

IF GHANDI WERE ALIVE TODAY
REACTIONS TO THE FILM AND HIS LIFE



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NEVER HURT! NEVER RETALIATE! NEVER SEEK
REVENGE! NEVER LIE! NEVER DECEIVE! NEVER
BLAME! NEVER DEFEND *with physical force!*

THOSE WORDS CAME TO MY MIND WHEN I SAW THE FILM

GHANDI, IT IS NOT MY PURPOSE TO REVIEW A
MOTION PICTURE FILM, ~~AND I CAN ONLY~~ I CAN ONLY
SAY THAT THE MAGNIFICENT PORTRAYAL OF THE MAN AND
HIGH POINTS OF HIS LIFE *+ spirit + philosophy* WERE SHARP AND WELCOME
REMINDERS TO ME OF MY *study* LONG AGO READING OF ~~MR~~
GHANDI'S TEACHINGS AND *also* MY EXPOSURE TO ANOTHER
MAN WHO WAS MY TEACHER AND PROBABLY ONE OF
THE FEW WESTERN MEN TO BE *I think* ALMOST
COMPLETE DISCIPLE OF GHANDI,

THE WORDS I SPOKE A FEW MOMENTS AGO WERE
NOT THOSE OF GHANDI BUT OF *my teacher* RABBI ABRAHAM
CRONBACH *S.S. Bible + Talmud at home* BUT CRONBACH WAS UNDOUBTEDLY
DEEPLY INFLUENCED BY GHANDI AND GHANDI WOULD
ABSOLUTELY ~~XX~~ HAVE APPROVED OF CRONBACH'S
ATTITUDES AND PHILOSOPHY.

IF THERE WERE ANY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN THAT GHANDI DID NOT APPRECIATE

THE HEBREW BIBLE AND THEREFORE

JUDAISM ~~FROM~~ WHICH SPRANG FROM IT,

ON THE OTHER HAND MY TEACHER , A RABBI, HAD
HIGHEST REGARD FOR THE NEW TESTAMENT WHICH
LIKEWISE HAD GREAT APPEAL FOR GHANDI,

IT IS MY PERSONAL VIEW THAT TO BE UNAWARE OF
GHANDI'S LIFE AND PHILOSOPHY IS TO BE OUT OF
TOUCH WITH ~~ONE OF THE MOST~~ ^a CRITICAL
PHILOSOPHIC, POLITICAL AND RELIGIOUS
FORCES IN THE WORLD,

FOR YOU SEE MEN ARE NOT ALWAYS ONLY WHAT THEY
ACTUALLY WERE, (GREAT MEN AND IDEAS ~~ARE~~
HAVE A PROPENSITY TO BECOME MORE THAN THEY
WERE, (THEY BECOME IDEALIZED AND MAGNIFIED,
~~EVEN~~ (THOUGH MANY DISAGREE WITH THEM, ~~AND~~
THE MEASURE OF POPULARITY IS BESIDE THE
POINT, (TRUTH IS NOT DEPENDANT UPON A
MAJORITY VOTE, (THE POLITICAL PROCESS CAN
VALIDATE THE TRUTH OR ^{reject} ~~SCORN~~ IT,

IF GHANDI WERE ALIVE TODAY I THINK HE WOULD
BE THE ONLY UNIVERSAL VOICE WHICH WUL SPEAK
IN OPPOSITION TO OUR PRESENT ~~MEANS~~ METHOD OF
RESOLVING CONELICT, ^{this would be} ~~AND~~ THE ONLY ~~ONE~~ ^{voice} TO

TO DECLARE THAT HUMAN LIFE AND INDEED
LIFE IN ALL ITS FORMS IS SACRED AND FOR NO
REASON, EVEN FOR SELF DEFENCE, MAY LIFE
BE SACRIFICED, *There is no single exponent
of that view universally known today*
THE TRAGEDY OF GHANDI'S LIFE WAS THAT THE
MAN OF CONSUMMATE PEACEFULNESS DIED AT THE
HANDS OF A VIOLENT ASSASIN, *Maybe that's what
we have done to the
peaceful ones again*
OUR PROBLEM ^{WITH} ~~WHICH~~ GHANDI IS THAT HE *could
have silenced them a
little*
REPRESENTED AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT SOURCE
OF POWER THAN THAT WHICH WE HAVE BEEN
SCHOOLED TO RESPECT, *re-
fuge.*

