

Events: 3-04 draft 01 Dec 2020 UN Organizations - Header to be simplified across section pages in final
 04 Appreciation for UN Organizations, Offices and related entities



United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Secretariat



International Year of the Child (IYC) Secretariat



United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Offices

Chose some photos from the section to have on thsi first page



Honouring UN Safety and Security Event



Event honouring Peace Corps of the USA and the UN Volunteers which grew from a common "peace ideal and peace action."



"Lifting Up the World with a Oneness-Heart" In Plaza adjacent to UNICEF House



Executive Director of UN Children's Fund (UNICEF)



Visit and appreciation for the Gift Shop at the United Nations



Thanking a staff member s dedication and support with a trophy for her years of service to the UN Community.

Events: 3-04 draft 01 Dec 2020 UN Organizations - Header to be simplified across section pages in final
TO EDIT into paragraph

The UN Community is enhanced by the official UN organizations structure and Secretariat offices. Each UN organizations contributes something unique to address global and local problems. To bring attention to some of the various contributions, Sri Chinmoy encouraged support for the various UN entities and individuals who offered their service to the UN Community in various ways.

In this section we highlight a few Organization offices in the UN Community and examples of programmes or events to show appreciation for a team or an individual’s effort. It is also a recognition and reminder that the day to day progress towards the UN goals depends teamwork and individual dedication especially in challenging times.

Contents

UN Secretariat	4
Salute to the United Nations Security and Safety Service 1977	4
Meditation and Short Talk at UN Secretariat Offices 1987 Nov 13	5
Office Meditation and Remarks about UN	5
A Visit to the United Nations Gift Center, 11 Feb 1977	5
Examples of Individuals recognized	6
Essay Award to Meditation Group member from Holy See Mission to the UN, Jan 1977	6
Pramoda France Vacher, Serve UN 40 yrs 1987 May 12?	7
Nilima Silver receives award from SG and presentation to Desmond Tutu	8
UNDP UN Development Programme	9
U Thant Peace Award UN Development Programme UNDP -1985 March 19	9
UN Volunteers (UNV) appreciated at UN event for USA Peace Corps Volunteers	9
Individual Contributions	12
Mr. Uner Kirdar of UNDP; Events with Peace Meditation Group at UN SUMMARY 2014	12
Alexander (Sandy) Davidson, UNDP inspiring photos 1983 - 1994 Nemi to summarise?.....	14
Nemi Fredner: Carrying on a family UN tradition: 10th anniversary at UNDP 1987 May 04.....	15
Meditation for UNDP at Alcoa Building 29 Oct + 19 Nov:	17
Talk on Self-giving and happiness	17
UNICEF - UN Children’s Fund	18
Sri Chinmoy’s quotations appear in UNICEF’s 1975 Engagement Calendar,	18
1973 Sep 28 UUNICEF Request to Use	18
Weekend Unicef film festival in Manhattan at the Jharna Kala Gallery in 1975	19
Joan Bel. Geddes, of the Information Division for UNICEF sent a beautiful note of thanks:.....	20
1975-10-oct-16-bazar-for-unicef-sec-news-oct-31	20
Halloween Party +* 25th Anniversary of “Trick or Treat for UNICEF” 30 October.1975	21
James P. Grant, Executive Director. UNICEF & Peace Meditation at UN members & Summary 2014 Dec	23

Events: 3-04 draft 01 Dec 2020 UN Organizations - Header to be simplified across section pages in final	
Executive Director, Grant congratulates Marathon Runners 1981 Oct 27	23
Sri Chinmoy's Followers at UNICEF – Staff News, Aug-Sep 1983	24
Peace Lifts -“ ...with a Oneness-Heart” - 1988	25
Message by J.P. Grant, ED UNICEF; For Sri Chinmoy Global Peace Concert + Award; 1989 Dec 10	25
Message by J.P. Grant, ED UNICEF; For 25th of Sri Chinmoy in West; 1989 Apr 21	26
1994 U Thant Peace Award to James Grant, ED UNICEF. Sep 20	27
Staff News: Sri Chinmoy: Peace Meditation at UN – A UNICEF Presence - 1996 jun 30.....	27
UNOPS - UN Office for Project Services	28
Concert for UNDP / OPS - Moments of Peace 1991 Jul 10.....	28
“Lifting up World with Oneness Heart” Award for Nigel Fisher, UNOPS, 2003 Nov	29
UNESCO - UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.....	30
UNESCO International Literacy Day with World Education 1979 Sep 04 at Meditation Group	30
THIRTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF UNESCO OBSERVED 1981 Nov 10.....	30
Sri Chinmoy receives Nehru Medallion from UNESCO	31
1995 Pope John Paul II received the torch from Peace Run founder Sri Chinmoy at the Vatican in Rome.....	31
World Harmony Concert, UNESCO Run Event, Art Exhibit: Paris 26 & 27 May 2005	31
World Harmony Concert at UNESCO Hq, Mar 28, 2006.....	32
Torch relay + Interfaith Harmony encouraged by Pres. (2009 - 2011) UNESCO General Conference	33
UN Community organizations and associations.....	33
Tribute to Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) Associated with U.N. – 1975 Dec 09	33
The UN International School (UNIS) – UN Day Celebration – 24 Oct 1975	35
UN STAFF Day Performances in GA Hall by Members of Peace Meditation at UN ?.....	35

UN Secretariat

Salute to the United Nations Security and Safety Service 1977

On 7 June 1977, the Meditation Group at the UN held a special function to honour the UN Security and Safety Service. Colonel H. A. Trimble, Chief of the Service, described the functions and organization of the Service and then answered questions from the audience. Also speaking were Dr. Robert Muller, Deputy Under-Secretary-General, and Sri Chinmoy, leader of the Meditation Group.

Dr. Robert Muller: UN sites...are places where the destiny, the peace and the future of our children are being forged.,,, cradles of a more peaceful, just and happy world... on a globe where there is still so much violence, indecency and disfigurement, there are those few islands, the UN sites, where one can see cleanliness, decency, an atmosphere of kindness.

This we owe, to a very large degree, to our Security Forces



Sri Chinmoy presents Colonel Trimble with a medallion for his dedicated service to the UN

Colonel H.A. Trimble : To be a good Security Officer, you have to be an intelligent, mature individual who is ready to exercise the maximum of tact and courtesy with a reasonable amount of good judgment, plus a little bit of training and experience . I cannot over-stress the tact and courtesy. There could be no better atmosphere to work in than the United Nations. I am sure that all my people appreciate this. They believe in the UN., they are dedicated to the UN, and I think all these various ingredients go to build up a high sense of morale.

I am a very proud man. Part of the reason for making this statement is that as I look back on my life, I will judge the years that I have spent as the Chief of the Security and Safety Service as a highlight of my career..



Colonel Trimble, centre, and Sri Chinmoy, far left. With representatives from the Security and Safety Service.

Sri Chinmoy : Dear Chief, supreme Chief, good friend of humanity's cause, you are protecting the body of the United Nations; therefore, the soul of the United Nations is extremely , extremely proud of you, for without the body, the soul-reality cannot manifest here on earth. The United Nations is not only a building; it is something infinitely more important than a building-it is humanity's cry and humanity's smile. With your invaluable service you are becoming one with humanity's cry and humanity's smile

Office Meditation and Remarks about UN

13 November 1987, Talk after a meditation held in the office of **Mr. Carl Pedersen, Principal Officer**, Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation. "The United Nations has not failed and will never fail. Only the **mind of man has failed. Now the heart has to come to the fore** and say, '*This person is my sister. That person is my brother. I can be happy only if my sister and brother are also happy. If I try to stay always one step ahead of them, then they will not be happy. So if I have a true heart of oneness, I will not want them to remain behind me. Although I may have a little more vital and physical capacity than they have, I have to deal with my brothers and sisters with affection.*' The heart's affection has to solve our problems, not the mind."



(Sri Chinmoy and Carl Pedersen)

[A Visit to the United Nations Gift Center, 11 Feb 1977](#)

On 11 February 1977 Sri Chinmoy visited the United Nations Gift Center, managed by a member of the Meditation Group. Sri Chinmoy meditated with the staff of the shop before their working day began and then gave a short talk..



UN Gift Center staff listen to Sri Chinmoy during his talk in their shop.

Sri Chinmoy : Every day people come to this shop from various parts of the world. They come here to identify themselves with the large, larger and largest world. Let me give you an example. I come from a tiny, obscure village in Bengal. India. If I buy something from this place and take it back to my little home and show it to my friends, immediately a new world dawns before them—a world of vastness, a world of oneness, a world of satisfaction. The tiniest possible world is my village, Shakpura, in Bengal, India. The tiniest world comes into this shop and gets a gift which comes from another part of the world .

Perhaps that part of the world where the gift was made may also be a small village. But my coming to this shop from one tiny place and your offering this gift from another tiny place makes a happy union between the two places.



The gift supreme

*The inner vision of the United Nations is **the gift supreme**. This vision the world can deny for ten , twenty, thirty, forty, one hundred years. But a day will dawn when the vision of the United Nations will save the world. And when the reality of the United Nations starts bearing fruit, then the breath of Immortality will be a living reality on earth.*

– Excerpt from talk “[The United Nations As An Instrument Of Human Unification](#)” by Sri Chinmoy on 9 May 1974 in Dag Hammarskjold Auditorium . Published in book: [The Tears Of Nation-Hearts](#). Agni Press, 1974.

We come to the United Nations to be united and to serve humanity with one heart, with one soul and with one body. In this way the little, little worlds become one with the big world, and again, the big world gives to the little worlds what it has and what it is.

=====

Excerpt from a recent reference to June Henneberger: The **Brooklyn Museum “Library** collection was greatly enhanced by the books from the library of Roma June Henneberger, former Brooklyn Museum staff member. **Ms. Henneberger** had co-founded the very first museum shop in the United States known as the **Brooklyn Museum [Gift Shop](#)** in the 1960s! From 1964-1965, June created a similar cultural store called the “**People to People**” pavilion at the **New York World’s Fair**. From the late 1960s through the 1970s, she was **the manager of the United Nations Gift Center**. Her library was filled with lots of rare books on folk art around the world and we are delighted to give them a home. Some titles that were in her library that are now available here: [Pollock’s Toy Theatres](#), [Fancy ribbon tying](#), [Pottery: a utilitarian folk craft](#) and the [Folk art of Peru](#).

Examples of Individuals recognized

[Essay Award to Meditation Group member from Holy See Mission to the UN, Jan 1977](#)

At a January 1977 Meeting of the Peace Meditation group at the UN, Sri Chinmoy requested an announcement be made of some details to all those present that a member of the group, Joseph T. La Galia , was being recognized with a Silver Papal Medallion.. Joseph received the Honorable Mention and Papal Medallion recognition for the entry he submitted to the essay contest sponsored by the Holy See Mission to the UN in celebration of World Peace Day 01 January.

