

## DRAFT

Peace Meditation at UN programs with gratitude and in support of:

- National, International or World Days of Prayer
  - World Gratitude Days
  - International Days of Thanksgiving
- 1975 – 30th Anniversary and 1985 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of UN
  - 1986 UN proclaimed: International Year of Peace
- Anniversaries of Meditation “Room of Quiet” at the UN

(Details of participants, reference or links to be added when time permits)

Date of Programme	Title of Programme	Country or other Participation	Source of reference	year	
1975 Jul 24	National Day of Prayer Observance at the United Nations	Inter-religious: Representatives of Christian, Jewish, Hindu, Buddhist, Baha’i and Muslim groups. The Rev. Dan M. Potter, Executive Director of the Council of Churches of the City of New York, called it the “most representative gathering of religious leaders ever held in this city”. Messages from US Senators received. Meditation lead by Sri Chinmoy	Picture and article in NY Times (25 Jul 1975?)  See also: Meditation at the United Nations – Monthly Bulletin of the Mediation Group Vol ?, No? page ? jul 1975 (special supplement with full programme)	1975	
1975 Sep 12	Ceremony in commemoration of the Opening of the 30 <sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly	Norma Levitt, Co-chair, World Union Progressive Judaism; Rev. Jih Tsang, Asst. abbot, Temple of Enlightenment, Muddassir Ali Shamsee, Leader Muslim Prayer Group, United Nations; Rev. Dan Potter, Executive Director, Council of Churches, City of New York.; David S. Burgess, Sr. Officer, United Nations Children’s Fund; Donald Keys, UN Rep, World Association of World Federalists, Statement from Secretary-General. Meditation lead by Sri Chinmoy – UN	Diplomatic World Bulletin 06 October 1975  See also: Meditation at the United Nations – Monthly Bulletin of the Mediation Group Vol ?, No? page ?	1975	

Date of Programme	Title of Programme	Country or other Participation	Source of reference	year	
		Meditation Group.			
1975 Oct 24	Spiritual Summit Conference at the United Nations to mark the 30th Anniversary - sponsored by the Temple of Understanding -Sri Chinmoy invited to lead opening meditation	Opening Meditation: Sri Chinmoy: Welcome: Secretary-General, Kurt Waldheim,, Introduction: Charles Mills & Dr. Evert Cousins, Temple of Understanding. Statement by Religious NGOs at UN; Inter-religious Addresses: Hinduism, Srimata Gayatri Devi; Buddhism, Lord Abbot Kosho Ohtani; Judaism, Rabbi Robert Gondis , Christianity, Mother Teresa, Christianity, Islam, Dr. Seyyed Hossein Nasr: Reading of Joint-Statement by Conference Chair, Dr. Jean Houston. Closing: Br. David Steind-Rast. See also program	Temple of Understanding Programme: “One is the Human Spirit” See also: Meditation at the United Nations – Monthly Bulletin of the Mediation Group Vol III, No9 page 41 Sep 1975	1975	
1975 Nov 25	Observance of International Day of Thanksgiving	Sri Chinmoy opening with silent prayer of gratitude and thanksgiving. Readings from : Rabindranath Tagore; Swedish Hymn of Olarus Petri; Saint Francis of Assisi; German Folk Poem, Russian Autumn of Y. Yevtushenko, Spanish poem of E. Gonzales; Peter Stewart, President of Thanks-giving Square paid tribute to the tradition and spirit of thanksgiving; Yueh Lung Ying His Dramatic group presented Traditional Chinese shadow theater. Closing –Netherlands Folk Song. Pr inted Programme included description of Harvest Festival or Thanksgiving traditions form: Japan, Indonesia, Switzerland, Africa.	Meditation at the United Nations – Monthly Bulletin of Mediation Group Vol III, No11, 27 Nov 1975	1975	
1976-Mar-22	Member of Meditation Group invited to meet with friends of Thanksgiving Square in Dallas Texas.	Include some details from ak notes		1976	
1976-05-Apr	Inter-religious Observance of World Day of Prayer: “Silence and Sound”	List participants include: Hosny Gaber, Islamic Center ,NY; Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum; Pir Vilayat Kahn,	Meditation at the United Nations – Monthly Bulletin of Mediation Group Vol 4, No 4, 27 Apr 1976, page 45.	1976	

