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Lord Attenborough, The Patrons and Trustees of The Gandhi Foundation

have much pleasure in inviting you to the launch of

The British Library's Exhibition "The Life of Gandhi"

at 6:30pm on **Tuesday 25th March 2008**

and to participate in **"The Festival of Nonviolence"**

The British Library's family-oriented, travelling exhibition **"The Life of Gandhi"** will mark the 60 years that have passed since his death in 1948. You are hereby invited to the official launch party at 6:30pm on 25th March in the BL Conference Centre. The Exhibition will be open to the public for the first time on the following Saturday 29th March at Kingsley Hall in Bromley-by-Bow, where Gandhi stayed in 1931, and will close on Saturday 12th April.

"The Festival of Nonviolence" [25th March to 12th April] is designed to complement the Exhibition by bringing to the attention of every Londoner the core message of Gandhi's life, namely, the power of Nonviolence and its critical relevance to solving some of the major problems of our day. We believe that you are committed to the principles of Nonviolence and that the work of your organisation reflects this. We know that there are huge numbers of other people and organisations across the city whose work is also aimed at creating and maintaining communal harmony, social cohesion, good race relations, justice and environmental integrity using nonviolent means. They range from the Faiths, not-for-profit groups, central and local governments to teachers, police, artists, journalists, trades unionists, social and community workers, lawyers, managers, counsellors and politicians.

We therefore invite you to participate in The Festival by publicly labelling your activities and events during these 18 days as being part of The Festival. We ask you to do so by simply adding the Festival logo, title and the website to your publicity material. If you also help publicise The Festival as a whole, every participant will benefit and the collective impact on Londoners and our visitors will be that much greater.

If you agree to participate, The Gandhi Foundation will:

- Email you weekly up-dates about who has joined and what they plan.
- Collate your information into The Festival Programme.
- Add your publicity to The Festival marketing campaign.
- And be available at specified times for discussion, advice and liaison.

RSVP, with the publicity on your activities and events, to:
festival.of.nonviolence@gmail.com

Best wishes,

John Rowley, 73 Carysfort Road, London N16 9AD. Tel: 0207-249-4471.

Annual Lecturers

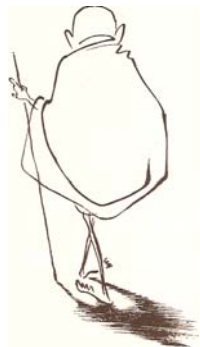
Paul Blau, Adam Curle, The Dalai Lama, Madhu Dandavate, Scilla Elworthy, David Ennals, Martin Ennals, Johann Galtung, Simon Hughes, John Hume, Bruce Kent, Mairead Maguire, Jonathon Porritt, LM Singhvi, Donald Soper, Helen Steven & Ellen Moxley, Mark Tully

Gandhi Peace Award

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

TITLE: "THE FESTIVAL OF NONVIOLENCE"

LOGO: **SUB-TITLE:**



"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".

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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.

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 NOTE:

1. You will accept that it is important to establish momentum quickly. Please, therefore, register your intention to participate **soon** and **spread the word**. We need your ideas, your help, your contacts as well as your activities and events. **Please pass this Invitation on** - word of mouth will be vital to making **The Festival of Nonviolence** a success, consistently noticed across London throughout the 18 days.
2. **Venues to date:** Birmingham, Bromley, Cardiff, Glasgow, Hull, Leicester, London, Sheffield, Southampton.
3. You will know that the UN General Assembly named 2nd October, Gandhi's birthday, as **The International Day of Nonviolence**. 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." Our "**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.