WE THINK IN TERMS OF PHYSICAL POWER,

ITEM: WE COMPEL PEOPLE TO DO AS WE WISH

EITHER BY AUTHORITY OR BY BRUTE STRENGTH

Political ~~power~~ ^{concerning}

ITEM: THE WIDESPREAD BELIEF OF OUR

WESTERN WORLD IS THAT YOU PRESERVE PEACE

BY PREPARING ^{more & more} FOR WAR,

WHEN GHANDI SET ^{as} HIS GOAL ~~was~~ THE REMOVAL OF
THE BRITISH FROM INDIA HIS SPIRITUAL POWER
WAS OF COURSE UNDERESTIMATED, (WE KNOW THAT
NOW FROM HINDSIGHT, BUT HE WAS NOT BELIEVED
WHEN HE TOLD THE BRITISH AUTHORITIES THAT
IN TRUTH THEY WOULD SIMPLY WALK OUT!

HE FACED THE POWER ~~of~~ ^{of} THE BRITISH EMPIRE
WITH NOTHING MORE THAN ASSERTION OF TRUTH
AND PASSIVE RESISTANCE, (ATTACKS AGAINST
HIM OR HIS FOLLOWERS, IMPRISONMENT ^{personal beatings} AND
HUMILIATION WERE WILLING PRICES WHICH
GHANDI WAS WILLING TO PAY FOR HUMAN DIGNITY,
IN HIS ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ AUTO BIOGRAPHY ~~XXXXXX~~
His fasting near to death = sign of the British Empire
IT IS CLEAR THAT THE ONLY TIME HE FELT
CONSUMING SHAME AND GUILT ~~WA~~ ^{WAS} WHEN HE
DEPARTED FROM TRUTH, CAUSED HURT TO SOMEONE
ELSE OR IN HUMAN TEMPER BECAME ANGRY,
(FOR HIM ANY EXPLOITATION OF ANOTHER HUMAN
BEING FOR ONE'S OWN PURPOSES OR GOALS
HOWEVER WORTHY WERE AN ~~XXXXXX~~ OFFENCE OF
DEEPEST SPIRITUAL CONCERN (SELF GRATIFICATION
WAS NEVER JUSTIFIED EVEN IN WHAT TO US WOULD
BE NORMAL SEXUAL EXPRESSION,
(IS IT ANY WONDER THEN, THAT GHANDI ADMIRER ~~THE~~
^{SOME OF} NEW TESTAMENT FOR ITS PASSAGES ~~XXXX~~ OF
SELF-IMMOLATION AND SACRIFICE, (WE JEWS DO
NOT UNDERSTAND THAT IF YOUR ENEMY SMITES YOU
ON THE CHEEK YOU SHOULD OFFER HIM THE OTHER
ALSO. (IN SHORT THE ABSOLUTE PACIFISM OF
GHANDI CANNOT BE MAINTAINED IN THE CONSTRUCT

OF JEWISH THEOLOGY AS AN ABSOLUTE
MANDATE. (NEVERTHELESS, MANY JEWS ARE

PACIFISTS,

most of us

I CANNOT IMAGINE ^a ~~the~~ WORLD PEOPLED WITH
That scene is miserable.

GHANDIS OR CRONBACHS, THE WORLD SCENE WOULD
SEEM TO LEAD US TO BELIEVE THAT THE AGGRESSIVE
INSTINCTS IN MAN ARE ALL BUT IN ERADICABLE,
(AND YET, THE PROSPECTS OF HUMAN SUFFERING
TODAY AND THE SPECTRE OF THE ANNIHILATION
OF HUMANITY AT OUR OWN HANDS CRIES OUT
FOR A GHANDI TYPE,

(THE RISE OF THE GREENS) FOR EXAMPLE IN
EUROPE WOULD FIND AN ALLY OF TOWERING
STRENGTH IN THE LITTLE FRAIL MAN FROM INDIA
AND THE ^{why} COWERING FIGURE OF MY FORMER

TEACHER,

BUT ~~xxxx~~ ALAS THEY ARE NO MORE,
OF THE MOTION PICTURE ON THE ^{LIFE} ~~LIFE~~ OF

GHANDI DOES NO MORE ~~xxxx~~ ~~x~~ THAN TO REMIND
US THAT THERE IS ANOTHER WAY, IT WILL HAVE
SERVED US WELL, AND PERHAPS MORE WILL READ
OF THE LIFE OF GHANDI AND HIS CONFRONTATION
WITH THE FORCES OF POLITICAL AND MILITARY
~~POWER~~ *mentality*.

