Songs of Peace Songs and poems by Sri Chinmoy dedicated to the United Nations

Published in honour of the upcoming
United Nations 75th Anniversary

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Second edition

The first edition of this book was presented to Francesco Pisano, Head of the United Nations Library, by Ranjana K. Ghose, Director of the Jharna-Kala Art Foundation, at the opening of the exhibit of Sri Chinmoy's Paintings for World Peace and Harmony at the UN Office at Geneva on 6 June 2017.

This is the 1,623rd book of Sri Chinmoy's creative works published since his arrival in the West in 1964. Sri Chinmoy's first book, *Meditations: Food for the Soul*, was published in 1970.

This collection of songs and poetry by Sri Chinmoy dedicated to the United Nations is published in honour of the United Nations upcoming 75th anniversary.

Poems compiled from various publications by Sri Chinmoy. The original source is cited for each selection.

> All bird drawings by Sri Chinmoy. Photo on the back cover by Ranjana K. Ghose.

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Introduction

In the spring of 1970, at the invitation of then Secretary-General U Thant, Sri Chinmoy began conducting twice-weekly non-denominational meditations for peace for United Nations delegates and staff at UN Headquarters in New York. Until his passing in 2007, Sri Chinmoy offered his multifaceted inspiration to the UN community through these meditations and through lectures, concerts, art exhibits and other programmes for peace. In a prolific outpouring of poems, essays and songs dedicated to the UN, he encouraged individuals of all faiths, races and nationalities to seek peace in their lives and to bring this peace to their work for the United Nations.

Sri Chinmoy: The Peace Meditation at the United Nations (Peace Meditation Group), as the group established by the spiritual leader is known, continues to host meditations and other activities to promote world harmony, often in cooperation with UN Member States and organizations which support the ideals and goals of the United Nations.

Sri Chinmoy also founded a Non-Governmental Organization accredited with the UN Department of Public Information, the international Sri Chinmoy Centre, which promotes a culture of peace, and provides humanitarian aid.

The songs in this collection are selected from hundreds composed by Sri Chinmoy for the UN, and are dedicated to the upcoming United Nations 75th anniversary. Also included in this volume is a selection of Sri Chinmoy's poetry, along with excerpts from his various talks about the UN.

By immersing oneself in these lofty visions, one will be uplifted and reminded of the profound significance of the United Nations and its powerful role in the world arena.

In the prophetic words of Sri Chinmoy: "The inner vision of the United Nations is the gift supreme. A day will dawn when the vision of the United Nations will save the world."

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Poems and Essays on the United Nations

Following are selected poems and excerpts from Sri Chinmoy's essays and talks conveying his vision for the United Nations and for a peaceful oneness-world.

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, The Tears of Nation-Hearts, 1977

The most important thing to remember while working at the United Nations is the vision of the United Nations.

- Sri Chinmoy, Flame-Waves, Part 10, 1978

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.

- Sri Chinmoy, The Tears of Nation-Hearts, 1977

The United Nations is the morning. World union is the day.

- Sri Chinmoy, Union-Vision, 1975

The ancient dream of cooperation is not just a human dream that has nothing to do with reality. This ancient dream is not a dream at all but a faultless and divine vision – an unhorizoned vision that is slowly, steadily and unerringly shaping our individual and collective destiny as humanity marches towards its supreme goal of universal oneness and transcendental newness.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

The real worth of the United Nations lies in the united principles of its members. It is in these united principles that one can see the fruit of true inner oneness and divine perfection.

- Sri Chinmoy, The Garland of Nation-Souls, 1972

Peace does not mean the absence of war. Peace means the presence of harmony, love, satisfaction and oneness.

- Sri Chinmoy, A Heart of Peace, 1997

Be a genuine ambassador of good will to all nations. You will immediately win the universal love and the transcendental blessings from above.

- Sri Chinmoy, Ten Thousand Flower-Flames, Part 43, #4230, 1982

To create a perfect world, we must become a song of interdependence.

- Sri Chinmoy, Seventy-Seven Thousand Service-Trees, Part 34, #33,849, 2003

The greatest mistake in life is to remain indifferent to the world situation.

- Sri Chinmoy, Seventy-Seven Thousand Service-Trees, Part 28, #27,373, 2002

Do not stop dreaming! One day your world-peace-dream will inundate the entire world.

- Sri Chinmoy, Twenty-Seven Thousand Aspiration-Plants, Part 201, #200,031, 1994

The greatness of each nation lies in its deep love for other nations and in its self-giving to other nations.

- Sri Chinmoy, The Tears of Nation-Hearts, 1977

Problems are everywhere. Each country has hundreds of problems. Each individual has hundreds of problems. But problems can be solved, should be solved and must be solved by individuals first. If each individual dives deep into his own countless problems, he comes to realise that there is only one problem, and that problem is lack of oneness.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

World-unity is of paramount importance. If all the countries join together for a positive common goal, the very act of their being together is something laudable. Only this approach will eventually save the world and the planet.

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.

- Sri Chinmoy, The Tears of Nation-Hearts, 1977

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.

- Sri Chinmoy, The Tears of Nation-Hearts, 1977

The United Nations is like the ocean. Each Mission is a flowing river entering into the ocean with hope, with eagerness and with a willingness to become part and parcel of the ocean.

- Sri Chinmoy, The Tears of Nation-Hearts, 1977

The United Nations is not a mere building. It is not a mere concept. It is a reality which is growing, glowing and manifesting its radiance here, there and all-where.

- Sri Chinmoy, The Inner Role of the United Nations, 1993

One day the world will not only treasure and cherish the soul of the United Nations, but will also claim the soul of the United Nations as its very own with enormous pride, for this soul is all-loving, all-nourishing and all-fulfilling.

- Sri Chinmoy, The Garland of Nation-Souls, 1972

First there was the League of Nations. Now we see the United Nations. From the United Nations we shall see a Oneness-World, and inside this Oneness-World we shall see the song of self-transcendence, world-transcendence, universal transcendence.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

The United Nations unmistakably has the soul-peace and the heart-dedication to be the first and foremost instrument of human unification.

- Sri Chinmoy, The Garland of Nation-Souls, 1972

A heart of peace is the dearest member of the oneness-family.

- Sri Chinmoy, Twenty-Seven Thousand Aspiration-Plants, Part 185, #18,464, 1984

One can best serve the United Nations by keeping in one's heart the main principles of the United Nations: world peace, world harmony, world transformation and world oneness.

- Sri Chinmoy, Flame-Waves, Part 9, 1978

The world is constantly evolving towards a higher standard of life. It is not moving in a straight line, but rather in a spiral. Therefore, at times this progress is not immediately noticeable. To our human mind it may seem confusing and baffling. But on the strength of our inner oneness with the world situation and world evolution, we can see unmistakably the world's slow and steady progress.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

The inner vision of the United Nations is the gift supreme. A day will dawn when the vision of the United Nations will save the world.

- Sri Chinmov, The Tears of Nation-Hearts, 1977

What the United Nations brings to the world are the vision of peace and the promise of total perfection and total satisfaction in the oneness-world-family.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

World acceptance, world concern, world patience, world sympathy and world oneness give my life a peace-fountain-heart.

- Sri Chinmoy, Peace-Blossom-Fragrance, Part 4, #375, 1994

Mine is the wisdom-light that tells me to ask not for a lighter burden, but for a stronger heart.

- Sri Chinmoy, Ten Thousand Flower-Flames, Part 9, #900, 1981

I do not give up, I never give up, for there is nothing in this entire world that is irrevocably unchangeable.

- Sri Chinmoy, Twenty-Seven Thousand Aspiration-Plants, Part 3, #233, 1983

I acquire peace not from solitude but from my world-servitude.

- Sri Chinmoy, Peace: God's Fragrance-Heart, Part 1, #48, 1992

Here in the United Nations is where the vision of oneness took birth and sent its illumining light to the four corners of the globe.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

The role of the United Nations will not come to an end after the establishment of peace on earth. To have world peace is just the beginning; it is not and cannot be the end of human achievement. The earth also has to grow into a new light and achieve a new harmony and a new fulfilment.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

When the reality of the United Nations starts bearing fruit, then the breath of Immortality will be a living reality on earth.

- Sri Chinmoy, The Tears of Nation-Hearts, 1977

There shall come a time when this world of ours will be flooded with peace. Who will bring about this radical change? It will be you – you and your sisters and brothers – you and your oneness-heart will spread peace throughout the length and breadth of the world.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Heart's Salutation to Australia, Part 2, 1976

There is no difference between meditating for peace, light and bliss for ourselves and meditating for peace, light and bliss for the soul of the United Nations. For on the strength of our oneness we claim the body, heart and soul of the United Nations as our own. If we have this wider outlook and larger vision, then no matter for whom we pray and meditate, it is ultimately for our benefit since all human beings are part and parcel of one universal family.

All those who are at the United Nations have definitely come to bring about peace. When we pray and meditate here, it is not only for the seekers who attend the meeting; it is for everyone. We are all members of the same world-family.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

A portion of the soul of the United Nations is inside all the people who work for the United Nations in some capacity....The soul of the United Nations dreams of a beautiful, peaceful and fruitful world in and through each individual worker at the United Nations.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

The most important aspect of your work at the United Nations should be to prove to yourself that you are a worthy member of the United Nations world-family. This you can do only by always keeping in front of you the lofty vision and powerful messages that the United Nations over the years has offered to you and which it offers to you still. You should not dwell upon its failures. You should see only its success and feel only its progress—its gradual success in its outer life of dedication and its gradual progress in its inner life of aspiration. During your daily work, try to keep in front of your mental vision the good things that the United Nations has done and what it has become—rather than what it has not done or what it is not going to accomplish.

The day shall dawn in the near or distant future when the United Nations will definitely achieve and grow into everything that is good and divine. But just because it has not achieved these things at this particular stage of its development, just because over the years it has encountered failure in some of its efforts, we cannot say that the vision of the United Nations is imperfect or that it will not succeed. No, it will succeed—slowly, steadily and unerringly. And for that, each individual member has a significant role to play according to his own inner awakening.

When we look at the body of the United Nations, we will look with our concern; we will see that humanity is depending on the vision of the United Nations to lead it to greater progress. And when we think of the soul or the inner reality of the United Nations, we have to feel that its fulfilment can take place only on the strength of our own self-giving. We have to give ourselves to the vision and the goal that the United Nations has placed before us: world peace, world harmony and oneness-light.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

If the mind is inundated with confidence, if the heart is inundated with patience and if the vital is inundated with dynamism, then we can easily have a far-reaching vision of the United Nations.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

The soul of the United Nations will never fail. Unconditionally it will carry the body, the vital and the heart of the United Nations to the destined Goal, transforming today's vision into tomorrow's reality. And that reality will be infinitely brighter than our present-day vision can even imagine.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

Just because today there is often a yawning gulf between vision and reality, between our idea of the future and the ideal that actually awaits us, we cannot say that we shall always be doomed to failure. We cannot say that the present-day hope, which is nothing short of frustration, can never meet with the ultimate fulfilment, which is the promise from Above. No, we must continue to strive for perfection.

Each time we pray and meditate at the United Nations, let us energise our hope. When we dive deep within, let us try to remind ourselves of the lofty promise that we are carrying. The physical in us, the vital in us, the mental in us are embodying hope. At the same time, the Divine in us is embodying promise. When hope and promise work together, fulfilment cannot remain a far cry.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

If you are flexible in your ideas, if you are adaptable to circumstances, then it is infinitely easier to manifest the truth not only here at the United Nations but everywhere. The outer reality or the outer consciousness has to be flexible so that the inner reality and inner vision can manifest itself most effectively.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

The pilots of the United Nations are serving mankind in the world arena, according to their capacity. We can also do the same type of service on a limited scale, according to the capacity we have. Our prayer has solid strength. This solid strength we can offer to them in silence, from our inner life of dedication to the world.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

Those who are awakened, those who are truly self-giving, those who are ready to serve the world body devotedly and soulfully in any capacity—no matter how insignificant from the superficial outer point of view—are the real United Nations servers. It is they who will continuously add glory to the achievements of the United Nations.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

A real member of the United Nations is he who does not forget that his is the supreme responsibility to bring to the fore the inspiring capacities and aspiring qualities of his own nation so that other nations will faithfully and gloriously be inspired to do the same. Needless to say, the divine capacities and supreme qualities of all the nations combined will fulfil the zenith-climbing longings of mankind.

