

Furthermore, Miami has a retention and graduation rate that exceeds the national average for undergraduates, students of color, and athletes, and has the highest graduation rate in Ohio. Much of Miami's success is owed to its stellar faculty. As nationally prominent scholars and artists, Miami's faculty contribute to the university, their own disciplines, and to society. In fact, while a faculty member at Miami, William Holmes McGuffey, "School Master to the Nation," wrote and compiled the first 4 McGuffey Eclectic Readers.

Additionally, Miami recognizes the opportunities for personal and professional growth that living and studying internationally brings. With its own campus in Luxembourg, Miami consistently ranks among the top 25 universities and colleges in the nation for the number of undergraduate students who study abroad. These abroad opportunities have enabled countless Miami students to develop a broader perspective and keener understanding of the world as they contribute to society.

Miami alumni have a history of profound service to the United States, including a President of the United States (the Honorable Benjamin Harrison); 9 U.S. Senators, including sitting Senator MARIA CANTWELL (D-WA); and 31 U.S. Representatives, including sitting Members, Congressman PAUL RYAN (R-WI) and Congressman STEVE DRIEHAUS (D-OH). In addition, Miami students and alumni have achieved the pillar of their professions including a Poet Laureate, Pulitzer Prize winners, a National Teacher of the Year, and renowned journalists. As the nation's oldest university newspaper, the Miami Student has offered students the opportunity to develop their interests and skills in journalism since 1826.

Miami is also committed to creating an environment that teaches student-athletes to excel in their chosen endeavors. In fact, Miami is one of only 4 universities and colleges to generate both a United States President (the Honorable Benjamin Harrison) and a winning Super Bowl quarterback (Ben Roethlisberger). Miami alumni include a National Football League Rookie of the Year, National Football League Super Bowl Champions, National Basketball Association World Champions, National Health League Stanley Cup Champions, Major League Baseball World Series Champions, and Olympic gold medalists. Known as the "Cradle of Coaches," Miami has produced an unparalleled number of nationally prominent collegiate and professional coaches, 18 of whom have been recognized as national "Coach of the Year," including Paul Brown (Cleveland Browns), Walter "Smokey" Alston (Brooklyn/Los Angeles Dodgers), Woody Hayes (Ohio State University), Bo Schembechler (University of Michigan), and Vicki Korn (Miami University).

In addition to athletics, many Miami students also participate in Greek life. As the Alpha Chapter for 5 national Greek organizations (Beta Theta Pi, Sigma Chi, Phi Delta Theta, Phi Kappa Tau, and the Delta Zeta sorority), Miami University is known as the "Mother of Fraternities." Greek life at Miami offers students the ability to engage in philanthropic activities and offers leadership opportunities that help prepare the students for their future.

Miami alumni have gone on to lead some of our most august corporations such as AT&T, Inc., Proctor and Gamble Co., the J.M. Smucker Company, and the United Parcel Service of America. As the largest employer in

Butler County, Ohio, Miami University serves as an economic powerhouse Southwest Ohio, the state of Ohio, and the nation with an economic impact of over a billion dollars per year to the state of Ohio.

On February 17, 2009, Miami will celebrate its bicentennial. I congratulate Miami for the university's profound achievements and unwavering commitment to liberal arts education and the active engagement of its students in both curricular and co-curricular life that has continually attracted and produced some of the nation's brightest faculty, staff, and students. I wish Miami the very best in the future.

Mr. McCLINTOCK. I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. FUDGE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 128, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. FUDGE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR'S VISIT TO INDIA

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 134) recognizing the 50th Anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s visit to India, and the positive influence that the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi had on Dr. King's work during the Civil Rights Movement.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 134

Whereas Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. changed America forever in a few short years through his teaching of nonviolence and passive resistance to combat segregation, discrimination, and racial injustice;

Whereas, in 1950, during the pursuit of a Bachelor of Divinity degree at Crozer Theological Seminary in Upland, Pennsylvania, Dr. King first became aware of the success of nonviolent political action employed by India's Mahatma Gandhi in political campaigns against racial inequality in South Africa, and later against British colonial rule in India;

