

GANDHI, KING, IKEDA EXHIBIT NOW AT SUA
BY PAUL R. CARBAJAL
SOKA UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA

The “Gandhi, King, Ikeda: A Legacy of Building Peace” exhibition is now open on the campus of Soka University of America, Aliso Viejo in the Founders Hall Art Gallery and will be showing through Sept. 29.

The exhibition, which is sponsored by Morehouse College, focuses on Mohandas K. Gandhi, Martin Luther King Jr., and Daisaku Ikeda—three men from three different cultures and countries, and their humanitarian efforts to foster peace and equality for all, through nonviolent means. The exhibition also features colorful photographs, inspiring quotes and factual information about the three.

Mohandas K. Gandhi was an Indian Hindu whose principles of nonviolence inspired a movement that ultimately led to India’s independence from the domination of the British Empire. “In the moment of our trial and our triumph, let me declare my faith,” he said. “I believe in loving my enemies.”

American hero Martin Luther King Jr. was a leading civil rights figure, a prime mover in the Montgomery bus boycott in 1956, the keynote speaker at the historic March on Washington in 1963 and the youngest Nobel Peace Prize laureate in 1964. It was his policy of nonviolent protest that was the dominant force in the civil rights movement that took place primarily in the American south from 1957–68. “On the one hand I must attempt to change the soul of individuals so that their societies may be changed,” he said. “On the other hand I must attempt to change the societies so that the individual soul will have a chance.”

Daisaku Ikeda has worked more than 50 years to help break down the barriers that prevent individuals from harmoniously living together. He has also devoted most of his life to strengthening the foundations of peace in the hearts of millions of individuals. As he put it, “A great human revolution in just a single individual will help achieve a change in the destiny of a society and further will enable a change in the destiny of all humankind.”

The exhibition is free and open to the general public with hours running from Tuesday–Saturday, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., and Sundays 11:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. For general information call (949) 480-4000 or see www.soka.edu.