

TODAY'S

WORLD

天基 2年 (天曆) 8月
SEPTEMBER 2011



Learning at Father's Side

Since last April, Hyung-jin nim has devoted himself to supporting Father and Mother in their daily lives and it is not easy to catch him personally for any length of time. We were very fortunate to be invited for hoondokhae at Cheon Jeong Peace Palace just before this issue was due to be printed. During that occasion, Hyung-jin nim kindly took time to share something from his heart about what the past few months have meant to him.

Today's World: Please can you say something about your experience with True Parents?

International President Hyung-jin Moon: Basically, being with them... True Father is the living God. He is the substantial, tangible God. He just goes beyond the physical limitations. We've been through seventeen hour hoondokhaes, twenty hour hoondokhaes [Hyung-jin nim laughs]. Every couple of days Father does one long hoondokhae. Even for young people—we are young—it's so difficult to keep up with Father's intense schedule. Something about the experience of living with the Messiah, being next to him, is unique, is so transformative.

But also even from a theological viewpoint, Father has liberated God, liberated the God of Day and the God of Night, and become the substantial representative of God, standing in the position of God's body here on earth, so in that form we can see that Father moves his body almost as an offering.

Rev. Yu Jeong-ok gave a great example. He was in Brazil. Father climbed a high mountain, one that was very tough to climb. The leaders told Father, "please sit down," and they had prepared a carpet or large towel for him to sit on. But Father said no, I am not going to sit there. He found a more humble place, not the best, and he took out his handkerchief and sat on that. "I can't do what I want to do." They realized that where he sits is where God wants to sit. In that sense he is like a slave. His body is a total instrument of God's will. So, basically, he has to move his body, send it here and there, in pain, if God desires it.

I recently gave a sermon in which I explained how many of the translations in scripture use the words "serve" or "servant." For example, Christ says "No one can serve two masters."¹ In many cases the word in the New Testament Greek is *doulos* (δοῦλος), which is not "servant" but "slave." The difference is great, because servants are paid. Slaves have no rights. They get protection, food and shelter, but they live solely for their master. I compared this with Confucian texts, from Asia, on filial piety. There are many levels of filial piety, of course. The emperor has to be filial to Heaven. The nation has to be filial to the emperor. The father has to be filial to the state, and the son to the father.

Basically, the Asian concept of filial piety is that the children throw away their desires, ambitions and even dreams for themselves and just serve their parents, even in everyday tedious tasks. I compared this to the biblical concept of the servant, or slave, in which Christ calls us to become "slaves" of God. In the Confucian context, a son willingly chooses to become basically a slave to his parents, putting aside personal ambitions and fully serving them. It illuminates the scriptures and elevates the status of the slave to that of a son. It permits children to understand that this is what is expected when you serve God; even though we are children, we are expected to be more serving even than slaves. But we do it out of choice; we do it out of love, not to get some benefit. We do it out of love.

That context is very important, because that is how Father himself lives. That's how he is literally. He is the son of God, he is from God. He is a son, but he willingly chooses to do things that torture his body if they please God. When we see Father every day, we can feel that. He views his own body not as his own; but that it belongs to God, and that God can do as He

¹ Mt 6:24



Tweets from Yeon-ah nim: *Left:* August 25, True Parents visited their Hannam-dong residence in Seoul. I took these photos for all our brothers and sisters so that you can see True Parents from a different angle; *Right:* True Father is drinking green tea, which Hyung-jin nim prepared personally, from a black traditional tea cup. Let's all drink the tea together with True Father!

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Correction: The caption for the photograph at the bottom of page 38 of the July–August issue is incorrect. The minister pictured is Dr. Joseph Paige. We apologize for this error.

Photos courtesy of Ken Doo (cover) / Korean Culture Department (back cover)

Cover Photo: Father and Mother hosting hoondokhae at Cheon Hwa Gung in Las Vegas; **Back Cover:** On September 1 after hoondokhae at Cheon Jeong Peace Palace, an unexpected event took place—brunch and entertainment with True Parents in a pavilion on the peace palace grounds

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Back issues of Today's World: Most issues from November 1999 to the present are available, and some earlier ones.

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Photos courtesy of Korean Culture Department

Insights in the Early Morning

Excerpts from Hoondokhae in Recent Months



JUNE 9, CHEONG HAE GARDEN IN YEOSU

We need to take the initiative before others, even if it is by a small degree. This is important. The issue is how we can follow our traditions in our lives in the right way. The question is how we can live righteously....

That's how the Principle works. It won't do if you don't follow the Principle. Because I know about this, I have lived accordingly, haven't I? Those of you who say, "Rev. Moon's actions do not concern me!" will not be able to form a connection with the sunlight, water, air, earth, or fruits of this world, and thus they will not be able to partake of anything in it. They won't be included in the line waiting for distribution. Everyone is entitled to receive something that is being given out, but they will become fools who are unable to claim what they are entitled to, and such fools will be pushed all the way back to the end of the line.

If you know about this principle, do you think you will live well or poorly? How will your attitude affect your life? Whether a married couple can establish this tradition or not will determine whether they will live well and prosper, or live poorly and be ruined. Therefore, this principle is inevitably the rule that determines someone's rise and fall. There is such a thing as the heavenly principle, which governs Heaven. That law remains the same whether it is night or day, or whether it is dealing with the world within the womb, the physical world, the spiritual world or the eter-



Photos courtesy of Hyung-jin nim and Yoon-dh nim

Left: Kook-jin nim, Hyung-jin nim and others with Father off the coast of Yeosu on August 20; Right: Assisting Father

nal world. This is not difficult to understand.

How important is your true nature? It is even more important than God Himself. What determines whether you live well or poorly? When you follow what your true nature tells you to do, you will go to the kingdom of heaven....

That's how the Principle works. Why am I telling you these things now? I need to teach you these principles. How have I managed to come as far as I have? The title of this speech is "The Settlement of the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind and the Proclamation of the Word by God's Substantial Self." It was given at the cosmic assemblies for the proclamation of the word, and I too need to follow the protocol of the cosmic assemblies....

Why am I teaching you now? Now you can understand what I teach you right away. You can understand whether you are in the bottommost pits of hell or in the heart of heaven. You will be subjected to a fair trial at the court, so when judgment is passed, you will not be able to complain that it was unfair; it will be a fair ruling.

When I was sentenced to prison, I did not complain. I thought to myself, I should go and seek the path I need to find. I should go forward, even if it is even more difficult than imprisonment. The prison I went to was above ground, but you are unaware of the prison below ground. You don't understand the spirit world. I have gone up by way of this vertical column and there are these horizontal results. Yet they have roots that reach all corners.

The subject-object, higher-lower, front-back relationships! I need to be in the subject-partner position when I guide you, because if I am not, no matter how I try to nurture you, you will only become my servants and nothing more. You need to be better than Father, Mother, or even your own nations. That is the only way you can be educated.



JULY 12, CHEON HWA GUNG

In terms of the Principle, the inspirational and internal spherical form of God as He brings the providence to its conclusion can be expressed more simply as a being of dual characteristics in harmonious union. Those who do not know about the being of dual characteristics in harmonious union will disappear in the end. If a woman does not know a man, and vice versa, they too will disappear. There will be no children, no family and no nation. The fundamental being of dual characteristics in harmonious union ... Isn't the Principle and the Unification Church faith truly wonderful? Since God is a being of dual

characteristics in harmonious union, can a man and a woman be the same? No, they are different.



JULY 17, HILTON HOTEL, ABUJA, NIGERIA

The first shall be last and the last shall be first. Only in a world where each being can yield to its partner, which it loves more than itself, despite the fact that their positions can be changed at any time, can a sphere be created; in that world, north, south, east and west align with the realm of oneness centering on the core. ...

North, south, east and west existed at the starting point. From the center of this starting point there is a trumpet hole from which the realm of resonance begins. This is how you come to hear the phrase "mind and body in harmonious union." Which comes first, the word or the substantial self? [The substantial self.] At the final station, I am speaking about the settlement of the substantial self of the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind.

I am talking about responsibility today. Where do the responsibilities of men and women come together, and where do they end?...

Since people cannot keep in rhythm, how can there be a world of peace? Unity comes about on the foundation of harmony. West, east, north and south can be united through the power of harmony. The world exists in pairs. When things go wrong, life can become an everlasting struggle. Peace is the only standard that can rectify this. This is a logically appropriate conclusion.... You have to become a person who knows how to adapt to the environment, even if things turn around 180 degrees, even if north, south, east and west are rearranged, and even if north and south are turned upside down. Without becoming such a person, you cannot enter God's family and be guaranteed eternal life.

I came to a southern nation and find myself in Nigeria. I have found a place where a person can profit as a younger brother. Nigeria [pronounced in Korean] sounds like the statement, "I am now visiting the place that is beneficial to my younger brother." That person can come here after packing up his belongings from the right, left, south and north. I came here to pass on an inheritance to a person who has become a representative of Heaven. But what is that? There is a secret blessing hidden in my bag of blessings....

What is today's theme? It is about our historical responsibility. The theme of this morning's speech is "responsibility," isn't

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15



August 21 in Yeosu: Kook-jin nim and Father at sea (the photo was received via Twitter and couldn't be further improved); Hyung-jin nim and Kook-jin nim with Father walking down to the boat



Dedication and Launch of the Won Mo Boat

True Mother delivered this speech of Father's at the presentation of the Won Mo boat in Las Vegas on August 18. (A description of the event and an explanation of True Mother's role in the launching begins on page 8.)

Respected leaders from around the world, distinguished guests from home and abroad, ladies and gentlemen! I offer you my heartfelt welcome and thanks for taking time out of your busy schedules to participate in this ceremony to launch the Won Mo boat. Let us all thank God for making today's launching ceremony possible.

The ceremony in which we are taking part today and a similar ceremony held this past February in Yeosu, a beautiful port city in South Korea, are part of my effort to make Yeosu and the Colorado River region, especially the area around Hoover Dam, into the Eastern and Western hubs of the marine leisure industry. Yeosu will be the site of Expo 2012 Yeosu Korea, which is recognized by the Bureau of International Expositions.

Ladies and gentlemen, close to one billion people today are suffering from hunger. On average, one person dies of malnutrition every six seconds. Of greatest concern is the number of children who are losing their lives through malnutrition. The UN proclaimed that it would cut the population of starving people in half by the end of 2015. Yet, output of corn, for food, and other crops has dwindled, and experts predict that the rate of starvation will double by 2020.

Where can we find a solution to this serious issue? The solution lies in the world's oceans, which cover 75 percent of the earth's surface and are rich repositories of natural resources. The oceans are treasure stores of raw materials that could revive the Earth, which is dying due to environmental pollution and resource depletion. The oceans promise humankind a



bright future.

I have been investing in oceanic industries and developing marine-related technology for more than fifty years. My purpose has been to liberate humankind from suffering and death due to hunger. In the 1980s, I built the Good-Go boats and laid a foundation for marine businesses in more than thirty locations throughout the United States, including Kodiak, Alaska, and along the Gulf of Mexico. In the 1990s, I invested in oceanic industries in South America, particularly in Brazil and Uruguay, thus creating a global marine network connecting fifty-two nations.

On this foundation, in the new millennium I have been developing Yeosu, situated on the southern coast of Korea, and Hawaii, situated at the center of the Pacific Ocean, to become hubs of oceanic industries in the Pacific Rim era. Today, you will be introduced to the gypsum plaster mold method that I devised, and you will participate in the launching of the Won Mo boat, which was built using this and other new technologies.

Beginning with the Cheon Jeong boat, launched in Yeosu six months ago, Master Marine is expanding the horizon of the boatbuilding industry and is contributing greatly to innovation in marine transportation in Korea, indeed in all of Asia, improving the quality of life for everyone. Ladies and gentlemen, throughout my life I have taught the way of living for the sake of others, of practicing the true love of God. I have continuously promoted the welfare and security of the people of the world, not only through oceanic industries but through a variety of fields. In 2010, I held Cosmic Assemblies for the Settlement of the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind and for the Proclamation of the Word by God's Substantial Self. Through those assemblies, I summed up the accomplishments of my peace initiatives.

I am ninety-one years old, but I have never stopped working to bring about world peace. The ultimate goal that we share in common is to seek and establish God's kingdom and his righteousness.¹ The kingdom that we are seeking is a kingdom in which we live while attending God at the center. It is an ideal kingdom of peace in the form of a true, ideal family in which three generations—grandparents, parents and children—live together in mutual trust, respect and interdependence, united in love. In other words, God's kingdom is the realm in which God is sovereign, the ideal world for which humankind has always hoped.

God has called us, in His providence to establish true families, in order to hasten the founding of the kingdom of cosmic peace on earth. The movement to realize a society based on interdependence, mutual prosperity and universally shared values starts with one family. It is the movement to make all humankind one family through breaking down the walls in our hearts and removing the borders, both spiritual and secular, between nations.

Ladies and gentlemen, we are living at a time of great historic transition. It is a time for us to change history, to unite the spiritual and the physical worlds and to found the ideal kingdom of heaven that God has longed for since the beginning of time, in a great cosmic revolution. We can no longer

postpone or prolong this. Heaven has already proclaimed that January 13, 2013, will be the Day of Origin. It will be the substantial beginning of the Nation of Cosmic Peace and Unification (Cheon Il Guk). Less than two years remain. Therefore, it is now time for all humankind to submit humbly to Heaven's commands. A predestined time is upon us today, when we must establish a peaceful world under the guidance of the True Parents, who administer God's providence on earth as his substantial self, as the King and Queen of Peace.

Ladies and gentlemen, during this serious and unique time, you must bring revolutionary and cosmic changes to your own lives. With that in mind, I would like to convey Heaven's message to you by summarizing the concluding remarks in my address given at the Cosmic Assemblies for the Settlement of the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind and for the Proclamation of the Word by God's Substantial Self.

First, all families should attend God as their center and parents and children should completely unite through studying together daily. In each family, parents and children should read together the teaching materials and textbooks True Parents have bequeathed as well as True Parents' autobiography. Through daily study, parents and children become one.

