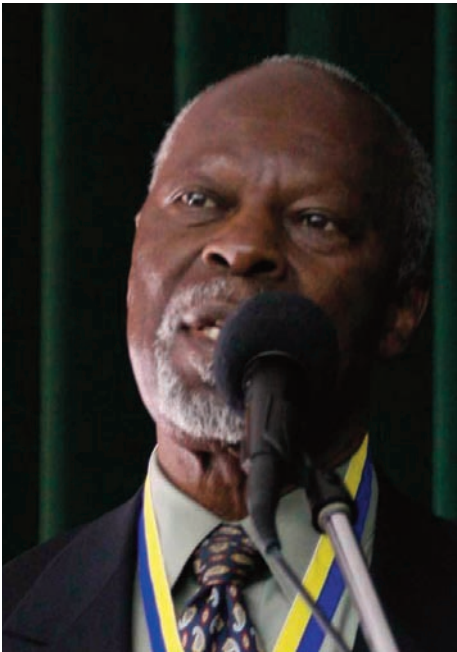




WORLD HARMONY RUN

FOUNDED BY SRI CHINMOY

2010 NEWS



Dr. Davidson Hepburn, President of the General Conference of UNESCO, speaks about the run in his home country, The Bahamas.

PROUDLY SUPPORTING THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR



The World Harmony Run is honored to support 2010, International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures (IYRC), and we encourage all participants to explore ways to support this valuable initiative.

Excerpts from a message from Dr. Davidson Hepburn, President of the General Conference of UNESCO, to all participants of the World Harmony Run

By carrying a torch to over 100 nations this year, the World Harmony Run reinforces the goals and objectives of 2010: International Year, and provides a chance for all participants to expand their awareness and living experiences of other cultures. It is indeed an excellent opportunity to develop an appreciation of diversity through art, culture and sports. This communal sharing of our hopes and dreams is fundamental for building the foundations of peace and harmony.

The multi-cultural, international, and local participation of the World Harmony Run demonstrates the concept of peace and harmony in a unique and practical way and reinforces the goals and objectives of UNESCO's mandate and the International Year. May your activity contribute to the global recognition of the intrinsic relationship between sustainable development and the promotion of cultural diversity, mutual understanding, and a culture of peace.

Excerpts from a speech by Ms. Rochelle Roca-Hachem at the opening ceremony in New York, April 12, 2010

I want to express my pleasure and pride and support for this initiative, and for what the World Harmony Run stands for, because really what it does is walk the talk. In fact, it runs the talk. It is doing something effective and positive in that it brings individuals together and it brings groups of people together. And that resonates very much with the work of UNESCO, because we work for peace and security through exactly these types of initiatives.



Ms. Rochelle Roca-Hachem, Programme Specialist for Culture, UNESCO, New York Office.

like mine are trying to do, and they are doing it in such a concrete way and positive way that I can only applaud it and encourage them to great, great success and growing numbers and growing participation in future years. So thank you very much, and congratulations.

It is an inspiration to all of us. It is embodying the messages of the United Nations and the Member States, and what organizations

Highlights from high level meetings around the world...



Slovenia

A dedicated peace advocate, the President of the Republic of Slovenia, Dr. Danilo Türk, received the World Harmony Run Torch for the second time.



Permanent Representatives of United Nations Member States joined UN Staff, Representatives of Foreign Consular Offices, NY City Councillors, and World Harmony Run representatives from more than 100 countries for the 2010 International Launch.



Brussels, Belgium

The President of the Council of the European Union, Mr. Herman Van Rompuy, offered the following message of encouragement: "To run for the soul of mankind is action as well as philosophy. Your action is one of faith, hope and charity. It is an action of love. I do hope that the voice of your message, the voice of your action, will be heard and recognized."