Handwritten notes:
+ the "Greens"
movement
in political
frontiers
movement

PERHAPS THE WORLD CAN MATURE IN SPIRITUAL
STRENGTH AS DID WE YOUNG STUDENTS WHO ~~were~~
~~STUDIES WITH~~ ^{influenced by} THE GHANDI LIKE RABBI SO LONG
AGO,

WHEN OUR TEACHER SAID NEVER HURT! NEVER BLAME!
NEVER RETALIATE! WE DID NOT ~~understand then~~.
BUT I DO NOW, EVEN THO I HAVE NEVER MEASURED
UP TO THE IDEAL. BUT TOGETHER WE CAN TRY,
REMEMBER, WHEN GHANDI WAS ALIVE AND HAD DRIVEN
THE BRITISH FROM INDIA HE WAS OVERWHELMED WITH
ADULATION, THEN HE WAS MURDERED, AND HIS OWN
DEATH TRIGGERED BITTER CONTROVERSY BETWEEN MUSLIM
AND HINDU,

Dr. Abraham Cronbach

MY OWN TEACHER WAS REVILED BY HIS STUDENTS
DURING THE DAYS OF THE WWII FOR HIS PACIFIST
PREACHMENTS AND HIS UNWILLINGNESS TO
AID ONE SIDE OF THE CONFLICT TO THE EXCLUSION OF
THE OTHER, BUT WHEN THE DAMAGE OF THE WAR WAS
ASSESSED, WHEN IT WAS FINALLY KNOWN WHAT
THE WAR HAD DONE AND THE LIVES THAT HAD BEEN
~~lost~~, THE NEXT GENERATION REVERED RABBI
CRONBACH WITH AS MUCH DEPTH AS THE PREVIOUS
GENERATION HAD HATED HIM,

WHAT GHANDI AND HIS TYPE CAN DO ~~XXXXX~~

TODAY IS TO REMIND US THAT WE NEED NOT
ALWAYS FOLLOW THE TREND OF THOUGHT OF THE
Popularity does not equal effectiveness.
MAJORITY, WE HAD BEST LEARN SOME INDEPENDANT

THOUGHT, SOME LATERAL THINKING AND SOME

~~XX~~ OF THE PWER OF PASSIVE RESISTANCE TO

THE MIGHT OF GOVERNEMNTS,

IT WAS GHANDI WHO WAS THE FATHER OF THE
Special Mahatma King &
Should be the reality, for
~~BLACK~~ MOVEMENT IN AMERICA, THE DEMONSTRATIONS

OF ~~XX~~ OUR STUDENTS AND THE ULTIMATE

EFFECT OF THAT ^{*passive resistance*} METHOD ON OUR WAY OF LIFE,

IT COULD BE SO MUCH MORE, ^{*for the better*} *in place of force violence, terrorism and intimidation.*
GHANDI'S LIFE SHOULD BE TAKEN MOST SERIOUSLY

EVEN IN THE WESTERN WORLD AND NOW, ~~SADLY~~,

EVEN IN ^{*his own*} STRIFE RIDEN INDIA~~X~~ THAT SEEMS TO
HAVE FORGOTTEN HIM,

IN MY OWN LIST OF THE WROLD'S GREATS SINCE

THE BEGINNING OF HISTORY I LIST MEN LIKE

ALBERT SCHWEITZER, ^{*M. L. King*} MY OWN TEACHER ABRAHAM

CRONBACH AND THE MAHATMA GHANDI,

AND LET US PRAY THAT IN SOME SMALL WAY, IF

NOT COMPLTELY, WE CAN BECOME ^{*at least partly*} DISCIPLES OF ~~THE~~

~~THE~~

This mentality +

~~.. MENA ND~~ BRING TO OUR WORLD THE SERENITY OF
THE LITTLE MAN IN THE LINEN CLOTH, WITH HIS
HANDS TO THE SPINNING WHEEL AND HIS HEART TO
THE WORLD.