Second, parents and children must establish an absolute family by setting the standards as absolute parents and absolute children with God at their center. Heaven has permitted families to receive the grace of the *seung-hwa* authority, which allows for rebirth and resurrection. This grace can be received once there is complete unity between parents and children under God. For this cause, you have to establish absolute families.

Third, you must open the victorious reign of peace, with God and True Parents at its center, during True Parents' time on earth. Humankind has passed beyond the authority of the era of restoration through indemnity, thanks to the grace of True Parents' blood, sweat and tears.

Now we must all fulfill our responsibility to liberate families, tribes, peoples, nations and the world from the authority of hell. Do not forget that this must be done during True Parents' time on earth.

Fourth, less than two years remain until we enter an era of peace under God's direct dominion. Please bear in mind that we have entered the era of the authority of the cosmic Sabbath of true love. This is the era in which up to eight generations can live together joyfully in a single home, with the vision of one peaceful human family at the center. The world as one family under God, where all people are equal and all nations are brothers and sisters, is unfolding before your eyes.

U.S. Marine in America and Master Marine in Korea will ultimately help to achieve this grand purpose. I expect that the Won Mo boat, which was made using a new manufacturing method and is being launched today, will contribute greatly to the exploration of the area surrounding the Colorado River, which includes Hoover Dam and Lake Mead, and to the development of ocean resources.

I would like to conclude my speech with the wish that Heaven's blessings be with your family and nation. Thank you. **JW**

The speech was edited for inclusion in Today's World.



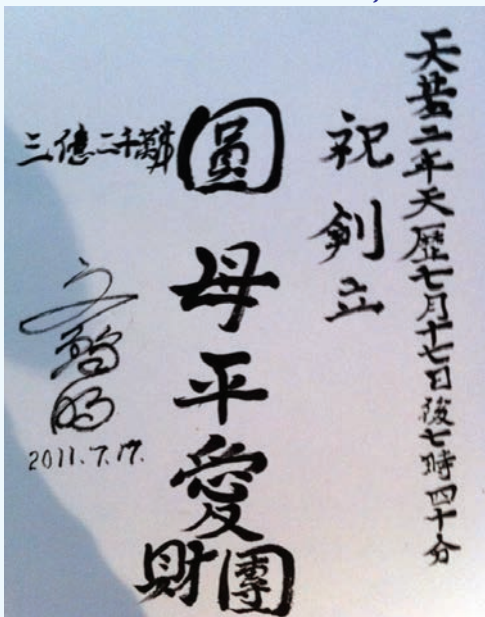
¹ Mt 6.33



Unveiling a New Dimension of the Las Vegas Providence

Adapted from an article by Douglas Burton and Ariana Moon

Yeon-ah nim tweeted, "True Father's [August 16] calligraphic message, Won Mo Peace and Love Foundation, expresses that our pursuits in Las Vegas are not just service activities but also are means of giving blessing through this foundation. This is what we have to reflect in all of our work here. Aju!"



An unveiling ceremony for the new twenty-seven-foot Won Mo boat in Las Vegas took place on the morning of August 18, in front of clergymen of various faiths, religious allies, and some five hundred church members. The event was attended by reporters for a Korean radio station and from the *Asia Pacific Times*, and by elected officials of the city government and the Nevada governor's office.

It took place at the newly named Peace Palace, a voluminous warehouse in south Las Vegas that can be adapted for various uses—on the same day that the public viewed the Won Mo boat at the Peace Palace, an audience enjoyed a presentation there on the liberation of women.

The boat dedication ceremony began at 10:00 AM with opening remarks by Mr. Michael Faris, president of U.S. Marine Corporation, who served as master of ceremonies. Mr. Faris called attention to the spiritual aspect of the proceedings. "It is good to remind ourselves that the vessel that you see here today is not just the invention of a fellow who enjoys tinkering with boats," he said, "but that there is a much deeper meaning here that is connected to God, God's providence, to God's will and to the salvation of humanity."

Dr. Chang-shik Yang, the president of Master Marine, LLC, spoke of True Father's commission by Jesus when he was fifteen years old. He explained that Sun Myung Moon believed from his teen years that the oceans had vast untapped resources that could resolve the problem of world hunger and that his efforts in the development of fishing and fish farming capabilities stem from this. Testifying to True Father's sense that Las Vegas will become the hub of a new cultural and economic revival in America, Dr. Yang explained that "the Won Mo boat is dedicated to promoting family fishing and family-leisure activities." He mentioned plans to expand recreational opportunities on Lake Mead and at nearby national parks.

The audience then heard from Mr. Tom Morse, project director for the newly acquired Peace Palace. "The building is very large, 800 feet long by 150 feet wide, allowing for 135, 000 square feet of coverage," he said. Mr. Morse, a former executive with Bechtel Corporation, a large engineering, construc-

tion and management company, reported that by June, 2012, the Peace Palace plans to have a state-of-the art training facility for education and worship, as well as a large area for manufacturing that could produce Won Mo boats similar to the prototype on display. Mr. Morse added, "I congratulate Father and Mother Moon for creating a marriage- and family-friendly culture here in Las Vegas and now for encouraging a vibrant leisure fishing industry."

Mrs. Gayle Anderson, chief of protocol at the governor's office, told the audience, "I thank Father and Mother Moon for all they have done for the welfare of our people in the State of Nevada and for spurring economic development. I congratulate Master Marine for the launch of the Won Mo boat."

Mr. Steve Sisolak, the commissioner for Clark County, the area of Nevada where the Peace Palace is located, told the crowd, "Thank you for the jobs that you are going to be able to create through the work that you are bringing to our valley.... On behalf of all the citizens in Clark County, I thank you very, very much for everything you do for all the citizens and the people that don't know you.... You've made their lives and the lives of their families much better through your sacrifice and generosity."

In her remarks, Rev. In-jin Moon, president of our church in the United States, drew attention to the spiritual and emotional context to which the boat's name alludes. "In the name 'Won Mo,' 'won' means 'circle,' or 'circular,' and 'mo' means 'mother.' When Jesus came two thousand years ago," she said, "he never had the chance to fulfill his destiny and become the true parent of mankind because he lacked a beautiful wife sitting by his side; but fast-forward two thousand years and we have our True Father and our beautiful True Mother with us. Just the fact that the name of the boat emphasizes the feminine," she added, "signifies that the universality of the True Parents becomes complete when we have our beautiful True Mother with us, standing together with our True Father."



Heather Thalheimer, director of education for the U.S. church, gives a talk at the Peace Palace about the liberation of women.

Rev. Hyung-jin Moon introduced True Mother. "In 2007," he said, "Father Moon declared that we have entered the Pacific Rim era, in which women will take the lead and in which the ocean will be the key to solving the world's hunger problem. It is for these reasons that Father Moon asked Mother Moon to give his message concerning the vision that God gave him for Las Vegas, a vision that Las Vegas can become the family education center of the world. If there is a God-centered family culture in Las Vegas, all the industries can blossom in a

way that strengthens the moral fabric of our society.... Because Las Vegas is blessed with the most breathtaking aspects of God's beautiful creation, families from all over the world can come and have an experience with God in the beauty of nature from the Grand Canyon to Lake Mead and the Hoover Dam. Father and Mother Moon share the vision that Las Vegas can be transformed into a premiere center of family education and family tourism. As you know, Father and Mother Moon are both a world-class fisher-man—and -woman. Having explored Lake Mead extensively, they are choosing this area for the launching of the Won Mo fishing boat, with its breakthrough technology in safety and family boating."

True Mother came to the podium and read True Father's speech for him as he waited patiently behind her onstage. After True Mother finished speaking,¹ Unificationist John Modesitt of San Diego, California, presented True Parents with a painting he had done of the Grand Canyon. There followed the ribbon-cutting and unveiling ceremony for the new boat, accompanied by a cascade of balloons from the ceiling and musical fanfare.

A party of boat engineers and well-wishers drove to Lake Mead with members of the True Family to launch the boat. True Parents motored around the lake for about twenty minutes, returning to cheers of Eog Mansei from the crowd. **JW**

¹ See page 6 for the text of the speech



Left: True Parents, Hyung-jin nim and In-jin nim with County Commissioner Steve Sisolak and Gayle Anderson from the Nevada state governor's office; Right: Father and Mother and family members take the new boat out on its maiden voyage.



The Business of Restoration

This, the thirty-fourth installment in our series on Father's life, is based on the book series True Parents' Life Course, published in Korean in twelve volumes. This installment features the development of the business foundation in the Korean movement in 1967.

The questions are, how can we win over the materialistic communist world with the ideas of democracy and how can we win over both the democratic world and the communist world with the Unificationist view? There are many hills to climb on our way.

We must wisely both defend ourselves and take the offensive. I sincerely hope that you will fight desperately until you achieve victory. Let's fight strongly during the rest of this year, and let's pay attention to where we are on the path of restoration.

The concluding year of the seven-year course (1967)

This is the year of our all-out advance. We must devote all our efforts to sacrificial work because we must indemnify the national sins that remain. We are now crossing the last ridge of the seven-year course. This seventh year is the year of the Sabbath, so True Parents must rest. If parents rest, children need to take responsibility on their parents' behalf.

A campaign for doubling membership in four stages

If Koreans that are not yet able to distinguish between right and wrong sign a membership form and become members simply because their hearts are moved to do so, they will stand on Heaven's side through that condition. Because restoration is through indemnity, not many people are being restored. That is why I say that you should not worry if membership is not increasing much in terms of numbers.

Why do we witness? To multiply. Multiplication does not arise through a vertical rela-

**True Father on October 5, 1967,
camping beside Cheongpyeong Lake**



tionship. It is only possible when you unite and engage in mutual interaction horizontally. Therefore, you must become one with members horizontally, centering on the church leader. Only then can there be development in all dimensions.

The people you should concentrate on witnessing to are people in authority, the ones with real power. ...

You must bring three people into the church each month, twelve all together, between June and September. Those who oppose the Unification Church are mostly your relatives and friends. You must pray for them and witness to them with a sincere heart.

I have given instructions that the lectures presenting the counterproposal to communism should all have been given by the end of September. People in the police and the intelligence agencies support and defend us nowadays. Even many volunteers embrace us. Therefore, I am saying that you should eagerly hold revival meetings for six months from October and kindle a fire under the nation's 30 million people.

Completion of the economic foundation

Up until now I have been emphasizing the importance of economic restoration through business so that it may become a foundation for supporting you. It is also to help create a stepping stone for God to work and to uplift your heart.

This year we must safeguard our economic foundation. If you do business, members of the established churches will say that young members of the Unification Church are engaged in business and that the Unification Church is not a religious organization.

You must not pay attention to them. No matter how difficult it may be to make sales, you must be more sincere and serious than anyone else when you do business.

Managing the factory

When you are in the presence of something in the public realm, you must be humble. I have fought ideologically both in the spirit world and on earth. You should increase your level of devotion in relation to the business side. You should strive until other people respond to that and until you build a foundation to support the factory. We must still make great effort, which is why I don't pray to Heaven to ask for money....

Now we should build an economic foundation and go forward. A global economic foundation is needed in order to restore the world. That is why I am going to operate factories.¹

¹ According to one of our church historians in Korea, the church-related engineering business was actually established in 1958 in Incheon. In 1961 the then small operation was relocated to what we now call the old Headquarters Church where True Parents were living. An outbuilding became an ad hoc factory there. This was later expanded and moved off



An elder member recalls, "Now we are trying to create unity. In those days, they were just the enemy. We always had to worry about North Korean invasion." Air shotguns are designed for hunting birds or small animals, but Father hoped the Yehwa air guns would also help South Korean citizens train themselves to protect their nation. This photo shows members holding Yehwa air guns in front of the factory where they were produced.

Manufacturing and selling Yehwa air rifles

Because of God's protection today, we have taken hold of these air shotguns. These air rifles fully reflect our strengths—our resourcefulness, our global and historical reach and the progressive nature of our movement. You must know that by manufacturing air shotguns, we can come to occupy an advantageous position in the global economic sphere.

This year we should not only build an internal foundation, we should also break through the 300 million *won* target. I am saying that we must establish an economic foundation. This is an absolute necessity. So, anyone who professes to be a Unification Church member should buy a gun. I am not telling our company to sell them. Rather, I am asking you members to purchase the guns [from our company] and then go out and sell them. That is why I am assigning quotas to each member.

If you put a label on this gun and pass it down, then your future generations will say 'This is the treasure that our ancestor bought at the time when they were creating an economic foundation during the seven-year course.' You should all resolve to do so at the district leaders' meeting.

It was not easy to get tax exemption on the guns. We quietly carried out a plan without saying anything to our members. The Minister of Finance, newly assigned this year, revised the tax laws on more than seventy items. Considering the fact that even noodle sellers have to pay taxes now, having our Yehwa guns exempted from taxes is a great accomplishment. We had to convince them to implement that, taking into account the tense relationship between South and North Korea and the fact that South Korea needs to prepare itself in case the North

the church premises, down the hill to the main road, close to where the current church headquarters office building stands. In April 1966, a new factory was opened in Sutaek-ri, just outside the Seoul city limits. This stood on part of the site where the Ilhwa ginseng and pharmaceutical company is now situated.

becomes hostile. We are now living in an time where such measures have become necessary. We helped them see that from now on all South Korean will people need to be trained to use guns. This is why our guns will surely become a necessity. Thus, we persuaded them to make our guns a special case, and got them exempted from tax.

My thinking is to sell as many guns as possible. If we can sell about twenty thousand guns this year, I think we can make about sixty thousand pass through our hands next year. That is why you should distribute as many as you can. You should distribute them to government offices and to individuals. We are now making three hundred guns a day, which means we can make a hundred thousand in a single year.

Manufacturing machine tools

From now on, we must manufacture machine tools. I've been making the necessary preparations for the past two years. After almost a year of research, I have become quite familiar with machine tools. I've been going without sleep at night, constantly thinking about this and nothing else.

