence of anger. Only non-violence can lead to lasting peace in the country and in our families. Greed and thirst for power have resulted in bloody wars that end countless lives and the destruction of beautiful cities. Fortunately, there are people through the ages who, without violence, have changed the face of the world, and these are the people we celebrate. This day could be the perfect time to meditate on the virtues of bravery, compassion, perseverance and non-violence...

**16:27:56 From Andre Sheldon :** Namaste! The world needs a GMofNV now! There is a group of people that has been uniting and have practiced mobilizing. They bring a different point of view to creating peace and Howard Zinn, peace activist from the U.S. stated they represent nonviolence best – WOMEN. A GMofNV will be implemented by an initiative to "Reach into Every Household" called a CALL to WOMEN, a World-Wide Unity Campaign. It is not just for women, it is for everyone. Women are asked to be the "FIRST" to rise-up and then invite the men. It is time to harness the power of women and nonviolence. The world needs a peace movement to create trust and respect between nations and people to ultimately lead to the reallocation of military spending to "Humanitarian, Covid, and Climate" needs. Disarmament of nuclear weapons is a main goal. Our children's future is at stake! The plans are ready now! PEACE and LOVE, Andre (at) GlobalStrategyofNonviolence.org

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<sup>1</sup> We have edited out technical discussion (e.g. how to access the French simultaneous interpretation), general greetings and private inter-personal messages.

**16:29:25 From Sadhna Jithoo:** 11 Gandhian Principles offer a comprehensive approach to problem solving and peaceful human relations. Thank you for your inspiring observations, Aunty Ela. Your leadership on this is highly valued. Thank you

**16:31:20 From patricia taiko:** Suggestion to other countries : maybe try to convince majors of your city to join Majors of Peace... In Belgium (small country in Europe) more and more cities try to pay attention on International Peace Day.

**16:32:57 From Varsha Mathrani:** I'm interested in hearing solutions and examples to overturn/address violent structures that keep life forms (incl. people) separate, unequal, etc. it appears across the world, corporations hold too much power (corporate lobbying is the same as bribery, even at the highest levels of government), often trumping the rights of nature, people, communities.

**16:33:20 From Ashook Ramsaran:** The Indian Diaspora Council International (IDC) and its global affiliates join with other organizations, agencies, officials, groups, individuals and institutions worldwide in commemorating the 152nd birthday of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, and pay special homage and grateful recognition of Gandhi ji as the preeminent leader of Indian independence movement in British-ruled India through non-violence means. IDC supports this worthy and deserving tribute to Gandhi ji and Gandhian non-violence teachings for peaceful protests to achieve freedom and social justice. Mahatma Gandhi's non-violence teachings have inspired many to protest in peaceful ways against oppression, colonial rule, subjugation and violent discrimination in many countries.

**16:33:26 From Ashook Ramsaran:** Gandhi ji developed this non-violent way first and he succeeded in his goals, as India was completely freed from a European's country domination. Gandhi ji championed the cause of freedom using non-violence which encouraged many other colonies of European powers to seek and obtain freedom from colonial rule. Others, including Dr. Martin Luther King Jr of USA, using similar techniques non-violence, were successful in organizing peaceful protests and ultimately achieving freedom, easing of oppressive rule, social injustice and legally ending racial discrimination. Nelson Mandela achieved a smooth transition to majority rule in South Africa following the teachings of peace and reconciliation.

**16:34:13 From Ashook Ramsaran:** Issued by Gandhi ji developed this non-violent way first and he succeeded in his goals, as India was completely freed from a European's country domination. Gandhi ji championed the cause of freedom using non-violence which encouraged many other colonies of European powers to seek and obtain freedom from colonial rule. Others, including Dr. Martin Luther King Jr of USA, using similar techniques non-violence, were successful in organizing peaceful protests and ultimately achieving freedom, easing of oppressive rule, social injustice and legally ending racial discrimination. Nelson Mandela achieved a smooth transition to majority rule in South Africa following the teachings of peace and reconciliation.

**16:46:56 From David Hart:** [https://www.nonviolenceinternational.net/our\\_partners](https://www.nonviolenceinternational.net/our_partners)

**16:57:28 From Michael Beer:** info@nonviolenceinternational.net to sign up for monday organizing meeting. Volunteer form: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScs-bbu7USDIsipQilhzmn6RRYXCioLjtf4hGnG3kdIaF4qmA/viewform>

Tactics Database: [Tactics.nonviolenceinternational.net](https://www.nonviolenceinternational.net)

<https://www.nonviolenceinternational.net/>. Michaels\_book\_is\_here

**17:00:34 From Ingvar Rönnbäck:** Thank you! Another Development Foundation and several other Swedish organisations have recently launched an initiative - an annual event on and for nonviolence. We did the first 2020 and will soon do the second one in November. We are aiming at making the third in 2022 international. Our website is right now only in Swedish, but it will be translated later on. We are looking forward to collaborate with all of you. Our address for our website is: [www.ickevald.nu](http://www.ickevald.nu)