A real member of the United Nations must needs dare to dream of the precious progress of the entire world.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

A real member of the United Nations is he whose mind-pocket will never be empty of a global understanding and whose heart-pocket will never be empty of a universal concern.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

A real member of the United Nations is he whose heart and mind at once respond to his inner and outer world-concern-duties.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

A real member of the United Nations knows that if he dreams only of what will benefit his own country and neglects or ignores the needs of other countries, then his self-chosen limits will eventually disappoint him, for a happy oneness-world will remain a far cry.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

A real member of the United Nations every morning without fail wears the armour of patience-light.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

A real member of the United Nations is always most sincerely desperate for a moment's peace among the comity of nations.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

A real member of the United Nations does not believe in a permanent life of thorny uncertainties. He believes in his and others' ever-blossoming and everlasting heart-roses and their world-pleasing fragrance.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

A real member of the United Nations is he who offers every day his own heart's blossoming receptivity to all nations.

A real member of the United Nations offers his heart's gratitudeflames to his own country for being asked to represent its lofty aspiration and dedication to the world community. He is also grateful to all the other nations for making him fully acquainted with their teeming wants and needs.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

A real member of the United Nations carries in his heart-pocket a valid visa to humanity's oneness-heart.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

A real member of the United Nations is he whose self-offering joy surprises the entire world.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

A real member of the United Nations is he who sends every morning beauty's peace around the world.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

A real member of the United Nations is he who knows that his wisdom-knowledge-light and sympathetic understanding of other nations will never lose on the battlefield of misunderstanding.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

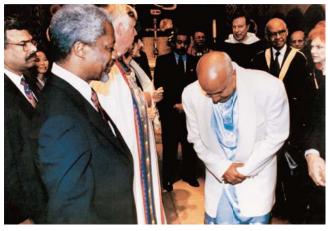
A real member of the United Nations is a true lover of the United Nations soul and a true server of the United Nations body.

- Sri Chinmoy, My Meditation-Service at the United Nations for 25 Years, 1995

A real member of the United Nations makes very clear his soulful request to all nations: "Embrace the truth; then only can you fulfil the countless needs of all countries."



Sri Chinmoy offers UN Secretary-General U Thant a bouquet of flowers at a meeting with the Secretary-General at UN Headquarters in New York on 29 February 1972, when U Thant said, "Whoever speaks to me about you is all appreciation and admiration, and 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."



Above: UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan greets Sri Chinmoy at a Solemn Interfaith Service of Commitment to the Work of the UN honouring the Secretary-General, held at St. Bartholomew's Church in New York City on 25 April 1997.

Below: The Secretary-General joins as Sri Chinmoy gives the silent invocation for the Interfaith Service. On 22 September 2000, Kofi Annan wrote to Sri Chinmoy: "Let me take this opportunity to express my appreciation for your 30 years of dedication to the United Nations. Through your prayers, meditations, concerts and global 'Peace Run', your work has linked peace-lovers in more than 100 countries and complemented that of the world Organization."



Sri Chinmoy presents an award to UN Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar in Paris on 26 May 2005, when the Secretary-General said, "I am deeply honoured to receive this Award from Sri Chinmoy, a very distinguished and loved friend for many, many years. What is happening to me now is that I am receiving the inspiration of Sri Chinmoy, who is actually, I would say, the heart of the United Nations – because in all the years I was Secretary-General, and even before I was Secretary-General, he was always with us. Even if he was not present, his message was with us, and we were, as I said before, being inspired by him."



Sri Chinmoy presents a book of his dedicated to the United Nations to UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali on 21 November 1996 at an Interfaith Ceremony held at UN Headquarters in honour of World Thanksgiving.

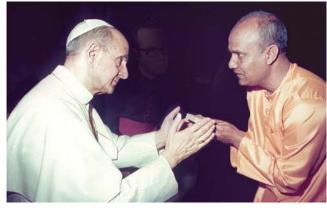




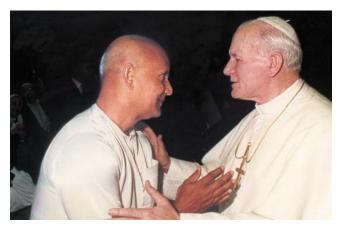
At the opening reception of an exhibition at the UN of Sri Chinmoy's "Paintings for World Harmony" on 3 April 2006, Sri Chinmoy greets Jan Eliasson, President of the 60th session of the UN General Assembly (and later UN Deputy Secretary-General, 2012-2016). After receiving an award from Sri Chinmoy on 17 May 2006, Jan Eliasson said, "You have played an important role already, and you are going to play an important role because the values for which you stand and the message for which you stand are timeless and will go beyond the present....I want to pay my respects to you and assure you that your message is extremely powerful and that it will continue to last in this world. We need this message. We need to work for peace. We need to work for development, and we need to work for a life in dignity for all."



President Mikhail Gorbachev and Raisa Maximovna meet with Sri Chinmoy on 16 October 1994 in New York. On 15 August 2001, President Gorbachev wrote to Sri Chinmoy: "Your enormous and significant activities are helping people to live better lives in peace, friendship and love... Everyone knows and highly appreciates your work at the United Nations. Indeed, you are connected with the whole world, and your work is to foster peace-making efforts and the spiritual development of humanity... Whatever you dedicate yourself to – art, music, poetry, drawing – all this is connected with peace, peace amongst people and peace amongst nations."



Pope Paul VI meets with Sri Chinmoy at the Vatican on 22 March 1972, when the Pontiff said, "This meeting of ours has been most essential. Your message and mine are the same. When we both leave this world, you and I, we will meet together."



Pope John Paul II meets with Sri Chinmoy at the Vatican on 30 November 1988, when the Pontiff said, "I am very grateful for your visit. God bless you and all your contemplative activities."



President Nelson Mandela and First Lady Graça Machel meet with Sri Chinmoy on 20 September 1998 in New York. On 10 July 2000 President Mandela wrote to Sri Chinmoy: "During the past 30 years, countless numbers of United Nations ambassadors and staff have experienced your Peace Meditation at the United Nations. Your spiritual activities have contributed to raising the standard of humanity to new heights. I am proud of the fact that South Africa is one of the 60 [now 152] countries which have dedicated themselves and their people to fostering peace and friendship as Sri Chinmoy Peace-Blossoms-Nations."



Mother Teresa meets with Sri Chinmoy on 1 October 1994 at the Missionaries of Charity House in Rome, when Mother Teresa told Sri Chinmoy, "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 all for the glory of God and for the good of man."



Sri Chinmoy performs his music on fifty instruments from various nations at a Peace Concert held in the UN General Assembly Hall Lobby on 23 May 1995, one of fifty free Concerts that he offered at the UN and other venues around the world throughout 1995 to commemorate the UN's 50th Anniversary.



Sri Chinmoy presents an award to Archbishop Desmond Tutu at a meeting in New York on 16 March 2004, when the Archbishop said, "You are part of the spiritual force of love that emanates from God and which will transform the evil of this world into its counterpart. Thank you for persisting and going on, going on. Perhaps the world continues in existence only because of people like yourselves who help to hold it in being."



Princess Diana meets with Sri Chinmoy at Kensington Palace on 21 May 1997. On 21 July 1997 Princess Diana wrote to Sri Chinmoy: "I know that you too strive to ease unnecessary suffering and indeed, have helped many, many people...I thank you for your generosity of spirit and send to you my heartfelt best wishes." On 7 August 1997 the Princess wrote: "Your letters are so enormously encouraging. It is through this encouragement that I find the strength to continue with the fight against landmines, which is so vitally important to me..."



Sri Chinmoy presents the U Thant Peace Award to Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee on 13 January 1999 at a meeting in Bali, Indonesia. Starting in 1982, Sri Chinmoy offered this award to individuals and organizations who exemplified the lofty spiritual ideals of the late Secretary-General in their efforts towards world peace.



Sri Chinmoy presents to Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina a song he had composed in her honour, at a reception she was hosting at UN Headquarters in New York on 17 September 1999.



Sri Chinmoy with Vladimir Petrovsky, UN Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, and later Director-General of the UN Office at Geneva, and his wife, Mira, at a special function in Jamaica Hills, New York, in 1992. On 27 October 2007, Vladimir Petrovsky wrote: "Sri Chinmoy was convinced that true outer peace had to start with the inner peace of the individual. He has expressed this philosophy of peace in countless books, songs and paintings. His creative works, together with his multifarious peace-initiatives like the humanitarian relief operations, the Peace Concerts and the World Harmony Run represent an immense source of inspiration, wisdom, strength and practical guidance to people of all social, cultural and religious backgrounds. I regard Sri Chinmoy's work as one of the real treasures of the 20th and 21st centuries; probably the most powerful pillar of a culture of peace that currently exists."



Sri Chinmoy honours Anwarul Karim Chowdhury and his wife, Mariam, at a special dinner in Jamaica Hills, New York. As keynote speaker at the Celebration of the Life of Sri Chinmoy held at the United Nations on 30 October 2007, Anwarul Chowdhury, former Ambassador of Bangladesh to the UN, and UN Under-Secretary-General and High Representative, said: "He is the finest example of a person who has a true vision of peace and one who has untiringly and selflessly inspired peace all over the world. He worked tirelessly to bring the different faiths together, and inspired many to emulate his example. An ardent supporter of the United Nations, Sri Chinmoy reminded all of us time and again not to lose sight of the soul of the United Nations."



The Sri Chinmoy Bhajan Singers, led by Ranjana Ghose, and members of the Peace Meditation Choir join tabla Maestro Samir Chatterjee and acclaimed vocalist Sanghamitra Chatterjee in performing Sri Chinmoy's Bengali songs for a Concert at the UN hosted by Indian Ambassador Hardeep Singh Puri on 12 April 2011.

For over three decades, the Bhajan Singers have offered numerous concerts of Sri Chinmoy's music at the UN, kindly sponsored by Ambassadors from many different countries.



The Peace Meditation Choir performs an arrangement of Sri Chinmoy's songs for the UN at a programme entitled "Yoga and the UN Culture of Peace," hosted by Nepalese Ambassador Durga Prasad Bhattarai on 28 October 2016 in the ECOSOC Chamber at UN Headquarters.



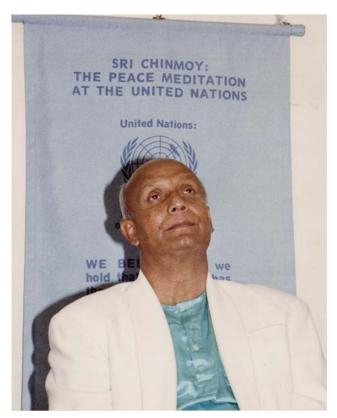
Above: The Sri Chinmoy Bhajan Singers, led by Ranjana Ghose, sing some of Sri Chinmoy's Bengali songs for a programme at the UN on 26 September 2014 hosted by Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina celebrating the 40th Anniversary of Bangladesh joining the United Nations. Displayed behind the singers are reproductions of Sri Chinmoy's paintings dedicated to world harmony.

Below: Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina thanks the singers at the end of the programme, after joining with them in singing one of the Bengali songs.





