

“Martin Luther King Jr., Founder”
Making a Civil Rights World (II)

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THREE CONSTITUTIONAL FOUNDINGS



of the United States of America

“MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY 2022”

• MONDAY, Jan. 17, 7–8:30 p.m.

*On-Line Zoom Presentation
and Questions*

• TUESDAY, Jan. 18, 7–8:30 p.m.

*On-Line Follow-Up, Structured
but Open-Ended Discussion*

The National Holiday commemorating the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. challenges us to reflect on his role not just as a passionate reformer but as an inspired re-maker of the United States. For a truly creative leader, focusing on repairing what is broken and rectifying what is wrong can move quickly into **imagining what might be affirmatively built in its place as a new order of justice**. Even though Dr. King did not have enough time to finish his work, he began early and thus gained enough years to develop a highly sophisticated vision for a new America, based on its historic Foundings, before his life was cut short. Adding to his background of Biblical fluency, at 15, he won an oratorical contest with a speech that included these words: **“Today thirteen million black sons and daughters of our forefathers continue the fight for the translation of the 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments from writing on the printed page to an actuality. We believe with them that ‘if freedom is good for any it is good for all....”**

In the years following, he would go on to engage each of the Three Separate Stages of the American Founding, demonstrating how these distinct models of the well-ordered community might be consolidated into an coherent plan for the progress of an inclusive People into the life of the picture they had deliberately and solemnly drawn out for themselves but had consistently fallen drastically short of bringing into practice.

This program will extend the ideas set out on the previous Martin Luther King Jr. Day in 2021.