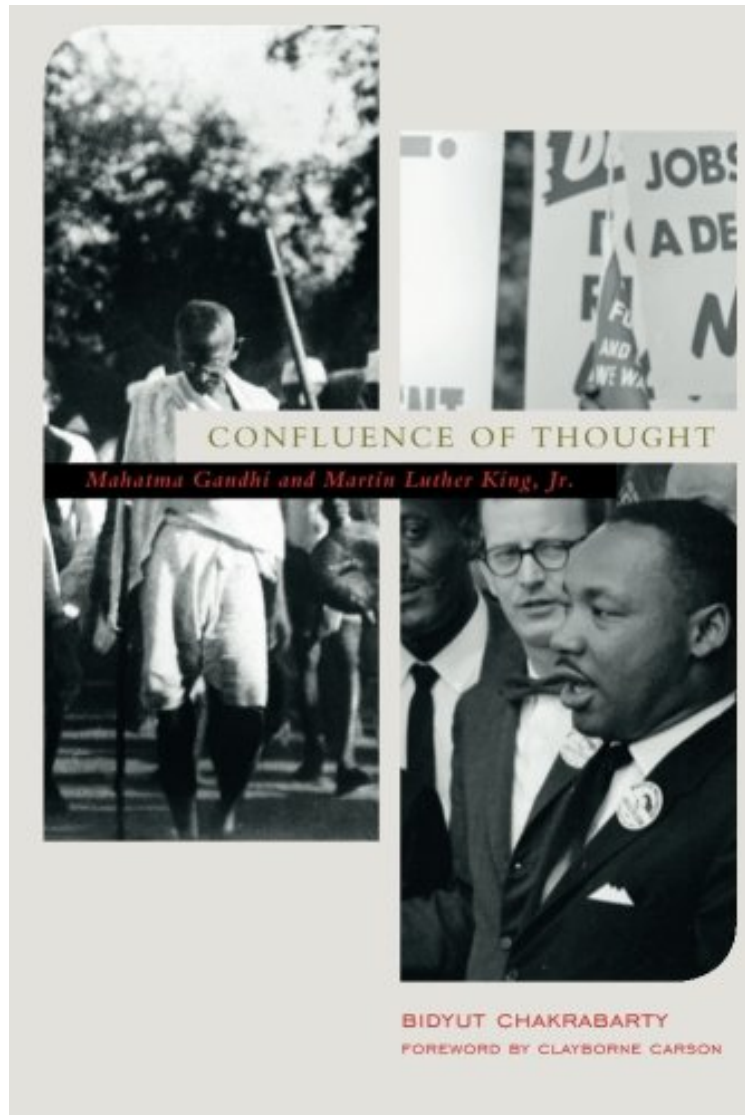


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# Confluence of Thought: Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr.

*Bidyut Chakrabarty*

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**Bidyut Chakrabarty : Confluence of Thought: Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr.** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Confluence of Thought: Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr.:

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While much has been written about the Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr., never before has anyone compared the social and political origins and evolution of their thoughts on non-violence. In this path-breaking work, Bidyut Chakrabarty argues that there is a confluence between Gandhi and King's concerns for humanity and advocacy of non-violence, despite the very different historical, economic and cultural circumstances against which they developed their ideas. At the same time, he demonstrates that both thinkers were truly shaped by their historical moments, evolving their approaches to non-violence to best advance their respective struggles for freedom. Gandhi and King were perhaps the most influential individuals in modern history to combine religious and political thought into successful and dynamic social ideologies. Gandhi emphasized service to humanity while King, who was greatly influenced by Gandhi, pursued religion-driven social action. Chakrabarty looks particularly at the way in which each strategically used religious and political language to build momentum and attract followers to their movements. The result is a compelling and historically entrenched view of two of the most important figures of the twentieth century and a thoughtful meditation on the common threads that flow through the larger and enduring nonviolence movement.

"Bidyut Chakrabarty has written one of those unusual books that actually delivers more to readers than is suggested by the title. ...This book provides an engaging, thought-provoking, well-researched examination of the lives and times of two of the most influential figures of the twentieth century." -Clayborne Carson "In this impressively researched and clearly written work, Bidyut Chakrabarty weaves together political theory, political sociology, and biography to demonstrate the close similarities and critical differences between Gandhi and King. With fresh perspectives, this impressive study broadens our understanding of these preeminent thinkers and activists of nonviolent resistance to injustice." -Ronald J. Terchek, Professor Emeritus, University of Maryland "...a fine, creative and informative volume that will be of interest to political scientists and peace studies scholars working in a number of sub-fields." -Political Studies About the Author Bidyut Chakrabarty is Professor of Political Science at the University of Delhi.