Originally, when we began preparations, I expected to reach a certain level within three years, but we have achieved that

and we need to build a financial system in the background. What I am planning to do right now is to establish factories in every district and region. At present, Korea is promoting its second five-year economic development plan. Keeping in step with that, I plan to build factories in a hundred and fifty regions in Korea's eight provinces to establish an internal foundation for our church.

Our church will also need to prepare a certain area of farmland in which our members can cultivate the soil, centering on local village churches. This is why I have begun setting up Nongdowon Farm, which is currently not ready. All the young people who join our church from now on should be brought to Nongdowon and taught how to farm. We should prepare at least three to four acres of farmland and teach farming.

We should also build mills. Even if we were to bring people from rural areas to work in our factories, they cannot be expected to run the machinery from the outset. We should have our members work in the mills. We should bring together all the young people who are doing nothing in the farmers' slack season, and we should buy up all the paddies from the villages and large farms and have the youths hull the rice and then sell it. In this way, we would be farming on two levels.

Those young men who look capable can be asked to run the engines in the mills.

We should also teach them to farm scientifically and train them on real farms as their on-site mentors. We need to actualize scientific farming in Korea's agricultural regions. We need to begin working on this project right away.

Korean-Japanese economic exchange

Now the church companies in Japan and our companies here in Korea are under one umbrella. When we make a new company in Korea and have it generate orders, and we buy or send products, people don't need to go to Japan in person. There is a company our church made named Kosei Corporation.

Our church in Tokyo is the central hub. If I give instructions to that headquarters, within three hours those instructions will go out through the Japanese headquarters all the way to Hokkaido and Kyushu area; within five hours, our people will go to the designated company and negotiate. We have an organization that is capable of doing this. Within five hours! How wonderful

that is. We can do anything.

In the future, when Korea imports machines that it needs, it will realize that it is more profitable to utilize the Unification Church organization than to try to negotiate directly. This is something that the Unification Church is doing in Korea. However, when you go to Japan to negotiate, the Japanese Unification Church members will deal with the Japanese people and negotiate. Therefore, those we do business with have 100 percent trust in us. Moreover, the Japanese church will guarantee it. Therefore, if products are delivered, the church guarantees payment so it is impossible for a company to be cheated.

The providential era and the ecumenical movement

The time has come when the young brother, Abel, can meet the older brother, Cain. That means it has become possible for



Members in Pyongtaek take a photograph with an itinerant Unificationist evangelist who is visiting their community during a campaign to double church membership.

in a year and eight months. For that reason, all the leaders in charge of manufacturing machine tools have become confident, saying, If only we do as Father instructs, we can make anything. What kind of machines will we make? We are going to manufacture lathes....

We plan to produce the machines and sell them inexpensively.... It will take three years to reach the point of being able to produce the machines. We should be able to make seven hundred of them each year. So, that means we must make two machines each day.

A financial foundation and Nongdowon Farm

From now on, we need to divide our members into two groups—those who can stand at the forefront and take actual responsibility for church development and those who can't—

the Unification Church to have a dialogue with the established Christian church. That is why we must promote this ecumenical movement within the seven-year course....

In one sense, fulfilling this goal requires people imbued with holy spiritual power. We should carry out a campaign to organize the many spiritualists who are up in the mountains into a group. Everybody needs holy spirits to work with them. Once you have felt their grace, your heart will later feel slightly empty [from their absence]. It doesn't matter if these people do not become our members. We need to have people who are in a midway position.

We must promote the fulfillment of the will externally through our outreach activities and internally by bringing together people who have received grace. In this way, they should serve the role of a beacon for saving the Korean churches. People who have spiritual experiences have been completely ignored in the churches. It should not be like that.

Even I cannot do things by myself. One wrong step and a big problem will arise. I make decisions that conform to the global circumstances and the program of the spirit world. We should acknowledge spiritualists and discern whether they are Cain-type or Abel-type. ...

From 1965, grace began again to work within in the Christian churches. They had lost God's grace by opposing the Unification Church. Now the Unification Church has existed for twenty-one years.² Therefore, Christian churches are also placed in a position of being able to once again greet the spring. Once Abel's altar is decided, Cain must also prepare an altar.

A three-year intensive campaign (1966–1968)

We held a big event to commemorate the first anniversary of our ecumenical movement. Some five hundred people participated. This surprised the members of other churches. However they looked at it, they could see that the Unification Church was behind it and so they did their best to stop us. However, they failed to follow through on their own strategies. Now, they are even thinking of nurturing us. That's their attitude at the moment. You have no idea how fearful they are of the Unification Church.

From now on, when you visit other churches with confidence, you will find their members trembling in fear. That's why we have become such a problem for other religions. I am planning to expand our church more widely this year. Last year, we focused on contacting the higher officials of other churches, so that they can serve as protective walls surrounding us.

The other day we held a three-day symposium, inviting fourteen Christian church ministers. Some twenty people in all participated. Over the past year, through our ecumenical

² Father is seemingly referring to the point where he went to North Korea in 1946, the beginning of the first seven-year course.

movement, we did what no other association of Christians could have done. We have invested a substantial amount of money in this ecumenical movement.

Until now, they have never been able to bring together religious leaders from different denominations. But thanks to these meetings, more than twenty religious denominations got together to talk their hearts out. After sitting side by side and talking to leaders of other churches, whom they had always thought of as enemies, they found that such meetings were not unpleasant. These religious leaders came to the interreligious meetings and confessed that they were the ones who had ruined their churches. Until now, they had thought that it was God's will to fight with other denominations, but in the end they found that they had committed a grave sin in front of God. Thus, they officially repented for their actions and took a step forward. Now our interreligious activities are flourishing more than ever.

At first, Christian newspapers also tried to confront us and destroy us. Now, however, newspapers such as the *Gospel Times* came to apologize to us and asked for our forgiveness, saying that they would never attack us again. *Christian Today*, the *United Christian Newspaper*, and all the press organs that



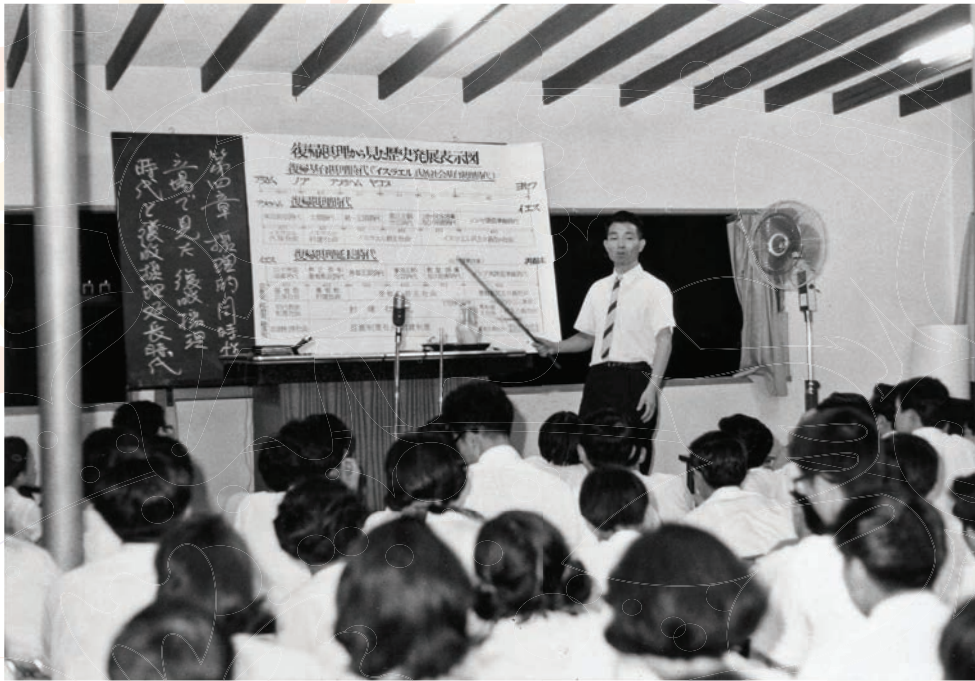
An interfaith meeting for some five hundred invited guests was held to mark the first anniversary of the establishment of the headquarters for the inter-denominational movement (November 7, 1967).

opposed us, now feel they must stop attacking us and nurture us instead.

Japan leg of the global tour (June 12–August 10)

I have chosen seventy members to take responsibility to do God's will with sincerity, to closely unite and to pray until I come back. I will give them those responsibilities and leave for Japan. They must pray all night on Saturday; they must pray at the Holy Ground every day; and they must witness and restore more than one person during this period. I want you to pray not for me but rather for the members scattered in Japan, the United States, Germany, and all over the world....

I think that this is a very important time.... Members in foreign countries expect great things from Korea. After coming to



Hwan-chae Hwang (36 couples) teaching the Principle in Japan during True Parents' and Korean church leaders' visit in 1967—a year when an outside observer wrote of our members, "Their principles are logical. They have many experiences of divine revelation."

know God's will, they are likely to think of Korea and of me as the best and the highest. I do not take lightly those people who offer their sincere heart....

What we have done for Korea's sake must be publicly recognized by the spirit world. Therefore, we must go through trials. On my first world tour, I took with me holy stones and earth. This time I am going to take my sincere heart. I will take some church leaders³ with me to inspire overseas members. If all people can revive by my doing so, I would not mind it if I were to die....

I said to the Japanese leaders, "I will not come to Japan

³ Eight church leaders accompanied True Parents' family to Japan.

unless you listen to what I say." As a result, over the ensuing year, the church developed to a considerable degree.

The last time I visited Japan, I felt that I must unify Japanese members' hearts with the fatherland of faith. Accordingly, this time I took with me leaders from the church headquarters and sent them to local regions in Japan in order to make connections of heart between Korean and Japanese members.

Soon after I arrived in Japan, I held a two-week workshop, and then I visited the different districts for thirteen days. After completing all that, I visited about ten of our important factories in Japan to see how they were doing.

We have a factory in a city called Kanagawa. In the evening after work, our young members go out and collect discarded items to sell as scrap. As they follow that difficult life style, they long to hear news from the headquarters.

During this time in Japan, I gave instructions that more than one thousand Divine Principle lecturers be trained and sent to the forty-seven prefectures across Japan by the end of March next year and that two hundred and thirty college graduates be selected and trained as lecturers by that time.

I went to Japan thinking about giving the blessing to Japanese members, but they had not even dreamed of receiving it. They asked me if it could be in another two or three years. I felt very satisfied. They said they felt could not yet stand before God because they had not been able to put aside their own situations and live and work truly for the sake of Japan. This is the proper attitude to have. **TW**



Japanese members welcome True Family members and accompanying church leaders at Haneda Airport in Tokyo, June 12, 1967.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

it? We have formation, growth and completion; we have seven stages, eight stages....

Which comes first, harmony or unity? Anybody who only talks about the Unification Church's Divine Principle is a fake. Before speaking about the Principle, harmony is necessary.



JULY 20, CHEON HWA GUNG

They were told, If you eat of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, you will surely die. We need to go beyond that level. The conjugal standard, which was destroyed when evil parents came into existence, was restored through indemnity. Through this, parents that had been evil are restored to have the authority of true parents. Entities divided, such as the God of Night and the God of Day, Cain and Abel, and heaven and earth, are being restored to their original state based on the understanding that if you eat of the fruit of the knowledge of good and evil, you will surely die. In the position of not having eaten that fruit, they [True Parents] have ushered in the era after the coming of heaven, and related to that, through my recent visit to Nigeria, I have blessed billions of couples in the world all at once.

When you go out now and stand in front of the gates, Cain's blood will be sprinkled on you, and thus we will restore Abel, and then all religions, organizations and nations will no longer exist. If no religious organizations remain, everyone will join in the Feast of the Lamb, in which the blood of the Lamb will be sprinkled in the world in the place of the firstborn son, on a horizontal plane where there are no walls or boundaries. The blood of the sacrifice, the ram, was sprinkled on the outside of the gates of the Garden of Eden, where the first blood was spilled. The spilled blood of the heifer, the ram, and the pigeons was the indemnity condition of an ancient, historic time. Now they are gathered outside the gates of heaven, waiting for True Parents to say that everything is finished in this era after the coming of heaven.

With the successful conclusion of the conference in Nigeria, we can enter the gates. Let us do so with a big round of applause. To fulfill all the conditions to relieve all anguish, I returned last night and held a meeting with those who had come back from Nigeria, and before we could finish the meeting I came to attend hoondokhae. Therefore, the title of today's meeting is the path the Unification Church should follow. What does that mean? In the era after the coming of heaven, there is only one tradition and lineage for all blessed families in

the world. We are now in a position where the five oceans and the six continents can unite. From Adam's one family, we have multiplied into billions of families, and we are all gathered before the gates of God's house, waiting to enter His kingdom, which transcends heaven and earth. Only those who have received the blessing and joined the one bloodline and have thus become His sons and daughters can enter. Those who do not resemble Him will be unable to enter.



JULY 26, CHEON HWA GUNG

The autobiography is not the issue. That I know. Making a movie about me is not important. What is important is the substantial self, the proclamation of the word by God's substantial self. Do you understand? What I am saying, the declaration of the word I have made, is centered on the Substantial Self.

Because it is a book that declares the substantial self, the word, this is the True Parents. The perfection of the Principle is the True Parents, and it is the God of Night and the God of Day who are perfected through them. Fallen Adam and Eve cannot forget their memories of Heaven. I am the only person who has lived a life modeled on the Principle. Do you understand now?

The proclamation of the word by God's substantial self is not my own words, but God's words—the God of Night. God, the Creator, had not been present. Only when the True Parents appeared could the God of Night and the God of Day take their positions. Only then could we know that the root of human ancestors is in the king of kings of the universe.



AUGUST 1, KODIAK

I place a nation in my mind as my target, and think about how I can win over that nation by educating it. When I die, there will be no further textbooks. Tens of thousands of years in the future, even in the spirit world, the God of Night and the God of Day, who are at present divided and conflicting, will be in oneness through hoondokhae. The mistake of the false parents divided them, but through the perfection of True Parents they can now be united. You must stay away from those who turn their backs on this fact and walk away.