Whereas Dr. King began an extensive study of Gandhi's life and ideas, and became inspired to use Gandhi's theory of nonviolent civil disobedience to achieve social change in America;

Whereas, in 1955 and 1956, Dr. King led the Montgomery Bus Boycott to protest the arrest of Rosa Parks and the segregation of the bus system of Montgomery, Alabama, during which time Dr. King was arrested and his home bombed;

Whereas the Montgomery Bus Boycott was the first large-scale, nonviolent civil rights demonstration of contemporary times in the United States;

Whereas, following the success of nonviolent protest in the Montgomery Bus Boycott, Dr. King desired to travel to India to deepen his knowledge of Gandhi's teachings on nonviolent principles;

Whereas Dr. King, his wife Coretta Scott King, and Lawrence Reddick, then chairman of the history department at Alabama State College, arrived in Bombay, India, on February 10, 1959 and stayed until March 10, 1959;

Whereas Dr. King was warmly welcomed by members of Indian society throughout his visit, and met with Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, land reform leader Vinoba Bhave, and other influential Indian leaders to discuss issues of poverty, economic policy, and race relations;

Whereas, while in India, Dr. King spoke about race and equality at crowded universities and at public meetings;

Whereas followers of Gandhi's philosophy, known as satyagrahis, welcomed Dr. King and praised him for his nonviolent efforts during the Montgomery Bus Boycott, which they saw as a landmark success of principles of nonviolence outside of India;

Whereas the satyagrahis and Dr. King discussed Gandhi's philosophy, known as Satyagraha, which promotes nonviolence and civil disobedience as the most useful methods for obtaining political and social goals;

Whereas the satyagrahis reaffirmed and deepened Dr. King's commitment to nonviolence, and revealed to him the power that nonviolent resistance holds in political and social battles;

Whereas the trip to India impacted Dr. King in a profound way, and inspired him to use nonviolence as an instrument of social change to end segregation and racial discrimination in America throughout the rest of his work during the Civil Rights Movement;

Whereas Dr. King rose to be the preeminent civil rights advocate of his time, leading the Civil Rights Movement in the United States during the 1950s and 1960s and earning world-wide recognition as an eloquent and articulate spokesperson for equality;

Whereas Dr. King became a champion of nonviolence, and in 1964, at the age of 35, he became the youngest man to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of his efforts;

Whereas through his leadership in nonviolent protest, Dr. King was instrumental in the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965;

Whereas, between 1957 and 1968, Dr. King traveled more than 6,000,000 miles, spoke more than 2,500 times, and wrote five books and numerous articles supporting efforts around the country to end injustice and bring about social change and desegregation through civil disobedience; and

Whereas the work of Dr. King created a basis of understanding and respect, and helped communities and the United States as a whole to act peacefully, cooperatively, and courageously to restore tolerance, justice, and equality between people: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives encourages all Americans to—

(1) pause and remember the 50th Anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s visit to India;

(2) commemorate Dr. King's legacy of nonviolence, a principle that—

(A) Dr. King encountered during his study of India's Mahatma Gandhi;

(B) further inspired him during his first trip to India; and

(C) he successfully used in the struggle for civil rights and voting rights;

(3) commemorate the impact that Dr. King's trip to India and his study of the philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi had in shaping the Civil Rights Movement and creating the political climate necessary to pass legislation to expand civil rights and voting rights for all Americans; and

(4) rededicate themselves to Dr. King's belief that "nonviolence is the answer to the crucial political and moral question of our time" and to his goal of a free and just United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, 50 years ago today, on February 10, 1959, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., arrived in Bombay, India, to study the principles of nonviolence developed and used so skillfully by Mahatma Gandhi, which Dr. King himself employed to become this Nation's greatest civil rights leader.

I commend my colleague, the gentleman from Georgia, Congressman JOHN LEWIS, for introducing this bipartisan resolution that calls upon all Americans to rededicate ourselves to Dr. King's belief that nonviolence is the answer to the crucial political and moral questions of our time. I would also like to acknowledge the many members of the Judiciary Committee that join in this resolution and, in particular, the gentleman from Texas, our ranking member, Mr. LAMAR SMITH.

