

Davidson L. Hepburn

- **Inspiring Friend** of Sri Chinmoy: the Peace Meditation at U.N. for 4 decades.
- **Supporter** of the Global Oneness-Home World Harmony and Peace Runs
- **Peace-Dreamer** and **God-Lover** with “**aspiration-flames** deep within.*”

*Those who are now peace-dreamers and God-lovers Were definitely born with God-aspiration-flames deep within. - Sri Chinmoy, My Morning Soul-Body Prayers, part 14, Agni Press, 2000

Dr. Davidson Hepburn,

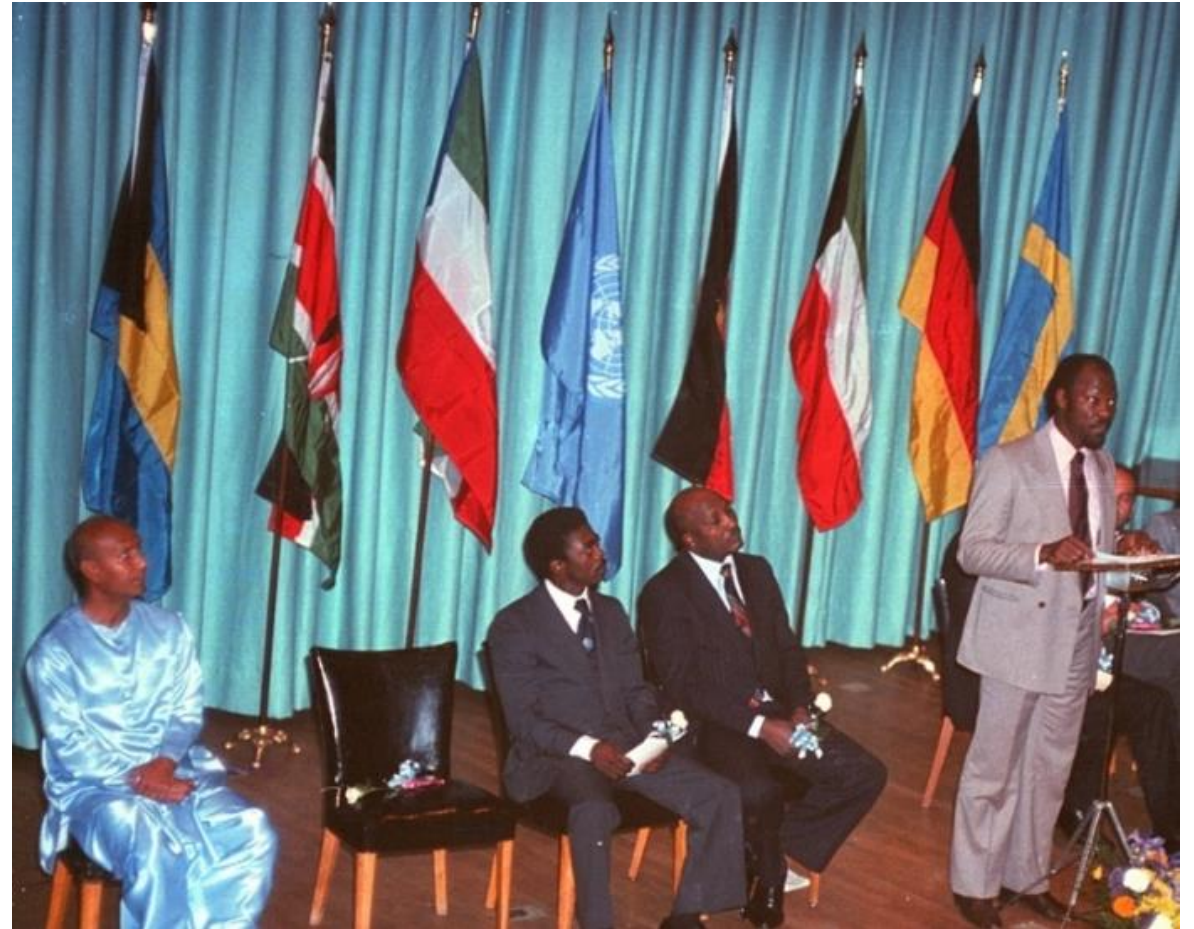
- **Permanent Representative** of Bahamas to UN for 10 years
- **President (2009 – 2011) of General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)**
- **Continued friendship** with Sri Chinmoy and Meditation Group until **today**.



Pictured (center) **with Sri Chinmoy and Ambassador Illueca of Panama**

Dr. Hepburn's first event sponsored by Peace Meditation at UN: International Day of Thanksgiving (1978), as a guest speaker

Many were impressed by his vision and “conviction that the fulfilment of the *true values of peace and harmony with one's fellow human beings and with one's environment are within mankind's grasp*. And we hope that by sharing this belief with our colleagues here at the United Nations we can enhance the image of the organization by fostering better relations and *strengthening the call for the maintenance of universal peace* and security”



TRIBUTE TO THE
BAHAMAS At the UN
on 11 Sep 1979



In Honor of the Bahamas entry into the UN in 1973, songs dedicated to Bahamas by Sri Chinmoy were performed. H.E. Davidson L. Hepburn, **spoke about his country; it's relationship to the UN;** and entertained the audience with a colorful slide presentation. Videotape of programme **was later shown on Bahamian television.**

Dr. Hepburn noted **“the dedication and devotion to peace, justice and the preservation of human dignity by Sri Chinmoy and everyone connected with the association (more in thank you)**

Thank you from Dr. Hepburn for the Tribute to the Bahamas at the UN - Sep 1979

“to express on behalf of
the Bahamas Government
and **people profound
gratitude and
appreciation for the
unselfish tribute
extended** by Sri Chinmoy
Peace meditation at the
United Nations

“I am sure the event
has **helped establish
understanding
among nations and
strengthened
existing links of
friendship and
unity..”**

Song Motto of the
Bahamas set to Music by
Sri Chinmoy in Sep 1979
Score and Words of Song:
**“Forward, Upward,
Onward,
Together.”**

Presented to Ambassador
Hepburn during the
Meditation Group meeting
21 November 1979:

$\text{♩} = 126$ Moderate-fast
September 1, 1979

For - - - ward, Up - - - ward, On - - - ward, To - - - - ge - - - - ther.

For-ward, Up-ward, On - - - - - ward, To - - - - - ge - - - - - ther. _____

For-ward, Up-ward, On - - - - - - - ward, To - - - ge - - - ther.

For-ward, Up-ward, On - - - - - ward, To - - - - - ge - - - - - ther. _____

For - ward, Up - ward, On - ward, To - - - - ge - - - ther.

For - ward, Up - ward, On - - - - - - - ward, To - - - ge - - - ther. _____ *fine*

Tribute concert to the Bahamas 05 Sep 1980



UN Dag Hammarskjold
Auditorium: Musical
Programme featuring
Amb. Hepburn of
Bahamas,

performing “Let There Be Peace on Earth”, & two spirituals, “Balm in Gilead” and “When I Feel the Spirit,”. Meditation choir sang the new “**O Grand Bahama, Grand!**” that Sri Chinmoy had dedicated to the Bahamas. Dr. Hepburn said he does not consider himself a professional singer: “some months ago when asked to say a few words on this occasion, I hastily said, “I prefer to sing.” ... because he interpreted that literally. I thought I should fulfill my promise.” **It was Dr. Hepburn’s first concert at the UN.**

O Grand Bahama, Song dedicated to the Bahamas by Sri Chinmoy

performed 05 Sep 1980.

Words from song:

***O grand Bahama, Bahama, Bahama
grand!***

***Great multiplicity in good oneness-
land.***

Here we swim and sail,

No Nature's bondage-jail.

Bahama, Bahama, Bahama, Bahama,

O sleepless, O breathless panorama!

O Grand Bahama, Grand!

Words and Music
by Sri Chinmoy
September 1980

$\text{♩} = 72$ Fast

fine

O grand Ba-ha-ma, Ba-ha-ma, Ba-ha-ma grand! _____

Great mul- - - - ti- - - - pli- - - - ci- - - - ty _____

in _____ good _____ one - - - ness _____ land.

Here we swim and sail, _____

No Na-ture's bon- - - dage _____ jail.

Ba-ha-ma, Ba-ha-ma, Ba-ha-ma, Ba- - - - ha- - - - ma,

O sleep-less, O breath-less pa- - - - no- - - - ra- - - - ma!

D.C. al fine with repeat

O grand Bahama, Bahama, Bahama grand!
Great multiplicity in good oneness-land.
Here we swim and sail,
No Nature's bondage-jail.
Bahama, Bahama, Bahama, Bahama,
O sleepless, O breathless panorama!

- Sri Chinmoy

1980 –Tenth Anniversary of Peace Meditation at the UN

D. Hepburn's kind note.

“ ...yesterday gave me **unequaled calm and relaxation** ..never experienced such freedom from tension... I left knowing I **could face any challenge with confidence...**” I am convinced, more and more that (the) **meditation group is rendering an invaluable service to the community and indeed the world.”..**

”May the decade bring about a greater sense of spiritual awareness and a more concerted effort to promote unity, peace and universal stability”



UN Charter Day 26 Jun 1981, Commemorated by Delegates and staff with
Meditation Group at UN Headquarters.



*H.E. Davidson Hepburn
Permanent
Representative of The
Bahamas to UN.*

**“sometimes I tend to lose hope that
we're going to make any head way
in achieving peace in our life time.
But ...I have the feeling that maybe
somewhere we will find a method
by which we can do this. “**

**“After listening to the beautiful
songs performed today and to the
poems that were recited, one tends
to get a sense of peace, a sense of
calm, that I think is necessary for us
these days”..**

Birthday Letter to Sri Chinmoy from Amb. Hepburn 10 Aug 1981

Those of us who know
you can attest to your
dedication and humility.

***You symbolize an
"oasis" in a "desert" of
conflict and discontent.***

***Your life has been an
example to many ... and
be assured that your
work will not be in
vain.***

10 August, 1981

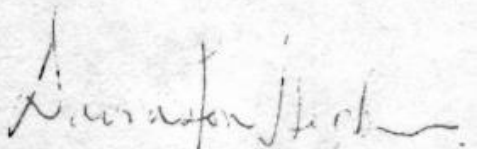
Dear Sri Chinmoy:

I take this opportunity to congratulate you on your 50th birthday and to express the hope that you would be blessed with good health and strength for many years to come.

Those of us who know you can attest to your dedication and humility. You symbolize an "oasis" in a "desert" of conflict and discontent. Your life has been an example to many and you richly deserve the honour that is given to you.

As you celebrate your Golden Jubilee may you be comforted by the thought that your efforts are appreciated by many; and be assured that your work will not be in vain.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!