"...Former Secretaries-General Dag Hammarskjöld and U Thant and the late President Childers of Ireland, have indeed tried to view world affairs with a more spiritual approach. They became aware of the truths embodied in all religions and tried to integrate these basic ideals into their work. These are the ideals of love and brotherhood which are at the base of the United Nation's Charter. The United Nations has become a school for modern man which teaches him peace. Here each individual and Nation learns and teaches the art of building peace. In a speech delivered at the United Nations Headquarters on October 4, 1965, Pope Paul stated, "The world looks to you as to the architects, the builders of peace."



Joseph S. La Galia (left), Sri Chinmoy (right) listen to announcement. Excerpts from Joseph's entry also appeared in the periodic Bulletin of the Group "Meditation at the United Nations" 1977-02-27, vol-05, -n-02-feb Page_47 to 49

[Pramoda France Vacher, Serve UN 40 yrs 1987 May 12?](#)

Included in the programme of instrumental and vocal music was the performance a song in Bengali, which Sri Chinmoy composed especially for the occasion. The title of the song, "Pramoda," means inner and outer joy.



13 May 1987 -Classical recital by Meditation Group member Pramoda France Vacher, as a farewell to the UN after 40 years of service to the Organisation. Pramoda previously celebrated her ten years of membership in the meditation group with a concert and luncheon for her friends and colleagues, held in the Dag Hammarskjöld Auditorium on 11 July 1980. Ms. Vacher, who then had already faithfully served the United Nations for thirty-four years, was one of the original members of the group and also directed the meditation group choir. At the end of the concert she thanked members of the group and her other friends and colleagues, saying, "I should like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Sri Chinmoy, who has been giving us so much over the years, and to all of you for coming and for allowing me to share some of this all-flowing joy with my colleagues and friends."



May 1987 Sri Chinmoy thanks Ms. Vacher for her dedication and support with a trophy for her years of service to the UN Community.

Some additional Photos of Pramoda and friends.



<p>May 1987 with other performers from the Classical Concert</p>	<p>December 1979 Performing with The Meditation Group Choir</p>
	
<p>May 1987, Meditation Group choir sings Pramoda song while she holds trophy with Sri Chinmoy</p>	<p>December 1979 performing with friends in Meditation Choir. (from left) Chandika, Nemi, Tanima, Pramoda, Nilima, Rijuta and Nayana</p>

Additional for Pramoda? CONSIDER ALSO: Maybe Nemi could choose excerpt from text and/or early photos from original 2011 Inspiration Sun article she edited "A life of Spiritual Search and UN Service".2011? page 5 -11

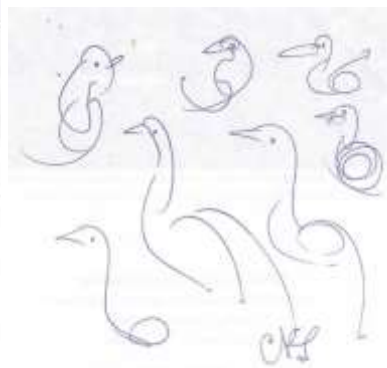
Nilima Silver receives award from SG and presentation to Desmond Tutu

Many colleagues joined in celebrating Nilima's 36 years of dedicated service to the United Nations and her 6th Birthday Thursday, 20 May 2010 – 6:30 p.m. at Oneness-Fountain-Heart Restaurant in Queens N.Y.

As part of the invitation to the 2010 party, there was copy of Comments and birds by Sri Chinmoy drawn on the invitation for Nilima's 50th birthday party invitation as celebrated by UN workers in May 2000. Sri Chinmoy had passed away in 2007 but his sweet hand-written remarks and Bird drawings – ten years previously added to the joy of this festive occasion



UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon presents Nilima with the Staff Recognition Award for her long-time service



Nilima presenting a booklet to Reverend, *Desmond Mpilo Tutu* during an exhibit in the Delegates Entrance Lobby. About exhibit see also Part 3-10 Art Exhibits or Poetry & Literature Events

UNDP UN Development Programme

U Thant Peace Award UN Development Programme UNDP -1985 March 19

U THANT PEACE AWARD GIVEN to • The UN Development Programme, for its sustained practical commitment to world progress through integral development and its dedication to the fulfilment of each nation's unique potentialities. The leader of The Peace Meditation at UN Nations, Sri Chinmoy, presented the U Thant Peace Award to UNDP).

The presentation was made March 19 during a ceremony on U Thant Island, in the East River. Dr. Uner Kirdar, who accepted the award on behalf of UNDP, said: "You are granting us the biggest honour." The award, he added, belongs to UNDP field workers and those "whom we are privileged to serve."

In a subsequent letter to Sri Chinmoy, the head of UNDP, Bradford Morse, wrote: "The U Thant Peace Award not only **gives us new inspiration, dedication and energy to serve in the best manner millions of human beings in poor countries**, but also constitutes a high commemoration of the spirit of the late Secretary-General U Thant, a world leader who was a champion of peace and development. I thank you from my heart once again for the great honour, and send you my very best wishes and respect" - Bradford Morse, Administrator, UN Development Programme. From statement on behalf of UNDP, 21 March 1985



Sri Chinmoy with Bradford Morse, Administrator- Executive Head of UNDP who appreciates award

* * * * *

"The 1985 U Thant Peace Award is Presented to The United Nations Development Programme for Its: *Sustained Practical commitment to World Progress Through Integral Development — An expression of the Highest Spiritual Idealism; Encouragement of Peaceful International Co-operation in the Spirit of the Charter of the United Nations; and Dedication to the Fulfilment of Each Nation's Unique Potentialities.* "- Presented by Sri Chinmoy: the Peace Meditation at the UN 19 March 1985

"It is the greatest honour which has been granted through me to UNDP today, with this award named after our late Secretary-General U Thant. We consider this award as a symbol of the service rendered on the part of the United Nations for humanity. We are very privileged, honoured and indebted to you today for what you have granted us." - Uner Kirdar, Director of Division of External Relations, and Governing Council Secretariat; UNDP Shown receiving the U Thant Peace Award on behalf of UNDP on 19 March 1985 (see more on Under Kirdar below)



UN Volunteers (UNV) appreciated at UN event for USA Peace Corps Volunteers

Peace Corps Anniversary Celebration – common peace ideal with UN Volunteers

- [\(can also be mentioned at 3-05 Honoring Countries](#)

7 December 1970, UN General Assembly established an international group of volunteers within the UN system called “UN Volunteers” (UNV) by [Resolution 2659](#). UNV is administered UNDP. More at : <https://www.unv.org/>

15 March 1978, The Peace Corps commemorated its seventeenth anniversary with an evening programme at the UN in Conference Room 4, co-sponsored by Sri Chinmoy Meditation at the UN. **HIGHLIGHTED** Quote from programme:: *“The Peace Corps of the USA and the UN Volunteers have grown from a common peace ideal and peace action.”*

Mr. Sam Brown, Director of ACTION, of which the Peace Corps is a part, delivered the key note address and presented the **Hubert H. Humphrey Award for International Service**, marking the first time the Peace Corps has publicly commended its own volunteers and staff. US **Congressman Christopher John Dodd** of Connecticut, a former Peace Corps Volunteer in the Dominican Republic, and **Ms. Velma Linford**, a Peace Corps staff member received the Award.

The Meditation Group singers opened the anniversary programme. Speakers included U.S. **Ambassador Allard Lowenstein**, Malaysian A mbassador **Zaiton Ibrahim**, Ghanian Ambassador **Frank E. Boaten**, Congressman **Dodd** and **Haskell Ward**, N.Y.C. Commissioner of Community Development and former Peace Corps Volunteer in Ethiopia.



Ms. Velma Linford, a Peace Corps staff member received the Award.

Introduction: There was inspiration and aspiration present when John Kennedy, Hubert Humphrey and others established this Peace Corps. At that time, they touched the hearts of many of their fellow countrymen and women and called forth a response – a desire to serve selflessly the cause of peace. It was this same desire for peace which helped begin the UN. Some of you may know of a small Meditation Room at the UN. It was this same need for peace, that founded and redesigned this room. An inscription says the room is “devoted to peace and those that are giving their lives for peace”. In this spirit we would like to dedicate this programme to those who are giving their lives for peace all over the world through national and international organisations, as well as to all those who are working for peace through education, business , politics and in other ways. **Programe closed** with message from former Senator and USA Vice President Humphrey to a previous event for the UN community: *“I join my friends at the United Nations, and throughout the United States, in the hope and prayer that a just and lasting peace may be achieved within and among the nations of the world. On this special occasion I urge them to join me in reaffirming a strong personal commitment to the relentless pursuit of this peace.”*



– **Hubert Horatio Humphrey Jr.** (May 27, 1911 – January 13, 1978) served as the 38th [Vice President of the United States](#); in the [United States Senate](#), from 1949-64 and 1971-78; and nominee in the [1968 presidential election](#).

Some excerpts from Programme

Ambassador Allard Lowenstein of the United States:

We have learned a lot about the complexities of motive and of impact. We now know that the Peace Corps cannot be just “us doing for them.” It has to be also “them doing for us” and “us doing for us” ; and sooner or later hopefully there will be no us and no them, but “everybody doing for everybody.” And to the extent that governments stand in the way of this, they are doing something that is harmful; and to the extent that governments facilitate this, they are reinforcing the work and ideals that they are carrying out on another level.



Dr. Jasperdean Kobes, Director of Programs, World Education, Inc.:

In 1972, when we were preparing for the tenth anniversary of Ethiopia I, we surveyed approximately 250 of our group to find out what we thought of the Peace Corps ten years later and also what we were doing ten years later. We found out two things. First, most of us felt that we had learned much more from the experience than we probably had given. And secondly, we found out that a very large proportion of our group was working in activities related to community development and social change. So I think there is a vast network of us out there that could really be tapped for developing this country.



Mr. William David Angel, Associate Officer, Planning and Evaluation, UN Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs: “The *Peace Corps of the United States of America and the United Nations Volunteers have grown from a common peace ideal and peace action*, which seem to be their unifying links. The international peace corps idea has spread around the world from the battlefields of World War I near Verdun, and advanced by numerous peace corps: in Europe and North America and Africa, Asia and Latin America....I do hope that the tremendous resources that you offer (in terms not only of your past and present, but of your future) can be devoted to the further realisation of this peace corps idea on the country, regional and global levels, and to your counterpart in the world community, the United Nations Volunteers.”



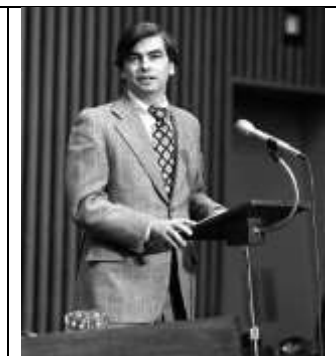
Mr. F.E. Beaten, Permanent Representative of Ghana: We in Ghana will ever remember the Peace Corps Volunteers for their invaluable contribution to Ghana’s Education Service in the field of teaching, especially in the early sixties. Those were the years when the implementation of Ghana’s accelerated educational programme had created a need for more teachers, especially in the fields of science and mathematics, for Ghana’s newly established secondary schools. I recall with deep gratitude that it was the young men and women Volunteers of the Peace Corps Organisation who provided this much needed expertise in our schools. I would like to pay a particular tribute to the Volunteers, whose dedication and sense of service to mankind have enabled the Peace Corps Organisation to continue to thrive today.