During his month-long travel to India from February 10 to March 10, 1959, Dr. King gained a deeper appreciation for the power of nonviolent civil disobedience, a practice that Dr. King first discovered reading Henry David Thoreau's essay, "On Civil Disobedience," while a student at Morehouse College.

Just as Gandhi had used it successfully in resistance to oppressive British colonial rule in India, Dr. King adopted it as a cornerstone of the American Civil Rights Movement, holding firmly and faithfully to it even when the peaceful demonstrations were met by dogs and fire hoses, and worse.

Nonviolence had already proven successful in the Montgomery bus boycott, and so it would be used later successfully in sit-ins used to protest segregated lunch counters, and in the free-

dom rides used to challenge segregated public transportation facilities.

In Memphis, Tennessee, on April 3, 1968, the eve of his assassination, Dr. King told us that "it is no longer a choice between violence and nonviolence in this world; it is nonviolence or nonexistence." This remains his challenge to us as we confront the evils of our own time, from the police brutality and hate crimes here at home, to the threats to freedom emanating from around the world.

Can we always meet this challenge? Given our human frailties, that would be exceedingly difficult. But keeping that challenge in our hearts will help us always to look for the peaceful solution whenever possible, and to maintain our faith that we will sometimes be able to find it even in the most uncompromising situations.

As Dr. King observed in February of 1967 against the backdrop of the Vietnam War: "Wars are poor chisels for carving out peaceful tomorrows." That statement speaks to us as loudly today as it did to those who heard it more than 40 years ago.

Standing on the shoulders of Gandhi, Dr. King called on us to promote equality and justice through steadfast nonviolence, and it is on the shoulders of Dr. King that we now stand to do our best to live up to his dream for us. I ask my colleagues to support this resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I support House Resolution 134, which commemorates the 50th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King's trip to India, in which he paid his respects to the methods of nonviolent protest pioneered by Mahatma Gandhi.

Dr. King studied Gandhi's philosophy of nonviolent change at seminary, and in 1959 he had the honor of visiting the land in which the seeds of peaceful protest had been successfully sown by Gandhi.

Gandhi was the first to employ nonviolent protest on a mass political scale. This opposition resulted in national change. Dr. King, inspired by Gandhi's organized peaceful action, launched a similar effort to fight for racial equality under the law in the United States. That inspiration eventually materialized in the Nobel Peace Prize that was awarded to Dr. King in 1964, and a year earlier in a 250,000 person peaceful march Dr. King led through the streets of Washington, D.C. Dr. King was the leader of an historic nonviolent revolution in the U.S. Over the course of his life, he fought for equal justice and led the Nation towards racial harmony.

While advancing this great movement, Dr. King's home was bombed and he was subjected to relentless personal and physical abuse. Despite this violence, Dr. King responded in peace and with strong conviction and sound rea-

soning. As a pastor, Dr. King's religious beliefs were essential to the success of his nonviolent efforts.

□ 1715

Just as Mahatma Gandhi was a deeply religious man, so too was Dr. King. It is doubtful that such a long and enduring movement could have survived in either man's country without the power of religious inspiration behind it.

While Gandhi and Dr. King convinced millions of both the morality and the effectiveness of nonviolent change, their message, unfortunately, was not accepted by all. On the evening of April 4, 1968, while standing on the balcony of his hotel room in Memphis, Tennessee, Dr. King was assassinated. But a single vicious act could not extinguish Dr. King's legacy which endures to this day. And Dr. King's legacy is due in large part to the inspiration of Mahatma Gandhi, whose success helped endow Dr. King with the courage to lift voices, not weapons, in the struggle for equality here in the United States.

America is a better, freer nation today in large part due to the philosophical fellowship of Gandhi and Dr. King.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution. And let me also point out that I know that the two gentlemen from Georgia to my left, one who has spoken and one is getting ready to speak, as well as the Speaker himself, the gentleman from Illinois, have all been leaders in the Civil Rights Movement. And we certainly appreciate their leadership, their contributions and their success.

