

Guest Columnist



"I have the audacity to believe that peoples everywhere can have three meals a day for their bodies, education and culture for their minds, and dignity, equality and freedom for their spirits."

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The King Movement Foundation:

A new foundation that has committed itself to building upon the common goals of the great Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., we strive to build and maintain respect and dignity for human rights and cultural diversity. We reach our goals by enhancing techniques which have been underutilized with respect to these issues. We use education and the impact of a public forum. By using education we stimulate awareness and subsequently a cure; a cure against the mental slavery and the prejudgment of individuals. We employ the advantages of public forums by hosting events that utilize comedy and live entertainment. We broaden the participation as well as the horizons of individuals who are inspired to attend.

The King Movement Foundation is the ONLY official partner of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Center in Atlanta, Georgia, USA. We are exclusively responsible for expanding The King Movement throughout Europe. We are based in the Netherlands and have endorsed the local organization DutchVersity, to lead the way in executing our mission. We will have a local organization fulfilling this task in each country of operation. For example, in France the organization leading the Movement shall be, SOS Racism. We are tasked with building upon the foundation of Dr. King as well as many other great individuals to strengthen human rights throughout Europe.

The focus of The King Movement is putting a STOP to the following things: Poverty, Racism, Violence and Mental Slavery. Not only will we strive to stop the things mentioned above, we also give our unlimited SUPPORT to equal rights, reconciliation and justice. We want to increase the level of support across Europe by educating, motivating, empowering and promoting human dignity and the well-being of all. Respect for human rights is a critical aspect toward maintaining and sustaining peace and security in our communities. We want to improve the lives of everyone we touch and give back to society.

Dr. King's legacy remains as an unsurpassed advocate of everything that the United Nation stands for: peace, economic and social justice, and human rights. The UN has known from the beginning that building secure foundations for peace in our world is possible. However, this can only be done by basing them upon the principles and practice of equal rights and status for all peoples, while incorporating the respect and dignity everyone is entitled to.

Dr. King's legacies are both profound and timeless statements on the civil rights – the human rights – of all people. He spent his life building bridges and marching across them, from despair to hope, from suffering to salvation, from war to peace and from hate to love.

One of our tools to empower the people is our Hi5 "use your hand as a compass towards your dream".

Thumb:	Passion
Index finger:	Focus
Middle finger:	Overview
Ring finger:	Reliability
Pinky finger:	Knowledge

To spread our message throughout the entire year we teach our Hi5 by lecturing in schools as well as the corporate world. On March 8, 2009, we launched our own radio program on FunX, (the market leader for ages 15 – 30). Also, by the end of this month, the inaugural issue of our Hi5 magazine will be released. Hi5 will be a monthly magazine with topics focusing on the philosophy of Dr. Martin Luther King, business opportunities, health, sports, entertainment, culture, society and much more. The printed version will be in Dutch and addresses every person living in the Netherlands. Online Hi5 will also be available in five other languages (English, Spanish, Arabic, Turkish and Hindi).

The content of our Hi5 and all future media support the goals of The King Movement and DutchVersity: awareness for human values and education, human rights, opportunities instead of threats, inclusion instead of segregation, reconciliation, equality and justice.

On Thursday, May 28, 2009, we will present the second Martin Luther King Life Time Achievement Award at our "Salute to Greatness" event in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. In 2008, the Mayor of Amsterdam was the recipient of the award. The CEO of The King Center (Atlanta, Georgia, USA) will present this award. Further, this evening will be covered by (inter)national media: FunX Radio, CNN and others.



Thank you for giving me the opportunity to tell you my story. In closing, I, as a 24-year-old woman who bares the name Dionne Abdoelhafiezkhani, have personally faced the ignorance of society. I hope that The King Movement Foundation will inspire, educate and empower others to pursue a better life as I have. My passion, besides sports and music, is the practice of equal rights and status for all peoples while incorporating the respect and dignity everyone is entitled to. I believe that anything is possible, because you're not a victim of your circumstances, but a benefactor of your possibilities. As Dr. King proved with his dream, and as the UN has proven in their steadfast mission, together, we can make the difference. I leave you with this quote: "Be the change you wish to see in the world" ~ Ghandi

Take care,
Dionne Abdoelhafiezkhani

The logo for 'DUTCHVERSITY' is displayed in a bold, stylized font. The word 'DUTCH' is in orange and 'VERSITY' is in white, both with a thick black outline. The letters are slightly shadowed and have a 3D effect.