

3-01 Introduction to Events and Programmes

For consideration Intro page to Events doc (above or below Contents List)

Sri Chinmoy's first lecture to the United Nations Community took place in November 1968 titled *The Song Universal*. In April of 1970 Secretary-General U Thant invited him to lead regular meditations for delegates and staff. Inspired to support a culture of peace, Sri Chinmoy offered countless silent peace meditations, talks and answers to questions¹ for the nearly forty years of his association with the UN. During those years, he also had exchanges with UN staff, its diplomatic community and those who served to further peace, cooperation, and harmony. Additionally, the group Sri Chinmoy founded, the Peace Meditation at UN, offered a wide range of events and programs such as concerts, talks, art exhibits, sporting events.

In this booklet we simply illustrate some of the types and diversity. It is not exhaustive. Some could be placed in more than one section such as music, UN anniversaries, Interfaith Harmony, or poetry For the print version we aspire to eventually add (as a separate document) a subject index to help navigate to similar concepts. The online version will have some embedded links to related entries.

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3-16 More Events example or Photo with caption

Z2. EndNotes

z3. Partial Date order or Subject list eventually *Link to Date and Subject Index here*



Sri Chinmoy meditates at U Thant Island event, 19 Mar 1985, UNDP receives U Thant Peace Award. The United Nations NY Headquarters is in background.

¹ See Also: "The Vision of United Nations: A Oneness World-Family, PART 1" excerpts from "50 Questions Answered by Sri Chinmoy at the UN" and "...PART 2" excerpts from "50 Talks Offered by Sri Chinmoy at the UN". The booklets were printed in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Peace Meditation Group.

What inspired programmes and special events?

Within the UN Community the answers to questions and lectures were an impetus for hundreds of other events that had related themes – and this helped to strengthen understanding of how the inner and outer worlds could go together. It demonstrated that a spiritual awareness could feed the sincere aspiration of the political world striving for “oneness” for all. A beginning idea grew in unexpected ways. A talk could inspire a new event where Sri Chinmoy offered a song that would then be part of future programmes which served as an opportunity for others in the UN community to share their own inspiration.

Sometimes there was interest in a UN anniversary or a specific topic. Other times members would suggest an event or theme like “International Cooperation for Peace” and Sri Chinmoy responded and transformed the title to “The Quintessence of Divinity in Humanity: International Cooperation for Peace.” Which sent some to an oxford dictionary to be sure we understood what was implied by “Quintessence of Divinity”.

Inspired speakers from the UN community joined interfaith representatives around this theme for a conference celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the opening of the General Assembly in 1975. Even the Secretary-General sent a special message and the song “O United Nations” which Sri Chinmoy had recently wrote in dedication to the United Nations was performed.



“**O United Nations, O UN**, you are the world-body crying for the world-soul, and you are the earth-life longing for oneness-goal...” - Lyrics by Sri Chinmoy also performed 28 October 1975 at “World Unity: The Song of the Soul” event cosponsored by the Peace Meditation dedicated to Music and World Peace, in the UN Dag Hammarskjold Auditorium.

At another event in support of UN efforts for peace and the upcoming 1977 World Environment Day, a painting by Sri Chinmoy was unveiled. It was titled: “United Nations: The Heart-Home of the World Body”. It then toured other cities to draw attention to UN efforts.

United Nations: the Heart-Home of the World-Body



1977-05-03may-at JK-UN-World-environment-Day-coord-Martha-Lackner-unveils-painting-Heart-Home-World-Body

The title phrase also became the theme at an event marking the opening of the UN General Assembly the following September. The striking poetic interpretation “**The Heart-Home of the World-Body**” became synonymous with support for the UN over the years.

One example of the effect these various activities had beyond the meditation group members was expressed by the Special Advisor for the Fortieth Anniversary, on behalf of the Secretary-General (receiving a copy of the Preamble to the Charter signed by delegates and staff participants in the Peace Walk). “You have blended the two elements~the delegations and the Secretariat, by making your recommitment to the Charter. Your peace initiative has won the respect of all. It has been for all of us a source of inspiration.” - – Mr. Jean Gazarian



Alternative photos



3 May 1977 UN-Heart-Home-of-the-World-Body-Painting with Artist-Sri-Chinmoy-



– October 1985 for UN Day, Mr. Jean Gazarian on behalf of the Secretary-General (receiving a copy of the Preamble to the Charter signed by delegates and staff participants in the Peace Walk).