

 True Parents' Message and News

True Peace

天—國 2年(天曆) 6月 JULY 2014 English Version





A Special Emissary's Determination

By Oyamada Hideo



Profile

May 10, 1941

Born in Yamagata Prefecture

September 1963

Joined HSAUWC

1964

Graduated Tohoku University, Education Department

March 1964 03–May 1965

Did Pioneering Witnessing

1969

Received the 43-Couple Blessing

1994–1995

Served as president of HSAUWC–Japan

2001–August 2006

- Served as president of HSAUWC–Japan
- President of *Sekai Nippo*
- Chairman of World Peace Federation
- Chairman of the Association for the Promotion of True Families
- Chairman of the International Federation for Victory Over Communism

2014.May.11–

Special Emissary to Great China and the Northeast Region

Last year, a few other members in charge of the Great China Region and I received a special invitation to the 2013 Christmas luncheon at Cheon Jeong Gung from True Mother. During her message, she said, “There are also people that Heaven prepared out there [in the Great China region].”

On May 10, 2014, at the age of seventy-three, I received a written appointment from True Mother, assigning me as a special emissary to the Great China and Northeast Regions.

On May 18, three hundred and fifty members came for the inauguration in Taipei. Yong Chong-sik, Asia regional president and special emissary; Chang Kuei-seong, Great China regional president; and Cheon Il Guk envoys, national leaders and representatives from Hong Kong and Macau were among them.

My determination is to find ways to connect with the people that Heaven prepared just as True Mother mentioned and I am thinking of finding them with the heart of a treasure hunter.

I am studiously thinking of ways to rally the connections we have in Taiwan, Hong Kong, Macau, Korea, Japan, the United States, Russia and other places that have relations with the Great China region to find these prepared people.

Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek (1887–1975) promised to become Christian as a condition of marrying Soong May-ling (1897–2003). True Father wrote a letter to Generalissimo Chiang, to persuade him to forgive Japan. That is why Japanese people are grateful to Chiang while Taiwanese people think of him as a dictator.

◆ During the (de facto) rule (late 1970s–early 1990s) of Deng Xiaoping’s (1904–1997), ten university professors listened to Unification Thought for seven days in Tokyo. They appraised it saying, “Confucius’ ideology went out to the world and came back with official recognition.”

◆ When the International Highway was announced in 1981, Wang Zhen (1908–1993), vice-premier (1975–1980) of the People’s Republic of China, warmly welcomed it and hoped that it could commence immediately.

◆ True Mother once gave a speech in a big auditorium in Beijing. This was possible because Deng Xiaoping’s son and daughter persuaded their father to let it happen.

◆ When the Panda Motors Factory first began in Fujian, Deng Xiaoping supported us. From now on, I pray that a great leader such as Deng Xiaoping emerges after 2018, when the five-year terms of those leaders appointed in 2013 ends.

I received precious materials from Chairman Seuk Joon-ho, who had been active in China for eighteen years. I also received useful advice from Otsuka Katsumi and Tokuno Eiji, my predecessors. I will clearly remember their advice and completely invest to succeed in my mission. I plan to focus two-third of my attention on Great China region and one-third of my attention on Northeast region. I hope to be able to visit Mongolia as soon as possible. ☞

Rev. Oyamada, a Japanese leader that is recognizable by members around the world and member of the Cheon Il Guk Supreme Council was asked to express his heart on being appointed a special emissary.