Davidson L. Hepburn

Fiftieth Birthday of Sri Chinmoy

observed at Church
Center for the UN.

On 20 Aug 1981



Ambassador D. Hepburn: "There is a spiritual text that says, "He who would be great among you, let him first serve." I think you can all say that of **Sri Chinmoy. He loves to serve, because he realises that it is for this purpose he was called.** May God bless him and may we continue to do the work that he is trying to teach us.

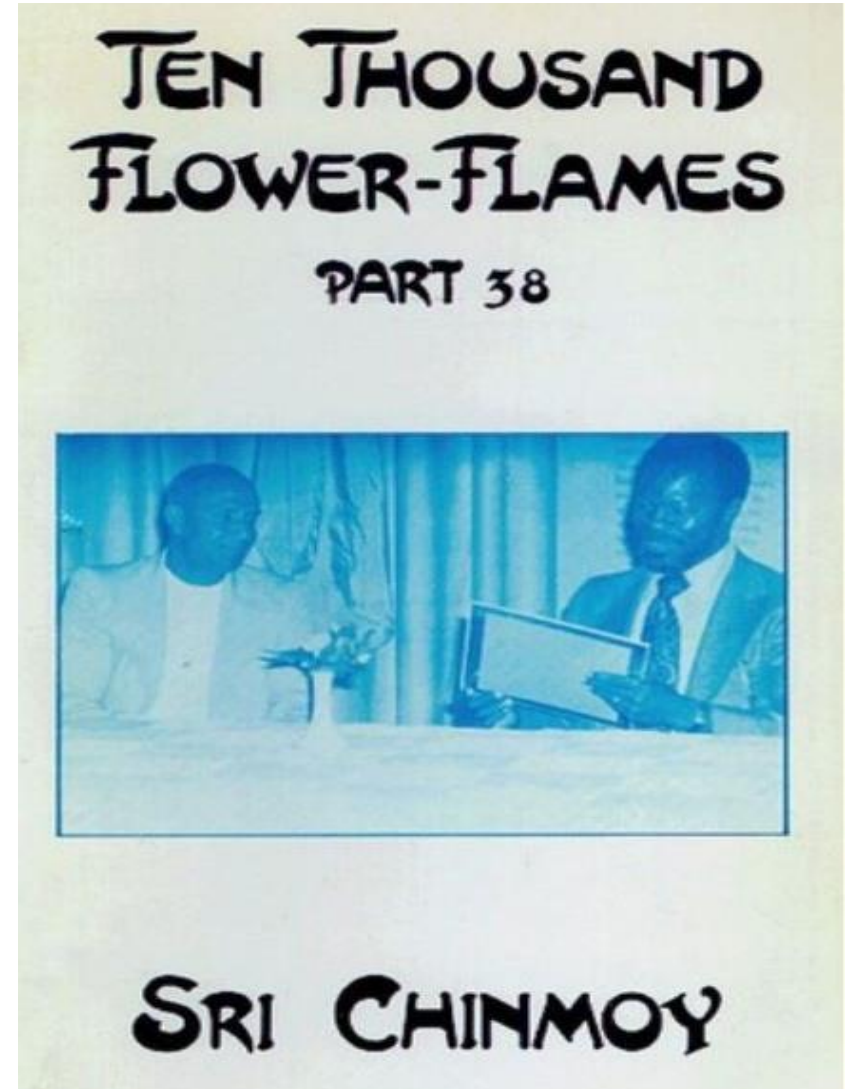
Dr. Hepburn noted Sri Chinmoy's "humility, his love for mankind, **his search for peace, and his desire to promote love among human beings...**Your presence here today shows your love, admiration and respect ...for what he has done. ... that he has **set an example** for you **to emulate** as you interact with you fellow men.

BOOK cover for:
Ten Thousand Flower-Flames, part 38,
by Sri Chinmoy,
Agni Press, 1982

Inside page:

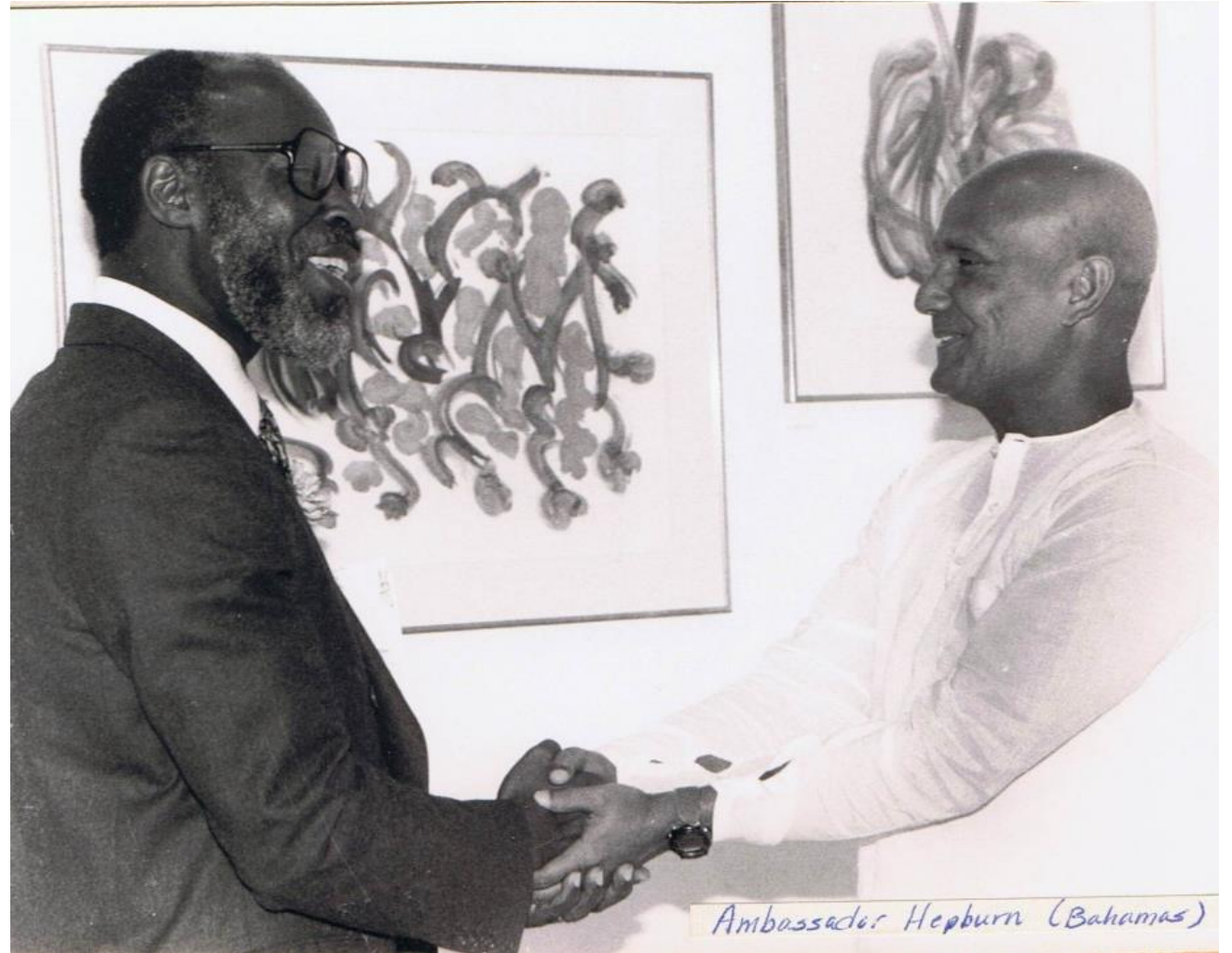
Editor's note explaining BOOK cover photo:

“Ambassador **Davidson L. Hepburn** of the Bahamas **joins Sri Chinmoy** and the Meditation Group **at the United Nations** on 21 Nov 1979 for **meditation and the performance of the motto** of the Bahamas **set to music** by Sri Chinmoy. ‘



Ambassador Hepburn
with Sri Chinmoy at
Jharna Kala Art exhibit
in Manhattan: Sep 13
1985

A new version of song
about United Nations:
O Body of the World
by Sri Chinmoy, was
sung in all 6 official
UN languages.



Song in Honour of Ambassador
Davidson Hepburn
by Sri Chinmoy, 27 Sep 1985

Words to song:

**“ Ambassador Davidson Hepburn!
To brighter light and higher height,
To deeper depth and further length,
Your oneness heart’s sleepless cries turn.
Bahama’s vision -glory - song.
Your Life’s goodness-smile
Long live. Long! “**

Ambassador Davidson Hepburn

Words and Music
by Sri Chinmoy
September 27, 1985

$\text{♩} = 138$ Moderate-fast

Am - bas - sa - dor Da - - vid - - son Hep - - - - - burn! *fine*

To bright - er light and high - - - er height,

To deep - er depth and far - - - ther length,

Your one - ness heart's sleep - - - less cries

turn. _____

Ba - ha - ma's vi - - - sion - glo - - - - - ry - song. _____

slower

Your life's good - ness - smile, _____

a tempo

Long live, _____ long! _____

*Ambassador Hepburn honours a swimmer with song: Sep 1985
(for 40th Anniversary of UN event)*

Ambassador Hepburn in the midst of the opening days of the 40th UN GA **sang the inspirational song “I believe”** **honouring** a member of UNICEF staff and Sri Chinmoy Peace Meditation group at the UN, who **swam the English Channel**, as a **UNique birthday gift** on its 40th.

Dr. Hepburn who is also a **swimming enthusiast** and accomplished singer performed to celebrate the achievement that was **reported in the NY times**.

