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SOME SUGGESTIONS ON THE CELEBRATION OF THE CULTURAL ANNIVERSARIES

- Make the recommendations of the World Council of Peace known to the public directly or indirectly. Ensure as much publicity as possible for the figures celebrated and the events held through statements to the press and radio, etc., and/or posters and other forms of propeganda.

- Get in touch officially with the various cultural institutions, both public and private, the universities, and writers', artists', scientists', educationalists' and students' associations and others to make our celebrations known to them and ask them for their suggestions and collaboration. Try to get the anniversaries mentioned in the schools.

- Make similar approaches to intellectuals of various tendencies.

- Ask specialists, art, music and literary critics, scholars, writers, etc. for studies, articles and the like on the lives and work of the persons celebrated. Distribute this material and communicate it to the Secretariat to be sent on to all countries.

- Try to set up, with the official or unofficial participation of the peace movement, Celebration Committees including representatives of organisations and individuals of different circles and tendencies.

- Try to have eminent foreign intellectuals invited to the events held, especially from the country of the cultural figure in question. This would give the events a marked character of international brotherhood.

- As a further contribution to international friendship, it would be valuable for the home countries of the ten figures celebrated to receive messages of greetings from other countries. These messages could be signed by cultural and peace movement personalities and leaders of mass organisations, women and youth, etc. Such activities and others along the same lines would strengthen the links between the countries, helping the establishment of closer and more cordial relations.

- In general, do everything possible to stimulate other events in addition to those held or inspired by the peace movement, to be organised by circles who would be disposed to pay tribute independently to the great creative figures of world culture.

- In Holland, Austria and Germany, official committees have already been set up to pay tribute to Rembrandt, Mozart and Heine. It would be good to write to them expressing your national peace movement's support and at the same time asking for information and publicity material which could be useful to you for the celebrations in your country.

- Examine the possibility of running competitions on the theme of the life and work of one or other of the figures celebrated.

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- In 1955 and previous years the celebration of the anniversaries in the different countries took the form of public meetings, lectures, exhibitions, recitals, concerts, plays and film shows, special visits to places where the figures celebrated lived and worked, various items in the press, special issues of cultural reviews and the publication of certain works, etc. It will certainly be possible to benefit from these experiences in preparing the 1956 programme.

- The commemoration of Kalidasa and Toyoda (Sesshu) makes it possible to draw attention to the culture of the Asian countries. The various events could be held in co-operation with connoisseurs and specialists in oriental culture, among others.

- The celebration of Pierre and Marie Curie can be the occasion for lectures and exhibitions showing the importance of their discoveries and their relation to the conquests of science which must, as they wished, serve peaceful purposes.

- We would remind you that Schubert and other composers have used Heine's poems as the theme of songs and other musical compositions; that there exists at least one film on Rembrandt's work; and that there are films based on novels and plays by Dostoyevsky, Ibsen and Shaw. These means can thus be used in these cases, and for the others too, to give more variety to the events planned.

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TREASON TRIAL, 1956 1961

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