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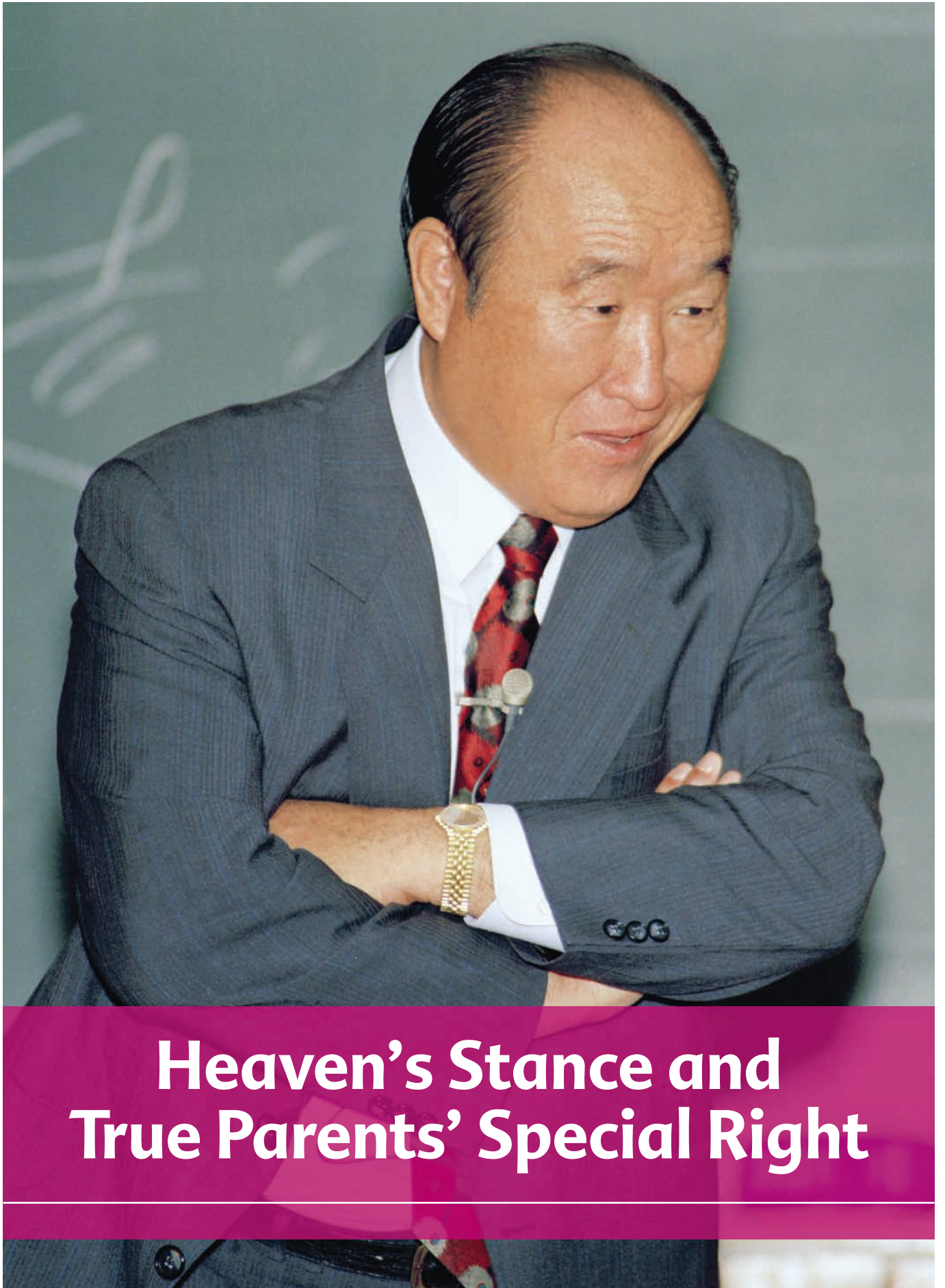
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Heaven's Stance and True Parents' Special Right

In a prayer before his sermon during morning pledge in the Hanam-dong residence on July 1, 1992, True Father mentioned that it was the second Declaration Day of God's Eternal Blessing (Chil Il Jeol) revealing that Chil Il Jeol had been proclaimed a year earlier. The following are extracts from what Father said on July 1, 1991, also in the Hanam-dong house. He made no direct mention of Chil Il Jeol during the sermon but made three reference to its proclamation in the benediction afterward. He prayed, "Father! By having declared all proclamations as of today, everything that the providential history represented and all the conditions that Heaven worked to establish have been settled," and "This is a time through which I proclaim that the family is the basis for the course of fulfilling our five percent portion of responsibility" and "As of July 1, everyone can apply to become tribal messiahs around the world," thereby proclaiming July 1 as Chil Il Jeol.

I have just come from Alaska. This time, my visit there had special significance. The first day of July this year is not just another first day of July. From the point of view of the providence, this year is central to the three-year course and is a historic turning point. All circumstances and the flow of history must change now. The democratic world, the communist world and the religious sphere have all lost direction. All foundations that mankind had proudly looked upon have collapsed.

Heaven's stance

Whether a fruit is a true fruit or a false fruit becomes clear in autumn. A false fruit will fall to the ground and rot while a true fruit will be harvested. From the perspective of the providence of restoration or the providence of salvation, however, there are not different kinds of fruit. Religion has not been seeking many types of fruit, only one. Many religions, such as Buddhism and Judaism exist, but they are not aimed at two kinds of fruit, only one.

Who, then, is the owner of that fruit? It doesn't belong to the founder of any religion or to any nation. The ruler of a nation cannot harvest this fruit nor can the major, ruling, religions harvest this fruit and keep it as their own. A fruit that has grown, representing all religions, must be harvested and accepted as God's fruit.

What religion would God want that fruit to come from? The providence of salvation is the providence of re-creation; in light of that, why does God need the fruit that is harvested after re-creation? He is looking for fruit that has Heaven's lineage. In order to find it, a tradition that has

this connection of love centered on God must be established.

Today's fallen humanity has inherited Satan's lineage. This is the problem. Having Satan's lineage running in it, how difficult would it be to cleanly return the lineage within humanity to Heaven? Heaven's stance is more or less like that of a man that has lost a lover and ends up having to love the child of another man born from his lover. Would Heaven, however, be able to have the heart to accept children born in that manner as his direct children?

A man loses his loving wife who is taken away. Later, he brings to his home the children born to his wife and another man; he loves them more than his own children to make them into his own blood children. Have you ever seen such a thing in the world? Blessed families, in particular, should be well aware that receiving the blessing isn't everything. It is conditional. We have now ushered in the era through which we can inherit God's realm of heart; hence, we should know that God worked hard to establish this historic tradition.

It has been seven years since I announced that you must become tribal messiahs and establish family churches. I have taught you about this for seven years. However, is there anyone that was determined to achieve this, investing effort and even staying up nights for this? When Heaven chose Jacob, how anxious would Jacob have felt as he fought with the angel throughout the night by the River Jabbok until he won? You can't imagine how taken aback he was when the name Israel was proclaimed on earth.

