- Silence for Seven Minutes of World Peace
  - International Day of Peace
  - Ringing of the Peace Bell at the UN

To answer queries related to 3 items above, I put together information from various sources on past results that might be of interest to those planning future events...

#### **Silence for Seven Minutes of World Peace**

Initiated in 1984, people around the world shared seven minutes of **silence for peace** at the exact same moment on United Nations Day, 24 October, at the local time corresponding to 17.00 – 17.07 hours Greenwich Mean Time (1pm New York Time). The event sought to focus the world's attention on the urgent need for peace in the international and interfaith spirit of the United Nations. It had no political affiliation or purpose other than to work toward and strengthen the universal human aspiration for harmony, peace and oneness among nations and peoples.

The local observances were sponsored by non-governmental organizations, United Nations Associations and others in cooperation with "Sri Chinmoy: The Peace Meditation at the United Nations". People were invited to join individually or in groups and to register their participation.

# As of 2019 a Seven Minutes for World Peace event

which was originally observed since 1984 to coincide with UN Day 24 October, was celebrated in various countries with a revised format, to call attention to the UN General Assembly proclaimed "International Day of Peace", 21 September (\*see also historical note on IDP)

Seven Minutes of Silence for peace over many years also took place in various Secretariat offices periodically, in some cases weekly, and in several cases, daily.



1984-10-24-03-seven-minutes-for-world-peace-Sri-Chinmoy-leads-meditation-UN-conference-room-crp4.jpg 998 KB use crp 2?

#### Inspiring examples of participation:

- In Sri Lanka, the United Nations
   Association included Seven Minutes
   observances in their planned 1985
   UN Day event. Over 70,000 people
   joined in 1986, and millions in
   subsequent years;
- In the former Soviet Union, in 1994, extensive radio and newspaper announcements inspired over 20,000 individuals to hold group or personal observances in 47 cities.] ...



1985-10-oct-24-seven-min-world-peace-sri-lanka-scaled.jpg – 571 KB



1985-10-oct-24-seven-min-world-peace-sri-lanka-flags-2

# City of Bridgeport, Connecticut

## Proclamation

WHEREAS.

SEVEN MINUTES OF WORLD PEACE ON OCTOBER 24, 1985 WILL MARK A GLOBAL OBSERVANCE WHICH WILL UNITE INDIVIDUALS, COMMUNITIES AND NATIONS AROUND THE WORLD FOR SEVEN MINUTES OF SILENCE, PRAYER, OR MEDITATION DEDICATED TO THE SPIRIT OF WORLD PEACE; AND,

WHEREAS,

SEVEN MINUTES OF WORLD PEACE IS SPONSORED BY SRI CHINMOY: THE PEACE MEDITATION AT THE UNITED NATIONS IN COOPERATION WITH UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATIONS AROUND THE WORLD AND A BROAD RANGE OF RELIGIOUS, SPIRITUAL, EDUCATIONAL AND PEACE ORGANIZATIONS; AND,

WHEREAS,

SEVEN MINUTES OF WORLD PEACE HAS NO POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS OR POINT OF VIEW OTHER THAN THE UNIVERSAL HUMAN DESIRE FOR HARMONY AMONG NATIONS AND PEOPLES; AND,

WHEREAS,

OCTOBER 24, 1985 ALSO MARKS THE DAY OF SOLEMN PROCLAMATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PEACE AND THE FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS; AND,

WHEREAS,

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IS "ONE NATION UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE, WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL," AND HER CITIZENS CAN EXHIBIT THIS INDIVISIBLE ONENESS BY SIMULTANEOUSLY JOINING ONE ANOTHER IN THE SPIRIT OF PEACE FOR THESE SEVEN SPECIAL MINUTES; AND,

NOW, THEREFORE,

I, LEONARD S. PAOLETTA, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT, PROCLAIM OCTOBER 24, 1985 TO BE

WORLD PEACE DAY

AND THE SEVEN MINUTES FROM 1:00 P.M. TO 1:07 P.M. TO BE

SEVEN MINUTES OF WORLD PEACE

IN BRIDGEPORT.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND CAUSED THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF

1985-10-oct-24-seven-min-world-peace-sample-city-proclamations\_Page\_7

#### Some history on the 7 min part over the years: Seven Minutes for World Peace

The **seven minutes of Silence** allow all to join a shared aspiration that can be preceded or followed by whatever the local situation, faiths or meditation groups presented. It set out a **main 7-minute quiet time** to include all. This also welcomed and encouraged those with no professed religious faith or belief to join the silent experience.

