

TODAY'S WORLD

MAY/JUNE 2002



June 21 Rally in Seoul
The Washington Times: 20 Years

Witnessing to the Clan and Tribe
An American Comes of Age in Korea

Message from the Publisher

Reverend Hwang Sun-jo, International President of FFWPU



Our Task in Relation to God's Providence

IN THIS age, we live in attendance of True Parents. What kind of providential significance does this age have? No matter how deeply we might think about this question, no matter how piercing an insight we might have, I think it would still be extremely difficult to completely comprehend all the providential meaning of this age. But in short, the providential value of the span of True Parents' lifetime is that it must restore completely and thoroughly all of human history and open the path to the eternal future. That is the meaning of True Parents' life as determined by the Principle.

Moreover, horizontally speaking, we can say that the time that we call the providential life course of the True Parents is the one time in history during which all problems, from the individual to the cosmic level, are worked out and put into order, thus opening the door to a new age. Through one simple mistake, Noah's life course ended in failure and the providence collapsed in a puff of smoke. The same is true for Abraham, Moses, and even Jesus. Through a tiny, momentary mistake that seemed like almost nothing at all, their life courses were reduced to rubble, and with the failure of their individual life courses, the entire providential foundation for the whole also collapsed, and was lost. This pattern has repeated throughout human history. However, in the completely opposite way, through the joint life course of True Parents, not only are True Parents renewed but also all of humankind is uplifted, as are all those souls who have already gone to spirit world and even those who have fallen into the darkness of hell. So, too, the whole eternal world of the future. This is the time in which we live, when all of these are being brought through such a transition.

Up until today, the history of humankind has been one of a culture of breakup and disconnection. On a small scale, that disconnection existed between the mind and the body. But as that disconnection developed and increased, where has it led? It has evolved into worldwide disunity and breakup between East and West, and disconnection between North and South. Beyond that, if we take this further, we can see it has led to disunity and disconnection between the spirit world and the physical world. This is how things have evolved as a result of the fall of man.

This all needs to change direction and head toward unification. And as mysterious or wondrous as it may seem, we ourselves are actually living and experiencing the providence of God at the time when all things are turning that corner and heading towards unifica-

tion. Brothers and sisters, let me ask you: When did the Cold War, that conflict between the West and the communist world, begin? If we trace it back to the roots, we can see it had already started with the fall of the first human ancestors. When the first ancestors fell, the division between mind and body came into being, and this gradually expanded until it developed into all kinds of social division. Therefore, bringing all those things back together into a state of unity will signify the accomplishment of God's will. This, brothers and sisters, is one way we can understand the mission of the Messiah.

The structure of all this division and disunion started to collapse when the forty-year wilderness course was completed through the providential indemnity conditions set up by True Parents' course. It was then that the Cold War started to lose power.

The 1988 Olympics were held precisely at this turning point. Moreover, they were held in South Korea, on the Korean peninsula, which is playing the central role in the providence. And what was the most outstanding characteristic of these 1988 Olympics, from the viewpoint of the history of the Olympic movement? These Olympics were the place where the West and the communist East were reunited. That is their amazing achievement. During the Cold War, the Olympics were, on two occasions, held with only one side attending and the other boycotting.¹ The Olympics highlighted that division. But the 1988 Seoul Olympics was the one where the communist East and the democratic West came completely together and a new beginning was made on a grand scale.

So East and West came together. And now, as the age of the settlement of *Cheon Il Guk* has come, the World Cup was held by South Korea and Japan together. This recent World Cup was in every sense the World Cup of peace. In the month of June, when in the past painful incidents have taken place [e.g. the Korean War began June 25, 1950], both for our nation and for the world, two nations—Korea and Japan—two enemy nations most unlikely to reconcile, came together in unity and held the World Cup in a festival atmosphere, together with all the people of the world. And just as Korea defied all expectations to become fourth in the Seoul Olympics, in this recent World Cup, Korea rose to fourth place again, exceeding all expectations. We certainly shouldn't feel disappointed with that fourth place result. Soon afterwards, I was watching television

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¹ The U.S.-led boycott of the 1980 Moscow Olympics was joined by some 50 other countries. The USSR-led boycott of the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics was joined by 13 countries.

THE PROVIDENCE MONTHLY



▲ *Hyo-jin nim visited Sun Moon University in May and spoke to the staff and students about his work in America (left)*
 ▲ *True Parents hosted a WFWP-sponsored banquet for Korean, Japanese and American women leaders on June 14th (right)*



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Cover Photo: True Parents sing at the meeting for international blessed couples at Cheong Pyeong, June 23rd (Photo: Seil Studio, Seoul)

PUBLISHER: Rev. Hwang Sun-jo
 EDITORIAL ADVISORS: Chang Kwan-hyun
 Kaye Allen
 MANAGING EDITOR: Julian Gray
 ASSISTANT EDITOR: David Beard
 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Kim Hyung-woo
 LAYOUT:
 Julian Gray
 U.S.A. CONTACT: Pahnnpa Faccan
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 TODAY'S WORLD. Address (note changes): Dowon Building 12th floor, 292-20 Dohwa 2 dong, Mapo-gu, Seoul, Korea 121-728; Tel: (82-2) 6383-3203 Fax: (82-2) 6383-1500 E-mail: todayworld@tongil.or.kr
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Rally for the Unity and Completion of the Parents of Heaven and Earth



Father's speech at the large gathering of some twenty thousand members and guests on June 21st has been re-edited for Today's World to achieve greater clarity and reveal deeper meaning. Father drew some passages from speeches he had given extemporaneously in earlier years.

The event was attended by a group of representative FFWPU leaders from different nations, and was broadcast live on the web.

Buses came from all over Korea, and the Jamshil indoor stadium (the venue for the 6000-couple Blessing, 1982) was full to the brim.

DISTINGUISHED guests, ladies and gentlemen, brothers and sisters of my beloved fatherland who are attending this meaningful "Rally for the Unity and Completed Settlement of the Parents of Heaven and Earth," and the seventy million people around the world who are watching this historic convention: I offer my sincere gratitude to all.

We have finally entered a truly historic and providential era of great proclamation. For six thousand years, heaven and earth have yearned for the ideal world of peace, that is, the Kingdom of Heaven on earth and in heaven; this is the time when the heavenly fortune for its building is upon us.

Heaven has allowed the growth of religions in relation to certain ages and regional cultures as the providence has unfolded in history. Within these religious realms, mankind has worked with unceasing effort to realize a world of peace. In the end, however, everything will be resolved through fully understanding the content of God's providence and His heart.

Today, people talk about a world of peace, about one united world, yet the real question is whether we can create harmony and realize peace within ourselves. Suppose God exists and knows this reality, and there is very a good person with firm resolve: We would inevitably conclude that there is someone who has determined himself to carry out that task of unification.

You often hear that you must love, serve and sacrifice for one another. To do so is good. To love means to give. It means that love goes from oneself to another person. It doesn't mean looking to receive love from another or asking for love.

In an environment where people serve one another a basis for peace emerges. Flames of revival blaze when people sacrifice themselves for the benefit of others, and flowers bloom and spread their fragrance when love is shared. Just as a negatively-charged magnet will always move towards a positively-charged one, we can come to know God through the power of our conscience.

The nearer we approach God, following our conscience, the more we feel peace, happiness and fulfillment within our heart. If we follow God's love, which is the womb of peace, our whole body will receive stimulation and we will become people who vibrate with emotion.

Even those who have not lived good lives, when they have lived out their lives they should end them gloriously and with confidence. Even if such a person has no power he should kneel and pray desperately all night even if he hurts

Completed Settlement of Heaven and Earth



to his bones, and fulfill all his responsibilities within the time remaining in his life.

The grave of an old man who had prayed for the salvation of the world—even if that had come at the cost of his own life—and who had prayed for the protection of his native soil, and to see a foundation of happiness for humankind, will never become overgrown with weeds.

Even though that old man may have had many wrinkles on his face, those wrinkles would have symbolized the conditions for peace. And though he may have had a haggard posture when he walked, his path would have become a shining beacon of hope. Therefore, when we compare our lives to his, we will know that the desperate path of destiny is waiting for us. That path is clearing out the congestion of resentment that came about through our living only for ourselves by becoming friends of evil and expanding the foothold of evil. That path is increasing the foundation of goodness in our lives. We must not rest, but hurry along this path.

In my lifetime, I have faced the cross of imprisonment six times, and have been vilified in other lands, in front of all races, as a cult leader. I have faced intense opposition. On the path of devotion to God that I am walking, along with people of all races, knowing that this way is the traditional, central philosophy, I kneel down in deep respect in front of heaven—If there is a way to follow such a path I believe I can go anywhere. I have always lived my life in such a fashion. Keep in mind that God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit and the saints can rejoice only when we become the elite troops of Heaven

and gain success. Then a time of peace can arise.

Conflict within the individual turned into conflict within families, conflict within families into conflict within clans, conflict within clans into conflict within society, conflict within society into conflict within the nation, and conflict within the nation into global conflict. There will also be conflict between the spirit world and the earthly world. Only when the battle between God and the countless evil spirits of the satanic world is over will an era of peace come to our universe.

You must understand that God is working through such a process, according to heavenly principles. The age of cosmic peace will arise only when, after clashing with Satan, God resolves all problems. Until the moment the core of God's sorrowful heart is healed, we will never find peace and the ideology of Heaven will never come to fruition in this world.

If a true individual who can liberate the sorrow of Heavenly Father and this world comes and brings an ideology capable of establishing a peaceful nation in heaven and on earth, that individual will

have to pass through every conceivable difficulty. He will experience desperation arising from sorrow over everything, from personal tribulations to the tribulations of humankind. He will have to delve into the sorrowful and desperate heart of Heaven in order to find a way to resolve it. Otherwise, humankind will not be able to push aside its sorrowful and miserable history and establish a world of peace and happiness, a garden of freedom inviolable by sorrow.

If you become a representative of the ideology of the universal Kingdom of Heaven, expanding the movement of God's true love, true blood lineage and truth, then a peaceful world will emerge. For the purpose of creating such a world of peace, our natural parents are not our only parents, our brothers and sisters are not our only brothers and sisters and the children we give birth to are not our only children. If you can become a person of character who regards all people as your parents, siblings or children, then when you look upon the many who are suffering in this world of death, you will be unable to think of them without shedding tears. When you look at those who are of the age of your brother or sister, or who are youthful, you will feel a strong sense of responsibility to save them, and with tears you will make every effort to do so. If you truly become such a person, like God, then the Kingdom of Heaven will be built around you on this earth.

God's strategy is to accept the first blow from Satan. Then He does things for Satan and loves him in order to win him over. Instead of taking from the satanic world by the use of

force, God is the first to love, to be hit and to sacrifice, even to the point of death, in order to regain ground from the satanic world. You must understand that, without using this strategy, God cannot establish the pattern for world peace in the cosmos.

With your family in tow, you must go forward for the sake of the nation and the world. Spanning the ages of the individual, family, clan, tribe, society and nation, you have to fulfill the role of showing the world's peoples and nations the right direction, based upon real experience. Having fulfilled this, you must be able to serve God from a mutually inseparable position. Only then will the spirit world and the physical world become a unified realm of peace. Only those who can attain the position of eternal leaders of the age when the heavenly kingdom is established will be awarded the glorious official commendation of the heavenly realm.

A person who fights and bleeds profusely in the harsh process of building a new kingdom of peace, a heaven of freedom, will not perish. The blood he sheds is not the blood of death but becomes the power of life. What he builds in this manner is the place we have to go to, stay in, and bequeath to others during our lives.

You should be longing for the day when you are marching toward the Heaven of freedom and peace, when God is happy. On that day, you will pray, "O God! Everything you wanted to be proud of, centered on Your ideal of creation, has come to fruition. I have fulfilled the wish of your innermost heart—that You can be eternally proud of humankind." And God will be able to say "Yes you have!"

Who is the owner of Korea? He is the one who loves and values that nation more than anyone else. Therefore, if you cherish and love Korea more than anyone else, you will become the master of her people, even if you do not want to be in that position. Only then will the age of peace that God desires arrive.

We have to liberate God by dissolving His resentment. Great would be the young person who, having the conviction to attend God as the dignified absolute being, allowing God to govern all nations as a free and peaceful heaven, with free authority, takes responsibility for removing all of the obstacles in the way of God's ruling all nations freely. The world will take a new direction in the future because of this young man. If you vow to be like him, no matter how ragged you may look, you will not appear ugly. Infinite hope dwells there. That person will become the foundation for God's hope and happiness.

As we are in the position of grain that needs to be harvested—or has been harvested—at all costs we must become people who can together digest everything we experience and feel so that happiness results.

Isn't it true that a heaven of peace will come about in this world as we expand this foundation to the nation and world, as long as our minds do not deviate from a state of unity? If



we can expand this foundation to the North, South, East and West these parts will not be in conflict but they will be solidified into one. Where must the restored heaven begin? It has to begin from prison. Have you ever been in prison, and tried singing a song of gratitude, as Jesus did, with an independent heart of peace, a heart reflecting the original standard recovered in the position of a subject partner? That is the question.

When the Apostles went through that same woeful ordeal in the past, didn't God give them the authority to open prison doors and be free to move, so that their situation could be transformed into a heavenly one? God wants all of you to become people in whom He can have hope and expectation greater than He did for the Apostles.

In the Last Days, there will be no way to survive unless we build in a direction opposite of that of the present time. Humankind must go in a new direction at all costs—the direction toward unification. Since the world's Last Days have come through the sacrificing of others, peace will surely never come to the world if we carry on in the same way.

How can we prevail over the course of the cross?

When you hold your wife, you should not just think of yourself, but of your country. When you are holding on to your country you must think of the world. If you have the world in your hands, you must think of heaven and earth. If we go through these steps without hesitation, the way of the cross, where all our enemies are waiting, will vanish. Reaching a level highway, liberation will bring freedom and the kingdom of peace in heaven and on earth—the ideal world desired by God—will be realized.