Even though True Parents are on earth, the world has treated them anyhow they wished. Everyone tried to use me and I have been used. Today, at this time, on the first day of July, you should truly lament, feeling ashamed to the point where you cannot steady yourself from the pangs that you hear from your conscience and you should repent. You should know that you are in a position to repent even if you must wail while doing so.

I have left behind not only my siblings but also my parents. I have also left my country behind. I threw away everything for God. Does God have a nation? Does God have parents, or not? Does he have children, or not? I have served only God instead of my country, my parents and my siblings. I have followed my way in confidence. Now, I have overcome everything, which is why I must proclaim that ceremony today.

Until now, religious people have shed a lot of blood. However, they do not know where their sacrifices would yield fruit. That fruit is the True Parents. The religious sphere, the political sphere, the democratic sphere and the communist sphere should all unite through True Parents. Today is a time to break through locally and establish families. These were my directions. It is a serious fight, one in which our lives are at stake and one in which we either obtain or lose the whole world. Can you just stand by during such a grave time?

True Parents' special right

God is trying to become the owner of love and life through me, through the True Parents. I am calling on you to

even liberate Satan. We have waited for this era in which we can liberate even hell; I have given you authority so that you can invest effort to even save the archangel, who was supposed to protect Adam and Eve from falling. This is the course of restoration. I have proclaimed a victory that can liberate even Satan's realm. Thanks to this proclamation, the world will begin to move centered on your families.

You all know how you are supposed to live. If you do not understand something, read my sermon volumes. How I have lived until now is all described within those volumes. Your parents represent the six billion people on earth. A husband and wife... Parents are all owners. The owners are represented by the family. Those representatives are the parents. The sons and daughters are the descendants. This is the ideal form of love in which the past, present and future are all represented. Therefore, when a son or daughter-in-law assert something centered on love, the grandparents, the grandchildren and everyone, without exception, become one. They follow that assertion. This is the right thing.

Where are the three generations heading to? Is the stem going in a zigzag or in a straight vertical direction? This is a serious problem. I am a smart person. I have settled everything in this vast, confused world and have made a strong ladder up which humanity can climb. Once people begin climbing, they can move up hundreds of floors. No matter how hard you look around, no other way is to be found. I cut down all other ladders. There is no other way up. Now that I have carried out this ceremony proclaiming this unification, please move forward full of confidence, knowing this.

If it is love, a love investing and forgetting, a love living for the sake of others, a love of re-creation centered on God, that a grandchild asserts, even the grandparents would say it is right and bow their heads to it. One can become the owner of life only when one establishes the above foundation of love representing the nation, tribe and world, forms a family that is centered on love and stands in the position of an owner centered on love.



True Parents praying at the first Day of the Declaration of God's Eternal Blessing (Chil Il Jeol)

No matter what other people say, I am the global hero of this generation. This tradition must be able to shine within your family. Even if you cut off twigs or sprouts growing from me in all four directions instead of the sprout at the top of the main stem to graft to another stem, that twig or sprout will also grow to become like the main stem.

If you understand this, you will know how important the entire ceremony is today, on this first day of July.

By carrying out the ceremony which God, all religions, all nations and I have hoped for and by making this proclamation, all problems will be resolved centered on this standard from now on. Just as all creatures became what Adam called them in the beginning, everything I name or proclaim will also become so because I stand in unity with God's will and am in a position away from the opposing environment. This is True Parents' special right. ☩



True Parents: Humanity's Hope

True Mother said the following after her return to Korea from Switzerland, during hoondokhae at a 5.17 (June 14) celebration of her productive trip.

It's good to see you all after about twenty days. Did you miss me? Rev. Ryu just said that "True Mother is becoming younger, but we are sorry that we remain so old." That is why I developed a new way to help you maintain your health. Later, you will see a video that will show you what I have been doing. You should all learn what I have been doing through the video presentation and through Rev. Song Yong-cheon's report.

Chambumo Gyeong is at the very center of what I was trying to resolve. How can I describe Chambumo Gyeong? I came to the conclusion that I had to completely renew and reinforce what I had laid out in my mind. If Adam and Eve had not fallen, the True Parents would have emerged at that time centered on God. There was something that the omniscient and omnipotent God had to achieve. Yet, this did not come to pass because of humankind's mistake. I am sure you all know of this historical course through the Bible and through the word.

True Parents are what Heaven and humankind have desired and hoped for to this day. Of course, that Pyeong Hwa Gyeong and Cheon Seong Gyeong were formed centered on the word is important. However, the source is True Parents. Heaven endeavored throughout the years to restore fallen humankind. God carried out the providence of restoration through indemnity using the Israelites for four thousand years and restored a lineage untainted by the Fall. The birth of Jesus Christ, God's only-begotten son, achieved that. Would Heaven have only created his only-begotten son? God also created his only-begotten daughter.

With the birth of God's only-begotten son, providential history should have been fulfilled with God's only-begotten daughter. However, this was not fulfilled. That is why, before his death, Jesus Christ promised to return. The foundation of God's only-



begotten son remained intact. In light of that, what was the point of Heaven's providential history, Christianity's two-thousand-year providential history? Christianity was the religion that restored the bride. You must understand this. Through Jesus Christ, two thousand years ago, Heaven's providence led to the emergence of the True Parents and the formation of a national foundation. Through Rome, God cleared the path for this national foundation to expand to the world.