#### As mentioned above,

As of 2019 a Seven Minutes for World Peace event which was originally observed since 1984 to coincide with UN Day 24 October, was celebrated in various countries with a revised format, to call attention to the UN General Assembly proclaimed "International Day of Peace" (IDP), 21 September (\*see also historical note on IDP)

**Seven Minutes of Silence for peace** over many years also took place in various Secretariat offices periodically, in some cases weekly, and in several cases, daily.

30 October 1984 Dag Hammarskjold Auditorium United Nations, New York

Dear seeker-brother and seeker-sister-friends, every day you meditate on world peace for seven minutes. That means your illumining souls are helping your hearts to climb into the seven higher worlds, which are flooded with Peace, Light and Bliss. There shall come a time when these seven higher worlds will enter into each human heart to illumine the life of the entire humanity.

Being a seeker myself, like you I pray for world peace and meditate on world peace. All those who consciously pray and soulfully meditate daily to bring about world peace are undoubtedly the chosen instruments of the Absolute Supreme. We are all sailing in the same boat that will carry us eventually to the Golden Shore, where peace is a living reality. And then, when we receive peace, achieve peace and grow into peace, at that time we shall offer to the world-at-large what we have become and what we are. We shall become the instruments chosen to sow the seed of peace in other human beings. The length and breadth of the world we shall cover with our soulful prayers and fruitful meditations.

My heart is all gratitude to you for meditating for seven minutes every day for world peace. Peace is God's Beauty in His Oneness-Home.

Below are scans of sample announcements etc. which show how the day was presented various years.

**Examples of Seven Minutes of Silence: Shared announcements, invitations, background:** 

#### SEVEN MINUTES OF WORLD PEACE

"As there can be no war without the war-mongers, there can be no peace without the peace-lovers."

Sri Chinmoy: The Peace Meditation at the United Nations

Delegates and other members of the United Nations community are warmly invited to join a special observance for peace consisting of seven minutes of silent prayer or meditation from 1:15-1:22 p.m. in Conference Room E at United Nations Headquarters on United Nations Day, 24 October 1984.

Government leaders, peace and disarmament groups, religious organizations, schools and youth groups around the world have been invited to share seven minutes of silence at precisely the same time in a global effort for world peace.

This observance is sponsored by Sri Chinmoy: The Peace Meditation at the United Nations and is being conducted in conjunction with the Peace Walk for United Nations Day. Sri Chinmoy will be present to conduct the meditation at United Nations Headquarters.

THUITATIVE for SYOCT 1984

1984-10-oct-24-seven-min-world-peace-invite-delegate-and-staff-QUOTE-Silent-Prayer-or-Meditation



"As there can be no war without the war-mongers, there can be no peace without the peace-lovers."

—Sri Chinmoy, Sri Chinmoy: The Peace-Meditation at the United Nations

#### SEVEN MINUTES OF WORLD PEACE

Welcome to the Headquarters observance of Seven Minutes of . World Peace. This is part of a global experience of silence that will be shared simultaneously by people in 40 countries. Its purpose is several-fold: to help convey the inner peace that comes with silence; to strengthen the oneness of people around the world; and to show that seven minutes of peace, can grow into seven days, seven years and even seven centuries of peace on earth.

The observance will have no programme, as such. Sri Chinmoy, head of the Peace Meditation at the United Nations, has graciously agreed to lead the meditation during the Seven Minutes. The simplest way to join this meditation on peace is to still your thoughts, enter into a silent mind and focus on your spiritual heart. Then you will be able to share the peace which Sri Chinmoy will be invoking and feel a stronger inner connection with those participating in other parts of the world.

In Sri Lanka, the United Nations Association has publicized the Seven Minutes of World Peace widely, and it is expected that some 50,000 people will be participating there. In the United States, in addition to the silent participation by groups and individuals, many cities have proclaimed 24 October as World Peace Day. Some of these proclamations are exhibited on the walls of the room.