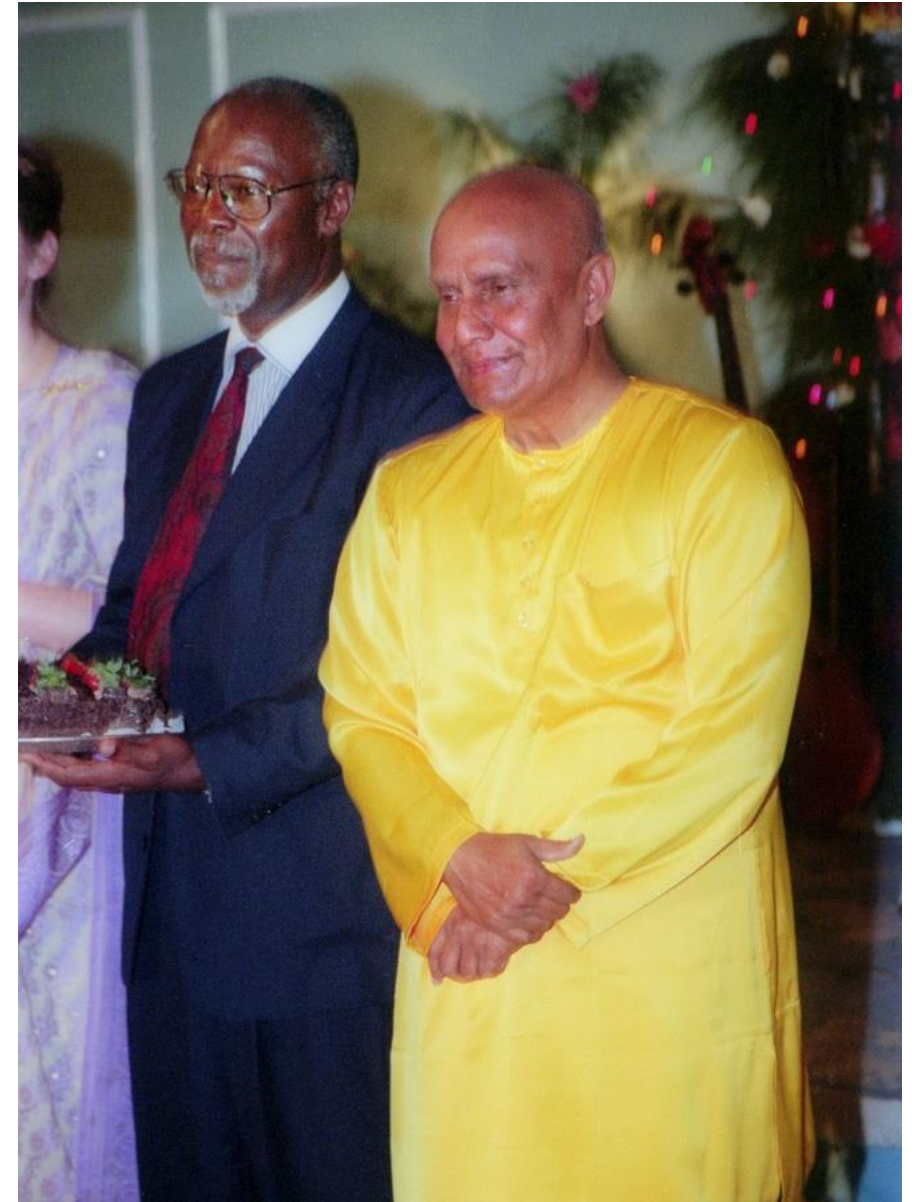


Photo : Ambassador Hepburn with swimmer Adhiratha Keefe's parents Wanda and Jack and Sri Chinmoy

Bahamas (Dec 1997): receiving a **surprise Birthday Cake** from Sri Chinmoy

Ambassador Hepburn (in 2012) shared how he experienced that occasion:

“Here is one simple thing that my friend Sri Chinmoy did: We had a meeting in the Bahamas when we were **trying so hard to get the Harmony Run going, and having some difficulties** ... I was sitting in the hotel, and **Sri Chinmoy had brought a big chocolate cake for my birthday**. I was really moved, even though I don't like chocolate! [Laughter] **That was the first time that I had a slice of a chocolate cake and really enjoyed it.**





Davidson
Hepburn
Lifted by
Sri
Chinmoy
April
2003



As recipient of the
**“Lifting up the
World with a
Onenss-Heart”**
award, Dr. Hepburn
shared memories,
and ideas with Sri
Chinmoy and
members of the
Group.



He **also visited Pilgrim Museum** adjacent to Aspiration Ground, which includes Art and photos of meetings with distinguished individuals.



Last Visit with Sri Chinmoy Jul 2007

Dr. Hepburn came to be with his long time friend Sri Chinmoy and members of the Meditation Group at the United Nations. They sang songs, he spoke and enjoyed Sri Chinmoy's presence.





Song: *Ambassador Hepburn, Brother Davidson!*

Words and Music –Sri Chinmoy 08 Jul 2007

**Oneness-heart Hepburn, God-
lover Davidson.**

Goodness, your inner name.

Greatness, Your outer frame.

You we admire, you we love.

**You are a special gift from
Summit above.**

Ambassador Hepburn, Brother Davidson!

Words and Music
by Sri Chinmoy
July 8, 2007

$\text{♩} = 144$ Moderate-fast

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The tempo is marked 'Moderate-fast' with a quarter note equal to 144 beats. The first staff contains the melody for 'Am-bas-sa-dor Hep-burn, Bro-ther Da-vid-son!' and ends with a double bar line and the word 'fine'. The second staff begins with a repeat sign and contains the melody for 'One-ness-heart Hep-burn, God-lov-er Da-vid-son.' with a 'Slower' marking and a piano 'p' dynamic. The third staff continues with 'Good-ness, y-our in-ner name. Great-ness, y-our out-er frame.' with an 'A tempo' marking. The fourth staff contains 'Y-ou we ad-mi-re, y-ou we love.' and the fifth staff contains 'Y-ou are a spe-cial gift from Sum-mit a-bove.'.

Am-bas-sa-dor Hep-burn, Bro-ther Da-vid-son!

One-ness-heart Hep-burn, God-lov-er Da-vid-son.

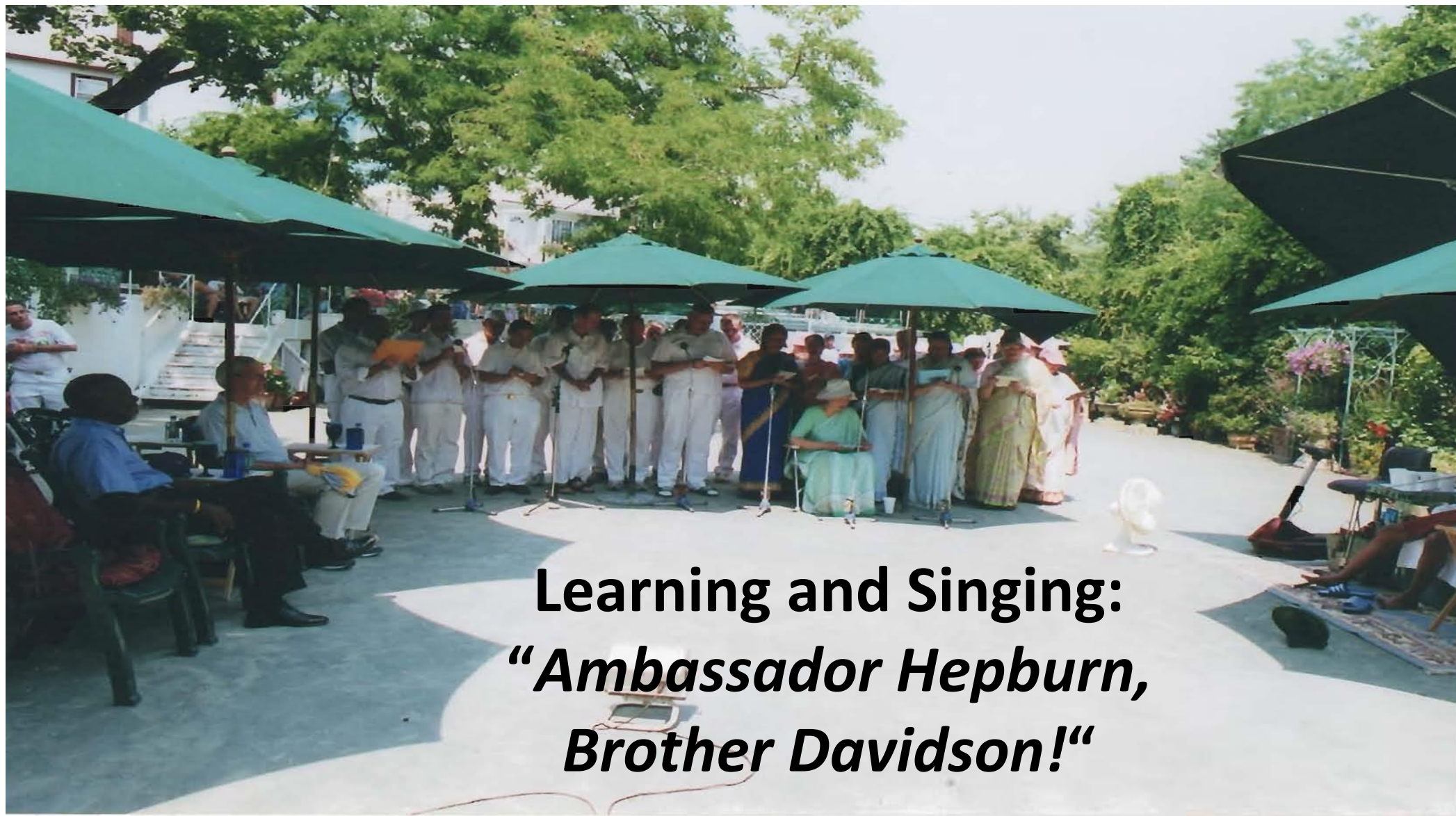
Good-ness, y-our in-ner name. Great-ness, y-our out-er frame.

Y-ou we ad-mi-re, y-ou we love.

Y-ou are a spe-cial gift from Sum-mit a-bove.

Sing once with repeats,
once without repeats,
then D.C. al fine.

Ambassador Hepburn, Brother Davidson!
Oneness-heart Hepburn, God-lover Davidson.
Goodness, your inner name.
Greatness, your outer frame.
You we admire, you we love.
You are a special gift from Summit above.



**Learning and Singing:
“Ambassador Hepburn,
Brother Davidson!”**

Dr. Hepburn elected **President (2009 – 2011) of General Conference** of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (**UNESCO**)

During his presidency he **offered many statements supporting the Oneness -Home Peace and World Harmony runs** founded by his dear friend Sri Chinmoy in 1987. Two of the **most notable were video messages: 2010 and 2011**

To all Participants of Run 2011 and Beyond

Message from President of General Conference UNESCO, Davidson Hepburn



Excerpt* of Message from Davidson Hepburn, President of the General Conference of UNESCO, to all participants of the World Harmony Run, 2011 and beyond

I note with admiration the many inspirational events supported by the World Harmony Run in over 100 countries during recent years. The Harmony Run Torch, passed from hand to hand, has encouraged millions of individuals to aspire for a world of oneness and peace.

Harmony and peace are not mere "buzzwords". As we look toward the future, I am reminded of the message of my dear friend Sri Chinmoy, founder of the Run, which can strengthen us on our way forward. He said that world harmony and world peace are "the realities, divine realities and supreme realities." Dynamic activities such as yours have demonstrated the reality of peace across the globe. Yet there is still so much to do, and I believe the World Harmony Run has only just begun to demonstrate its capacity to help create a better world. In this spirit I encourage you to continue, and to go beyond the great successes of previous years.