This time, I had the chance to see many famous mountains along the Alpine Range. I learned that historical missionaries had ventured to neighboring nations through the Alps. Didn't True Father speak about how the five nations were connected centered on the Alps? I saw with my own eyes the historic facts and evidence of those who paved the mission path beyond these mountains. Think about this. It is summer now, but snow still covers the summit. I was told that the Catholic Church had designated pilgrimage courses that pilgrims would traverse. What True Father had said came to my mind as I walked through those mountains. Didn't he deliver a speech about the Mongolian birth-

mark? I saw what the Mongolians, with complete devotion, had erected in those mountains. What do you think they prayed to Heaven for?

Recently, the situation in Korea has been very chaotic because of the Sae-wol Ferry sinking and the political landscape being in disarray. That is why I quietly departed Korea. I had also just sent out the special emissaries. I wanted to give them a chance to do something. I did not want to complicate things, so I left quietly. It was something of a 007 operation among my attendants. The queen's special emissaries were loyal. You should applaud.

I discussed many things with True Father. I promised that when I returned to Korea I would commence the compilation of Chambumo Gyeong and conclude it. The emergence of True Parents is Heavenly Parent's hope and humankind's hope. The True Parents did not pop up one day out of nowhere. You have to understand your history. You have to be aware of providential history, understand it theologically and be able to explain it. Chambumo Gyeong is a holy scripture that is perfect and faultless for humankind today. You cannot go to the spirit world without studying and reading Chambumo Gyeong. Among the three holy scriptures, Chambumo Gyeong is the most important. It is the source. I will take some time in contemplating how I will arrange, compile and put the finishing touches on this scripture. I will make it into a complete and perfect gem. Do you understand? I intend to make this scripture one that will transform those who encounter and read it, so that they revere Heaven, love True Parents and love humankind, and so that they receive strength to accelerate the manifestation of God's ideal for creation.

When you watched this video, didn't it mention that the ice on the Alps was formed millions of years ago? I entered and looked through underground ice caves that had formed in

this way. In 2010, it was more than ten-stories thick, but due to the ignorance of human beings and the damage they had caused, and perhaps because I was fatigued, it seemed as if I had to walk down twenty flights of stairs then. I remember that it was up thicker in 2010. Yet, four years later, it had melted. We were witnessing with our eyes what the scientists had predicted. The human population continues to increase, while the ocean surface continues to expand. If this happens, where can we live? It is a very serious issue. It pains my heart when I see these things.

If we had truly created that environment and foundation during True Father's lifetime, we wouldn't have to be worrying about these things. However, the earth is deteriorating each day and with the passing of each year. When you think about this and the future of the second and third generation of our beloved blessed families, what do you think we should do? The only way is to let people know about the True Parents. You have to make them realize that True Parents' wish is their wish and humanity's wish. That is the only way. Do you understand? It is a serious matter. I called Sun Moon University professors and other people today. After this session, I will tell them more concretely about this issue and have


them move in that direction.

I was briefed every day about what you were doing. There are so many places and environments throughout the world that await our caress. When we think about this, you must realize that it is not just about you; rather, you must raise many children to be your successors and that can carry on, as you have, to the next generation. I ask that you make effort in obtaining the best results by drawing from your wisdom and all aspects of your careers.

In conclusion, as God's homeland, and as True Parents' land, which is humankind's origin, this nation must stand tall in the world. Doing well in politics will not achieve that. Becoming a rich nation where companies make a lot of money will not cause that to happen. This nation, the homeland, must become the root of people's heart and the root of their original minds. We must create a nation people want to visit. That is why I believe Korea should systematically develop a plan for tourism. It should not randomly promote tourism but develop tourism while looking decades ahead. We must do this. We should make Korea a place that the people of the world can come to, view its beauty, and meet and be educated by True Parents, who are the center of heart.

Isn't Switzerland the premier na-

tion in the world when it comes to tourism today? The Swiss did their best, despite their poor surroundings, to become what it is today. It was through prophet-like people that Switzerland looked to the future and began to develop (for example) a train that went vertically up to the tip of a mountain, or installed a cable car. I saw the power and the fruit of the efforts of human beings that surpass our imagination. Compared to Switzerland, Korea does not have many tall mountains. Yet, Korea does have many mountains. The temperature is gradually rising due to global warming. Yet, how wonderful would it be if we could cultivate our surroundings, for example, the mountains visible around Cheon Jeong Gung! While gazing from Cheon Jeong Gung, True Father said, "Place a cable car on that mountain; make a coffee shop on that mountain." Looking to the future, True Father showed us the way for Korea to survive in the world. Do you understand?

That is why you should do your best in witnessing and harvest the people that are prepared by Heaven. I believe there are many talented people through whom we can pioneer the future and build a beautiful future homeland. That is why I sincerely ask you to become good guides that can cultivate Korea, God's homeland, into a beautiful and flawless nation. 



Pastors and other members from around Korea came to welcome True Mother home from Switzerland.







I Have High Expectations for You

Do you know the name of this flower? Peony. This is the first time I've actually smelled the scent; it emits a fragrance. This flower originates in China but I heard it also grows in Korea and Siberia. This is indeed a strong flower. Yet, this flower symbolizes shyness and femininity.