The Peace Meditation Choir performs Sri Chinmoy's songs in Bengali and English during an International Mother Language Day celebration held on 21 February 2017 at UN Headquarters, co-sponsored by the Permanent Missions of Bangladesh, Hungary, Mauritius, Peru and Vanuatu, in collaboration with the UN Secretariat and UNESCO Office in New York, as well as the Office of the Mayor of New York City.



Sri Chinmoy meditates for peace at the United Nations during a meeting of the Peace Meditation Group.



Dr. Julian Raby, Director of the Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., speaking at the opening reception of the 2008 exhibit of Sri Chinmoy's Paintings for World Harmony at UN Headquarters in New York, as Ramu Damodaran of the UN Department of Public Information and Master of Ceremonies Vijaya Claxton look on.

Other participating representatives of museums included the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art, the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Asia Society Museum, the Newark Museum, the Children's Museum and the Princeton University Art Museum.



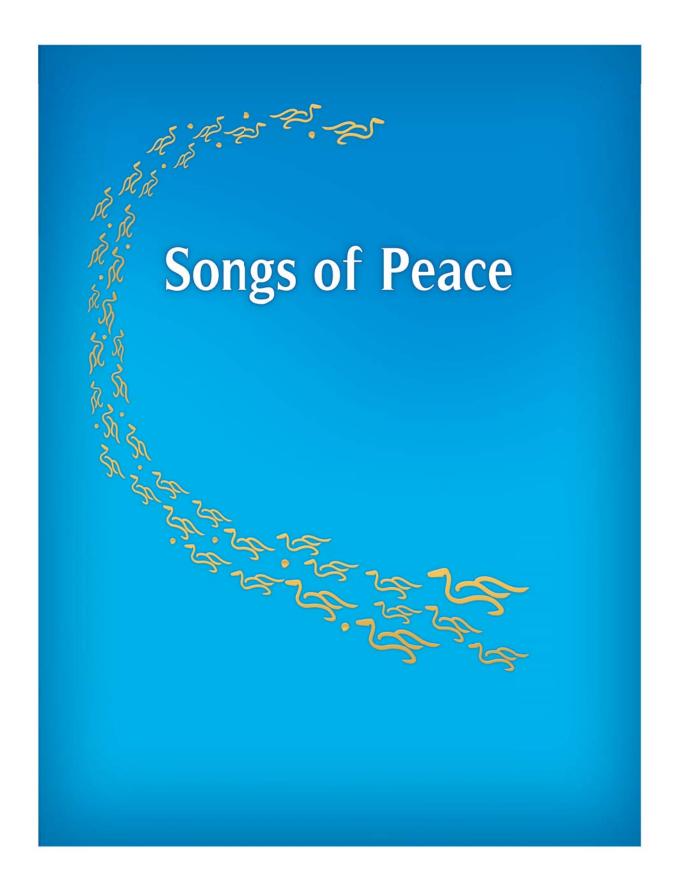
Sri Chinmoy in front of the flags outside UN Headquarters in New York, circa 1970s.



At the reception for an exhibit of Sri Chinmoy's paintings at UN Headquarters in New York in 2006, (seated on the dais, left to right) the artist Sri Chinmoy; special guests UN Under-Secretary-General and High Representative Anwarul Chowdhury and his wife, Mariam; Master of Ceremonies Vijaya Claxton; and Satya Vishwanath, co-founder of Vision of Asia and ITV (not visible), listen as Ranjana K. Ghose, Director, Jharna-Kala Art Foundation, addresses the audience.



An exhibit of Sri Chinmoy's Paintings for World Peace and Harmony was on display from 6 to 16 June 2017 at the Palais des Nations, United Nations Office at Geneva, sponsored by the Permanent Mission of Bangladesh in Geneva, with support from the Cultural Diplomacy and Outreach Section of the UN Office at Geneva, in collaboration with the Jharna-Kala Art Foundation. At the opening reception is (from left to right) Bangladesh Ambassador Shameem Ahsan; Francesco Pisano, Chief of the Cultural Diplomacy and Outreach Section and Head of the UN Library; Tegla Loroupe, UN Ambassador of Sport; Ranjana Ghose, curator of the exhibit and Director of the Jharna-Kala Art Foundation; and Nilima Silver, Peace Meditation Group liaison.



Songs dedicated to the United Nations and the World Community

Over the course of his 37 years of service to the United Nations, Sri Chinmoy wrote hundreds of songs dedicated to the vision and mission of the UN, and a selection of these compositions is published in this volume in honour of the upcoming 75th anniversary of the world organization. Sri Chinmoy taught these songs to the members of the Peace Meditation Group, and the choir performed them on numerous occasions at UN Headquarters in New York and at other venues.

In addition to those for the United Nations and the world community, Sri Chinmoy wrote songs for special events, as noted on some of the compositions; for those serving the world body in various capacities; and for Funds and Agencies, such as UNICEF and UNESCO. He also wrote a series of songs in his native Bengali, setting to music some of his own English translations.

1. O United Nations



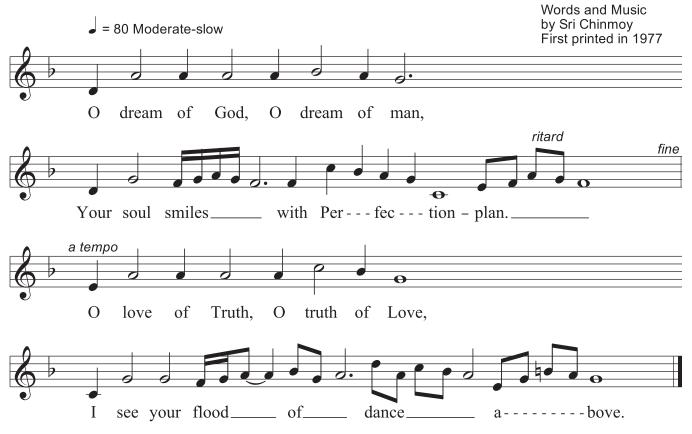


D.C. al fine with repeats.

O United Nations, O UN, You are the world-body Crying for the world-soul. And you are the earth-life Longing for oneness-goal. O United Nations, O UN, In the heart of your glowing dream, Big brothers and brothers small Shall smile, sing and dance, O Vision-Perfection in all!

— Sri Chinmoy

2. O Dream of God

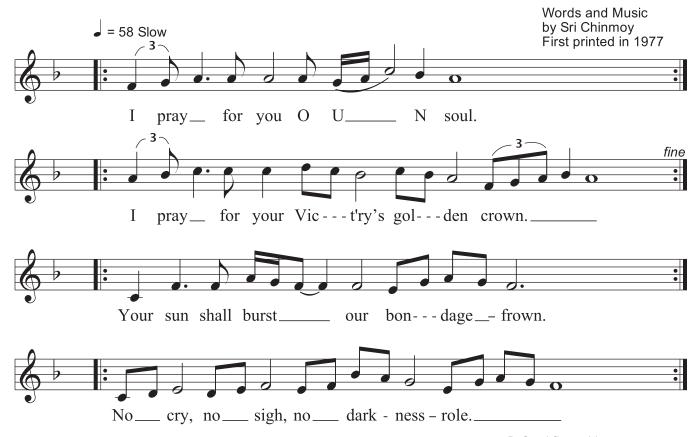


D.C. al fine

O dream of God, O dream of man, Your soul smiles with Perfection-plan.

O love of Truth, O truth of Love, I see your flood Of dance above.

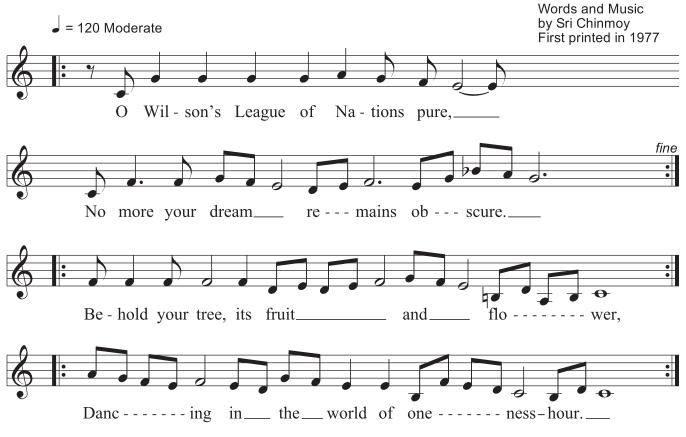
3. I Pray for You



D.C. al fine without repeats.

I pray for you
O UN soul.
I pray for your
Victory's golden crown.
Your sun shall burst
Our bondage-frown.
No cry, no sigh,
No darkness-role.

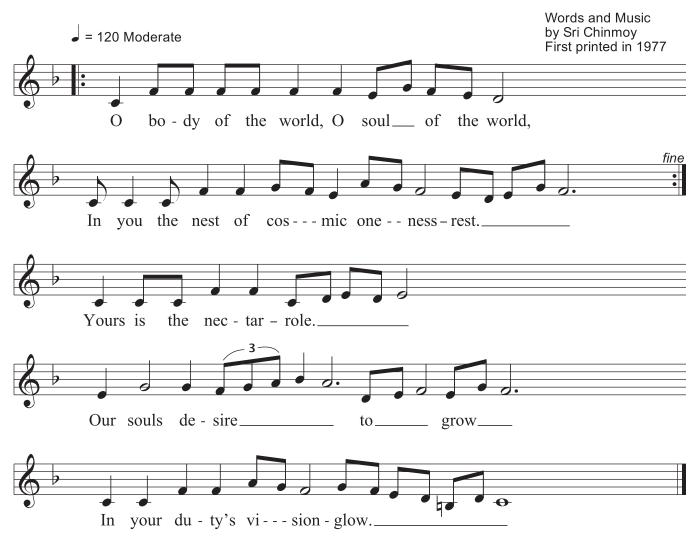
4. O Wilson's League of Nations



D.C. al fine without repeat.

O Wilson's League of Nations pure, No more your dream remains obscure. Behold your tree, its fruit and flower, Dancing in the world of oneness-hour.

5. O Body of the World (1)



D.C. al fine without repeat.

O body of the world,
O soul of the world,
In you the nest
Of cosmic oneness-rest.
Yours is the nectar-role.
Our souls desire to grow
In your duty's vision-glow.

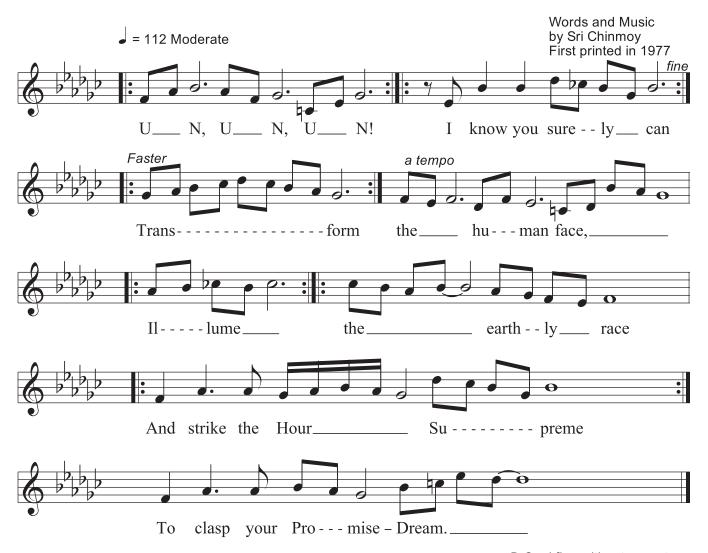
The Peace Meditation Group choir was invited to perform this song at the UN World Environment Day programme held at the UN on 4 June 1977.



D.C. al fine

O body of the world,
O soul of the world,
In you the silence-nest
Of cosmic-oneness-rest.
Yours is the nectar-role
To end earth's sombre dole.
Our soul's desire: to flow
In your duty's vision-glow.