And I will reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I will yield as much time as he may consume to the sponsor of this resolution, the Honorable JOHN LEWIS of Georgia.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Georgia for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, 50 years ago today, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and his wife, Coretta Scott King, took a historic trip to India to travel and study the path of Mahatma Gandhi. Dr. King was deeply influenced by the teachings of Gandhi and what he attempted to do in South Africa and what he did to liberate and free the people of India from the colonial rule of the British.

It was on Gandhi's preaching of the philosophy and the discipline of nonviolence that Dr. King patterned the nonviolent struggle in America to tear down the walls of segregation and racial discrimination. The great teacher gave us the philosophy of nonviolence, and Gandhi gave us the message and showed us the way. So it is fitting for the United States Congress to pause and recognize the 50th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s trip to India and the impact that trip had on our Nation's struggle for civil rights and voting rights.

In a few days, Mr. Speaker, a group of Members of Congress will travel to India to walk the path that Dr. King walked. I am hopeful that we will have the opportunity to be inspired by this one man to carry the message of peace, hope and love to the rest of the world. Gandhi once said "nonviolence is the first article of my faith. It is also the last article of my creed." He said that our choice was between nonviolence and nonexistence.

Dr. King said that we must learn to live together as brothers and sisters or perish as fools. The message of Gandhi and Dr. King still speaks to us today.

I call on all Members of the House to support this resolution.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FRANKS), a member of the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. I certainly thank the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. Speaker, today's resolution marks the 50th anniversary of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King's visit to India and the positive influence that the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi had on Reverend King's work during the Civil Rights Movement. Likewise, later this month, we will also celebrate President Lincoln's birthday because of his work to lay the foundation for what would become the greatest of American achievements, the recognition of the God-given equal value of all individuals regardless of their race, and the consequent and natural equal protection of the law for everyone.

Reverend King and President Lincoln had many things in common. But most prominently of all was their life's work to humanize the dehumanized, to give value to a human life that the law had previously regarded as being lesser than other more politically powerful persons.

Reverend King reminded us in his 1963 Letter From the Birmingham Jail that "injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly." Like Gandhi, Reverend King looked to his faith to transform society. Reverend King ultimately paid with his life the price for working to extend the equal protection of the law to all.

Mr. Speaker, those were the struggles of the past centuries. And those were the heroes of the past centuries. But their work is not done. The 21st century has its own civil rights struggle, Mr. Speaker. As Day Gardner, president of the National Black Pro-Life Union, has said, "The biggest struggle for civil rights today is for the civil rights of the unborn child."

Last year I joined black activists and black mothers from around the country at the corner of 16th Street Northwest in D.C. to protest what has been the deadliest form of discrimination in our country's history, the systematic elimination of millions, fully one-half

of all black Americans conceived in this country, primarily at government-funded family planning clinics placed in our inner cities. Every day, Mr. Speaker, almost 1,500 unborn black children are aborted. Black babies are aborted at between four and five times the rate of that of white babies. Mr. Speaker, this equates to a genocide against black America. And yet our U.S. Government continues to increase the annual appropriation to Planned Parenthood and to other abortion providers every year.

Mr. Speaker, I have every conviction that if he were alive today, that Reverend Martin Luther King would not be silent in the face of such an outrage. Dr. King noted in his Letter From Birmingham Jail that the early church "by their effort and example, brought an end to such ancient evils as infanticide." He didn't know that in 1973, 10 years after he wrote those words, that the U.S. Supreme Court would revive the practice of killing the innocent and that the black community would pay a higher price in blood than any other. Abortion on demand is called sometimes the exercise of hard-won rights. But in reality, Mr. Speaker, it is the extinguishing of a legacy.

The greatest failure of human government is the failure to recognize the inherent value of every human life. Unborn children in America are the greatest example of that today. It is the civil rights struggle before America in this century. Reverend King once said that "The law cannot change a heart, but it can restrain the heartless. The law cannot make a man love me, but it can restrain him from lynching me." This Congress, I will introduce the PreNDA bill, the Prenatal Non-discrimination Act, to end sex-selection abortion and race-selection abortion in America.

