



The Spiritual Work of the United Nations and the Liberation of Humanity

Ushering in a New Consciousness at the United Nations

October 2011

Walk as though ascending the mountain of joy. Great is the scope of the battle for the regeneration of humanity's consciousness.

[Agni Yoga, par. 104, Agni Yoga Society, NY.](#)

Future generations will hold us accountable for how we respond to these critical issues. The 66th session of the General Assembly is, therefore, our opportunity to define our place in this decisive moment in history. This is our opportunity to prove that we, the international community, have the courage, wisdom and tenacity to seek creative and visionary solutions. That we can work together to produce results. That we have learned the lessons of the past. And that, when faced with those few who choose force and brutality, we choose peace, human rights and democracy.

[H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, President, UN/General Assembly](#)

Dear Friends,

Opening the General Debate within the General Assembly of the United Nations, this year's president, Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, affirmed what many would repeat after him and underscore the idea from their own vantage points and in their own unique expressions: "Let there be no doubt that 2011 is the year of new horizons!"

This year, a total of 196 speakers, including the UN's newest member, South Sudan—and three observers, took part in the proceedings. Of these, 111 were heads of State and government—and many, if not most, paid tribute to the hope awakened by the shifts taking

place around the world—what we, in this newsletter, would refer to as manifestations of an awakening consciousness.

Of the many thoughtful, thought-provoking and worthy ideas and ideals articulated within the General Debate (the videos which can be viewed and the addresses which can be read on-line [here](#)), we found the [address](#) by Prime Minister, Jigmi Y. Thinley of the Kingdom of Bhutan especially noteworthy.

Mr. Thinley spoke on the subject of “Happiness.” He drew a sharp contrast between humanity’s experience of the past and the envisioned and potential future:

For too long, we *have* ignored the truth that the causes of [humanity’s]... problems are interrelated... For too long, we *have* refused to accept that GDP focused economic models *have served* their useful purpose and that we need to switch tracks. Guided by the belief that life satisfaction is about material pursuit and accumulation, and that good economics is about limitless growth, our economic development processes *have* created the monster of a consumerist market economy.

Prime Minister Thinley continued,

But the market gives no satisfaction. It enslaves humanity and thrives on the insatiable nature of our greed. As slaves, our value as individuals and nations is measured by the extent of our economic productivity and consumption capacity.

Needed, he affirmed, is a new development paradigm—one that that will “transcend the diversity of our cultures, thoughts and circumstances,” binding all of humanity together—a paradigm that is “holistic, sustainable, inclusive and humane.” One that can take civilization forward and that will augment and not eclipse humanity’s physical, psychological and spiritual well-being.

Working toward this end, Bhutan initiated a General Assembly resolution, which 68 other Member States sponsored and which was adopted unanimously without a vote in July of this year. Referring to this initiative, equating happiness with well-being, Prime Minister Thinley stated that “it is indeed a universal value that binds the rich and the poor, the developed and the developing and articulates the ultimate purpose of life.” The new vision “is about making true societal progress in ways that are meaningful, joyful and lasting.”

Striving to achieve this goal, in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Earth Institute of Columbia University, Bhutan is bringing together leading scientists and thinkers on the subject of the science and economics of happiness, preparing for the panel discussion to be held in New York in the Spring of 2012 preceding the UN Rio+20 Summit.

Recognizing how many might consider such an idea as a seeming impossibility, Prime Minister Thinley acknowledged that such a vision is yet a dream—but, a dream that can become a reality:

Yes it is a dream. But it is possible and as leaders and representatives of our peoples, we must dare to dream and find the courage and determination to pursue the highest of ideals. This is how happiness is to be fashioned. My country prays for your support to give Bhutan an opportunity to contribute to the realization of shared dreams.

We will look forward to learning more about Bhutan's planned Gross National Happiness Center at a public meeting to be held in New York City, co-sponsored by the Aquarian Age Community and mentioned below.