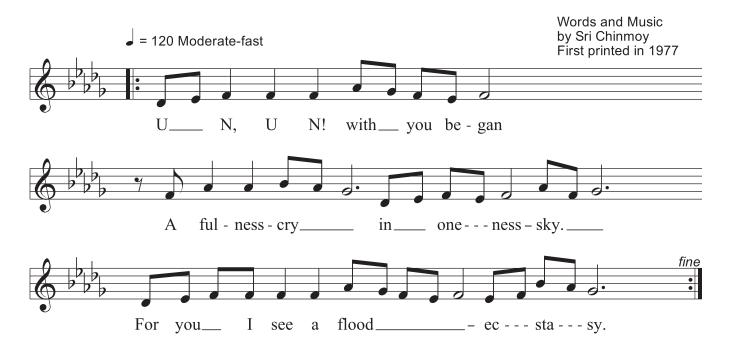
7. I Know You Surely Can



D.C. al fine without repeats.

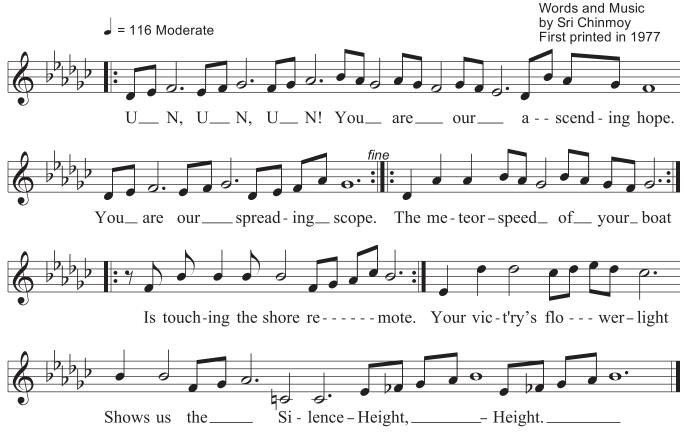
UN, UN, UN!
I know you surely can
Transform the human face,
Illume the earthly race
And strike the Hour Supreme
To clasp your Promise-Dream.

8. With You Began



UN, UN!
With you began
A fulness-cry
In oneness-sky.
For you I see
A flood-ecstasy.

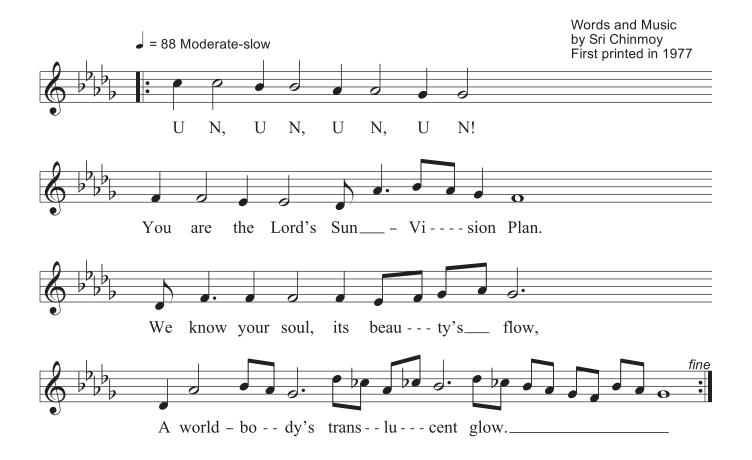
9. Our Ascending Hope



D.C. al fine without repeat.

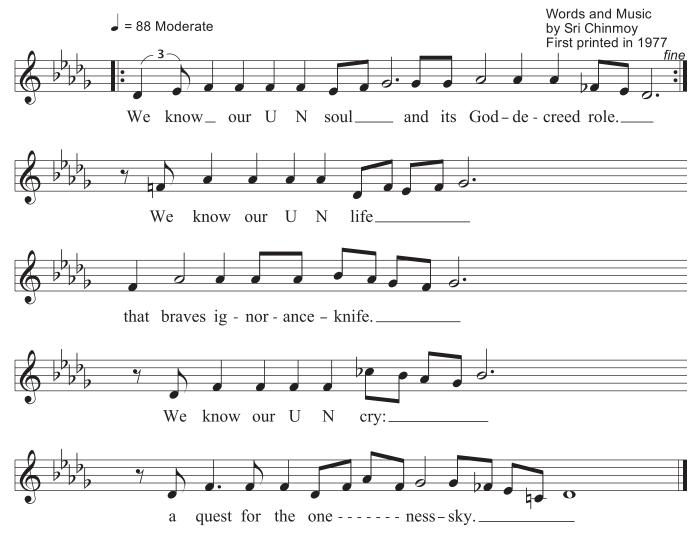
UN, UN, UN!
You are our ascending hope.
You are our spreading scope.
The meteor-speed of your boat
Is touching the shore remote.
Your victory's flower-light
Shows us the Silence-Height.

10. The Lord's Sun-Vision Plan



UN, UN, UN! You are the Lord's Sun-Vision Plan. We know your soul, its beauty's flow, A world-body's translucent glow.

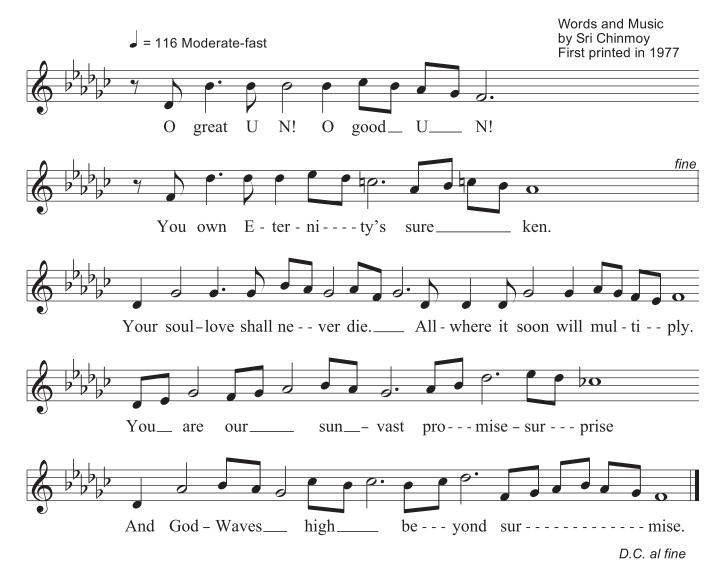
11. Our UN Soul



D.C. al fine without repeat.

We know our UN soul And its God-decreed role. We know our UN life That braves ignorance-knife. We know our UN cry: A quest for the oneness-sky.

12. O Great UN!



O great UN! O good UN! You own Eternity's sure ken. Your soul-love shall never die. All-where it soon will multiply. You are our sun-vast promise-surprise And God-Waves high beyond surmise.

13. They Say



They say, UN is puny, weak and poor. I say, have they measured its sky-heart door? They say, feeble is the UN voice. I say, UN our Father's constant Choice.

Sri Chinmoy wrote the following seven Bengali songs in honour of UN Day, 24 October 1981, the United Nations thirty-sixth anniversary. In most cases, the English translations are also set to music.

14. United Nations! Tumi Dharanir



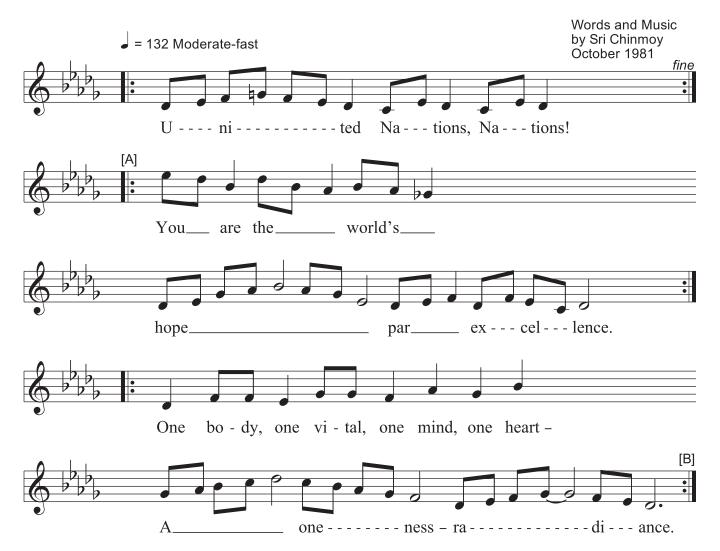
United Nations, United Nations! Tumi dharanir sarbottam asha Ek deha pran man hiya bhalobasa United Nations, United Nations!

You are the world's hope par excellence.

One body, one vital, one mind, one heart –

A oneness-radiance.

15. United Nations! You Are the World's Hope



Sing A-B once with repeats, once without repeats, then D.C. al fine with repeat.

United Nations, United Nations! You are the world's hope par excellence. One body, one vital, one mind, one heart – A oneness-radiance.

16. United Nations! Tomare Je Nahi Chahe



United Nations, United Nations!

Tomare je nahi chahe

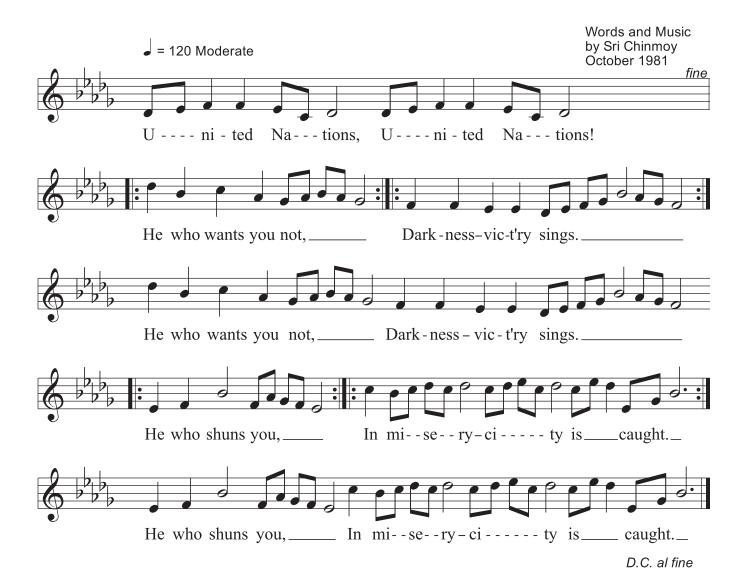
Ama joy se je gahe

Tomare je rakhe dure

Thake ashanti pure

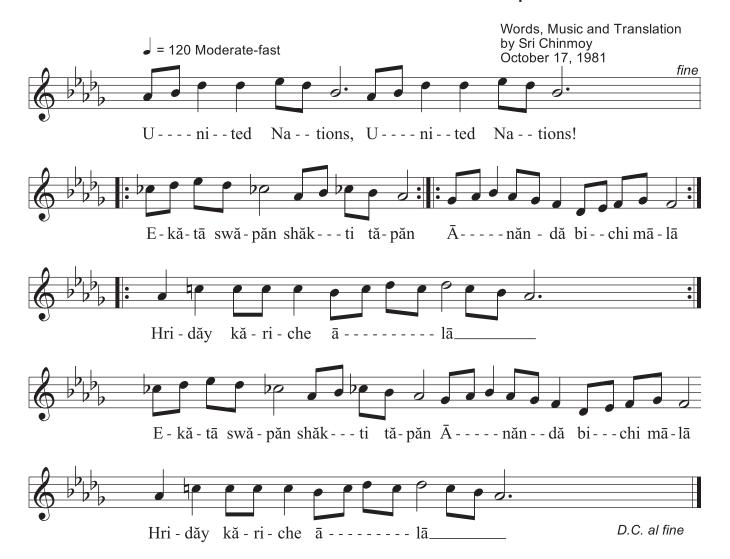
United Nations, United Nations! He who wants you not, Darkness-victory sings. He who shuns you, In misery-city is caught.

