

# ONE World Humanity

A SHRI RAM CHANDRA MISSION PUBLICATION

## ONE WORLD ONE HUMANITY...

Seeks to raise awareness of the United Nations, and the role of Shri Ram Chandra Mission in supporting the principles and goals set out in the UN Charter.

Shri Ram Chandra Mission is an international non-profit organization that has been associated with the UN Department of Global Communications since 2005. SRCM supports the goals of the UN Charter through heart-centered meditation as well as through research and educational programs and services.



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# International Day of Peace: A Day of Climate Action

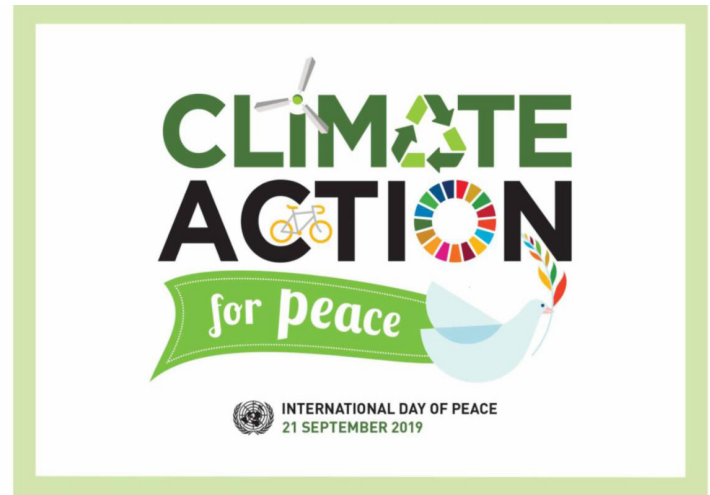
On Peace Day 2019 the United Nations issued an appeal for “climate action.” The UN logo for International Day of Peace called for the “political will and transformational policies” needed to preserve the natural environment.

Around the world, peace activists met to take up the challenge of climate disruption. They organized and strategized. But they also gathered in silent vigils to bear witness to the impact of climate disruption – to open hearts and minds to the full dimension of the environmental crisis.

In a recent article, author and radio host Krista Tippett observed that we have placed our “collective faith in politics and economics out of a certainty that rational discourse can overcome irrational human conduct.”

Beneath the thin veneer of politics, Tippett writes, is the “human drama of dreams, desires, pain and fear.” We don’t know how to sit with those feelings; so, we cry out, and act out, in anger and frustration.

To heal the planet, we must heal ourselves. To do this, Tippett concludes, we must recognize “that inner life and outer presence in the world are intertwined – whether we want that to be true or not.”



**“It is possible to achieve our goals, but we need decisions, political will and transformational policies to allow us to still live in peace with our own climate.”**

**UN Secretary-General António Guterres**  
15 MAY 2019

[un.org/peaceday](https://un.org/peaceday) | [#peaceday](https://twitter.com/peaceday) [#climateaction](https://twitter.com/climateaction)



## Peace Day at Wainwright House – Rye, New York

In response to the UN's call to action, members of Shri Ram Chandra Mission and the Heartfulness Institute sponsored a Peace Day program in partnership with Wainwright House on September 22, 2019.

The Wainwright House was established in 1951 as a center of holistic learning, dedicated to "inspiring greater understanding through body, mind, spirit and community."

United National officials and corporate leaders gathered at Wainwright House to explore the mission and goals of the UN Charter, and to forge partnerships that would help advance the UN's mission of world peace. The Board of Trustees at Wainwright House drafted, and adopted, a Covenant with the Earth, which reads as a call to climate action.

Dag Hammarskjöld, the UN's Second Secretary General, donated to Wainwright House a section cut from the trunk of a 300-year-old tree that served as an altar in the original meditation room at the United Nations headquarters in New York City.



SRCM and the Heartfulness Institute sponsored a UN Peace Day program at Wainwright House, a center for holistic learning in Rye, New York.



Robert Perry presented a talk on the UN's call for climate action.



## Making Peace with Planet Earth

SRCM is also engaged in “climate action” on a large scale at Kanha Shanti Vanam, a spiritual community on the outskirts of Hyderabad.

The site is known as Green Kanha. Here, over the last ten years, residents and volunteers from around the world have undertaken a case-study in environmental sustainability, transforming some 350 acres of barren desert into an ecologically balanced site – a spiritual retreat, a residential community, and a center for research and education.

Harvested rainwater irrigates fields of vegetables and solar panels generate energy. The members of this global community are also preserving indigenous vegetation and have created a green canopy over the desert by planting more than 200,000 trees.

In 2019 the Indian Green Building Council gave a Platinum rating, its highest, to Kanha Shanti Vanam – the first ashram, and the only campus of this scale, to qualify for this award.