Mr. Tan Sri Zaiton Ibrahim, Permanent Representative of Malaysia: Peace Corps Volunteers are found in almost every sector of Malaysian life- in agriculture, forestry, fisheries, education and health, to name a few-and in the towns and cities, in the villages and the countryside. More than 3,000 Volunteers have served in my country and I am happy to say that their dedication and enthusiasm have cemented a bond of friendship between the American and the Malaysian peoples. Truly, it can be said that Malaysia owes a great debt of gratitude to the Peace Corps Volunteers.



Congressman Christopher John Dodd of Connecticut: It was a presumptuous idea seventeen years ago when Senator Humphrey and President Kennedy first initiated the idea of a Peace Corps. Certainly the idea was then, as I assume it is today, to make a lasting contribution to those nations and to those peoples of the world who need help, who need help to help themselves. But what has happened for all of us who have shared in that experience is that we have taken, I think, far more than we have given. I certainly feel as one ex-Peace Corps Volunteer that the **Dominican Republic** gave me far more than I ever contributed.



Individual Contributions

Mr. Uner Kirdar of UNDP; Events with Peace Meditation Group at UN [SUMMARY 2014](#)

1997 Jul 11: Farewell tribute to Mr. Üner Kirdar, Senior Advisor to the Administrator of the United Nations in Queens at Annam Brahma or at UN? (Photos form AB to be confirmed if match this date)

1989 Feb 07 Uner Kirdar: Oneness-Pathfinder
A Programe was held where Mr. Uner Kirdar of UNDP addressed the members of the Peace Meditation Group on the **Human Dimensions of Development**. The Group Honoured Mr Kidarwith with a song that Sri Chinmoy had composed in his honour.

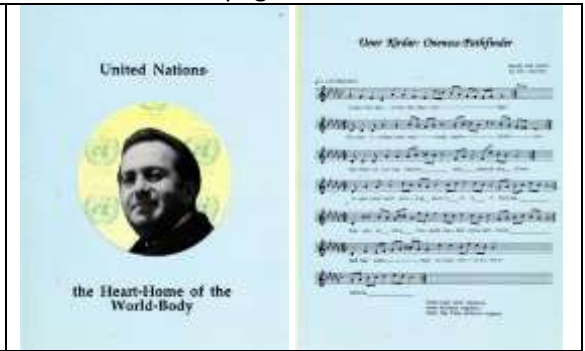
Editors ALSO AVAILABLE: excerpt from the introduction to the Programe there is :The music score for the song; pages from a brochure from the day, and Correspondence between Uner Kirdar and Sri Chinmoy.



Mr. Kirdar, who is Director of UNDP's Division of External Relations and Governing Council Secretariat, has been a kind and enthusiastic friend of the Peace Meditation Group at the UN for a number of years. He was with UNDP ' s former Administrator, Mr. Bradford Morse, when Mr. Morse and Sri Chinmoy met in this (Dag Hammarskjold) auditorium in in 1983, and since that time he has been extremely gracious toward us. In 1985, when the Meditation Group presented the U Thant Peace Award to UNDP, Mr. Kirdar was designated by Mr. Morse to accept the award in a beautiful ceremony on U

"Under Kirdar: **Oneness Pathfinder**":

Thant Island; in the East River.. He has Doctorate of Philosophy in international law and economics from Jesus College at Cambridge. He represents UNDP, in most intergovernmental UN meetings! and is also responsible for the ~ Development Study Programme, which seeks to promote greater understanding of development issues and to stimulate the search for new solutions to problems of development. has authored a book on the Structure of UN Economic Aid to Underdeveloped Countries.



Correspondence Between Uner Kirdar and Sri Chinmoy after event Feb 1989 (extract key phrases?)

United Nations
Development Programme
undp
World Development
7 February 1989

Dear Sri Chinmoy,

The surprise honor you bestowed on me left me almost speechless on Tuesday 7 February 1989. On returning to my office I was caught up in the demands of my job, but as I sit back now in my office at the end of the day, work and admire the beautiful presentation you gave me, I am even more touched and deeply humbled by the honor you have bestowed on me.

Indeed, when I look back and reflect on my years of service in the United Nations, I am struck by the fact that in the daily routines and duties that we all try to fulfil, we may be losing sight of the bigger picture and that is "peace" in the world with strong links of "brother-hood" among mankind. It is in this respect that I find the need for all of us to "search", in our lives and in our work, for ways and means to fulfil that purpose. Peace is not only embodied in the absence of war, but in the search for a path which makes the lives of all people throughout the world happier, be it in providing homes, food, education or a better standard of living for the less fortunate in this world.

May I take this opportunity to thank you most sincerely for the song which you specially composed for me and, through you, the members of the Peace Meditation at the United Nations for their melodious delivery of the song. The presentation occupies a prominent place in my office. It not only represents a great depth of thoughtfulness, but also artistic beauty and planning. The words "oneness" and "pathfinder" which are inscribed within the cut-out of my name, bring out further the attention that was ascribed to it in its creation.

I am sure that your presentation is going to bring me much happiness for a long time to come. Certainly, when the trials of daily life prove unsurmountable, I am sure I will be able to draw renewed "spirit" and "strength" from your presentation.

Again, my warmest thanks and appreciation for the honor you have bestowed on me.

Yours,
Uner Kirdar

Sri Chinmoy
United Nations
New York

SRJ CHINMOY: THE PEACE MEDITATION AT THE UNITED NATIONS
P.O. Box 21 - Room 5-080-9 • United Nations • New York, N.Y. 10165 • (212) 232-7907

UNITED NATIONS
The Secretariat
of the United Nations

23 February 1989

Dear Brother-Friend Dear Kirdar,
Dear Brother-Friend Uner Kirdar

I wish to thank you deeply for your kind letter and for your wise reflections about peace and brotherhood. You have offered me your heartfelt gratitude for our attempt to honor You, and it is in me who are honored to have you among us and to prosper from your mind of powerful illumination and your heart of fruitful perfection.

Later in the day, after our meeting with you, I was speaking informally to some of my students about you, your exceptional qualities of mind and heart. They were deeply inspired by you and they thought that you might wish to see what my inner-heart has felt in your inner life of aspiration and outer life of dedication. I have therefore enclosed these comments.

With my heart's joy and pride I wish to offer you two photographs from that meaningful occasion, which will always be treasured by our Peace Meditation Group.

Dear Brother, those who love and serve the United Nations are most fortunate to have you as a beacon of inspiration-light. I hope that we may be privileged to share our peace meditations with you more often in the days to come.

Yours in the Supreme,
Sri Chinmoy

Mr. Uner Kirdar
Director, Division of
External Relations and
Governing Council Secretariat
United Nations Development Programme

Sri Chinmoy, The Peace Meditation at the United Nations is an organization of United Nations agencies and UNCTAD representatives and includes their participation in the meditation, their participation and other programs of United Nations Meditations.

SRI CHINMOY: THE PEACE MEDITATION AT THE UNITED NATIONS
P.O. Box 211 - Room 5-1516 B • United Nations • New York, N.Y. 10101 • (212) 359-7967

7 February 1989

UNITED NATIONS
As Trustee of the World People

The letters and the book have both been the instruments of reaching the Chinmoy State. The book defines the experience and will help you to understand better. The letters are the heart of the matter. Each letter is a meditation and each letter is a meditation. The letters are the heart of the matter. Each letter is a meditation and each letter is a meditation. The letters are the heart of the matter. Each letter is a meditation and each letter is a meditation.

Sri Chinmoy
Sri Chinmoy

Sri Chinmoy, The Peace Meditation at the United Nations is an extension of the Peace Meditation program and will complement and enhance the program. Making responsible, self-motivated and self-programmed. © Sri Chinmoy Publications.

[Alexander \(Sandy\) Davidson, UNDP inspiring photos 1983 - 1994](#) Nemi to summarise?

22 March 1994, Mr. Alexander (Sandy) Davidson, Principal Technical Adviser for the United Nations Development Programme, was honoured by Sri Chinmoy and the Meditation Group at the U.N on the occasion of his retirement.

05 Nov 1988 An inspiring story of some of Sandy Davidson's accomplishments were featured in Oneness-Arrival-Shore – 1988 Nov 05, OAS/88-06



1990s-award-sandy-davidson-ckg-un-Dag-H-aud_Page_04A
Special Plaque for a special person



Sandy Davidson is a Proud and Happy Member of the Achilles Track Club

SEE ALSO: Alexander (Sandy) Davidson, UNDP inspiring photos 1983; 1994

Running The Sri Chinmoy Thanksgiving Half Marathon in Flushing Meadow Park, NY



Lifting up the World with a Oneness Heart 08 April 1989

Nemi Fredner: Carrying on a family UN tradition: 10th anniversary at UNDP 1987 May 04

On 4 May 1987, Ms. Nemi Fredner celebrated her tenth year of service at UNDP (Technical Advisory Division) with a large and joyous programme held in the Dag Hammarskjold Auditorium. Excerpts from an interview with Ms. Fredner, who is very supportive of the Peace Meditation Group at the UN. :

Question: What prompted you to celebrate this occasion?

Ms. Fredner: The tenth anniversary was really just an excuse to invite as many colleagues as possible to share in an inspiring and festive occasion, especially those with whom I have been working for a number of years.

USE this

Question: As a UN staff member, I'm curious about this one-Do you feel yourself to be a UNDP staff member, a UN staff member, or both, and in what order of priority?

Ms. Fredner: I am very much a UNDP staff member, and lucky enough to have become acquainted with several hundred of my colleagues because of the nature of my work and the manageable size of UNDP headquarters. However, I feel that I belong to the UN as a whole, both because of the strong dedication of the Peace Meditation Group at the UN, to which I belong, and because of my family background: **my mother was a social secretary to the first Secretary-General, Trygve Lie, and my father's brother served as a UN administrative officer from 1946 until his death in 1964. I feel as though I was destined for the UN!**

USE this

Question: I understand that you were an undergraduate at Radcliffe College and completed graduate studies at Columbia Teachers College and that, in fact, you originally had some difficulty in being allowed to stay at UNDP as a secretary because of your academic achievements. Why did you want to stay at UNDP? Do you ever have any regrets about the turn your career has taken at the United Nations?



Nemi Fredner and colleague Poover.