17. United Nations! He Who Wants You Not



United Nations, United Nations! He who wants you not, Darkness-victory sings. He who shuns you, In misery-city is caught.

18. United Nations! Ekata Swapan



United Nations, United Nations! Ekata swapan shakti tapan Ananda bichi mala Hriday kariche ala United Nations, United Nations! O unity-dream, O power-sun, O ecstasy-ocean, My heart of Light supreme!

19. United Nations! O Unity-Dream



United Nations, United Nations! O unity-dream, O power-sun, O ecstasy-ocean, My heart of Light supreme!

20. United Nations! Tiyasha Gabhir



United Nations, United Nations! Tiyasha gabhir shantir nir Hasi nirjhar abhoy amar Paramer hema dipti Paramer sudha tripti United Nations, United Nations! Immensity-thirst, tranquility-nest, Fountain-smile omnipotence! O Creator's golden Light And His Satisfaction-Delight!

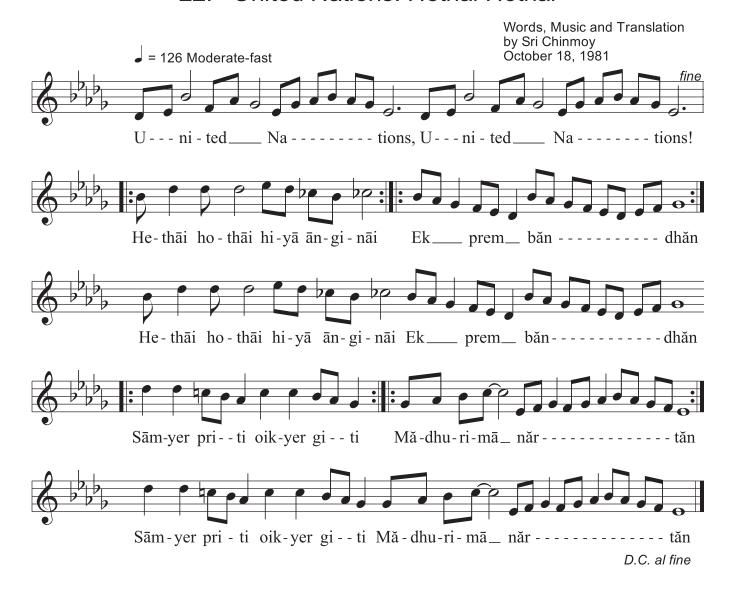
21. United Nations! Immensity-Thirst



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

United Nations, United Nations! Immensity-thirst, tranquility-nest, Fountain-smile omnipotence! O Creator's golden Light And His Satisfaction-Delight!

22. United Nations! Hethai Hothai



United Nations, United Nations! Hethai hothai hiya anginai Ek prem bandhan Samyer priti oikyer giti Madhurima nartan

United Nations, United Nations!
Here and there and all-where,
One corridor-core,
And a bond of precious love.
Equality and unity-song,
Sweetness-dance and power-gong.

23. United Nations! Bishwase Ashwas



Nahi moha pas Nahe keha das Sure sure ullas

No more bondage, no more. No more slave-pangs, no more. Ecstasy-melody reigns supreme.

24. United Nations! Hope Abides in Faith



United Nations, United Nations!
Hope abides in faith,
Life abides in hope,
No death, no death in life.
All hearts ring true in oneness-flow.
No more bondage, no more.
No more slave-pangs, no more.
Ecstasy-melody reigns supreme.

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

25. United Nations! Tomare Je Kare Upahas



D.C. al fine with repeat.

United Nations, United Nations!

Tomare je kare upahas

Tar habe druta gati nash

Tomare je bhabe chira apanar jan

Se paibe shudhu dhara adharar dhan

United Nations, United Nations!
Those who look down on you
Will soon realise their folly.
Those who feel that you are eternally their very own
Will receive the wealth of Heaven and earth.

—Translation by a Bengali student of Sri Chinmoy

26. UN Soul Pakhi



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

UN soul *pakhi*, UN soul *pakhi*, Prayerfully *tomai daki*. *Tomar* oneness-vision-giti
We sing, we sing *diye priti*. *Tomar* message-light *chharabo*. *Tomar* victory-banner *urabo*.

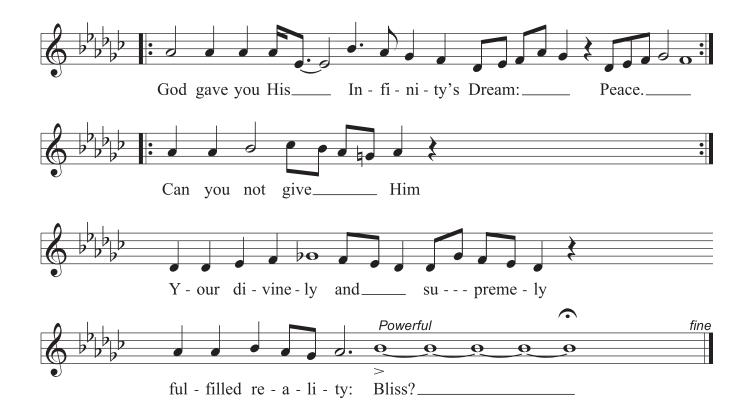
O UN soul-bird, UN soul-bird, Prayerfully we invoke you. Your oneness-vision-song We sing, we sing, offering our affection-love. Your message-light we shall spread. Your victory-banner we shall fly.

— Translation by a Bengali student of Sri Chinmoy



27. One World - One Dream - One Reality (1)





One World - One Dream - One Reality

O my United Nations,
Quick and slow, young and old,
Fifty years you are.
Fifty million dreams —
Sweet, sweeter, sweetest,
Pure, purer, purest,
Deep, deeper, deepest,
High, higher, highest — you treasure.
But only one dream you needs must fulfil:
Your world-justice-peace-dream-tree must blossom
Into world-reality-flowers and fruits.
God gave you His Infinity's Dream: Peace.
Can you not give Him
Your divinely and supremely fulfilled reality: Bliss?

— Sri Chinmoy

Performed during many of fifty Peace Concerts offered by Sri Chinmoy throughout 1995 to commemorate the UN's 50th anniversary. These free concerts were held at the United Nations and other venues around the world. Song title by Sri Chinmoy.

28. One World - One Dream - One Reality (2)



One World - One Dream - One Reality

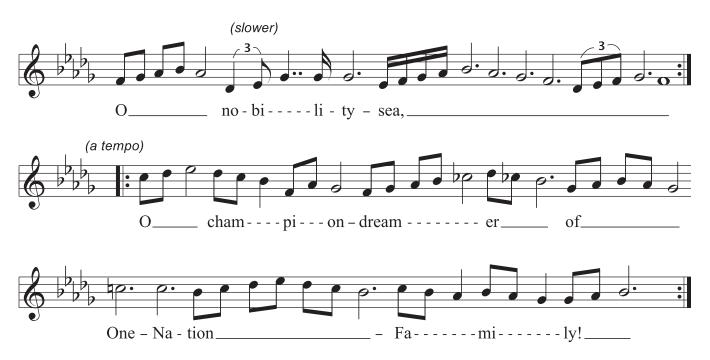
O United Nations,
Fifty years you are.
Fifty million dreams —
Sweet, sweeter, sweetest,
Pure, purer, purest,
Deep, deeper, deepest,
High, higher, highest — you treasure.
But only one dream you needs must fulfil:
Your world-justice-peace-dream-tree must blossom
Into world-reality-flowers and fruits — peace.

— Sri Chinmoy

Performed during many of fifty Peace Concerts offered by Sri Chinmoy throughout 1995 to commemorate the UN's 50th anniversary. These free concerts were held at the United Nations and other venues around the world. Song title by Sri Chinmoy.

29. President of the General Assembly





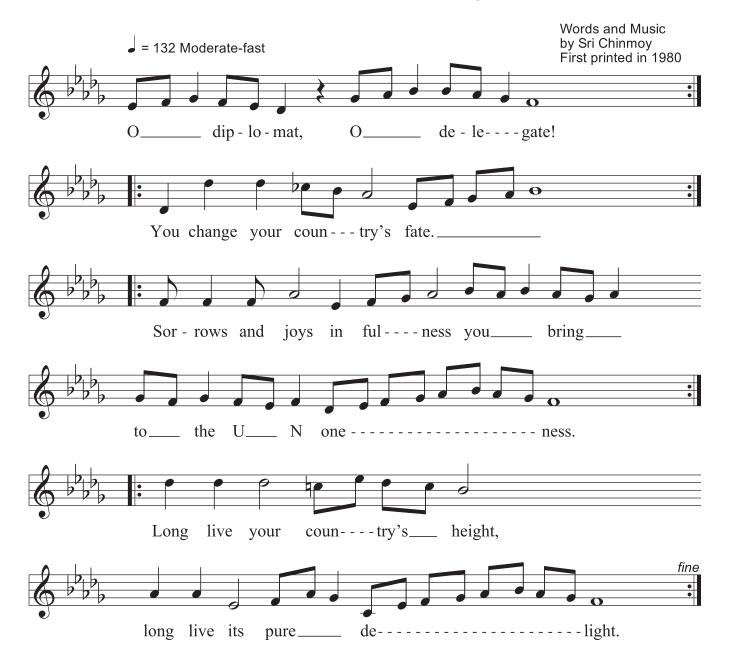
D.C. al fine without repeat.

President of the General Assembly! You are your fruitful heart of oneness-tree. Each nation has a special hunger-need. You long to feed their needs, and succeed. O courage-flood, O nobility-sea, O champion-dreamer of One-Nation-Family!

— Sri Chinmoy

First performed at a programme of the Peace Meditation Group held at the UN honouring the President of the 35th session of the General Assembly, H.E. Mr. Rüdiger von Wechmar (Germany), on 9 January 1981. Performed over the years in tribute to other Presidents of the General Assembly, including H.E. Mr. Imre Hollai, Hungary (37th session); H.E. Mr. Jorge Illueca, Panama (38th session); H.E. Mr. Humayun Rasheed Choudhury, Bangladesh (41st session); H.E. Mr. Guido de Marco, Malta (45th session); H.E. Mr. Stoyan Ganev, Bulgaria (47th session); H.E. Amara Essy, Côte d'Ivoire (49th session); H.E. Mr. Jan Eliasson, Sweden (60th session); and H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, Qatar (66th session).

30. O Diplomat, O Delegate!



O diplomat, O delegate! You change your country's fate. Sorrows and joys in fulness You bring to the UN oneness. Long live your country's height, Long live its pure delight.

Excellencies! 31.

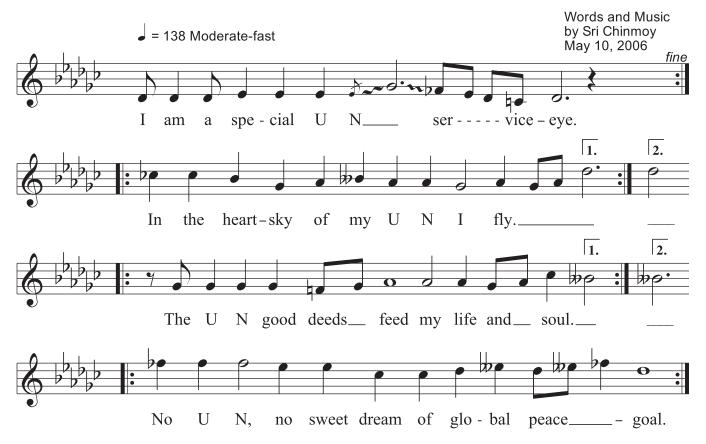


then D.C. al fine with repeat.