Date of Programme	Title of Programme	Country or other Participation	Source of reference	year	
		Sufi Order in West, Sri Chinmoy from – programme notes			
1976-Nov-22	2 <sup>nd</sup> Observance of International Day of Thanksgiving	Mr. Waldo Stewart, Thanks-Giving Square foundation in Texas introduced film about Foundations inter-religious, international place of Gratitude. Haruna Kimura performed a dance of Invocation and thanksgiving called “Shima no Senzai” in the <b>Japanese</b> Kabuki style. In the evening an International Thanksgiving Dinner in Ex-ress Bar of UN was catered by Annam Brahma restaurant. Included a dramatic dance in celebration of Kawanza-First Fruits Festival by the Olatunji Center for <b>African</b> Culture	Meditation at the United Nations – Monthly Bulletin of Mediation Group Vol 4, No 11, 27 Nov 1976, page 31-35.	1976	
1976-Nov-25	Leader of UN Meditation Group Invited to Inaugural of Thanks-Giving Square in Dallas Texas	Represented by A. Keefe		1976	
1977-Aug-10	Sri Chinmoy invited to meditate and offer a musical performance by the organization which originally proposed the construction of a meditation room at the United Nations. Historical Background on Rooms establishment collected for the event.	Speaking: Alfred Sunderwirth, John Ballard for Laymen’s Movement + Wainwrite house. Francis Carpenter, former press officer <b>United States of America</b> mission. Robert Muller, UN Secretariat presented bust by Domenico Mazzone to Weyman Huckabee retired secretary-treasure Of Laymen’s movement.- Full description with photos – historical note	Meditation at the United Nations – Monthly Bulletin of Mediation Group Vol 5 No 8, 27 Aug 1977, Page 6 - 33	1977	
1977-Sep-12	Celebration of World Gratitude Day at the United Nations	Sri Chinmoy opened the programme with Mediations, speakers: Robert Mueller, Deputy USG,; Edna Lemle, founder and organizer World Gratitude Day; Mrs. Tamar de Sola Pool,; vice President WGD org.,	Meditation at the United Nations – Monthly Bulletin of Mediation Group Vol 5 No 9, 27 Sept 1977, Page 8 - 19	1977	
1977-Sep-14	Members of the Meditation Group invited to participate in the opening of the Hall of Thanksgiving, Dallas, Texas.	A. Keefe, R.Mueller		1977	
1977-Sep-21	Observance of World Gratitude Day at the World Gratitude Day headquarters in New York	Edna Lemle, founder and organizer World Gratitude Day; presents award to: Dr. Russell Barber NBC producer of The First Estate, Dr Ottley, Director of the Mormon Tabernacle	Meditation at the United Nations – Monthly Bulletin of Mediation Group Vol 5 No 9, 27 Sept 1977, Page 20 - 24	1977	

Date of Programme	Title of Programme	Country or other Participation	Source of reference	year	
		Choir, Salt Lake City .and Sri Chinmoy leader of Meditation Group at the UN. Also recognized: Judity Hollister, founder of interfaith Temple of Understanding and Rabbi Sally Preisend, first woman in American Judaism to attain rank of clergy.			
1977-Nov-15	Observance of the 20 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the UN Meditation Room and meeting with Foreign Minister Romulo of the Philippines.	Speaking: Monsignor Cheli Rep. of <b>Holy See</b> , Carlos Romulo, Secretary of Foreign Affairs of <b>Philippines</b> , Judith Hollister of <b>Wainwright House</b> . and Robert Mueller Deputy USG. Statement received from Andrew Young Permanent Rep of <b>USA</b> , <b>Peter Stewart</b> from Thanks-Giving Square, Terence Cardinal Cook Arch Bishop of NY. and Weyman Huckabe, Exec Director of a Laymen's Movement for a Christian World.	Meditation at the United Nations – Monthly Bulletin of Mediation Group Vol 5 No 11, 27 Nov 1977,.Page 21 – 30 and special publication issued gives fuller transcript	1977	
1977-Nov-21	International Day of Thanksgiving Observed	Speaking: Rossides of <b>Cyprus</b> , Karuhije of <b>Rwanda</b> , Asensio-Wunderlich of <b>Guatemala</b> , Dep USG Mueller and Esperson from <b>Thanks-Giving Square</b> . Message from Ibrahim of <b>Malaysia</b>	Bulletin of Mediation Group Vol 5 No 11, 27 Nov 1977,.Page 31 – 37 +Supplement to UN Meditation Group Bulletin for fuller record	1977	
1977-Nov-25	Meditation Group choir invited to open historic commemoration of the 200 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of America's Thanksgiving Day in Valley Forge, New York.	The singers performed Sri Chinmoy's Songs "World Gratitude" and "O My America" which marked the original Thanksgiving observed by George Washington 18 Dec 1977. event sponsored by National Thanksgiving Foundation was celebrated by the representatives of the armed forces, the clergy and the international community.	Meditation at the United Nations – Monthly Bulletin of Mediation Group Vol 5 No 12, 27 Dec 1977,.Page 64 – 65	1977	
1978-Nov-10	Memorial tribute to American artist Norman Rockwell – by Sri Chinmoy "America's vastness the world knows. America's oneness only a soul like Norman Rockwell could feel".	A song was also performed dedicated to Artist, works and music by Sri Chinmoy. See also Later USA gift to UN in 1985 "golden rule" – Rockwell mosaic made possible by thanksgiving foundation	Meditation at the United Nations – Monthly Bulletin of Mediation Group Vol.6 No 11, 27 Nov 1978,.Page 9 – 10	1978	

