

The National Council of Y.M.C.A.s of India

YMCAY

MINISTRY SECTION

MAY 25 1982

BHARAT YUVAK BHAVAN
POST BOX NO 14, NEW DELHI-110001

TELEPHONE : 31 07 69
GRAM : "FLAMINGO"

May 28, 1982

RECEIVED

JUN - 3 1982

Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar
Secretary-General
United Nations
New York 10017
U.S.A.

PO 130 PI (A/INF)

Dear Mr Cueller :

I am happy to inform you that at the meeting of the National Board of the National Council of YMCAs of India, held on 27 & 28 March 1982, a Resolution was passed unanimously by the National Board with regard to Disarmament and the same has been sent to our Prime Minister. A copy of the same is enclosed herewith for your information.

We are also impressing upon the members of our whole Movement to adopt the enclosed Prayer for Peace and Personal Creed and Pledge. We have requested the YMCAs to inform you of the same by cable which would strengthen your hands in the special session of the UN General Assembly on Disarmament.

We will sustain you and your efforts for Disarmament at this special session, in our prayers.

With all good wishes,

Yours sincerely

D S Chinnaburai

D S CHINNABURAI
National General Secretary

Enclosures.

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RESOLUTION

The National YMCAs' Appeal For
Disarmament and World Peace

We, the members of the National Board of the YMCAs, meeting in Pune (March 27-28, 1982) express our deep concern about the escalating arms race that threatens the peace of the world. Belonging as we do to a Movement spanning 98 countries and five continents we are naturally distressed by the manner in which the proliferation of ever more deadly nuclear weapons threatens to plunge the human race into a holocaust of senseless destruction.

We also find it painful that when millions of people are starving and ill-clad, sick and destitute, vast sums of money which could be used for human development are being channelled into the arms industry. It is a reflection on the present civilization whose sense of values has deteriorated to such an extent that human life is no longer valued as a gift from God.

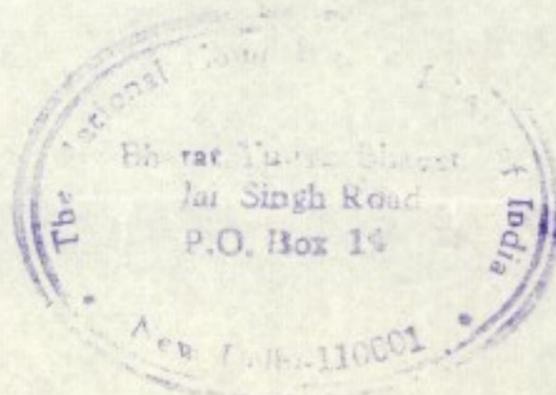
We appeal to our Prime Minister and the Govt. of India to lead our country in a campaign to keep our Asian Region free from nuclear armaments which will add to the existing threats to peace. We look to our country which produced a Mahatma Gandhi totally dedicated to ahimsa (non-violence) to play a positive role in world affairs to remove the fear of homicidal nuclear warfare and to enhance the efforts to bring development into the heart of international life to contribute to the enrichment, welfare, and happiness of humanity.

D. S. Chinnabhai

D. S. CHINNABHAI

National General Secretary
National Council of YMCAs of India

New Delhi
March 31, 1982



THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF YMCAs OF INDIA

Bharat Yuvak Bhavan
Jai Singh Road
Post Box No.14
New Delhi 110 001

To
General Secretaries, Secretaries, and
Hon. Secretaries of YMCAs
Secretaries on the National Cadre

May 20, 1982

Dear Friends,

A continuous 'On-going' programme on
"Peace and Harmony"

In continuation of my circular dated 26th October 1981 on the above subject, I am happy to inform you that I was privileged to attend the "World Conference of Religious Workers for Saving the Sacred Gift of Life from Nuclear Catastrophe" in Moscow from May 10-14, and returned on 19th May.

It was a significant aspect of Billy Graham's speech when he made a special reference to the Prayer for Peace as well as personal commitment. The delegates from Britain and India pleaded for the Prayer for Peace to be included, which was officially "launched at a significant and uplifting interfaith service in Westminster Abbey at midday on 6th August 1981 (Hiroshima Day)". Mother Theresa of Calcutta inaugurated this and since then people from all over the world, with different allegiance to different faiths, have been saying this prayer. I would like you to place this prayer before your Board and see that this prayer is said at a particular time everyday by all members of YMCA, which I am sure will have a tremendous impact.

The group to which I was assigned discussed the topic "Urgent task of Disarmament". I was inspired by the personal testimony of the presbyter of Mennonite Church in USA, Rev. Peter Dyck, which prompted me to submit a draft for a 'Personal Creed and Pledge' which will form part of the report and hopefully be followed. I am herewith enclosing the same for the consideration of your Board/Committee and see if this can be adopted by members of the YMCA which, when done, will be a tremendous force behind our peace efforts. I am also proposing to place these two drafts before our ensuing Convention.

With all good wishes,

Yours sincerely

D. S. Chinnadorai

D S CHINNADORAI
National General Secretary

cc : Officers and members of the
National Executive

Encl: Prayer for Peace, Personal Creed and Pledge

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P R A Y E R F O R P E A C E

LEAD ME FROM DEATH
 TO LIFE
FROM FALSEHOOD TO TRUTH

LEAD ME FROM DESPAIR
 TO HOPE
FROM FEAR TO TRUST

LEAD ME FROM HATE
 TO LOVE
FROM WAR TO PEACE

LET PEACE FILL OUR HEART
 OUR WORLD
 OUR UNIVERSE

P E R S O N A L C R E E D A N D P L E D G E

I BELIEVE IN THE SACRED GIFT OF LIFE

I BELIEVE IN THE PRESERVATION AND PROTECTION
OF THIS PRECIOUS LIFE

I BELIEVE THAT PEACE AND JUSTICE IS THE WAY TO
SAVE LIFE FROM NUCLEAR CATASTROPHE

I BELIEVE IN THE UNITY OF ALL PEOPLE BUILT ON
LOVE AND MUTUAL TRUST THE
PRECONDITIONS OF PEACE

I BELIEVE THIS IS THE TIME, 'BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE'
TO SAVE THE SACRED GIFT OF LIFE FROM
NUCLEAR CATASTROPHE

THEREFORE I PLEDGE MYSELF

- TO UNITE WITH ALL PEOPLE IRRESPECTIVE OF
IDEOLOGICAL AND RELIGIOUS BELIEFS IN LOVE
AND MUTUAL TRUST
 - TO DO ALL THAT IS POSSIBLE FOR TOTAL DISARM-
AMENT AND TOTAL BANNING OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS
ADOPTING 'PEACE THE WAY'
 - TO STRUGGLE FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE
BEGINNING WITH ME TO BE SENSITIVE TO THIS
URGENT TASK
 - TO SENSITISE ALL, INDIVIDUALLY AND UNITEDLY
THROUGH PEACE EDUCATION, PEACE PROPAGANDA
AND PEACE MARCHES
 - TO URGE THROUGH PUBLIC OPINION THE POWERS
THAT BE FOR IMMEDIATE CESSATION OF PRODUCTION
OF ALL WEAPONS INCLUDING NUCLEAR
 - TO PRESERVE AND PROTECT SACRED GIFT OF LIFE
FROM NUCLEAR CATASTROPHE
- FINALLY
- TO PERISH, IF NECESSARY, IN THE STRUGGLE
FOR PEACE IN ORDER THAT PROGENY
MAY LIVE IN PEACE.
