

Dag Hammarskjöld Medal

May 29, 2025 • vajiramandravi.com



Dag Hammarskjöld Medal Latest News

Two Indian peacekeepers who lost their lives while serving under the U.N. flag last year will be honoured posthumously with the Dag Hammarskjöld Medal by the United Nations as it commemorates International Day of U.N. Peacekeepers on May 29.

About Dag Hammarskjöld Medal

- It is the **highest honour awarded to UN peacekeepers**.
- It was established in 1997 as a **posthumous award** given to **members of peacekeeping operations who lost their lives during service** with a peacekeeping operation **under the operational control** and authority **of the United Nations**.
- **Each year on Peacekeeper's Day (May 29)**, this medal is **awarded to any member state that has lost one or more military or police peacekeepers** at a ceremony at United Nations headquarters.
- It is **named after** the **second Secretary-General** of the United Nations, **Dag Hammarskjöld**.
- On 6 October **1998**, the **first Medal** was presented **to the family of Dag Hammarskjöld**.

- Dag Hammarskjöld was Secretary-General of the United Nations from April 10, 1953, until September 18, 1961, when he died in a plane crash while on a peace mission in the Congo.
- The second medal honoured Commandant René de Labarrière, Military Observer in the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization, who was the first peacekeeper to lose his life in a United Nations peacekeeping operation, in 1948.

Other UN Awards

- **Captain Mbaye Diagne Medal for Exceptional Courage:** It is awarded **to those military, police, civilian United Nations personnel** and associated personnel who **demonstrate exceptional courage** in the face of extreme danger while fulfilling the mandate of their missions or their functions in the service of humanity and the United Nations.
- **UN Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award:** It was started in 2016 to recognise the dedication and **effort of an individual peacekeeper** in **promoting the principles within** the **UN Security Council Resolution 1325**.

India and UN Peacekeeping

- **Since the 1950s**, India has **sent over 290,000 peacekeepers** to more than 50 missions worldwide, making it the **largest contributor** to UN peacekeeping efforts.
- **Today, over 5,000 Indian troops serve in nine of the eleven active missions**, often in dangerous and hostile regions, dedicated to upholding global peace and security.
- Beyond deployments, India actively strengthens UN missions through **training, capacity building, and technological support**.

Dag Hammarskjöld Medal FAQs

Q1: What is the Dag Hammarskjöld Medal?

Ans: The highest honour awarded to UN peacekeepers who lost their lives in service.

Q2: In which year was the Dag Hammarskjöld Medal established?

Ans: It was established in 1997 as a posthumous award.

Q3: Who was honored with the first Dag Hammarskjöld Medal in 1998?

Ans: On 6 October 1998, the first Medal was presented to the family of Dag Hammarskjöld.

Source: TH

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/dag-hammarskjold-medal/>

© Vajiram & Ravi. For personal use only.