In this world even, we have to create new God-centered patterns. Should the parents' role of loving children not become the principle of today's morality? How do we gauge the standard of the ideal, original way, which God designed

and the Unification Church teaches? It is grounded in parental, conjugal and filial ties and the principle of the four-position foundation. As we dream of world peace and unification, this fundamental question remains. If it is not resolved, a world of unity cannot come. Please realize that growing out of the pattern of the individual man and woman, a world of unity and peace will emerge where the family pattern is established. Even if you, your family and your nation become a sacrifice, if there is an ideological system that can launch a new set of values capable of benefiting the nation and the world, then a new gate to the future will undoubtedly open before our very eyes through that ideological structure. There is a law that if one rises, another must fall, and if one falls, another must rise. Therefore, as this world is a world of evil and sin, there will come a time when a victorious heaven can be established through a way that can deliver the world from sin.

We are to love our enemies. This is the secret method of breaking Satan's walls, which surround us. A realm of equality has never existed in the satanic world. The strategy through which to create a realm of equality is that of sacrificing for others, loving others and wishing blessings upon them. Then, when you are hit by those of the satanic world, by winning them over and giving them the same blessings as everyone else, a complete realm of equality can emerge.

As we have set the stage on which the right of the enemy to a final showdown has been dissolved, we can now establish a peaceful founding ideology for a nation. An ideal model of world peace and unity will start from here. To shorten the way to heaven, the Messiah, or a specific people, or specific individuals, had to take responsibility through self-sacrifice. Many saints have given up their lives for this cause. The rise and fall of many nations is to fill in the valleys. Through such rising and falling, equality, as there is now, could be created. The world established the equality we see today in this manner. Equality means peace. [Editor's note: Father seems to be elaborating on the paragraph above—through prosperous nations sacrificing for those not so prosperous, equality is achieved.]

Originally, Adam and Eve, after perfecting themselves centering on God's love and becoming one, could have come to stand in a God-centered structure of relationships. In the Unification Church, this structure is called the four-position foundation. Because we lost the means to complete the four-position foundation, no matter what historical age we passed through, there was no way to create peace, utopia or an ideal world.

An ideal land cannot arise through the denial of or breaking away from principles. Christianity has developed over two thousand years, even in an environment of unspeakable persecution during the Roman Empire. Why has Christianity, which even absorbed Rome, declined as it has during the last few decades in liberal, modern-day America? This is a puzzle. Judaism taught belief in God and all Jews loved God, but Hitler massacred six million Jews. This is a deep mystery. The answer to these is that religions did not go the way they originally should have. In the Last Days, if the central people cannot align with God's original true love, they cannot help but be broken apart as Satan's offerings.

So, to reorganize the world, where should we focus? There are so many historians and intellectuals who pronounce on this point nowadays, but we need someone who can lead the world. How should such a person guide us? What should he teach? There are plenty of people qualified to teach us how to live focused on economic or political power. It is not money

or an adequate political system that is missing in today's world. The problem is that there is no true love order that can match God's ideal. If the truth is found that can allow the order of original true love to develop on a worldwide foundation, from there the origins of peace, and an ideal place where our original minds can rest for the first time, will start to emerge.

The beginning and the end of true love must be the same. All that is needed is a true person who can connect God's heart of true love to heaven and earth. Peace also comes from a heart of true love. With a truly joyful mind, the cosmos becomes our friend. If we have this true heart, then when we encounter the cosmos, its vast expanse will have total freedom within our minds.

In what manner will the ideal world come to mankind? The world is doomed to perish if the proper use of our true love organs is not made clear. We will never discover a world of peace. Look at Rome and America. The degeneration of the United States is not due to a lack of money. Until now they have not been able to recognize who the owner of the true love organ is, and how it originated—how it was created. They have not known these things because of Satan. To clarify this and to clear up all the chaos caused by the vicious and treacherous Satan on the cosmic level, I came, flag in hand, and went forth in the name of True Parents.

As the wintry wind blows from the colder regions into the temperate regions, the trees stand bare, stripped of their foliage and fruit. In winter, all fruit falls from the trees, but no matter how harsh the wind's blast, it cannot suppress the seeds that bear life. As these very seeds that demonstrate such hardness and strength germinate, a new spring garden of peace for humankind will be found. As the spring garden of liberation and hope is found, and when these seeds of new life are sown in heaven and on earth in this new age of humankind, let us move into the temperate zone of liberation, where there is no winter. This aligns perfectly with the teachings of the Unification Church.

To improve ourselves, we have to go the way of hardship. Which do you think would be easier to do: unite North and South Korea or bring unity within oneself? Externally, the unification of North and South Korea can be easily achieved. But we are unable to unify ourselves internally. Whatever degree of world peace we may have achieved, we have nonetheless failed to achieve peace within ourselves.

If the direction the world takes can be internally and externally unified—linking the past, the present and the future—there is hope for unification at anytime and in any place. If we look at the past and present, everything ultimately heads toward a single goal. That single goal is unification and peace. One peace, not two. But when will we be able to bring about unity within ourselves? Is it possible to manage a unified world without first even being able to unify ourselves? Logically speaking, it is not possible.

If we seek to identify the most fundamental problem, the issue of unification is a serious one. It is a problem the universe has had through all of its history. If a nation perishes, it is not such problem. There were no nations in Adam's world; managing just his own family would have sufficed. It would have been enough if the family had remained intact. Finally, the tale turns on the unity of the conscience with the physical body and the unity of the family. From a global perspective, the issue is whether couples become one, whether a man and woman unite. If that is achieved, the world will become a place of peace. The world's problems would not seem difficult if we were to apply true love toward solving them. This

is achievable only if you unify your mind and body, if parents and children unite, and if there is unity within a couple and among children.

As this is an evil and beligerent world, everything is in a state of struggle. This is because the mind struggles with the body. The battle of the sexes has become an accepted norm. Where in the world is the foundation for peace? It is not in Korea, Japan, America, the world or heaven; it is within oneself. If we do not bring peace between the mind and body, which are at war, there will never be world peace.

How, then, will the world of peace come about? What is the essential condition? We must discover the root of unification. If we cannot locate this, we will forever cut ourselves off from a world of unity.

Although we want our households to be united, when we look to ourselves we cannot even find unity between our mind and body. There is a struggle between body and mind, isn't there? There is no happiness, peace or hope when a couple struggles. The closer we get to the Last Days, couples break into four different aspects as the minds and bodies of both people are separate. A couple divides into four parts, there being two minds and two bodies; and there is conflict among all of them.

The Unificationist faith equips you with a logical, organized system that no religion or ideology can imitate. It teaches you to live for others with internal unity as a person motivated by God's true love. It can become the basis of world peace, the basis of peace for individuals, couples, families, tribes, races, nations, the world and, ultimately, the cosmos. The ideal of True Parents is that people unite with God in true love, thus creating a peaceful, happy and hopeful world unifying heaven and earth. No one who opposes this ideology can remain. Everyone will therefore have to welcome this ideology.

What will become of the world in the future? Regardless of sex or age, all people living in the world today are longing for global unity. That global unity is not a world of war, but a world of peace and freedom without national separation, racial strife and barriers arising through cultural differences. The people of the world are yearning for a nation of peace and freedom corresponding to a unified cultural sphere of true love.

A world of peace is a world of unity. There is only one way—not two—to aim for a world of peace. The world of hope and peace for which men and women, young and old, are craving is a world of unity. Even within single nations, we see various organizations, each having its unique philosophy, methods and objectives. Surveying the political landscape of Korea, we can see that the ruling party, the opposition party



and the various other parties seek to run the nation in their own way. So how many different directions do we have here? This is where problems arise.

Since the dawn of history, a great number of people have worked for world peace. But the number of those capable of leading humankind with hope into the sublime, unified world of tomorrow is gradually dwindling. What must be decided, by going beyond all studies, research, structural systems of society and conventional practices, is where a unified world of

peace begins. The starting point must be the True God. The True God created man in the beginning. Through a process, the True God wanted to realize His ideal, as He was the creator of man. A world of peace cannot be realized unless the way to that goal, the ideal of the True God, can be found again. The reason for this is that a world of peace is a unified world. If there are two directions, one of man and one of God, a unified world of peace cannot be found. Therefore, in conclusion, there must be one unified direction.

If we do not go beyond the humanistic world toward a true God-centered world, we cannot discover the way to the unified world of peace. In the realm of mind and body, setting up a standard of peace is the most essential thing in life.

The mind is battling against the body. In relation to this problem, where is the standard of peace? Not in the world, the nation or religion. To be a religious leader, you must be able to create absolute mind and body unity to establish the standard of peace within yourselves. The purpose of all education, all training and all humanitarian thought is the realization of oneness between mind and body.

You can believe in any religious teaching, you may be a wonderful religious leader or a great saint reigning over the world, but you will not be able to achieve unity of mind and body on the same level as the eternal God in this fallen realm.

The problem is that without establishing and settling the root of peace through true love in the individual sphere of heart, and unless the root of peace is created within oneself, an ideal religion, Heaven, and so on, are nothing but a dream. To solve this problem centering on God, the origin of unification must be found in the unified realm of the True God's children. God's mind and body don't struggle.

Then why do the human mind and body struggle? The Father, the King of Peace, and son must unify in order to unify the mind and body. The origin of peace begins from

the relationship of father and son united in God's true love, true life and true lineage. True love, true life and true lineage must be unified where father and son become one.

We, being from the lineage of fallen man, certainly need to know the original God and the ideal environment of the realm of Heaven. Through sincerely



working to become one with God Himself and with the ideal Heaven, one can find the way to become like our Heavenly Father. This is the beginning of world peace and of the joy of the father and son who become one in peace from the individual level to that of heaven.

Therefore the True Parents, who are Christ at the Second Advent, will illuminate everything in heaven and unify the world on the earth. Through this, the Kingdom of Heaven on earth and in heaven will be realized.

Centered on the saints and sages that have gone to spirit world, all of humanity wants this to come about. Through the True Parents teaching about the realm of unity through true love, true life and true lineage, a unified heaven and earth can come into being.

Beloved people of our fatherland, and seventy million people observing this conference from all over the world! You are truly blessed people. You are welcoming the age in which the True Parents of humankind, who are Christ at the Sec-

ond Advent, have come, the age when the Korean peninsula will be unified with true love and truth instead of by guns and swords, the age when all religions will be unified under True Parents' teachings and the historic and providential age when the saints and our ancestors can descend from the spirit world and communicate with us directly.

I'd like to introduce the messages of Jesus Christ and the saints in the spirit world, urging all humanity to go beyond the barriers of race, ideology and nationality and build a world of peace. Please study this content in its entirety through the books that will be distributed.

I hope you will live happily and peacefully with the Parents of Heaven and Earth in the eternal heaven, both on the earth and in the spirit world, where everyone is in one big family of true love.

May God's boundless blessings fill your family, nation and the world. Thank you.◆

40TH DAY OF ALL TRUE THINGS



June 11, 2002

The Main Celebration was held at Cheong Pyeong Heaven and Earth Training Center in Korea

Top, True Parents give the benediction at Pledge Service; *bottom*, Father gives the commemorative sermon in the main hall; *sides*, Father and Mother are presented with flowers at the entertainment, held at the Little Angels Performing Arts Center in Seoul

The Role of Sports in Realizing World Peace

June 12, 2002 The Little Angels Performing Arts Center, Seoul



Right in the middle of the World Cup—but before South Korea had experienced its miracle run against the great European footballing powers—True Parents took the bold step of creating a completely new international soccer tournament. Father acknowledges that there may be those who will scoff at the initiative. He believes, however, that football—a game that is played the world over—can serve as a vehicle for the advancement of peace. In the following excerpt from his speech at the Inaugural Banquet, he explains why.

RESPECTED guests, Ladies and Gentlemen: It gives me great joy to be able to share this meaningful time with you today. In particular, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to those leaders participating in the 17th World Cup co-hosted by Korea and Japan, who are honoring this rally with their presence in spite of their busy schedules. Today, the twelfth of June, is the thirteenth day of the World Cup. Soccer fever is heating up around the world. Each day, we see the drama of competition played out in the midst of upset and upheaval, joy and disappointment. In the midst of this, a celebration of friendship and excitement is unfolding that transcends race, ideology and national boundaries.

As we gather here today, we must think deeply about how to work through sports to bring peace to all humanity.

The Bible says, "Blessed are the peacemakers; for they shall be called the children of God." (Matthew 5:9) Throughout my life, I have attended God in the context of religion, academia, media, culture, the arts, sports and other fields by

putting these words of the Bible into practice in accordance with the will of Heaven. My life of more than eighty years has been a continuous offering of sincerity and dedication for the establishment of God's will and His ideals of freedom and happiness and the realization of a world of peace....

This is a rally of leaders in the world of soccer. Soccer fever is sweeping Korea and Japan and the entire world has come together in a festive atmosphere.

Ultimately, though, the proper way for world of sports is that the Olympics and the World Cup should guide the world's people along the way of reconciliation and peace. Occasionally, there is cause for concern over money and power combining to contaminate the pure spirit of athleticism. It is necessary to examine carefully whether salaries offered top players are excessive and whether wealthy parties are engaging in unethical speculative or monopolistic practices.

In an effort to contribute toward world peace through sports, I have invested in the development of soccer in Korea by founding, some time ago, the Ilhwa professional soccer team. More recently, Sun Moon University began a soccer team. In Brazil as well, we are managing the Cene and Sorocaba professional soccer teams.

My interest in the management of soccer teams goes beyond business pursuits. My first priority is to teach sportsmanship to young people of the university soccer teams, so that they can be trained to join professional teams and contribute to world peace through sports.

It is well known that soccer began in England. It was developed at Eton College, a school for the sons of aristocrats, where, in addition to knowledge, physical fitness was considered an important quality for leaders. Because of the importance of teamwork in soccer, however, it did not take long for soccer's popularity to grow beyond the aristocracy and encompass the larger society.

Even if one player is exceptionally skillful, it is still difficult for a team to win unless the other members can back up this individual. The ball is round and can roll this way or that, but the ball is honest and it rolls where a player kicks it. There



is a principle of purposeful community underlying the game of soccer. In this game, there is no way for established powers to use trickery to preserve their own position. Neither is there an order according to which teams are allowed to score goals. In soccer, it does not matter whether a country is large or small, strong or weak. Goals are scored honestly, bringing joy and happiness to everyone. In soccer, there is only the energetic communal harmony that comes from team play.

Soccer and other sports, as well as the entirety of leisure culture, have developed over a long period of time. Sports were originally created in order to create strong bodies and maintain safe societies. Today, they have developed globally and bring enjoyment and enrichment to the lives of billions of people. So, it is important that we seek ways by which sports can contribute to the achievement of peace for all the world's people.