Your support of the UN and UNESCO's goals during the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and the International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures (2010) significantly engaged many NGOs, civil society groups and individuals. This broad support is critical to our success. As future activities and events are identified by UNESCO and the United Nations to further strengthen the culture of peace, appreciation for diversity and interfaith cooperation, I know the participants in the World Harmony Run will continue to play a significant role in carrying these messages and providing opportunities for local expression around the world.

Importantly, many schools and summer camp programmes eagerly participate in the Run. Youth involvement complements the UN and UNESCO-supported International Year of Youth and its theme of dialogue and mutual understanding, being celebrated through August of 2011. By encouraging young people to express their aspirations for harmony today, the World Harmony Run is surely building the foundation for a culture of peace tomorrow.

I wish you continued success as you expand your efforts, guided by Sri Chinmoy's visionary spirit, to encourage active world citizenship from individuals on all continents. I am certain that initiatives such as the World Harmony Run contribute significantly to the realisation of one of UNESCO's principal mandates: mutual understanding and our shared determination to build and strengthen a culture of peace and harmony.



Davidson Hepburn
Welcomed the torch at
a World Harmony Run
event

Davidson L. Hepburn
Davidson L. Hepburn

*Dr. Hepburn's full message is available at: <http://www.worldharmonyrun.org/beyond2011>
Video excerpt on youtube: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j-SW_eAf-b0

excerpts from 2010 message:

...(the) Torch, passed from hand to hand, has **encouraged millions of individuals to aspire for a world of oneness and peace.** I am reminded of the message of my dear friend **Sri Chinmoy**, founder of the Run, which can strengthen us on our way forward. He said that **world harmony and world peace are "the realities, divine realities and supreme realities."** Dynamic activities such as yours have demonstrated the reality of peace across the globe. **Your support of the UN and UNESCO's goals ...** significantly engaged many NGOs, civil society groups and individuals. This broad support **is critical to our success.**

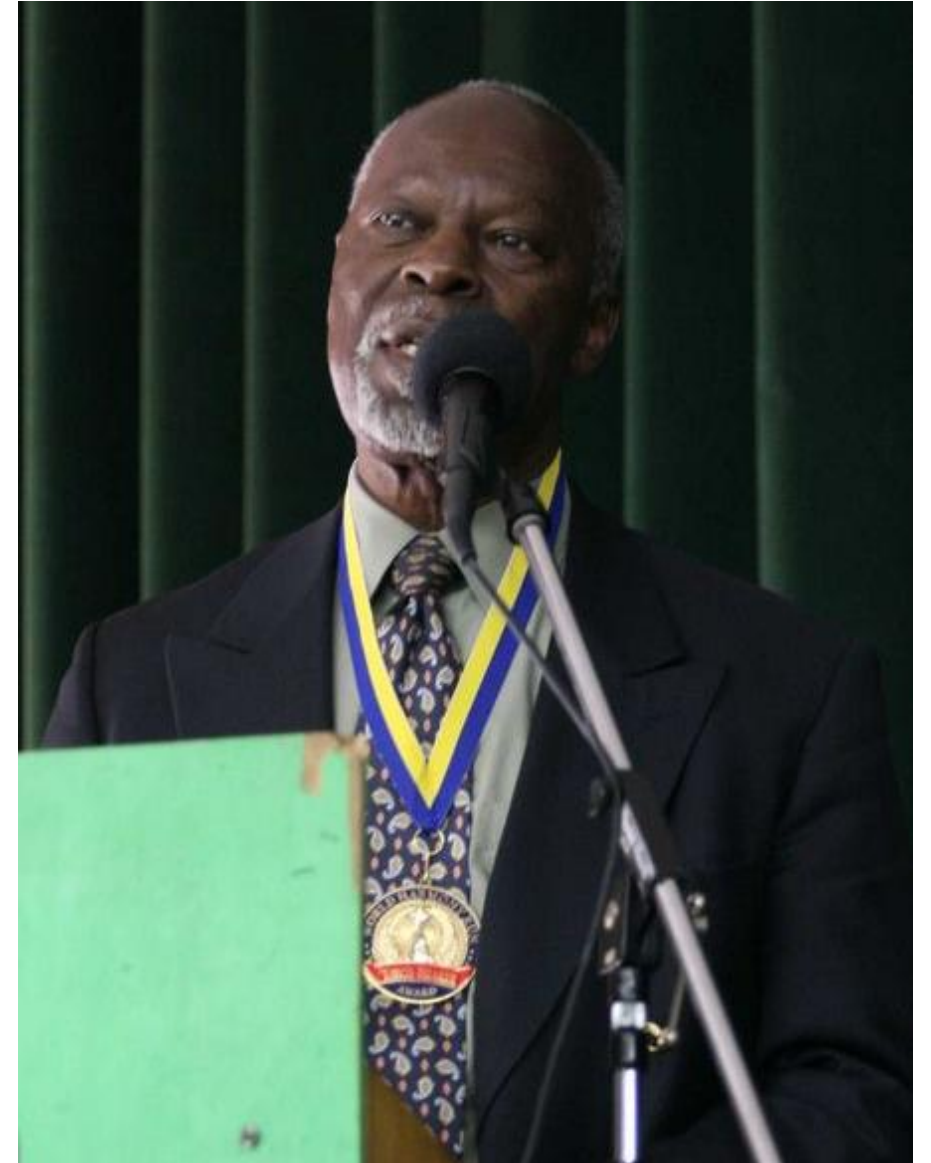
Excerpts continued: As future activities are identified, the participants will play a significant role in providing opportunities for local expression. Many schools and camp programmes eagerly participate in the Run. By **encouraging young people to express their aspirations for harmony today, the ...Run is surely building the foundation for a culture of peace tomorrow.**

I was delighted to see the Run visit a number of UNESCO World Heritage Sites... drawing attention to the efforts of the international community to protect so many cultures around the world. Initiatives such as the **...Run contribute significantly** to the realisation of one of UNESCO's principal mandates: **mutual understanding** and our shared determination to build and strengthen a culture of **peace and harmony.**

**Dr. Hepburn receives the Torch
Bearer Award -St John's College –
Nassau, Bahamas 17 Feb 2010**



St. Johns Principal, Ms. Saunders,
joined Dr. Hepburn to hold the torch.



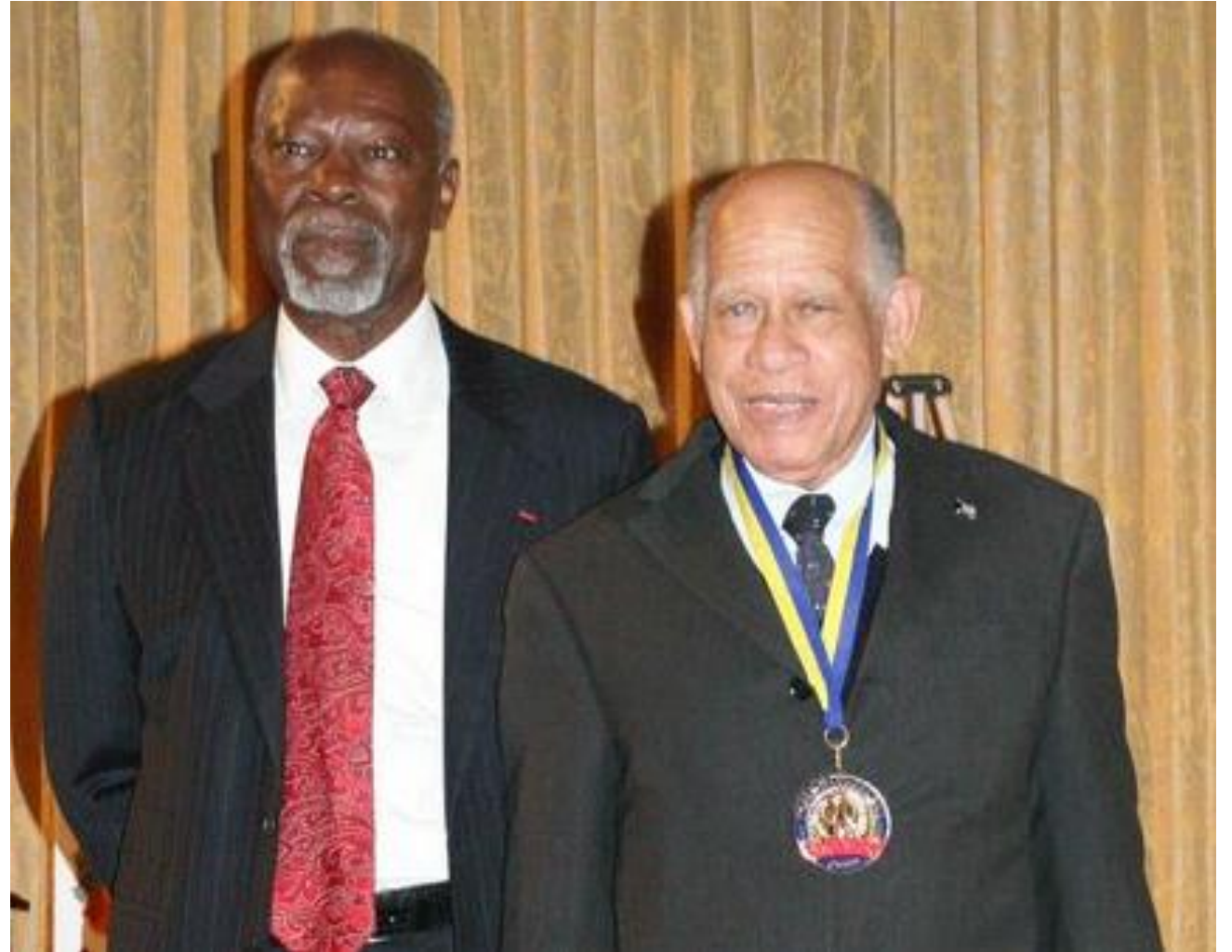
Davidson Hepburn
introduced the Run
and Jharna Kala
World Harmony
Paintings exhibit at
the Bahamas
Governor General's
Residence.' 17 Feb
2010



Torch Bearer Award

As part of the 17 Feb 2010 evening's proceedings

Dr. Hepburn presented Governor-General Hanna with the World Harmony Run Torch-Bearer Award for his lifetime of leadership and service to his nation



“Run 25th Anniversary and Beyond” Video Message translated for sub-titles in 25 languages

- Illustrated video with example clips and images from around the world identifies a number of activities the World Harmony and Peace Run has undertaken or inspired.



