SRI CHINMOY

A Vision for World Peace

Pope John Paul il greeting Sri Chinmoy at the Vatican (13 October 1987)

PEACE WALK

Peace Walks at the United Nations are organised under the co-sponsorship of the Peace Meditation group and a number of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations. They are held annually at the United Nations on U.N. Charter Day (June 26) and U.N. Day (October 24) as well as in over 50 cities around the world to mark the International Day of Peace on the opening day of the U.N. General Assembly. During these events, participants walk in prayerful silence for universal peace and in respect for the founding principles of the United Nations.

TWICE A WEEK FOR THE LAST 25 YEARS SRI CHINMOY HAS

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BEEN CONDUCTING PEACE MEDITATIONS AT THE UNITED NATIONS.

THE UNITED NATIONS:

HUMANITY'S HOPE

FOR WORLD PEACE

"Peace and the united Nations are i"$eparabie. peace means the ptesencé Of harmony, love, satisfaction and Queness, We have to feel the whole world as our very own/ If each individual in each nation can consciously feel that he or she does not belong to a little family called 'I c/nd mine t; but to a larger family called we and Ours then the message Of ; io e, brotherhood, peace and sharing an easily be embraced by the entire World, It is prectseiy this qtessage, this hope for World peage mattd öøepesS, that\* the United Nations

\_ Sri Chinmoy•

SRI CHINMOY:

THE PEACE MEDITATION

AT THE UNITED NATIONS

From its earliest days, the United Nations has recognized the value of meditation as a force for world peace. Each session of the General Assembly is opened and closed with a minute of silence. Trygve Lie, the first Secretary-General, had a meditation room built in the Secretariat building and his successor, Dag Hammarskjold, designed the room as we know it today. Since the inception of the United Nations, representatives of member countries have been enjoying moments of contemplation in the Meditation Room.

The practice of meditation was further expanded when in 1970, Sri Chinmoy, an internationally respected philosopher, lecturer, author and spiritual teacher with an interdenominational approach to meditation, was invited to serve as leader of a meditation group at U.N. headquarters.

U Thant with Sri Chinmoy at the United Nations (29 February 1972)

"I personally feel that you have been doing a most significant task for the United Nations. Please feel my sincere respect and sincere concern for what you are doing for mankind. " U Thant, Secretary-General of

the United Nations (1961-1972)

Kurt Waldheim with Sri Chinmoy at the United Nations (24 October 1978)

"We want peace, peace. You are praying for peace. I know what you are doing for us. I know it/ I can feel it."

Kurt Waldheim, Secretary-General of the United Nations (1972-1981)

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Under his guidance, the meditation group, officially referred to as Sri Chinmoy: The Peace Meditation at the United Nations, has dedicated itself to the ideals of universal harmony and world peace.

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For 25 years, Sri Chinmoy has been holding twice-weekly meditations, which provide an opportunity for quiet, spiritual renewal in an atmosphere reflective of the highest purposes of the world organisation. In addition, through an ongoing series of programs and symposia, the Peace Meditation group provides a forum for ambassadors, Secretariat officials and staff, religious leaders and other global-minded individuals to share and reinforce their spiritual vision for the United Nations.

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U THANT PEACE AWARD

In 1982, Sri Chinmoy established the U Thant Peace Award in honour of the late Secretary-General. The award honours individuals and organisations for their exceptional service to the world and their contributions to international peace.

Recipients of this award include:

Mother Teresa, Founder, Missionaries of Charity and 1979 Nobel Peace Laureate Mikhail Gorbachev, former President of the Soviet Union and 1990 Nobel Peace Laureate

James P. Grant, Executive Director of

UNICEF (1980-1995)

United Nations Development Programme

Javier Perez de Cuellar and Sri Chinmoy at the United Nations

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| "You concentrate on the truths and ideals which unite all mankind: the longing for peace, the need for compassion, the search for tolerance and understanding among men and women of all nations.  Javier Perez de Cuellar, Secretary-General of the  United Nations (1982-1991) |

(13 January 1983)

Mother Teresa and Sri Chinmoy in Rome (1 October 1994)

"I am so pleased with all the good work you are doing for world peace and for people in so many countries. May we continue to work together and to share together, allfor the Glory of God and for the good of

man.

Mother Teresa, Founder, Missionaries of

Charity and 1979 Nobel Peace Laureate

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Sri Chinmoy meditates before an audience of 9,000 at his

Peace Concert in Montreal (22 June 1991)

Former President Mikhail Gorbachev, Raisa Maximovna and

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Sri Chinmoy at the U Thant Peace Award presentation in New York (16 October 1994)

"The Peace Meditation at the United Nations has become a powerful force, inspiring thousands all over the world, and it has given new strength to the movement for peace, to the renewal of spirituality and to the survival of humanity.

Mikhail Gorbachev, former President of the

Soviet Union and 1990 Nobel Peace Laureate

# SEVEN MINUTES FOR WORLD PEACE

Inaugurated in 1984 by Sri Chinmoy, Seven Minutes for World Peace is a simultaneous global observance of peaceful silence honour of United Nations Day on October 24th. Its goal is to increase humanity's awareness of the inner dimensions of peace and the relationship between inner and outer peace. Individuals and groups from more than 40 countries participate in this annual event.

At the United Nations Church Center in New York, Sri Chinmoy leads a silent opening prayer at a program held in honour of

Arnerica's National Day of Prayer. Leaders representing Christian,

Jewish, Hindu, Muslim, Buddhist and Bahaii groups collectively offer their prayers for world peace. (24 July 1975)