Seven Minutes of World Peace is one of a large number of activities organized by Sri Chinmoy: The Peace Meditation at the United Nations. Among these are the Peace Walks, regular twice-weekly meditations, as well as concerts and other programmes. These are intended to foster the highest ideals of the Organization and to encourage individuals to support the search for world peace in their own way. It was in this spirit that members of the Meditation Group swam the English Channel in honour of the UN's 40th anniversary and participated in a relay run from Headquarters to the Empire State Plaza in Albany.

For more information on the Peace Meditation and its regularly scheduled activities, please call 754-8484. Thank you for joining us today.

1985-10-oct-24-seven-min-world-peace-11in Page 2-QUOTE-Global-Experience-Silence-maybe-for-1986

SEVEN MINUTES OF WORLD PEACE

1985

"Seven Minutes of World Peace", a global simultaneous observance of silence sponsored by Sri Chinmoy: The Peace Meditation at the United Nations, was held on United Nations Day from 1:00-1:07 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. Individuals, non-governmental organizations (particularly UN Associations around the world) and local, state and national governments participated in the event which was started last year on the premise that peace, being more than simply the absence of war, deserves conscious awareness and fostering.

The Headquartes observance, held at the Church Center, introduced the seven minutes of silent prayer, reflection or meditation with songs about peace, and concluded by the reading of some of the many letters and proclamations received from participants. Messages of support received included a letter from Rudolf Kirchschlaeger, the President of Austria; a cable from Belisario Betancur, the President of Colombia; and proclamations from more than 50 cities in the United States and Canada such as Chicago, Des Moines, Houston, Los Angeles and Santa Fe. Many of these proclamations, including one from the state of Maine, cited 24 October as "World Peace Day".

While many UN Associations announced plans for participation in Seven Minutes, the Sri Lanka Association was first to report back that they had incorporated the seven minutes of silence in their other UN Day activities.

For information on next year's observance, please call (754)-8484.

1985-10-oct-24-seven-min-world-peace-summary

## SEVEN MINUTES OF WORLD PEACE . . . TO JOIN HUMANITY IN PEACE



Sel Chinesoy leads 1984 observance of Sesen Minutes of World Peace at United Nations Headquarters.

#### WHAT IS IT?

Seven Minutes of World Peace is a global observance of peace that will join together simultaneously individuals, groups and organizations around the world for seven minutes of silence. This year, Seven Minutes of World Peace will be held from 1001-107 pm Earlew Standard Time on United Nations Day (Thursday, 24 October). This day also marks the beginning of the Informational Year of Peace and the foreign and increases of the Information Peace of Peace and the foreign and Peace of the Information Peace of Peace and the foreign and Peace of the Information Peace of Peace and the foreign and Peace of the Information Peace of Peace and the foreign and Peace of the Information Peace of Peace and the foreign and Peace of the Information Peace of Peace and the foreign of the Peace of the Information Peace of Peace and the Peace of t

#### ITS PURPOSE

Seven bilinutes of World Peace seeks to incus
the attention of the estire world on the urgent need for world
peace in the spirit of Mahatma Gasulfi, Dr. Martin Luther
Sing and the United Notions istelf. The observance offers people
in every country a special opportunity to transform their
individual Ronging for puece into a tanglifier multiy. If peace can
reign for seven minutes, it is hoped that score day it might
endure for seven hours, seven days, seven years
and ultimately forever.

#### THE SPONSOR

The overd is approximed by Sri Channey:
The Posce-Meditation at the United Nations in
co-operation with United Nations Associations around the
world and a broad range of religious, appiritual, otherational and peace organizations. The Peace-Meditation
at the United Nations is an association of
United Nations delegates, staff, NCO representatives
and accredited press correspondents who believe that a

foundation of inner peace must be established among all peoples—and superially among those working at the United Nations—Series outer pouce can ever become a reality. Towards this end, the Peace-Meditation has been holding twiceweigh multitations for peace and related programmes at United Nations.

Headquarters since 1970.

#### 1984 OBSERVANCE

Seven Minutes of World Peace was imagerated in 1984 with the participation of groups in over 40 countries. The main clearwarms was held at United Nations Headquariers in New York, a conjunction with United Nations Day activities there. It featured a mediation led by Sci Chiemov, leader of the Peace-Mediation at the United Nations.

