

# In celebration of United Nations Day

Featuring songs composed by Sri Chinmoy, Founder of The Peace Meditation at the United Nations, performed by vocal and instrumental ensembles

Thursday, 24 October 2013, 1-2 p.m. Dag Hammarskjöld Auditorium, United Nations, New York

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



Sponsored by the United Nations SRC Music Appreciation Society

## Secretaries-General on United Nations Day

"The United Nations is – in fact as well as theory – indispensable to peace." —Trygve Lie, United Nations Day, 1950

"The United Nations was born out of a great hope and was inspired by expectations of a bright future. The United Nations stands today strengthened by the dramatic approach to universality." —Dag Hammarskjöld, United Nations Day, 1960

> "There is so much good in men and in nations. The interests that unite us are far more significant than those that divide us." —U Thant, United Nations Day, 1970

"With the support of all the Governments and peoples of the world, our task is to go forward with determination to ensure a better life in larger freedom for all mankind." —Kurt Waldheim, United Nations Day, 1980

"The United Nations embodies the movement for peace. It is a movement which calls for the courage to understand the aspirations and interests of others. Above all, it calls for utmost and unreserved commitment. On United Nations Day, I appeal to all to make this commitment afresh." —Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, United Nations Day, 1982

"The United Nations is a work in progress.

Just as our predecessors strove to give us a world organization capable of dealing with the challenges of the age, so our task is to prepare the United Nations of the twenty-first century." —Boutros Boutros-Ghali, United Nations Day, 1996

"More clearly than ever, the United Nations represents the whole human family. And never has the human family needed the United Nations more than it does today.... So let us cherish our United Nations. And let us give every human being a stake in its success." —Kofi Annan, United Nations Day, 2002

 "United Nations Day is a chance to recognize how much this invaluable Organization contributes to peace and common progress....
We continue to show what collective action can do. We can do even more. In a world that is more connected, we must be more united.
On United Nations Day, let us pledge to live up to our founding ideals and work together for peace, development and human rights."
—Ban Ki-moon, United Nations Day, 2013 In 1970, Secretary-General U Thant invited spiritual leader Sri Chinmoy to conduct twice-weekly non-denominational peace meditations for delegates and staff at UN Headquarters in New York. Until his passing in 2007, Sri Chinmoy brought his multifaceted inspiration to the United Nations family through meditations, lectures, concerts, art exhibits and special programmes.

Singers from *The Peace Meditation at the United Nations* are honoured to perform songs composed by Sri Chinmoy at the UN and other venues around the world. Today's vocal arrangements of Sri Chinmoy's compositions have been created by the singers.

"Today is UN Day. What does UN Day signify? It signifies a day of universal hope, a day of universal promise, a day of universal peace and a day of universal oneness....To us, the United Nations is not a mere building, it is not a mere concept, it is not wishful thinking or even a dream. It is a reality which is growing, glowing and manifesting its radiance here, there, all-where, throughout the length and breadth of the world. All those who are sincerely crying for a oneness-family, according to their receptivity, are receiving light from the soul of the United Nations."

–Sri Chinmoy United Nations Day, 1978 Dag Hammarskjöld Auditorium

For information: 718 291 0364

Selected writings by Sri Chinmoy, Founder of The Peace Meditation at the United Nations

Offered on the occasion of

United Nations Day 24 October 2013 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. Peace we feel. Love we become. Oneness we manifest.<sup>1</sup>

To serve the unique capacity of the United Nations is to be blessed with a golden opportunity and a fruitful privilege.<sup>2</sup>

Peace we achieve when we do not expect anything from the world, but only give, give and give unconditionally what we have and what we are.<sup>3</sup>

To me, the United Nations is great. Why? Because it has high principles. To me, the United Nations is good. Why? Because it leaves no stone unturned to transform these principles into living realities.<sup>4</sup>

- O dreamers of peace, come. Let us walk together.
- O lovers of peace, come. Let us run together.
- O servers of peace, come. Let us go together.⁵

