Gandhian Conflict Norms
As systematized by Johan Galtung, *The Way is the Goal: Gandhi Today*,
Gujarat Vidyapith Peace Research Centre, Ahmedabad, India, 1992

1. Goals and Conflict

1.1 Act in conflicts!
   - Act now!
   - Act here!
   - Act for your own group!
   - Act out of identity!
   - Act out of conviction!

1.2 Define the conflict well!
   - State your own goals clearly!
   - Try to understand your opponent's goal!
   - Emphasize common and compatible goals!
   - State the conflict-relevant facts objectively!

1.3 Have a positive approach to conflict!
   - Give the conflict a positive emphasis!
   - See the conflict as opportunity to meet the opponent!
   - See conflict as opportunity to transform society!
   - See the conflict as opportunity to transform yourself!

2. Conflict Struggle

2.1 Act non-violently in conflicts!
   - Do not hurt or harm with deeds!
   - Do not hurt or harm with words!
   - Do not hurt or harm with thoughts!
   - Do not harm the opponent's property!
   - Prefer violence to cowardice!
   - Do good even to the evil-doer!

2.2 Act in a goal-consistent manner!
   - Always include a constructive element!
   - Use goal-revealing forms of struggle!
   - Act openly, not secretly!
   - Aim the struggle at the correct point!

2.3 Do not cooperate with evil!
   - Non-cooperation with evil structure!
   - Non-cooperation with evil status!
   - Non-cooperation with evil action!
   - Non-cooperation with those who cooperate with evil!

2.4 Be willing to sacrifice!
   - Do not escape from punishment!
   - Be willing to die if necessary!

2.5 Do not polarize!
   - Distinguish between antagonism and antagonist!
   - Distinguish between person and status!
   - Maintain contact!
   - Empathy with your opponent's position!
   - Be flexible in defining parties and positions!

2.6 Do not escalate!
   - Remain as loyal as possible!
   - Do not provoke or let yourself be provoked!
   - Do not humiliate or let yourself be humiliated!
   - Do not expand the goals for the conflict!
   - Use the mildest possible forms of conflict behavior!

3. Conflict Resolution

3.1 Solve conflict!
   - Do not continue conflict struggle forever!
   - Always seek negotiation with the opponent!
   - Seek positive social transformations!
   - Seek human transformation!
   - Optimal of yourself!
   - Optimal of the opponent!

3.2 Insist on the essentials, not on the non-essentials!
   - Do not trade with essentials!
   - Be willing to compromise on non-essentials!

3.3 See yourself as fallible!
   - Remember that you may be wrong!
   - Admit your mistakes openly!
   - Consistency over time not very important!

3.4 Be generous in your view of the opponent!
   - Do not exploit the opponent's weaknesses!
   - Do not judge the opponent harder than yourself!
   - Trust your opponent!

3.5 Conversion, not coercion!
   - Always seek solutions that are accepted!
   - By yourself!
   - By the opponent!
   - Never coerce your opponent!
   - Convert your opponent into a believer of the cause!