When the sun rises amid darkness, there is no one who doesn't pay attention to it. Innumerable people have seen the first rays of the sun, but how many of them can claim that they met the person they had been dreaming of from the outset through that sunlight? How many of them are people that the sun has been looking for? **97W**



On August 6 (7.7 by the heavenly calendar) True Parents celebrated the holy days Declaration of God's Eternal Blessing (*Chil Il Jeol*, 1991) and Declaration of the Cosmic Sabbath for the Parents of Heaven and Earth (*Chil Pal Jeol*, 1997) at Cheon Hwa Gung.

An Interview with **Hoon-sook Nim** *about the* **Universal Ballet World Tour**

Hoon-sook nim recently spoke to us about Universal Ballet's role in bringing beauty to the world, in the context of the current global tour the company is undertaking, and about faith. Two senior Universal Ballet staff members also added their observations.

Today's World: What was your response to True Father asking Universal Ballet to do a global tour?

Hoon-sook nim:¹ It was very providential and meaningful that with the sixtieth anniversary of the Korean War last year, the Little Angels visited, under Father's blessing, each of the countries that had fought alongside Korea during the Korean War. Without the United Nations troops, Father would not have been saved from Hungnam prison camp. This year was, in a way, the last opportunity to directly thank the people who fought for Korea's freedom because they are now all in their eighties and nineties. Their contribution is significant not only because their sacrifice saved Father, but also because it was the first war that the United Nations fought.

I think it was appropriate that the Little Angels did this tour because they are a children's performing arts group, and children represent the future and hope. The Little Angels are so pure and innocent and have a special charm, so wherever they go, they move everyone's heart.

Last year, as Father heard the reports of the Little Angels tour, he gave the direction that Universal Ballet should also embark on a world tour. The nature of the Little Angels' performances and Universal Ballet's performances are somewhat different, however. They can perform in convention centers and hotels as well as in larger theaters. Universal Ballet, however, is more difficult because with full length ballets we need to be in a fully equipped theater.

Normally, we begin preparing for international ballet tours one or two years in advance. For our first tour to the West in 1998, Universal Ballet started preparing in 1996. When you're travelling with seventy people, and two forty-foot containers filled with scenery, costumes, and lighting and audio equipment, much preparation is needed. Also, when you arrive at a theater, a local crew of thirty or forty technicians is needed to set things up. All of this needs to be paid for, and it's very costly. In the case of most ballet companies, such a tour would usually be government-

¹ Julia Hoonsook Moon is her legal name; to non-members, in English, she is known as Julia Moon or Julia H. Moon

sponsored or supported by a wealthy patron or a corporation or business. For Universal Ballet, without Father's spiritual and financial blessing, such a tour would be totally impossible. For the past couple of years, we haven't done any major international tours because of the high cost. So it is a great blessing that True Parents have given us this opportunity to tour again. Very few companies in the world today can embark on such an ambitious tour.

For twenty-seven years, True Parents have unconditionally supported this company. Especially in the days when the focus in Korea was on economic development and nobody thought about art, a time when ballet was very primitive in this country, Father's support for ballet and the arts was visionary.

This year people are saying that ballet is a major popular trend. The movie *Black Swan* came out this year, and one of the most popular comedy programs here in Korea has a segment called "Ballerino" that is very popular. Also, the famous Korean figure skater Yuna Kim did a piece called "Giselle," after the famous ballet, at the recent World Championships in Moscow. Traditionally, ballet is an art form that people find hard to understand, but trends like this are breaking down the barriers. The concept in Korea has been that ballet is just for an elite group of people, but this year, ballet has become much more popular among a much larger sector of the population.

Also Korean ballet dancers are now winning competitions everywhere. When we started this company, and when I was a dancer, Dr. Pak² was managing the company. He would come speak to the dancers, and would say things such as, "Korea is going to be the Mecca of ballet." And I would be thinking, "My

2 Dr. Bo-hi Pak, Hoon-sook nim's father

Members of Universal Ballet in front of the War Memorial Opera House in San Francisco, where they performed in July



goodness, he is a real Don Quixote!"

But it's actually becoming a reality. The Varna International Ballet Competition is the biggest and most difficult ballet competition in the world (It's often referred to as the "Ballet Olympics"). It is the longest-running international ballet competition. Out of the thirteen medals they awarded at last year's Varna competition, seven went to Korean dancers. For one country to win so many medals is almost unheard of. It hasn't happened since the very early days of the competition when the Russians were very dominant. And this is happening in other places too, not just in Varna. In ballet competitions everywhere, Korean dancers are taking the highest awards and prizes. So in these last few years, ballet in Korea has risen to the point where Korea being the "Mecca of ballet" is no longer a far-fetched dream.

Why are Koreans are doing well?

Last month at the Tchaikovsky Competition, five awards were taken by Korean people, including two opera singers, a violinist and two pianists.

This has never happened in the competition's history! This is the most prestigious musical competition in the world. Then you have the "Korean Wave"—Korean pop singers, actors and TV dramas gaining popularity around the world. In Europe, America, Canada, and now the Middle East, Southeast Asia—everywhere—people are going crazy about Korean performers. I was speaking with some typical young North Americans, and they knew more about the current Korean pop stars than I do! I was amazed. Reading it in the newspapers is one thing, but when you meet Americans face to face who talk to you about Korean pop, and actors and singers—and they want to learn Korean—you can really feel how powerful the Korean Wave is.

I was recently in San Francisco, and the consul general was telling me that they have begun Korean language classes in a public high school, as a regular language choice for high school



藝天美地

一九八九年三月二十四日

Father' wrote, "Heavenly Art Creating a World of Beauty" at the inauguration of the Universal Ballet Academy in Washington D.C.

students. He said it's going very, very well.

Father has been saying, for ages, that the world must speak Korean. Yet we all questioned whether that would really be possible. But because the Messiah, Father, should be accepted by the world, God's providence is moving in that direction. How much we have fulfilled our responsibility is another question. We all know, with the present difficulties that we face, that we have fallen very short. Yet Heavenly Father's agenda keeps moving forward. It's amazing to see how this is happening in such a short period. I believe the Korean Wave, with Korean artists gaining international attention, and now Pyeongchang being chosen for the Winter Olympics, are providential.

Although in 1984, when Universal Ballet was started, few people were thinking about culture here in Korea, now all major companies are marketing in a cultural context. Almost all the biggest companies have small theaters in their headquarters buildings, concert halls with 250 or 500 seats. Everybody is thinking about culture and its value. One might say that the Little Angels and Universal Ballet were the first Korean Wave, and in that sense Father was way ahead of everyone.

I see our world tour as a big gift from True Parents to the world. It's a great opportunity that not many companies in this world can dream of. I think that in Father's mind it is an extension of what the Little Angels started last year with the Korean War sixtieth anniversary tour.

Korea is no longer a country that receives support. After that war, we were a country receiving a lot of aid. Now we are a country that has transitioned to one that is giving aid. In that

sense, I believe Father wants to give to the world and would like Universal Ballet to do that.

We have been touring since the very early days of the company, but the purpose of our tours have changed and developed over the years as the company has grown and developed. In our early tours, our goal was to introduce Universal Ballet around the world and to let people know that there was good quality classical ballet in Korea. At the same time, it was a challenge to ourselves to perform on the international stage and see where we stood in the world of ballet. While doing this, we sought to gain worldwide recognition from people in ballet and from the international press—confirmation that we had become a world-class ballet company.

Our 2011–2013 world tour is different. Just as Korea has developed from a country that needed assistance to a country that is sending aid to other countries, Universal Ballet also, more than receiving recognition from the ballet world, would now like to make a substantial contribution to the development and legacy of the art of ballet. If you look back at ballet history, it is clear that the Ballets Russes³ influenced and uplifted ballet in Europe in the twentieth century. Universal Ballet should and can be a company that can uplift and bring new inspiration to the world of ballet now, in the twenty-first century.

Another purpose of this tour is to actualize our vision, *Ye Cheon Mi Ji* (Heavenly Art Creating a World of Beauty) on the world stage. There is a saying in the Bible that people shouldn't hide their light under a bushel.⁴ Universal Ballet is a bright light of beauty we would like to share with the world.

What do you see ballet, and in particular Universal Ballet, offering humankind?

Dostoyevski said, "Beauty will save the world." When you look at the beauty of mountains, oceans or forests, something connects you very deeply with the spiritual, with God. In that sense, ballet is like the highest form of physical beauty. When you have the elements of highest professionalism and the right motivation and heart behind it, that's when I believe art has the power—as Father says, "Heavenly Art Creating a World of Beauty"—to make this world a better place.

"Heavenly Art Creating a World of Beauty" (*Ye Cheon Mi Ji*)

3 Said to have been the greatest ballet company of the twentieth century, Ballets Russes performed for just two decades, from 1909-1929.

4 Mt 5: 15



Hoon-sook nim speaking about ballet at Arts Council Korea's Artists' House, where artists are invited to speak about their work



Left: Hoon-sook nim dances the title role of Shim Chung, ca. 2000; Right: Overjoyed at finding his daughter alive, Shim Chung's father regains his sight.

is from calligraphy Father wrote after we opened the Universal Ballet Academy in Washington, DC.⁵ Since the time I stopped dancing, I have been searching for a way to express Universal Ballet's vision. To find it, you have to go back to the source. In our case, that source is Father. The words *Ye Cheon Mi Ji* embody what ballet is, a heavenly art form; and I believe that it is also what Father would like to see from this company, what the art of ballet should give to people. So we adopted *Ye Cheon Mi Ji* as Universal Ballet's vision and motto.

You have begun giving talks about ballet to corporate personnel and other groups.

Yes, I've done this for Posco Steel Corporation, Samsung Insurance, Shinsegae⁶ and with other large companies in Korea; I have spoken to groups of VIP customers and groups of CEOs.

When I speak to a group of CEOs about ballet, they come out understanding ballet much, much better, so that the next time they come to a performance they have a much deeper understanding of what they are watching.

Since ballet is an acquired taste, another thing I do is that before each of our performances, I give a ten-minute explanation of the ballet and its movements. The key is understanding what the audience needs. It is important to make it easier for them. You have to keep finding new ways to reach out to people. That's what I try to do, and we've been very pleased with the results.

After I spoke at a program recently where high-level artists were invited to speak, two girls came up to get my signature. They said, "We heard your explanation before a performance, and since then we we've been to all of your performances for the past two years. If we hadn't heard your explanation, we wouldn't have become this deeply interested in ballet." That was rewarding to hear.

Is there something you would especially like to say to our members around the world?

These are difficult times. Faith is always put to the test. It is

⁵ Now known as the Kirov Academy of Ballet, Washington D.C.

⁶ A chain of department stores

easy when things are going well. As one Christian friend of mine said to me, "I believe in Jesus now, but would I have believed in him when he was being crucified?" It was very difficult to believe in Jesus when he was being put onto the cross. The people who had been close to him ran away. But now when so much of the whole world believes in Jesus, it's very popular, sometimes even advantageous, to believe in him. It's very easy to be Christian because much of the world is Christian. Faith is about believing when the whole world is not believing, or when there is a test.

I think it's a very difficult time right now for us. But consider ballet: You can do *Swan Lake*, *Sleeping Beauty* or *Giselle*, with brilliant costumes and sets—but the morning after the performance, you go back to that rigorous daily ballet class. No costumes, no makeup. You put on your rehearsal clothes, you look into that mirror and you go back to the basics. If you lose your basics, you lose everything.

It's the same in faith; you go back to the basics. Lots of



Annette Lu Hsiu-lien, vice-president of Taiwan 2000–2008, presents flowers to Hoon-sook nim after a Universal Ballet performance in Taipei in April this year.



Shim Chung: The undersea palace of the Sea Dragon King

things may be going on that make you confused, or make you question or even shake your faith to its roots. Things will always happen, but that doesn't change the root, the essence of what Father has given us. If you always go back to the basics, the simple teachings that Father has given us, they will always guide you in the right direction.

Don't lose sight of what's really important, the essence of what Father has brought to us and to the world—the teaching of the Divine Principle, the universal values that have been set by Heavenly Father. They are like the law of gravity; they're not going to change.

Some of the laws made by Heavenly Father govern the way the world operates physically. But there are also moral and spiritual laws that Heavenly Father has put into place, which no one can escape or defy. Those are what we have to keep our eyes on, and we must apply them in order to work out the problems that we face.

Could you add a word based on your experiences with the True Family?

I would like to say that the True Children have such a huge burden to carry. Living here in Korea I often see firsthand how Hyung-jin nim and Kook-jin nim attend True Parents and I am always very moved by their devotion. There is so much we can learn from them. Their undivided loyalty and love for True Parents is something blessed family members and the second generation should observe and inherit.

Some people find it easy to criticize True Children. But if you have never been in their shoes you really don't know what it is like. Externally, the True Children's lives may look comfortable and privileged. But the True Children, who now have to take what True Father has created here and carry it on into the future, have a great responsibility. This is true for blessed family members as well, but especially the True Children who are in leadership positions have a much, much heavier burden.

No one can equal True Father. No single child of True Parents can embody Father's lead-

ership, his charisma, his spirituality, his stamina, his love...which means the True Family must work together.

I feel each of the True Children embodies a different aspect of True Parents, like different colors of a rainbow. Kook-jin nim has incredible business acumen and a very deep heart; Hyung-jin nim has incredible spiritual sensitivity and sincere humility; Hyun-jin nim has incredible diplomatic charisma; In-jin nim is a fantastic speaker, a leader with great wisdom and is also very artistic; and like the sun, Sun-jin nim is always giving positive energy and love to the members. I hope that together they can carry on Father's legacy and tradition.

Although I am member of the True Family, I am not a True Child. I am just a second generation blessed child. I have been in the True Family twenty-seven years now, and I feel that all of the True Children are special.