It is time to reject the discriminatory disgrace of aborting a child based on race or sex. Doing so might remind us all it is also time for the equal protection clause to realize its full meaning finally, that every human being is a child of God, with the God-given rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of their dreams. Nothing, Mr. Speaker, nothing, would honor the work of Reverend Martin Luther King or Mahatma Gandhi or President Abraham Lincoln more.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the fine gentleman from the great State of Washington, Mr. JIM McDERMOTT.

(Mr. McDERMOTT asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I'm honored to join my friend and colleague, Representative JOHN LEWIS, himself a legendary civil rights leader, in strongly supporting H. Res. 134 and in carrying a message of hope to an upcoming trip to India.

There is so much that we can learn from the lives of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Mahatma Gandhi.

Gandhi's principle of "satyagraha," nonviolent resistance, inspired change for the better throughout the world and particularly in the United States. As Dr. King said in a radio address in India in 1959 on this trip, "the spirit of Gandhi is so much stronger today than some people believe." That statement is even truer today.

These two people changed their countries and the world for the better. And the world today would benefit from a new Dr. King or a new Gandhi. They taught us that violence begets violence. As Gandhi once said, "An eye for an eye makes the whole world blind." No one doubts that there are serious problems in the world today, violence in the Middle East and many other places, the AIDS pandemic and extreme poverty where 1 billion people in the world live on less than a dollar a day. Missiles will not solve these crises. But people can, people of good will with courage and character, people like Dr. Martin Luther King and Mahatma Gandhi. We need them now more than ever. And this resolution and this upcoming trip by the Congress to India will honor their contributions to mankind and rekindle their spirit to seek peace by living in peace.

I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 134.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time is left for each side?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Georgia has 12 minutes. The gentleman from Texas has 12½ minutes.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, we don't have any other speakers at this time.

I would like to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I would yield 3 minutes to the honorable Representative from the great State of Texas, Ms. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE.

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. It is a privilege, Mr. Speaker, to have the opportunity to come to the floor today for such an important recognition of two iconic movers of change, individuals who laid the underpinnings of the reformation of nations that already had a good heart. Let me thank the manager, Mr. JOHNSON, for his leadership, and of course our ranking member, Mr. SMITH, my colleague from Texas, and the author of this legislation, JOHN LEWIS. I know that he wrote this legislation from the heart.

We will be recognizing this historic journey in a few days, the 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King's visit to India and the recognition of the intertwining of their spirits and their intellect between Martin King and Mahatma Gandhi. I had the opportunity to view the years-old film that was done on his life. Certainly we know that fictional aspects may have been

included. But the underpinnings of the film was the willingness to sacrifice for the greater good.

And as I reflect upon Martin King's life, having had the opportunity to be a student worker of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and absorbing the spirit of nonviolence that had been left by Dr. King, I know how much he was influenced by the life-changing attitude of Gandhi. Gandhi was willing to sacrifice life and limb in order to move mountains of change. And what you saw in his determination for freedom for the people of India were two things: One, the people of diverse faiths and beliefs in this then very large country could come together around the idea of freedom, and then at the same time, he was willing to sacrifice the times that he spent in the fasts where he was near death to show those that violence does not engender anything but violence.

□ 1730

And Martin King, in the various periods of his life, where the younger generation challenged this seemingly hapless and helpless method of nonviolence; you weren't accomplishing anything; they were taking advantage of you; they weren't respecting you. But he was willing to hold his ground and, in that, he was the masterful teacher to all of us who looked upon this young man who was willing to lead a country into freedom without violence. And so the intertwining of the two is a special moment. And I'm so very gratified that JOHN LEWIS saw fit to allow us to come to the floor of the House and acknowledge that we are in partnership with the largest democracy.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. I yield an additional 1 minute to Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON-LEE.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. We are in partnership with the largest democracy, India, and the longest democracy, the United States. And I hope we will take a lesson from this partnership of two men, now celebrating 50 years of that coming together, that determination and a way of handling people can garner us so much.

And this new President, who has claimed development and diplomacy as key elements to his foreign policy, gets it; that you can work as partnerships with those who you would think would be hostile to your beliefs.