Excerpts: “global citizens are eagerly looking toward the next decade and beyond - as a time of great progress and striking change. It is **imperative** that we work together **to build a true Oneness-World. Among recent initiatives** to strive toward this goal, the Run is **one of the most remarkable and far-reaching.**

Launched in 1987, it continues to grow, advancing important ideals of UNESCO and of the entire United Nations community. **I hope these activities can be expanded and in the coming decade.**

Dr. Hepburn **highlights activities the Run has inspired** that he hopes can be further *expanded and enriched*.

- 1. Visit World Heritage Sites**
- 2. Perform Music**
- 3. Create or Display Art and Poetry**
- 4. Value Diversity**
- 5. Support Interfaith Acceptance**
- 6. Honour Role Models**
- 7. Discover New Possibilities**
- 8. Finally, Never Give Up!**

Details at : <http://www.worldharmonyrun.org/25.html>

In April of 2012, Dr. Hepburn joined 3 events in New York

- at Aspiration Ground Meditation Garden in Queens to Celebrate the **42nd Anniversary of the Peace Meditation at the UN** and **25th anniversary of Peace and World Harmony runs**. He also received the Sri Chinmoy “Culture Light” and “Friend of World Harmony Paintings” Award.
- at “**Can Poetry Save the Earth?**” programme in honour of UN Conference on Sustainable Development and National Poetry Month, UN Headquarters 11 April 2012
- main **speaker at the Run Global Launch Ceremony** across from the UN in NY at Dag Hammarskjold Plaza. on 12 April 2012 .

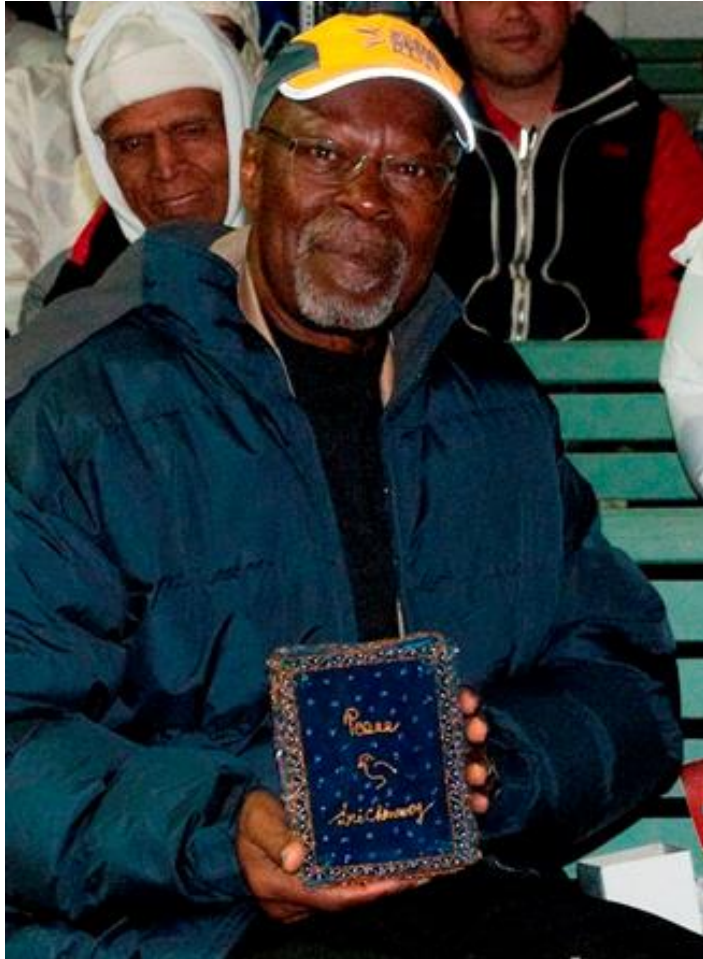
<http://www.worldharmonyrun.org/usa/news/2012/week01/0412.html>

Dr. Hepburn
Celebrating:

- the 42nd
Anniversary of the
Peace Meditation at
the UN.
- the 25th
anniversary of the
Oneness-Home
World Harmony and
Peace runs..



Receiving “Culture Light - Paintings World Harmony” Award



Can Poetry Save the Earth? 11 Apr 2012



Dr. Hepburn has interest in Poetry, Climate Change Education and Development. He also **hosted UNESCO's Experts Meeting on Climate Change Education** for Sustainable Development and Adaptation in Small Island Developing States (Sep 2011, Nassau, Bahamas) during his presidency of UNESCO General Conference



25th anniversary - **Oneness-Home World Harmony and Peace Run** -
Global Launch 12 Apr 2012

Davidson Hepburn is
main Speaker in NY
Dag Hammarskjold
Plaza across from
UN Headquarters.



Smiles and Song. Astana, Kazakhstan, 7am 25 Jul 2012
Oneness-Home World Harmony and Peace runners greeting Dr. Hepburn at airport arrival with flowers and song of welcome.
An unexpected and charming surprise.



Europe Run meets Asia-Pacific team in Astana, Kazakhstan, Main Square
25 Jul 2012 Midday:

Celebrating

- the **20th Anniversary of Kazakhstan joining the United Nations**
- **25th Anniversary of the Oneness-Home World Harmony and Peace Runs**

Dr. Hepburn is a main speaker



Excerpt from Dr. Hepburn address: “I had the pleasure of **meeting Sri Chinmoy (many times)**. He was the founder of the run, a **great philosopher, a poet, artist and musician.**”

“participants from **so many countries**; their dedication and singleness of purpose ... **show that peace can be achieved in many different ways**. I have a philosophy I speak of often: as *human beings* we should let **our differences work for us and not against us.** “ “I noted your dedication to **interfaith harmony which is so very important to the peaceful development of our common future**



"Kazakhstan ... should be proud of its Relationship with the United Nations. I served for more than a decade as my country's representative to the UN **and I saw firsthand the benefit countries receive by meeting together, sharing ideas and aspirations. ...,**

The world is not a perfect place. But were it not for the UN that included in its charter, the clause: “to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war” – this world would be in worse shape.

"In the same vein, UNESCO, where I also served , has for its mandate the preservation of Peace and Harmony in the World. So you see, ... the **international torch runs for peace and world harmony are linked to ... strengthening of the cooperative spirit of the international community.**

Questions for Dr. Hepburn

25 jul 2012 pm

Runners were
interested in
Dr. Hepburn's
involvement
and his
association
with Sri
Chinmoy
starting in the
1970's.



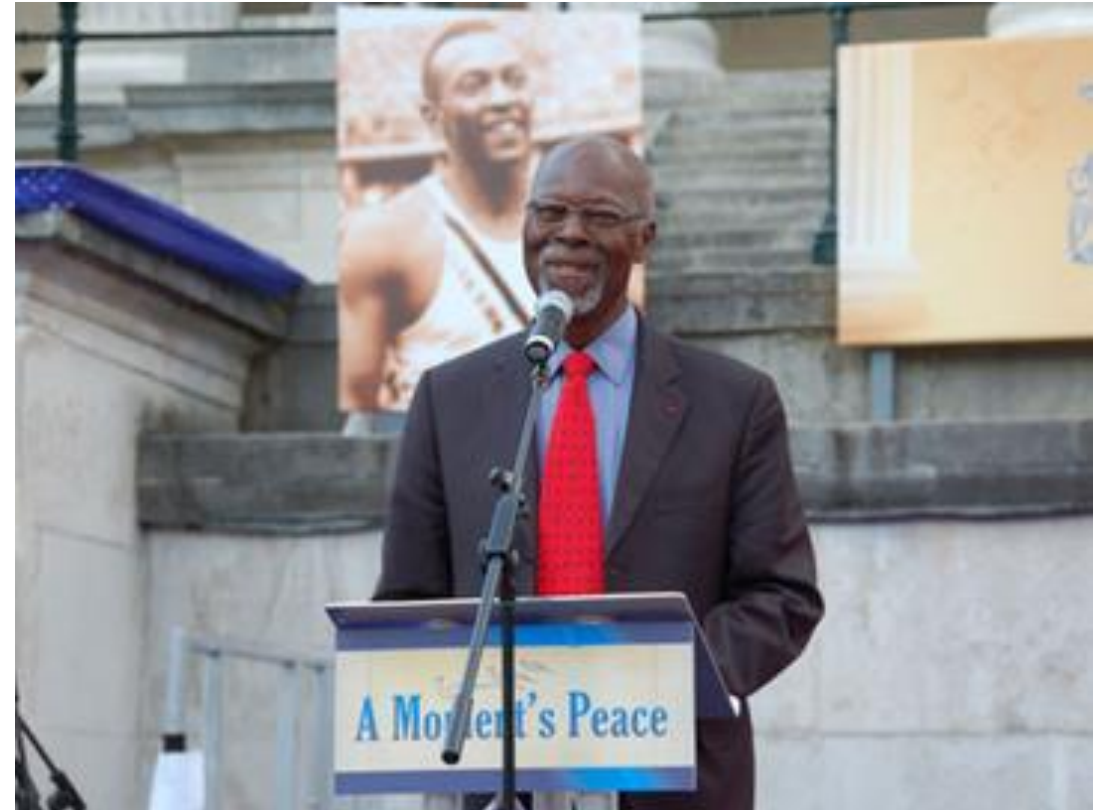
“Moments Peace” programme during Olympics’ in London July 2012

Renowned Olympians, peace leaders, artists and musicians came together on **28 July 2012** at University College **London’s Olympic Centre** to celebrate the Olympic **spirit of peace and universal friendship** at a special event entitled “A Moment’s Peace



