

“REVERENCE FOR LIFE”

Dr. Albert Schweitzer peace exhibition

CHRISTIAN BARTOLF
& DOMINIQUE MIETHING

On 23 April 1957, Dr. Albert Schweitzer’s essay “A Declaration of Conscience” was broadcasted via Radio Oslo and printed in full in the New York The Saturday Review, May 18, 1957, pp. 17-20. The call for nuclear disarmament was broadcasted by many international radio stations and printed in excerpts a day later in the New York Times, on 24 April 1957.

Our exhibition “Dr. Albert Schweitzer: ‘My Address to the People’ - Commitment against Nuclear War” was first opened on 24 April 2017, sixty years later. It is based on Schweitzer’s texts and addresses his commitment: 1) against any war in principle, 2) against nuclear weapons and nuclear war, 3) to reverence for life.

This exhibition was presented several times within Germany, for example at the

Free University Berlin’s University Library, which also published two Exhibition catalogues in print and as PDF ([English](#); [German](#)).

The Foundation German Albert Schweitzer Center (“Stiftung Deutsches Albert-Schweitzer-Zentrum Frankfurt/Main”) has organized presentations of this Schweitzer Peace Exhibition in many public places.

“I send my deep respect and high esteem to Mahatma Gandhi. I have been deeply moved by all he is doing and by the thoughts which he conveys to others. I would so like to make his personal acquaintance. Will it ever be possible that I see him and the poet Rabindranath Tagore, too, whom I have wanted to meet for a long time?”



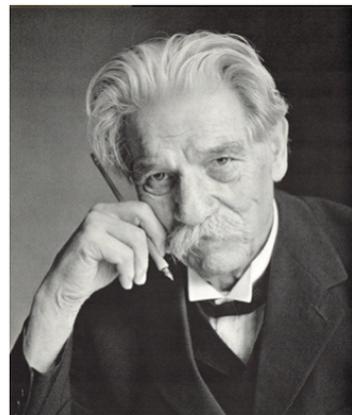
“

“I send my deep respect and high esteem to Mahatma Gandhi. I have been deeply moved by all he is doing and by the thoughts which he conveys to others. I would so like to make his personal acquaintance. Will it ever be possible that I see him and the poet Rabindranath Tagore, too, whom I have wanted to meet for a long time?”

Written in the year 1926, these words by Dr. Albert Schweitzer, delivered from his hospital at Lambaréné in today’s Gabon, point to the similarity of his reverence for life and the spiritual world with that of his Indian contemporaries. Civic education and political philosophy at schools and universities shall be committed to the ethical principles of a global “Culture of Peace” (United Nations). Our exhibitions on the History of Nonviolent Resistance give voice to the humanists and opponents of any war, for example, Erasmus of Rotterdam and Dr. Albert Schweitzer.

Dr. Albert Schweitzer

(14 January 1875 – 4 September 1965)



“My Address to the People” Commitment against Nuclear War

We intend to contribute this online exhibition, consisting of 32 panels, as one key module of a future Virtual Museum for Nonviolence and Peace ([English](#); [German](#)).

Dr. Christian Bartolf is doctor of philosophy and since 1993 chair (director, president) of the [Gandhi Information Center](#) (Research and Education for Nonviolence), a society for peace education.

Dr. Dominique Miething is lecturer in Civic Education and in the History of Political Thought at the [Otto Suhr Institute of Political Science](#) at the Free University Berlin.