They have had difficult childhoods, and they have difficult responsibilities now. As long as the True Children are absolutely following True Parents, who are the substantial representatives of Heavenly Father on the earth, they need our undivided, unconditional support. The task ahead of them is not easy. They need our encouragement. In particular, first generation leaders need to *live* the Divine Principle of Cain serving Abel, not just teach about it in lectures.

The True Children are the lineage of True Parents, our true Abels. They need a great deal of support and I hope our leaders and members can give that to them. True Children are not perfect, just as none of us are. Sometimes they may make mistakes, just as we all do. Often, I feel people are too quick to criticize, and it is painful to see this. When True Children are attending our True Parents absolutely, we need to give them our support and understanding so that, together, we can be victorious for Heaven. **STW**



Hoon-sook nim, seen here at the August 6 celebrations, remained in America after Universal Ballet's performances in San Francisco and Vancouver in order to spend time with True Parents.

Looking through the eyes of two Universal Ballet staff members

Today's World: What is the major difference between this tour and others Universal Ballet has done?

Soyoung Lim (International Planning Director): In the past, when the company was not known, we had to self-present, which was very costly because we had to take care of all the expenses involved in the tour, from airfare, hotel and meals to theater rental, technicians, equipment, and even local marketing and promotion. On the foundation of the early tours where we received great reviews and recognition from local critics and from important papers such as the *New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*, *The Times* (London), *La Repubblica* (Rome), *El Pais* (Madrid) and *Dance Magazine*, we are now being invited by theaters and local presenters. They normally cover all the local costs, which comprise 50–75 percent of the cost of the tour. Although we still have a financial burden, it is much less than before, and for us this is a great step forward.

Costs apart, it must be a headache to prepare and send out the full company and everything they use to perform.

Anne Inoue (Company Manager): If we are performing only one ballet, it usually requires two forty-foot containers, which need to be sent out from two to six weeks ahead of time, since they travel by sea. And, of course, air tickets and visas for seventy people is no small task!

Can you say what it is about ballet that makes it a "heavenly art"?

Soyoung Lim: When Hoon-sook nim tells people about ballet history, she always says that "ballet is beauty." The art that is ballet pursues beauty. Like sports, such as soccer, wrestling or swimming, ballet involves body movement. However, when playing soccer, for instance, when you get tired, you can scowl, groan or sigh, but in ballet, no matter how tired you are, you should never let it show. In sports, the players work out in such a way that they have large muscles, but in ballet you need to be strong, while at the same time maintaining a beautiful body line at all times. Ballet is all about beauty.

It is an art that pursues both external and internal beauty. A new branch of ballet, modern or contemporary ballet, has emerged, which is somewhat different.

Anne Inoue: Modern ballet doesn't necessarily express only beauty, it expresses other emotions too....

Soyoung Lim: But classic ballet is all about fairy tales—about good winning over evil; those storylines are the backbone of a ballet performance.

From the spiritual point of view, ballet is an art of goodness and it pursues goodness. Moreover, many of the ballet moves depict pushing off from the earth to jump higher into the sky as if attempting to reach heaven. All these things combined tell us that ballet is indeed a heavenly art.

Anne Inoue: We should mention that Hoon-sook nim gives lectures to CEOs, quite influential people—using quite excellent PowerPoint presentations. She teaches them about the

history of ballet and why the presence of ballet is good for society. Her work is not just in this building but in corporate Korea—Samsung, Hana Bank, Choong-ang University.

Hoon-sook nim is educating people in Korea about the value of ballet?

Soyoung Lim: Yes. And also before the performances, Hoon-sook nim comes out onstage and explains to the audience how to watch ballet.

Anne Inoue: She started with the contemporary ballets, which we usually do one season of each year, but now she has added precurtain talks for the traditional ballets as well. Many people don't feel they know what ballet is, so they are not comfortable watching it. They don't know what to look for.



Ballerinas who portray village women, backstage before a performance of *Shim Chung*

Which countries will you visit on the world tour and what ballets will you perform?

Soyoung Lim: One main pillar of our repertory is *Shim Chung*, the ballet we created based on the ancient Korean folk tale.¹ The concept of filial piety is at the core of this work. We plan to tour forty cities around the world with *Shim Chung* and we have already given performances in Taipei, Singapore, San Francisco and Vancouver. Later this year, we will perform in Japan and in Muscat, the capital of Oman.

The performance in Oman will be special for us because it is the last place we are visiting this year as part of our tour, and Oman is holding a grand opening for an opera house in June. That opera house is the first major opera house to be built, not only in Oman but in all the Middle East, and we are going to give a performance there in commemoration of its opening.

¹ In English this is sometimes entitled *The Blind Man's Daughter*. In the story, a young woman willingly sacrifices her life to help her father. Later, the Sea Dragon King is moved by her devotion to her father and allows her to return to the land of the living.

Universal Ballet

Performance Schedule 2011–2013

Dates	Repertory	Venue (number of performances)
2011		
March 25-28	Don Quixote	Seoul Arts Center Opera Theater (6)
April 4-5	Shim Chung	National Theater of Taiwan (2)
May 6-7	Shim Chung	The Esplanade, Singapore (2)
June 9-12	This is Modern II Jiri Kylian / Youngsoo Her	Universal Arts Center, Seoul (5)
June 18	Giselle	Seoul Arts Center Opera Theater (1)
July 22, 24	Shim Chung	War Memorial Opera House, San Francisco (2)
July 29-30	Shim Chung	The Centre in Vancouver for Performing Arts (2)
September 11-17	Giselle	U-Port Hall, Tokyo and two other cities (3)
November 12-19	Onegin	LG Arts Center (8)
November 28	Shim Chung	Royal Opera House, Muscat (1)
December 16-17	Nutcracker	Gunpo Performing Arts Center (3)
December 21-31	Nutcracker	Universal Arts Center (19)
2012		
February 18–19	Season Opening Gala	Universal Arts Center, Seoul (3)
March 16–18	Swan Lake	Joburg Theatre, Johannesburg (4)
April 5–8	Sleeping Beauty	Sejong Center for the Performing Arts, Seoul (5)
May 14–15	Shim Chung	Stanislavsky Theater, Moscow (2)
May 24–31	Shim Chung Suite	Yeosu International Expo, Korea (8)
July 9–15	Manon (UBC Premiere)	Seoul Arts Center Opera Theater (4)
August 9–12	Giselle, Shim Chung	Kennedy Center (4)
August 24–25	Gala	National Theater Taipei (2)
September 7– October 31	Shim Chung, Giselle	France / Belgium / Monaco / Luxembourg / Switzerland Tour (Paris, Lyon, Strasbourg, Marseille, Nice, Nantes, Lilles, Toulouse, Montpellier, Brussels, Luxembourg, Monaco, Geneva) (21)
December 7–31	Nutcracker	Universal Arts Center and three or four other theaters in Korea (30)
2013		
Negotiations are ongoing for tour appearances in Japan, Italy, Abu Dhabi, Singapore, Finland, Brazil, Argentina and Chile.		

Schedule information is correct at time of going to print; for updates please go to www.ubcballet.com or the company's Facebook page. Universal Ballet's Korean performances outside Seoul are not listed here.

So, you are part of the opening festival.

Soyoung Lim: Yes. Besides us, the La Scala Theater Ballet from Italy, the America Ballet Theater from the United States and the Royal Ballet from United Kingdom have been invited, as has the Lincoln Center Jazz Band, led by Wynton Marsalis.

All the companies that have been invited are world renowned companies, and the fact that Universal Ballet is one of those invited is meaningful and special for us.

We have also been invited to perform in Moscow, in ballet's homeland of Russia, next year, at the Stanislavsky Theater, which has the highest standards for ballet and opera. We will also tour five nations in Europe, including France, for a month and a half.

Ballet began in Italy, developed in France and became a performance art in Russia, and we have been invited to give

performances in France and Moscow next year, and in Italy in 2013, so we will be visiting all of ballet's homes—from the current Mecca of ballet if you will—during this world tour. We will also be performing in the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, next year, and in 2013 we are planning to tour five cities in South America, including venues in Brazil, Argentina and Chile.

All this has been made possible because Universal Ballet's artistic quality is now more acknowledged worldwide than it was in the past.

Anne Inoue: Some of our overseas trips are arranged with promoters or theaters that we knew previously, and some are with relatively new ones. Ms. Lim has sent hundreds of letters to develop new touring contacts.

Soyoung Lim: There is a ballet boom in Korea now. In the past, ballet did not draw a large audience in Korea. Nowadays, however, people are becoming increasingly familiar with ballet. On television there are Korean soap operas where the lead character is a ballerina. Even in comedy programs, they have little skits about ballet. In the past, you couldn't have imagined ballet becoming popular like this. I like to think that one of the driving forces of the ballet boom is Universal Ballet and our participation in the popular Korean TV entertainment show *One Night, Two Days*.²

One of the biggest reasons ballet can now be seen on TV and in movies, and that a ballet boom is sweeping across the nation, is that both Universal Ballet, a private organization, and the Korean National Ballet, which is government sponsored, have continued to give great performances over the years.

Universal Ballet receives grants from Rev. Moon, while the Korean National Ballet receives its funding from the Korean government. When running a ballet company, finances are a heavy burden, and picking the right productions and maintaining the artistic level are very important. In Korean society, it is very difficult for a private company to do all that.

Anne Inoue: It's hard enough in countries such as the U.S., where there is a tradition of private support for the arts, but here in Korea there is so little private support for the arts. Even government support for the arts is not very extensive.

Soyoung Lim: Rev. Moon's support for the ballet is comparable with the national level support a government might give. Until now, Universal Ballet has been better known internationally than the Korean National Ballet.

Ballet also benefits from the fact that we are now living in the visual era. The world is becoming globalized, for which reason many people are more interested in the visual aspect than in language. This is why nonverbal performances are becoming popular around the world. In light of this, ballet is the perfect performing art for this era.

The fact that Universal Ballet was founded in 1984, twenty-seven years ago, before Korea was globalized, shows that the founder was farsighted. In that regard, I think the founding of Universal Ballet was destined by heavenly fortune.

Who could have imagined such things twenty-five years ago? Back then, who in Korea would have thought that non-verbal performances would become popular worldwide, that cultural walls would break down and that the world would become globalized? Most people couldn't have understood that. **TW**

Soyoung Lim has worked with Universal Ballet since 2004, and Anne Inoue began there as an intern in 1989.

² After a group of the dancers appeared on the show, ticket sales for Universal Ballet performances increased noticeably.

wishes.

You may have heard the prayer of St. Francis, "Make me an instrument of your peace." An instrument has no will of its own; it is purely the tool of its user, an inanimate object. For two thousand years, Christians have been begging God that they can be instruments of His peace and His will. If we understand what that means, in this context, we can see that Father totally embodies that. That's one of the things I have experienced.

I also had an inspiration about hoondokhae. We usually have a difficult time with hoondokhae—especially with Father because it is so long! Many people have bad backs and bad knees. It is brutal when it is very long—torture. But I realized one thing, just watching Father doing a lot of hoondokhae. We have our physical limitations—you know, we get tired, or we have back pain, or we need to go to the bathroom, or we have limitations of time such as, Oh I have to meet someone. But actually in the spirit world we don't have any of those constraints—body pain, hunger, fatigue; we don't have any of that kind of pain and no angst over limited time. Being the footstool of the Lord, at the foot of the Lord, being in his presence, sitting on the floor in front of the king of all the spirit world—that's what, for thousands of years, Christians have desired to experience when they go to heaven.

What I realized, therefore, is that hoondokhae is actually heaven. True Father is showing us what heaven is like. If you had none of the pain, if you had all the time of eternity, nothing pressing on you to be done, and if you could be that close to the center of the entire cosmos, the universe and the spirit world, it would be so enjoyable.... Having the honor of being in God's presence, that's the best way to spend eternity. If you are distant from that, and can't come near it, that's hell.

So being with True Father every day, I realize he is showing us a taste of the eternal world. I reflect that when I am in hoondokhae, when I am with Father, near him, my heart is at ease, at peace. In that moment, I have no big concerns—because he is such a rock, he is the mountain. In that sense spiritually you feel, when you are near him, that he is in joy, he is happy, and you feel also joy, peace and stability inside. Think about being eternally separated from that. You don't know when judgment will come, you don't know your standing with God. That's torture. You can't breathe.

Actually, I can understand Christians and also Buddhists, particularly Pure Land Buddhists who desire to go to the land of Sukhāvati (Ultimate Bliss) and meet the Amitabha Buddha. When you look at the Pure Land scriptures—the beautiful paintings of pagodas, golden streets, and so on—at the center of all that is Amitabha Buddha, and he is preaching the Dharma. When those who call his name and worship him die, they can go to the pure land and listen to the sweet words of the Dharma. That's hoondokhae! Christians too, sitting at the foot of the Lord—that's hoondokhae. All the visions of heaven and all the major religions point to hoondokhae. [Hyung-jin nim laughs] That's what I feel.

Because True Parents are God's substantial presence on earth, when they go to the spirit world, they will not be separate from God. When He materializes He will be within the presence of True Parents. That's why I think Father has stressed the hoondokhae tradition.

Arcanjo, who recently came to Korea,² used Divine Principle hoondokhae reading as an effective way of witnessing. He was constantly reading it with new members. It strengthens faith.

So I had that new experience of understanding why Father

² True Parents invited Arcanjo Espindola to Korea in June to testify about the Divine Principle reading conditions he and others have done and the measurable results they've achieved. His testimony appeared in our June issue.

spends so many hours of his life doing hoondokhae. The majority of Father's hoondokhae is Father's speaking directly. When you are with True Parents if your eyes are open, heaven is really before your eyes.

At first it was very tough being with True Parents because we had to adjust and felt such a strong need to transcend the physical plane. After having adjusted, when we are with True Parents, for example when Father is fishing, we can study and do other things that we need to do. Adjusting to these changes was the thing.