**17:03:35 From Ingvar Rönnbäck:** Website to Another Development Foundation is: [www.anotherdevelopmentfoundation.se](http://www.anotherdevelopmentfoundation.se)

**17:11:45 From Vanda Proskova:** Protect People and the Planet: Appeal for a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World: <https://www.unfoldzero.org/protect-people-and-the-planet-appeal-for-a-nuclear-weapon-free-world/>

**17:15:35 From Patricia Taiko:** Indeed in "repressive countries" it's very hard to remain peaceful when aggressors try to stop peaceful action... in Europe peaceful activists can go to court after being aggressed - even by police...

**17:17:24 From Vanda Proskova:** <https://www.youth-fusion.org>

**17:18:01 From Pappinisseri Balan:** A few years ago Ela Gandhi visited Kerala, India. At that time we were setting up sevagram, a centre in each ward to spread the message of non violence and local development. Here let me inform everybody that all the wards of local govt in kerala are celebrating Gandhi jayanthi and widely spreading mahatmas message. This grassroots level activity gains more importance

**17:23:26 From Varsha Mathrani:** What about if a government has included corporations as people, with rights that trump over ours?

**17:27:33 From Helena Robb:** How do we deal with UN power of China and Russia in their veto power?

**17:29:56 From Alyn Ware:** Aminatou Haidar is a recipient of the Right Livelihood Award <https://rightlivelihood.org/the-change-makers/find-a-laureate/aminatou-haidar/>

**17:30:59 From Vanda Proskova:** Agreed Rajiv. I am in no way saying that the UN is perfect - because it definitely isn't. However, I did want to highlight that we, as members of the civil society, can use the tools of the UN to our advantage. The ICJ's 1996 advisory opinion is a good example of that - or even us celebrating the International Day for Nonviolence which the UN recognized as an important day, and thus helped its popularity. I hope this made it clearer! Thank you so much.

**17:31:10 From SENY FAYE:** Long life for the "Nonviolence, Multilateralism, Global governance, Planet as a Common, International solidarity, Mutual love" against the "Nationalism, National Selfishness, International geopolitics" for the whole humanity and the Earth Planet. Thanks

**17:31:51 From Michael Beer:** Aminatou mentions Sultana Khaya, who is a bold nonviolent resister. You can find more about her on this webinar and the similarity of the situation of western sahara and Palestine.. [https://www.nonviolenceinternational.net/webinar\\_nv\\_resistance\\_to\\_occupations](https://www.nonviolenceinternational.net/webinar_nv_resistance_to_occupations)

**17:32:44 From Michael Beer:** See her op-ed here. <https://www.cnn.com/2021/07/29/opinions/morocco-western-sahara-activist-raped-beaten-khaya/index.html>

**17:35:14 From Michael Beer :** Aminatou herself has taken heroic risks for her country, including doing a hunger strike almost to death. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aminatou\\_Haidar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aminatou_Haidar)

17:35:19 From Alyn Ware: Here is the statement from the UN special rapporteur Mary Lawlor that Aminatou mention... Here the UN is providing voice for human rights defenders to challenge the oppressors

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=27244&LangID=E>

**17:41:05 From Senia BA:** Thank you NV for giving the platform for Saharawi voices that many others chose to silence or ignore. The people of Western Sahara have been for decades an obodiment (Aminatou Haidar is a key figure in this) of non-violent struggle for liberation and freedom.

**17:42:11 From Senia BA:** More about current human rights situation in Western Sahara and the role of the US, you can read this: <https://www.lawfareblog.com/western-sahara-biden-administration-and-human-rights>

**17:47:08 From Alyn Ware:** Kasha is a Right Livelihood laureate <https://rightlivelihood.org/the-change-makers/find-a-laureate/kasha-jacqueline-nabagesera/>

**18:12:18 From Varsha Mathrani:** Sharing a related event in Ny today: <https://www.mp-nuclear-free.com> . To endorse (as an org or individual): [http://mp-nuclear-free.com/Fukushima/Fukushima\\_top.html](http://mp-nuclear-free.com/Fukushima/Fukushima_top.html)

**18:31:49 From Jean Stevens:** Thank you for this global peace day event. We need big names like Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, Oprah, and big names in music or sports industry to alert the world that we must abolish nuke weapons before they abolish us ASAP!

**18:28:22 From Alyn Ware:** Here is the appeal we invite you all to endorse <https://www.unfoldzero.org/protect-people-and-the-planet-appeal-for-a-nuclear-weapon-free-world/> . The appeal notes that the \$100 billion annual nuclear weapons budget is needed to address the pandemic (including economic recovery), climate protection and SDGs.