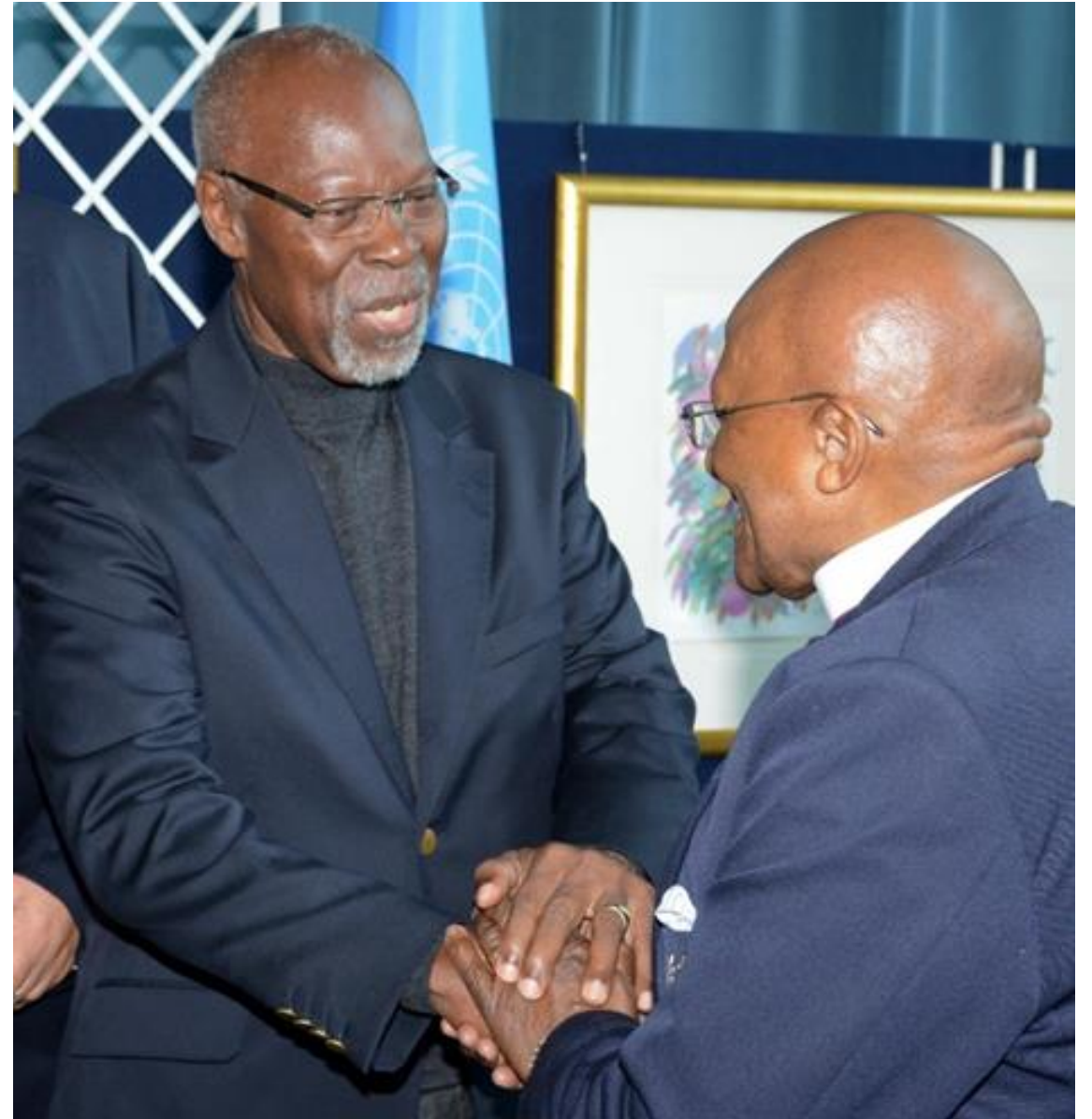
Ambassador Hepburn introduced speakers at moments peace event

The Reverend Mpho A Tutu, daughter of Archbishop Desmond Tutu; **Bernice A. King**, daughter of the late Coretta Scott King and Dr Martin Luther King Jr.; **Marlene Owens Rankin**, daughter of Olympic legend Jesse Owens, ; **Sibongile Mkhabela**, Chief Executive Officer, Nelson Mandela Children's Fund (NMCF); , **Khaliah Ali**, daughter of Muhammad Ali,



UN General Assembly
Delegates Entrance – Peace
and Harmony Art pre-Exhibit
2012, Oct 14

Nobel Laureate Archbishop
Desmund Tutu of South Africa
Welcomed at Pre exhibit set-
up, where he **received the Sri
Chinmoy Culture Light –
Friend of World Harmony
Paintings Award** from Dr.
Davidson Hepburn, one of the
first recipients in April 2012.



Culture Light Award Design

Art is by Sri Chinmoy titled **“Unity.”**, etched in glass, uses his drawing of a **“soul-bird”**, which some came to see as Sri Chinmoy’s signature in life.



Dr. Hepburn above (right) with Archbishop Tutu holding the award

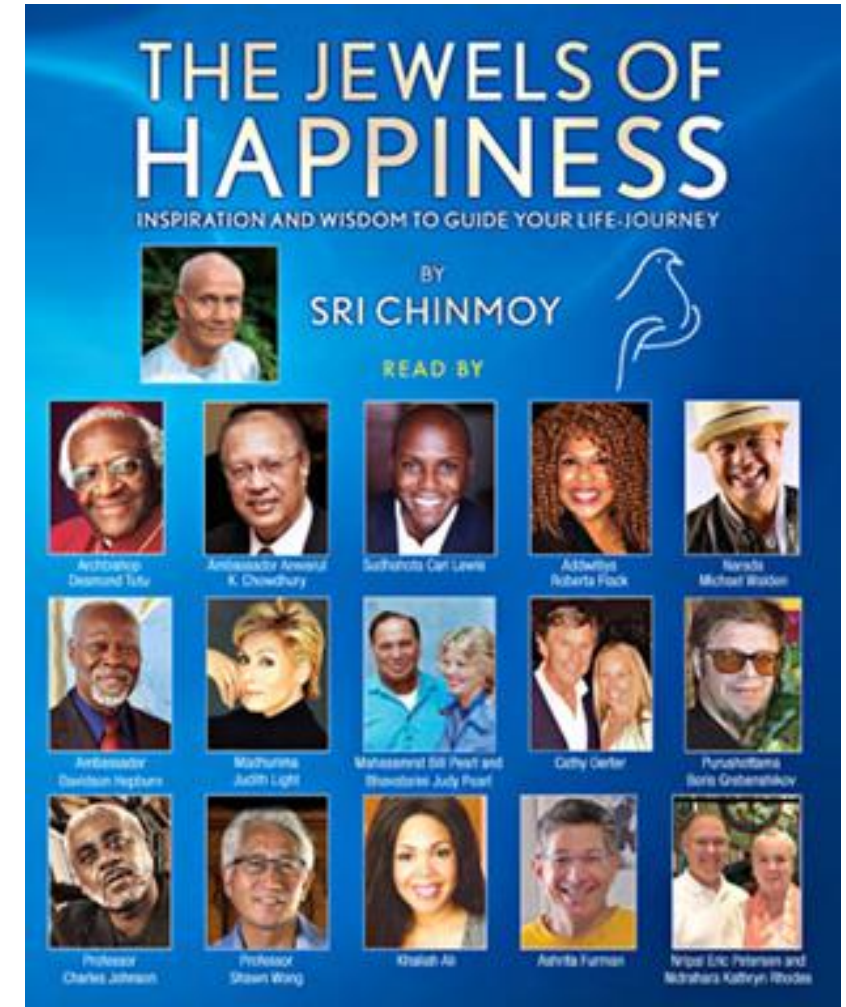
**UN General Assembly
Delegates Entrance
– Peace and Harmony
Art Exhibit 2012 Oct 15**

Ambassador Hepburn was a main speaker at the Art Exhibit opening on 15th Oct attended by UN staff, delegates and guests from the Art community. In 2010 he had introduced a selection of Paintings in his native Bahamas.



2013 *The Jewels of Happiness* -
Audio Book – Chapter on “Hope” -
recorded by Davidson Hepburn.

This audio book by Sri Chinmoy,
recorded by celebrities was
**launched at UN, 19 Mar 2013, as
part of a Celebration of UN’s First
International Day of Happiness**
– the book also includes chapters
read by Desmond Tutu, Carl Lewis,
Anwarul Chowdhury, Roberta Flack
and others.



The Jewels of Happiness -
Audio Book Cover Art

Bahamas 11 Nov 2013 Nassau
Ministry of Youth, Sports and
Culture. and Press conference

Dr. Hepburn spoke about
the run , **Sri Chinmoy and
the service he rendered to
the United Nations and
international community
through numerous art,
sport and music
initiatives.**



Bahamas 13 Nov Nassau

Albury Sayle primary had a programme, on the theme of "**Peace, Harmony and Oneness throughout our Bahama Land**", as the banner says

Dr. Hepburn spoke, as well as handed out Jharna-Kala cards featuring Sri Chinmoy's Harmony artwork.



Nassau, Bahamas. 15
Nov at beautiful Thomas
A. Robinson National
Stadium for final event
Dr. Hepburn, spoke of
how **proud he was of
the Bahamas inspired
presentations many
schools have shared.**
He also **invited
runners to his home
island - Cat Island.**



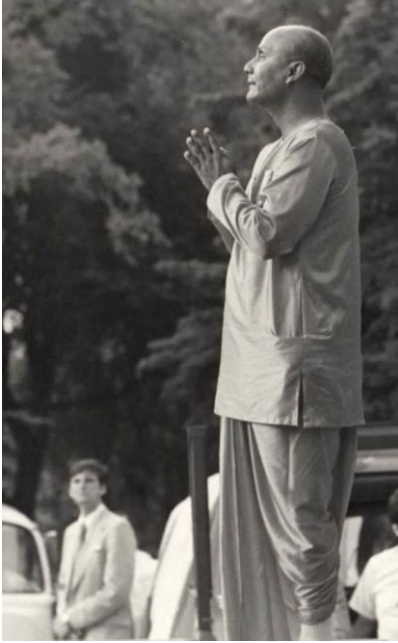
Message from Davidson
Hepburn celebrating 50th
anniversary of Sri
Chinmoy Arrival in west
April 2004.



Sri Chinmoy's 50th Anniversary of Arriving in America

- Message from Davidson L. Hepburn- 02 Apr 2014

It will soon be 50 years since Sri Chinmoy left his native Asian continent and came to America. Many have been the recipients of **his amazing good will, spiritual insight and practical approaches for all to do more and do better.** When I served as Ambassador of the Bahamas to the United Nations during the 1970's and 80s, I remember with affection and deep appreciation how much it meant to me to be with him and the others in the Peace Meditation group that he lead at the UN. It was so **wonderful to have those breaks from my sometimes stressful official duties and to have a spiritual lift.** It was a blessing to participate in the various programmes that **reminded one of deeply held UN goals, or to peacefully assimilate the prayerful atmosphere** created.



“On many occasions during special events I experienced a real oasis ...+

- through artistic and creative expressions such as poetry and especially, the inspirational songs of Sri Chinmoy performed by the Meditation Group Choir. In everything, Sri Chinmoy always seemed to be striving to help people understand and **work for a "Oneness-World"**. He encouraged a wonderful sense of oneness and **dedication to a higher purpose, far beyond** the hallowed halls of the United Nations, to the Americas, to Europe, Australia, Africa and his native, Asia. When I was President of the General Conference of UNESCO, I looked for ways **to encourage others by calling attention to how individuals can join** together to help our world. The growing influence of the "Peace and World Harmony Runs" founded by Sri Chinmoy in 1987, celebrates our common "Oneness" and is a **dynamic example** I used.