The world stands at the dawn of a new millennium. Astonishing developments in information technology are bringing the ideal of one world family into reality. On the other hand, it is also true that the world faces a moral crisis with the danger that spiritual values will be destroyed. We must look to sports for constructive proposals on how to overcome hedonism and self-centered values among young

people.

Sports employ rules to ensure fair competition. Thus defined, competition differs from conflict; the two exist on different levels. Conflict appears in the savage and blood-thirsty law of the jungle by which animals live. Here, one side uses physical and military strength to negate the other side's existence and annihilate him. Competition in sports is different from this. Rules are established, the winner is decided in accordance with these rules, and each side acknowledges the other. A gentlemanly spirit governs sports.

As large numbers of people watch, the athletes demonstrate the attitude of fair play and sportsmanship as they compete based on their talents, abilities and strength. They follow the laws and rules that have been agreed upon, and they submit themselves to fair judgment by the referees.

Fair play is considered the most important aspect of the game. It requires obeying laws and following the rules. Breaking the rules and committing fouls result in the loss of points, expulsion from the game and the eventual loss of the privilege of participation. The offending players are punished. Athletes pour out all their energy, sincerity and courage for the sake of the victory and glory of the individual and his or her country. The victorious players receive





teaches us to live, like God, for the sake of others, and we need to put this spirit and truth into practice. In this way, we will be able to build a world of harmony, peace and unification.

For this reason, I am happy to announce the establishment of the Sun Moon Peace Cup. The Sun Moon Peace Cup is the Cup of the Sun and the Moon, the Cup of the Parents of Heaven and Earth and the Cup of Peace. May it shine forever with the light of pure love. The Sun Moon Peace Cup is different from existing trophies, for they exclude God, emphasize entertainment and idolize celebrity. We must know God and the spirit world thoroughly. We must walk the path of truth.

a crown of laurels, a gold medal and a bouquet of flowers. They are congratulated with thunderous applause and their national anthem is played as their country's flag is raised. Such a ceremony brings the height of emotion, the ultimate glory and a celebration for us all. The virtue of sports is when the loser does not dwell on his own disappointment, but applauds the accomplishment of the winner.

In sports, there is the beautiful fragrance of friendship and love among like-minded people. The beauty of the players appears when they demonstrate sportsmanship. They must work hard, shed sweat and tears and achieve incredible standards of skill. They must be trained in the virtues of fairness, proper order and etiquette.

The realm of sports has made large contributions to modern society. It has contributed to our physical and mental health and has provided excitement through skillful play. The love of sports can transcend religious dogma and political ideology. All people can become one through sports, so sports can spread a banquet of reconciliation and peace, where the hearts of all the world's people can come together as one.

Though the Cold War has ended, the world is yet unable to throw off its common yoke of suffering. As the September 11 tragedy demonstrated, the world is in agony over conflict and strife between religious and ethnic groups. In addition, the world's natural environment is being destroyed. Young people who are to be responsible for the future are becoming cynical, fascinated with materialism and hedonism, falling prey to drugs and abandoning civil norms.

In order to solve these problems, we need to graft the authentic spirit of sports onto a foundation of the truth that



The Sun Moon Peace Cup will be a festival. It will bring together efforts toward the original world of God's ideal in the fields of religion, science, politics, economics and sports, including the unique contributions of women and youth. In it, people will express their desire for humanity to come together as one large family. It will serve as a particularly important starting point for our progress toward the ideal of true peace centering on God's true love, transcending barriers between races, countries, ethnic groups, religions and ideologies.



The Sun Moon Peace Cup will not only celebrate a healthy spirit of humanity. As our spiritual nature continues to develop, it will become a festival of internal and external reconciliation and harmony within the world community. It will be a place where people unite in one mind, as one family, and in one heart, to open the way toward God's ideal of creation, a world of peace, freedom and happiness. I want to inform you that Pelé has already promised to work with me for this great cause. I would like to ask FIFA, Pelé Promotion and everyone here to take a leading role and contribute significantly toward the development of the Sun Moon Peace Cup.



I pray that God's love and blessing will flow abundantly upon you and your families. Thank you.◆



Speakers included, from top to bottom:
Kwak Chung-hwan, President of the Sun Moon Peace Cup Steering Committee; Renato Duprat Filho, President of Pelé Promotion; Kim Heung-tae, President of the Sun Moon Peace Cup; Rev. Hwang Sun-jo, President of FFWPU (emcee for the evening)

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2...MESSAGE

together with True Parents when Father himself said they had done very well. He said that we had given it all we had. And whereas Father was really rooting for Korea in the match for us to proceed to the top four, he wasn't really so concerned with the outcome of that final match [with Turkey, for third place]....

Brothers and sisters, in this age of the settlement of *Cheon Il Guk*, we really spent a worthwhile month, this June. There was a very substantial meaning behind Korea and Japan holding this 17th World Cup together, and that the Cup was held in the month of June. There was special significance behind each and every game that Korea won as we rose up the ladder rung by rung. None of the games were easy, right? None of the games were won in the first half, even. All of them were won with just three minutes to go, or two minutes to go, or in extra time. First of all the game would seem to be lost, then we would come and win it back. Game by game, we won by the skin of our teeth, out of breath and panting, finally rising up to the top four. In this way, step by step, the idea of the Korean team and the nation of Korea was planted deeply in the hearts and minds of the people of the world. Isn't that what happened?

In all of World Cup history, no one has had a more successful uphill run than Korea did during this World Cup. And how about those cheer squads? Although their name—"the Red Devils"—isn't so flattering, Father said that this means they are actually restored devils!

And who would have thought the team would pull together like it did? They had achieved nothing like that before the World Cup began. Well, I guess they had achieved *some* success, but nobody thought the team would really pull together in such an incredible way as it did. This was because of God. It was like a new wave flowed over everything. It wasn't due to anything we did, but due to the force of heavenly destiny that flowed from Heavenly Father. Nothing came together simply of its own accord, but rather, that new wave of heavenly destiny poured out over everything and brought it all together.

You know, even when we got that goal against Italy, the commentator himself said that it had not been done

by Korea's power. When we sing the national anthem, we sing "God protect and keep Korea," and God really did preserve us that time. Even the commentator said as much. ...

Father has said that life is a moment in time, just a dream. During our forty, eighty or one hundred years, we need to prepare for what comes next. Everybody will die eventually. What will remain for us as we face our own death? Look at Jesus. What did Jesus do? Look at his foundation in the world. Father said the most important thing is that which has eternal value, not money, not being praised, not power. Those pass away. What about one's position? That also passes away. What will remain?

Yesterday, Father said that one thing



True Parents listen to entertainment at East Garden on May 1, the 48th anniversary of the founding of HSA-UWC

shall remain. Of course, if we have not received the blessing, we need to do so. But as members of blessed families, registered families, and as tribal messiahs, there is one thing that will decide our eternal value. Everything else will pass away and there will be only one thing of which we can be proud. What is that? It is our having restored our tribes. Father can't help us restore our tribes. God can't do it for us either. Only members of registered families can do it. Restoring tribes can only be done by tribal messiahs. True Parents can't restore tribes. They are working on the worldwide level. That is their responsibility. What is the responsibility of those who are traveling along the providential road? Our responsibility is to restore members of our tribe as original beings. Other things have relative value. In the

spirit world, can I be proud of having been the church president? It is just a position. This has what we call quantitative value, rather than qualitative value. The definition of eternal, qualitative value for us is receiving the blessing and arranging our tribes. Father said last night that this would decide the value of our lives. He reemphasized it at two o'clock in the morning.

Tomorrow is the historic twelfth *Chil Il Jeol* [Declaration Day of God's Eternal Blessing, July 1st]. What day was *Chil Il Jeol*? It was the day of blessing on which we became tribal messiahs. In 1991, True Parents proclaimed that God had blessed us to become tribal messiahs. They shared God's eternal proclamation at their Hannam-dong residence and launched the tribal messiah providence by sending us to our hometowns. They

taught us the road along which eternal value grows. From now on, we have to keep in mind that the task before us is restoring our tribes, and nothing exceeds this in value or importance.

True Parents have accomplished the rejuvenation and restoration of humanity from the position of servants of servants up to the position of the royal children of God. Whereas once we were the fallen children of Satan, now we even pray and report to Heaven in our very own names. This is the kind of amazing existence we are experiencing.

Brothers and sisters, the world is now evolving into a single human community.

Moreover, humanity is greeting a new age where even the

spirit world and the physical world are completely united as one. As a final stage in that unfolding providence, True Parents held the Rally to proclaim the Unity and Completed Settlement of the Parents of Heaven and Earth, and taught us that by this, the world united centering on True Parents—the world of complete settlement that God has desired—now needs to be opened up. How? By the registered blessed families establishing and settling God's dominion in the realm of their own tribes and clans. That is how it is to be done. We must remember this point clearly and keep it in our hearts. Let us pray.◆

Correction: "The recreation (or renewal) of heaven and earth and the conclusion of the providence" would be a more accurate translation of the calligraphy Father wrote for the new headquarters in America (April issue, p. 21)

경 사단 세계평화여성연합 창립 10주년 기념식 축 UN NGO / Women's Federation for World Peace
일시: 2002. 4. 10 장소: 리움갤러리서울회관

True Mother Speaks at the Tenth Anniversary of WFWP

April 10, 2002

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, leaders of women's organizations, members of the Women's Federation for World Peace: Today, as I stand here before you, I am filled with many deep emotions. In particular, I feel a deep sense of gratitude to God, who has guided our federation with true love for the ten years that have passed since its founding.

My husband, the Reverend Sun Myung Moon, and I jointly founded the Women's Federation for World Peace with the purpose that it would proclaim the arrival of the era of women and function as a pivotal organization for the women's peace movement.

This federation was not founded simply as another women's organization amongst the many that already exist. Rather, the first and foremost characteristic of WFWP is that it was founded for the providential purpose of realizing God's ideal world, a world which centers on the ideal of True Parents.

Moreover, WFWP is not an organization for the recovery of women's rights, and is fundamentally different from such women's organizations that exist chiefly to influence men. Such organizations seek primarily to expand women's rights, to promote equality of the sexes or to improve working conditions for women and are, for the most part, external, political and confrontational in nature.

According to Reverend Moon's teachings, women do not exist to confront or struggle against men, but rather they exist as individual embodiments of truth, representing one side of the two aspects or "dual characteristics" of the invisible Creator, God. In other words, women represent one aspect of God's internal and external characteristics, and the one aspect of God's original masculinity and femininity.

According to the principle through which God created the universe, all things exist in couples, as an initiating subject and a responsive object team. A woman is thus a whole and perfect partner through whom a man can achieve harmonious unity in the ideal of God's principle.

Likewise, a woman does not exist to be a man's assistant or simply an object of his protection, but rather is an independent entity who brings completion to a man by standing in a position that represents the other aspect of God. In the ideal of true love, a woman exists as a man's noble partner, as the recipient who can reciprocate his love. From the perspective of value, a man and a woman are equal.

A man and woman who are united through the power of original, true love acquire entitlement to a single common status. They also share entitlement to participate together and be with each other, whatever the situation or location. Moreover, a man and woman united in true love also share an ideal right of inheritance; they share ownership of each other's things, for she is his second self just as he is hers.

Thus, a man and woman united in God's true-love ideal share fully and totally all rank and position, all rights of participation and all rights of possession. Men and women were created to be equal in terms of value when they are centered on true love.

Naturally, then, a man and woman should not exist in a relationship of hostility or opposition, where the characteristics and qualities of the other are to be mimicked or coveted. There is



no need for that, because man and woman belong to each other; their relationship is designed to be one where all their qualities as well as possessions are shared with each other so as to bring each to completion and perfection, and thus together become something greater than the sum of the two.

Women have the important role of bearing children, raising them, and guiding the family as God's representatives—with the uniquely feminine sense of affection and love that God has granted to women. This original feminine nature is something God endowed each woman with.

By nurturing the fruits of love and investing in her children's upbringing, a woman connects and extends the traditions and lineage of her family. For this reason, although her external efforts are important,

the role of the mother in cultivating character and raising her children to have healthy, wholesome natures is the highest function of motherhood. In fulfilling this role, mothers truly represent the heart of God.

As the future unfolds, humanity will have no option but to live interdependently in a pluralistic, global society. A culture of peace will be established all across the globe. When this happens, the precious role of women who are grounded in the love of God will be recognized as an absolutely essential ingredient not only for the family, but also for society, for the nation and on the global level as well.

That is because women play a sacred role that is both historical and related with the blood lineage. We carry the future of humanity in our wombs; we give birth to and nurture humankind's potential. If the role of mothers is ignored, where will the hope and future prospects for humanity come from?

In the worldwide peace movement led by WFWP, women play the central role. Members of WFWP should feel proud that the work we are doing across the globe deals with such a unique area and has such providential significance. We should also be grateful that WFWP can carry out its work under the direct guidance of the True Parents.

Over the past ten years, I have been privileged to give talks and keynote addresses in the parliamentary halls of many nations across the globe, from the UN headquarters to the U.S. Congress and Japanese Diet. We have held hundreds of international meetings where I delivered the message of the Women's Federation. Sometimes the audience comprised several hundred people, sometimes ten thousand, and sometimes more than a hundred thousand people.

I have been fortunate to have been able to carry out a number of global tours embracing North and South America, Europe, Asia, including Russia and China, Oceania and Africa. During these tours, my message has always been the proclamation of the era of women and an emphasis on the role of women in bringing about world peace.

We have addressed the serious crises facing modern civilization, including decadence among youths, family breakdown, teenage and single parenthood, AIDS, drug abuse, crime and national instability. Moreover, we have raised the issue of ethics and morality centering on the family, and shown the need for the establishment of a new value system aligned with God's

truth. In short, we have rung the warning bell.

Consequently, in each nation across the globe, movements for national reformation and social restoration are being led by inspired and enlightened women motivated from within. These movements are creating a foundation of hope throughout the world.

So once again, I would like to take this opportunity to thank and congratulate the members of the Women's Federation for World Peace. In more than 180 nations around the world, and particularly in South Korea, Japan and America, you have participated with fervor and accomplished many tangible results for our cause.

Beloved leaders of women everywhere!

What should be the central direction and activities of the women's peace movement during the coming ten years? Reverend Moon has focused on the year 2012 as the year in which the ideal world of peace—the hope of humanity and God alike—needs to be substantially realized. To that end, he is at this time heading up a global movement for the practice of true love. Likewise, for the Women's Federation for World Peace, the next ten years will be a very important period.