This flower is big and beautiful and it blooms in the spring. People consider the root of this flower great medicine. There are better flowers for women depending on the color, but

generally, it is a good flower for all people. That is why True Father loved this flower. Tree peonies are the big flowers that bloom before peonies. Once the tree peonies wither, the peonies then bloom. They are both from the same flower family.

Peony root is expensive medicine. However, I do not dig out the roots every year; I leave them for the future. I wanted to give the flowers a chance. I heard that it may start raining in the evening on the weekend and was sad that they may wither then; which is

why I have set this time for you.

Is studying difficult? Saying so is not acceptable in your case. Look at how great an environment you are in. You have come from different countries; I am sure there are beautiful sights in each of your countries. This is a special place. Are you aware of that? That you can study here is truly a miracle and historic. You will be carrying out activities after graduating. Please, be proud of yourselves. You are children attending True Parents. You are different.



This is what True Mother said to the first and second groups of students to enter Universal Peace Academy, fifty-three students in all, on 4.26 on the heavenly calendar (May 24) in Cheongpyeong at Azalea Park, near the Cheongshim Graduate School.

Originally, our Heavenly Parent had hope when he created the world, right? He had a purpose. God was happy when he created the creation and Adam and Eve and saw that they were good. However, in order to greatly bless humankind, he gave them responsibilities. Did they fulfill those responsibilities, or not? Because they failed to fulfill them, humans ended up becoming beings with no relationship to God. This is the state of today's humanity.

The different countries in the world each has its own laws. If you do not keep the laws of your country, you end up in prison, right? Humanity today is living within a prison of satanic laws. Hence, for the terms, "True Parents," "the blessing" and "blessed families," to emerge after six thousand years is most revolutionary. Do you understand that? There are still many people out there in the world that do not know True Parents.

People still don't know how precious True Parents are and that they must meet them and attend them at all cost. We are the only ones that understand this. We have the most precious thing with us. However, is it okay for us alone to be happy? We should share it. We should let people know of it. This is the mission you will have in the future. Are you confident that you can do it? [Yes]


This also can be seen in Christian history. How many teachings did Jesus leave? Not many. Even though the Christian area of distribution has not included the whole world throughout the two thousand years of its history, the nations that are leading the world today grew within the Christian cultural sphere.

Their hope was to welcome the returning Lord. They believed that once they met the Lord in his second advent, coming down on the

clouds, everything would immediately change. However, they were not aware that indemnity existed in human history, which had gone wrong from the start. The laws of the satanic realm blocked it. Yet, haven't the True Parents achieved the realm of liberation and complete freedom? This is indeed a miracle. Our Heavenly Parent waited for True Parents for six thousand years.

Even though they were unaware of it, all human beings have also been waiting for them. The four major religions today are an expression of this hope in general terms. These religions taught how to live in the process, but they did not reveal the fundamental truth, which is why we have a great truth—not only to become True Parents' children, but to realize the nation and world that our Heavenly Parent and humanity have hoped for. Are you aware of how great a blessing, hope and miracle this is? Therefore, can you stand still?

For this reason, what did I ask blessed families around the world to do? I have told them to rise and let others know that True Parents have come. An ignorant person can neither develop nor reach perfection. They have to be taught. This responsibility falls on you. How great is this work? Are you proud of it? My hope in you is great. Please do not collapse because your immediate reality is difficult. Let's say a thousand people, a nation, can be immediately restored through you; wouldn't you be great champions, people that had succeeded and people that would be remembered by Heaven? Do you understand?

Please study hard and offer conditions with the heart that you will help the seven billion people in the world become aware of this. Please think of it in this way. 

What did I say in the joint worship service last Sunday? Today, instead of hearing joyful news around us, we hear depressing news, about incidents that we wish did not happen around the world. Such incidents are happening in great numbers. There are also natural disasters happening in many places around the world, but we still see religious conflicts, ideological conflicts, territorial conflicts and other conflicts happening. Why do you think God is just calmly looking at the world?





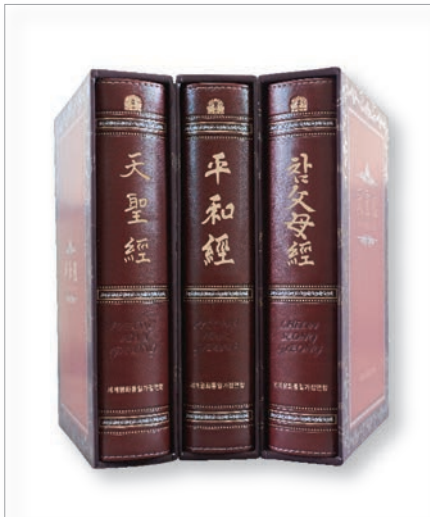
The Project to Bequeath and Compile the Cheon Il Guk Scripture Volumes

By Lee Jae-seok

The vice-chairman of the Cheon Il Guk Scripture Compilation Committee provided this article, on how the compilation of the Cheon Il Guk scripture volumes progressed and his personal experiences in the undertaking.



Rev. Lee Jae-seok checking for errors in the process of compiling the scripture volumes



I pioneered in the early days. I was a minister for ten years, carried out interdenominational and interreligious activities for twenty-five years, served as the Korean national leader for five years and worked as the national messiah to China. Recently, I have dedicated myself to the compilation of *Cheon Seong Gyeong*, *Pyehong Hwa Gyeong*, and the *Chambumo Gyeong* as the vice-chairman of the Cheon Il Guk scriptures Compilation Committee, and I would like to freshly arouse members' attention to the revelation and words I have received from True Father.