Serbia

Mrs. Slavica Đukić Dejanović, President of the National Parliament of the Republic of Serbia, kindly greeted the World Harmony Run and officially welcomed us to the Parliament. We were honored that Mrs. Slavica Đukić Dejanović referred in her speech to the UNESCO 2010 - International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures, which is proudly supported by the WHR.



Canada

"World harmony, world peace: these are not mere dictionary words. These are the realities, divine realities and supreme realities." - Sri Chinmoy, founder

Canada's Speaker of the House joined us on Parliament Hill - where we had a special meeting with members of the diplomatic community, Members of Parliament and nationally renowned Canadian athletes and explorers. Pictured are longtime supporters of the Run, (l to r) Hon. Peter Milliken, Speaker of the House; Hon. Minister Stockwell Day, Senator Mac Harb and former Senator Laurier Lapierre. Also in attendance were over 20 representatives from the diplomatic community.



Macedonia

Macedonian dancers share their cultural heritage with the international European Team.



Czech Republic

Our Czech team's puppets, Happy and Friend, explained harmony to all the younger children we met.



Netherlands

Using multi-colored candles representing humanity's range of hues, children from the Netherlands lit the torch. The colors were also reminiscent of the UNESCO IYRC logo.



USA

In Tampa, Florida, seven hundred enthusiastic Eisenhower Elementary students and teachers greeted us with a huge heart formation to say "Thank You."



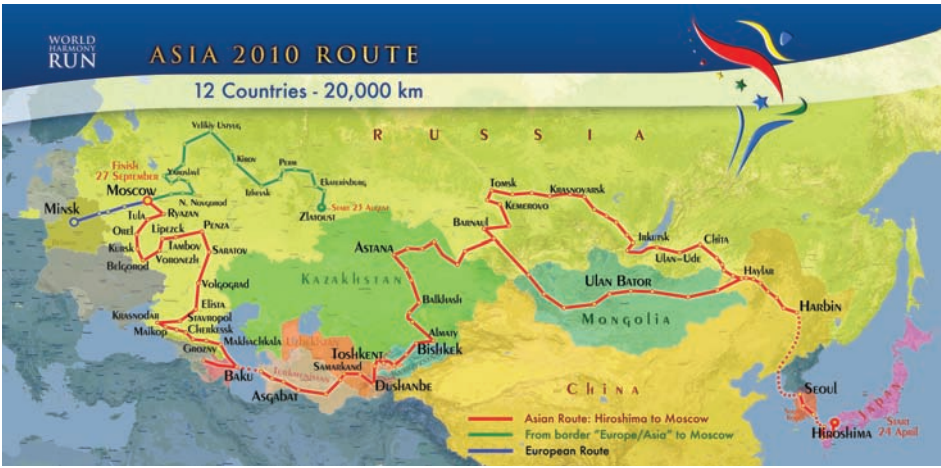
USA

Classes in Rising Sun Elementary School in Maryland, each adopted a nation to study in preparation for our visit. There were so many flags!



Canada

Canadian children enjoy the IYRC logo, guessing the different languages as well as appreciating how the different colors play together, observing how each strand keeps its unique color to make the whole. This symbolism is especially appreciated in multi-ethnic and multi-racial communities.



This was our first time running a continuous route across northern Asia.



There are always challenges on the road to harmony, although this one was deeper than usual.



Our 10,000 mile Asian journey began at Hiroshima's sacred Peace Memorial Park where we lit the torch from the eternal flame.



The international team runs with local athletes through the streets of Zhaltuntun, China.



At every ceremony we encourage people to be silent and feel the peace we have in our hearts.



A police cadet lights a Westminister School student's torch as part of a community relay in New Providence, The Bahamas.



In Hungary over 5,000 children gathered in a Budapest central square to create art focused on peace and harmony.

This year the World Harmony Run will visit over 100 nations on all seven continents - including Antarctica. An undertaking of this magnitude takes a huge team and we thank everyone involved for their cooperation in bringing this event to fruition.

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