In the United States, groups around the country, held special corrections to observe the event. In Bodon, for example, representatives of two of the world's major religions read passages from their acriptures related to peace at a Seven Mirates observance held at the State House. In Washington, D.C., a ceremony at the United States Congress included an observance in the offices of Congressman Carry Ackerman and a silent vigil on the steps of the Capitod by the Unitarian Universalist Association of Churches. In White Paire, NY, the silents of the Divite Congession Center organized educational observances at local secondary schools and held a separate prayer ession of their own.

Account the world Seem Minutes.

and held a separate prayer session of their own.

Around the world, Seven Minutes
of World Peace was observed during an all-night vigil
held by peace organizations and religious groups in Uppsals,
Suesten. In the Nerharlands, some 30 peace, disammarrent,
spiritual and religious groups island in the
observance. Support for Seven Minutes of World
Peace also came from groups in Australia. Canada,
Cachodouaka, Chana, Greene, Japan, and the United
Kingdom. The United Nations Association of India
and the World Muslim Congress of Placiston
were particularly active.

Press coverage was extensive in the Netherlands, where there were major articles in the Algeonem Digiblad and the Hospiche Courted. Other articles appeared in various publications in the United States.



Leaders of various fairly at the State House in Boston after Seven Maudes of Visital Peace programme in 1984.



#### HOW CAN I OR MY ORGANIZATION PARTICIPATE?

You can participate as an individual, by setting aside these seven minutes for your own personal observance of peace. You can also join in the activities sponsared by local groups or organizations, which can be located by contacting the focal point closes to you on the endased list. You can also contact us, and we'll tell you about what is planned is syour region.

Seven Minutes of World Peace has no political affiliations or point of view other than the universal human desire for harmony among nations and peoples.

The following is a partial list of the organizations, groups and individuals which participated in or expressed support for the 1984 observance of Seven Minutes of World Peace.

Dar Notherfandt Fellowship of the Inner Light in Europe National Spirmual Americky of the Balta'is of the Notherlands Pro Mandi Vita Share International Stichting TARA

United States
Divine Companion Center
Prison Fellowship International
Uniterian Universalist Association of Churches

Graves LAESTE

1985-oct-24-7-minutes-peace-brochure-ocr-opt Page 2

# PARTICIPATION DURING THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PEACE

Because 1986 has been declared as the International Year of Peace by the world's governments meeting at the United Nations, special efforts are being made to increase global involvement in this year's Seven Minutes of World Peace. In Sri Lanka, for example, the United Nations Association is planning to send 15,000 letters to institutions in the country (including all secondary schools) calling for participation in the event.

Individuals can join the Seven Minutes
of World Peace by silently dedicating themselves
to peace during the period from 1:00 to 1:07 pm (Eastern
Daylight Time—New York time) on 24 October 1986. For
information about group observances in your location or country,
contact the individual or group closest to you from the list
at the end of this brochure. Information has also been
sent to the national United Nations Association
offices around the world.

Seven Minutes of World Peace has no political affiliations or point of view other than the universal human aspiration for harmony, peace and oneness among nations and peoples.

## COMMENTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

"I am happy to offer Sri Chinmoy my sincerest thanks and appreciation for all he has done throughout his extraordinary life to promote global peace and understanding . . .

"I commend him for his faith and serenity, and I hope that he will continue to exert his calming and constructive influence on the international community for many years to come."

> -Brian Mulroney-Prime Minister of Canada

1986-10-oct-24-seven-minutes-silence-for-peace-invite\_Page\_5-QUOTE-silently-dedicating-themselves

# PEACE WALK FOR UNITED NATIONS DAY

Monday and Tuesday • 23 & 24 October 1989 • United Nations Garden

. Walk for your country (see schedule)

- · A silent, nation by nation relay walk around an area of the North Garden.
- Preamble to the United Nations Charter will be carried by each national group and passed to the next group.
- · Ambassadors of a number of countries will be leading their national groups.

All members of the United Nations community are invited to join the International Walk on Tuesday, 24 October at 12:45 p.m.

#### SEVEN MINUTES OF WORLD PEACE

Global observance 1:00 - 1:07 p.m. (location to be announced)

Join the United Nations Headquarters observance of the Seven Minutes of World Peace.
 Individuals, groups and organizations in countries around the world will simultaneously maintain silence to experience the spirit of peace on earth.

For more information or in case of rain, call Ms. R. Tooker at (212) 963-8554.