**Nemi Fredner:
Carrying on
a family tradition**

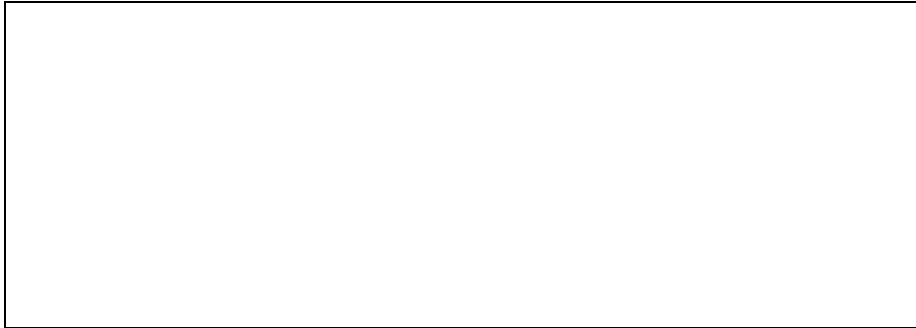
"I believe that one has to be equally willing to serve or to lead as necessity demands, with equal dignity and grace." Nemi Fredner

Ms. Fredner: I was always geared toward a highly academic life, but found myself more interested in pursuing spiritual goals than in fulfilling intellectual or professional ambitions. As a member of the Meditation Group at the UN, I have benefited immeasurably from the inspiration of Sri Chinmoy, and I try to take to heart his message, as powerfully conveyed in this poem:

*“My Lord, Do teach me only one thing: How to love the world
The way You love me.”*

I have no regrets about taking up secretarial service, because I am fortunate to know what I want out of life. Although my workload is often heavy, I feel free to be exactly the person I want to be, without conforming to the pressures, both self-imposed and external, of professional aims. My spiritual life provides me with many opportunities to follow my interests and capacities, such as music and writing. I am very pleased to be with UNDP, We can all feel that our great strength is our direct involvement in development projects which produce measurable results and lasting impact in so many countries. I think the most important improvement for UNDP, as for the UN as a whole, would be for us to unabashedly rededicate ourselves, on a daily basis, to the founding principles of the UN; to be openly proud of and committed to our work, whatever our level may be. I also hope that each staff member could feel that his or her attitude and performance do make a difference; in fact, they shape the fate of our organization.





Meditation for UNDP at Alcoa Building 29 Oct + 19 Nov:

Talk on Self-giving and happiness

In response to the request of a number of UN Development Programme (UNDP) staff whose schedule often made it difficult for them to attend the regular Tuesday and Friday meetings, Sri Chinmoy, Leader of the Meditation Group, held a short meditation, spoke and answered questions on the spiritual life at the Alcoa building on 29 Oct and 19 November during the lunch hour. - Reported in UN Secretariat News , 1975 Nov 28

“A seeker need not be an individual who only cries and tries to realise God. A seeker can be someone who sees something that he does not have right now. He wants something that will give him joy and satisfaction in life, but he does not have that very thing. Here we are in the company of some distinguished individuals of various professions. In order to become proficient in a particular profession, deep inside us we have to have an inner cry. We want to do something, to grow into something, to become something. This means we are seekers. Each profession is like a quality that we offer to the world at large, a quality that satisfies and fulfils us. Each profession is a signal capacity of God. If we are afraid of using the term 'God', let us use the term 'happiness'. Each capacity offers us happiness. Yet, as individuals, we are not perfectly happy, in spite of having capacity in one particular field. How can we be happy? We can be happy only if we believe in the theory of change. In order to achieve happiness in life, we have to give unreservedly what we have and what we are. What we have is the body, vital, mind, heart and soul. And what are we? We are God's constant Concern, constant Compassion and constant Manifestation. Again, if you don't want to use the term 'God', you can use the term 'happiness' or 'truth.' There are various ways to achieve this truth in life. But only one way is

Chose excerpts of sample of questions answered 29 Oct and 19 Nov 1975 and reference to the 50 Questions and min Source.

(MUN 231. 29 October 1975.)

Sri Chinmoy: Meditation means our conscious awareness of our Source. Our Source is God, our Source is Truth, our Source is Light, our Source is Perfection. Our Source has no imperfection, no ailment. Where is this Source? This Source is deep within us. In meditation we make our mind calm and quiet. In the outer life it is...

From the book My meditation-service at the United Nations for twenty-five years (MUN 285. 29 October 1975.)

Sri Chinmoy: As soon as you start using your intuition, you have to know that you are doing the right thing. But just because you have started doing the right thing, you cannot expect to get the result immediately. You have to continue for some time. A seed does not become a tree all at once. First it has to germinate, then...

From the book My meditation-service at the United Nations for twenty-five years (MUN 320-322. 29 October 1975.)

Sri Chinmoy: In the physical world if somebody is sick, we do not say that he will never be well again. If he goes to a doctor and takes medicine, there is every possibility that he will be cured. If somebody is assailed by physical ailments, medicine is the answer. If somebody is assailed by anxiety, worry and confusion, then...

From the book My meditation-service at the United Nations for twenty-five years (MUN 86. 29 October 1975.)

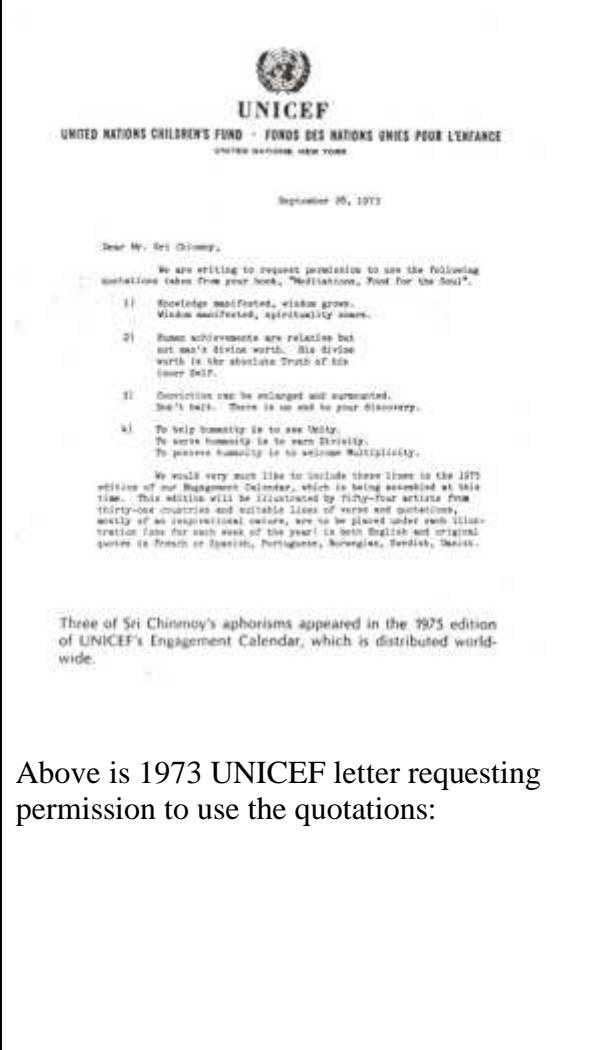
Sri Chinmoy: First of all, let us try to know that spirituality is not something abstract and uncertain, something that encourages us to leave the world, something that is only for the chosen few. No!

<p>most effective and that way is the way of self-giving — unreserved and unconditional self-giving to our own extended, expanded, enlarged, boundless, unlimited existence. Happiness is seeing what has to be seen, happiness is feeling what is actually to be felt, happiness is self-giving, happiness is becoming one with the eternal Source. (RD 5). UN Development Programme — Alcoa Building, 29 Oct 1975. Full talk at srichinmoylibrary.com/rd-5</p>	<p>Spirituality is certainty itself; and, if it is true spirituality, it always encourages us to accept life. Spirituality is the... From the book My meditation-service at the United Nations for twenty-five years</p>
--	---

UNICEF - UN Children's Fund

From before 1975 the Peace Meditation Group at the UN has participated in programmes that supported UNICEF etc.

Sri Chinmoy's quotations appear in UNICEF's 1975 Engagement Calendar, 1973 Sep 28 UUNICEF Request to Use

<p>In 1973 the leader of the Peace Meditation at the UN was requested to give permission for some of his inspiring quotes to be used in the UNICEF Engagement Calendar, published by the UNICEF Greeting Card division as a fundraising initiative.</p> <p>UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND . FONDS DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENFANCE UNITED NATIONS • NEW YORK September 28, 1973</p> <p>Dear Mr. Sri Chinmoy, We are writing to request permission to use the following quotations taken from your book, "Meditations, Food for the Soul."</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Knowledge manifested, wisdom grows. Wisdom manifested, spirituality soars.2) Human achievements are relative but not man's divine worth. His divine worth is the absolute Truth of his inner Self.3) Conviction can be enlarged and surmounted. Don't halt. There is no end to your discovery.4) To help humanity is to see Unity. To serve humanity is to earn Divinity. To possess humanity is to welcome Multiplicity. <p>We would very much like to include these lines in the 1975 edition of our Engagement Calendar, which is being assembled at this time. This edition will be illustrated by fifty-four artists from thirty-one countries and suitable lines of verse and quotations, mostly of an inspirational nature, are to be placed under each illustration (one for each week of the year) in both English and original quotes in French or Spanish, Portuguese, Norwegian, Swedish, Danish.</p> <p>Three of Sri Chinmoy's aphorisms appeared in the 1975 edition of UNICEF's Engagement Calendar, which is distributed worldwide.</p>	 <p>UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND - FONDS DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENFANCE UNICEF UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND - FONDS DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENFANCE UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK</p> <p>September 28, 1973</p> <p>Dear Mr. Sri Chinmoy,</p> <p>We are writing to request permission to use the following quotations taken from your book, "Meditations, Food for the Soul".</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Knowledge manifested, wisdom grows. Wisdom manifested, spirituality soars.2) Human achievements are relative but not man's divine worth. His divine worth is the absolute Truth of his inner Self.3) Conviction can be enlarged and surmounted. Don't halt. There is no end to your discovery.4) To help humanity is to see Unity. To serve humanity is to earn Divinity. To possess humanity is to welcome Multiplicity. <p>We would very much like to include these lines in the 1975 edition of our Engagement Calendar, which is being assembled at this time. This edition will be illustrated by fifty-four artists from thirty-one countries and suitable lines of verse and quotations, mostly of an inspirational nature, are to be placed under each illustration (one for each week of the year) in both English and original quotes in French or Spanish, Portuguese, Norwegian, Swedish, Danish.</p> <p>Three of Sri Chinmoy's aphorisms appeared in the 1975 edition of UNICEF's Engagement Calendar, which is distributed worldwide.</p>
---	---

Above is 1973 UNICEF letter requesting permission to use the quotations:

Weekend Unicef film festival in Manhattan at the Jharna Kala Gallery in 1975

Meditation Group at the UN members co-originated with UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) staff and the JHARNA KALA GALLERY for a Free Film Festival showing UNICEF theme related films during the opening weekend of the JK Gallery, on Saturday 16 August 1975. Films were shown at 12 noon, 3, 6 and 9 pm. The event was at 220 Mercer Street, Manhattan NY. Form invitation to event:


"WE MOST CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO LEARN ABOUT UNICEF AND **10,000,000** CHILDREN THAT HAVE BEEN HELPED IN THE PAST THREE YEARS. BETWEEN FILMS, YOU ARE MOST WELCOME TO ENJOY THE **7,000** PAINTINGS ON DISPLAY IN THE GALLERY THAT WERE DONE BY C.K.G. IN THE PAST EIGHT MONTHS."