The world of peace is not initially accomplished on the global or even national level. Peace must first be realized in the individual and in the family, because these form the basis for all human organizations and systems. Core issues of world peace essentially depend on the question of how peace can be attained within the individual and the family.

The original ideal of God's creation was to accomplish the Kingdom of Heaven on the earth, and beyond that, a world of the ideal of love that also embraced the spiritual dimension. Thus, a Kingdom of Heaven both was to be formed in both the spiritual and physical worlds. This ideal was to be achieved by expanding the model of an ideal family to the world level and then the cosmic level. For this reason, a family of true love is the fundamental unit and basis of an ideal world of peace.

When true parents, a true husband and wife, and true children all attend God and form a true family of peace, and when that family expands to form a clan, nation and world, true world peace will be realized. The role of the mother and wife in creating peace in the family is an absolute and eternal one.

Today, immorality and decadence are spreading over the world and the family is crumbling under the influence of soaring divorce rates and increasing self-indulgence among youth. In these circumstances, the true family blessing movement and the pure love youth education that WFWP is promoting worldwide are, in the fundamental sense, movements for peace. They are movements that can save the nation and save the world—unique peace movements of the highest dimension driven by the power of God's true love.

I believe that we members of WFWP need to have a special sense of mission in our work. Based on the moral laws and principles of the universe, we need to make our families whole and sound in accordance with the heavenly way of life. We have to point our societies in the right direction and make our nations righteous and strong.

Thus, participation by women is needed in all aspects of society, from diplomacy and politics to the economy and legal system reform. Women also need to be active in education and culture, in sports and the arts, not to mention the diverse activities of NGOs.

However, I want to emphasize that before all these things, the highest priority for our activity needs to be education of our society in a righteous value system, and the True Love and True Family movement. We need to encourage and foster the practice of living for the sake of others.

Moreover, we women have to be the vanguard of the movement for unification. It has always been a clear objective of our federation to carry out a number of activities that will aid the

reunification of the Korean peninsula, for example. Women have to take the lead in both national and global unification by providing an example through education based on a true value system and the practice of true love.

War and conflict arise when we attempt, from selfish motives, to acquire things, such as land or possessions, that belong to others. Conversely, peace is realized when we invest ourselves for the sake of others; in other words, when we practice true love.

For some time now, our federation has invested its heart and soul in developing our Service and Sharing for the Neighborhood and Society activities. These activities will surely become a precious foundation for peace in the future.

This year, we initiated the 1% Love Sharing Project to practice true love and help our compatriots in North Korea, particularly women and children. In my view, this campaign exemplifies the spirit with which WFWP was founded. As a campaign that emphasizes the practice of true love and sharing, this project is being developed in many nations around the world. Transcending religion, race and nationality, it is rising above the established conflict-centered framework to bring peace in a tangible way.

In recent years, WFWP has worked hard to build bridges of peace between nations in many parts of the world, under Reverend Moon's guidance. An example of this is the creation of sisterhood relationships between 320,000 South Korean and Japanese women. Sisterhood ceremonies between women of different nations have now firmly taken root as an integral part of many international conferences and as a concrete practice for the realization of peace.

In the future, WFWP will pursue the growth of our active efforts for peace by developing a joint platform embracing many different fields, including education, culture, sports and the arts. This will be achieved through cooperation that transcends nationality, race, religion and different NGOs.

Moreover, bringing together women from all over the world in harmony and cooperation, we will further volunteer activities based on true love—so that more and more people can become the recipients of love in a tangible way.

My dear members of the Women's Federation! In the twenty-first century, men and women together must become the main players of world history, cooperating as the driving force for the realization of a world of peace. The central role of women is all the more vital if the unfolding century is to be characterized not by power and technology, but by culture and by love.

It is my fervent hope and expectation that the members of WFWP will take the lead in guiding the movement for restoring true families. That movement is the basis and foundation for the realization of a world of peace.

Enlightened women are the center of the love, peace and service that preserve the family, and a sound, healthy family is the school of love and virtue. The starting point of world peace lies with the mothers at the center of such families, families that perfect and bring to fruition God's true love.

We must all push ahead in the conviction that no matter how wounded and scarred this world becomes, it can be healed and cleansed by the substantial work of a women's federation united in the vision of God's true love. If we have that determination and if we make that effort, then God's absolute authority will be with us, as will be the blessing and guidance of the spiritual realm.

Let us all stand up and be counted; let us complete the building of an ideal world of peace both on earth and in the spiritual world.

In conclusion, let me thank you, both our distinguished guests and federation members, once again for taking the time from your busy schedules to allow us the pleasure of your presence today. ♦

Shaking Up Society

Ambassadors for Peace are given the tools

BETWEEN May 28th and June 7th, the Korean Chapter of IIFWP sponsored a series of Ambassador for Peace NGO Seminars under the theme "The Prospects for Realizing a Peaceful World and the Situation of Korea." A total of 2,128 Ambassadors for Peace participated in the seminars, which were held in six locations throughout Korea—Taegu, Busan, Seoul, Kwangju, Sun Moon University and in Kyeonggi Province.

Mr. Taj Hamad, executive director of the World Association of NGOs and director of the IIFWP's UN office, spoke on the role NGOs can play in the twenty-first century:

Governments have many a time come short when addressing problems of the magnitude I have outlined, and the reason is that governments have always acted in their national interests. For governments, the national interest is the last word. Consequently, governments have rarely acted where there is no national interest to be sought, promoted or protected.

As we are all aware, the UN is owned by member states whose respective wills are supposed to define the UN's general agenda. However, the respective wills of member states have sometimes been conflicting, inconsistent and mutually antagonistic. This translates into disjointed incrementalism by the UN and clouds and hampers its goals and objectives.

The religious community has not fared any better. Instead of forging a common front as spiritual leaders and custodians of morality, they have polarized the peoples of the world and have not done a good job in

insuring unity and cohesion in the midst of religious diversity

This leaves us with one and only one alternative: NGOs. By their dedication to issues that cut across national boundaries, races, religions and cultures, NGOs seem better suited to bringing about the objectives I have outlined. But NGOs have their own internal problems to resolve in order to become the driving force and impulse with which to engender global peace and security. NGOs are weakened when they work at cross-purposes instead of working cooperatively and collaboratively.

When NGOs get their act together we see landmark accomplishments such as the Landmine Treaty, the Kyoto Accords, the International Criminal Tribunal, and so forth, brought to life. This is where you see NGOs at their finest. Once we close our ranks as NGOs and proceed along the path of cooperation and collaboration, we would then seek to take off our "consultative" costume and put on our newly designed "partnership" attire: a true partnership with the UN and with our respective governments, helping bring about peace, security and protecting the rights of all peoples and nations—large or small.

Professor Park Sang-pil, an expert on NGOs from Kyeong-gi University, addressed a problem in Korean society

and suggested a solution: He explained that for a culture to elevate itself, the thinking of that nation's citizens has to be elevated. From the 1960s to the 1990s, those who now make up the older generation in Korea worked

hard and sacrificed for the economic development of the country. Yet the present welfare system for senior citizens does not offer them adequate support. Prof. Park introduced a proposal for a new social structure: He called government the "first sector," the market (business) the "second sector" and civic organizations the "third sector." If each sector fulfills its role and interaction and balance is maintained, a healthy society can be built. In this, he stressed the important role of the Ambassadors for Peace.

Rev. Hwang Sun-jo, president of the Korean chapter of IIFWP, asked who could take responsibility for the many problems in the world. His answer was the Ambassadors for Peace:

The Ambassadors for Peace must develop a peace movement in each region, build a culture of righteousness and overcome all obstacles even to the reunification of North and South Korea.

Ambassadors for Peace who attend-
CONTINUED BOTTOM OF OPPOSITE PAGE ...



The seminar participants listening to Rev. Hwang's speech



The appointment of a new ambassador

SEUL STUDIO

Diplomatic Relations

Greg Stone
IIFWP-Oceania

IN his founder's address at IIFWP's Assembly 2001, Father stated that marriages that can transcend the high walls of racial, religious and national differences serve as the cornerstone of peaceful nations and a peaceful world. Evidently, two IIFWP Ambassadors for Peace took his advice to heart, as they tied the knot in a fairytale-like marriage ceremony under the patronage of the Prime Minister of Thailand.

Dr. Samir Hanna, working in his capacity as the president of the Coptic Orthodox Association in Sydney, attended several IIFWP meetings and later became an IIFWP Ambassador for Peace. Having seen painful interreligious divisions and conflict in Egypt, his country of birth, he feels called to dedicate his life to the pursuit of peace. For the past year, he has committed one day a week to assisting at the IIFWP Secretariat in Sydney. On a recent visit to Egypt he single-handedly organized two IIFWP seminars involving over two thousand five hundred participants, the first ever such seminars held in Egypt (see March issue of *Today's World*, p. 19).

Only days after his return to Australia from Egypt, Dr. Hanna received an invitation to attend Assembly 2002 in Seoul, from Febru-



The wedding of Ambassadors for Peace—the Prime Minister of Thailand was a guest (right)

ary 14 - 18. While there, he met IIFWP representatives from Thailand. Among them was a woman member of the Thai Parliament, Associate Professor Dr. Charinratana Buddhapan. She comes from the Buddhist faith and is also an IIFWP Ambassador for Peace. For the sake of ease of communication, she has adopted the English name Paula.

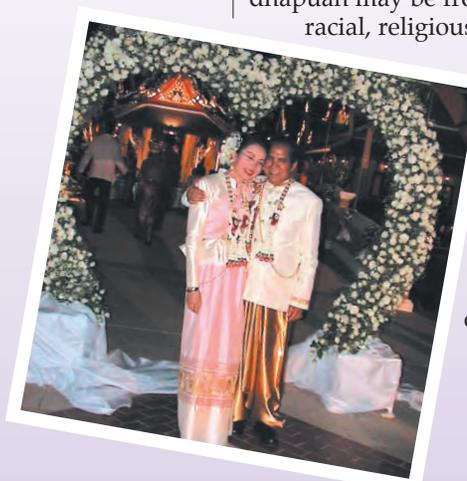
Samir and Paula were introduced to each other at breakfast on the first morning of the conference. The following day, the hand of destiny brought

them together a second time when they found themselves sitting together at the Olympic gymnasium as VIP observers of the blessing ceremony on February 16th. As they sat there chatting and observing the matrimonial extravaganza before them, Heaven moved their hearts and, yes, they fell in love. As if to confirm its approval, some holy water, meant for the blessing participants, fell upon them during the ceremony.

After the conference, things moved quickly. Samir and Paula returned to their respective nations but kept in close contact every day via email. In March, Paula visited Samir in Sydney, where they were engaged. In April, Samir left for Thailand to help Paula make arrangements for the wedding, which was held at the Chiang Mai First Church on June 8th.

The wedding was wonderful, like a dream. Guests had been invited by the hand of Dr. Thaksin Shinawatra, the prime minister of Thailand, and his wife. The event and costumes were spectacular. Drs. Hanna and Buddhapan may be from very different racial, religious, language and cultural backgrounds,

but their common quest for peace brought them together. They are a living testimony to the fact that true love can transcend those differences. ♦



CONTINUED FROM OPPOSITE PAGE...

ed the seminar mentioned that prior to participating in the seminar they had not known what to do after receiving their appointment. After listening to the presentations at the NGO academic seminar, one ambassador from the Kangwon area, who had gained a lot from the experience, shared that the

presentations could serve as a guide for them to teach society the right way to go, and that the three-sector model of modern society clarifies the importance of the role of the citizens' movement. He expressed his thanks to IIFWP.

This NGO academic seminar represented a departure from the past pattern of education in that it focused on

the potential of civic organizations and how the Ambassadors for Peace could effectively work in society.

In the evaluation of everyone who attended, the expert analysis offered was both stimulating and timely. ♦

Exploring the Homeland of Our Faith

National representatives receive an unexpected blessing

Mr. Chang (fourth from left) with leaders of nations from different parts of the world



The group at Pulguksa Buddhist Temple near Kyeongju

Chang Kwan-hyun
Director, World Mission Office, Seoul

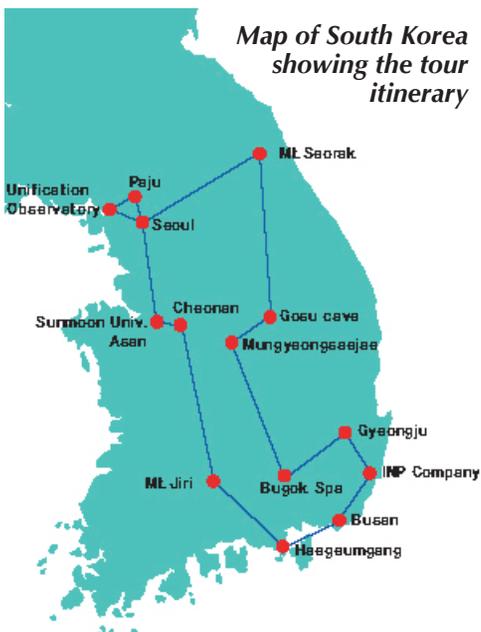
TRUE PARENTS instructed the national representatives who came to Korea for the 40th Day of All True Things and the inauguration of the Sun Moon Peace Cup to tour Korea, and I was asked to accompany them. This was an expression of True Parents' special love and blessing to help these leaders grasp the precious value of our fatherland of faith and the heart of God. International president Rev. Hwang urged me to guide the participants

well, and that this be a pilgrimage and tour with which True Parents could be happy. We were to start from the Wonjeon (the special Unification burial ground) in Paju on June 13th and tour for eight days. Father instructed us to visit the Honam area and Mt. Jiri.

The representatives visited all the areas of Korea wherein God's heart, True Parents' sadness, and the hardship of the Korean people are carved. Each day began with *hoondokhae* at 6 in the morning, and we would arrive back at our lodgings at 10 or 11 in the evening.

Despite the busy schedule, the missionaries indeed became pilgrims who received much grace, gratefully savoring all they saw and felt.