Excellencies, Excellencies! Sleeplessly your hearts dream of world peace. You are your countries' light and pride. Dearly you love world-oneness-ride.

Song composed and performed for an event honouring Ambassadors to the UN on 12 May 2001. Sri Chinmoy lifted the guests overhead on an honorary platform as part of the "Lifting Up the World with a Oneness-Heart" programme.

32. I Am a Special UN Service-Eye



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

I am a special UN service-eye. In the heart-sky of my UN I fly. The UN good deeds feed my life and soul. No UN, no sweet dream of global peace-goal.

Song composed and performed for an event honouring UN Safety and Security officers on 10 May 2005. Sri Chinmoy lifted the officers overhead on an honorary platform as part of the "Lifting Up the World with a Oneness-Heart" programme.

33. UNICEF



Songs of Peace by Sri Chinmoy

UNICEF, UNICEF,
O mother and child,
O sweetness-sea,
O beauty-flower and duty-tree!
You are your glowing eyes of light,
You are your loving oneness-height.
You are your soaring fulfilment-dream,
A true triumph of the Lord Supreme.

— Sri Chinmoy

Song composed and first performed for a special meditation offered by Sri Chinmoy for UNICEF staff, held on 17 March 1977.

34. O UNESCO!

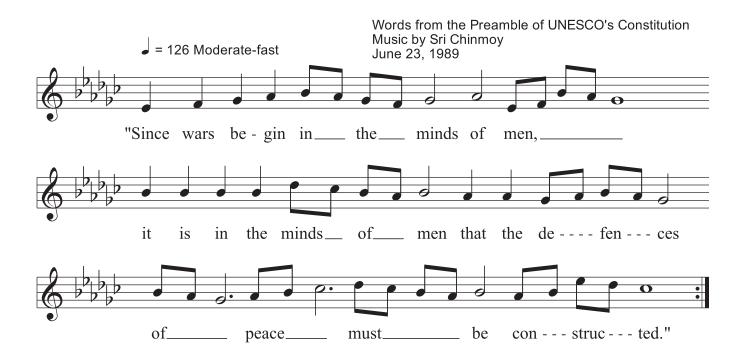


O UNESCO! Needed you are — Within, without, from near and far. Knowledge, science, culture-light You bestow on ignorance-night. You are your heart's hope-fragrance-flower. You are your soul's promise-hour-power.

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

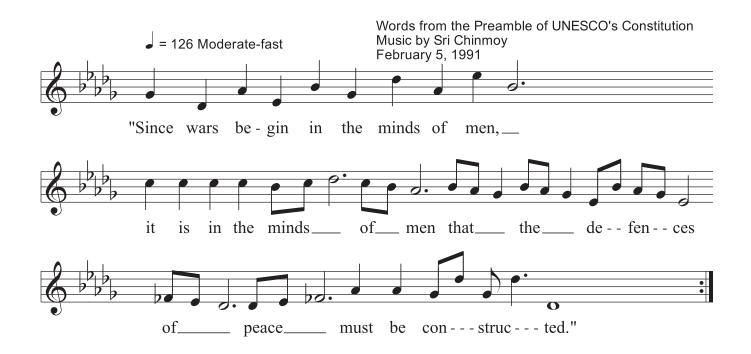
First performed at Sri Chinmoy's Peace Concert offered at UNESCO's Headquarters in Paris on 23 June 1989.

35. Since Wars Begin in the Minds of Men (1)



[&]quot;Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed."

36. Since Wars Begin in the Minds of Men (2)



[&]quot;Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed."

37. O Human Rights





O Human Rights Divine!
In harmony-world you shine.
You are the voice of Light
And blue Perfection-Height.
Yours is the supreme role
To change the cosmos-dole.
You are the only strength
Of Heaven's Vision-length.
Division, bondage, doom,
No more —
All oneness-bloom.

— Sri Chinmoy

First performed on 9 December 1977 at an observance of Human Rights Day at the United Nations, sponsored by the Peace Meditation Group.

38. Oneness-Earth



D.C. al fine with repeat.

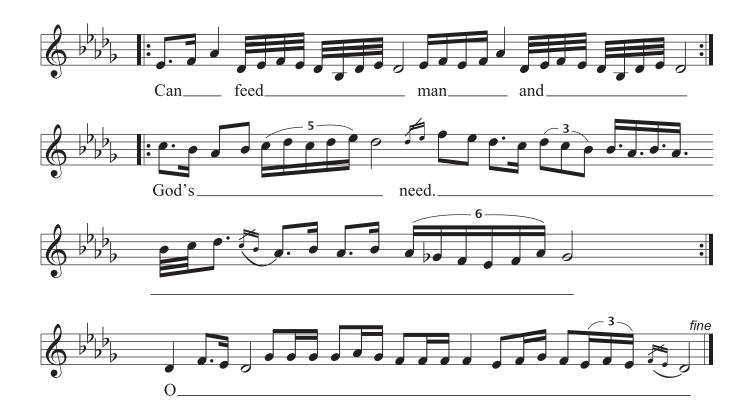
Oneness-earth, oneness: A life of fulness. Division-mind dies, Oneness-heart flies. Heaven's God-length: Oneness-earth's strength. Today's Vision-plan: Tomorrow's God-man.

Song written for a Peace Meditation Group programme, held at the United Nations on 14 December 1977, entitled "Oneness-Earth," celebrating the universal brotherhood and unity evoked during the year-end holiday season around the world. Filmed by CBS-TV for broadcasting on Christmas Day, the event featured statements by Ambassadors and UN officials, as well as the performance of the song.



39. O World Gratitude Day!





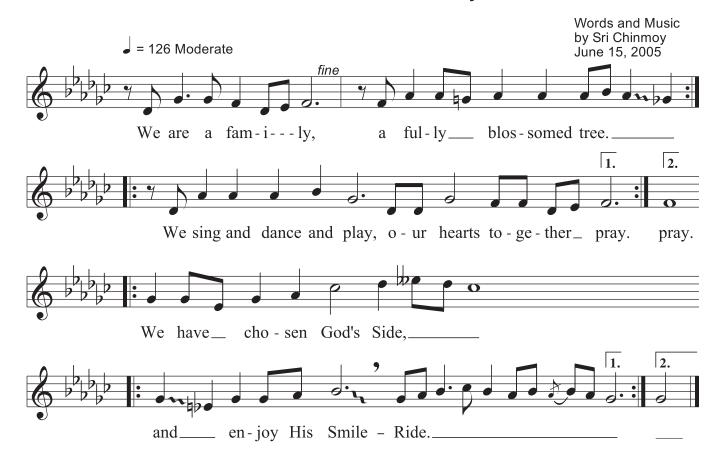
O World Gratitude Day! I pray for you, I pray. Man's feeble climbing ray Is one with God's Vision-Play.

Compassion: highest gift. Gratitude: fastest lift. Only satisfaction-seed Can feed man and God's need.

— Sri Chinmoy

Song written and performed for a World Gratitude Day celebration at the United Nations sponsored by the Peace Meditation Group on 12 September 1977. The song was also performed several times for programmes at the World Gratitude Day's New York Headquarters.

40. We Are a Family



We are a family, a fully blossomed tree. We sing and dance and play, Our hearts together pray. We have chosen God's Side, And enjoy His Smile-Ride.

Song dedicated to the United Nations 2005 World Summit and High-Level Plenary Meeting of the 60th session of the UN General Assembly, held from 14 to 16 September 2005, and performed by a children's choir at a parallel event.



UN meditation: a soulful cry
To reach the vastness of oneness-sky.
United Nations Meditation Group:
A simple, Truth-serving, all-loving troop.
United Nations Meditation Room:
To stop for good the birth of cosmos-doom.

The name of the group was officially changed to Sri Chinmoy: The Peace Meditation at the United Nations, in consultation with the United Nations Legal Counsel, in May 1983.

42. Meditation Group



Meditation Group, Meditation Group! Earth-family world-oneness-dreamer troop.

It breathes the towering blessing-light of the UN soul – Mankind's peace-flooded, bliss-studded perfection-goal.

43. Thirty Years of Peace Meditation at the UN!



Thirty years of Peace Meditation at the UN!
This was, indeed, the UN soul's Heaven-blessing-plan.
Here we pray and meditate for the world-oneness.
Here at the UN heart, the world will achieve its fulness.

Song composed for the 30th anniversary of the Peace Meditation Group, which was established on 14 April 1970, after Secretary-General U Thant invited Sri Chinmoy to lead twice-weekly peace meditations for delegates and staff at UN Headquarters in New York.

44. We Believe

Motto of Sri Chinmoy: The Peace Meditation at the United Nations



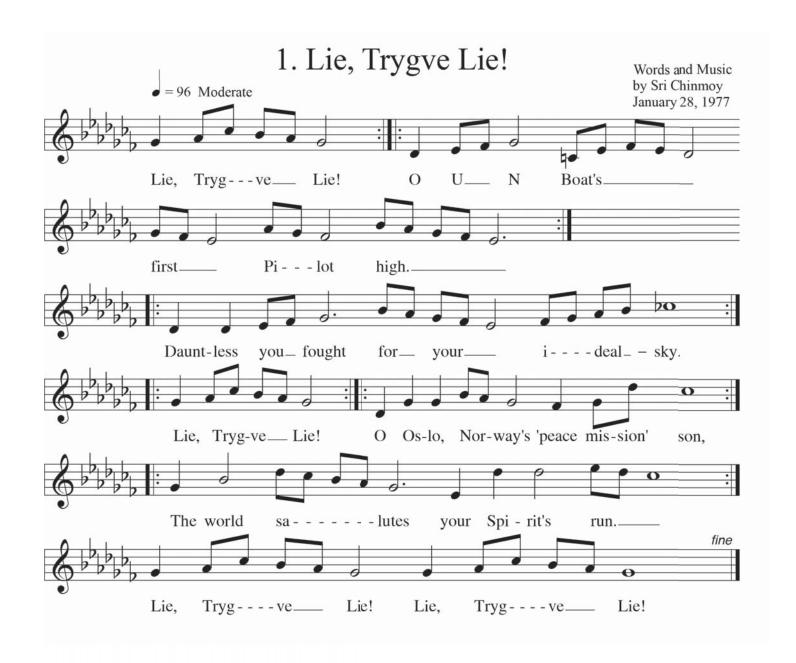


Motto of Sri Chinmoy: The Peace Meditation at the United Nations

We believe and we hold that each man has the potentiality of reaching the Ultimate Truth. We also believe that man cannot and will not remain imperfect forever. Each man is an instrument of God. When the hour strikes, each individual soul listens to the inner dictates of God. When man listens to God, his imperfections are turned into perfections, his ignorance into knowledge, his searching mind into revealing light and his uncertain reality into all-fulfilling Divinity.

Songs Dedicated to UN Secretaries-General

Sri Chinmoy offered his insightful appreciation and support to those at the helm of the UN, writing songs for the Secretaries-General as well as for other officials. He also set to music some of their immortal utterances. Selected here are several of these compositions, dedicated to Trygve Lie (1946-1952), Dag Hammarskjöld (1953-1961), U Thant (1961-1971) and Javier Pérez de Cuéllar (1982-1991). The choir had the honour to perform many of these songs while accompanying Sri Chinmoy for meetings with the Secretaries-General and other officials.

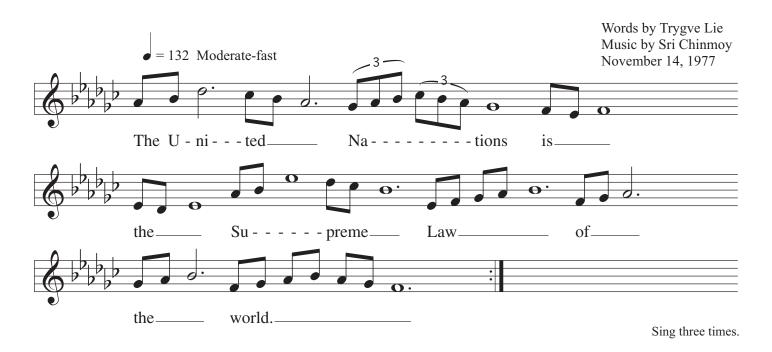


Lie, Trygve Lie! O UN Boat's first Pilot high. Dauntless you fought for your ideal-sky.