We feel very grateful to have this opportunity and as Father gave me my responsibility, there is no better training. Father said I have to become his cane—like an instrument for God's will. One day we sent that tweet when I had the honor of holding Father's tray at a mealtime. I said as a joke, "I also want to be Father's dining table!" [Hyung-jin nim laughs; see this photograph on page 4] Actually it was wonderful just to hold it for him.

I am very relaxed around Father. He is also very relaxed around me, so I am grateful for that relationship. Of course, he has had great experiences with most of his children—for example, Kook-jin hyung spent a lot of time with Father on boats in Alaska. But Father doesn't get mad at me as much as with the others [Hyung-jin nim laughs]. I think it is a special grace, and it has nothing to do with what I have done or accomplished. I am kind of the baby of the family. So he gives this grace that I am not worthy to receive. But he gives it. So I am filled with thanks.

With Father, it's very relaxing at times. But at other times, he can bring a whole spectrum.... You learn that you can never do this kind of work for personal reasons, for reasons of self-interest. Father will always check that, he will always say things in hoondokhae about you. If you were to take this personally, it would drive you crazy. They are just words. They can express love or chastisement. Fundamentally, Father loves his children!

Father allows me to be myself. I am not always quiet. I like to make jokes; when I was young, I was a prankster. Father also loves animals and loves nature, and we connect on that because I love animals and have raised many animals. He loves all the animals that we have.

Father is emphasizing things such as tribal messiahship, giving out 430 volumes. Members are trying to comply with these instructions. As international president could you say something about what members' attitude or focus should be?

The whole purpose of tribal messiahship is witnessing. That's what Father is focusing on. Witnessing to your family. We call this restoring your tribe. But that basically means witnessing. It means bringing them to the blessing. It means understanding that when you are blessed you have to make a pledge before True Parents and believe in them as the Lord at his Second Advent, the saviors of your soul, changing your lineage from the realm of Satan to the realm of God. That's huge, and you can't do it on your own power or by your good deeds. You can only do it by the grace of True Parents. That is why the Messiah is necessary.

In the end, the Messiah is absolutely essential. We don't need some kind of Gnostic realization, where we all feel we are all messiahs, and Father is just one among us—this kind of new-agey type of theology; rather, he is a fundamental necessity for the sinful children of Satan. There is no way for the sinful children to jump back into God's family without God sending His son to recover them. No matter how much enlightenment we receive, no matter how much realization we may come to, getting back into God's family can only be done by God's grace and God's love, and by the son whom he sends as His representative. Understanding this is a very important, because it allows us to realize the greatness of God's love and the greatness of True Parents and their sacrifice. **STW**



Even though it took more than two decades, the judgment by the Supreme Court of Thailand on September 1, 2011 was an absolute vindication of justice. In room 906 at around ten o'clock in the morning, the judge dismissed the case, letting stand the verdicts of the two lower courts that had acquitted our members. Our precious Heavenly Father, our beloved True Parents, the seven Thai brothers and one sister who went to prison for twenty-one months and the entire Thai family stood blameless before heaven and earth.

Thailand had been a model mission country. In the 1980s, less than ten years after the first missionaries arrived, character education programs for students, Victory Over Communism workshops for the police and the army, PWPA seminars for academics, interfaith colloquia organized by RYS, and humanitarian activities under IRFF and the Japanese Medical Team were all vibrant, active and successful. In 1988 Thailand hosted the fifth World CARP Convention. "In 1990," writes Dr. Lek Thaveetermsakul (national leader, 1988-2005), "there were about 300 fully committed young people and university students as well as 200,000 young associate-members connected to our Unification Cultural Center." Thailand, along with Japan, were the only two nations to be recognized with an award given directly by True Parents for rapid church growth.

Then, in early 1991, a military coup overthrew the government. In May of the same year, the media began relentlessly attacking the Thai movement. The following month, policemen with the National Crime Suppression Division suddenly raided all of the centers and arrested eight leaders. They were imprisoned without bail. Over the course of the next two decades, the media, the military, the government and the prosecution in the courts unjustly victimized our True Parents, our Principle, our movement, our way of life and our activities in Thailand.

THE UNJUST ACCUSATIONS ARE DISMISSED

On the legal front, after twelve years in the criminal court, our church won the first round on February 19, 2003. All charges were dismissed. Immediately, however, the prosecutors filed an appeal taking the case to the Appeal Court. Twenty months later, on October 12, 2004, the church again won the case. Despite these two losses, prosecutors again appealed, this

time to the Supreme Court, which decided in April 2005 that it would review the case. On September 1, 2011, after twenty-one years of legal battles, justice was served. True Parents can now enter Thailand and our brothers and sisters are free to teach about our True Parents!

As the final verdict was read out, the first accused person named was True Father himself. The judge began reading, "Considering that Sun Myung Moon, the founder of a religion from Korea which was imported into Thailand in 1975 by foreign missionaries to the Thai Kingdom...and the defendant, Dr. Lek Thaveetermsakul, after studying the teaching and having faith in the teaching, began to spread the teaching in Thailand..."¹

True Father, the Principle, Father's motivation and even the Blessing Ceremony had been attacked, but the exoneration from Thailand's highest court was unequivocal; all the accusations had been false.

On September 1, not a single prosecutor from the government side was in the courtroom. No negative protesters were there, nor were any journalists present to document the acquittal. The courtroom was filled with more than sixty church members and prominent supporters who listened in silence with tear-filled eyes as the judge read from the twenty-one-page ruling declaring our True Parents and the Thai family innocent.

Dr. Chung-sik Yong, present-day Asia continental director, was serving as a missionary in Singapore when the persecution began in 1991. He was suddenly asked to go to Thailand. At that time, the continental directors were Dr. and Mrs. Christopher Kim. Along with our True Parents, the Kims were charged in the case and were unable to enter Thailand. After arriving in Bangkok, Dr. Yong first visited the members in prison. He then began to rebuild our broken church, gathering the scarred and scattered members. Now, twenty-one years later, he was here in the Thai capital to hear the final verdict.

Dr. Yong has an unrelenting passion for Principle education, which has played an important role in Thailand. Supreme Court cases typically are not decided quickly in Thailand. In

¹ Unofficial English translations; the court proceedings were conducted in Thai.

this case, one of our newly appointed ambassadors for peace was able to break the logjam. Undoubtedly, though, it was a team effort. The newest member could only stand so strong and so quickly with the unconditional support from other senior ambassadors for peace. Our Thai movement is deeply and eternally indebted to many ambassadors for peace and other dignitaries. They stood strong. Several had attended special VIP Original Divine Principle seminars. Many were in the courtroom on September 1. Immediately after the proceedings ended, one of them exclaimed, "Now it is safe for Father Moon to come to Thailand, anytime." We learned that teaching the Original Divine Principle as our True Parents had instructed was a key factor underlying this historic victory.

Before the proceedings began, a policeman walked into the room carrying eight pairs of handcuffs. A Thai member explained, "These are for the eight church members." The eight originally arrested and jailed were now seated in the front row waiting for the judge to enter. "If the verdict went against them," he continued, "they will be immediately handcuffed and taken directly to prison." Before the judge entered the room, however, the policeman walked out. It seemed that he too had surrendered.

Finally the judge himself ultimately yielded to the senseless legal drama. For several minutes at the beginning of the hearing he thumbed through the court document before him. Normal procedure is that he just reads the verdict. But he

education in the Thai public schools, and built the Thai headquarters (the Peace Embassy). Normally, people don't want to associate with any organization that is under legal review. Yet, our Thai movement clearly inherited the spirit of our True Parents; they moved ahead relentlessly whatever the obstacle. Each program launched during this period of prolonged injustice thrived.

At a celebration ceremony in the Thai headquarters on the day of their exoneration, each of the eight members who had been imprisoned gave a testimony. Amidst tears, laughter and self-reflection, they unanimously acknowledged that True Parents' sacrificial lifestyle was the source of their inspiration and encouragement while in detention.

HOW ONE MEMBER APPLIED TRUE FATHER'S PRINCIPLES

The youngest member, Mr. Pittaya Srisuwan, was just twenty-one years old on June 26, 1991, the day he and seven other members were arrested. He had been a member for three years and suddenly found himself behind bars. His story on that fateful day was extraordinary.

He received a phone call telling him not to go to the headquarters because many policemen were there. But he said to himself, "No, I must go. We have been taught that our leaders are like the bone and the members are the flesh. I must go there to help protect our leaders." Pittaya was a martial arts instructor then and continues to work with the World Won Hwa Tongil



Left: The acquitted members are welcomed at the celebration; Right: Once incarcerated together, today they cut a victory cake.

seemed daunted by the task; it was twenty-one pages long. Nevertheless he started reading. Again and again he declared, "the Supreme Court agrees with the decision of the Appeal Court and the Criminal Court." False accusations were struck down, one by one: accusations against Father's teachings—struck down; accusations against the marriage blessing—struck down; accusations that members were taught to hate their parents—struck down; accusations that fund raising was deceptive—struck down; accusations that the members were trying to create rebellion in Thailand—struck down... Exasperated, the judge finally declared, "This is too long to read. The decisions of the Appeal Court and Criminal Court stand."

LOVING THOSE WHO PERSECUTE YOU

Although the legal nightmare was repeatedly prolonged, our church in Thailand continued to move forward, grow, and even flourish. From 1991 until now, our Thai family directly interacted with the Royal Palace on a number of occasions (once with the Royal Crown Prince and a second time with the Royal Crown Princess), held activities at the United Nations headquarters in Bangkok, involved university presidents and other prestigious academicians in our programs, was granted \$100,000 by the Department of Education to conduct Pure Love

Mu Do Martial Arts Federation for World Peace under Dr. Joon-ho Seuk. Upon arrival in the Thai headquarters he was duly arrested.

Now in prison, he expected to be released on bail in a matter of weeks. After nearly two months had passed, it dawned on him, "I'm going to be in jail for a long time." He had to change his thinking and took encouragement from True Parents' life course.

Pittaya divided the twenty-one months in prison into three sectors. When they entered prison they were the lowest of the low, mistreated and looked down on by both prison authorities and other inmates. He saw corruption firsthand in Thailand's federal penitentiaries, but he could only survive through silent endurance. At the end of seven months, the one-hundred-year-old facility they were in was torn down and they were moved to a new detention center.

In the second seven months, all the members were isolated from each other. Depending on their assignments, they lived and worked in separate quarters. Pittaya worked as a pig farmer and made paper bags. Others worked as a medical consultant, umbrella workers, jewelers, accountants, PA announcers,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24

The provincial capitol in Sultan Kudarat Province; the dome covers an interfaith prayer hall.



Unexpected Grace in Rural Philippines

A local government hosts an Original Divine Principle workshop

By Nasius Elias T. Soria

The seven-day Mindanao Leadership Training Course held July 23–29 in Sultan Kudarat Province on the island of Mindanao in the southern Philippines was fulfilling and rewarding—fulfilling in the sense that it was a mission accomplished.

The provincial government sponsored the event in the capitol, in Isulan, the provincial capital. We held an Original Divine Principle (ODP) Seminar, five CAUSA presentations, and we read a one-hour Exposition of the Divine Principle overview lecture for hoondokhae. We conducted a Holy Wine Ceremony and held a regional level launching of the Asian Clergy Leadership Conference (ACLC).

There were fifty-eight participants at the seminar, plus ten staff members and two lecturers from overseas. Our daily schedule started with morning exercises followed by morning devotions, where we read a section of True Father's autobiography and reflected on it. We pursued this project with faith, not knowing what it would bring to us or contribute toward establishing Cheon Il Guk until we were there and had started and finished it.

The inspiration to have the provincial government of Sultan Kudarat Province sponsor and host the Leadership Training Course came in January during an Original Divine Principle Seminar in Tagum, another city in Mindanao. Sultan Pax Mangudadatu Al Haj, a former congressman from Sultan Kudarat Province attended as our honored guest and speaker. He then invited us to conduct a seminar in his province. Everything



Rev. Rolando Basuil, Jr., Philippines national leader, ascended from a stroke on July 1 while this seminar was in preparation.



Left: Datu Suharto T. Mangudadatu, governor of Sultan Kudarat Province, addressing the graduates **Right:** Bishop Soria at a meeting in April presenting the proposal for the workshop to former congressman Sultan Pax Mangudadatu Al Haj.

Photos courtesy of UPPF-Philippines



Left to right: Bishop Nasius Elias T. Soria; Some participants: Chona Basarte (Christian); Bae Lydia C. Magnoy (indigenous person); Ustadz Ismail Sapal (Muslim); and Deputy Governor Grace Pingoy, who assisted the seminar staff

would be provided, free of charge. Our continental director, Dr. Chung-sik Yong, requested that the sultan sponsor a forty-day advanced seminar. So, last April 18, our regional director, his wife and I visited the sultan at the Governor's Palace in Sultan Kudarat Province to submit the proposal. He approved a only a seven-day seminar. He felt forty days was too long as he was planning to run, during that time, for governor of the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao. The seminar was finally scheduled for July 23–29.

Many things happened in the meantime. On May 23 my grandnephew, the son of my nephew George and his wife Amita, and a blessed child, died. On July 1, our Philippines national leader Rev. Rolando Basuil, Jr., also went to the spirit world. In the Philippines, we have a holy ground in each of 165 cities and key municipalities. The tradition of hoondokhae is spreading throughout the nation. Members are starting with the one-hour Exposition of the Divine Principle,¹ and following that with the eight textbooks our True Parents have bequeathed to us.

I had felt that the Philippines should have a seven-day Divine Principle seminar sponsored by a provincial government. In my prayers, I had even gone to the extent of asking my good ancestors to help. So, when the seminar finally opened on July 23, all my anxiety over whether the program would be realized or not disappeared.

1 One in a series of lecture manuals prepared for Divine Principle lecture training by Mrs. Gil-ja Sa under Father's guidance

We had not realized what the seven-day Mindanao Leadership Training course, which took place in the King's Hall of the capitol, would offer us until it actually happened. Mindanao is the second largest island in the Philippines. As there had recently been flooding in the nearby provinces of Cotabato and Davao, it is my reflection that the provincial capitol was like Noah's Ark. I believe this was the Holy Spirit showing us the way to restoration and salvation. What is asked of us is to have absolute faith in God and in our True Parents and to act based on that faith.

