

Press Release

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Bhutan observed the 72nd anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations on 24th October 2017 with the lighting of 1000 butter lamps in the Kuenray of Tashichhodzong.

Lyonpo Dawa Gyeltshen, Minister of Home & Cultural Affairs, the Chief Guest of the UN Day celebration led the lighting of the 1000 butter lamps. The UN Day marks the day on which the UN Charter entered into force on October 24, 1945. The function was attended by Parliamentarians, Senior Government Officials, Former Ambassadors of Bhutan to the United Nations, Representatives and officials of the UN and its Specialized agencies and Members of the Diplomatic Community based in Thimphu.

The Chief Guest highlighted the contributions made by the United Nations towards the socio-economic development of Bhutan. He expressed the Royal Government's appreciation to the UN and its Agencies for their support and cooperation in advancing the partnership. He reaffirmed Bhutan's commitment to working with the Member States to ensure that the UN continues to play an instrumental role in fighting climate change, eradicating poverty and maintaining global peace and security. He also highlighted Bhutan's contribution to peacekeeping since 2014.

Mr. Gerald Daly, UN Resident Coordinator, expressed appreciation to the Royal Government for organizing the symbolic ceremony of lighting the 1000 butter lamps to observe the 72nd anniversary of the United Nations and prayers for world peace and prosperity.

Mr. Daly stated that human dignity transcends human rights, which is at the core of the work of the UN and in this regard, member states pledged to 'Leave No One Behind' and adopted the 2030 agenda in 2015. He said, efforts are on-going, under the leadership of Mr. Antonio Guterres, the UN Secretary General to engage in a comprehensive reform of the UN Development System to support Member States in implementing the 2030 Agenda and in achieving the SDG Goals.

Mr. Daly acknowledged with pride UN's successful partnership with Bhutan over the last 46 years, during which Bhutan has made remarkable socio economic progress. Furthermore, Bhutan's development philosophy of GNH and prudent economic management and political stability have brought about a significant rise in living standards and improvement in development ranking, which he said is a testimony of commitment and hard work.

Mr. Daly further stated that as the UN Team in Bhutan, in collaboration with GNHC, prepares the next UN framework of support, they will ensure that their strategic priorities are aligned with the 12th FYP priorities and that their support compliments Bhutan's efforts to achieve its long term developmental Goals.

Mr. Daly reaffirmed the unwavering support of the UN to Bhutan to achieve its development goals and objectives in the years ahead.



Ministry of foreign Affairs