Lie, Trygve Lie! O Oslo, Norway's 'peace mission' son, The world salutes your Spirit's run.

Lie, Trygve Lie!

2. The United Nations Is the Supreme Law



The United Nations is the Supreme Law of the world.

- Trygve Lie

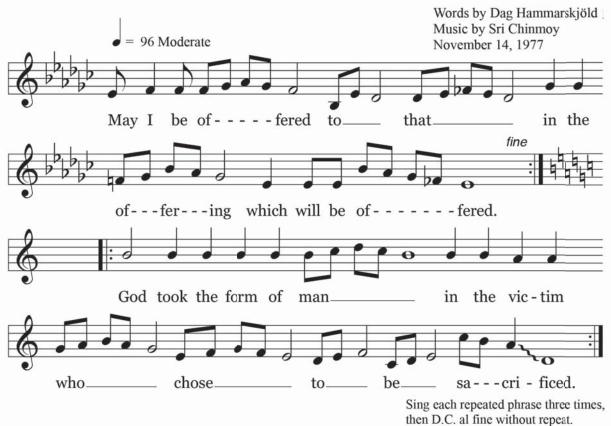
3. Dag Hammarskjöld



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

Dag Hammarskjöld, purity gold, Divinity's reality bold! Your peerless vision, cosmic run Ceaselessly cried for perfection-sun. In you the UN glory's height Of silence-light and delight.

4. May I Be Offered



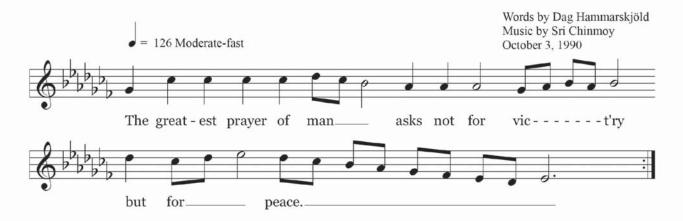
then D.C. at thie without repeat.

May I be offered to that in the offering which will be offered.

God took the form of man in the victim who chose to be sacrificed.

-Dag Hammarskjöld

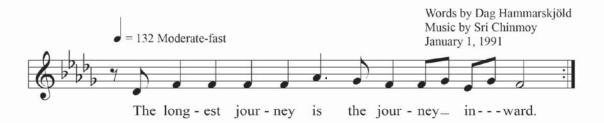
5. The Greatest Prayer of Man



The greatest prayer of man asks not for victory but for peace.

- Dag Hammarskjöld

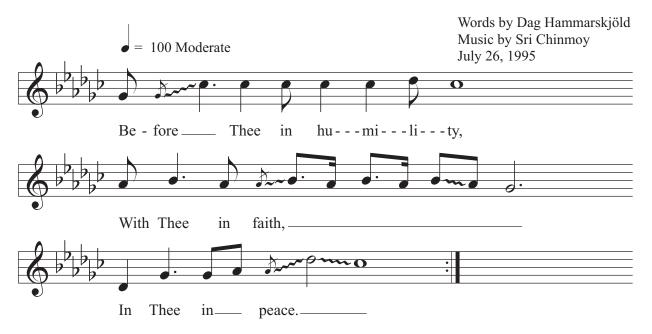
6. The Longest Journey



The longest journey is the journey inward.

Dag Hammarskjöld

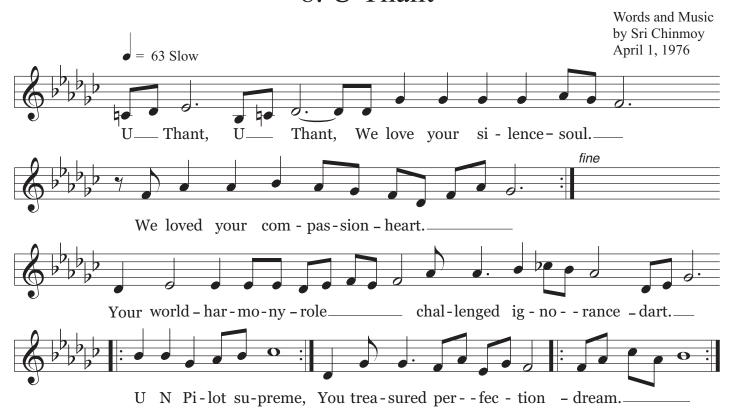
7. Before Thee in Humility



Before Thee in humility, With Thee in faith, In Thee in peace.

– Dag Hammarskjöld

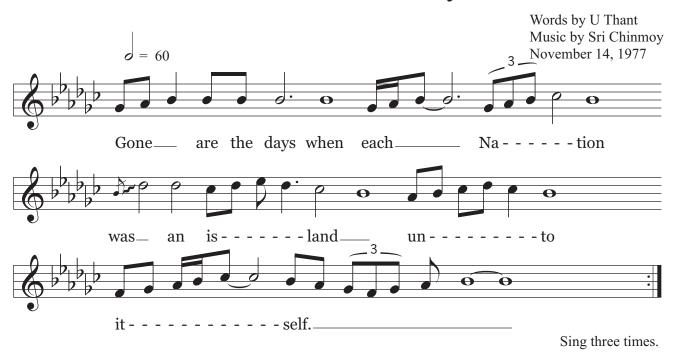
8. U Thant



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

U Thant, U Thant, We love your silence-soul. We loved your compassion-heart. Your world-harmony-role Challenged ignorance-dart. UN Pilot supreme, You treasured perfection-dream.

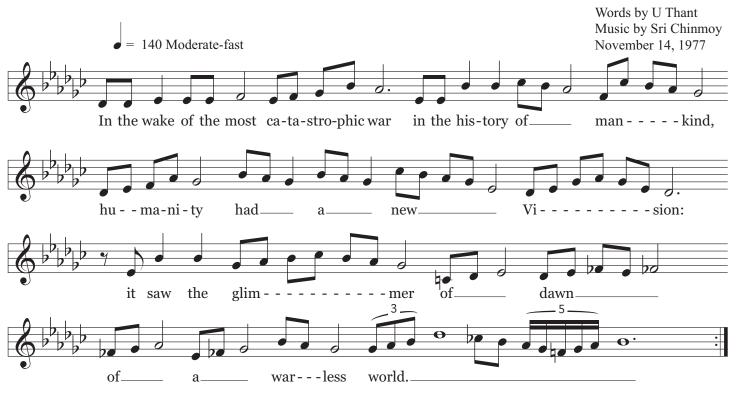
9. Gone Are the Days



Gone are the days when each Nation was an island unto itself.

– U Thant

10. In the Wake of the Most Catastrophic War



Sing three times.

In the wake of the most catastrophic war in the history of mankind, humanity had a new Vision: it saw the glimmer of dawn of a warless world.

- U Thant

11. O UN Pilot, Javier Pérez de Cuéllar!



O UN Pilot, Javier Pérez de Cuéllar!

Yours is the silver journey to the Oneness-Fulness-Harbour.

O UN Pilot, Javier Pérez de Cuéllar!

Calmness-mind, softness-heart, boldness-life and brightness-soul.

Wisdom within, wisdom without: a splendid role!

- Sri Chinmoy

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

12. We Take the United Nations Seriously



We take the United Nations seriously when we desperately need it. I would urge that we also seriously consider the practical ways in which it should develop its capacity and be used as an essential institution in a stormy, uncertain world.

Javier Pérez de Cuéllar

Songs Honouring Great Souls

Selected here are a few of the many songs Sri Chinmoy wrote for special programmes held at UN Headquarters in New York and other venues, some honouring great individuals who elevated the standard of humanity.

1. My Fellow Inhabitants

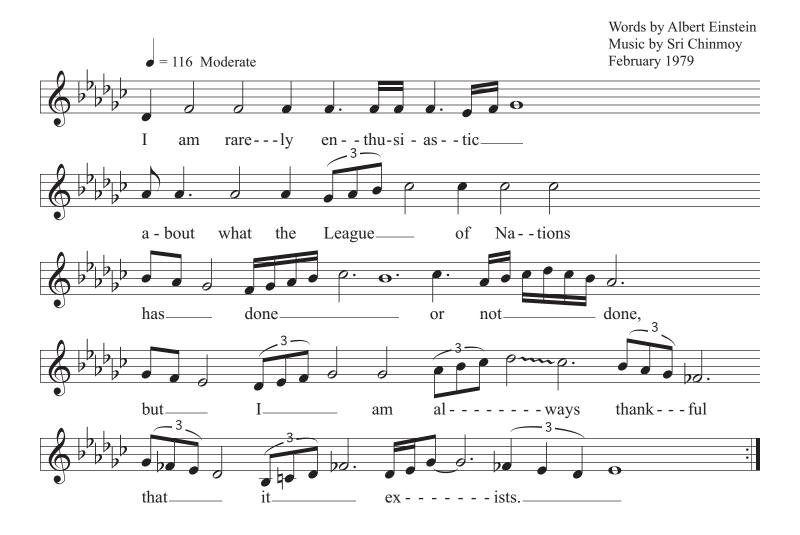


My fellow inhabitants of this planet: let us take our stand here in this assembly of nations. And let us see if we, in our own time, can move the world towards a just and lasting peace.

- John F. Kennedy

Closing words from the address by President John F. Kennedy to the UN General Assembly on 26 September 1963. Performed along with several other songs by Sri Chinmoy dedicated to the late President of the United States in two programmes at the United Nations organized by the Peace Meditation Group: one on 22 November 1977, televised live by WNBC-TV, and one on 21 November 1983, marking the 20th anniversary of his assassination.

2. I Am Rarely Enthusiastic



I am rarely enthusiastic about what the League of Nations has done or not done, but I am always thankful that it exists.

- Albert Einstein

Performed along with several other songs by Sri Chinmoy dedicated to Albert Einstein at two programmes in honour of the unparalleled scientist's centennial organized by the Peace Meditation Group: one in conjunction with Princeton University held at the University on 18 March 1979, and the second held at the United Nations on 20 March 1979.

3. Nothing I Can Do or Say

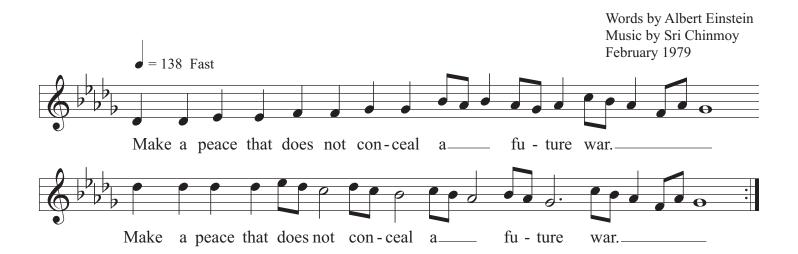


Nothing I can do or say will change the structure of the universe. But maybe, by raising my voice, I can help the greatest of all causes: good will among men and peace on earth.

- Albert Einstein

Performed along with several other songs by Sri Chinmoy dedicated to Albert Einstein at two programmes in honour of the unparalleled scientist's centennial organized by the Peace Meditation Group: one in conjunction with Princeton University held at the University on 18 March 1979, and the second held at the United Nations on 20 March 1979.

4. Make a Peace



Make a peace that does not conceal a future war.

