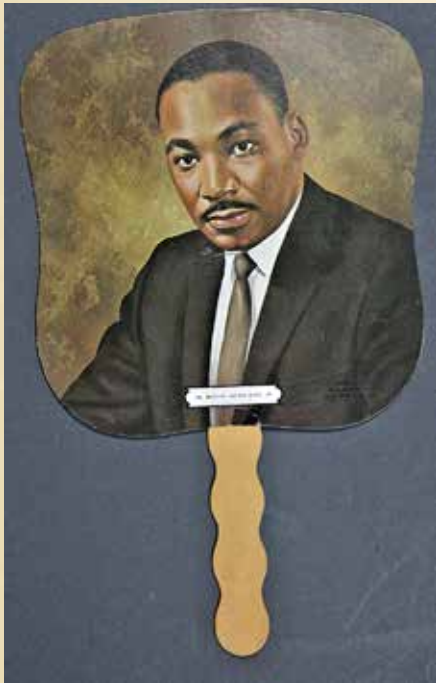


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## KentuckyHistoricalSociety

### CIVIL WAR TO CIVIL RIGHTS: KENTUCKIANS MOURN MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.



*Kentucky Historical Society collections*

CENTRAL KENTUCKY — Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated in Memphis, Tenn., on April 4, 1968. As the nonviolent and spiritual leader of the civil rights movement, King's death was a shocking event for much of America and led to riots in Washington, D.C., Detroit and hundreds of other cities throughout the country.

Millions around the globe mourned his death. In Kentucky, the Smith Funeral Homes in Lexington, Frankfort, Danville and Nicholasville held special memorial services.

King spent time in Kentucky and headlined the 1964 March on Frankfort. His loss was profound and he became a symbol of leadership, nonviolence and dignity in many African American communities.

This fan, from the Smith Funeral Homes, reads "with dignity and honor." It was given to mourners in Central Kentucky.

*The Kentucky Historical Society (KHS) links Kentuckians with their past via archival collections that document people from every walk of life, reaching back to 1509. Letters, diaries, oral histories and photographs, as well as the first and second Kentucky Constitutions, are included. Find these and other KHS collections online at [khscatalog.kyvl.org](http://khscatalog.kyvl.org)*

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