We did not know the results and fruits of the seminar, which many provincial government officials attended, until we had concluded it. We have established a solid partnership with a provincial government for our activities. We have set an example for the rest of the provinces in the Philippines to follow.

The seminar in Sultan Kudarat Province, which is predominantly Christian (although the provincial governor is a Muslim) proved that the Divine Principle is an educational tool for moral, ethical and universal values of the people regardless of religion, culture and tradition. I believe it is the only force that can unify Muslims, Christians and the indigenous peoples.

Bishop Soria is the secretary-general, in the Philippines, of the Inter-Religious Federation for World Peace. Please see overleaf for testimony about teaching the seminar and the response of participants.



Left: Pastor Camilo E. Dela Fuente, reading a one-hour English Divine Principle lecture manual; Right: Mr. Celestino Jose P. Navalta, presenting a lecture to the sixty participants in a room called the King's Hall in the capitol, in Sultan Kudarat Province, the Philippines,

UPF Ambassador for Peace Sultan Pax Mangudadatu, Al Haq has been more than just a friend of UPF.

After attending several UPF conferences, both local and international, he became one of its strongest supporters, sponsoring events in his province in partnership with UPF.

A high point of his valuable contribution was when he brought UPF's Mindanao Peace Initiatives to the attention of the members of the Philippine House of Representatives in Manila in 2009, while he was the representative of Sultan Kudarat Province in Mindanao. The historic meeting was held inside the Congress where Ambassador Mangudadatu personally introduced UPF and its delegates to his colleagues in the House of Representatives.

Ambassador Mangudadatu became famous after having won the gubernatorial election despite being the lone Muslim among nine candidates in a province that is predominantly Christian. The incumbent governor, Suharto Tan Mangudadatu, Al Haq, is his son. Like his father, Governor Mangudadatu is loved by the people of Sultan Kudarat Province because of his selfless generosity, work ethic and interreligious work for peace.

For the seven-day seminar, not only were our participants and staff members permitted exclusive occupation of the air-conditioned rooms of the beautiful provincial palace, the government extended to us all hospitality by providing UPF a secretariat office plus a spacious and elegant meeting room where we would gather each evening to evaluate the day. The governor additionally sponsored all meals throughout the duration of the seminar. He even assigned a very high ranking official of the province in the person of Deputy Governor Grace O. Pingoy to assist us on practically anything we needed for the activity.

The more than sixty participants from around Mindanao were from different religions—Islam, different Christian denominations and various tribal minorities. One participant pastor took two days to travel from a far distant part of Mindanao.

Many of the participants had attended and been touched by a five-day Original Divine Principle seminar held near the end of last year and wanted to deepen their understanding. Some have accepted True Parents as the Messiah, while others still want more evidence.

The lectures were based on the same outlines as those in the five-day seminar. Since the participants were all expecting something much deeper than what they had experienced



Mr. Celestino Jose P. Navalta praying at the Blessing Ceremony

earlier, I had to exert more heart and effort to elaborate every presentation with new examples and practical guidance. It was quite exhausting, especially at the start, but as the participants expressed how much they loved and appreciated the lectures, I received power to sustain my energy level.

I feel renewed awe and inspiration for the Divine Principle. That the Divine Principle consistently moves people's hearts in an emotionally powerful way astounds me. From such responses, I derive power to lecture, despite my having repeatedly addressed the same topics. The Divine Principle has the power to impress people with the truth, whether the person is a Christian, Muslim or a Lumad (the largest grouping of indigenous Filipinos). The use of other scriptures—the Bible, Koran, Bhagavat Gita, Dhamapadha, etc.—helped wonderfully to demonstrate the universality of True Parents' message.

During the graduation program, Governor Mangudadatu called for members of the Provincial Board to join the closing. They did not just come but even participated in the Holy Wine ceremony, which I believe was a very important condition for God to claim and work His providence in the province. **TW**

Mr. Navalta is the president of the Universal Peace Federation in the Philippines.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

and even assistants to prison authorities. Our Thai brothers and sister became model prisoners. The most important victory for the youngest Unification Church prisoner was internal. He realized, "Whatever happens to me from now on, it cannot have a negative impact on my heart."

Toward the end of their ordeal, political chaos erupted in the streets of Thailand. The military government had rigged the 1992 elections in an attempt to maintain their hold on power. Protests were violently suppressed and many people were killed. Ultimately, the king directly intervened to prevent civil war. In September, new elections brought a legitimate civilian government to power, and in March 1993, our Thai heroes were released on bail. One week before walking out of prison, Pittaya said he heard the voice of God telling him, "You no

longer need to stay in jail." He knew that as long as the military regime stayed in power, he and his Thai brothers and sister would remain incarcerated.

Looking back on this time in jail, Pittaya reflected, "It was actually a wonderful time. I felt very close to God. I could pray and meditate a lot." No resentment was in his heart.

With this dark chapter behind our Thai family, a new era has begun. Members, influential patrons, parents and supporters have a renewed confidence to testify to True Parents. The Asian leg of Father's World Peace Tour is tentatively scheduled for November. With the deep, longing heart of orphans reunited with their long lost parents, Thai members are passionately preparing to welcome True Parents to Thailand. **TW**

Dr. Kittel, UPF director of education for Asia, was in the court on September 1.

Visions of Reaching Everyone in the Nation

A Korean family's mission in the southeast African country of Mozambique

By Hwa-beom Lee

On May 1, 2009, after retiring as a pastor in Korea, I visited Mozambique, my mission country, where I am now the boonbongwang, and organized a council of ambassadors for peace.

In 2010, we made 120 photocopies of the Portuguese edition of True Father's autobiography and distributed them to the ministers of other churches with whom we had formed connections. We also gave them out to ambassadors for peace and other prominent members of society, who seemed truly delighted to receive the books.

I visited Chimoio, a city about 1,300 kilometers from the capital city, where I heard that the father of a blessed member had read the autobiography and testified to his friends that Rev. Sun Myung Moon was indeed the Messiah. This incident made me think that we needed to have the autobiography as proper books, rather than photocopies.

While back in Korea in October 2010, at a time when I was offering conditions, Mrs. Masayo Suzuki, a missionary who had first come to Mozambique ten years earlier, was attending an ancestor liberation workshop in Cheongpyeong. While praying, she saw Rev. Laurentino Mulungo, a Mozambican Christian minister that had passed away some time earlier. He came and sat next to her. Mrs. Suzuki later visited my wife to tell her about Rev. Mulungo and to ask my wife's views on why he might have come to Cheongpyeong and sat beside her.

Four years ago, around the time he died, Rev. Mulungo had appeared in a dream my wife had a day before she was to depart for Mozambique. She said, "I wonder if he is going to the spirit world." The day she arrived in Mozambique was the day of his funeral. On his way home from a church revival meeting, he had been in a car accident, tragically caused by his driver's drowsiness.

Rev. Mulungo had been a pioneering minister of the Baptist Church and had risen to become a senior minister in charge of 530 churches across Mozambique. He was so well known that he was sometimes invited to hold revival meetings in neighboring countries.

When he was told that True Father had endured being imprisoned six times, Rev. Mulungo said that he had also been imprisoned for six years at the time that Mozambique became a communist country,¹ and he kissed a photograph of True Parents. He said that he yearned to meet True Parents once in his lifetime, which he did when Father spoke in South Africa during a global speaking tour. He and his wife took part in the 3.6-Million-Couple Blessing Ceremony in 1997. Moreover, he visited many churches with my wife and I, and he worked hard to bless others.

The fact that Rev. Mulungo had come to Cheongpyeong, in Korea, seemed to suggest that he had come to cooperate with the missionaries. I had been offering prayers in an effort to distribute True Father's autobiography, and I expressed the thought that perhaps he had come to ask that we give out copies to the five hundred or so pastors in his denomination.

When she heard this answer, Mrs. Suzuki felt that it would be difficult, because she was heavily in debt. My wife told her that she was just passing on my thoughts and that it was up to her to decide whether she could support this or not. The next day, however, Mrs. Suzuki contacted us and said that she would make 430 copies even if it meant going deeper into debt. With Mrs. Akiko Akiyama, their leader in Japan, eighteen of the Japanese missionaries pooled enough funds for more than four hundred copies. Moreover, the Abel-nation national messiahs, Yves and Eiko Champollion in France, donated



¹ In the mid-1970s



Rev. and Mrs. Lee (seated at left) visit Mozambique's National Assembly President Veronica Macamo at her office; also present are other assembly members and members of the press.

funds for a further 430 copies, and each of our children also contributed. We asked even our nephews and other relatives to please give enough for one box. In the end, we were able to buy two thousand copies.

After many hardships and complications, we were able to send off the books, together with some relief supplies, in a twenty-foot container at the beginning of March. We went to our mission country in late March, but it was only with the help of our Cain boonbongwang, Mr. Raul Domingos, chairman of UPF-Mozambique, that we were able to claim the container in late April. We had had a lot of trouble shipping it, and the process of claiming the container on the other side proved equally difficult, so I wonder if we can do that again.



Rev. and Mrs. Hwa-beom Lee present a copy of *A Peace-Loving Global Citizen* to Veronica Macamo, president of Mozambique's National Assembly.

Distribution

My wife and I visited around twenty churches and orphanages, and based on relationships we had forged with ministers of other churches, we presented them with relief supplies and copies of the autobiography. Whenever we had something to be delighted or pleased about, we thought about the members who had helped us and we offered prayers returning gratitude and glory to True Parents.

Before the container arrived in Maputo, the capital city, I was invited to visit the Assembly of the Republic of Mozambique by Mr. Roberto Chitsonzo, who is an assemblyman in the governing party and also an ambassador for peace. The Assembly held a session on April 13. I met a few of the other assembly members as well as the prime minister. As

I greeted them one by one, I thought to myself that I should present them, too, with copies of True Father's autobiography.

I then invited Mr. Chitsonzo and another ambassador for peace, Mr. Manuel Pereira, an opposition party assemblyman, to the church center. I asked them if there was a way that I could present the Mozambique assembly members with copies of *As a Peace-Loving Global Citizen*. They said that all I needed to do was to get permission from the president of the Assembly, so I asked them if they could set up a meeting with her.

Missionaries and members offered special prayers. It would be a miracle if we could give the books to assembly members. Fortunately, thanks to our earnest prayers, a few days later, on May 13, Assembly President Veronica Macamo invited me to a meeting. I told her that I had first visited Mozambique as a missionary in October 1996 and that I had taught middle school, high school and college students about preventing AIDS using slides as a part of Rev. Moon's true family activities to promote interreligious, interracial and international peace throughout the world. I also spoke to her about relief programs and education programs we had conducted.

I went on to explain that she would be able to find inspiration and vision from reading True Father's autobiography. She received me warmly, saying that she had already heard about Father's peace movement and activities from the assemblymen who were ambassadors for peace.

At the meeting, which included about ten people—assembly members, secretaries and reporters—Assembly President Macamo said that 98 of Mozambique's 250 assembly members are women. When I heard that, I thought that Mozambique was indeed a politically advanced nation.² She thanked us for the 270 copies of the autobiography and presented my wife and me with cashew nuts and woodcarvings, which are specialties of Mozambique.

We had not prepared any special gifts for her, but my wife

² At the end of 2010, among the 155 parliaments in the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the average participation of women in parliament was 19.1 percent. Mozambique (39.2 percent) and South Korea (14.7 percent) are the Inter-Parliamentary Union members.

had a number of acupuncture pens with her, so we presented her with them and demonstrated how to use them. She seemed truly delighted, and said, *Obrigada* (thank you) and hugged us.

Mrs. Akiko Hozan, one of ten sisters sent as WFWP missionaries to Mozambique in 1995, runs the Sun Middle and High School in Beira. I presented the teachers and students there with 720 copies of the autobiography. As I looked upon the delighted faces of the students, the hopeful future of Mozambique, they waved the books in joy, and I felt that we had every hope of witnessing in and bringing peace to this nation.

By presenting the assembly members plus twelve representative Maputo city council members with the autobiography, I believe we distributed the book as if it had symbolically gone to all the people of Mozambique. I had wanted to give copies to more ministers and organizations, national universities, teacher-training colleges, high schools and NGOs, and I was sorry that we were unable to do so because we didn't have enough books.³ Rather than focusing on the difficulties we had had to face while bringing the books to this country, we found pleasure in propagating True Parents' teachings. We set new conditions, with newfound hope and courage, to print and distribute more books.

Our mission, past and future

Back in 1996, I participated in the national messiahs' workshop. That October, I visited Mozambique, which was then a bare land with no foundation of mission work. I began by pioneering Maputo, the capital city, keeping in mind what True Father had told us: "The bones of three generations of your family should be buried in your mission countries."

In 1998, during her global speaking tour, True Mother visited Zimbabwe. Having heard that Mozambique didn't have a church center at that time, she gave us \$10,000 as seed money.

³ At present Rev. and Mrs. Lee are preparing more copies of the autobiography and wish to complete the distribution to the churches that were under the late Rev. Mulungo.

After a decade or so, helped by donations from missionaries and the Abel-nation national messiah family, we had enough money to buy a sizable apartment in central Maputo as a church center. Through True Mother's loving care, we were able to lay a foundation for mission work in Mozambique.

In 2000, the national messiahs were called back to Korea to work for the Korean providence, where we served again as church leaders and leaders of providential organizations. While I was working in Korea, my wife continued working in our mission country.

We now have about forty members, about thirty of whom are college students that have attended a Divine Principle workshop. Fifteen students have done a seven-day fast. Of these, five were blessed in the October 14, 2010 Blessing Ceremony and are now witnessing with more passion and motivation. Five more are now preparing to receive the blessing.