In 1965, UNICEF was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize as the Organisation "which has worked most or best for a brotherhood amongst the Nations." "In these days, when international power politics tend to invite cynicism concerning some of the acts of political omission and commission in the UN, the humanitarian efforts of the internal organizations should not be forgotten. And UNICEF's work on behalf of the world's children symbolizes the best of these efforts." – New York Times, April 26, 1973

From the invitation Pamphlet: Art exhibit at the Jharna-Kala Gallery on 220 ~ Mercer Street (between Bleecker and West Third Streets). This exhibition of 7,000 paintings was selected from the 27,000 works the artist completed in an eight-month period. Many of the paintings depict realities from the various planes of consciousness which Sri Chinmoy has experienced during meditation. The 7,000 paintings create a sweeping panorama of style, colour and form, including wall-sized canvasses and inch-square miniatures; acrylics, finger (paintings, watercolours, line drawings; bold abstracts, whimsical birds. And in this outpouring of Jharna -Kala ("Fountain -Art"). no two creations are alike.

The Jharna-Kala exhibit will extend until the end of August. The Gallery will be open seven days a week from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday through Thursday. and from 11, a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday. :

C.K.G. is Sri Chinmoy's artistic pen name. Born in India ~ in 1931, he entered an ashram at the age of 12 and spent the next 20 years in intense meditation and spiritual discipline. Besides being a prolific artist, Sri Chinmoy is a well-known writer and lecturer. He has written more than 240 spiritual books and lectured at major universities the world over. He also conducts meditations twice a week for United Nations delegates and staff in New York and directs the spiritual activities of some 50 Sri Chinmoy Centres around the world.



JHARNA KALA GALLERY
220 Mercer Street
New York, N.Y.
212-477-8718

PRESENTS A

FILM FESTIVAL

Thursday, August 14, 1975
12:00 noon, 3:00, 6:00 and 9:00 p.m.


Admission Free
Refreshments Served
Donations Accepted for UNICEF

These films will be shown at each of the 12:00, 3:00, 6:00 and 9:00 Showings:

- (a) All Our Futures - Narrated by Peter Ustinov
"A kaleidoscope of what UNICEF is and who UNICEF helps - around the world"
- (b) Hunger - A computer animation
Kindly Loaned by the Learning Corporation of America
- (c) Children of the Sun - Music by Pablo Casals
"Poignant...the story of a happy child and that of a hungry, unhappy child."
- (d) A Future For Every Child - A short film that shares two dreams of the future of Mankind.

These films are featured at each of the showings:

- 12:00 - UNICEF is Sharing Wild Fruits
- 3:00 - The Pied Piper - Starring Danny Kaye
- 6:00 - Joselito - Both films are stories of children, hunger and health education.
- Hungry Angels -
- 9:00 - Belle of the Buddha - A film of the lives of the Vietnamese people during their "Paper Peace".



Joan Bel. Geddes, of the Information Division for UNICEF sent a beautiful note of thanks:
 Subject: **Invitation to staff members to a West Village film festival.**
 "I love the fact that you love the fact that we work for and share an interest in UNICEF and what it stands for.

I also love the of your exhibit was a great success and a very happy day. Since the exhibit is going to continue until the end of August, and since I live near the Gallery, I'll try to get there before it closes. Thanks for the invitation!"



1975-10-oct-16-bazar-for-unicef-sec-news-oct-31

On Thursday, October 16, the Meditation Group at the United Nations held a bazaar in the staff lounge of the Secretariat for the benefit of UNICEF. Items on sale included potted plants, books, records, trinkets, homemade cookies, cakes and preserves. Everything was completely sold out by 3: 00 p. m. and the profits- \$500 - were later presented to UNICEF Executive Director Mr. Labouisse by Sri Chinmoy [at a function later in the month.](#) (30 Oct) - Excerpt from Bulletin "[Meditation at UN – Vo 03, No 10; 27 Oct 1975, Bulletin](#) - page 31



U.N. staff members enjoying side-show entertainment at bazaar sponsored by Meditation Group at the UN.

UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND • FONDS DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENFANCE
 UNITED NATIONS. NEW YORK
 20 November 1975 17/66 DPR/UN
 It is with great pleasure that I enclose herewith UNICEF's official receipt for the contribution of \$500.00 which was so generously donated by the Meditation Group (at the UN). It is indeed gratifying to know that our UN colleagues have throughout the years continued to support the work of UNICEF by sponsoring such events as the Bazaar held in the Secretariat Lobby on 16 October. On behalf of the Administration of UNICEF, I would appreciate your conveying to the Meditation Group our deep gratitude not only for the contribution but also for the time and effort put into making the Bazaar such a success. Sincerely yours, Sven P. Blackberg, Comptroller

around-the-world-for-UNICEF-Bazaar

-Join us in the lobby of the Secretariat, THIS THURSDAY-

16 October from 10:00 am. to 6:00 pm

FRUITFUL:

- Extensive baked goods, cakes and pastries
- Records - plus foreign tapes
- Plans for your office - books - flowers
- Gifts (noted ready at all telephone prices)
- Books and Air for
- GIFTS - for your bookshelves for your library for your children

What's Afloat Afloat:

- Beautiful handmade jewelry, beads, earrings and jewelry (also items)
- Crafts including spinning handwoven yarns/bags
- UNICEF Greeting Cards
- Colorful stained and photographs for sale
- "Deluxe Posters"
- Books

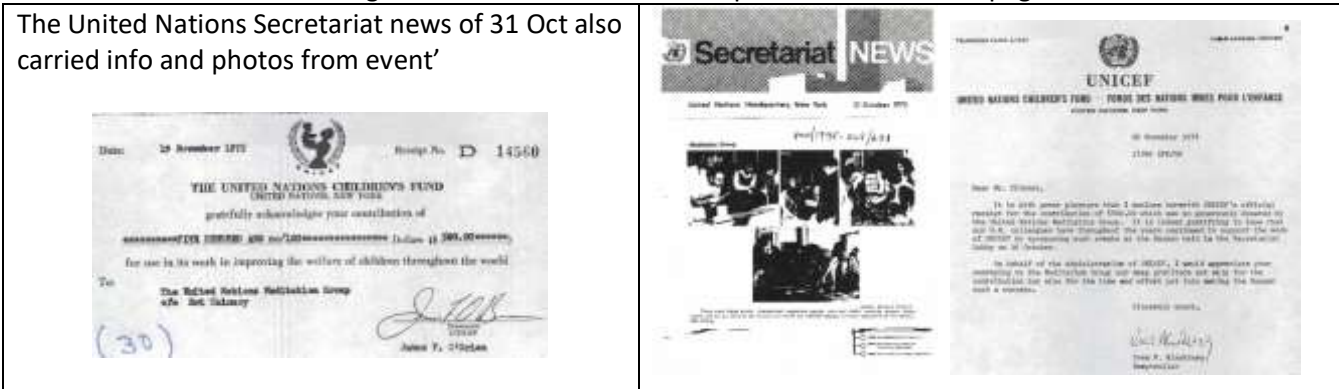
SPECIAL GUEST SUPPLY

Exotic regional masks from all over the world painted by Arnon Brakha

Flames of Luck and Oil - \$10.00 - Visit your own personal medicine shelf

& more

The United Nations Secretariat news of 31 Oct also carried info and photos from event'



Halloween Party +* 25th Anniversary of "Trick or Treat for UNICEF" 30 October.1975

Children of the UN community and their parents were entertained by TV star Sonny Fox, Ashrita the Magician, Mrs. Linda Serlin of UNICEF and others at a Halloween party for UNICEF held 30 October in the Dag Hammarskjold Auditorium. Mr. Henry Labouisse, Executive Director of UNICEF addressed the gathering and accepted a small tree and proceeds of a UNICEF Bazaar, sponsored by the Meditation Group, from Sri Chinmoy who also meditated with the children. -Reported in UN Secretariat News 1975 Nov 28

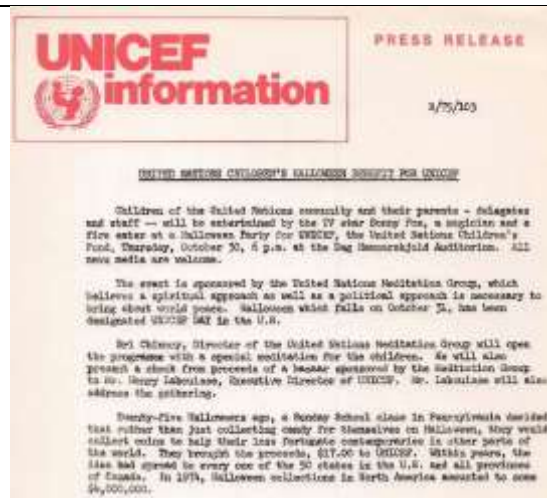
UNICEF information R/75/103 UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S HALLOWEEN BENEFIT FOR UNICEF

Children of the United Nations community and their parents – delegates and staff — will be entertained by the TV star Sonny Fox, a magician and a fire eater at a Halloween Party for UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund, Thursday, October 30, 6 p.m. at the Dag Hammarskjold Auditorium. All news media are welcome.

The event is sponsored by the Meditation Group (at the United Nations), which believes a spiritual approach as well as a political approach is necessary to bring about world peace. Halloween which falls on October 31, has been designated UNICEF DAY in the U. S.

Sri Chinmoy, Leader of the Meditation Group (at the United Nations) will open the programme with a special meditation for the children. He will also present a check from proceeds of a bazaar sponsored by the Meditation Group to Mr. Henry Labouisse, Executive Director of UNICEF. Mr. Labouisse will also address the gathering.

Twenty-five Halloweens ago, a Sunday School class in Pennsylvania decided that rather than just collecting candy for themselves on Halloween, they would collect coins to help their less fortunate contemporaries in other parts of the world. They brought the proceeds, \$17.00 to UNICEF. Within years, the idea had spread to every one of the 50 states in the U.S. and all provinces of Canada. In 1974, Halloween collections in North America amounted to some \$4, 000,000 .



Introduction to event:

Members of the UN Community: Young and old. welcome to our celebration of Universal Children's Day and the 25th Anniversary of "Trick or Treat for UNICEF".