I highlighted eight activities of the Runs that I felt clearly supported the international community's goals and... showcased **practical actions that communities and individuals could take in our sometimes troubled world.** The value given to "**Diversity**" and the support for "**Inter Faith Acceptance**" are two goals that are seen as important for the future of our shared planet. **We must emulate his sympathy, acceptance and encouragement** of all our sisters and brothers in the world family.

Sri Chinmoy used **many tools to expand our connections** with each other including art, music, poetry, lectures and athletics

But **most important to me, continues to be his positive example no matter what was going on in the world.** He acknowledged difficulties, but always stressed that there was no reason to falter in our inner belief in higher values and potential for progress. He encouraged us to seek out **and listen to our inner voice by making sure we took time in our lives for prayer, meditation or quiet reflection,** each according to personal traditions or preferences. He encouraged us to work on self and community transcendence, to celebrate together when we could and **to embrace the future with all of its challenges.**

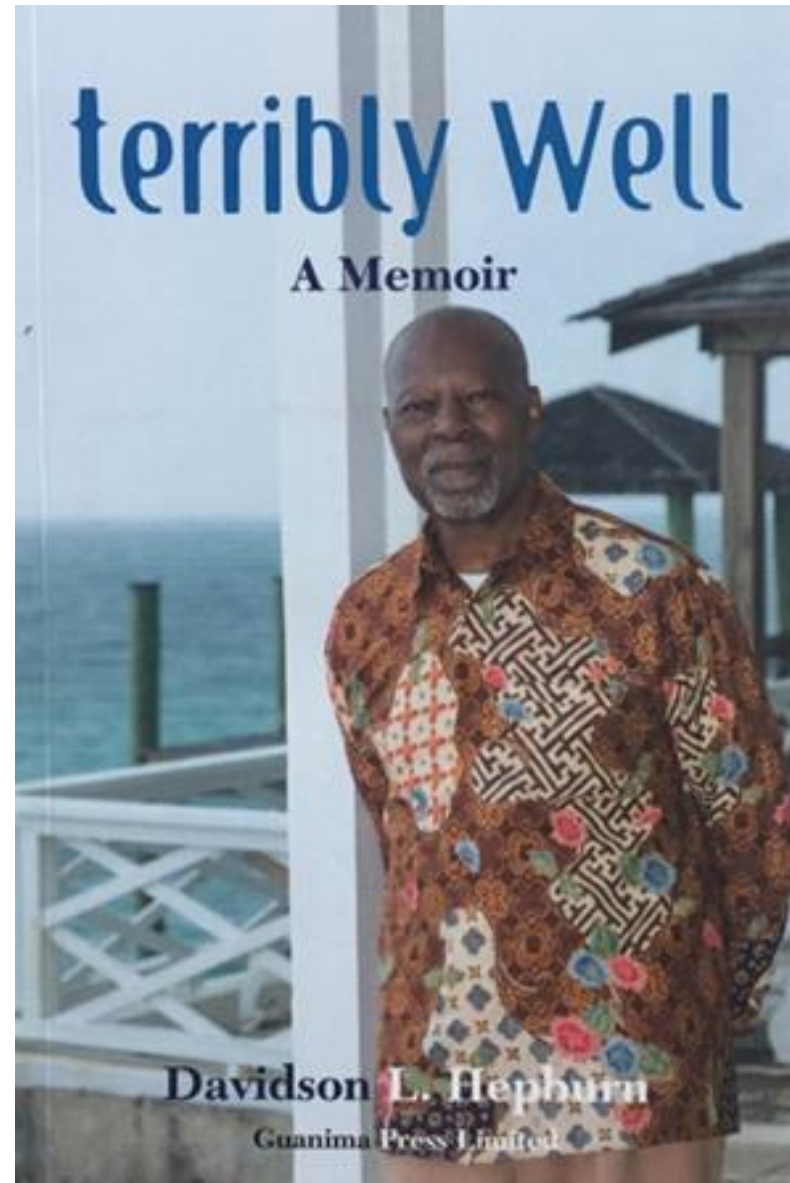
Sri Chinmoy taught us that even as our physical energy may falter **as we age, our spiritual dedication and good will toward the inner and outer progress of others, as well as self, must stay strong.** In the future, those who hear of Sri Chinmoy's multifaceted efforts will wonder how he did it all. I can attest **that even those who were alive at the time and watched him manifest so much, found it hard to comprehend the energy** behind all of the activities. I implore all who have felt this spirit in your heart to spread the vision of peace and a harmonious world.

Even small classes or workshops throughout the world that share some of **Sri Chinmoy's techniques and practical approaches for a fulfilling daily life, could continue to give much needed hope to many,** thus honouring the great work that Sri Chinmoy inspired. I send my best wishes and sincere appreciation.

“Terribly Well” 2014

Book by Davidson
Hepburn

notes experiences with
**Peace Meditation at the UN
and the World Harmony
and Peace Runs. Excerpts
from a section of the book
covering his early life in
Bahamas are part of the
“Writers Corner” of United
Nations SRC Society of
Writers web site**



Dr. Hepburn also
mentions
Aspiration
Ground Garden;
a surprise
Birthday cake
from Sri Chinmoy
in Bahamas;
2012 London
Olympics,
vegetarian
restaurants in NY,
and the many
good people he
met

Sharing inspiration
while visiting other
countries





Davidson
Hepburn in
New Zealand
– visits THE
LOTUS-
HEART–
vegetarian
restaurant
with friends
May 2016



Jan 13-17 2016 Dr. **Davidson Hepburn** came to Malta specifically to enjoy the country and **support the efforts of the World Harmony and Peace run events.**

In Goza, Dr. Hepburn shared why he feels peace is not just important but crucial to our continued well being,

In Sliema, with numerous luminaries from Malta and local UNESCO supporters. he shared his experiences with the run in various locations and about Sri Chinmoy's decades of service for world-peace at the UN and internationally.

In Valletta, D. Hepburn spoke, the runners sang and shared the torch for world-peace with Hon Louis Grech, Deputy Prime Minister of Malta

2016-jan-13 – in Goza,
(a separate island but
part of the Maltese
collection of islands.)

After a visit to local sights, at the ceremony
with local officials, young people and the
runners, Dr. Hepburn shared why he feels
peace is not just important but crucial to our
continued well being.



Malta 14 Jan Sliema

At this much
anticipated event. Dr.
Hepburn spoke along
with local dignitaries



Malta 15 Jan: Valletta

Meeting the Deputy Prime Minister

Runners sang
and **shared the torch** for world-peace with Hon Louis Grech,
Deputy Prime Minister of Malta.



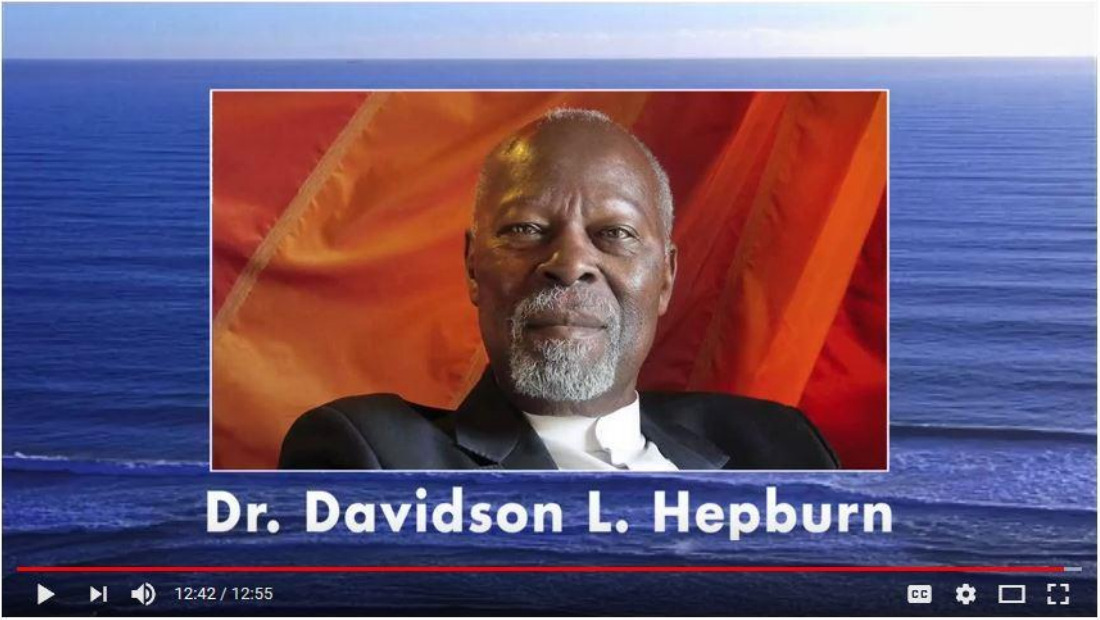
LIFE Voices 38: Interview with Dr. Davidson Hepburn: youtu.be video, published March 2016.

<https://youtu.be/IUs9qYKeUj8>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IUs9qYKeUj8

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Dr. Davidson L. Hepburn

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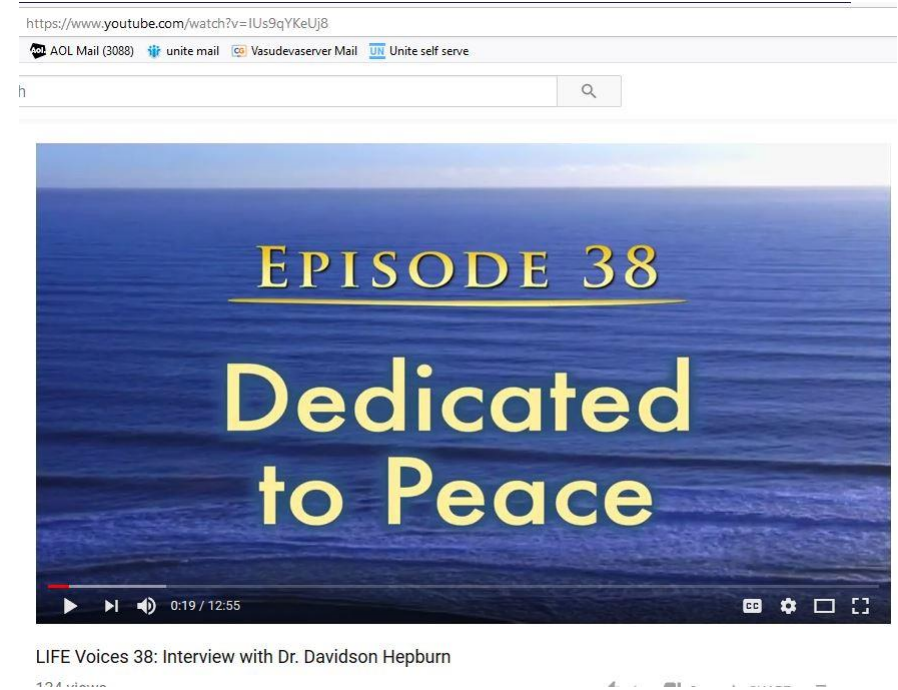
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Dr. Davidson L. Hepburn, the President of the 35th session of UNESCO's General Conference, served for 15 years at the United Nations, 10 of which as Ambassador of The Bahamas to UN. He has been involved with UNESCO since 1993 and has served as Chairman of The Bahamas National Commission to UNESCO, as well as Chairman of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations. In this episode of LIFE Voices he kindly agreed to speak about his career, his visions of peace and his relationship with Sri Chinmoy and the Peace Run.