People hear the name "Africa" and think it will be difficult there, but even under difficult circumstances, we have hard-working members. Our current center is a bit small, so we are offering prayers to build a church in the suburbs. We expect to receive a donation of a piece of land from the government, on which we can build a church. Some young people who have come to the capital city from the nine states as scholarship students at the integrated national university have now joined our church. They say that when they graduate and return to their hometowns, they will pioneer the way for our church in those locations.

All the work we have been able to do so far in Mozambique was made possible thanks to the preparations made in the background by God and True Parents and the mobilization of those in the spirit world, for it was through them that we were able to lay down the foundation for mission work. **TW**

Rev. and Mrs. Lee are from the 777-couple blessing group.



In June 2011, Rev. and Mrs. Lee delivered supplies to an orphanage run by the Catholic Church in their mission country

The Saints of Puerto Leda

By Julian Gray



In 1999, Father instructed a group of senior members to dedicate themselves to a stretch of barren land virtually cut off from the world. How they approached this is a testimony to their love for God and True Parents.

"Father said that if the heavenly kingdom could not be established in Korea, he had to start in another nation, at a direction of 180 degrees, on the other side of the world, and we had to build it up from nothing. In this sense, Father chose Leda, in the Pantanal area, and Jardim, as the reserve heavenly kingdom. It is with this sense that we have been working.... We are hoping that, one day, Father can take, God can take, whatever we have done, as a condition."

— Michihito Sano, national messiah to Chile and ten-year Leda resident

Imagine that you are Japanese, fifty or sixty years of age, and Father asks you to relocate to a remote part of Paraguay dotted with tiny, impoverished native villages. He tells you to construct a physical foundation for God's kingdom on earth, there in the wild, miles from the nearest city. A river is your only means of transport—for yourself and for materials. It is also your only supply of water for washing and even drinking. There is no electricity; there are no roads, no shops. This all suits Father well because the idea is that you are to start with absolutely nothing.

Welcome to Puerto Leda, which up to this point was a simple jetty on the Paraguay River where boats could stop over on their way along the river. Our church in Paraguay bought land in Leda stretching forty kilometers by twenty kilometers. It is in this beautiful but inhospitable spot that a vision, faith and true grit is achieving the impossible.

Working in forty degree¹ heat and battling mosquitoes, a team of Japanese national messiahs by appointment—ordinary men of flesh and blood by birth—have transformed this flat area of shrubby ground into an oasis in the desert. It has accommodations (A house that could welcome True Parents was among the first buildings completed). There is a water purification plant, a generator house, a garage filled with farm equipment, a riverside landing stage and a seminar center that even has a swimming pool. A river navy office and a police station are manned by the local authorities.

Mr. Michihito Sano, Japanese national messiah to Chile, has been based at Leda since the outset. A former missionary to Zaire (now Democratic Republic of Congo) his gentle appearance belies the challenging living conditions he has willingly endured in central Africa and for the past decade in the Chaco region of Paraguay. He is fluent in French and Spanish and speaks passable English. *Today's World* recently caught him on a visit to Korea and asked him about his twelve years of experience with the Leda project.

"We always get up at 4:00 o'clock in the morning. At 4:30 we begin our one-hour hoondokhae and prayer meeting. We have breakfast, and at 6:30 we usually begin our work. In the early morning it's cooler and easier to work. For about ten years we have been offering these conditions, and I think that because of this, when people come, many are moved by what they see. From nothing, we have built a very nice place."

It was at a forty-day workshop for Japanese national messiahs held in the late summer of 1999 at Forte Olimpo, a few miles down the Paraguay River, that Father gave them the mandate to begin the Leda project. What precisely did Father ask them to do?

The project's chief secretary, Mr. Kunihiro Shibamura is based in Tokyo and coordi-

Isolated Puerto Leda: Direct distance from Asuncion 500 km, 850 km by river; distance from nearest community of 50,000 inhabitants, seven hours by boat



¹ 104 degrees Fahrenheit



The early days of washing and doing laundry in the river

nates funding and other aspects of the project's development. He gave the following answer: "We understand that part of Father's direction for the Leda project is to be fulfilled as an internal (spiritual) dispensation, and part is to be accomplished substantially. Even if Father speaks of building a sanctuary of God's kingdom, unless the government of Paraguay were to recognize this, we of course could not create an independent sovereignty. The Japanese national messiahs' absolutely following Father's directions and resolving to build God's nation in the most difficult area of the Pantanal² will become the internal condition that can respond to Father's heart to build God's kingdom throughout the world."

Father divided the sixty or so national messiahs on the workshop into two groups. One group was to pioneer in Leda, while members of the other would return to wherever they were living and raise money to support the work. Just a month after the forty-day workshop concluded, a core group of the men arrived in Leda ready to get to work.

Through Father's original instructions, the men understood the project was an indemnity offering for past failures in the Japanese movement, and more positively, to prepare for God's kingdom to come. This included making headway towards solving global food shortages, environmental problems and educational needs.

One might question what use such symbolic gestures could serve in light, for example, of the current drought and famine in East Africa. But Mr. Shibamura takes the idea seriously. "If a way were found to produce food on that land, this could be expanded to similar types of area around the world, and could provide a solution to the food problem." This task has become a major focus of their work.

For the first three years, those in the support group sent funds for the purchase of equipment and for construction. After three years, an official support office was established in Tokyo, which secured and provided the living expenses for the families of those devoting themselves fully on the other side of the world.

Yet the wives and children of these good men did not join them in the wilderness.

Mr. Sano explained, "It would have been ideal if the wives and children could have come to Leda. The problem is that the nearest village is thirty kilometers distant. The nearest primary and high schools are 65 km away, and that's by river. It was really not possible. Once a year we go back to visit. Some of

² The Pantanal is an area of wetlands covering parts of western Brazil, Bolivia and Paraguay.

the brothers have continued this lifestyle for more than ten years. Separation from their families is the most difficult point for them. Now we have a satellite internet connection, so they can communicate through Skype."

At present there are nine brothers living in Leda, with the chairman also maintaining a project office in the Paraguayan capital, Asuncion.

Those who might question whether God's providence in the modern era would really require such a lonely, ascetic course from members who have long since graduated from such a lifestyle may find comfort in the knowledge that the Leda project has a very visible public purpose. A base for God's homeland on the opposite side of the world from Korea, it is also a unique outpost of civilization in an area that is almost totally undeveloped. The facility, with its life-sustaining drinking water and electricity supply, provides a base from which to reach out to and improve the lives of local inhabitants, and to explore productive uses of the land, in ways that might otherwise be unthinkable.

Mr. Sano: "We have built three schools in local villages. We continue to help and support these communities. They say we are doing more than the local governor."

The schools were built partly with local labor, and partly with young volunteers—mainly church second-generation students—who were inspired to travel to Leda from Japan or the United States.

Mr. Sano: "In August, some Japanese and American students come, taking advantage of the summer vacation. We set it up so they could serve the Indian villages. In the beginning they helped with the construction of the schools; nowadays they are planting trees. Usually students in Japan and the U.S. are used to computers and they spend a lot of time on computer games. But the Indian villages have no electricity, so they cannot do that. All they can do is talk with each other. Indian people really like to communicate with other people. In the beginning the Japanese students feel a little uncomfortable because there is no common language. They only speak a little Spanish. But the Indian people, the children especially, like to just sit with the students. They are very pure in heart in that sense. After two or three days the students from Japan and America feel something more about communication and about relationships than for their computers. After three days, when they have to part, both the Indian villagers and the visiting students cry. This is very beautiful. They learn what the most important part of being human is."

Our Leda community's efforts to voluntarily assist the local population was noticed by the Paraguayan authorities. On the project's tenth anniversary, in September 2009, the former



Children in a (relatively) nearby village receive gifts.



Panoramic view of Leda today

minister of education and the current vice-minister personally visited Leda from Asuncion, to express their gratitude and encouragement for the visionary work.

What was it like for the locals, not to mention the authorities, to have a party of foreign men suddenly take up residence in the nation's remotest and most inhospitable region? Imagine a group of dedicated monks who even built their own monastery. They have made a good impression.

Mr. Shibamura: "The national messiahs who work in Leda do the same amount of work, if not more, than the workers they hire, becoming totally sunburnt. And so they are respected by the local people."

According to Mr. Shibamura, one Admiral Rodriguez, who was in charge of the Navy (River Patrol) in the area, said of the men of Leda, "I have been observing this group for ten years, and the people of Rev. Moon do not drink, smoke, cause man-woman problems, or gamble. I know well that they are devoting themselves to this country, sacrificing their families."

The admiral told the following story: "Once before, while I served as a Commander at Bahia Negra, a boy became ill and we had to take him to Olimpo City, which was 150 km away. We could take him as far as Leda, which was 60 km away, but due to the condition of the motor on our boat, it was difficult to go further. At that time Mr. Kamiyama readily arranged for a boat to take us the rest of the way. Not only that; upon hearing we had no proper means of transport in Bahia Negra, he

immediately donated an eighty-horsepower boat to us."

One might wonder why a military presence might be required in a comparatively unpopulated area. Mr. Shibamura explained, "We are located in the border area between Brazil and the Paraguay River, and herd boys who work with cattle all carry guns to protect themselves from jaguars. It is relatively easy for anyone to own a gun, and there are frequent crimes committed in the area. If rumors spread that Leda is being run by Japanese and substantial funding was involved, there is the possibility that Leda itself could be attacked. Therefore, we constructed a Navy patrol station and also a police station and donated them to the state. We asked for navy personnel and policemen to be assigned there. Not one crime has taken place in Leda so far."

The reader might be curious as to whether the brothers of Leda have succeeded in witnessing to the local people. Mr. Shibamura: "It is hard for the locals to understand the Principle, but we hold service every week for the workers who have come to Leda. They know our activities are wonderful, but generally have not become church members yet." But one lady, originally from a village near Leda and who had worked at the Leda project, moved to the capital, Asuncion, became a member, and was blessed with a Brazilian. Others have maintained strong ties to our church.

Although witnessing may not be easy in the short term, the good relationships the Japanese national messiahs have developed with the locals portend much hope for the future. And it's not just the people; they have also built a close relationship with the land itself and are researching several different kinds of farming.

Mr. Sano: "Alto Paraguay is an area of 82,000 square kilometers. Yet its population numbers just in the thousands. There is a lot of uninhabited land. We could use this land to solve the shortage of food. The problem is that this land is like clay, and it contains salt because many years ago it was under the sea. It is not the most suitable for agriculture, and almost no one is farming it. Yet there are some trees such as moringa and neem that will grow. We want to find trees or plants that can adapt. If that breakthrough comes, the financial gains will help the local people. This is our ambition."

The Leda project has experimented with various forms of crops, including fast growing trees. For the past three or four years they have focused on growing jatropha trees, with the idea of producing biodiesel fuel. The trees bore fruit but the



Products of their fish farm and (650-head) cattle ranch, and efforts to find profit-producing trees that will grow in Leda's inhospitable soil; they also grow rice and a variety of vegetables and fruits.

local bird population descended on the crop and ate it before it could be harvested, thus presenting a fresh challenge to our brothers' ingenuity. The initiatives have diversified into farming cattle, and more lately, fish. Obstacles to economic marketing of any fresh produce must be surmounted. How swiftly can they break through to financial independence is the big question.

Mr. Shibamura: "We have hope to be in profitable businesses, even such that people could come into the region and lead a financially independent life, within the next ten years. Agriculture is definitely possible but the lack of infrastructure is a problem. It will be difficult to transport produce to markets until roads are built. Meanwhile we have boats. Over time, there is the possibility to work in closer cooperation with the government."

The estimate of ten years to productivity may seem daunting, but they are not just going it alone.

Mr. Sano: "We are doing fish farming in association with the University of Asuncion, the best university in Paraguay. They have a fish farming department, so we are in touch with the professors. They are trying to cooperate with us. They would like to create a station in Leda so that they have a base from which to help local communities. We are also in contact with farming professionals—for example, an agricultural expert visited us from Taiwan—and we have visited plantations of neem and moringa trees in Brazil."

Remarkably perhaps, in November 2008, Leda project representatives found themselves at the United Nations Headquarters in New York to report on their work. True Father must have envisioned from the outset the kind of investment and result that would come, for he gave the project its official name not long after it was launched, Association for Sustainable Development in North and South America.

Mr. Shibamura: "The UN office of WFP International (at the United Nations Building in New York), which organized and cosponsored the Forum on the Eradication of Poverty with the NGO section of UN ECOSOC recommended our Association for Sustainable Development in North and South America as a volunteer group from a developing country that might present a report. The UN showed particular interest in the school construction projects undertaken by the Leda residents, carried out with student and youth volunteers from Japan and the U.S., and the idea of creating a model farm to help the local



The beginnings: Japanese national messiahs with True Father on the forty-day workshop in 1999; the signature, given later, is Father's.

people."

Although the name may seem grandiose for a project limited to such a small area of the Americas, it well represents the idealism, public spiritedness and vision that the men of Leda inherited from Father. Father doesn't seem to be expecting to return the center of the providence to South America. Even so, Mr. Shibamura is upbeat about the future of the Leda project:

"As national messiahs from Japan, unless Father's direction for us changes, it is our internal condition to maintain the heart and sincere devotion with absolute obedience to follow Father's desire to build a base for a nation under God's providence. Even if Father does not come to Leda and stay, Leda will nevertheless be a place where members fulfilled absolute faith toward Father, and will be used as an international education center for many youth and high-level contacts. Through preserving the environment and the beauty of nature, through agriculture, fish farming, and the like, carried on by the sweat of our brow, Leda will always be where Father's tradition is conveyed more deeply. Furthermore, the service activities we have offered the villages around Leda will, I believe, provide a model of the service culture that stems from Father's philosophy of living for the sake of others, forgetting what you have given and giving more; it will become an educational exhibit teaching the practice of Unificationism." *TW*



Left: The water purification system; Middle: A river naval patrol post built in Leda; Right: A school being constructed in 2003 by Religious Youth Service volunteers assisted by local children, in Diana, a village three hours by boat from Puerto Leda