- In AUSTRALIA, On Universal Children's Day, a Church service has been conducted by the Children themselves, including readings from Baha'i, Christian, Jewish, and Muslim Faiths.
- In NORWAY there are church services and in Kenya a special prayers are offered.-
- In TRINIDAD ceremonies stressing inter-racial and inter religious friendships are held.
- In YUGOSLAVIA at noon on Children's Day 10,000 children meet in the main square of the capital for 5 minutes of silence to express their desire for peace.

In keeping with these aspects of the celebration of Universal Children's Day around the world, Sri Chinmoy, leader of the meditation Group at the United Nations will

UNICEF PUBLIC INFORMATION DIVISION, UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK	open our programme with a short talk and Silent Prayer.
--	---

On Thursday, October 30, children of the United Nations community and their parents were entertained by TV star Sonny Fox, Ashrita the Magician, Ms. Chandika Kapilika (Linda Serlin) of UNICEF and others at a Halloween party for UNICEF in the Dag Hammarskjold Auditorium. The event was co sponsored by the Meditation Group at the UN and UNICEF. **Sri Chinmoy** opened the programme with a short song and then spoke to the children: Sweet children, dear young friends, **my heart is all joy and pride to be in your loving company.** I wish to tell you that I have hundreds of friends. Most of them are grown-up people. **But I treasure the company of the children much more than I treasure the company of my grown-up friends.** **Why? Because you are all heart ; you are all joy.** My young friends, do you know that there is a person who loves you infinitely more than your best friend loves you? .. more than your dear parents love you? ... more than you love yourselves? Do you want to know his name? His name is God. Do you want me to prove it? It is very easy to prove . Your best friend never feels that you are as great as God. But God always feels that you are as great as He is. Your parents never feel that you are as good as God. But God always feels that you are as good as He is. You never knew that you are another God. But God knows that you are another God and He all the time tells you that very thing. But in order to hear His Voice, you have to pray lovingly every morning and every evening. Please ask your parents to teach you how to pray. If you pray daily, I assure you one day you will hear God's Voice. And then what I have just told you, you yourselves will be able to hear directly from God. RD 6. Dag Hammarskjold Library Auditorium, 30 October 1975. Ful talk at: srichinmoylibrary.com/rd-6



Sri Chinmoy (right) offers presentation to Mr. Henry Labouisse, Executive Director of UNICEF



<p>UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND – FONDS DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENFANCE – UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK November 10, 1975 Dear Sri Chinmoy, This is just a note to tell you again how deeply grateful we in UNICEF are to you and the Meditation Group. The Benefit Programme in the Dag Hammarskjold Auditorium on October 30 was a real inspiration to us all, and I am sure that it meant a great deal to the children who participated. It was indeed very thoughtful on</p>	<p>Letter of Appreciation from the US Committee for UNICEF, President, Mrs. Guido Pantaleoni, Jr. 31 October 1975 You must feel very happy about yesterday's event. The turn-out was great, everything went off smoothly, and your participants all entered into the spirit of the occasion. I am sure Mr. Labouisse was as</p>
--	---

the part of those who sponsored the gathering, ...to commemorate 25 years of "Trick or Treat" in this manner. I also wish to express our heartfelt thanks to you and to the many others in the Meditation Group for the contribution of \$500, derived from the proceeds of the Bazaar the Meditation Group sponsored on 16 October. .. I hope that you will convey our appreciation and thanks to all the members of your Group. Sincerely yours, Henry R. Labouisse, Executive Director



Mrs. Linda Serlin (Chandika Kapalika) of UNICEF singing with children at Trick-or-Treat function

pleased as Lloyd Bailey and I were. ... I shared the children's singing and fun with Sonny Fox. Sonny has Such real understanding of children, and empathy with them. From long experience, I know what a great amount of labour goes into the mounting of even the simplest kind of production, and, I do want to congratulate you and Agatha' and -your other colleagues on a beautiful piece of work. For me the Meditation Group established just the right mood for a very special observance. with Much Appreciation (signed) Helping Children – build a better world

[James P. Grant, Executive Director. UNICEF & Peace Meditation at UN members & Summary 2014 Dec](#)
Former Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), James p. Grant, was an enthusiastic and Charismatic Leader. Sri Chinmoy, the Leader of the Peace Meditations at the UN and meditation Group members had the opportunity on many occasions to be with Jim Grant and experience his encouraging support for their shared goals of oneness and appreciation for the forward looking ideals of UNICEF and the wider United nations Community.

[Executive Director, Grant congratulates Marathon Runners 1981 Oct 27](#)

27 October 1981, James Grant, the Executive Director of the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) opened the meeting with all staff at Headquarters in New York by congratulating the staff that had completed the NY City running Marathon over the weekend. After the meeting in the UN's Dag Hammarskjold Auditorium, Mr. Grant joined a for a congratulatory picture with some of the runners. The runners had participated as part of the Sri Chinmoy Marathon Team and regularly attend the Peace Meditations sessions at the UN led by Sri Chinmoy. "In any organization there are pluses, minus, historic points, warm memories, I must say that one of my great pleasures yesterday morning; was to arrive in my office and discover that Cherie Hashi Roberts had run the marathon, from beginning to end, which caused me to ask who all ran from UNICEF and I discovered there was quite a number, I should note that (the marathon is) twenty-six miles, and two hundred



Mr Grant , ED UNICEF and running enthusiast
A proud Smile FOR A HAPPY GROUP - Displaying winning smiles and medals are NY UNICEF staff who completed the challenging New York City Marathon, 26.2 mile running race, held on 25 October, 1981. In photo shown appreciating medals, is UNICEF's number 1 running enthusiast, Executive Director James P. Grant, who is known to jog 5

within myself, to know myself." Adhiratha isn't the only student of Sri Chinmoy who was spurred to meditation by the Vietnam experience. Sunil Davidson (DMOA) also cited it as one of their reasons for exploring inner consciousness and inner change through meditation.

Peace Lifts - "...with a Oneness-Heart" - 1988

20 Sep 1988. "Now that peace is breaking out everywhere, we have to help push it up," said James Grant, Executive Director of UNICEF, before he was physically lifted on a special apparatus by Sri Chinmoy, leader of the Peace Meditation at the United Nations. The 20 September lifts of Mr. Grant and other members of the UN community came at the end of an early morning seven mile peace walk (see Peace Walk) which celebrated the opening of the General Assembly. The one-arm lift is part of a series of programmes entitled "Lifting Up the World with a Oneness-Heart" which honours individuals from various fields of endeavour. Under Mr. Grant's stewardship, practical approaches towards peace including the "Days of Tranquility" in El Salvador, when adversaries ceased hostilities so that children throughout the country could be inoculated against common diseases. Similar days have also taken place in Beirut and Afghanistan. Sri Chinmoy also had the honour of lifting Lester B. Korn, Ambassador of the United States; Jaap Ramaker, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Netherlands; Zhou Zbongxing, First Secretary of China; Nana Apeadu, Chairperson of the Pan African Human Rights Committee; and 16 others from various offices in the United Nations Community as the GA's 43rd session began. What a way to start the day!



Message by J.P. Grant, ED UNICEF; For Sri Chinmoy Global Peace Concert + Award; 1989 Dec 10

I wish to extend my good wishes and express my congratulations to Sri Chinmoy on the occasion of his being given the Global Man Award. This award is most appropriate for Sri Chinmoy. His contribution to the world over the last 25 years has touched and transformed many. My inspiring personal experience with his "Lifting Up the World with a Oneness-Heart" series was illustrative of the type of encouragement he offers to the world. His Peace Concerts held throughout the world, his Peace Walks held to inspire the United Nations community and the global unifying "Oneness-Home Peace Run" are further examples of this unique man's inspired dedication to humanity's progress. This past year has been one of profound change in the world's quest for freedom and oneness. My hopes for the direction of the world community are reflected in Sri Chinmoy's prophetic message for the year where he predicted that the global efforts towards world harmony would "Quench the ceaseless peace-thirst and compassionately appease the breathless oneness-hunger of the world-family." By recognizing Sri Chinmoy as a Global Man, we also honour the best in all of us, for each of us can learn something from the dedicated



service of this remarkable person. I send to all of you ~ sincere best wishes for the coming year. - James P. Grant Executive Director, UNICEF

Message by J.P. Grant, ED UNICEF; For 25th of Sri Chinmoy in West; 1989 Apr 21

Message by Mr. James P. Grant Executive Director of the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) on the occasion of the completion of twenty-five years of exemplary services to the Indian Culture and spiritual heritage in the West by Sri Chinmoy ... New York – 21 April 1989

"I am pleased to add my voice to those who will, this evening, honour Sri Chinmoy for his 25 years of spiritual leadership in the West. From my perspective at the United Nations, I must also express a special appreciation for Sri Chinmoy's 20 years of guiding the Peace Meditation Group at the U.N. The events and activities that the group organizes serve to remind the international community of the highest purposes of the gathering of nations that of peace for all peoples. Amidst all of the intellectual debate and assemblages at the U.N., and occasionally at the same time that the settling of tense international situations is underway, two times a week, most weeks, Sri Chinmoy sits in silent meditation in one of the conference rooms at United Nations Headquarters along with the Peace Meditation Group and anyone else of the U.N. community who would like to join them. Dag Hammarskjöld, the former Secretary-General of the UN, said at the dedication of the meditation room at the headquarters building in New York:

"We all have within us a center of stillness surrounded by silence".

He quoted an ancient saying that the sense of the vessel is not in its shell, but in the void. It is for us, he said, to fill the void with what we find in our center of stillness. It is a valuable service to carve out these moments to focus on the still center as Sri Chinmoy does amidst the activity of the international community. As Sri Chinmoy tells us in one of his thousands of inspired poems:

"The heart's simplicity Shall always succeed When and where The mind's complexity fails."

Sri Chinmoy reminds us of the powerful strength of the heart's simplicity, and of our capacity to achieve great things for a higher purpose. The work of the United Nations is enhanced by his commitment to its highest success, and by his presence amid its deliberations."



Response from Sri Chinmoy to Mr. Grant 12 May 1989

Dear Mr. Grant, Esteemed Friend, I am so grateful for your deeply moving comments given on the occasion of my 25th anniversary in the West. My appreciation for your heart of oneness can only be felt and not adequately expressed. I see in you a true instrument of God's vision-dream of the United Nations. Your dynamism and sense of service inspire all those who meet you. In you, the visionary and the realist have joined to foster peace in the hearts of all peoples. In you, I have found a genuine brother and friend. Your loving appreciation of my humble service has profoundly touched me. Yours in the Supreme, Sri Chinmoy

20 September 1994. James P. Grant, Executive Director of UNICEF, received the U Thant Peace Award on September 20 at an interfaith prayer breakfast meeting commemorating the opening of the UN General Assembly. The award, presented by spiritual leader **Sri Chinmoy**, cited Grant's lifetime of exceptional world service, calling him an "inspirational example" of 'compassion, concern and tireless energy in service to the world family.' Accepting the award from Sri Chinmoy, **Grant commented:** "Governments follow where people set the course. Certainly the Governments of Britain and France did not end colonialism. It was done by people like Mahatma Gandhi and by others who pioneered. And I myself feel that you are here very much in that same spirit and that same vein. That in particular is why *I am appreciative of receiving this U Thant Peace Award from such treasured hands [Sri Chinmoy] and from such a treasured group.*" – James P. Grant, Executive Director of UNICEF



Mr. James Grant, Executive Director of UNICEF, receives the U Thant Peace Award from Sri Chinmoy as UN delegates and prayer leaders of various faiths look on. The prayer (breakfast) organized by the Peace Meditation at the UN and hosted by Monaco's UN Ambassador, was held in the UNICEF House. It followed a three-mile "Pence Walk" through the streets of Manhattan in the early hours of the morning by UN delegates and staff holding aloft their own national flags. The Peace Walk is annual event inaugurated in 1986 in honor of the International Year of Peace.