I am very gratified to support this legislation, H. Res. 134, recognizing the 50th anniversary of the trip of Dr. Martin Luther King to India and the work that he did with Mahatma Gandhi, and the two of them, peace for ever and for everlasting.

Mr. Speaker, I rose today in strong support of H. Res. 134 "Recognizing the 50th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s visit to India and the point of influence that the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi had on Dr. King's work during the civil rights movement." I would

like to thank Representative JOHN LEWIS, from Georgia, for his leadership in bringing this resolution to the floor. I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution. Because of the importance of the importance of Gandhi's life teachings on non-violence, I am participating in a historic CODEL to India, where members of Congress will sojourn in the land of Gandhi during the recess on next week.

It was through this experience that Dr. King, with a heart of servitude, was transitioned to become the greatest civil rights advocate of our century and possibly the greatest leader of our time. Mahatma Gandhi was a formative influence upon Dr. King's political civil disobedience. Dr. King and Gandhi believed that change would occur once Americans acknowledged the humanity of the oppressed in America.

Gandhi became a leader in a complex struggle. Following World War I, Gandhi launched his movement of non-violent resistance to Great Britain. Satyagraha, which involves utilization of non-violent measures to undermine the opponent, and ideally to convert him rather than to coerce him into submission, spread throughout India, gaining millions of followers. A demonstration against the Rowlatt Acts, which allowed certain political cases to be tried without juries and internment of suspects without trial, but resulted in a massacre of Indians at Amritsar by British soldiers. When the British government failed to make amends, Gandhi proclaimed an organized campaign of non-cooperation. Indians in public office resigned, government agencies such as courts of law were boycotted, and Indian children were withdrawn from government schools. Throughout India, streets were blocked by squatting Indians who refused to rise even when beaten by police. Gandhi was arrested, but the British were soon forced to release him. His non-violent movement set a new precedent for dealing with oppression and violence, not just in India, but the world over.

Dr. King and Gandhi journey's ironically began in the same fashion. It was a train ride in South Africa that created Gandhi. It was a bus boycott in Alabama that made Dr. Martin Luther King. They were ordinary men only seeking to heighten the moral conscience of the time. These men were the spokesmen for the oppressed, unjustly treated, and those denied their God given privileges to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Institutionalized racism and bigotry sought to keep the people of India, African Americans, and others from achieving those God given virtues.

Dr. King's journey to India came at a vital time in American history. The Montgomery boycott had ended and had proven to be a great success. The nation's leaders were now dealing with a new challenge, one it had not seen before, non-violent social disobedience. People, both black and white, were looking to the newly famed leader from Georgia as the conscience of the nation. While they looked to Dr. King, he looked to the east for inspiration. It was Mahatma Gandhi's teachings of non-violence that helped achieve success in Alabama. He knew that it would be Gandhi's teachings that would help the movement to achieve greater success in his quest for civil equality in the United States.

On the trip to India, Dr. King was surprised to find the extent to which the bus boycott was covered in India and throughout the world. King recalled, "We were looked upon as

brothers, with the color of our skins as something of an asset. But the strongest bond of fraternity was the common cause of minority and colonial peoples in America, Africa, and Asia struggling to throw off racism and imperialism."

Dr. King's meetings with satyagrahis deepened his commitment to nonviolent resistance. His interactions with the Gandhi family ingrained in him the power of nonviolent resistance and its potential usefulness throughout the world, even against totalitarian regimes.

While discussing non-violence to a group of students in India, Dr. King said, "True non-violent resistance is not unrealistic submission to evil power. It is rather a courageous confrontation of evil by the power of love, in the faith that it is better to be the recipient of violence than the inflictor of it, since the latter only multiplies the existence of violence and bitterness in the universe, while the former may develop a sense of shame in the opponent, and thereby bring about a transformation and change of heart."