At the Wonjeon, we could feel the great sacrifice and pain of True Parents and at the former headquarters church, we felt the birthpangs and struggle of the early years of our movement. And we could feel Father's suffering as he carried the burden of humankind as we walked on Mun-gyung Pass, through which Father passed on his journey south in 1950-1. These feelings burst



Map of South Korea showing the tour itinerary



The Itinerary

Day 1: The Wonjeon, Unification Observatory (looking into North Korea), Gyeongbok Palace (Choson Dynasty), the National Museum and the Old Headquarters Church

Day 2: Mt. Seorak

Day 3: Ulsan Rock, Gosu Cave, Mungyeong Pass

Day 4: Gyeongju (capital of the ancient Shilla Dynasty): Tour of historical cultural sites there

Day 5: INP Company; Busan: Rock of Tears, Beomnaetgol Holy Ground and Haeundae Beach

Day 6: Haegeumgang, Wido (Islands)

Day 7: Mt. Jiri

Day 8: Independence Hall, Yoo Gwan-soon Memorial, Sun Moon University, The Segye Times



At the Old Headquarters Church are many artifacts from the days True Family lived there—preserved for visitors to see



Prayer at the Rock of Tears



The entrance to Sokkuram Grotto, which, along with Pulguksa Temple, is on UNESCO's World Heritage List

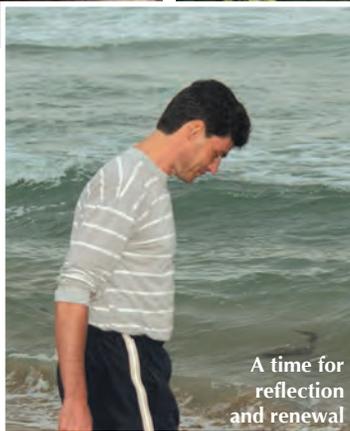
forth in each person's heart during our prayer at the Rock of Tears in Beomnaetgol. That prayer was the climax of our pilgrimage.

As well as connecting with the suffering course of True Parents, we felt connected with the history of Korea at the great landmarks of its history. As brothers and sisters there were times when we smiled with joy, and times when we shed tears. Our relationships grew rich with the passing of time.

During those eight days, we saw high mountains, hills covered in thick forests, and people living peacefully in the valleys. These things ignited our feelings toward the beautiful fatherland of our faith. One thing that surprised some participants was the dramatic changes in circumstances and terrain. In rapid succession we would go from bare mountains to thickly forested hills, see people living very simply and then others enjoying a life of wealth and prosperity. We would see faces lined with fatigue and others filled with self-confidence and pride.

No one among our group had previously toured the Honam area or climbed Mt. Jiri. I felt True Parents wanted us to come so that our tour would pass through all the mainland provinces.

The route up Mt. Jiri was fourteen



A time for reflection and renewal

kilometers long. It was a hard going for the older hikers; one of our participants was seventy-two years old, yet he climbed all the way with us. He felt a sense of accomplishment.

Our tour then headed for Cheonan. At Independence Hall and at the memorial

to Yoo Gwan-soon, who had been martyred at the age of just sixteen [in the Japanese colonial time], we were moved anew by the deep patriotic sentiment of those who had given up their lives for our people and our nation out of their passion for national independence. We were brought to deep self-reflection.

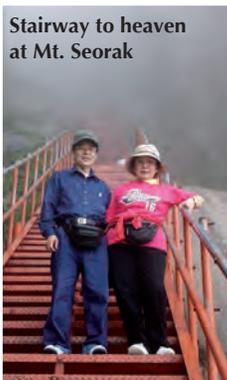
We next visited Sun Moon University and saw the newly completed main building and campus, which are the finest of any in Korea. Sun Moon Univer-

sity has developed a great deal in terms of quality and number of students. The national representatives felt proud to see the realization of True Parents' vision for the education of young people who can lead the world in the future.

Those who participated in this pilgrimage and tour throughout Korea had many transforming and precious experiences. Our contact with the difficult road True Parents have walked allowed us insight into God's grieving heart. I am sure that everyone was touched by the natural beauty and bright culture of this land whose people's suffering course ultimately led it to be chosen by God.

The eight days provided us with time and opportunity to achieve a deep oneness in heart, and we felt much gratitude to True Parents for this great gift. All participants thus found a renewed determination within themselves to offer victory to God and True Parents in their mission areas. ♦

Mr. Chang, who is from the 6000 Couples, was a missionary in Africa for six years.



Stairway to heaven at Mt. Seorak



The boat ride to Haegeumgang, an island of extraordinary natural beauty off the south coast

PHOTOS COURTESY OF JOO IN-HO

Two Decades of Dedication and Distinction The 20th Anniversary of

The Washington Times



In addition to the speech "The Life of Jesus as Seen from God's Will, and God's Warning to the Present Age, the Period of the Last Days," which Father gave at The Washington Times' 20th Anniversary Banquet, a second speech, "Freedom, Family and Faith: The Role of the Media in the 21st Century"—in which Father expresses many of his thoughts on the founding of the paper—was published in the same booklet distributed at the event. Excerpts appear below.

FIRST, I wish to thank God for bringing us successfully through these twenty years of accomplishment. I also wish to offer my praise to all the employees of *The Washington Times* for their hard work and dedication. It is through their efforts that the newspaper has achieved its well-deserved reputation for distinction in reporting and excellence. Let's give them all a big round of applause.

During the Cold War, God placed America in a position to protect worldwide freedom by blocking the attempt by communism to gain world domination. When the *Washington Star* closed down in 1981, this nation's capital was left with only one newspaper, the *Washington Post*. This meant that the capital of the Free World had a limited perspective on news, issues, and policy, which ignored the danger of communism and its threat to the entire world at that time. In the context of God's will, there needed to be a newspaper that had the philosophical and ideological foundation to encourage and enlighten the people and leaders of America. For months, I waited with the hope that some patriotic Americans would start a newspaper

in Washington to provide an alternative voice to the *Post*. But when it became clear that no one would do so, I decided we had to do it.

Ronald Reagan had been elected president in a landslide vote. Yet while he tried to maintain a strong stand against communist expansion, there was much confusion in Washington over what America's proper response to the Soviet threat should be. *The Washington Times* provided leadership through thoughtful commentary and objective news and information to make clear the harsh reality of communist tyranny....

The mission of *The Washington Times*, however, was not finished with the end of the Cold War. The fall of communism did not automatically lead to world peace. Nor did it mean that the ideal society that God desires would establish itself without any further effort on our part. Accordingly, during *The Washington Times'* second decade it had to rise to a new challenge—that of the "Cultural War," or the fight against the degradation of values.

God desired that America maintain its traditional family and moral values, which had fallen into confusion. Secular humanism and extreme individualism and selfishness were on the rise. As a result, money and material goods have become "gods" to people in terms of their values. This has led to the decline of religion and the rise of secular humanism, which have led to the breakdown of families and rising juvenile delinquency.

We see evidence of this epidemic everywhere, especially among our youth: the AIDS epidemic, increased alcoholism and drug use among young people, teen pregnancies and even murders in schools. These are all symptoms that our society is still very distant from God.

Thus, ten years ago, at the tenth anniversary celebration for the *Times*, I defined another mission for the media. This is, the need for media to promote ethics and moral values in our society. For its second ten years, I envisioned for *The Washington Times* the task of contributing to bringing about a moral society. Because a peaceful world is only possible based on the existence of peaceful, ideal families, the *Times* became a newspaper that helped people understand the importance of strong moral, family values. Even before the term "family values" became a popular phrase, every day of the week the *Times* was publishing articles highlighting the breakdown in values and what must be done to return to a good, moral society based on family values. The newspaper even began publishing a weekly Family Times section devoted to these issues. Today, family values have become an essential piece of the social fabric in America, even becoming part of the political landscape. We can be proud of *The Washington Times* contribution that promoted and elevated family values to an essential part of society in America and the world!

The first decade of *The Washington Times* was marked by its fight for freedom around the world in the midst of the Cold War. The second decade was marked by the Cultural War and the emphasis on building families infused with strong moral values. Now, as we enter the third decade of *The Washington Times*, this is time to emphasize and support faith, the time to

emphasize and support spiritual values that are based on the faith of each individual. We must all understand clearly about God and the spiritual aspect of human life. Freedom at the world level, moral and ethical values at the family level, and faith at the individual level—these are the three great imperatives for our lives and for the media as well....

Our lives are not just eighty or one hundred years on this earth. We are born into this world through our physical parents, but we must know that ultimately God is our Parent. And after we die in this world, we continue to live in the world of the spirit. Is there any person on this earth who can avoid going into the spirit world when they die?

No matter how much money, knowledge or power he or she accumulated on earth, everyone is destined to go into the spirit world eventually. You may have made great efforts on the Earth to accumulate money, knowledge or power, but these will not guarantee your happiness in the spirit world. You would do well to invest effort to learn about the spirit world now, since God and the spirit world are at the roots of our eternal lives. In this sense, the spirit world is our hometown. How can anyone claim to be a true man or a true woman if he or she does not know God and the spirit world?

This is the time when each one of us can set his or her faith compass to God. This is not just Reverend Moon's teaching, it is the providence of God. As the third component of freedom, family and faith, this individual connection to God stems from the same root as America's founding tradition. I hope that each of you will also take up this mission of the media as your own and accept faith as the essential part of your character. ♦



Photos facing page, *Father speaking, and, at right, with Mother receiving a commemorative gift; below, greetings from Congressman Danny Davis; this page top, Children of the Gospel Choir entertains; left, staunch family values advocate and radio help-line host Dr. Laura Schlessinger gives the keynote address, right, an honor guard represents the patriotic spirit of the Times*

"In my experience, *The Washington Times* operates according to the tried-and-true traditions of a free press. Reporters and editors take their responsibilities seriously, always checking the facts. Then, they publish the truth, often in opposition to the herd mentality that guides the coverage of most of its competitors"

Dr. Laura Schlessinger, keynote speaker (quoted by Ellen Sorokin in The Washington Times)



Excerpts from published opinions by people closely related with the Times

Wesley Pruden, the Times' Editor in Chief:

The birth of *The Washington Times* was not celebrated by a press establishment grown smug and complacent. The *Times* was to be a different kind of newspaper, one that would go for inspiration "back to the future," to a time of national consensus on issues of ethics and morality, with an emphasis on the message and not the messenger. We would not only cover the news without slant or bias, but give voice to those who had been shut out of the national debate.

Though the founding vision was that of a religious figure, a man of another country and another culture, the *Times* was to be wholly secular, to hold to no sectarian cause, to champion no denomination above any other, but never to mock faith and belief, to proselytize only for the principles that liberate men from the tyranny of closed minds.

It was an unlikely enterprise. There was first a wide cultural divide to bridge, not only between East and West, but between devout and religious men and a rowdy and eccentric collection of rogues, scamps and vagabonds, all skeptical of nearly everything, living by the famous newsroom maxim that "if your mother says she loves you, check it out." Most of us are only vaguely reli-

gious, if religious at all, and those of us with faith and belief hold to a faith very different from that of the founder.

Nothing could have come of the founding vision without unqualified independence for the men and women who produce the newspaper. We've never been told to put anything in the paper; more important, perhaps, we've never been asked to leave anything out. All that ever was asked was that we put out the newspaper born of the vision, faithful to the task of reporting the news without fear or favor, to get it first and get it right. A decade of dedication, followed by a second decade of distinction in the task, made believers of hundreds of thousands of readers in every state of the union and throughout the world, loyal to a newspaper that seeks to be faithful to what is good and important.

Arnaud de Borchgrave, UPI Editor at Large:

The *Times* rapidly became a great newspaper by anyone's definition because of its dedicated and talented staff that thought nothing of fourteen-hour days to report the news hard, first, and above all, accurately—and provide an alternative conservative viewpoint on its editorial and commentary pages. We knew we had made it when Charles Peters, the respected editor of the liberal *Washington Monthly* said that the *Times* had been beating the *Washington Post* "consistently on some important stories." The *National Journal* placed *The*

Washington Times among the most influential institutions in the nation's capital.

The *Times* repeatedly hit what the *Post* missed. In the first sixteen months of this editor's tenure, the Associated Press cited *Washington Times'* exclusives more than 120 times. The late Katharine Graham, chairman of the Washington Post Company, told me at a state dinner, "I have to tell you, the paper is looking good—in fact, too good."

Sen. Ted Kennedy [a democratic Senator representing Massachusetts], complained at the time that we had "added immeasurably to his burdens." Asked how this had been achieved, he said, "I have to read you every day."

Ellen Sorokin, The Washington Times:

The first edition of *The Washington Times* rolled off borrowed presses May 17, 1982, nine months after the *Washington Star's* presses fell silent. The *Times* began operating from a makeshift newsroom in an old warehouse at 3600 New York Ave., NW. The paper was staffed by a handful of newspaper professionals recruited by a working group from News World [Communications] headed by former Korean diplomat Bo-Hi Pak.

Today, the *Times* has more than 820 employees, a daily circulation of 110,120, and is a newspaper with national influence. ♦



Government Honors 40-Year Effort

Pak Bo-hi receives an award for his work with the Little Angels

ON May 3, 2002, Dr. Pak Bo-hi was the recipient of the Silver Crown Medal for Culture. Presented by Minister for Culture and Tourism Mr. Nam Joong-jin, the award acknowledges Dr. Pak's contribution to the development of Korean culture, and its dissemination throughout the world. Dr. Pak was also being recognized for his contribution to the reunification of Korea and world peace: the Little Angels' visit to North Korea in 1998 and the reciprocal visit to Seoul in 2000 by a Pyongyang children's performing arts group was the first private cultural exchange between North and South Korea.



suggested the creation of a children's performing arts group rather than an adult one?

He had great foresight and created the children's dance troupe. Some people opposed the idea saying, "How can you bring children around the world?" His answer was, "Children are the symbol of peace. Children can transcend religious, racial and ideological barriers just by being who they are. Those children, joyfully dancing without regard for money or fame are symbols of the Heavenly Kingdom. There is no one who can express Korea's love for peace better than those children."

This year marks 40 years since the founding of the Little Angels children's dance troupe. Following is a translation of an interview Dr. Pak gave with the *Segye Times* Korean daily:

ST: You must feel very moved.

Pak Bo-hi: I can't believe it's been forty years. My heart is very touched. We started from scratch and have been working so hard to get where we are now as one of the world's top peace emissaries. I am really happy that all of our efforts bore fruit.



There must have been a lot of difficulties in the beginning.

In the beginning of the 1960s, Korea was known to the world as a nation of war, orphans and famine. While working as the military attaché at the Korean Embassy in Washington D.C., I wrote a letter to Rev. Moon suggesting a folk dance group be formed to properly introduce Korea to the world. I thought that the best way for Korea to become known to the world was to introduce Korean tradition and our five thousand years of legends through traditional costumes and dances.

