

IAAP - Righteous Academicians, Experts, Scholars, Scientists, And Activists

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The founding IAAP conference during World Peace Summit 2020

Solomon famously said, "There is nothing new under the sun." [Ecclesiastes 1:9] True, the International Association of Academicians for Peace (IAAP) deals with ancient ideas dating back to Plato -- the first true philosopher -- but already in the next generation of philosophers, another path arose, as Aristotle repudiated his master's world of ideals and set mankind on the materialist bent that has lasted to this day. On reflection, has any person set foot in the ideal world? To do so would be something new under the sun! The flagstones of the path to the promised kingdom of heaven remain as yet untrodden.

Thus, the course before us is a largely uncharted path.

The International Association of Academicians for Peace (IAAP) is one of the eight pillars of UPF, the Universal Peace Federation, founded by Rev. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon. Each one of these pillars, bastions of truth, goodness, and beauty, shares the purpose of gathering and spurring leaders in our world, along with their foundation, to pool their efforts in contributing to world peace in their respective areas -- media, politics, economy, the arts, the sciences and humanities, diplomacy and religion.

If peace, unification, prosperity, health and happiness were pursued in the traditional way as has been done for ages, the military would be one of UPF's pillars, for conquest by virtue of superior strength, economy, knowledge and culture has always ruled our world up to now.

Nevertheless, from Babylon and Egypt, Greece and Rome, England and Spain, France and Germany, America and Japan -- no nation or empire could ever completely dominate humanity. Each wave of civilization rises to a pinnacle and then recedes without accomplishing its aims. What is the reason? The reason is that they were not founded upon the truth -- true principles, true love, true leadership. Without these, the global family of man can never unite.

Thus, truth is the first issue toward establishing lasting peace uniting all people. What is truth? This was the crucial question Pontius Pilate posed to Jesus Christ at his trial [John 18:38].

Jesus gave no reply; the world has waited until our time for that answer.

This truth is based upon God as the Heavenly Parent of all humankind. To deliver such a truth to the world has been the mission of Rev. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon.

Originally Dr. Sang-hun Lee systematized Father Moon's teachings under "Unification Thought." As time passed, ever new revelations and clarifications by the founders have enriched the ideological content of this teaching. The baton was passed on to Dr. Sung-bae Jin, under the banner of the "Hyojeong Academic Foundation" in accordance with the theme of "hyojeong" under Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon's new leadership. The mission remains ever the same: to pursue core truth connecting God, the origin and parent, with the hearts, minds and deeds of the people on earth, that this may be manifested in loving actions and relationships on all levels.

IAAP's purpose

The Universal Peace Federation leads the global quest for peace under the banner of "interdependence, mutual prosperity and universally shared values." Though not explicitly stated, implicit is God, our Heavenly Parent, as the central pillar, root and goal in realizing these ideals. To achieve this in the aspect of core truth rooted in God is the purpose of IAAP. In other words, all our activities must first be firmly rooted in true thought that can be confirmed by our Heavenly Parent.

The next step is to expand this as heavenly education appropriate to each field of human endeavor.

Therefore, IAAP gathers righteous academicians, experts, scholars, scientists, and public activists encouraging them in this way.

Dr. Jin inaugurated the International Association of Academicians for Peace at the KINTEX Convention Center in Seoul, Korea, on February 5, 2020 in the context of World Peace Summit 2020.

Twelve prominent scholars -- leaders in their respective fields -- signed the resolution to establish the association under the aegis of the Universal Peace Federation. Dr. Jin opened the inaugural forum with his keynote address "Modern Science and the Renaissance of Godism," expounding on the foundations of God-centered thought to overcome the materialist, determinist and mechanistic worldview that has dominated modern science.

At this convention, the "Book Publication Project" was initiated, recruiting researchers and theorists to present new paradigm science as it applies in their respective fields.

In an era when social culture is popularized and philosophy is put away as outmoded and irrelevant, the Hyojeong Academic Foundation and IAAP are reviving scholastic academic studies with renewed vitality based on the teachings of Unificationism. World peace cannot be realized without stable ideal families; the true family must be centered on God and reared with God centered teachings. To heal our troubled society, in all areas -- academic study, scientific theory and humanitarian initiatives -- the "vertical" axis affirming God-centered values has to be restored and shored up. Right religious doctrine and scientific theory depend on the new high-level truth introduced to our world with the revelation of Christ's return through True Parents. A world stained with original sin, falsehood and tyrannical domination is finally being liberated; every area of our lives need to be purified, corrected, renewed and elevated in this new age of God's sovereignty.

The theory of a heavenly unified Korea

Since the inauguration of IAAP early in 2020, chapters have been inaugurated in other countries and cities as well. Notably the International Association of Academicians for Peace -- Philippines was launched with high-profile support from the Ministry of Education. At this time, the Asia-Pacific Rim countries in particular face a rising challenge from secularism, moral decline and family breakdown. Most effective in combating these problems is fundamentally-based character education, which is being actively promoted by IAAP in conjunction with the Hyojeong Academic Foundation.

Reconciliation and reunification on the Korean Peninsula is not only a local issue but is of concern to the entire world. The core issues of the North-South division can be seen at the root of conflicts elsewhere around the globe including Europe, the US, Latin America, Africa and the Middle East. Around the world people are paying attention to how Seoul and Pyongyang resolve their seventy-year old dispute. For this,

based on Unification Thought and True Parentism, Dr. Sung-bae Jin has elaborated the brand-new Theory of a Heavenly Unified Korea. He has been delivering bi-weekly lectures at the Peace Forums as well as Think Tank 2022. The ideological roots of both liberal democracy and juche socialism are analyzed. These boil down to the dichotomy of "sung-sang" (internal, mental aspect) and "hyung-sang" (outward, physical aspect) which were not originally contradictory but rather harmonized. Above all, an "event of shimjeong" (an episode of the heart) is effective in transforming the attitudes of formerly irreconcilable foes. We see the model of this in Rev. Sun Myung Moon's and Dr. Hak Ja Han's visit to the Soviet Union in April 1990, where they won the heart of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, and their meeting with North Korea's Premier Il-sung Kim, that led to a new entente. Eventually, these situations can be resolved and even worse crises averted if we promote and apply the principles of God-centered reconciliation and unification.