Dr. Davidson Hepburn. for this episode of **LIFE Voices** kindly agreed to *speak about his career, his visions of peace and his relationship with Sri Chinmoy and the Peace Run.*

Produced 2016 by Kedar Misani,
kedarvideo Swtzerland



Dr. Hepburn visits Panorama Café, Queens NY, 09 Oct 2017

**Historical exhibit
of 1987-2017, Sri
Chinmoy
Oneness-Home
World Harmony
and Peace Run
Torches and
Photos from
events around the
world.**

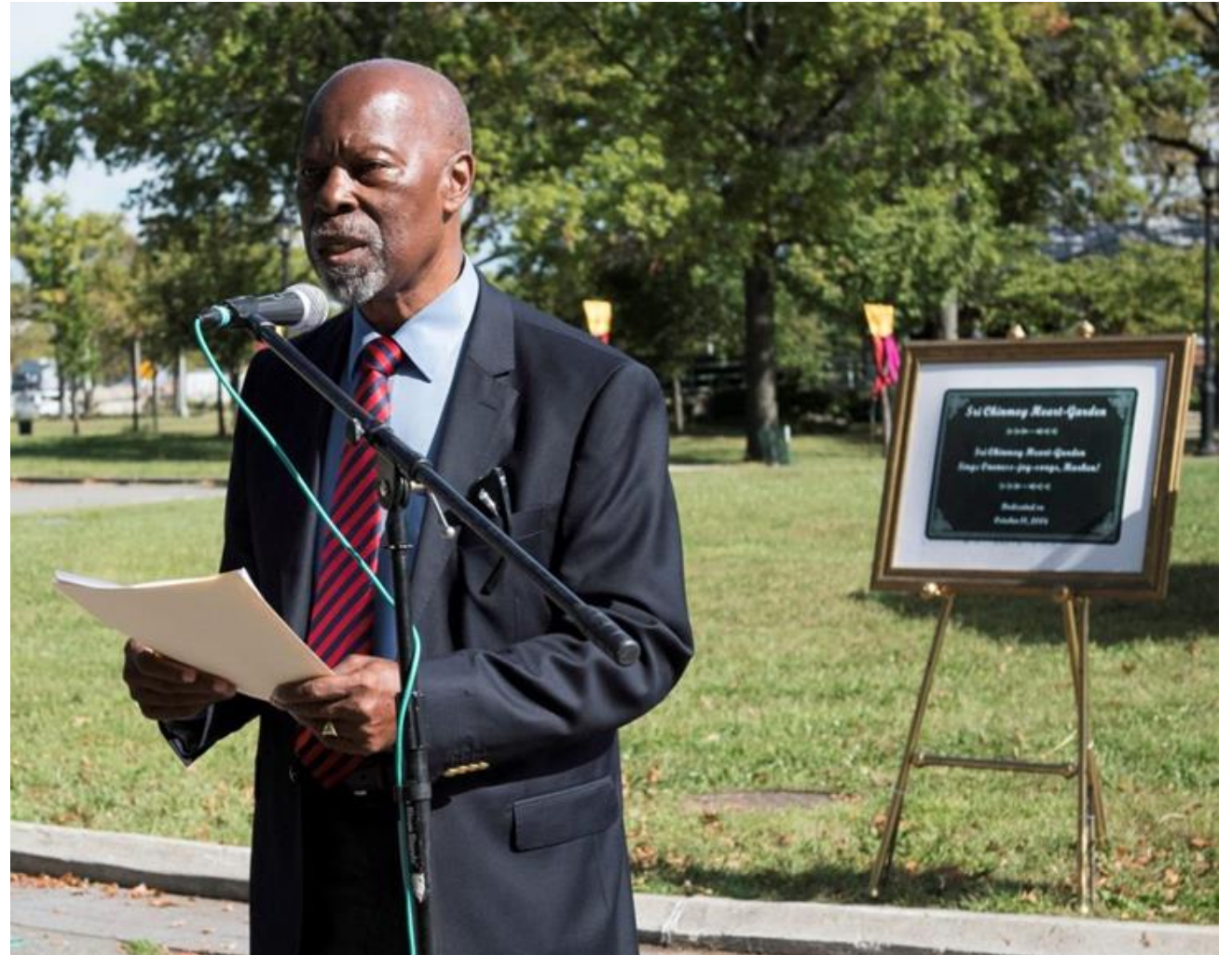


Dr. Hepburn, in NY with the Gallery of other celebrities who also held the Peace torch



N.Y Anniversary Run and observance 10 Oct 2017

Local officials, former Olympians and community leaders joined the **11th anniversary observance of the Sri Chinmoy Street and Heart-Garden** in Flushing Meadows Corona Park.. **Dr. Hepburn was the keynote speaker**



“Sri Chinmoy was more than a friend; he was a lover of peace and a servant of God. He **had a glow of peace and love from deep within.** I first met him in 1978 while Ambassador of the Bahamas to the UN. The Peace Meditation at the UN, which Sri Chinmoy led until his passing in 2007, **gave me and many other ambassadors and UN leaders much inner peace and strength.** “



Participants Lead Ceremonial Walk

Sri Chinmoy was an innovator for peace—all that he created was done with the goal of encouraging peace to grow within the hearts and lives of individuals, thereby fostering world-peace. I have seen hundreds of children run with boundless joy and enthusiasm – certain that they can make a difference for peace. Each child who holds the flaming peace torch will remember that moment his entire life.

Sri Chinmoy's initiatives bring millions of citizens into active service for our common planet. As we think of the United Nations proclaimed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) we know the *“oneness-world” vision that Sri Chinmoy encouraged adds energy and enthusiasm to practical steps required.*

2017 Oct 10 at Aspiration Ground
meditation garden in Queens NY,
**Daw Aye Aye Thant, daughter of
third UN Secretary-General U
Thant, Receives Sri Chinmoy
Culture-Light Award.**

**Dr. Hepburn, a previous
recipient of award, highlighted:**
U Thant's commitment and his
daughters work to keep his
vision alive which Sri Chinmoy
encouraged.



Dr. Hepburn's remarks:
Secretary-General U Thant: **supported UN SDGs long before they were called "sustainable development goals"**. He was man who was dedicated to Education (He had as **commitment to all aspects of universal peace before it was called "culture of peace"**)



Sri Chinmoy offers Secretary-General U Thant a bouquet of flowers at a meeting at UN 29 Feb 1972

Secondly, The work of Aye Aye and the **U Thant Institute have kept his vision alive**. With the unique understanding of her father's expanding vision she has encouraged all. Her wonderful dedication and personal example is a highlight of the award. These **continuing efforts are invoking more culture and more light — so needed in this world today**.

Thirdly, this **beautiful Aspiration Ground** is a most appropriate setting. **Here:** Light is valued and culture is valued. .. **Here:** Artists share soul stirring compositions. **Here:** We observe great attention to the detail that create and maintain a beautiful sacred space atmosphere. This is always a wonderful place to come for peace, and meditation and relaxation On entering this place **one feels culture, one feels light, one feels peace and most of all, one feels Oneness.**

So Obviously: U Thant, Sri Chinmoy, and Aye Aye all share **a profound love of oneness** and spirituality as a natural part of peace-building”



, Davidson Hepburn at
Aspiration Ground Oct
2017

“Those who are now peace-dreamers And God-lovers were definitely born with God-aspiration-flames deep within”. - Sri Chinmoy, My Morning Soul-Body Prayers, part 14, Agni Press, 2000



...More to come!—
from “Aspiration-Flames
deep within...”

**Introduction in Siem Reap Cambodia, 22 Jan 2018 – by adhiratha keefe
“Ambassador Hepburn, Brother Davidson” (from a song by Si Chinmoy
composed and sung for Dr. Hepburn in N.Y. July 2007)**

- **Inspiring Friend** of Sri Chinmoy: the Peace Meditation at U.N. for 4 decades.
- **Supporter** of the Global Oneness-Home World Harmony and Peace Runs
- **Peace-Dreamer** and **God-Lover** with “**aspiration-flames** deep within

On the World Stage

- **Permanent Representative of Bahamas to UN for 10 years**
- **President (2009 – 2011) of General Conference of the United Nations
Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)**

Most importantly is Davidson Hepburn’s continued friendship with
Sri Chinmoy, the Peace Meditation at the UN and all of us today.

Leader – Inspirer – Cheerleader; With Dedication – Humor - Humility;

Consistent and Determined

- **The first Meeting in 1978>**
 - When he **saw Sri Chinmoy and Sri Chinmoy Saw him.** International day of thanksgiving - Spoke of Peace and Harmony – way before the Peace and Harmony Runs
- One needs a **Clear Head, Good Heart and a strong voice**, to become a **positive influence on Decision Makers-** Especially working for peace and understanding. Davidson Hepburn saw many **initiatives Sri Chinmoy** was creating or inspiring as a **wonderful multi-Themed Painting.** His **encouragement.** And **specific support** helped **better frame** those multifarious **activities for the wider world.** More individuals were able to identify with **the goal of dynamic oneness and abiding peace.** His **wonderful voice amplified** these efforts.
- So Ambassador Hepburn, Brother Davidson – you have come **from 12 time zones** away to be with us today. **Please take a few steps further.** Our **brother friend,** distinguished representative of the **Oneness -World- Heart Home** As they say at the UN **you now have the floor sir..**

Summary bio

Dr Davidson Hepburn, former President of the General Conference of United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), 2009 –2011. Ambassador Hepburn, from the Bahamas, served for many years as his country's Permanent Representative to the UN and is a recipient of:

- the Order of the British Empire (OBE) from the United Kingdom;
- title of "Chevalier De La Legion D'Honneur" from the French Government;
- the Paul Harris Award of Rotary International; and of
- The Torch-Bearer Award for his work towards international friendship and understanding.

Conversant in English, French and Spanish Dr. Hepburn has excelled as a negotiator, writer and public speaker. An advocate of multicultural appreciation as well as expressions of interfaith cooperation and "oneness", Dr. Hepburn has also encouraged the Peace and World Harmony runs for many years