Was Rev. Moon the one who



Translation of Content

Pak Bo-hi, Chairman of the Korean Cultural Foundation
This award is given in recognition of your contributions to the development of the culture of our people and of our nation. Under the regulations governed by the constitutional law, the following medal is awarded to you:
 Silver Crown Medal
 (Signed by) President Kim Dae-jung of Korea

Was there any particular performance you can recall?

There are so many. I can't even count them. There are no walls the Little Angels could not break down and nobody the Little Angels could not persuade. The Little Angels made a hole through the barrier between South and North Korea. We went over the high walls of the White House in America a number of times. The main hall of the UN is rarely used as a performance stage, yet the Little Angels were allowed to perform their beautiful music and dance there. Even at a time when there was no political relationship between the Soviet Union and South Korea, the Little

Angels were invited to perform in Moscow by Mrs. Raisa Gorbachev. The Little Angels have performed more than six thousand times, all over the world, and their performances have been televised some five hundred times.

What do you foresee as the future of the Little Angels?

The members of the Little Angels have a strong love for their nation and for the spirit of independence. They have a strong sense of teamwork, too. The Little Angels will go anywhere that peace is needed.◆

The Colombian Challenge

A national messiah reflects on five years in the mission

by Robert Bentele



couples.

As soon as I got the name of our Korean national messiah, I started to pray daily for him. In my opinion, this was a crucial factor in establishing a base for that unity. In my life of faith I have often experienced that praying regularly for a person creates both the atmosphere to see him or her with the eyes of God and the power to love and harmonize with that person.

Rev. and Mrs. Yoo belong to the 124-couple Blessing and have been with our True Parents for nearly fifty years; I naturally felt a deep respect for their sacrifice and dedication. They had started their mission in Colombia, guiding the Colombian providence and educating the members, more than a year earlier than we. Rev. Yoo never has a meal alone, he always eats with leaders or different groups of members, using every opportunity to teach us about God, True Parents and the heart of living for others. He especially emphasizes and gives guidance about love and unity between husband and wife as the base of a life of faith. His education is always focused on tradition and is vertical rather than horizontal or humanistic. For Westerners, and for Colombians

COLOMBIA is a country that was dedicated, by the early Spanish settlers, not to gold or emeralds but to the sacred heart of Jesus—to which Colombians of today, being largely Catholic, are still responding.

Thinking of Colombia, however, things other than the heart of Jesus may come to mind, such as violence, crime, drug production and trafficking, guerrilla warfare or irresponsible and corrupt governments. Quite much of this is a fact of life here; as is the production of coffee, bananas and flowers. The country is marked by deep contradictions. A profoundly religious heart beats within the people, and there is wide dedication to public service. Yet there is violence, family breakdown and the misuse of power.

My family and I came to Bogota on the 29th of December 1997, and in these five years, we have come to love and appreciate Colombia and its beautiful people. After receiving our mission country in Cheong Pyeong in September 1996, at the end of the forty-day national messiah workshop, we visited Columbia three times. In the autumn of 1997, we sold our house and departed for our new homeland with our three

children, who were at that time, one, six and nine years old.

We were warmly welcomed by the Korean national messiah couple, Rev. and Mrs. Yoo Bong-sang, the Japanese sisters and the Colombian family members. During my first three visits to Bogota, I hadn't been able to meet Rev. Yoo, as he was out of the country.

When we did meet, I felt that there was already a foundation of relationship. At the time that I received Colombia as a mission country, while at Cheong Pyeong, I strongly felt that this "matching" did not happen by chance but was purposely arranged by God and that the most important foundation for blessing and success would be the unity amongst the national messiah



particularly, this is not always easy to digest. I often try to be a bridge between Rev. Yoo's vertical heart and the broad, more horizontal heart of the Colombian family members; and so a loving and respectful relationship came about. They need each other. I could experience that respect opens the door to love and cooperation.

I had prepared myself in the event that unity and trust did not come in a short period of time. I told myself that it may take even three years to win the trust of Rev. Yoo. I had no illusions that East and West would come together instantly. Rather, I patiently prayed, supported and served him in order, eventually, to bring the blessing of God to the mission and to the all the work of True Parents in Colombia.

True Father once said, "Unity is the measure of your love," and I can testify that it is true. The heart of Jesus was broken because of various levels of disunity with him and around him. As Columbia is dedicated to his heart, this also motivated me to absolutely work for her restoration. If we could unite, I felt, the whole Colombian movement



could do so; this foundation could expand to the whole nation and become a basis of peace in this country, which is torn by civil war.

For me, the national messiah mission is inseparably connected to Cheong Pyeong and to the forty-day workshop in which we participated. That is where it all began. I remember Daemo nim's voice so clearly when she said that we should not worry in the mission field, that on the base of this forty-day separation from Satan and evil spirits, she and heavenly angels would always be with us. In the streets of Bogota, I have

often said to myself, "I stand on the foundation of forty days with Daemo nim in Cheong Pyeong. Everything will go well. I don't need to worry."

An unforgettable experience in Cheong Pyeong was hearing the tearful voice of God telling me that He has been excluded from my life for so long. From that time on, I have felt motivated never to allow this to happen again—that God may always have the first place in my heart and mind. If this can be so for everyone, all missions will be successful in the end.◆

Robert and Annette Bentele, both from Germany, were blessed in the 6000-couple Blessing in 1982



Photos: facing page top, Colombian church members with Rev. and Mrs. Yoo after working on the farm in the beautiful Colombia countryside; bottom, Colombian Youth Federation members; this page, top, a pure love lecture given at a school is concluded with the Pure Love Pledge; left, A commemorative photo is taken at the time of the World Peace Blessing in Colombia: Rev. and Mrs. Yoo are in the middle, Robert and Annette Bentele are seated next to Rev. Yoo, and next to Mrs. Yoo are the Montenegros, the national leaders of Colombia

COURTESY, R. BENTELE

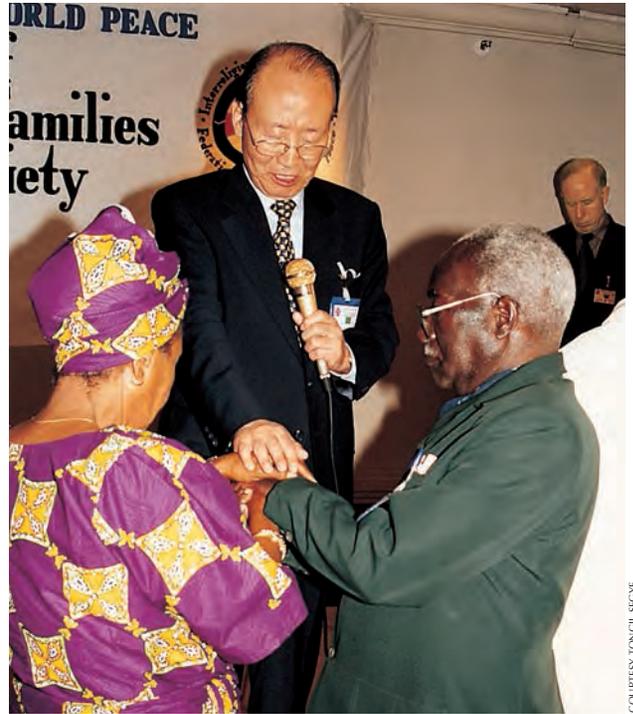
IIFWP Global Outreach



COURTESY: A. EHEV

Nigeria

The appointment of new ambassadors for peace continues



COURTESY: TONGH. SEGE

Zambia

Rev. Kwak gives the blessing



COURTESY: J. HINTERLEITNER

Estonia

As part of a one-day IIFWP seminar on May 6th in Tallinn, Estonia, which addressed the theme, "Renewing the Nation: an Exploration of Principles and Practices that Strengthen the Family, Educate Our Youth and Rebuild Society," two hundred people listened as Dr. Thomas Walsh spoke on "AIDS Prevention and a Healthy Lifestyle." He was followed by two Estonians who are struggling with the rapidly growing number of HIV-infected people, most of whom are young. Statistics presented by Dr. Irina Moroz from the Estonian AIDS Prevention Center clearly showed that a large percentage of the young drug users come from broken families. The connection between broken homes and drug abuse is evident, and the HIV virus spreads most rapidly in this group. Both Dr.



Moroz and her colleague, Mr. Jury Kalikov, emphasized the importance of politicians and leaders in society having a much stronger awareness of the HIV problem, as an epidemic is a real threat to the future of Estonia....

As a meaningful conclusion to the seminar, Rev. Kwak invited all couples present to come forward to reaffirm their marriage vows and receive the blessing. For various reasons, we were rather uncertain how people would respond to this call. Estonians seem reserved and do not show their emotions easily, especially to foreigners. Nevertheless, one brave couple came forward, followed by six more couples and three individuals, who rededicated themselves, even in the absence of their spouses. They all seemed deeply moved. Several women shed tears. ♦

(From a report by Johann Hinterleitner, National Messiah to Estonia)

Championing a Commitment to Values

The United States

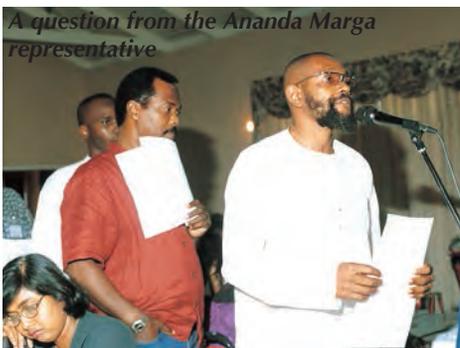
An international symposium convened some 50 UN ambassadors, diplomats and US legislators to address the topic, "Governance and the Challenge of Contemporary Crises." The symposium was held at Gallaudet University and the Senate Hart Building in Washington, DC, on June 18th-19th.

Discussion was focused on contemporary issues: international terrorism, AIDS and the International Criminal Court. On the second day the US State Department held a briefing on US policy, answering questions on issues such as peace keeping.

IIFWP international president Kwak Chung-hwan

spoke of the founder's proposal for new input in UN decision making: "Meeting the challenges of our day requires the participation of not only experienced and trained political leaders, but also leaders representing the the religions, as well as academia, the media, corporations and civil society. Our models and structures of governance should be reevaluated in light of the need to include other significant stakeholders and problem solvers."

At the closing luncheon, Congressman Danny Davis (*photo left*) spoke of how his parents had ingrained in him the values of overcoming adversity and hard work. ♦ (from Nadine Andre's report)



Guyana

Representatives from the main religious, political parties, heads of educational institutions were among those who attended an IIFWP conference on the theme, "Global Character Education for a

Culture of Peace," organized and run by the movement in Guyana. The venue was a lakeside resort, access to which required a trip in a jet boat across the wide Essequibo River, adding an exciting dimension to the program. (from Ronald McGarrell)



Mosque Hosts Sisterhood Ceremony

Christian-Muslim Sisterly Ties Cemented in France

WFWP-France sends this testimony of the Intercultural Sisterhood Ceremony between Muslim and Christian women on Saturday, June 1, 2002, at the Grand Mosque in Paris.

THE Grand Mosque of Paris, bathed in warm sunshine, provided a very beautiful scenic backdrop for the intercultural sisterhood ceremony organized by WFWP—France.

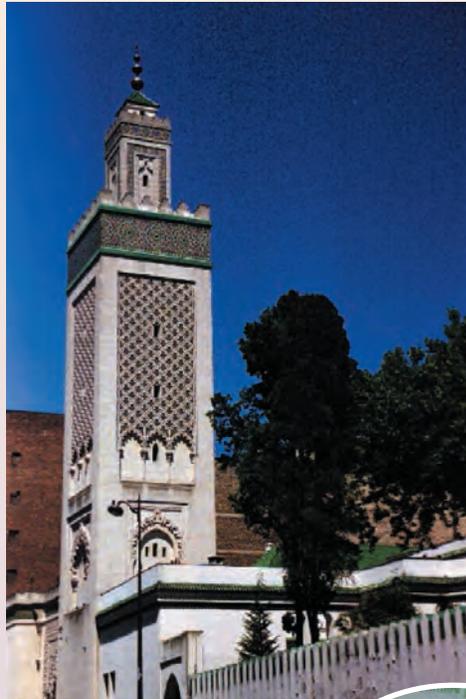
This ceremony was the third of a series of meetings between women of the Muslim and Christian cultures, the first of which took place on November 11, 2001, with the theme “Women and Peace in the Context of Current Events.” The second meeting was part of the WCSF program on February 16, with the theme “Shared Values of Women of the Judeo-Christian and Muslim Cultures.”

The Grand Mosque of Paris is a very historic and important building in Paris. It was built in 1920, in a North African architectural style.

To be able to hold this sisterhood ceremony at the Grand Mosque of Paris was in itself a victory. Some of our usual detractors strongly challenged this and tried to persuade the mosque administrators from allowing us to use their premises. But the director, convinced of our integrity and seriousness, decided in our favor. The fact that we could use the space at the Grand Mosque was a natural attraction to Muslim women and a good reference to others.

Our WFWP president, of Jewish origin, and several Japanese women enriched the challenge, and added to the international and intercultural flavor of the meeting.

The hall in itself had undergone a surprising transformation. Its usual appearance is rather dark wood with dark tapestry on the walls. But now we had light cloth and beautiful Iranian calligraphy as a background.



Since Muslim tradition does not allow music on the premises of a mosque, we chose a solemn reading of various holy scriptures on the topic of peace. Most inspiring to all seemed to be the words of True Mother, founder and international president of WFWP, on “The Logic of Love.”

Our main speakers were the president of an important Muslim women’s association, and the president of an important Christian culture-based women’s organization who is also an Ambassador for Peace. The president of another Muslim women’s organization, founded after the events of September 11, 2001, for the purpose of showing the true and original ways of Islam, featured as additional speaker.

The external atmosphere plus the tone created by the emcee and the speakers was truly warm and joyful.

The crescendo was then created by the almost forty pairs passing over the bridge of peace. It was a “heavenly matching.” Many of the pairs really looked like twins.

Also, several Muslim women, either in the employment of the mosque or just visiting, joined in spontaneously.

Such an atmosphere of warmth, joy and loving embrace surely descended from Heaven. It certainly helped the Muslim women “matched” with two Jewish women to overcome their initial uneasiness.

