

# "Cultivating 2020 PEACE Vision"



AJC-Guest Column offering by JOHN R NAUGLE, an advocate for creating ©ATLANTA: City of Peace™  
Submitted for January 1, 2020 publication to Mark Waligore, Managing Editor: Atlanta Journal-Constitution



[ Article details: 888 words to honor the 8/8/8 Beijing Olympic Games slogan "**One World One Dream**" which purposely reflected upon Dr. King's Dream and was authored by George Hirthler, an esteemed Atlantan who also co-authored Atlanta's winning bid for the Centennial Olympic Games, plus authored "[The Idealist: The story of Baron Pierre de Coubertin](#)" (founder of the 1896 contemporary Olympic Games to promote 'Peace through Sport'; note- [Coubertin's birthday is January 1st \(01/01\)](#) and his sculpture is the centerpiece of Centennial Olympic Park, a globally recognized venue ]

--- proposed AJC-Guest Column text below ---

**TODAY is 01/01/20.** Millions worldwide are rebranding New Years as...

## ***Global Family Day: "A day for peace and sharing"***

It's exciting! Atlanta is THE best positioned city on Earth to propel the goals of this annual celebration, plus eventually receive an immense economic, societal and spiritual windfall. As we unite in 2020 to cultivate a PEACE-branding vision for our city and state, then the great virtue that Dr. King lived for will rise up into its deserved prominence.

The true destiny for 'ATLANTA: City of Peace' and 'GEORGIA: The Peace State' will be able to blossom like an immense peace garden as courageous vision is cultivated. We will cease being referred to as the unofficial capital of the South and become celebrated as a Global Capital and Beacon of Peace to our entire Global Family. Assist?

Dr. King's famous "I Have A Dream" speech was authored here and it continues to inspire millions of leaders and thousands of organizations worldwide. Numerous nonviolent social actions in various parts of the world have been initiated with the courageous example of Dr. King.

We have a dream that civic, government and business leaders will continue uniting to build our global peace legacy. WHEN our great city becomes the global proof-of-concept and poster-child for DREAMS becoming REALITY then other major cities of Mother Earth will have an ideal example to emulate.

What is the greatest asset of our state? Tragically, too many believe our future is in peaches since we are branded after a common fruit; '**Georgia the peach state.**' Sheesh, we're better.

Georgia's state capitol is the USA's most unique since it has sculptures honoring two Nobel Peace Prize Laureates. In 2021, Atlanta will host the World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates. Since TOURISM is the world's biggest peace industry we are positioned to receive a great windfall, and more importantly, to export this goodness to our entire Global Family.

ATL: The World's Busiest Airport is uniquely positioned to assist this transformation. As our great city, state and airport are branded with PEACE then momentum with our windfall will accelerate. The Georgia Department of Economic Development says our tourism industry is currently the 5th largest employer in the state with a total economic impact of almost \$70 billion.

Who will calculate the phenomenal windfall and what happens AFTER we shift brands from the common <peach> to PEACE? Dr. King once proclaimed "I HAVE A DREAM!" Who is the dream? WE ARE THE DREAM --- all of us are heirs to his vision and it is becoming REALITY as courageous leaders rise up and come forth.

Cultivating PEACE is transforming our city, state, nation and entire Global Family. The American University in Washington, DC hosted an international Venture Peacebuilding Conference to strategize on reclaiming the \$14 trillion of global GDP annually lost to conflict and violence. Our extended family's collective future grows brighter.

Year 2020 is a GREAT year for our city & state to cultivate vision by planting the great virtue of PEACE within our priorities. What IF Dr. King's birthplace adopted and promoted his definition of greatness to help other cities be great too -- in the best way? He proclaimed:

***"Everybody can be great because everyone can serve."***

If any city on Earth needs to be branded after peace and service, it needs to be Dr. King's. It is vital to note he's known globally as the most productive peace movement protégé of Mahatma Gandhi. Many millions worldwide refer to Gandhi as Father of India: The World's Biggest Democracy and Man of the Millennium. Between the years 1000-2000 A.D., Gandhi excelled above everyone in educating about how we can "Be The Change" for our global family.

Since Gandhi & King are two of history's most globally accomplished, respected and celebrated peacemakers, they cannot be ignored. More importantly, they need to be celebrated. Many millions of people and thousands of organizations worldwide labor, directly and indirectly, to honor their great peace legacies.

Year 2020 is a GREAT year to honor Gandhi since many celebrated his 150th Birth Anniversary. It is Dr. King's own words, in his VITAL and emphatic warning, who still guides our urgent actions...

***"Gandhi was inevitable. If humanity is to progress, Gandhi is inescapable. He lived, thought and acted, inspired by the vision of humanity evolving toward a world of peace and harmony. We may ignore Gandhi at our own risk."***

WE ARE THE DREAM, and you / ALL of us are included for Atlanta being transformed into a Global Capital of Peace. Our dream will become reality much faster as courageous collaborators commit to mining our city and state's greatest asset:

***"The Gandhi-King Global Peace Connection!"***

The first decade of the Peace Millennium was termed "***The United Nations International Decade for a Culture of Peace.***" Dr. King's birthplace influenced this dynamic initiative which defined and galvanized a global movement for the culture of peace and was supported by 1000+ peace organizations worldwide.

Year 2020 essentially births the third decade of the Peace Millennium. It's imperative we unite to cultivate a brighter vision for the future. A.K. Chowdhury, former UN Ambassador, stated it best:

***"A culture of peace will provide the foundation for a stable... and prosperous world for all. Let us all join together in dedicating ourselves to strengthening the Global Movement for the Culture of Peace!"***