This year's General Assembly proceedings were momentously dedicated to the memory of Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld, whose untimely and tragic death occurred just 50 years ago in September 1961. Many commemorated the life and legacy of this most highly esteemed Secretary-General who continues to serve as an inspiration 50 years after his life was cut short in a plane crash while en route to negotiate peace in what is now the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

Referred to as the greatest statesman of the 20th century, Mr. Hammarskjöld has served as an example and a standard bearer for all who have served in his role and for those who seek to make the United Nations a more effective organization. This was made abundantly clear in the commemorative remarks, this short [video](#) (1:15) and the special [High Level Commemorative Event on Dag Hammarskjöld's Legacy for UN Preventive Diplomacy in the 21st Century](#), which can be viewed in its entirety in this UN Webcast.

The General Debate of the General Assembly was brought to a close by President al-Nasser who stressed that after listening to the ideas of so many world leaders, it was now time *to turn talk into action*: "We must now turn our attention to the crucial next step;" we must translate words into deeds!

Fittingly, humanity will be aided this month in taking this needed next step by the sign of Libra and its attendant cosmic, solar and planetary energies.

As one of the four signs upon the Cardinal Cross, Libra rules humanity's subjective and spiritual life and through the available energies bringing together spirit and matter, the materialization of that which is in need of objective manifestation can occur.

The esoteric wisdom tells us that this sign fosters a careful weighing of values; it is the "place of judgment," wherein humanity will become better aware of the point of balance between material, personal desires and intelligent spiritual love. The chasm between these two aspects of cosmic desire will increasingly be brought to the fore and humanity will have the opportunity to make a choice and a determination: does it want to follow a materialistic or a spiritual way of life?

Interestingly, it was under the sign of Libra that the original meditation room was first opened within the United Nations, on October 14, 1952. Later, this Room was to be

redesigned by Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld and re-opened on November 11, 1957, as per his dedication, prominently displayed in a plaque outside the meditation room and included in a brochure published in the six official languages of the United Nations by the UN Department of Public Inquiry.

Will you contribute to this initiative, gathering and focusing your thoughts—either in person or subjectively within this meditation room? Will you participate in this month's Libra Solar Festival meeting by cooperatively invoking and evoking the cosmic, solar and planetary energies of Light, Love and the Will-to-Good in order to support and strengthen the spiritual work of the United Nations—on behalf of humanity and all life on planet Earth?

We can't overemphasize the importance of united, focused thinking, while heeding the caution of the Agni Yoga wisdom about the process of thinking: "It is not so easy to learn to think. It is difficult to develop intensity of thought, and even more difficult to attain thought of high quality. A person will often mentally repeat to himself, 'I will think purely.' But his being is accustomed to egoistic thinking, and a most undesirable form of thought results. Two birds, flying in different flocks, cannot become united as one. It is necessary to exercise thought, not mentally, but with the fire of the spirit, until all disunity of thought disappears." (Agni Yoga, par. 345, Agni Yoga Society, NY)

As in the past, the meeting will take place at Noon on Tuesday, October 11th in the UN Meditation Room. We will work silently, in unison, using the meditation outline, "The Spiritual Work of the United Nations and the Liberation of Humanity," from 12-12:30 p.m. and then reassemble outside the meditation room from 12:30-1:15 p.m. for discussion.

If you need a copy of the meditation outline, based on the six-fold progression of divine love, please let us know. It is available in several languages and you are encouraged to use it, not only on the day of the meditation meeting—but, weekly every Friday.

For those whose geographic location necessitates that you join in subjectively, you are welcome to send in your thoughts and impressions, recognizing that these can contribute to the pool of Light, Love and the Will-to-Good generated by this meditation effort.

Each of the Solar Festivals spans five days: two days before (preparation, dedication, upward striving), the day of the Solar Festival (safeguarding)—which, this month, in the U.S. Eastern time zone falls on the same day as the meditation meeting, Tuesday, October 11th at 10:06 p.m. and two days after (right release and distribution of the spiritual energy contacted in service to humanity and the planet).

The two remaining meditation meetings for 2011 are posted on this web page and additional information is provided in this on-line flyer on Solar Festival Meditations.

A UN pass is not required to attend this meeting. Enter the UN through the Visitor's entrance on 1st Avenue at 46th St. After you pass through security and enter the building,

the meditation room is located to the right of the information desk and next to the Chagall stained glass window.

The new *Diamond Light* newsletter is now posted on-line and it will soon be reaching those of you who are on the postal mailing list. If you are not on that list and would like to be, please let us know.

