

Nov 04, 2016 by [Adam Clayton Powell, III](#)

## Obama, King and Gandhi combined for U.S. public diplomacy in India <sup>[1]</sup>

NEW DELHI – While much of the world celebrates Valentines Day, February 14th will be celebrated in India as the 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King's 1959 visit. And it all ties to photographs of King, Gandhi and President Obama.

To celebrate the anniversary, ten programs are planned in India featuring King's son, Martin Luther King III, Representative John Lewis - a veteran of the civil rights movement, and musician Herbie Hancock. (The U.S. embassy's description is [here](#)).

Now back to those photographs. Pictures of the new U.S. President are displayed all over the world; but in India, certain photographs have caught popular - and politicians' - imagination, and it is a centerpiece of the 50th anniversary events on Saturday.

The photos show then Senator Obama seated in his office. And as you can see in this photo visible just above his head, is a photograph of Abraham Lincoln and a portrait of Gandhi.



Wait, there's more:

For Saturday's celebrations, there will be music, with performers from the U.S. and India. One

selection that is planned, to be performed by Indian choirs, is "We Shall Overcome."

The choir will not need to study hard to memorize the words; "We Shall Overcome" is taught here in the schools.

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