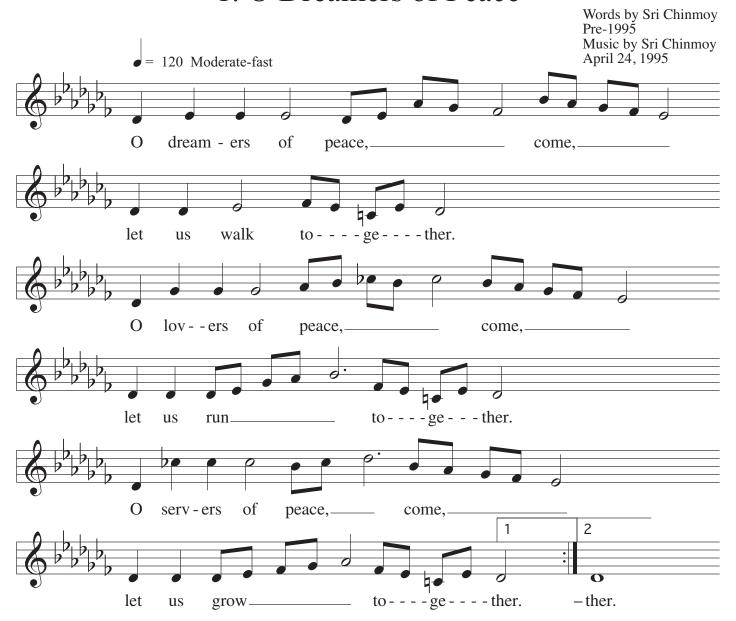
- Albert Einstein

Performed along with several other songs by Sri Chinmoy dedicated to Albert Einstein at two programmes in honour of the unparalleled scientist's centennial organized by the Peace Meditation Group: one in conjunction with Princeton University held at the University on 18 March 1979, and the second held at the United Nations on 20 March 1979.

Songs of Peace

Following is a selection from the many songs of peace composed by Sri Chinmoy, including one in his native Bengali with a version for his English translation as well. The Peace Meditation Group choir has performed these songs for a variety of official UN programmes, many of which were webcast by the UN and are part of the UN archives.

1. O Dreamers of Peace



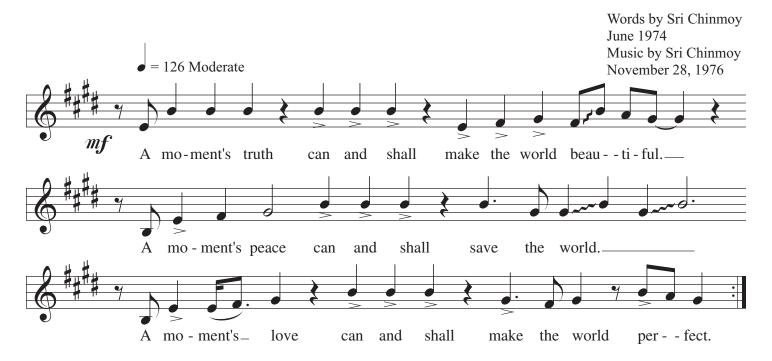
O dreamers of peace, come, Let us walk together.

O lovers of peace, come, Let us run together.

O servers of peace, come Let us grow together.

The words to this song were featured when members of the diplomatic community joined in setting a Guinness World Record for the poem recited in the most languages in 24 hours (203 languages), on 10 April 2014 at Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza, United Nations environs, in conjunction with the opening ceremony of the Oneness-Home Peace Run.

2. A Moment's Truth

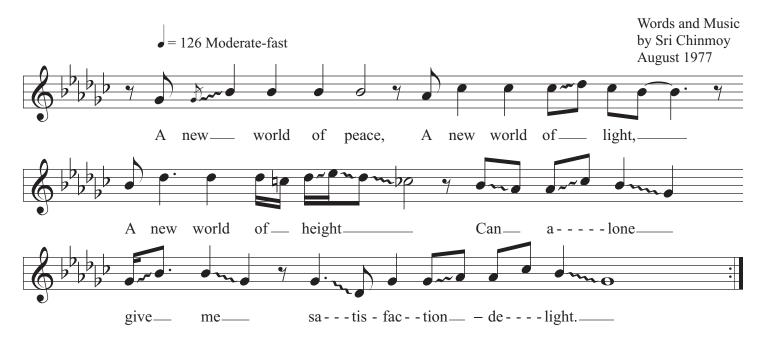


A moment's truth can and shall make the world beautiful.

A moment's peace can and shall save the world.

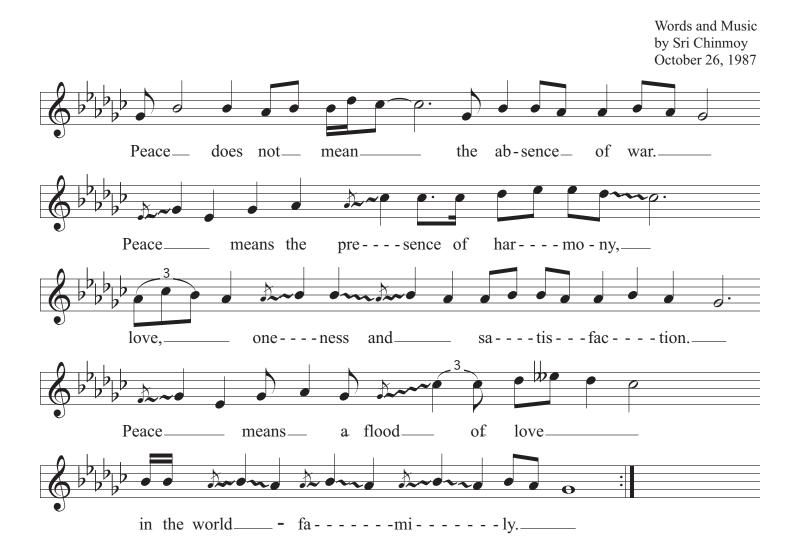
A moment's love can and shall make the world perfect.

3. A New World of Peace



A new world of peace, A new world of light, A new world of height Can alone give me Satisfaction-delight.

4. Peace Does Not Mean the Absence of War



Peace does not mean the absence of war.

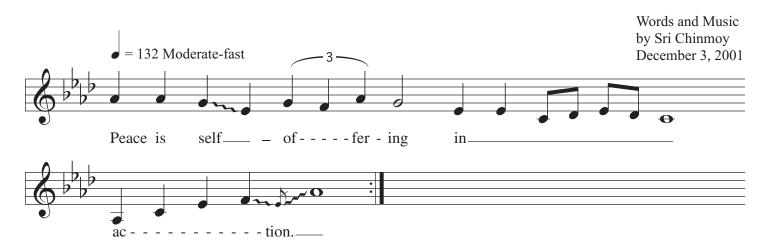
Peace means the presence of harmony,

Love, oneness and satisfaction.

Peace means a flood of love

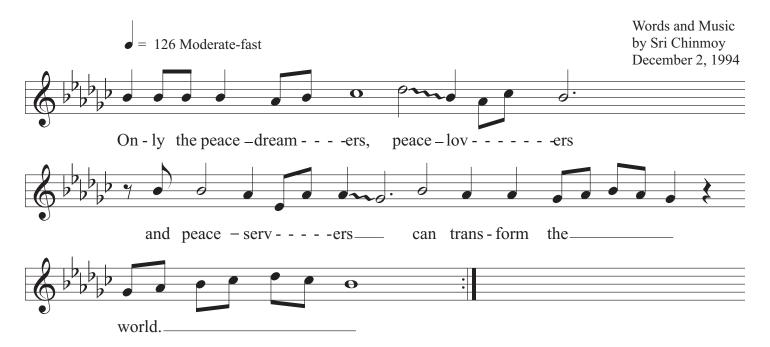
in the world-family.

5. Peace Is Self-Offering



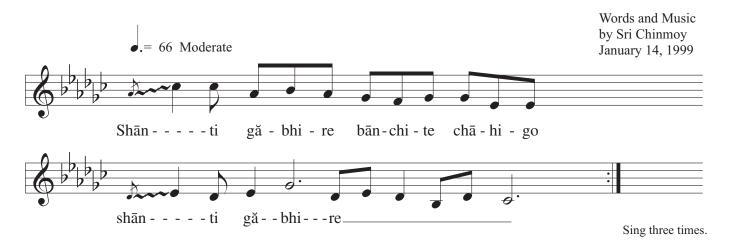
Peace is self-offering in action.

6. Only the Peace-Dreamers



Only the peace-dreamers, Peace-lovers and and peace-servers Can transform the world.

7. Shanti Gabhire



In the Depths of Peace



Sing three times.

Shanti gabhire banchite chahigo shanti gabhire

In the depths of peace I long to live.

About Sri Chinmoy

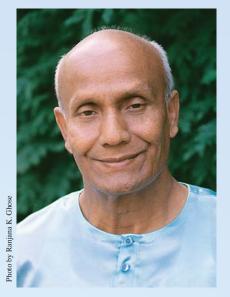
Sri Chinmoy (1931-2007) dedicated his life to the service of world peace and to the fulfilment of the unlimited potential of the human spirit. He inspired countless individuals through his meditations on peace, his creative endeavours and his philosophy of self-transcendence.

Born in Chittagong, Bengal, [British] India, now part of present-day Bangladesh, Sri Chinmoy lived in the French pocket of Pondicherry from 1944-1964 in a spiritual community, where he meditated for many hours a day, attaining personal enlightenment. There he excelled in literary, musical and athletic pursuits. It was during his youth that he first began writing poetry to convey his mystical vision.

Sri Chinmoy came to the United States in 1964 to be of service to humanity. In 1970, at the invitation of U Thant, third Secretary-General of the United Nations, he began leading peace meditations for delegates and staff at UN headquarters in New York. Since then, Sri Chinmoy: The Peace Meditation at the United Nations, as the group is known, has continued its meditations and has sponsored an ongoing series of programmes, lectures and concerts to promote world harmony.

Sri Chinmoy offered hundreds of peace concerts, always free of charge, throughout the world. He founded the Sri Chinmoy Oneness-Home Peace Run, a biennial Olympic-style relay in which runners pass a flaming peace torch from hand to hand as they travel around the globe bearing the message of universal oneness. The international Sri Chinmoy Centre has been accredited as a Non-Governmental Organization with the UN Department of Public Information, promoting a culture of peace and providing humanitarian aid.

On 11 October 2007, Sri Chinmoy passed behind the curtain of Eternity. His creative, peace-loving and humanitarian endeavours are carried on worldwide by his organization, which strives to serve the world in accordance with his timeless teachings.



Sri Chinmoy graced the halls of the United Nations for over 37 years, offering his multifaceted inspiration to the UN community through non-denominational meditations, lectures, concerts, art exhibits and other programmes for peace. In a prolific outpouring of poems, essays and songs dedicated to the UN, he encouraged individuals of all faiths, races and nationalities to seek peace in their lives and to bring this peace to their work for the United Nations.

The songs in this collection are selected from hundreds composed by Sri Chinmoy for the UN, and are dedicated to the upcoming United Nations 75th anniversary. Also included in this volume is a selection of Sri Chinmoy's poetry, along with excerpts from his various talks about the UN. By immersing oneself in these lofty visions, one will be uplifted and reminded of the profound significance of the United Nations and its powerful role in the world arena.

In the prophetic words of Sri Chinmoy: "The inner vision of the United Nations is the gift supreme. A day will dawn when the vision of the United Nations will save the world."

"Sri Chinmoy is the heart of the United Nations – because in all the years I was Secretary-General, and even before...even if he was not present, his message was with us and we were being inspired by him."

Javier Pérez de Cuéllar UN Secretary-General (1982-1991)

"We are each a pool of love, compassion and serenity. Let the ripples from this pool reach to the end of the world. This is what my dear friend Sri Chinmoy did, throughout his life..."

Archbishop Desmond Tutu

Archbishop Emeritus of Cape Town Chair, Truth and Reconciliation Commission Nobel Peace Prize Laureate (1984)