Foundation Day was the starting point of Cheon Il Guk and marked the great shift from the pioneering wilderness era to the Cheon Il Guk era of settlement. The history of the development of religions shows how a new religion passes through a pioneering period and systemizes its identity and tradition in order to enter a settlement period and become a traditional religion. Accordingly, the scripture compilation project that True Mother is leading is a truly phenomenal blessing, stemming from True Mother's keen insight and discerning eye. Our church scripture, which is a compilation of True Par-

ents' teachings, their lives and their achievements, is composed of *Cheon Seong Gyeong*, *Pyeong Hwa Gyeong* and *Chambumo Gyeong*.

The first-generation members that lived with True Parents since the early days of our church have compiled the scripture, which will become the eternal standard of all churches and of our entire existence. This time is an incomparable, unique period in which the legacy of our faith is being formed and the historic existence and identity of our church established. It is a time when the scripture, the eternal standard of our church, will be compiled, becoming a legacy of faith for every single moment in the future. Hence, these are holy books for our church.

The scripture, the standard of eternal life, came to be created in accordance with True Parents' instructions. We have received words of salvation from God and True Parents. The purpose of this compilation is to enable us to preserve and digest this standard as our own and to help us understand these teachings in depth.

The scripture will form the founding elements of our church and as the eternal standard of our life of faith will enable the church to continually exist and to be brought to life. Hence, the scripture is the eternal foundation of the church, a standard for living, a legacy of faith, and the way to the establishment and completion of Cheon Il Guk.

Significance of scripture compilation

Bequeathing is handing over and conveying by the church the words of salvation through living faith, conveying God's word to humanity based on that and enabling such actual salvation to be maintained. The actual salvation and words of salvation achieved within True Parents can be seen as the living faith of the church. By passing this down, this living faith will continuously be revealed and become reality.

Bequeathing is not just about passing down True Parents' teachings alone, but also their achievements, the experiences we obtained from our humanistic relationship or life with True Parents, the mystique felt from a close relationship of love with God and True Parents and everything that we came to newly understand spiritually.



A recent photo of Rev. Lee Jae-seok

This means conveying all aspects of actual salvation starting from believing, loving, practicing and actually living it. Hence, it is about conveying True Parents' teachings and work, what we experienced from living with them and what we learned under God's grace through sermons, an exemplary life and a system.

Our church's scripture compilation project has recorded True Parents' teachings and lives and their work and is passing these on to our future descendants. It signifies not only that which was learned by the first generation elder members from their lives lived with True Parents in the early

days, our faith and its practice and doctrinal teachings but everything including all the various ceremonies, behavioral norms, experiences and other aspects of our church. Narrowly speaking, it signifies our teachings and their practice passed down from the initial church community in the early days.

As the embodiment of God, True Parents have come as the perfected beings of the word and as the mediator between God and man. The word of God achieved within True Parents is the word of salvation that must be declared and conveyed in every era and to every person. First-generation mem-



Rev. Lee Jae-seok (top left) in a Chambumo Gyeong compilation committee meeting

bers have carried out a special mission in order to convey this revelation.

Their very lives are proof of the existence of the revelation from God that has been achieved within True Parents. The message they declare reveals their experiences with True Parents. The special experiences of our core community of elder first-generation members regarding True Parents is the standard for all experience of faith that all generations hold. In this way, our legacy of faith has been formed. Therefore, one should not wait for revelation in another form. All things have been realized within True Parents since everything formed from the lives and faith of followers who experienced True Parents are being conveyed to humanity.

Accordingly, as a unique period, the stage of the early church was one in which the historical existence and identity of our church was established. Here, the teachings that are to become eternal standards of church life have been recorded for every single moment in the future and our legacy of faith has been formed. Hence, this legacy of faith passed on to us by True Parents and elder members contains not only verbal and written teachings but also diverse aspects of actual salvation, experiences of faith and an understanding of them.

Thanks to True Mother's bequeathal project, *Cheon Seong Gyeong* and *Pyeong Hwa Gyeong*, a compilation of True Parents' quotations and

teachings, have been published. Now, *Chambumo Gyeong*, the third volume of the Cheon Il Guk scripture, which will convey True Parents' noble lives, is being compiled. This bequeathal project is a great religious act that compiles True Parents' teachings and their historical legacy of faith for us in order to create a broad and level road upon which all people of all ages can go to Cheon Il Guk.

Revelations I received

On 7.5 in the second year of the heavenly calendar (August 22, 2012), True Mother summoned some early first-generation members. She earnestly explained the need to compile scriptures that contain the teachings, lives and work of True Parents and instructed that the bequeathal project to offer praise and glory to our Heavenly Parent and True Father start immediately. She asked Chairman Kim Young-hwi to take charge of the project to compile the Cheon Il Guk scripture.

In response to the very urgent mission from True Mother, we immediately held a compilation committee preparation meeting at which Kim Young-hwi was appointed chairman and I was appointed vice-chairman, with Kim Seok-byeong, the director of the FFWPU History Compilation Committee, overseeing all tasks connected to the compilation. The compilation of the Cheon Il Guk scripture is the work of compiling True Parents' teachings, lives and work in *Cheon*

Seong Gyeong, *Pyeong Hwa Gyeong* and *Chambumo Gyeong*. The very first of the scripture texts to be compiled was the *Cheon Seong Gyeong*.