Date of Programme	Title of Programme	Country or other Participation	Source of reference	year	
1978-Nov-20	International Day of Thanksgiving observed	Speaking: Davidson L. Hepburn of <b>Bahamas</b> , G.C. Maina of <b>Kenya</b> , Harold Rose of <b>German Democratic Republic</b> , Zaim Iman of <b>Kuwait</b> , Owono Asangona of <b>Equatorial Guinea</b> , Christian Schmittlein of <b>Federal Republic of Germany</b> . Also Colonel Geiger present as representative of <b>Swedish Mission</b>	Meditation at the United Nations – Monthly Bulletin of Mediation Group Vol.6 No 11, 27 Nov 1978, page 20 - 27.	1978	
1979-Nov-16	Special emergency prayer and meditation service for the Iranian hostage crisis, in conjunction with the International Day of Thanksgiving, and talk on meditation in the Islamic religion	<b>Participants?</b> See diplomatic world bulletin.  Dr. Muhammad Abdul-Rauf  Check Details NOV 1979 bulletin of Med Goup	See Diplomatic World Bulletin Meditation at the United Nations – Monthly Bulletin of Mediation Group Vol.7 No 11, 27 Nov 1979, page ??????.	1979	
1980-Sep-22	Celebration of World Gratitude Day	Prayer by Sri Chinmoy, Offering by Sister Janet Richardson of <b>Holy See</b> Observer Mission to the United Nations	Meditation at the United Nations – Monthly Bulletin of Mediation Group Vol.8 No 9, 27 Sep 1980, page	1980	
1980-Nov-17	International Day of Thanksgiving Observed	Speaking: Amb Clark of <b>Nigeria</b> , Kamanda of <b>Zaire</b> , and Xifra of <b>Spain</b> ,		1980	
1980-Nov-27	Member of the Meditation Group invited to National Thanksgiving Ceremony, Thanksgiving Square, Dallas, Texas.	A. Keefe represented Mediation Group		1980	
1981-Jan-21	Special programme of thanksgiving in gratitude for the release of the U.S. hostages in Iran.	Speaking: H. Rickman Special Assistant to Mayor Koch of NYC, Rev. B. Hrico , Holy See ; D.Gleysteen, US Mission to UN ,Z.Rossides, Cyprus; also : M.Kergin, representing Canada; L. Lara, representing Philippines: (Related to International Day of Thanksgiving, 1979-Nov-16. )	Meditation at the United Nations – Monthly Bulletin of Mediation Group Vol.9 No 1 Jan 1981, page 12 - 24	1981	

