

Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday



*“Injustice
anywhere
is a
threat
to
justice
everywhere”*

Letter from Birmingham Jail, 1963

Remember! Celebrate! Act!

Preface

Chief Librarian, Karen Olender, at the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI), created this document that provides background and reference material information for the 2008 Martin Luther King Jr., observance. This document is posted on the Internet at: <https://www.deomi.org>. Additionally, there are various materials on the web site that support other national observances.

The opinions expressed in this report are those of the author, and should not be construed to represent the official position of DEOMI, the military Services, or the Department of Defense.

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MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HOLIDAY

15 January 2008

The third Monday in January is designated Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday to honor this civil rights leader and to allow Americans to reflect on racial equality and democratic principles.

Books

Ansbro, John J. (1983). *Martin Luther King, Jr.: The Making of a Mind*. Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Books.

This book examines the philosophic thinkers that formed Dr. King's nonviolent protest methods and analyses Dr. King's doctoral dissertation, unpublished sermons, and graduate term papers.

Ayres, Alex (Ed.) (1993). *The Wisdom of Martin Luther King Jr.: An A-Z Guide to the Ideas and Ideals of the Great Civil Rights Leader*. New York: Meridian.

Ayres has compiled eloquent words from the letters, speeches, books, and sermons of Dr. King representing his ideas and ideals.

Baldwin, Lewis V. (1991). *There is a Balm in Gilead: the Cultural Roots of Martin Luther King, Jr.* Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press.

Baldwin examines Dr. King's life from the viewpoint that the black experience and the black Christian tradition shaped his vision.

Bennett, Lerone, Jr. (1968). *What Manner of Man: A Biography of Martin Luther King Jr., 1929-1968*. Chicago, IL: Johnson Publishing Co.

First published in 1965, Bennett at that time an editor for *Ebony Magazine*, wrote this compelling biography of Dr. King. The book was revised in 1968 after Dr. King's death with a ten page epilogue.

Carson, Clayborne, (Ed.) (1998). *The Autobiography of Martin Luther King Jr.* New York: Warner Books.

This religious and political autobiography is comprised of writings published by Dr. King, passages from documents and recordings included by the editor, and clarifying information by the editor.

Carson, Clayborne, & Shepard, Kris (Eds.) (2001). *A Call to Conscience*. New York: Warner Books.

A collection of Dr. King's best known speeches—including "Birth of A Nation," "I Have A Dream," and "I've Been to the Mountaintop."

Colaiaco, James A. (1988). *Martin Luther King, Jr.: Apostle of Militant Nonviolence*. New York: St. Martin's Press.

Dr. Colaiaco provides an in-depth analysis of King's "Letter from Birmingham Jail" and explains why it is a great historical document. He shows how King's leadership inspired nonviolent protest for civil rights and changed legal segregation policies in the South.

Davis, Lenwood G. (1969) *I Have a Dream...The Life and Times of Martin Luther Jr.* Westport, CT: Negro Universities Press.

This book is an account of the life and times of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. from his birth to his untimely death.

Dyson, Michael Eric (2000). *I May Not Get there With You*. New York: Free Press.

After his appearance on air with newscaster Peter Jennings in 1998 on the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr., Dr. Dyson decided to write this book about Dr. King's life and his relevance to today's society.

Garrow, David J. (1986) *Bearing the Cross: Martin Luther King Jr. and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference*. New York: William Morrow and Company, Inc.

Garrow used more than seven hundred interviews to craft this portrait of Dr. King and the civil rights movement.

Oates, Stephen B. (1982). *Let the Trumpet Sound: the Life of Martin Luther King, Jr.* New York: Harper Row.

Professional biographer, Stephen Oates examines Dr. King's life, in this fourth book in a quartet to look at the "moral paradox of slavery and racial oppression in a land based on the ideals of the Declaration of Independence."

Sunnemark, Fredrik (2004). *Ring Out Freedom! The Voice of Martin Luther King Jr. and the Making of the Civil Rights Movement*. Bloomington, IL: Indiana University Press.

This book examines the communication style of Dr. King and his use of language to achieve rhetorical goals.

Warren, Mervyn A., Dr. (2001). *King Came Preaching: The Pulpit Power of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.* Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

Dr. Warren, professor of religion at Oakwood College, explores King's sermons themes, content, and language as well as his preaching style. Originally this work was a dissertation, but was rewritten for the general public.

Washington, James M., (Ed.) (1986). *A Testament of Hope: The Essential Writings and Speeches of Martin Luther King, Jr.* San Francisco, CA: HarperSanFrancisco.

This over seven hundred page tome features speeches, public addresses, famous sermons, historic essays, and interviews written and presented by Dr. King.

Audiovisual Media

Bagwell, Orlando (Producer). (2004). *Citizen King* [Motion Picture]. Boston, MA: WGHB Educational Foundation.

This PBS documentary explores the last years of Dr. King's life when he embraced other causes such as poverty. Running time: 115 minutes

King, Martin Luther Jr. (1990). *The Speeches of Martin Luther King, Jr.* [Motion Picture]. Orland Park, IL: MPI Home Video.

This video covers Dr. King's speeches from when he was a young pastor in Montgomery, Alabama to his final speech in Memphis. Running Time: 60 minutes

Sexton, William D. (Executive Producer) & Friedman, Tom (Writer/Director). (1993) *Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.: A Historical Perspective* [Motion Picture]. Santa Monica, CA: Xenon Entertainment Group.

Explores how Martin Luther King Jr.'s ideas and causes changed as the Civil Rights Movement evolved. Running time: 60 minutes

Web Sites

King Center. Retrieved 10 December 2007 from <http://www.thekingcenter.org>

The King Center is the official memorial established by Coretta Scott King to honor her husband. Links are provided to programs, services and other resources.

Martin Luther King Jr. Research and Education Institute. Retrieved 10 December 2007 from <http://www.stanford.edu/group/king>

This institute sponsors programs such as the King Papers Project, Liberation Curriculum, Conferences, and Symposia to keep people aware of Dr. King's life work and social justice issues. The site includes links to articles, documents, and reference sources about Dr. King.

Morehouse College King Collection. Retrieved 10 December 2007 from <http://www.morehouse.edu/kingcollection/index.html>

Morehouse College acquired a 10,000 piece collection of handwritten notes and unpublished sermons of Dr. King. This site contains links to the collection preview, a fact sheet, planned events, and the King Paper Video.

National Park Service: NHS: Historic Resource Guide. Retrieved 11 December 2007 from <http://www.nps.gov/archive/malu/hrs/HRS0.HTM>

This Web site provides information, maps, and pictures of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthplace, community where he was raised and worked.