



America's Irving city to get Mahatma Gandhi's statue

Some family members of Gandhi and Mandela are expected to attend the grand opening scheduled on October 2.

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The seven foot tall bronze statue was made in Andhra Pradesh

A 7-foot tall and 30-inch wide bronze statue of Mahatma Gandhi, made in Andhra Pradesh, would be installed in Irving in America's Texas state, fulfilling

a long-cherished dream of Indian-Americans living in the city.

It will be installed on a 6-foot tall pedestal which would have a granite wall as a backdrop inscribed with Gandhi's memorable words, quotations from Martin Luther King Jr., Nelson Mandela, Albert Einstein, President [Barack Obama](#) and others.

The ground breaking ceremony for 'Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Plaza' in Thomas Jefferson Park, Irving, Texas last week was the result of the dedication of numerous Indian-American organizations that have been fundraising and lobbying government authorities to make it a reality.

So far USD 250,000 has been raised for the project, according to Prasad Thotakura, chair of the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial of North Texas (MGMNT), the umbrella organization that is leading the effort.

"It is not just an Indian-American project but a global project," he said, adding that the total cost of the project is estimated at USD 700,000.

The grand opening is scheduled for October 2, when some family members of the Mahatma Gandhi as well as of Nelson Mandela, are expected to attend the event, a Thotakura said.