The trip to India affected Dr. King in a profound way, deepening his understanding of nonviolent resistance and his commitment to America's struggle for civil rights. "Since being in India, I am more convinced than ever before that the method of nonviolent resistance is the most potent weapon available to oppressed people in their struggle for justice and human dignity. In a real sense, Mahatma Gandhi embodied certain universal principles that are inherent in the moral structure of the universe, and these principles are as inescapable as the law of gravitation," Dr. King said.

The contributions of Gandhi and Dr. King are many. The roles that these two humanitarians traveled to arrive at their respective destinations in history were long and difficult, but they deserve all the respect and admiration that history can bestow upon them. As Members of Congress, we have to respect and acknowledge the work of Gandhi and the teachings he left behind that greatly influenced and changed Dr. Martin Luther King.

Dr. King's trip to India further solidified his belief in nonviolence and peaceful resistance. Gandhi and Dr. King embodied the belief of doing unto others as you would have them to do unto you. They also believed in becoming the visible change you want to see in the world. They believed that men could live together peacefully despite their religious, racial, and cultural differences. Mohandas changed the way Indians were treated in South Africa and in India. Overthrowing the imperial British rule was no easy task, but Gandhi was able to do it. Through his Satyagraha teachings and non-violent protest, Gandhi put forth an example that vicariously aided in the liberation of African Americans in the United States.

It is imperative that we commemorate Dr. King's trip to India. It would be shameful of this Congress to pass on an opportunity to acknowledge the contributions of Gandhi and Dr. King to America's history.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to join my friend and colleague Representative JOHN LEWIS in support of H. Res. 134. This resolution commemorates the fiftieth anniversary of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s visit to India, and the role played by the revered leader of Indian independence Mahatma Gandhi—and those who followed in his footsteps—in influencing Dr. King's non-violent approach to achieving

social and political justice. I embrace this opportunity to look back at the men and the movement which pressed this nation forward in its journey towards the fulfillment of our founders' creed, and look forward as the march toward opportunity, justice, and freedom for all continues.

When Dr. King left for India in February 1959, he was just beginning to make his mark as a leader of the national movement for civil rights. He had organized the successful boycott of Montgomery, Alabama's public transportation system in 1955, and founded the Southern Christian Leadership Conference two years later. His burgeoning success had provided his non-violent movement with the momentum and potential to become a truly powerful force in the pursuit of equal rights for all Americans. This momentum became entrenched during Dr. King's trip to India, where his immersion in the world of Mahatma Gandhi's own non-violent success led King to commit himself in his philosophical entirety to the principle of meeting hate and injustice with persistent non-violence.

Though Gandhi had passed away eleven years prior to Dr. King's journey, King was no less attentive to the followers of the great shanti sena—the "non-violent army" that Gandhi led in his successful effort to free his country from the grasp of colonialism. He encountered those who had stood with Gandhi through the long, arduous struggle for India's sovereignty, and came to deeply understand the necessary commitment and purpose of which believers in non-violence must never lose sight. Dr. King came to believe that if India can assert its independence from the bonds of the British Empire without violence, then the United States of America can achieve racial equality with the same approach. He took the lessons of a people half a world away and applied them to the struggle of his own nation, illustrating that a righteous cause pursued by means which justify its ends holds universal promise. Perhaps it is best articulated by Dr. King himself: "As I delved deeper into the philosophy of Gandhi, my skepticism concerning the power of love gradually diminished, and I came to see for the first time its potency in the area of social reform."

Now, with the passage of five decades, let us commemorate this historic journey of our beloved Dr. King, focusing on the lessons it taught him and the strength it provided him as he met the challenges of his day. Let us not only remember the past, but rather carry its lessons into a brighter future of promise and freedom. I once again express my heartfelt appreciation for Congressman LEWIS, a man whose own journey and career follow closely the principles and vision laid out by these two men, and urge all my colleagues to take this opportunity to honor those who refuse to allow the forces of hate and oppression to provoke them to lose sight of their vision for justice by embracing the nonviolent path.

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 134, which recognizes the 50th Anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s visit to India.

It will be my honor to co-chair a delegation led by Congressman JOHN LEWIS, a colleague of Dr. King and true hero of the civil rights movement, that is going to New Delhi to commemorate his historic trip.

