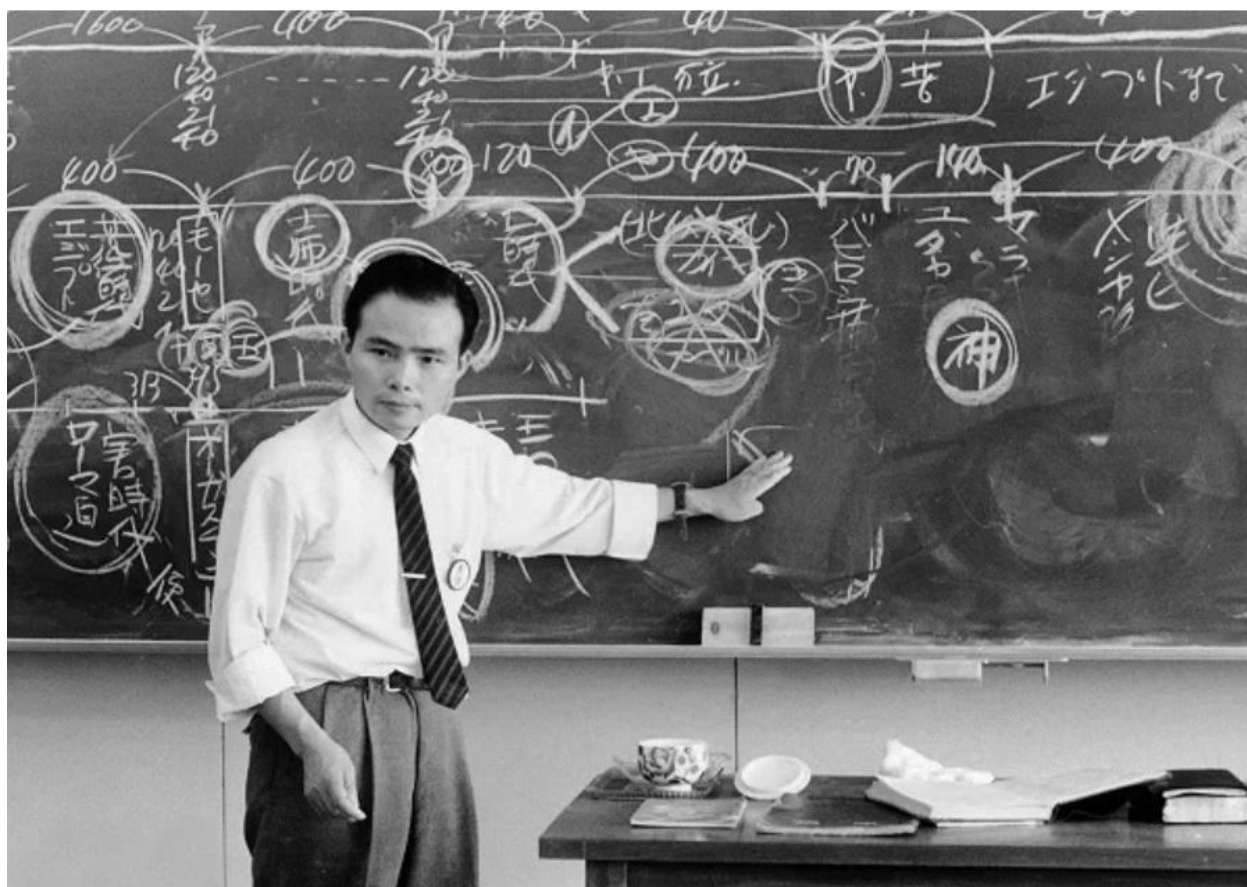


## FFWPU Europe and the Middle East: Eminent Teacher Of Unificationism, Ken Sudo, Dies At 92

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December 27, 2023



*Ken Sudo teaching in Japan in 1960's*

### Merited teacher of [Unificationism](#) Ken Sudo says farewell to this world



*Ken Sudo teaching at Shibuya, Tokyo 1st April 2012*

Ken Sudo (周藤健), a leading member of the [Family Federation](#) for more than 60 years and eminent teacher of the [Unification Principles](#), departed this life peacefully on 22nd December 2023 in Japan, 92 years old.

He was born 23rd February 1931 in Wake (和気町), Okayama prefecture (岡山県) in Japan. In March 1955 he graduated from the Department of Pharmacy, Faculty of Medicine at Osaka University (大阪大学).

While he was a university student, a Christian friend tried very hard to invite him to come to church. "Fine," Ken Sudo said, "but show me [God](#) first. Then I'll go with you." And his friend fell silent.

Less than a month later, Sudo was diagnosed with chronic nephritis [can cause severe kidney damage and failure], forcing him to take a leave of absence from university and stay in bed for more than a year.

One day, he came across a book about divine healing. In it, there were testimonies of miracles such as being cured from terminal cancer and tuberculosis, and serious family problems being resolved completely through faith.

At first, he thought, "How can this be?" But as he read it over and over again, he realised something. Before miracles and divine healings comes repentance. Ken Sudo describes the experience,

"Then I realised that there was so much evil and impurity in me and that I had never truly loved anyone until now. Tears of regret rolled down my cheeks and fell onto my pillow."

For seven days and seven nights, his bed and pillow were soaking wet with tears, but he felt the injustice and impurity in him being washed away by the tears of repentance.

On the seventh night, while reading a book, he put his hands together and prayed to [God](#) for the first time in his life. Sudo recalls it,



[Father Moon](#) and Ken Sudo

"The next moment, I felt as if I had been drenched with cold water, as if I were in a waterfall. Then a platinum-coloured light came from diagonally above me on the right, and as soon as it enveloped everything, a bright red flame pierced my brain."