Date of Programme	Title of Programme	Country or other Participation	Source of reference	year	
1981-Nov-20	Observance of International Day of Thanksgiving	Speaking: Philemon B.Dlamini, Mission of <b>Swaziland</b> ; Milan Kovarik, mission of <b>Czechoslovakia</b> , Kwadwo Oforu-Benefo, UN Secretariat on <b>Ghana</b> thanksgiving)		1981	
1982-May-07	Observance of National Day of Prayer			1982	
1982-Nov to Feb 1983	25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Meditation room of quiet at UN. Secretary-General Accepts first Declaration of World Thanksgiving 1982	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Members of meditation group assist in coordination of events, Amb Hepburn of Bahamas serves of MC at Presentation of Thanksgiving Proclamation to SG from religious leaders;</li> <li>o In Cooperation with Center for World Thanksgiving, outside meditation room of quiet.</li> <li>o First Declaration of World Thanksgiving was written by Fellows of World Thanksgiving – educators, philosophers, statesmen, and theologians – from around the world.</li> <li>o Twelve internationally known leaders were then invited to approve the declaration by signing it.</li> <li>o It was then presented to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for the whole human family. Each year since, a new declaration has been approved by twelve more</li> </ul>	Confirm exact date  <a href="http://www.thanksgiving.org/tgsstudyguides/thanksgivingculture.htm">http://www.thanksgiving.org/tgsstudyguides/thanksgivingculture.htm</a>	1982 - 1983	
1983-Nov-23	Celebration of International Day of Thanksgiving	<b>Participants?</b>		1983	
1984-Sep-21	Meditation Group members invited to perform at 20 <sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of World Gratitude Day.			1984	
1985-Sep-21	Members of Meditation Group invited to participate in World Gratitude ceremony.			1985	
1985-Sep-24	Programme to honour Meditation Group member Adhiratha Keefe of Unicef for his English Channel swim in tribute to the United nations 40 <sup>th</sup>	See also 1986 Jan 01 and Jan 24 commemorating UN's Int'l 1986 Year of Peace	NY times 24-sept-1985 <a href="http://www.adhiratha.net/www/swim1/1986-UN-Year/1986-swim-06-NY-Times-24-2ep-1985-">http://www.adhiratha.net/www/swim1/1986-UN-Year/1986-swim-06-NY-Times-24-2ep-1985-</a>	1985	

Date of Programme	Title of Programme	Country or other Participation	Source of reference	year	
	Anniversary		<a href="#">unnotes.pdf</a>		
1985-Nov-21	Tenth anniversary of the observance of International Day of Thanksgiving, held in Washington, DC in cooperation with the Peace Meditation at Congress	<b>Participants?</b>		1985	
1986-Jan-01	Inauguration of a series of “peace swims” by members of the Peace Meditation to focus attention on the United Nations International Year of Peace , held on Miyajima Island in Hiroshima, Japan.	35 locations including in Japan, USA, Panama, Argentina, Chile, Peru, Venezuela	See excerpts of Secretariat News and other world press coverage: <a href="http://www.adhiratha.net/www/swim1/1986-UN-Year/swim1986-list.htm">http://www.adhiratha.net/www/swim1/1986-UN-Year/swim1986-list.htm</a>	1986	
1986-Jan-24	Closing ceremony of 3.200 mile transcontinental peace run – first US of America sport event commemorating the United Nations International Year of Peace.	by a member of the World Harmony Run Team: Bangshidhar Charles Medeiros		1986	
1986-Nov-25	Programme celebrating the International Day of Thanksgiving	<b>Participants?</b>		1986	
1988-Sep-21	Participation in the World Gratitude Day celebrations, New York City.			1988	
1989-Sep-21	Participation in the World Gratitude Day celebrations, New York City.			1989	
1989-Nov-24	Celebration of the International Day of Thanksgiving, dedicated to the developments between the Federal Republic of Germany and the German Democratic Republic;	with guest speakers Robert Muller, former Assistant Secretary-General, and Moorhead Kennedy of the American Forum for Global Education.		1989	
1990-Sep-21	Participation in the World Gratitude Day celebrations, New York City.			1990	
1991-Nov-26	Thanksgiving programme and reception in honour of the 46th Session of the UN General Assembly,	with remarks by H.E. Ambassador Stanley Kalpage, Permanent Representative of <b>Sri Lanka</b> to the		1991	

Date of Programme	Title of Programme	Country or other Participation	Source of reference	year	
		UN; and H.E. Ambassador Perezi Karukubiro Kamunanwire, Permanent Representative of <b>Uganda</b> to the UN			
1992-Nov-24	Peace Concert by Sri Chinmoy and luncheon as a Thanksgiving offering to UN delegates and staff			1992	
1993- and beyond	Programme celebrating the International Day of Thanksgiving	<b>Participants?</b>		1993 and beyond	
1996-Nov-21	Sri Chinmoy offered a moment of silence at an Interfaith Ceremony presenting the 1996 Declaration of World Thanksgiving to Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali;	Sri Chinmoy also presented the Secretary-General with a book after the ceremony 21 November	Press release SG/SM/6113 <a href="http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/1996/19961125.sgsm6113.html">http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/1996/19961125.sgsm6113.html</a>	1996	