

Global Minute of Silence at 12 noon (all time zones) – September 21



Individuals, organizations and countries are being asked to observe a Minute of Silence - Moment of Peace on the UN International Day of Peace, September 21, at 12noon local time. This simple yet profound and practical action demonstrates that personal and planetary peace are one.

“As everyone knows, who takes a moment of silence from time to time, it is what remains that really counts as the moment progresses. And what really counts is life and love and our responsibility to each other. We are connected to all life throughout time and space, shaped by generations past, connected today around the globe, shaping our generations to come. A shared moment of silence to honor this connectedness is a simple and elegant statement of connection to life.”

- Astronaut Rusty Schweikart (stated at an International Day of Peace celebration hosted by Pathways to Peace, San Francisco, CA, 1984)

In 1983, in commemoration of the annual International Day of Peace and in solidarity with the United Nations, the NGO Pathways To Peace inaugurated a Minute of Silence of Peace at 12:00 Noon in each time zone that resulted in a Peace Wave around the world. This observation of a noon ***Minute of Silence - Moment of Peace*** has grown throughout the world, with the idea of a 24-hour Peace Wave at noon in each time zone. In 2012, cities across the world including Chicago, USA, Manchester, UK, Montreal, Canada, Nairobi, Kenya and Hong Kong, SAR observed this global minute of silence, and global organizations such as *Mayors for Peace* endorsed observance of the ***Minute of Silence - Moment of Peace***.

As part of his 2012 Peace Day message, the United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon stressed in that on the International Day of Peace the UN “calls for a complete cessation of hostilities around the world.” The Secretary-General encouraged people worldwide to observe a minute of silence at noon to “honor the victims – those who have lost their lives, and those who survived but must now cope with trauma and pain.”

Peace Day is an opportunity to mark our individual progress toward building a Culture of Peace, and serves as a reminder of our permanent commitment to Peace, above all interests and differences of any kind. The ***Minute of Silence - Moment of Peace*** is a shared and practical act of peacebuilding in which all individuals, organizations and nations can participate.