The first workshop to read and review the content that had been selected from the vast amount of True Parents' speeches began in Onyang, on October 26, 2012. During this workshop a discussion about the editing of the (chapter) Book of True Parents' Prayers began. We discussed reducing True Father's prayer when needed, but we couldn't come to a conclusion.

I lay down to sleep worrying about choosing important and heart-moving material. While half-asleep, I heard True Father's loud voice, saying, "You!" I sprang to my feet and said, "I am deeply sorry." Then I looked at the time. It was two o'clock in the morning. Father said, "Why are you fiddling about with the prayers? Just publish them as is!" Once again I said, "I am deeply sorry." I then repented and offered a prayer. As soon as the morning meeting began the next day, we discussed the problem again and a unanimous decision was made to publish the prayers in full. This was the first time I was scolded by True Father since the compilation project started.

On December 29, 2012, I was walking from Seoul Station to the Korean headquarters to attend the *Cheon Seong Gyeong* revised version compilation editorial committee meeting that was to begin on the eighth floor at ten o'clock.

I heard a loud voice above my head that said, "Why are you becoming a bystander?" At that moment tears starting pouring from my eyes and I automatically stopped in my tracks. Again I heard the voice, saying, "Don't be an onlooker!" I said, "God I have done wrong. Please forgive me. I will be more proactive in my life." With this determination, I started walking again thinking, "But, God, I retired and am eighty years old. What can I, who is inadequate, do?" I heard "Don't beat yourself up!" At that moment, tears starting pouring from my eyes again and I again stopped in my tracks. I looked far and wide and said repeatedly, "God, thank you!"

Then God's voice arose in my

mind, "Think about your life. You see yourself as someone very inadequate; however, do you think you would be able to relive the life you have led if you were told to?"

"Oh, no I couldn't."

"Then do you really think that you've led, to this moment, your life, which you feel has been difficult, under your strength alone?"

"No. My life has been led by True Parents and the grace of God."

"Then what are you worried about? Weren't you able to overcome all difficulties because of my guidance and True Parents' help? Why do you feel that you are lacking?"

"You are right. I made a mistake. I will live proactively." I arrived at the headquarters with a spring in my step after having been deeply touched by God.

The workshop to review the edited material of the *Chambumo Gyeong* lasted a week and took place at Muchangpo Beach Palace Condo starting from 12.16 of the first year of Cheon Il Guk (January 16, 2014). It was very difficult for me, an eighty-two-year-old, to keep up with the twelve-hour sessions of reading the *Chambumo Gyeong* abstract. I endured for three days; after that, I only did eight hours a day. I felt very sorry to my fellow compilation committee members. I had reached my physical limits.

Also, the *Chambumo Gyeong* was compiled with the True Parents' messages, however, because those messages included material that is in the autobiography, True Parents' life course and church history, it wasn't easy to differentiate it from other texts. So I prayed to our Heavenly Parent at 5 pm on 12.21 by the heavenly calendar. I prayed, "I feel that I have reached a limit in my ability and strength. Now, I would simply like to live comfortably in attendance of you, Heavenly Parent." Then I heard a loud shocking voice, "Have you forgotten your mother's suicide? Don't let her death be in vain!" I immediately said, "God, I have done wrong. I will not be a bystander but will proactively take part."

My mother committed suicide in 1969. In 1956, I was in my third year

of university when I quit school to join the church. The following year, I went out pioneer witnessing. The year I turned five, my father died and my mother, who was twenty-four years old at the time, raised her children—a son and two daughters with utter devotion. My mother had high expectations of me. When I suddenly joined the church and went out pioneer witnessing, my mother felt as if the world had collapsed and experienced great despair. Yet, she joined the church following in my footsteps and had to watch me go through much difficulty for fourteen years without any indication or hope of seeing improvement in my living conditions. She began to lose hope. To make things worse, her migraines and diabetes got worse and she had to frequent the hospital.

One day her doctor said, "Do you have any children? Why do you always come alone?" When she said, "I have a son." The doctor said, "You have such an unfilial son?" My mother was in the midst of despair and losing all hope. What the doctor said was the last straw. Unexpectedly, she told me, "I will visit my hometown," and went down to my uncle's. There, she took all her migraine and diabetes medicine at once and left this world.

That night while I was praying, I heard the shocking warning, "You have the same ups and downs as your mother did. Do you think it is okay for you to let yourself become weak and hesitant? That is just causing your mother's death to have been in vain."

I revered our Heavenly Parent and True Parents for their keen attention to the scripture compilation and their direct involvement in it. I pulled myself together and determined to live upright, saying, "Heavenly Parent and True Parents, thank you! I am completely moved to tears in gratitude for the unlimited grace and love you have shown me. I will do my best until the very end."

Responsible scripture compilation

The compilation of the scriptures is receiving and inheriting True Parents' teachings, their lives and work. These scriptures will guide all people to make True Parents' teachings their

own, to live in the word and to become the embodiment or manifestation of the word, so that all are able to live in true love just as True Parents do. Opening the path to individual perfection for all, this scripture is nothing less than a splendid achievement.