You are also invited to ponder the quote of the month, posted on the first of every month. An accompanying cosmic image is also made available as a reminder of the eternal divine circulatory flow that is possible between the microcosm and the macrocosm—the individual, the planet, and the cosmos.

May we ask you to continue to add your subjective energies to the following YouTube videos of the Great Invocation in relationship to the spiritual work of the United Nations?

1. Under the heading of "Reconciliation and the Healing of the Nations" (4:31)
2. The Great Invocation in the Six Official Languages of the United Nations (6:11)

Your continued support and help in circulating these two videos— is much appreciated.

In a following message, we will send you information about a public program to be held in New York City on Thursday, October 27th from 2:00 p.m. until 4:15 p.m. We will look forward to the participation of those of you who can travel to New York City for what promises to be a very thoughtful, thought-provoking and inspiring meeting. As mentioned last month, the theme of the program will be as follows:

**Developing Global Citizens for a Sustainable Society
Why Is the Spiritual Dimension an Essential Component of Education for the 21st
Century?**

Because UN Day is observed on October 24th and because we too wish to pay tribute to the outstanding and inimitable life and legacy of Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld, we wish to leave you with the text and a recorded excerpt of his very last address on UN Day, October 24, 1960. (If you have trouble hearing the recorded talk, please scroll to the end of this webpage.)

Listen to an extract of this speech 

IT IS THE TRADITION that the Organization marks United Nations Day with a concert including the final movement of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony. Today we shall, for the first time in this hall, listen to the symphony in its entirety.

It is difficult to say anything knowing that the words spoken will be followed by this enormous confession of faith in the victorious human spirit and in human brotherhood, a confession valid for all times and with a depth and wealth of expression never surpassed. However, this concert is in celebration of United Nations Day and it

has been felt that a few words may remind us of the purpose for which we have assembled.

When the Ninth Symphony opens we enter a drama full of harsh conflict and dark threats. But the composer leads us on, and in the beginning of the last movement we hear again the various themes repeated, now as a bridge toward a final synthesis. A moment of silence and a new theme is introduced, the theme of reconciliation and joy in reconciliation. A human voice is raised in rejection of all that has preceded and we enter the dreamt kingdom of peace. New voices join the first and mix in a jubilant assertion of life and all that it gives us when we meet it, joined in faith and human solidarity.

On this road from conflict and emotion to reconciliation in this final hymn of praise, Beethoven has given us a confession and a credo which we, who work within and for this Organization, may well make our own. We take part in the continuous fight between conflicting interests and ideologies which so far has marked the history of mankind, but we may never lose our faith that the first movements one day will be followed by the fourth movement. In that faith we strive to bring order and purity into chaos and anarchy. Inspired by that faith we try to impose the laws of the human mind and of the integrity of the human will on the dramatic evolution in which we are all engaged and in which we all carry our responsibility.

The road of Beethoven in his Ninth Symphony is also the road followed by the authors of the Preamble of the Charter. It begins with the recognition of the threat under which we all live, speaking as it does of the need to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war which has brought untold sorrow to mankind. It moves on to a reaffirmation of faith in the dignity and worth of the human person. And it ends with the promise to practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbors and to unite our strength to maintain peace.... We are indeed still in the first movements. But no matter how deep the shadows may be, how sharp the conflicts, how tense the mistrust reflected in what is said and done in our world of today as reflected in this hall and in this house, we are not permitted to forget that we have too much in common, too great a sharing of interests and too much that we might lose together, for ourselves and for succeeding generations, ever to weaken in our efforts to surmount the difficulties and not to turn the simple human values, which are our common heritage, into the firm foundation on which we may unite our strength and live together in peace.

May this be enough as a reminder of the significance of this day. And may now the symphony develop its themes, uniting us in its recognition of fear and its confession of faith.

In ending, may I express the gratitude of the Organization, and of all of us, to Mr. Ormandy and to the Philadelphia Orchestra for coming to us today and for helping us to celebrate this fifteenth United Nations Day.

In shared planetary service,

Aquarian Age Community

A 501(c)(3) not-for-profit NGO in association with UN/DPI

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