Staff News: Sri Chinmoy: Peace Meditation at UN – A UNICEF Presence - 1996 jun 30

1996 United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Staff News (# 2 -3)
excerpts: Who climbs icy cliffs, runs marathons, competes in the Inter-Agency Games, directs a Fitness Centre, hosts concerts and caters banquets? Collectively, it's the UNICEF staff members of Sri Chinmoy: The Peace Meditation at the United Nations, several of whom have been serving the agency for over 20 years. Sri Chinmoy has been leader of the Peace Meditation at the United Nations since 1970. **From the Village to the World:** Sri Chinmoy was born in Bengal, India in 1931. After the passing of his parents, he joined his elder brothers and sisters at a spiritual community in South India, where he lived from the ages of 12 to 32. He emphasizes that living a spiritual life is both possible and practical in today's world. **United Nations, The Heart-Home of the World Body:** Sri Chinmoy has spoken and written extensively about the spiritual role of the UN as the principal instrument of peace and oneness for the world family. With Sri Chinmoy's encouragement, the members of the Peace Meditation Group, with friends and colleagues around the world, have organized numerous activities to highlight UN ideals and foster international harmony. **The Message of Self Transcendence:** Sri Chinmoy lives by a motto that all of us serving the UN might well adopt: "Never give up!" He is a prolific writer, painter and composer. In physical achievements, perhaps more vividly than in any other field, Sri Chinmoy has demonstrated the power of meditation coupled with determination. A track-and-field champion in his youth, he now, at age 65, competes enthusiastically in sprinting, rowing and other



athletic events, and his weightlifting accomplishments have become legendary. **Peace Meditation Members at UNICEF**
 For Sri Chinmoy's students, meditation is far from an isolated abstraction or an escape from reality; it is the foundation for every day's aspirations and attainments, and the strength to face the inevitable hurdles. Sunil Davidson of DFM, who succeeded in swimming the English Channel several years ago along with colleague Adhiratha Keefe, scaled over 50 rock and ice peaks in 1995 to commemorate the UN's 50th anniversary. Saral Opera, DOC, journeyed to this year's Inter-Agency Games in Vichy, and competed for the UN Headquarters team, which later captured the men's prize. Almost all the UNICEF meditation staffers have completed at least one 26.2 mile odyssey, and some have gone the distance more than twenty times! UNICEF's Fitness Centre was the creation of tennis buff P. Bushek of IRM. Chetana Hein (DOC) is ranked 8th in the US in her age category in the javelin throw, and just a bit lower in discus. – Reported by Chandika Kapalika, UNICEF New York and Nemi Fredner, UNDP New York



Sri Chinmoy



UNOPS - UN Office for Project Services

Concert for UNDP / OPS - Moments of Peace 1991 Jul 10

19 Jul 1991, About 50 staff members from the Office of Programme Services of the United Nations Development Programme took a lunchtime break on 10 July 1991 to attend a concert of meditative music by the Peace Meditation choir. **Ms. Savita Shivaji**, the OPS staff member who organised the event, meets together with a number of her colleagues for several minutes of silence for peace before each lunch hour.

Mr. Daan Everts, Assistant Administrator and Director of OPS: My predecessor referred to the singing last year as angelic, and I can say that it was the same this year. You are bringing a message that is really important to heed. I believe that we have far too few such "moments of peace," as you call them. We are so preoccupied with our meetings and memos and telephones that we do not take time for this kind of reflection, but it is absolutely essential. Here when I walk around the 14th and 15th floors, it is not always peaceful. It reminds me of a battleground, with the workload. But it is good to have these reminders. You turned OPS into the Office of Peace Songs. Maybe we can have more in the future. I am very grateful. Appears in Meditation at the United Nations – 1992 Jan – Mar, Periodic Bulletin for more on current UNOPS see : <https://www.unops.org/>



Savita Shivaji organized concert for her UNDP and OPS colleagues

18 Nov 2003, Nigel Fisher, Executive Director of the UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and Assistant Secretary General received the “Lifting up World with Oneness Heart” Award from Sri Chinmoy at Aspiration Ground in Queens, New York.

Excerpt from Introduction: Before his current assignment, Mr. Fisher served as Deputy Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Relief, Recovery and Reconstruction in Afghanistan and from 1999-2002 as Regional Director for the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) in South Asia including as UNICEF’s Special Representative for Afghanistan and neighbouring countries after the events of 11 September 2001. Mr.



(Left) Sri Chinmoy with Nigle Fisher, UNOPS, Executive Director

Fisher worked with UNICEF for over 20 years in Africa, Asia, and the Middle East, as well as at UNICEF headquarters in New York. A number of us present today, have been able to work as colleagues and observe his leadership in UNICEF and now in UNOPS. Nigel’s ready senses of humor even in trying circumstances and his basic compassion has made him a strong advocate of the welfare of children around the world. This has had a tremendous impact on those around him as he has been fearless in protecting the life of staff. Some felt he put himself in too much danger. In 1998, he returned to his native Canada where, as UN Visiting Fellow he advised the Foreign Minister on the development of Canadian foreign policy regarding children in armed conflict and other areas. Prior to his sabbatical year in Canada, Mr. Fisher was Director of UNICEF’s Office of Emergency Programmes for three years, responsible for oversight of UNICEF’s humanitarian activities worldwide and visited many conflict zones to advocate for child rights and respect for children.



(Left) UNOPS ED Nigle Fisher with UN Secretary General Kofi Annan.



Sanyogita Sisler

here worked with him during that time. And can remember several stories attesting to Nigel’s dedication. In 1997, he chaired the UN Inter-Agency Working Group of the Secretary-General’s Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs, focusing on reform and UN humanitarian operations. **He is indeed an exemplary member of the United Nations family.** He was Deputy Executive Secretary of the World Conference on Education which took place in Thailand in 1990. **Snigdha Fitch**, who is also sitting here has witnessed the fact that because of Nigel’s work the Education awareness and effectiveness of the related programmes increased

tremendously. Nigel brought an academic approach and a practical knowledge to all his work. He is one of those rare people who can have the forward vision that is high up and can also build the practical ladders to reach those visions. He has published in the areas of basic education, leadership, child trauma recovery, child rights and protection of children in zones of conflict and been a board member of several academic and other institutions in Canada, the United States and Norway, and past Honorary President of the Middle East Centre for Human Studies in Jordan.

More from event or lift?. 18 Nov 2003, Sanyogita and Snigdha mentioned in the remarks as present.

Was there also special UNDP or UNOPS events – family feeling organized by some of the Med group – Dhurati etc?

UNESCO - UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

[UNESCO International Literacy Day with World Education 1979 Sep 04 at Meditation Group](#)

4 September 1979 INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY, as proclaimed by UNESCO on 8 September, was marked by the meditation group with a programme held on at UN Headquarters. Ms. Sue Criscitiello of World Education explained the goals and techniques of the private, non-profit organisation which helps educationally disadvantaged adults and young people in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the United States. A primary goal of the organisation is to foster a sense of confidence among the learners and the belief that they do have the power to change their lives and surroundings for the better. Acquiring functional literacy is seen as only a part of the larger goal, although the drop-out rate in World Education's literacy programmes is quite low in comparison to other programmes which are more formal. Literacy Day Began as result of the World Conference of Ministers of Education on the Eradication of Illiteracy," held under the auspices of UNESCO in 1965. We will begin our programme with a meditation lead by Sri Chinmoy whose many books are translated into various languages. We are happy to have with us a representative of World Education~~Ms. Sue Criscitiello. Some of you might recall that Dr. Kobes, Director of Programs for World Education INC. addressed us in March of 1978 during our programme honouring The Peace Core and International Cooperation efforts such as the UN Volunteers. World Education is a private non-profit agency founded in 1951 to assist Literacy house in India. It provides professional assistance in non-formal education techniques and has worked in over 45 countries

Ms. Sue Criscitiello, World Education: World Education first efforts were in India, where ... Literacy House has been growing since 1951. ...one thing that remains constant is our focus on learners...we have discovered that there are limits to the power of literacy. Literacy is an educational need that goes hand-in-hand with other development needs. It must be a part of education about better health, nutrition, agriculture, sanitation and so on. And it must offer some promise of reward to the learner.... to improve their lives. Another caution I would like to mention is that we must stop thinking of illiteracy as a problem in developing countries alone. ... we have documented the extent of illiteracy in our own society. September 8 gives us an opportunity to pay tribute to the field of literacy. But it also gives us an opportunity to put literacy into perspective, to recognise what it means, its value and its limitations. ...only as people take responsibility for their actions, as they realise the potential that lies within, do we have a chance to make the world better for all of us. – excerpt from Meditation at the UN bulletin 1980-08-27-vol-08-n-08-aug

[THIRTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF UNESCO OBSERVED 1981 Nov 10](#)

The thirty fifth anniversary of the founding of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization was observed by the meditation group on 10 November 1981 with a programme in the Dag Hammarskjold~ Auditorium at U.N. Headquarters in New York. Guest speakers were Mr. Joseph A. Mehan, Chief of UNESCO's Public Information Programme in New York, and Mr. Robert Muller, Secretary of the Economic and Social Council. Excerpts from their remarks follow.

EDIT: **Mr. Joseph Mehan, Public Information Officer, UNESCO Liaison Office:** I think that the baby pictures of UNESCO would probably show a son or 26 daughter of Uncle Sam look. When UNESCO was founded, there were only twenty nations in its membership, and after its first year there were forty-eight member states. It was very much a creation of Western powers. Up to its teenage years, as so many children are wont to look like their parents, I think UNESCO maintained this look. A great deal of its programme was carried out in the developed world, which was slightly underdeveloped because of the war. In the early years UNESCO's efforts Were directed to restoring educational systems, the scientific community and the cultural aspects of war-ravaged countries. As happened with the whole United Nations system in the



1960s, when UNESCO was a teenager, its looks began to change. The thirty-fifth-birthday picture will show an organisation which reflects a far more global and far more diversified programme. There are now 155 member states and, needless to say, the representation of certain nations – which did not exist decades ago – is getting stronger within UNESCO. Now the fields of activity are centred in the Third World. So, it takes a birthday to make us look back and think for a moment about the process of change that has taken place within UNESCO.