The lessons that Dr. King drew from Mahatma Gandhi's teachings of nonviolence came at a pivotal time in American history.

A century earlier, the issue of race and equality tore the United States apart. President Abraham Lincoln, whose 200th birthday we celebrate this year, prophetically said, "I believe this government cannot endure permanently half-slave and half-free." Unable to resolve this fundamental issue of human rights either politically or peacefully, the United States descended into an awful Civil War. After four bitter and bloody years, slavery was abolished and America's soul saved, but the undressed wounds of injustice and intolerance were deep and raw.

Several lifetimes later, amid a crescendo for full civil rights from millions still denied, leaders like Dr. King faced a choice. Was the way again through armed conflict, with all of its suffering, or through nonviolent resistance relying on the power of morality over mortar?

The principles of Gandhi helped show the way.

We know that Dr. King's gracious welcome and textured experiences in India served to guide him more surely down the path he had chosen for his people and country. He said, "Since being in India, I am more convinced than ever before that the method of nonviolent resistance is the most potent weapon available to oppressed people in their struggle for justice and human dignity."

Those beliefs would be put to the test during the civil rights struggles of the 1960s, including in my home state in Alabama. Sometimes, the challenges were visible and shocking, as they were with the church bombings in Birmingham and beatings at the Pettus Bridge in Selma. More often, there were the subtle slights born of fear and prejudice.

But whatever the indignity or assault suffered, the response was never hate. In his Letter from a Birmingham Jail, Dr. King set the direction: "I have consistently preached that nonviolence demands that the means we use must be as pure as the ends we seek."

It is now 2009, 50 years since Dr. King's visit to India. I believe the U.S. has come farther in these last 50 years than in the preceding 100 years.

Providing all of our citizens with true equal protection under the law has made us a better, stronger nation. We will recognize the lasting legacy of the movement for nonviolent change next month when the Faith and Politics Institute holds its biennial Civil Rights Pilgrimage to Alabama. It has been my privilege to be associated with the Institute and this event, which brings citizens of all ages and races together to reflect on the lessons of the civil rights movement and retrace the steps of its courageous pioneers.

One mark of how far we've come is the creation of the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, which overlooks the same park where fire hoses and police dogs were unleashed against peaceful citizens in 1963.

But what will be remembered in American history for all time is the inauguration of President Barack Obama. There is a small vignette from that day that perfectly illustrates the healing that has transpired in America and gives hope for the future. About 30 constituents from Congressman DANNY DAVIS's Chicago District was in the hallway where my office is located, unable to squeeze into a hearing room to view the President's speech on television. My staff invited them in and they all watched the speech together, a group of African-American constituents in the office of a Southern con-

servative. That is a mighty transformation since the racial turmoil in Birmingham.

We were united in celebration of the hope and promise that is America. Hope and faith is what inspired Dr. King during his mission and it is what brings us together today.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time as well.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 134.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

HONORING THE NAACP ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 35) honoring and praising the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, NAACP, on the occasion of its 100th anniversary.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 35

Whereas the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (referred to in this resolution as the "NAACP"), originally known as the National Negro Committee, was founded in New York City on February 12, 1909, the centennial of Abraham Lincoln's birth, by a multiracial group of activists who met in a national conference to discuss the civil and political rights of African-Americans;

Whereas the NAACP was founded by a distinguished group of leaders in the struggle for civil and political liberty, including Ida Wells-Barnett, W.E.B. DuBois, Henry Moscowitz, Mary White Ovington, Oswald Garrison Villard, and William English Walling;

Whereas the NAACP is the oldest and largest civil rights organization in the United States;

Whereas the mission of the NAACP is to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination;

Whereas the NAACP is committed to achieving its goals through nonviolence;

Whereas the NAACP advances its mission through reliance upon the press, the petition, the ballot, and the courts, and has been persistent in the use of legal and moral persuasion, even in the face of overt and violent racial hostility;

Whereas the NAACP has used political pressure, marches, demonstrations, and effective lobbying to serve as the voice, as well as the shield, for minority Americans;

Whereas after years of fighting segregation in public schools, the NAACP, under the