#### CO-SPONSORS

H.E. Mr. James B. Moultrie Termanent Representative of the Bahamas

H.E. Ms. Ursula Barrow Permanent Representative of Belian

H.E. Mr. Paulo Nogueira-Batista Permanent Representative of Brazil

H.E. Mr. Li Luye Permanent Representative of China

H.E. Mr. Winston Thompson Permanent Representative of Fig. (as at September 1989)

H.E. Dr. Lamuel A. Stennslaus. Permanent Representative of Gronada

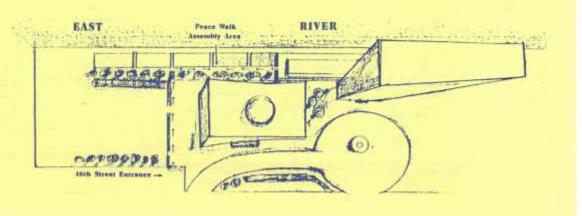
H.E. Dr. Samesavand Pertinum Permanent Representative of Mauritius

H.E. Mr. Renagi Renagi Lohia Permanent Representative of Papua New Guines Mr. Raymond Taylor Counsellot, Permanent Mission of Saint Kitts and Nevis

Ms. Robin E.G. Mauala Charge d'Alfaires Permanent Mission of Samoa

H.E. Mr. Deagonlav Petic Permanent Representative of Yugoslavio

Sri Chinmoy: The Peace Meditation at the United Nations



989-10-oct-24-un-day-seven-min-peace Page 1-QUOTE-simultaneously-maintain-silence

#### SEVEN MINUTES OF WORLD PEACE

1989 HEADQUARTERS : POST OFFICE BOX 22327, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21203, U.S.A.

"The outer message of the United Nations is peace. The inner message of the United Nations is love. The inmost message of the United Nations is oneness."

-Sri Chinmov: The Peace Meditation at the United Nations

Conference Room B

#### 1989 ANNOUNCEMENT

#### A SIMULTANEOUS GLOBAL OBSERVANCE

On United Nations Day, Tuesday, October 24, 1989, individuals, groups and organizations around the world simultaneously will join in seven minutes of silence, silent prayer or meditation, as appropriate, to share the spirit of peace on earth. This initiative, now in it's sixth year, is called SEVEN MINUTES OF WORLD PEACE. Around the globe, the observance corresponds to 1:00 to 1:07 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time at United Nations Headquarters in New York (18:00 to 18:07 Greenwich Mean Time).

#### HOW TO PARTICIPATE

As home is where the heart is, so, individuals, wherever they are, can join SEVEN MINUTES OF WORLD PEACE by silently dedicating themselves to peace during the time set forth above on Tuesday, October 24, 1989. Groups are invited to create and organize their own observances during the appropriate period for their time zone. After your observance of the event, you are invited to write a letter and/or send photos, copies of your poster, program or news articles. Please tell us how you or your organization observed the Seven Minutes. Mail these to Seven Minutes of World Peace, P.O. Box 22327, Baltimore, MD 21203, U.S.A. Your stories will provide the basis for an inspiring and interesting brochure to spread the word about the seventh annual observance of Seven Minutes of World Peace in 1990.

#### ITS PURPOSE

SEVEN MINUTES OF WORLD PEACE seeks to focus the world's attention on the urgent need for peace in the inter-religious spirit of U Thant, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Dag Hammarskjold and the United Nations itself. The observance offers people in every country an opportunity to transcend their individual and national identities and join all humanity, even if for just a short time, in the spirit of peace as part of the human family. Seven Minutes of World Peace has no political affiliations or purpose other than to work toward and strengthen the universal human aspiration for harmony, peace and oneness among nations and peoples. If peace can reign on earth for seven minutes, it is hoped that some day it can and will endure for seven hours, seven days, seven years, seven decades, seven centuries and more.

#### THE SPONSOR

SEVEN MINUTES OF WORLD PEACE was initiated by Sri Chinmoy: The Peace Meditation at the United Nations in cooperation with the United Nations Associations and a wide range of educational, religious, spiritual and peace organizations around the world. The Peace Meditation at the United Nations is an association of the United Nations delegates, staff, NGO representatives and accredited press correspondents who believe that inner peace will serve as the foundation for outer peace, and who actively work to pursue these goals through the United Nations. Toward this end, the Peace Meditation has been holding twice-weekly meditations and other programs at the United Nations under the leadership of Sri Chinmoy since 1970.

