

**SRI CHINMOY: THE PEACE MEDITATION  
AT THE UNITED NATIONS**



*Reflections by Indian Leaders  
and United Nations Officials*

## INTRODUCTION

This documentary booklet records some impressions of and reflections on the service of Sri Chinmoy and the Peace Meditation at the United Nations, as expressed by Secretaries-General and Presidents of the General Assembly of the United Nations—where Sri Chinmoy has conducted twice-weekly peace meditations for delegates and staff since 1970—as well as by a few distinguished leaders and representatives of Sri Chinmoy's native India. Gathered from letters, speeches and private meetings, the quotes are often directed towards Sri Chinmoy personally in recognition of his work as a spiritual leader in the pursuit of world peace.

The Peace Meditation at the United Nations wishes to offer deepest gratitude to those whose warm expressions are recorded here and also to the many members of the Indian and international community who have been a part of its activities over the years.

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## COMMENTS BY SECRETARIES-GENERAL



**“Whoever speaks to me about you is all appreciation and admiration; and I personally feel that you have been doing a most significant task for the United Nations.”**

***U Thant, Secretary-General  
of the United Nations [1961-1971]***



“We want only peace, peace. You are praying for peace. I know what you and the Group are doing for us. I know it, I can feel it.”

*Kurt Waldheim, Secretary-General  
of the United Nations [1972-1981]*



“You concentrate on the truth and ideals which unite all mankind: the longing for peace, the need for compassion, the search for tolerance and understanding among men and women of all nations.”

*Javier Perez de Cuellar, Secretary-General  
of the United Nations [1982- ]*

COMMENTS BY PRESIDENTS  
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY



“As I leave New York, I shall always cherish the memories of my association with you.”

*Salim A. Salim  
President of the Thirty-fourth Session  
of the General Assembly  
and Foreign Minister of the  
United Republic of Tanzania*



“Thank you very, very much for this great honour. I not only gratefully, and I hope gracefully, accept this award, but I also accept it on behalf of the 154 States that are Members of the United Nations and sit in the Plenary.”

*Rudiger von Wechmar  
President of the Thirty-fifth Session  
of the General Assembly  
and Ambassador of the  
Federal Republic of Germany*



**“We see the United Nations through Sri Chinmoy’s eyes as a church of mankind, dedicated to worshipping the aspirations of men, women and children of all races, nationalities and political and religious beliefs, for a better life . . . . As such, the United Nations should become a sanctuary of moral and spiritual values as a better foundation of peace.”**

***Jorge E. Illueca  
President of the Thirty-eighth Session  
of the General Assembly  
and President of Panama***



**“It is peace which we are all working for in the United Nations. By peace we not only mean the absence of conflagrations; we also mean peace external and internal—that is, peace of the environment and peace of the soul. I am sure that your efforts, in combination with the efforts of diplomats and the efforts of the United Nations, will be able to save mankind from the dangers that loom large and threaten us with total extinction.”**

***Humayun Rasheed Choudhury  
President of the Forty-first Session  
of the General Assembly  
and Foreign Minister of the  
People’s Republic of Bangladesh***

COMMENTS BY  
LEADERS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF INDIA



“I hope you will unite the United Nations. The United Nations is called ‘United Nations’, but they are not yet united. So you have to unite them.”

*Morarji Desai*  
*Prime Minister of India*  
*[12 June 1978]*





**“Your words will help me live up to your expectations of me. I thank you and your people for coming and praying for me. I see such purity inside all of you. Your prayers have definitely reached God.”**

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**“I should be grateful to you. You have been good enough to come and give me such bliss inside.”**

***S.N. Mishra  
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[11 October 1979]***



“I had not realised that somewhere tucked away in this very large building of the United Nations, there is a small corner where real peace dwells . . . . Along with the large number of Ambassadors, members of the diplomatic corps and others who are representing India here, Sri Chinmoy is also doing some work which is even more important, because people like him are our cultural and spiritual Ambassadors . . . . In many respects the work which I am doing and the work which he is doing are supplementary and complementary. I once again wish you greater and greater triumph in this very sacred task which you are doing.”

*Narasimha Rao*  
*Foreign Minister of India*  
*[3 October 1980]*



**“There can be no higher religion than our common allegiance to humanity, which is inherent in the Charter of the United Nations, and which, indeed, if I may say so, is the message that is implicit in the teachings of Sri Chinmoy.”**

***Rikhi Jaipal  
Permanent Representative of India  
to the United Nations  
[27 March 1979]***



“I support wholeheartedly Sri Chinmoy’s efforts at the United Nations to establish world peace. I was so happy to be able to host the reception tonight at a gallery exhibiting Sri Chinmoy’s paintings, to welcome diplomats of the 40th Session of the General Assembly. It was an unforgettable experience!”

*Natarajan Krishnan*  
*Permanent Representative of India*  
*to the United Nations*  
*[13 September 1985]*



“It has been a unique experience for me to be near such a great soul, who is carrying the message of my country to people so far away from my homeland. You are an enlightened soul who is doing so much for mankind. My heart is really feeling something which I can’t express. This is a blissful moment for me. It’s a unique experience for me to be in your nearness.”

*Pran Nevile*  
*Consul General of India (Chicago)*  
*[28 July 1978]*



“Sri Chinmoy belongs to that stream of thought and sentiment which has shown us the Light for ages . . . . I consider those blessed who sit in his presence and who seek his presence, and I know that even after you and I and everyone are gone, his voice and his message will be with us, for that is the Message Supreme to which I bow.”

