## **SRI CHINMOY**

Dreamer of World-Oneness



18 June 1980



3 June 1997



CE/AWARD

President Mikhail Gorbachev Raisa Maximovna Gorbachev 16 October 1994



President Nelson Mandela 20 September 1998



Princess Diana 21 May 1997

Sri Chinmoy tirelessly dedicated his life to the dream of world peace and to the fulfilment of the unlimited potential of the human spirit. A prolific author, poet, artist and musician, an avid athlete, a respected spiritual leader, a dedicated peace-lover, and a devoted humanitarian, Sri Chinmoy— who passed on in 2007— continues to inspire and encourage countless people around the world through his creative endeavours, through innovative peace activities, and through the example of his own life.

#### **Literature and Lectures**

In nearly 1,600 books of poetry, essays, plays and short stories, Sri Chinmoy conveys the richness and diversity of the quest for peace and self-discovery. His books have been translated into dozens of languages and have been published by major publishers around the world. Sri Chinmoy offered hundreds of inspiring talks, including invited lectures at the world's most distinguished universities.

#### **Music and Concerts**

Sri Chinmoy composed over 21,000 prayerful songs which, in their lyrics and in their melodies, explore the length and breadth of the aspiring human experience. He performed his songs in more than 770 Peace Concerts to half a million people around the globe, always free of charge. A versatile musician, Sri Chinmoy performed on a dozen or more instruments in concert.

#### Jharna-Kala Artist

Sri Chinmoy's vast outpouring of art continues to give people joy and inspiration at galleries worldwide. He named his art *Jharna-Kala* — "Fountain-Art" in his native Bengali — to signify art flowing from the Source of inspiration. His works include more than 140,000 acrylic and watercolour paintings, as well as over sixteen million peace-bird drawings which symbolise the peace and freedom of the soul.

#### **Service to the United Nations**

In the spring of 1970, at the invitation of then United Nations Secretary-General U Thant, Sri Chinmoy began leading twice-weekly Peace Meditations at the UN for delegates and staff. *Sri Chinmoy: The*  Peace Meditation at the United Nations, as this meditation group is now called, also sponsors an ongoing series of programmes, lectures and concerts to promote world peace, often in cooperation with UN Member States as well as with organisations supporting the ideals and goals of the United Nations.

#### Weightlifter, Runner and Athlete

Sri Chinmoy advocates physical fitness as a means of developing one's outer capacity and inner potential. He was himself an avid tennis player, sprinter, jumper and record-holding weightlifter, and completed twenty-two marathons and five ultramarathons. He also founded the Sri Chinmoy Marathon Team, which sponsors some 500 athletic events annually, from two-mile races to the world's longest running race of 3,100 miles.

#### **Humanitarian Service**

Since 1991 *The Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles* worldwide humanitarian service has provided disaster relief, medical and educational supplies, and developmental assistance to those in need. Unique programmes like *Kids to Kids* bring joy to the lives of thousands of underprivileged children while building the bonds of love and goodwill between peoples and nations.

#### **World Harmony Run**

In 1987 Sri Chinmoy founded the *World Harmony Run*, history's longest and largest relay run for peace. Every two years, the Harmony Run carries a flaming torch through more than 100 countries, passing it from hand to hand and from heart to heart, bringing together people from different cultures, backgrounds and beliefs in the spirit of friendship and harmony.

#### Sri Chinmoy Centres

Sri Chinmoy's dedication to fostering peace in the aspiring heart of humanity continues through the work of the Sri Chinmoy Centres. The 350 non-profit Sri Chinmoy Centres around the world are composed of individuals from all faiths who seek to cultivate peace, harmony and goodwill within themselves and within their communities. **Mother Teresa** Founder, Missionaries of Charity Nobel Peace Laureate, 1979

**Mikhail Gorbachev** President of the USSR (1985-1991) Nobel Peace Laureate, 1990

#### **Nelson Mandela**

President of South Africa (1994-1999) Nobel Peace Laureate, 1994

**Desmond Tutu** Archbishop of Cape Town (1986-1996) Nobel Peace Laureate, 1984

**Carl Lewis** Nine-time Olympic Gold Medallist

Muhammad Ali Three-time World Heavyweight Boxing Champion (1964, 1974, 1978) Thank you for all you are to God, for the beautiful work you have done for the glory of God and the good of souls. I keep you in my prayer and I count on your continual support through your prayers and sacrifices that we may do God's work with great love for His greater glory. *-27 Jun 1997* 

Your deeds are invaluable, for they cannot be measured by any economic or political parameters; they are noble and cure the human soul. -27 Mar 1995

Your untiring efforts and continuous travels worldwide to spread the message of the oneness of humanity are indeed admirable, my brother, and we offer all our support and encouragement for your initiatives. -26 Aug 1997

You are part of the spiritual force of Love that emanates from God... Thank you for persisting and going on, going on. Perhaps the world continues in existence only because of people like yourself, who help to hold it in being. -16 Mar 2004

Sri Chinmoy stands for all the things that we hope we can believe in in our lives, and that's peace, that's being the best you can be, and also that's one-ness. *-11 Sep 1991* 

Sri Chinmoy has done so much in the last twenty-five years to make a better world for all of us. The world badly needs more peaceful and loving men like Sri Chinmoy. -20 Apr 1989

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