TO EDIT: Dr. Robert Muller, Secretary, Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC); Director and Deputy to the Assistant Secretary-General, Office of the Secretariat Services for Economic and Social Matters: The reason why I was very eager to come and speak with you today is that I would like you to listen and perhaps give me answers that you have as a spiritual Master and spiritual seekers to something which I am observing on an increasing scale. I will put it under the title, "The Reading of Spiritual Signs." I am more and more convinced that we are really surrounded by and we are part of a spiritual world that goes beyond what we can see and hear. We have entered a phase of the evolution of human life on this planet where this is becoming more and more obvious. I have written about how I woke up one morning and began unexpectedly, but quite naturally, to write about U Thant. I had no reason for doing it, but it came naturally and I did it. I continued to write about him, my thoughts about the basic kind of human relationships I had with him. When I arrived at the office an hour later, a colleague of mine came to me to say that I had lost a good friend, U Thant had died. Now how did that happen? I do not know what I will do tomorrow or two years from now. It will come from the outside; it will be shown to me. These messages that come from the outside have been much better for me than whatever I could dream of myself. I believe that we have to learn to read signs. It is happening here in the UN, where again we are becoming a spiritual ground. (excerpt from bu-scpmaun-1981-11-12-vol-09-n-11-12-nov-dec_Page_26-29)



Sri Chinmoy receives Nehru Medallion from UNESCO

1995, UNESCO awarded Sri Chinmoy its Nehru Medallion on May 16 in recognition of his contributions toward world peace.

Other recipients of the award include Indian Prime Minister Rao. The award was given in connection with the planting of a peace tree at UNESCO in honor of the Peace Run



1995 Pope John Paul II received the torch from Peace Run founder Sri Chinmoy at the Vatican in Rome.



1995-Queen-Elizabeth-II-used-Peace-Run-Torch-to-light-first-of-1800-Beacons-of-Peace-across-Great-Britain-as-part-50th-VE-Day.

World Harmony Concert, UNESCO Run Event, Art Exhibit: Paris 26 & 27 May 2005

Some members of the Peace Meditation at the UN traveled to Paris for three events 26 and 27 May 2005: a World Harmony Concert at Le Cirque d'Hiver; A World Harmony Run Programme at UNESCO; and an Art Exhibit in the Carrousel of the Louvre. (details and Photos below)

HARMONY CONCERT OFFERED IN PARIS
 Sri Chinmoy offered a World Harmony Concert at Le Cirque d’Hiver the evening of **May 26, 2005**. About 1,500 people attended the Paris concert.

UNESCO HOSTS HARMONY RUN PROGRAM
 -A special ceremony in connection with the World Harmony Run was held at UNESCO headquarters here on **May 27**. World Harmony Runners from several countries held the Harmony Torch, and Sri Chinmoy performed his spiritual music on several different instruments. Vladimir Petrovsky, the former Director-General of the United Nations in Geneva, was one of the main speakers. During the event, Sri Chinmoy dedicated his 12,000 song to the soul of UNESCO.



2005-05-27-05-2.unesco-concert



2004-10-29-02-3-UNESCO-Paris – Peace-Meditation-Group Choir



2005-05-27-05.UNESCO concert – Petrovsky



2005-05-27-04-unesco-event-sri-chinmoy-plays-esraj. 3 mb

ART EXHIBIT HELD IN LOUVRE
 A day-long exhibit of Sri Chinmoy’s Jhama-Kala paintings was held in the Carrousel of the Louvre on May 27. Following an official reception, Sri Chinmoy offered a concert in an adjoining hall in connection with Oneness-Heart Tears and Smiles, the Sri Chinmoy Centre’s humanitarian aid organization. The program included a slide show and presentation describing the Centre’s humanitarian activities.



2005-05-27-09 – art-exhibit-Paris

World Harmony Concert at UNESCO Hq, Mar 28, 2006

PARIS – Sri Chinmoy offered a World Harmony concert at UNESCO headquarters here on March 28, 2006 which was sponsored by the Canadian Ambassador to UNESCO. Before the program, the spiritual teacher lifted UNESCO Ambassadors from eight countries, including China, Japan and Ukraine, as well as other diplomats and luminaries. Earlier that day, Sri Chinmoy held a private meeting with UNESCO’s Director-General, Koichiro Matsuura. Photos and more text to be added as available reported in Anahata Nada Mid Nov 2005 to Early April 2006

UNESCO in brief - Mission and Mandate

Since wars begin in the minds of men and women, it is in the minds of men and women that the defences of peace must be constructed.

More on unesco at: <https://en.unesco.org/>

On many occasions members of the Peace Meditation group at the United Nations have assisted with coordination of Peace and Harmony Run activities and some have traveled to various countries on their vacation time to participate. **The Sri Chinmoy “Oneness-Home” Peace and Harmony Torch relay runs’ multi-year support for Interfaith Harmony is well documented. This was recognized and encouraged by the President (2009 – 2011) of UNESCO General Conference, Davidson Hepburn, in his video message for the 25th Anniversary of the runs founding by Sri Chinmoy. Dr. Hepburn, had known of the various activities associated with Sri Chinmoy since he begun attending Peace Meditations at the UN in 1978 when he was his country’s ambassador.**



Dr. Davidson Hepburn presenting his message for 25th Anniversary of the World Harmony and Peace Run and a vision for the next decade 2012 to 2022 and beyond. To view with English subtitles use:

<http://youtu.be/maPwzfHtASQ>

“The World Harmony (and Peace) Run has been welcomed by **people of many different religions, beliefs and faith-based communities.** It was launched by Sri Chinmoy in 1987 and even after his passing in 2007, continues to grow, **advancing important ideals of UNESCO and of the entire United Nations community.** Passing the Harmony Torch is a simple, tangible, and powerful way to express love of one’s neighbour. Conveying this message of interfaith harmony and understanding **in churches, mosques, synagogues, temples and other places of worship** will surely help foster a culture of peace and a growing feeling of universal oneness.” – **Davidson Hepburn** message for “World Harmony and Peace Run 25th Anniversary: Toward 2022 and a Oneness-World” ([See full text and YouTube video](#) with links to subtitles in 25 languages)

UN Community organizations and associations

Tribute to Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) Associated with U.N. – 1975 Dec 09

On Tuesday, December 9, 1975, at a special function held at 5 : 30 p . m. in the Church Center for the United Nations, the Meditation Group at the UN honoured the dedicated service of the Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs

Mr. William Sunil Davidson, a UNICEF staff member and member of the Meditation Group, spoke on behalf of the Group in opening the programme: (excerpt) “We, the members of the Meditation Group at the UN, aspire to serve both God and man, and feel the Non-Governmental Organizations reflect the same commitment to dedicated action. We salute the NGOs for their tireless service to the vision of the UN and the needs of humanity. We will open our programme with a silent meditation conducted by Sri Chinmoy, leader of the Meditation Group.”



Dr. Louis Longarzo, NGO Representative of Caritas Internationalis: First, I admire the spirit, the graciousness, the delicacy and the radiant smiles of the members of the Meditation Group. I have approached this event in a spirit of meditation, prayer and Caritas Internationalis – the spirit of Universal Love. NGOs are essentially voluntary associations. They represent the freedom of choice and action of their respective constituencies. NGOs steadily increased in the nineteenth century after the Congress of Vienna, which brought peace to Europe for many years after the Napoleonic Era. The vitality and vigour of NGOs at the San Francisco Conference in 1945 were instrumental in obtaining the insertion of the historic Article 71 in the UN Charter - “Consultative Status” of NGOs to the Economic and Social Council. NGO representatives are essentially men and women committed to the principles and purposes of the UN. They are constantly interpreting the UN system and translating it into meaningful language to their constituency. Governed by a sense of perspective, of the emerging future world society, they are also advancing the universal common good. They manifest through humanitarian activities and working task forces on areas of human global concerns, such as Disarmament, Human Rights, Development, Human Environment, International Women’s Year, NGO Committee on UNICEF and the Youth Caucus. I am glad to see so many young members’ in the Meditation Group at the UN. I think it speaks well of the quality and future of your group.



Sri Chinmoy then offered a presentation to **Mr. Leon Marion**, Chairman of the OPI (Office of Public Information) Executive Committee and NGO Representative for the American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Servicés.

Sri Chinmoy: Mr. Marion, I present this plaque to you with deepest joy and gratitude. The Meditation Group at the UN is trying to serve both the body and the soul of the United Nations and also the body and the soul of mankind. So here, with a sense of deep humility, I wish to offer this on behalf of the members of the Meditation Group.



Mr. Leon Marion: I am reminded of a man called Zukini in Teahouse of the August Moon. This humble servant decided he could solve almost any problem if he really thought and meditated on it. Zukini's words about how he solved all of those problems are as follows: "All of those years of pain, I feel, all the time, make men think. And thought makes man have

(1975-12-09dec-tribute to-ngos-associated-with-un-sri-chinmoy-Leon-Marion-speaks) wisdom. And wisdom makes life endurable." But it is not only to

endure life; there is an added ingredient to be put into the mixture. That is the essence of life, which comes from only One Being, One Spirit. I humbly accept this plaque and all that it means. NGOs have brought an effective presence at all the recent International UN conferences. In essence a tribute to the NGOs is: a tribute to the dignity and worth of each person; a tribute to freedom of association, thought and action; a tribute to the realistic possibility of a world community bound together by knowledge, understanding and ties of mutual love and service. To transform these ideals into everyday realities, powerful spiritual weapons are needed: the power of faith, hope and love; of meditation and prayer; of moral, intellectual and spiritual discipline. The challenge is to transform gradually a community of independent, sovereign states into a genuine World Community which will fully realise and implement Article I of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: "All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood. " May we all become worthy instruments for a World Community.

A short musical interlude followed: "Duet for Violin and Cello" by Beethoven ; "Gallery for Unaccompanied Cello " by Muczynski and "Trio" by Mozart.



The UN International School (UNIS) – UN Day Celebration – 24 Oct 1975

Ashrita the Magician and Irving the Fire-eater thrilled youngsters at the UN International School (UNIS) during a UN Day celebration programme there on 24 October. In addition to performances by Meditation Group members, the children, who were dressed in the clothing of their homeland. sang songs from countries around the world. As Reported in Secretariat News 1975 Nov 28

Also: Irving Konopiaty of the U. S. Committee for UNICEF thrilled youngsters with his fire-eating performance at the UNIS United Nations Day Celebration, in which the Meditation Group at UN was invited to participate. Excerpt from Bulletin ["Meditation at UN – Vo 03, No 10; 27 Oct 1975, Bulletin](#) – page 31



Manifestation glow press – Abakash may have best photo?

UN STAFF Day Performances in GA Hall by Members of Peace Meditation at UN ?

See also Sample of A special Year Promoted by UN Organizations in honour IYC International Year of the Child (in 3-03 UN Anniversary –