Do not stop dreaming! One day your world-peace-dream Will inundate the entire world.<sup>6</sup>

The League of Nations was a dream-seed. The United Nations is a reality-plant. The aspiring and serving life of man's universal oneness will be the Eternity-Tree.<sup>7</sup>



What does United Nations Day signify? It signifies a day of universal hope, a day of universal promise, a day of universal peace and a day of universal oneness.<sup>\*</sup>

Peace does not mean the absence of war. Peace means the presence of harmony, love, satisfaction and oneness. Peace means a flood of love in the world family. Peace means the unity of the universal heart and the oneness of the universal soul.<sup>9</sup>

World-peace Can be achieved When the power of love Replaces The love of power.<sup>10</sup>

Do not blame the world; better it. How? By bettering yourself at every moment.<sup>11</sup>

If we can all become good citizens Of the world, Then the face and fate of the world Will change overnight.<sup>12</sup>

Be a genuine ambassador of good will To all nations. You will immediately win The universal Love And the transcendental Blessings From Above.<sup>13</sup>



Try not to change the world. You will fail. Try to love the world. Lo, the world is changed. Changed forever.<sup>14</sup>

The United Nations sings one song: the song that says it is love-power that will conquer the world. No other power can conquer the world.<sup>15</sup>

The language of the heart Is the only language That everybody can understand.<sup>16</sup>

When the heart is happy, it embraces the whole world.<sup>17</sup>

The inner heart of the United Nations is flooded with peace. The outer heart of the United Nations is trying to spread peace all over the world.<sup>18</sup>

Our differences disappear The moment we come to realise That all hearts are one.<sup>19</sup>

At the end of its voyage, there is every possibility that the United Nations will be the last word in human perfection.<sup>20</sup>

From time immemorial, history has been dealing with tyrants and liberators. Before long, it will have to deal seriously with peacemakers.<sup>21</sup>

The living inner reality says that the role of the United Nations is to serve not individuals as such, not nations as such, but the cry that is inside the world, the cry that is inside each human being on earth.<sup>22</sup>



Today's United Nations sees the nations as true friends. Tomorrow's United Nations will see the nations as real sisters and brothers.<sup>23</sup>

The fulness of life lies in dreaming and manifesting the impossible dreams.<sup>24</sup>

Impossibility Always bows To humanity's Patience-mountain.<sup>25</sup>

Daring enthusiasm and abiding cheerfulness Can accomplish everything on earth Without fail.<sup>26</sup>

There shall come a time When this world of ours Will be flooded with peace. Who is going to bring about This radical change? It will be you and I and we all together. Our oneness-hearts will spread peace Throughout the length and breadth Of the world.<sup>27</sup>



#### Sources

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- 27 Sri Chinmoy, Peace-Lovers, p. 231. New York: Professors for Peace, 1997.

In 1970, Secretary-General U Thant invited spiritual leader Sri Chinmoy to conduct twice-weekly non-denominational peace meditations for delegates and staff at UN Headquarters in New York. Until his passing in 2007, Sri Chinmoy brought his multifaceted inspiration to the United Nations family through meditations, lectures, concerts, art exhibits and special programmes, and these activities continue to this day. In honour of UN Day 2013, members of the Peace Meditation group offer this selection of Sri Chinmoy's writings, drawn from some of his essays, lectures and poems.

Artwork by Sri Chinmoy

For information: 718 291 0364

### WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF SRI CHINMOY : THE PEACE MEDITATION AT THE

#### UNITED NATIONS

In 1970, Secretary-General U Thant invited spiritual leader Sri Chinmoy to conduct twice-weekly non-denominational peace meditations for delegates and staff at UN Headquarters in New York. Until his passing in 2007, Sri Chinmoy brought his multifaceted inspiration to the United Nations family through meditations, lectures, concerts, art exhibits and special programmes, and these activities continue to this day. In honour of UN Day 2013, members of the Peace Meditation group offer this selection of Sri Chinmoy's writings, drawn from some of his essays, lectures and poems.

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