Young climate activists plant wild grass at Kanha Shanti Vanam.



Green Kanha is a case study in environmental sustainability.



The Indian Green Building Council awarded a Platinum rating to Kanha Shanti Vanam.

# Elevating Consciousness: The 18<sup>th</sup> Sustainable Development Goal?

How can leaders in business, government, science and academia meet the challenges – economic, social, environmental – of industrialization, economic inequality, climate disruption?

To explore this question, scholars and business leaders, yoga and meditation practitioners gathered this past summer (August 2019) at the Indian Institute of Management, in Bengaluru. The Heartfulness Institute sponsored the conference entitled, Elevating Consciousness through Meditation for Global Harmony.

One speaker posed the challenge this way: The UN has been promoting the principle of sustainability for more than three decades. Why have we failed to act effectively on this principle – even at our peril?

His proposal: To add evolution of consciousness to the UN's seventeen sustainable development goals. (The article is published in the October 2019 issue of [Heartfulness Magazine](#).)

Presenters at the conference explored the concept of consciousness, the research findings in psychology and neuroscience related to contemplative disciplines, as well as new paradigms in management practice and organizational development.

Kamlesh Patel, the president and spiritual guide of Shri Ram Chandra Mission and the Heartfulness Institute, presented the keynote address – a master class in the yogic techniques that “instill steadiness and stillness of mind.”

This practice, he said, helps us “solve the problem which will solve all other problems.”



Kamlesh Patel, president and spiritual guide of SRCM, leads meditation at a conference on Elevating Consciousness Through Meditation, in Bengaluru, India. Below, he presents the keynote address at the conference, which was hosted by the Indian Institute of Management.



## Writing From the Heart: Student Essays on the Measure of Intelligence — and Love

Each year, SRCM and the UN Information Center for India and Bhutan invite students across India to write an essay on themes related to universal human values. The All-India Essay Writing Program is undertaken in conjunction with the UN International Day of Youth.

In 2019 students at 25,000 senior schools and colleges wrote on topics inspired by the words of Albert Einstein (“The measure of intelligence is the ability to change”) and Swami Vivekananda (“All love is expansion; all selfishness is contraction”).

More than one-half million students submitted essays. The authors of outstanding essays were recognized with awards; the schools they attend received financial prizes.



Young writers from across India drafting essays in conjunction with the UN International Day of Youth.



# Fifth Anniversary of the International Day of Yoga

The SRCM community participates in Yoga Day activities in parks and town squares, in community centers and government offices, in schools, temples and churches. In 2019 SRCM sponsored programs around the world – from Bogota, Colombia to Paithan, Maharashtra, India.

On June 18, the Committee on International Day of Yoga at the UN (of which SRCM is a member) hosted an evening of sacred music, silent meditation and simple yoga asanas in the Tillman Chapel at the Church Center for the United Nations in New York City.

The UN General Assembly adopted by acclamation the resolution creating the International Day of Yoga in December 2014. In commemoration of the fifth anniversary of Yoga Day, the publisher of the e-magazine *Light on Light*, released a special edition. It includes an article by Petra Schweitzer on Heartfulness Meditation available at:

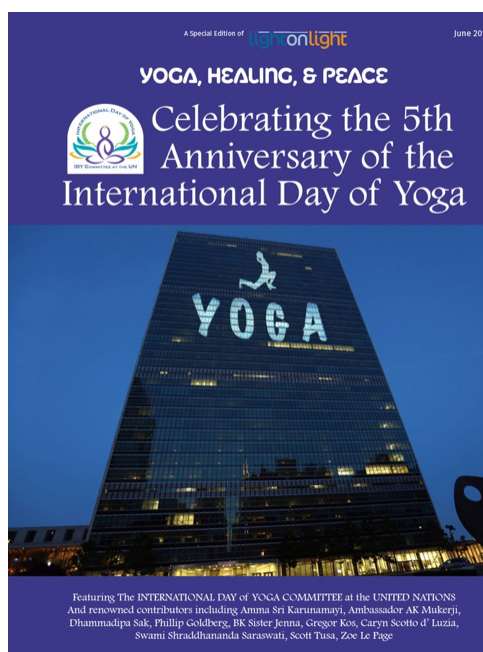
[https://issuu.com/lightonlight/docs/lightonlight\\_un\\_idy\\_2019](https://issuu.com/lightonlight/docs/lightonlight_un_idy_2019)



A Yoga Day program featuring Heartfulness Meditation in Bogota, Colombia.



Students at the Shri Nath High School participate in International Yoga Day celebrations in Paithan, Maharashtra, India.



The front cover of a special edition of the e-magazine *Light on Light*, commemorating the fifth annual International Day of Yoga.

To learn more about heartfulness meditation,  
please visit [www.heartfulness.org](http://www.heartfulness.org)



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