Unaware of what had happened, Ken Sudo was stunned for a while. Something was wrong with his back, so he put his hand on it and found that his kidney area was vibrating, which made him realise that he had been healed. The next day, his illness was completely gone.

After returning to school, he was drawn to the sound of beautiful hymns he could hear from his room at the boarding house. He began attending church to be able to take them in and was later baptised and became a Christian,

joining the Baptist Church.

One Easter morning, while half awake, he had a strange experience. While praying alone in a cedar forest in the morning sun, he heard a voice say,

"Awake, I am risen."

"Who is it? Today is Easter. It's Jesus, isn't it?" Sudo replied.

That was the beginning of his interaction with Jesus. Messages from Jesus sometimes came directly from himself and sometimes through mediums, and the records of these messages filled three notebooks.



*Ken Sudo street preaching in Japan in the 1960's*

Then problems began to arise. The content of the pastor's sermons no longer matched what Jesus said.

Troubled, Sudo prayed out loud, even at times while standing on a steep cliff or under a waterfall. At one point, he even climbed halfway up Mount Ikoma (生駒山 - a mountain on the border between Nara and



Osaka prefectures) and prayed all night, but no answer was found.

Then, in the summer of 1962 he met the [Unification Church](#). He remembers it well,

"One day, when I was spending my days without answers, I was walking by the exit of Osaka Station. Then I saw a woman opposite me holding up a banner and shouting, 'The time has come for the 6,000-year evil world to disappear and for a new light of [God](#) to shine!' I heard her shout, 'The time has come!'"

When [Father Moon](#) later heard this testimony, he said,

"Your first experience of [God](#) was in your Old Testament. After becoming a Christian, you went through the New Testament. Then you came to the [Unification Church](#) of the [Completed Testament](#)."



*Ken Sudo teaching in New York 1st April 1989*

Sudo soon became a dedicated member and in short time learnt to teach the [Unification Principles](#). Already in December that year he was appointed instructor at the movement's new training center and taught his first 40-day training session. At the same time, he was also appointed head of the Tokyo branch of the [Unification Church](#). For several years, he was the main lecturer and leader of the training center.

1st May 1969, he received the [Marriage Blessing](#) with his wife Masayo (董代) in what became known as the 43 couples [Blessing](#).

20th July 1973 he went to the USA as one of Japanese members mobilized to support the work there. Already the following year he started teaching in English and was soon

asked by [Father Moon](#) to teach at large seminars.

From 1974 to 1976 Ken Sudo led a large international outreach team visiting most of the states in the USA. In 1979 he was head of the New York branch of the [Unification Church](#).

But it is primarily as an eminent lecturer in the [Unification Principles](#) and the teachings of [Father](#) and [Mother Moon](#) that Ken Sudo will be remembered. He lectured at seminars in many different countries.

From 1996 he served three years as a special advisor to the work of the movement in Portugal.

From 2001 to 2013 Ken Sudo was vice-president of the [Unification Church](#) of Japan.



*Masayo Sudo (周藤董代)*

His wife Masayo left this world 1st July 2017.

Ken Sudo passed away peacefully due to old age on 22nd December 2023 at a senior citizens' home in Chiba, Japan, where he spent the last years of his life. He was in relatively good health, but had suffered from dementia for some time.

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Text based on news item by Kogensha, Japan. Translated from Japanese.

What teacher of Unificationism taught: [The Teachings in a Nutshell](#)

More on what teacher of Unificationism taught: [Brief about the Teachings](#)

Still more on what teacher of Unificationism taught: [The Unification Principles](#)

Yet more on what teacher of Unificationism taught: [Exposition of the Divine Principle](#)

And even more on what teacher of Unificationism taught: [The Family Pledge](#)

## The Teachings in a Nutshell

Unificationism represents a paradigm shift in religious / spiritual thinking. A paradigm shift is a systematic shift in thinking that is of significant size and scope. **Father Moon** uses the phrase "super-religion beyond religious barriers" about his teachings.



That may in fact be the best way to sum up the teachings of **Father** and **Mother Moon** – their teachings in a nutshell.

Traditional view	Unificationism
Creates division	Creates unity
«Only we are right.»	All religions have parts of the truth.
Unclear purpose of life	A clear purpose / meaning of life
God as incomprehensible	A comprehensible God
Does not understand life after death	A clear understanding of life after death
Individual salvation	Salvation on family level
God as Father/ Lord	God as Father and Mother
Man above woman	Man and woman have same value.
In competition	Complementary
We are completely different from God.	We resemble God.
Keeping laws / commands most important	Living for others / altruism most important



We humans are created for a higher purpose and to realize an incredibly **great ideal**. The ideal world **God** originally planned when He created, was a world based on mature individuals creating good families, communities and nations.

However, because evil entered the world, the first humans failed to achieve the required personal maturity and therefore also failed to create a harmonious family.



All humankind is descended from the first man and the first woman (Adam and Eve). Because they were never able to realize **God's ideal** of creation, and because they never attained the



they were never able to realize **God's ideal** of creation, and because they never attained the required maturity to become the **True Parents** of humankind, their descendants, i.e., all humanity, did not get the much needed example of perfect individuals, ideal families, societies, and nations.



Adam should have become the True Father of humankind and Eve the True Mother. Instead, they became a false father and a false mother, creating an evil world full of false love, a false life, and a false lineage.



**God** has, however, never given up and has been working behind the scenes of human history so that one day His **original ideal** will be realized. Let us help **God** make that dream come true!

[More](#) about the teachings

"In a nutshell" – text: Knut Holdhus. Extended "in a nutshell" text: [Brief about the teachings](#)

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