After reading the pledge of the sisterhood ceremony, everybody joined in a glass of mint tea and traditional North African sweets, a real delight. Then the pairs exchanged gifts, photos, addresses, and so on. Busy talking and laughter filled the air.

The end of the afternoon’s program was marked by a very impressive guided tour of the mosque. It is really amazing to have such a haven of meditation, peace and culture in the middle of Paris.

Our hopes and prayers go now to all these pairs of sisters, so that they will maintain their inspiration to cultivate long-lasting and healing friendships and thus contribute to the establishment of world peace in their own womanly ways. ♦

Contributed by Tirzi Martin



COURTESY WFWP/FRANCE

Going Beyond a Realistic Response

A CARP leader's realization and renewed commitment

Lee Hyun-young

Choongnam Regional CARP Leader, Korea

LET'S think about our way of working for the providence of restoration. The road of the providence of restoration doesn't always look logical or normal. We don't change like some political parties in order to be loved and accepted by the public. What makes us different, most of all, is our convictions. Secondly, we have no choice but to bring victory in the end. We don't change in an effort to follow public opinion; and we don't necessarily try to be "realistic." We are destined to go our way no matter what.

Hyun-jin nim said that we should get rid of the word "realistic" from our dictionaries. This touched me deeply. When we make "realistic" choices, we, more or less, choose things that are common and acceptable in society. However, for people who are walking this destined road, choosing to be realistic means giving in to the temptation of compromise. Common and acceptable ways are not necessarily true ones. The opinion of the majority is not necessarily good, either.

How can anyone confidently say that they are not infected by the disease of "being realistic"? Haven't we lost strength because of reality? Haven't I turned out to be like one of those politicians? I have reflected on the problems I have, and it has come to me that they were caused by my own ideas and concepts about what being realistic means.

A newspaper reporter wrote about our Pure Love Movement in March 1998, in Daejeon, so our street campaign and signature-collection Campaign for Pure Love became known through the media. Our campaigns were broadcast live. As a result, we received many encouraging letters. However, as soon as our campaigns were viewed to be connected to the establishment of the Pure Love department of Sun Moon University, we were constantly attacked by local newspapers, broadcasters, women's organizations and people of other religions that had strong prejudice against us. Our lectures in schools were canceled. Teachers in our seminars openly opposed our views. The government no longer supported us but started to cause problems.

I wanted to explain my position and appealed to them. I wanted to have a discussion with them, but they responded by saying the "majority of women disapprove of your views, they are too old-fashioned and have religious implications." They all agreed that the decline of sexual morality among teenagers was a serious problem. However, they chose more "realistic" method of sex education rather than concentrating on chastity or sexual purity.

They condemned our campaigns as being degrading to women and a male-chauvinist movement. What I was most frustrated about was that people



Service for Peace working in Belarus in May, in which Korean CARP members participated

COURTESY TONGJIL SEOT

would just stop us no matter what we did because of their religious prejudice against us. My original goal was to display the signatures of ten thousand teenagers with their promise to keep their sexual purity at a plaza where many young people gather. However, for various reasons I had to compromise and lower my standard.

Yet, I had already been branded in my local area as someone who caused trouble. My work and I became the focus of attention I had never sought. I don't even have that kind of courage! I suddenly realized that just going the way of the providence of restoration was enough reason for things to stirred up around me.

I now feel ashamed of myself for backing down for "realistic" reasons. Yet it is also true that the more severe the attacks on our campaigns—and on me personally—became, the stronger my conviction grew. I had to deal with reality, but, at the same time, I came to understand that it was my destiny to overcome it.

Many elders in our life of faith have walked the same destined path. Now we, the younger generation, must see what lies ahead of us. We are already stirring up society. If we make realistic reasons or excuses for compromising ourselves, we will lose strength and the power to actualize the truth and bring victory for the providence. I have new determination in myself, a man who had once settled for being "realistic."

Stirring things up is the beginning point of overcoming those realistic limitations. ♦



Stirring things up: Korean citizens protest the building of "love hotels" near a residential neighborhood. This kind of proactive effort for the protection of society has attracted national media attention

God Awaits Us in the Mission Field

A testimony from the movement in Korea

On June 30th at hoondokhae at the Han-nam-dong residence, Father said everyone needs to be active on the local level of society—breaking through at the grass roots, as he has termed it. The following day would be the eleventh anniversary of his official announcement of the tribal messiah providence. In recent months it has come to light that this means following in the footsteps of True Parents and establishing groups of couples in the pattern set up by True Parents themselves: 36, 72, 124 and 430. This testimony from a church leader in Korea's South Kyeongsang Province (on the south coast) tells of the dramatic development of this mission in his region.

Kim Hong-deuk

Assistant Regional Leader, Kyeongnam

GOD is a being who is truly working in the mission field and is waiting for us there. We may have had the experience where we just hesitated and worried about something, and thus ended up missing an opportunity. However, it is extremely rare to miss opportunities and get frustrated when we get out into the mission field. This is the common sense of the providence. Why don't True Parents leave us in our present comfortable circumstances, but, rather, drive us out into the mission field? If we fail to jump into the providential mission field without delay, the providence cannot progress—and the fruit and perfection of the providence will remain nothing but a dream.

Where, indeed, is the mission field? It is not in the church, but beyond its walls. It is not at a desk, but within each family. More specifically, it is in one's own tribe, 160 families and one's mission area received at the time of registration.

When we go to the mission field with faith in the restoration of our nation, and are alive to the heavenly call to restore our tribe, there we shall meet God who is alive and working.

It is the path of filial piety that we must travel without wavering as the children of True Parents who are sacrificing and investing their lives solely for the salvation of humanity and the perfection of the providence even today. That path is the way of absolute faith

and obedience in front of God's Word.

Accordingly, on the basis of True Parents' words, we, the members of the South Kyeongsang Provincial Church immediately began to find great enthusiasm and power for activity for the restoration of our tribes. All church leaders and members were united in heart centered on our regional leader Rev. Kim Bok-seop. As we welcomed participants to our workshops for educating our tribes—who began to come in droves to the facilities we have in Bugok and Mount Jiri—we came to realize that the members' desire to restore their tribes had been passionately ignited—and our regional HQ put to shame for doubting that these workshops would catch on



quickly!

As we continued our work, we could feel to our bones the amazing foundation that has been laid through True Parents' suffering and effort. We could also be sure of the fact that no matter whom we met or where we met them, witnessing about and showing pride in our True Parents was assuredly the only way to really touch our witnessing contacts' hearts. We also realized deeply that the Word that they have given us for this age—the heavenly call to restore our tribes—indicates that True Parents have already made all the preparations necessary for us to complete our tribal restoration.

As of now, the end of June, more than ten thousand have participated in tribal workshops held under our region, on the basis of the momentum that has gathered. Our participants have all

attended the Holy Wine Ceremony, and have been receiving our twice monthly FFWPU newsletter. Furthermore, they are filling out their application forms for membership of *Cheon Il Guk*. In this way, we are creating all the necessary conditions for establishing clearly organized tribes. The atmosphere of the workshops is a succession of grace and deep emotions that become so ignited that even the lecturers themselves are amazed. Everyone has been deeply moved by the words of the Principle and the accomplishments of True Parents.

Our Way of Working

We prepared everything carefully for the workshops. Once the workshops had begun, we kept a clear order: a video, Principle education, special lectures, the Holy Wine Ceremony, the filling out of *Cheon Il Guk* membership application forms and the taking of photos—working as if we have been waiting to do these things.

With our new recognition of the importance of tribes—in which we had not taken so much interest until recently—we hurried to visit our extended families and busied ourselves meeting with representatives of our clans. To our surprise, our relatives in our clans were quite responsive, and they would often come to participate in the tribal workshops in groups.

Although some members felt, and expressed, that bringing their relatives to the tribal workshops in each village would be difficult, in fact, once we had simply brought these hesitant blessed couples to the villages where they had worked in the past to find 160 families, half the battle was won. That is to say, when we visited the mission field, people would, in most places, greet us as if they had been waiting for us for years, and we were able to hold local tribal workshops some five times each day.

As the church leaders were taking the lead in the activities, core members got involved and the atmosphere was created in which people thought, "I should do this as well!" When the direction first came, the wife of our regional leader did a three-day fast, packed herself off to her parents-in-



law's house in Milyang and took the lead in activities there. Thanks to the sacrificial help from her mother-in-law who was moved by what she witnessed, she brought her husband's relatives to the workshop in two buses! She also attended a clan meeting of her husband's Kim clan where she witnessed about True Parents with confidence. As a result, she received promises from most of the clan members there that they would participate in a tribal workshop in the near future.

For myself, I can say that the pain in my heart when I returned to the church headquarters from Gosung (where I had found my 160 couples) was more than the pain of leaving my beloved hometown mountains and streams. This time, however, following the direction to restore my tribe, my wife and I left our four children in the care of close friends, and held tribal workshops together in the town halls of the villages where our 160 couples lived. After the workshops, we would visit individual homes and arrange everything through to the Holy Wine Ceremony and the taking of photos. It would often be after midnight that we would begin our journey home. Still, through this activity we came to experience the heart of God, who is alive and working. We would find ourselves humming a song of gratitude on our way home, our hearts filled with pride, good results, and joy to be participating in God's providence.

Members have said that when they see the elder members and Japanese sisters going out to work in the mission, they can feel that the spirit world, including the ancestors, is helping. The Japanese wives would testify about their lives in Korea (including their experience of struggle in their married life when they first came)—that they came here to participate in the activities to help Korea, for the unification

of South and North and for world peace, because they had been moved deeply by True Parents' very hard work. Then, in many instances, both the speaker and listener would hold hands together and cry. There are many places where the wives of the village leaders took the initiative to work alongside our members and visit every family.

In this atmosphere where senior members take the initiative and Japanese wives work together, the church office these days is crowded everyday and filled with people who are busily preparing to go out for activity or finishing an application form for membership of *Cheon Il Guk*. One brother showed his energy by single-handedly having more than five hundred guests attend the workshops! At present in the Changwon Church, there are 20 couples who have completed the 33-couple tribal formation. In South Kyeongsang Province as a whole, there are over 80 couples who have completed this work, with more well on the way.

We can say that one year ago we launched a full-scale effort for the restoration of our fatherland with our regional leader and all church leaders being one in body and spirit. Under the slogan "If we witness we shall live, but if we don't witness we will die," we have invested significant financial resources and restored our old workshop center that had been in a state of decay, reopening it as the "True Parents Education Graduate School." During the year since its opening, it has welcomed some six thousand two-day trainees. Two-day workshops have continued at an unrelenting pace even during the time when other activities have been emphasized.

One sister, Kim Myung-ja, in particular, worked very hard and successfully invited no less than 400 people to the workshops, and the same number to become regular attendees of Sunday service. Two other couples had more than 120 people participate in the workshops and Sunday service and a further ten couples had more than 40. As a result, we collectively arrived at the amazing result of having more than ten thousand new Sunday service participants, for whom we have been holding three Sunday services each week.

It is easy to say the words "Ten thousand people," but when we look at the church sisters who have worked to prepare meals for four or five hundred people every week for a year, the effort

they made was so enormous. Members' hearts could only be melted in front of the passionate intensity of our regional leader who relentlessly encouraged the members based on his determination and belief in the restoration of the fatherland.

Yet, even amid this busy environment, we have maintained various social service projects that involved us in voluntary work. For example, we formed the True Family Voluntary Service Group at the beginning of last year. Its activities have reached every corner of society, including helping out in a rural community by harvesting garlic, onions and persimmons each season; taking care of senior citizens by giving baths to and washing clothes for elderly men living alone and delivering refreshments to senior citizens' clubs, providing interpretation services in Japanese and English, caring for war veterans and their families, environmental protection, and encouraging middle and high school students to become involved in voluntary service.

Based on a foundation prepared over the past year, we were already prepared for this year's heavenly call to restore the tribes, and have thus been able to continue on with our work at full speed.

It is clear that the restoration of our clans and tribes, organizing *hoondokhae* meetings, and being active on the local level of society are the solemn and unavoidable missions and goals of God's providence. They must be undertaken ceaselessly with a view to realizing the restoration of the nation. Accordingly, we shall have to march forward again and again to meet God who is waiting for us in the mission field, fully prepared to become true filial sons and daughters in front of the Word of True Parents who have commissioned us to fulfill the restoration of our tribes.◆

Below: the renewed workshop center



What God has joined together...

(Mark 10:9)

Chris Antal
Koyang, Korea

IMAGINE for a moment that your spouse has disappeared. All you know is your spouse has been locked up and the people holding the keys are willing to use any means possible—drugs, torture, even rape—to make sure your spouse never returns to you. This is a horrible thought, but if you can picture this, you can empathize with thousands of Japanese Unification Church members who have endured this bitter test of faith. There are probably a couple of hundred who are going through it right now.

What follows is my account of how I responded to the biggest crisis in my life. I am not Japanese but my wife is. She disappeared in 1998.

I was born in New York but raised in the conservative Protestant environment of northern New England. My father is a lapsed Catholic, and my mother identifies herself as a Presbyterian, though for as long as I can remember she has not been a member of any church. My parents decided not to raise my sister or me in any religious tradition, but rather to let us chose our own when we had grown up. Had our family attended a church, my parents might not have divorced, and I might have received some much-needed spiritual guidance. However, as it was, I never attended church with my family. Consequently, I lacked a moral compass and suffered from a spiritual void—a reality that has shaped my path in life.

While I was living in New York, I met my spiritual mother and had my first encounter with the Principle. As were most people when they joined the Unification Church, I was searching for truth and meaning in life. One of the greatest insights I gained through the Principle was on the value of marriage and family. I had never hoped to marry or make a family. In fact, I had been deeply wounded by my parents' divorce and lacked confidence that I

could succeed where my parents had failed. Through the Principle, I realized that not only could I build a good family but also that marriage and family were essential steps toward fulfilling my purpose in life.

I joined CARP that year, in 1993, and four years later, Father matched me to Mitsuko Ishikawa, a Japanese missionary. We met for the first time in early November when Dr. Yang introduced us during a church service in Washington D.C. We participated in the RFK Stadium blessing ceremony, and then Mitsuko returned to Japan. We met again for a forty-day Cheong Pyeong



workshop the following January. After the workshop finished, I went back to America and Mitsuko returned to Japan to prepare to start our family life.