#### PAST OBSERVANCES

SEVEN MINUTES OF WORLD PEACE was inaugurated in 1984 with the participation of groups in some 40 countries. The initiative has continued to spread, and the observance can now be said "to have a life of its own." In 1985, '86, '87, and '88, ceremonies and observances were held around the world, and messages of support were received from several heads of state, as well as mayors, governors and Members of Congress in the United States. The country with the most enthusiastic participation in the Seven Minutes observance is undoubtedly Sri Lanka. Through the efforts of the United Nations Association of Sri Lanka, over 70,000 people joined in 1986, and millions in 1987. In the U.S.A., Congressional staff, public schools, public libraries, Montessori Schools, local chapters of Peace Links and Church Women United, as well as Unitarian and Catholic Churches have documented their participation.

1989-10-oct-24-un-day-seven-min-peace Page 4

"The outer message of the United Nations is peace. The inner message of the United Nations is love. The inmost message of the United Nations is oneness."

- Sri Chinmoy

#### SEVEN MINUTES OF WORLD PEACE - A SIMULTANEOUS GLOBAL OBSERVANCE

On United Nations Day, Thursday, 24 October 1991, individuals, groups and organizations around the world will simultaneously join in seven minutes of silent prayer or meditation to share the spirit of peace on earth. This observance, initiated in 1984, is called SEVEN MINUTES OF WORLD PEACE. Around the globe, local observances will be held at times corresponding to 1.00 - 1.07 p.m. Eastern Daylight time at United Nations Headquarters in New York (17.00 - 17.07 Greenwich Mean Time).

#### HOW TO PARTICIPATE

By individually or collectively observing silence to pray or meditate for peace during the local time in your time zone which corresponds to 17.00 - 17.07 Greenwich Mean Time on Thursday, 24 October 1991 - United Nations Day. Those who wish to organize a group observance may do so by informing members of their organization, their community or the public of the local time and place of the observance. The text of this announcement may be used, either in part or in its entirety, to create information circulars or articles publicizing the local Seven Minutes observance;

By notifying us of your participation immediately after the observance so that we may know the total number of participants, both individual and group (submitted by the group organizer). Please write to: SEVEN MINUTES OF WORLD PEACE, 86-24 PARSONS BOULEVARD, JAMAICA, NEW YORK 11432, USA. You are also invited to write a letter and/or send photos, posters, programmes or news articles. Inspiring and interesting news or stories submitted will provide the basis for a brochure to spread the word about next year's observance of SEVEN MINUTES OF WORLD PEACE.

#### ITS PURPOSE

SEVEN MINUTES OF WORLD PEACE seeks to focus the world's attention on the urgent need for peace in the international and inter-religious spirit of the United Nations. The observance offers people of every country and belief an opportunity to transcend their individual and national identities and join all humanity, even if for just a short time, in the spirit of peace as part of the human family. SEVEN MINUTES OF WORLD PEACE has no political affiliation or purpose other than to work toward and strengthen the universal human aspiration for harmony, peace and oneness among nations and peoples.

#### THE SPONSOR

SEVEN MINUTES OF WORLD PEACE was initiated by Sri Chinmoy: The Peace Meditation at the United Nations in co-operation with United Nations Associations in many countries and a wide range of educational, religious and peace organizations around the world. The Peace Meditation at the United Nations is an association of United Nations delegates, staff and others accredited to the United Nations, who believe that inner peace serves as the foundation for outer peace, and who actively work to pursue this goal through the United Nations. Toward this end, the Peace Meditation group has been holding twice-weekly meditations and a wide array of programmes and events at the United Nations since 1970 under the leadership of meditation teacher Sri Chinmoy.

#### PAST OBSERVANCES

SEVEN MINUTES OF WORLD PEACE was inaugurated in 1984 with the participation of groups in some 40 countries. The observance has since continued to spread, and can now be said to have a life of its own. Ceremonies and observances have been held around the world, and messages of support have been received from heads of State of several countries, as well as mayors, governors and members of Congress in the United States. One of the most inspiring examples of participation was organized by the United Nations Association of Sri Lanka, where over 70,000 people joined the Seven Minutes observance in 1986, and millions in subsequent years. In the U.S.A., congressional staff, public and private schools, libraries and local chapters of Peace Links and Church Women United, as well as Unitarian and Catholic Churches, have documented their participation.