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**“Your very name is a phenomenon . . . . It is so rare for one to carry both the worlds—Eastern and Western. Your music has taken me and my wife almost into trance.”**

***Surinder L. Malik***  
***Consul General of India (Toronto)***  
***[10 November 1984]***





“The world should be made aware that here, right within the United Nations building, there is a Group that is trying to find peace, I think, in a truly more meaningful way. Since wars are born in the minds of men, I think peace also has to be born in the minds of men . . . . The Guru is like the one tree that has the inner vision and is now trying to illumine others. This I think is what Sri Chinmoy is doing . . . . This is not just a Meditation Group here, but it is a whole peace movement with peace concerts and peace activities. And I honestly believe that this is certainly as important as anything that is being done in the conference halls of this great and august building.”

*P.A. Nazareth*  
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**“I deeply appreciate your blessings and your kind sentiments. It has been a pleasure and a privilege for me to know you here.”**

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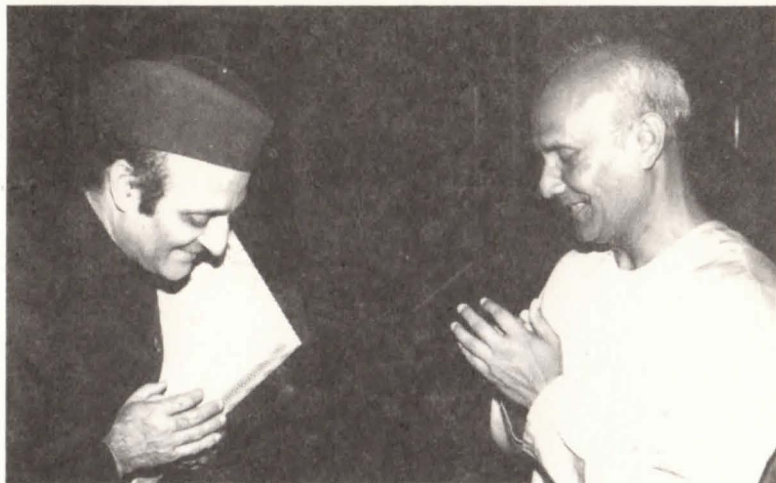
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**“Mankind has yet to learn that it is not by war but by love and affection that one can get more from life . . . . I wish and hope that your little family grows into a larger one which has none of the boundaries and demarkations that have made our world a divided and smaller place, so that all can get together and live in this world as one.”**

***C.P.N. Singh  
Member of Parliament  
and Member of the Indian delegation to the  
Thirty-eighth Session of the General Assembly  
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“Sri Chinmoy is in the distinguished tradition of those great teachers of spiritual wisdom who over the last century have from time to time visited the West and carried with them the eternal message of the Vedanta. If ever the world needed the message of spirituality, prayer, devotion and dedication, it is today when mankind is precariously poised between unprecedented progress and unmitigated disaster. We are grateful to Sri Chinmoy for the excellent work that he has done over the last 30 years, within and outside the United Nations, in spreading the message of the brotherhood of humanity, the divinity of all that exists and the essential unity of all creation.”

*Dr. Karan Singh  
Former Maharajah of Kashmir  
and former Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation,  
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[9 April 1986]*

**For information please write:  
Sri Chinmoy: The Peace Meditation  
at the United Nations  
P.O. Box 20 - Room S-765  
United Nations  
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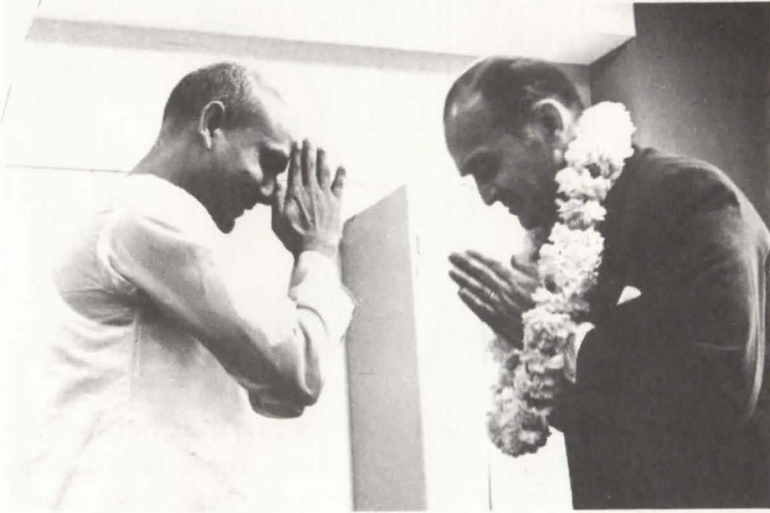
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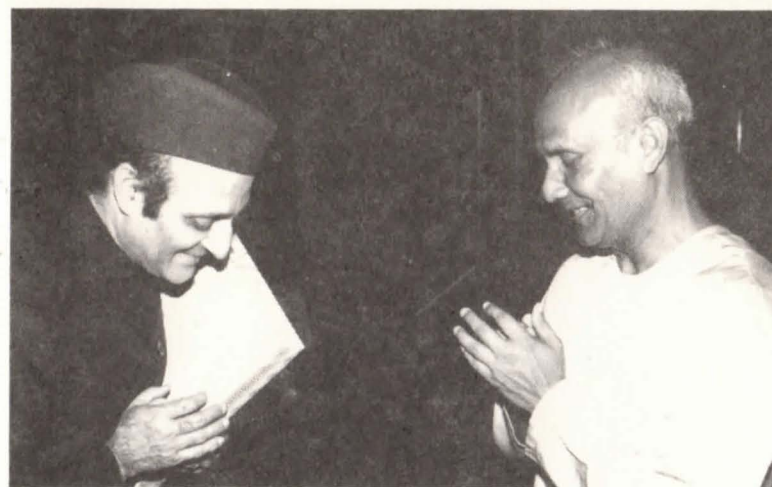
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