Although we had spent less than a month's time together, and we could not even communicate in the same language, I knew in my heart God had willed us to be together for eternity. As had many members, I spent long hours in prayer and fasting preparing for my bride. Finally, the day came when God gave me a spouse. However, I never regarded Mitsuko as my wife but rather

as God's daughter—a precious gift whom God had placed before me to love and protect. God had entrusted me with the blessing and we had pledged before heaven and earth to build a true family. We had determined to do so, and I felt I must keep integrity before God at all costs.

In May of 1998, I lost God's gift. I vividly remember the moment my CARP leader took me aside after pledge service and told me, "Your spouse has disappeared. We think she has been kidnapped." After a frantic twenty-four hours of long distance phone calls, I deduced that Mitsuko's parents had

taken her from her apartment and had been confining her at some unknown place.

Four years of CARP training had taught me that prayer is the best response to difficult situations. I borrowed a car and drove three hours from Los Angeles into the mountains of Southern California, to the Camp Mazundar holy ground, to ask God's guidance. In prayer, God asked me if I had given up on my marriage pledge. I realized that He wanted to see my determination, so I expressed it before Him, shouting into the valley below that I would find my spouse and save our marriage, even if the task took me my whole lifetime. I remembered Father had once said, "If you are determined then God will work." I left the mountain that day with an absolute determination to save

my marriage but with no idea how, just a faith that God would do His part. A week later, I decided to go to Japan and find Mitsuko myself. I don't speak Japanese and the Japanese church had even told me not to come, but I had faith in God's plan; and my CARP leader had encouraged me to go.

While staying in Japan, I awoke every morning before dawn and took the first train to the Tokyo holy ground. The tree that Father designated as a prayer ground has been repeatedly slashed with a chainsaw. Members have

tried to seal the wounds with cement, but the scars stand as a stark reminder of those in Japan who seek to destroy our members, our families and our movement.

Also during this time I read a four-hundred page report prepared by two Unification Church members called, *The Gulag in Japan: Religious Persecution and the Communist Party*¹. It was a collection of several dozen testimonies from Japanese members who had been imprisoned in mental hospitals, where they had been given doses of heavy medication, beaten and even raped. Through my prayer and research, I began to understand the gravity of the situation. Over the years, thousands of members have been forcefully kidnapped and confined in Japan, some for more than two years. I began to understand my family's trial as a part of a much bigger struggle, a national level conflict that has been affecting thousands of members. I learned that the trial facing my family was in fact a trial facing our entire movement.

On my tenth visit to the holy ground, God asked me to make a second determination. In that prayer, I realized I had been selfish to seek only the return of my spouse while neglecting the larger issues in which my family had become involved. I was wrong to worry only about my spouse and not other members in the church, or the situation of our church as a whole in Japanese society. I realized God had brought this trial upon my family, an American—Japanese couple, for a reason: He hoped through my family's victory to end the

persecution and help our movement develop. Realizing this, I made a new determination before God. I told Him I would put the whole-purpose before the individual-purpose. In other words, I determined to do everything in my power to prevent other members from being kidnapped. I dedicated myself to the well-being of the church, and I trusted that God would care for Mitsuko and give her the strength to endure and overcome our trial.

Thanks to God, seventy days after she disappeared, my wife was able to escape. He did His part in giving strength to Mitsuko and arranging the necessary circumstances. For the past four years, I have been working to keep my promise to God, doing everything in my power to put an end to what has become a very systematic and lucrative kidnapping industry in Japan. In September 1998, my wife and I visited the State Department in the United States, where we testified before the Advisory Committee on Religious Freedom Abroad. In January of 1999, I went to the Unification Theological Seminary, where I spent the better part of two years working with Norishige Kondo, another church member and victim of kidnapping, to prepare and submit a collection of evidence to the State Department [the issue has been mentioned in their reports on religious freedom in Japan²] as well as various human rights organizations, the UN and the National Council of Churches. Throughout this time, I had the opportunity to work closely with, and receive guidance from, many wonderful broth-

ers and sisters in our movement, particularly from the staff at the International Coalition for Religious Freedom and the faculty at Unification Theological Seminary.

One of the strategies for tackling the issue of religious persecution that has proved effective in the United States and Europe is going to the courts. In seeking to prosecute the hired deprogrammers, who have been fueling the assault against the Unification Church in Japan, it was inevitable that Mitsuko's parents would be drawn in to the legal proceedings. After much prayer, however, we decided that we must do what is necessary to protect Mitsuko and our children, as well as other members, from future attacks and to help secure religious freedom in Japan for all.

Now, our trial is at a crossroads. A report we have submitted to the United States Embassy summarizes the recent judgments. However, these decisions are not final. We have appealed our case to the Tokyo High Court and are now in the process of presenting new evidence. We hope that with the prayerful support of Unification Church members worldwide, God's will can be realized through these events.◆

¹Tadayoshi Ueno and Yukiyasu Fukuda: Research Institute on Communism and Religious Issues, Tokyo, 1984; see also Andrew C. Davies *The Kidnap Ministry: The Involvement of Christian Ministers in Kidnapping and Deprogramming Cases in Japan* (Unification Theological Seminary Paper; December 1992; UTS Library)

²www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2000/eap/709.htm

Special Blessings in Europe

In June, Daemo nim was in Poland, where she oversaw special workshops for European members: these included ancestor liberation and blessing, a 21-day registration workshop for sisters, an eight-day workshop for brothers and the registration blessing for blessed families



PHOTOS COURTESY CHONG PHONG TRAINING CENTER

Made in Korea



PHOTOS COURTESY J. JAMWAYO

The forthright words of a young American who spent six of his school years in Korea

Young Il Ely Loew
Currently on Special Task Force in America

THERE will be many life-changing experiences in life: the blessing, my first child, my first grandchild.... All these things I look forward to, and all of them will bring deeper value to my life and make me a happier man. My first life-changing experience, though—the first time I realized what a wonderful, colorful world we live in—is what I’ve been asked to share with all of you, and I am quite grateful for the opportunity.

I have to say that I was a pretty happy kid. I love my family, and I had the blessing of having both my parents close by at all times. I went to Sunday school every Sunday, went to workshops in the summer and was pretty satisfied with the Principle and my whole lot in life. I did well in school, and though I wasn’t exactly a popular kid, I wasn’t the biggest loner in the school, either.

Of course, as is the case with all people, I gradually realized that there was a whole lot more to the world than I knew. Going through sixth grade was like a shedding of the skin of ignorance, so to speak, and slowly, though subconsciously, I began to feel that I was lacking something very important. I didn’t

like school (mostly because I couldn’t like the people), and whatever it was that I was looking for wasn’t at home either.

The worst part is that all this was subconscious, so I didn’t even realize that

I wanted something, needed something, until my dad asked me one day, “Hey, Young-il, would you like to go to Korea?” It was as if I’d been hit by a revelation, an inspiration that would change the course of my life. That was *exactly* what I wanted. I didn’t know why, but I knew it was the missing key. I practically yelled out, “Yes!” My dad told me the food would be bad, hard to eat. I would have to sleep on the floor and would be away from my family. He really tried to scare me out of going, but all that really didn’t seem to matter to me. They seemed small sacrifices for the chance of a lifetime. I spent the whole summer mowing lawns and working to help pay for the airplane ticket, and when September 1st came around, I was ready to go.

There are four realms of heart. To truly understand why GOP [the one-year General Orientation Program] made such a difference in my life, I feel I must bring up this point. When we are young, love starts with our loving our parents. When we get older, though, we expand our love to our brothers and sisters as well as our friends. Especially when we become teenagers, we become close to our friends; sometimes it seems closer than even to our own parents. Just as the next level up, the love for a spouse, is so much stronger than love for friends. The same principle holds true, in turn, for our love as parents;

and the cycle goes on.

When we become a certain age, we need more love, and many people, especially blessed children, have hurt themselves seeking that love. It was something I was lucky to find.

GOP was one of the greatest years of my life. I spent the first five months eating only rice and seaweed; I lost twenty pounds. I slept on a thin mattress on a wooden board in a room I shared with eleven people, only four of whom I could communicate with. I had to squat to use the toilet and couldn’t put the paper in it. We had a nice little trash can that got the honor of holding all the dirty toilet paper. The city is incredibly ugly and the air pollution terrible, but I loved every minute of it. There were twenty-five other people in our GOP class, and they are still the closest friends I think I’ll ever have. I was never in a class before GOP where I could say I loved everyone in it. I had discovered a whole new realm of heart, and I had become intoxicated in it. I was happy every day, even the days when I was sad. The sadness could only be temporary, for I was surrounded by love.

Of course, it wasn’t all just fun and games. I had to reflect on myself, and I had a lot of work to do. I loved everyone in my GOP year, but they didn’t all love me. I began to realize that I wasn’t perfect (a hurtful revelation, for anybody); there was fallen nature to be rooted out. I went about the task cheerfully, for I was willing to do anything in return for this blessing that had been handed me. When the end of the year came, I knew that I just couldn’t leave, and so I returned for another five years. I don’t regret a single day of that 6-year course, and I know that I still owe God a lifetime of dedication for that one year of joy.

The second year things were much different. There was no longer just the joy of being together with all your GOP brothers and sisters; responsibility had finally reared its ugly head. “Ugly” is a relative word. I’ve come to appreciate responsibility, but the difference between GOP and Korean public school is like the difference between flying through the sky and swimming through mud.

A lot of people want to stay after

GOP, some for a year or so more, but almost no one after middle school. As the years went by, people gradually left, and that hurt me personally. I tried to convince people to stay, but they didn't see things the way I did. I eventually came to understand that people have different courses in life, but that didn't change the fact that it hurt to see them leave. One year, there were only three of us left, Namhi, Jenny, and myself. Then Namhi and Jenny left, leaving me the last remaining student of the 95—96 GOP year in Korea. I was planning to go home then, to try to brave American high school, to give up. And I would have had to, if another of my GOP brothers hadn't come out of nowhere and decided to come back. Not just any brother, either, but one of my first roommates and closest friends, Risun Jaeger. That gave me strength to go on. Two years later, when he told me he was leaving, I started to cry. Right there in our room (we were roommates again), right in front of him.

I believed in my heart that staying in Korea is what all of us should have done. That more important than external academics was the education of our hearts; and more important than our future social status in the outside world was our spiritual connection to God. I believed, and still do, that staying in Korea teaches us to be deeper people and ultimately gives us the strength to make a difference in a world still mostly dominated by evil. I am afraid of

American society, or more specifically, fallen society, because I know that I do not yet have the strength to fight an entire culture.

Even now, I know that there is still much I need to learn. I plan to go on STF [Special Task Force] for two years, as well as do missionary work in Ireland, our family's mission country, for a year. Then I plan to go to Sun Moon or Bridgeport University because I feel that it's necessary to always keep myself connected to the culture of God.

That was what the dorm in Korea was: a culture of God. I could endure all the tortuous hours of Korean public school, sometimes not understanding anything my teachers were saying, and being hit (real hard) on the buttocks for not doing homework assignments I didn't know I had—I could survive it all because when I came back to the dorm there was always love there. God was always there; I could feel Him when I walked in the door. That was the main reason I could stay so long.

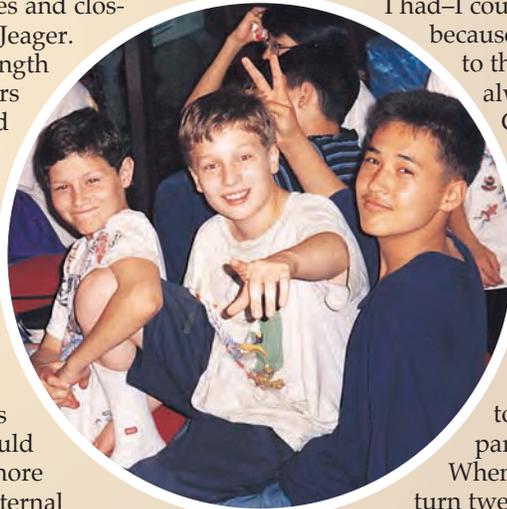
There's a point that I'd like to make to all the parents out there: When your children turn twelve or thirteen (sometime around then), they need more love—and not from you. They need brothers and sisters, and not just the ones they already have, but people—through love and trust—whom they can share their deepest joys with and confess their worst sins to. I know it hurts, but when kids turn twelve or thirteen, when they are no longer kids, but have

become teenagers, you have to let them go. What they need most is support, a little guidance, and all the love you've always given them throughout their years. They might ignore you, and it might seem like they don't love you; it's their time to grow, and they need to do it on their own.

I want to thank my parents for supporting me throughout my years in Korea. Even though I was rarely home, I know that my being away has brought me closer to them. For those of you who have kids in Korea that want to stay, do your best to let them. Many parents believe that a family needs to always be together to grow, but I've learned that there are times when they need to be apart. Even God, the greatest parent, had to give Adam and Eve the time to grow up on their own.

Korea changed my life. Without it, I would have always been lacking something; I would have never been really happy. I think of what life might have been like—I can see myself hating school, fighting with my parents, and being a terrible older brother. I think the greatest testimony to what Korea has done for me was written by my little brother in his essay for his application to come to GOP. I wasn't supposed to read it, but the teachers let me. In it he said that one of the reasons he wanted to go to Korea was that his big brother had gone there, and every year when his brother came back, he was a better brother than the year before. My brother and I are now not only brothers, but also best friends.

I could write forever about Korea and all the things that I experienced there. Someday, I hope to write down everything I can remember. For now, I want to end by saying that, on top of being a happy person, I know Korean (a necessity in bringing about one world culture), and I'm determined to dedicate my whole future to advancing God's will and His providence. I hope that every future generation of GOP students can have as great an experience as I did and that all members of the second generation can come to really love each other and the world. God bless you all. ♦



Photos; facing page, with other students from his GOP year (front, second from left); this page bottom, Young-il's first Korean-speaking competition; middle, with fellow students at the dorm; top, in his high school graduation year



Father and Mother hold a morning meeting for members at the Hannam-dong residence, May 26th

How can we prevail over the course of the cross? When you hold your wife, you should not just think of yourself, but of your country. When you are holding on to your country you must think of the world. If you have the world in your hands, you must think of heaven and earth. If we go through these steps without hesitation, the way of the cross, where all our enemies are waiting, will vanish.

Rev. Sun Myung Moon
June 21, 2002
Seoul