



Center for World Thanksgiving

13-08622

Honorable Ban Ki-moon

Secretary-General of the United Nations

United Nations Secretariat

New York, NY 10017

ACTION JA

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19/09/13

Dear Secretary General,

Our representative in New York told us that you had made a remarkable statement. It is with growing emotion that I read that statement of 16 September at the Holy Family Church prayer service on the occasion of the opening of the Sixty-Eight Session of the General Assembly. You touched upon and continued to go deeper into the keys of life that moved the Founders of the Thanks-Giving Foundation – gratitude and thanksgiving.

Far from the centers of power in the middle of the North American continent, in Dallas, we built a center, Thanks-Giving Square, dedicated to that premise. It was recognized nationally when in 1976 then President Gerald Ford called it a “major national shrine” and taken into the heart of the world with Secretary General Kofi Annan’s letter announcing to our Center of World Thanksgiving that the year 2000 had been declared the International Year of Thanksgiving by the General Assembly.

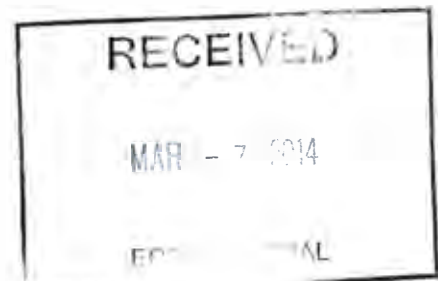
You may also recall that Thanks-Giving Foundation offered the Golden Rule Mosaic by Norman Rockwell to the United States of America which in turn transferred it to the United Nations on its 40th birthday. The Mosaic remains a wonderful symbol of your message, how we should strive to thank and live together in harmony and peace.

✓ This is why I sincerely hope that you can be present at the re-dedication of the Mosaic during the Week of Religious Harmony in February 2014.

Peter Stewart

Chair

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NORMAN ROCKWELL MOSAIC PRESENTED TO UNITED NATIONS BY NANCY REAGAN

A Norman Rockwell mosaic depicting people of different nationalities standing together with the words "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you" inscribed on it, was presented by Nancy Reagan, wife of United States President Ronald Reagan, to the United Nations this afternoon at a ceremony attended by Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

The mosaic, entitled "The Golden Rule", seeks to depict "a vision of a united people", said Mrs. Reagan. It provided an example that "nations could take heart in and work for". The mosaic has been installed on the third floor of the Conference building.

Secretary-General Perez de Cuellar, in accepting the mosaic on behalf of the United Nations, said: "The painter's vision indeed recalls the Charter's inspiring precept for all 'to practise tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours'. The mosaic eloquently expresses our aspirations for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction as to sex, race, language or religion."

The Secretary-General added: "Norman Rockwell portrayed the essential qualities of integrity and compassion, of common decency and honesty. They are clearly reflected in the faces of this mosaic -- faces that include his own." (For text of the Secretary-General's statement, see Press Release SG/SM/3770-HQ/465.)

According to information provided by the United States Mission to the United Nations, the idea for the painting originated with an unfinished Rockwell drawing of the Security Council. "The painter spent five months transforming the earlier work into a painting which would illuminate the principle which he and the world hoped the United Nations would serve."

Mrs. Reagan said that the Thanks-Giving Square Foundation of Dallas, Texas, had arranged and financed the creation of the mosaic.

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