

❖ JEREMY GILLEY

PEACE ONE DAY

www.peaceoneday.org

Dear Friends

I am grateful to the Gernika Peace Museum for inviting Peace One Day to attend the International Conference of Peace Museums in May 2005 and for putting together this current publication.

I launched the Peace One Day film project in September 1999 at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London to a handful of individuals. The objective was simple: to create the first ever day of global ceasefire and non-violence, a World Peace Day, and document that process on film. I expected to fail and in the process make a film about the unwillingness of the global community to unite.

However, to my delight, on 7 September 2001, Peace One Day achieved its primary objective. A resolution (GA 55/282), put forward by the UK and Costa Rican governments, was unanimously adopted by UN member states formally establishing an annual day of global ceasefire and non-violence on the UN International Day of Peace - World Peace Day - fixed in the global calendar on 21 September.

The resulting feature-length documentary film (entitled 'Peace One Day'), produced in association with the BBC and Passion Pictures, charts not only the establishment of the Day, but also events that took place on 21 September in 2002 and 2003 in over a hundred countries.

Peace One Day has now embarked on a worldwide networking exercise to inform the world's people of the Day's existence, engaging them in the Day's observance in accordance with UN GA Resolution 55/282. To this end the Peace One Day film has so far been licensed for broadcast in 15 territories internationally and has played at 30 international film festivals. Through the distribution of the film (and via the international press associated with it) I am confident that Peace One Day has already taken the World Peace Day message to approaching one billion people worldwide. For a full breakdown of the progress of the film please visit the website www.peaceoneday.org.

The website also holds the archive of reported activities on World Peace Day over the last four years and, importantly, has a mechanism enabling all parties, from governments through to individuals, to make their own commitment for the upcoming World Peace Day.

So I invite you to make your own commitment for World Peace Day, whatever your age or background, as an individual or as part of a wider organisation and tell us about it via the website or on the details below. Whatever the nature and scale of your commitment for 21 September, your efforts will inspire others to become involved.

I have set out below some quotes and photographs as well as the full text of UN GA Resolution 55/282 for your interest. Thank you for taking the time to read this passage.

If you build a house you start with one brick, if we want peace why not start with one day...and maybe that day has arrived.

I look forward to hearing from you and remain respectfully yours

In peace

Jeremy Gilley
Director, Producer, Writer

SUPPORT FOR PEACE ONE DAY

"You have proved that individuals can make a difference and if each of us does our bit collectively we will make a major contribution."



UN Secretary-General, Kofi Annan - extract from the film 'Peace One Day'

"My experience of conflict is that those who are involved in it, and unfortunately in my work I see a great deal of this, long for, even a day of peace, that's what they say to me, if this would only stop for a day. It has the practical impact of allowing access of humanitarian aid, access of information, freedom of movement, relief from the pressure and tension of not knowing where the next bomb or bullet may come from. That to me is an idea whose time has come."



UNHCHR Mary Robinson - extract from the film 'Peace One Day'

It is all our moral responsibility to make an attempt, this is not a question of whether it is achieved within our lifetime or not, we are human beings and we have the responsibility to show the right path or at least make an attempt for a better future or then we may not live, we may not enjoy that brighter future, but it doesn't matter, this is a matter for humanity, a matter for the world, so no matter how limited the effect, we must make every effort for the promotion of peace and inner values. So I fully support."



His Holiness the Dalai Lama - extract from the film 'Peace One Day'

Resolution Text
Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 33
Resolution adopted by the General Assembly
[without reference to a Main Committee (A/55/L.95 and Add.1)]
55/282. International Day of Peace

The General Assembly

Recalling its resolution 36/67 of 30 November 1981, by which it declared that the third Tuesday of September, the opening day of the regular sessions of the General Assembly, shall be officially proclaimed and observed as International Day of Peace and shall be devoted to commemorating and strengthening the ideals of peace both within and among all nations and peoples, Recalling also its other relevant resolutions, including resolution 55/14 of 3 November 2000.

Reaffirming the contribution that the observance and celebration of the International Day of Peace makes in strengthening the ideals of peace and alleviating tensions and causes of conflict,

Considering the unique opportunity it offers for a cessation of violence and conflict throughout the world, and the related importance of achieving the broadest possible awareness and observance of the International Day of Peace among the global community,

Desiring to draw attention to the objectives of the International Day of Peace, and therefore to fix a date for its observance each year that is separate from the opening day of the regular sessions of the General Assembly,

1. Decides that, with effect from the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly, the International Day of Peace shall be observed on 21 September each year, with this date to be brought to the attention of all people for the celebration and observance of peace;
2. Declares that the International Day of Peace shall henceforth be observed as a day of global ceasefire and non-violence, an invitation to all nations and people to honour a cessation of hostilities for the duration of the Day;
3. Invites all member states, organizations of the United Nations system, regional and non-governmental organizations and individuals to commemorate, in an appropriate manner, the International Day of Peace, including through education and public awareness, and to cooperate with the United Nations in the establishment of the global ceasefire.

111th Plenary meeting
7th September 2001

Source: United Nations Website www.un.org