**1991-10-0ct-24-seven**-minutes-for-world-peace-announce

### Notes pm International Day of Peace and Ringing of Peace Bell:

\*The date of the International Day of Peace fell on the third Tuesday of September most years ,(which was usually the opening day of the UN General Assembly) Some years that varied until 2002, when the date was fixed as 21 September each year by the UN General Assembly. See Part 3-03? UN Anniversaries for details on dates and history.

\* fuller description is I Part 3-03 reproduced here with understanding that both could reference a single End Note fr Prt 3- events.

#### \*International Day of Peace (IDP) - Now 21 Sept

Each year the International Day of Peace is observed around the world on 21 September (An alternate date near 21 Sep in accord with local preferences and custom has sometimes been chosen). The UN General Assembly has declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, through observing 24 hours of non-violence and cease-fire.

#### Background

The International Day of Peace was <u>established</u> in 1981 by the UN General Assembly. It was first celebrated to coincide with the opening of the General Assembly Session each year (third Tuesday of September). Two decades later, in 2001, the General Assembly unanimously voted to move the Day to 21 September as a period of non-violence and cease-fire.

The United Nations invites all nations and people to honour a cessation of hostilities during the Day, and to otherwise commemorate the Day through education and public awareness on issues related to peace.

#### **Peace Bell**

One of the days the Peace Bell is rung during a ceremony at UN Headquarter in NY, is to announce that year's International Day of Peace. Sometimes it is observed a few days in advance of September 21. The Peace Bell was donated by the UN Association of Japan in June 1954. The actual date for the Bell ringing event is adjusted based on UN activities planned for that time frame.



1971-03-21-mar-SG-U-Thant-beforering-Peace-Bell-UN-NY-ceremony-"Earth-Day"UN-photo-240556-crp



2020-09-17-sep-Melissa-Fleming-left-USGs-remarks-SG-Antonio-Guterres-onright-Peace-Bell-ceremony-UN-HQ-unphoto-845400-crp



2020-09-17-sep-SG-António-Guterresrings-Peace-Bell-UN-NY\_HQ-inadvance-Internat-Day-Peace-UN-photo-845461

Page **13** of **14** 

3.Invites all member states, organs and organizations of the United Nations system, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, peoples and individuals to commemorate in an appropriate manner the International Day of Peace, especially through all means of education, and to co-operate with the United Nations in the observance of that Day. – 77<sup>th</sup> Plenary meeting 30 November 1983. UNGA –A-Res-36-67

3. Invites all Member States, organs and organizations of the United Nations system, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, peoples and individuals to commemorate in an appropriate manner the International Day of Peace, especially through all means of education, and to co-operate with the United Nations in the observance of that Day.

77th plenary meeting 30 Nevember 1981

undocs.org-A-RES-36-67-GA res-international-year-day-of-peace-Participation[/caption]

**Day moved to 21 September for 2003 observance**. It was previously celebrated to coincide with the Opening for the General Assembly on the Third Tuesday of September.

A/RES/55/28223 International Day of Peace The General Assembly, Recalling its resolution 36/67 of 30 November 1981, by which it declared that the third Tuesday of September, the opening day of the regular sessions of the General Assembly, shall be officially proclaimed and observed as International Day of Peace and shall be devoted to commemorating and strengthening the ideals of peace both within and among all nations and peoples, ... achieving the broadest possible awareness and observance of the International Day of Peace among the global community, Desiring to draw attention to the objectives of the International Day of Peace, and therefore to fix a date for its observance each year that is separate from the opening day of the regular sessions of the General Assembly,

- 1.Decides that, with effect from the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly,(2003) the International Day of Peace shall be observed on 21 September each year, with this date to be brought to the attention of all people for the celebration and observance of peace;
- 2.Declares that the International Day of Peace shall henceforth be observed as a day of global ceasefire and non-violence, an **invitation to all nations and people to honour a cessation of hostilities for the duration of the Day; .Invites all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, regional and non-governmental organizations and individuals to commemorate, in an appropriate manner**, the International Day of Peace, including through education and public awareness, and to cooperate with the United Nations in the establishment of the global ceasefire.111th plenary meeting7 September 2001

#### **UN related Documents**

General Assembly Resolution on International Year of Peace and International Day of Peace (A/RES/36/67)

General Assembly Resolution on International Day of Peace (A/RES/55/282)