

GKI EXHIBIT CONTINUES NONVIOLENCE MESSAGE BY FLETCHER DALTON AND JACK SMITH CORRESPONDENTS

On Aug. 5, the “Gandhi, King, Ikeda: A Legacy of Building Peace” exhibition opened in Montgomery, Ala., at the invitation of Martin Luther King III, to coincide with the start of the 43rd Southern Christian Leadership Conference National Convention. Joining Mr. King in the ribbon-cutting ceremony was SGI-USA General Director Danny Nagashima, Dr. Lawrence Edward Carter, dean of the Martin Luther King, Jr. International Chapel at Morehouse College and Dr. N. Radhakrishnan, director of the International Center of Gandhian Studies and Research of New Delhi, India.

In remarks made at the ceremony, Mr. King, who is the eldest son of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., thanked Morehouse College and the SGI-USA for organizing the exhibition. By witnessing the display, visitors could “begin the process of embracing the principles that these three men embraced,” he said.

The SCLC was founded in 1957 by Dr. King to propel the civil rights movement after the bus boycotts, which took place in Montgomery two years earlier. Mrs. Coretta Scott King, widow of Dr. King, joined her son in viewing the exhibition.

Next, the exhibition traveled to the 4th annual International Conference on Nonviolence, held Aug. 11–15. The conference, which took place at the Center for Nonviolence and Peace Studies at the University of Rhode Island, attracted representatives from all over the world.

Dr. Carter and Dr. Radhakrishnan were again on hand at the conference. The keynote speaker was former U.S. ambassador Andrew Young, advisor to presidents, author and former mayor of Atlanta. The exhibition was installed at the university’s Multicultural Center. During the opening session of the conference it was announced that SGI President Ikeda was donating 100 books to the library of the Center for Nonviolence and Peace Studies.

Dr. Carter, in calling the representatives’ attention to the exhibition, described the work and philosophy of the SGI. Visitors to the exhibition, including conference representatives who were associates of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., were fascinated by the depth of detail, and were quick to express their thanks for the efforts of the cosponsors.