In the future, the three scriptures should be read and their messages engraved into our minds; we should pray and meditate to feel the word in our hearts; we need repetitive training and education to practice the word and for it to become part of us. By fulfilling individual perfection, family perfection and our mission as tribal messiahs, we can then settle down as Cheon Il Guk people.

In the pioneering wilderness era, we yearned for Cheon Il Guk and invested everything at the risk of our lives, practicing the word with the aim to enter Cheon Il Guk. However, in order for those that have registered in Cheon Il Guk to finally settle, it is essential that we move into the era through which the individual settles after reaching individual perfection, the family settles after it perfects the four great loves and the tribal messiah settles by investing everything at the risk of one's life and through a life of practice.

The compilation of *Cheon Seong Gyeong*, *Pyeong Hwa Gyeong* and *Chambumo Gyeong* has a very important, historic significance. This is because this project is providential and revolutionary; it is a great transformational signal for our community, which teaches the word for the completion of Cheon Il Guk. Once again, I would like to express my gratitude to True Parents for bestowing upon us precious love and words of truth and life.

Starting now, we must educate about and practice the word within the scripture volumes that have been given to us and thereby change into individuals embodying true love; the family should train itself in the four loves and form the kingdom of heaven within the family; then tribal messiahs should fulfill their mission to spread the kingdom of heaven from within their families to the tribe. Let us all gravely resolve to become forerunners in the completion and settlement of Cheon Il Guk. ☯

Brazil's Quest for Explosive Church Growth

By Sasaki Koichi

Brazil has been carrying out witnessing activities through small groups and person-to-person lectures for the restoration of their nation by 2020. We hope to see explosive witnessing results through these activities. This article includes examples and methods. Rev. Sasaki is the national leader of Brazil.

Recently, we are beginning to see the effects of person-to-person Divine Principle lecturing and the *oikos* witnessing method on our home group activities in Brazil. (*Oikos* is Greek for “house” or “home.” We adopted the method from Christians. The *oikos* approach emphasizes developing solid relationships with people that you naturally encounter—neighbors, fellow club members, etc., before introducing one’s religious beliefs.) Members are rediscovering hope that they can succeed in witnessing.

FFWPU Brazil conducted research for three and a half years on how best to conduct activities. This research helps a large church focus on its role, while small groups are encouraged to concentrate on resolving issues that the larger church cannot handle. Hence, Brazil has been working to build an ideal framework within which large churches and small groups enter into a mutually beneficial relationship.

The family kingdom of heaven

FFWPU-Brazil calls its hoondok family churches “home groups” based on these quotations from Father and others on family church:

“Family church’ is a term that originated in the Garden of Eden.”

“The origin of family church begins is the complete unity of unfallen Adam and Eve centered on God in the Garden of Eden.”

“Family church, which could not be achieved in the Garden of Eden, went through many diverse historical ages and after going through



Desiring that knowledge of True Parents spreads throughout Brazil, many members attend a seminar on small groups.

the necessary sacrifices, the door to family church finally opened in Rev. Moon’s time.”

Home groups first aim at enabling the members of each family to establish the kingdom of heaven in their lives. Each of these families will practice the basic elements of life in the kingdom of heaven, such as living a life of gratitude and repentance. The first task, however, is to resolve resentment over past experiences and hurt feelings that have accumulated in one’s heart. For different reasons, in the course of leading their lives of faith, some members end up feeling resentful toward the church. Hence, the church in Brazil has strengthened internal education so that by gaining victory through love in home group

activities, members can learn how to divest themselves of their resentment.

The next thing that is emphasized is internal witnessing; that is, witnessing first to oneself and to our own fellow home group members. Before witnessing to others, we guide home group members to work on changing themselves. Once our members in the home group become one and the group overflows with love, witnessing to outsiders (external witnessing) will naturally develop.

Victoriously overcoming the Cain–Abel relationship through love within the church is training for couples in resolving any problems or conflicts that may occur between them later. To the extent of their success at this, they will also be able to develop the capac-

ity to resolve parent-child problems. Furthermore, such success in love will enable members (once they reach the stage of witnessing to outsiders) to develop their capacity to love, as spiritual parents, those in the Cain-position and to induce those in the Cain-position to naturally surrender. Home group activities have been structured so that members can be trained and grow in these four aspects at the same time.

Through seminars and presentations on the vision of how home groups can multiply, we guide members not to regard home group activi-

ence change within themselves and development of their love. A husband or wife that struggles for a long time, generally tries to change the other partner and may end up feeling worn out when they see no change in the other. It is no easy feat to change someone or to even change oneself.

When one grows a level higher by changing oneself, the person can create an opportunity for his or her partner to change. It is not a matter of the problem being with one's partner, because the situation changes once one's own love grows. That is why members in home groups are carrying out

husband for fourteen years could finally move her husband's heart and they were able to receive the blessing. Such testimonies abound. Someone that had succeeded at expanding a home group to the third level (from one group to two, two to four and four to eight) had tried to witness to his relatives as part of his tribal messiah activities for the past ten or so years without much result. Thanks to home group activities, the person was successful at witnessing to his relatives in his neighborhood.

A wife that was successful at expanding her home group to level two said she could not love her husband for a few years because whenever she would go home, he would always be lying down and watching television until late at night, not even raising a finger to help with the housework, resulting in frequent fights. When she tried to fulfill her weekly goal she realized that the problem might not be with her husband but with herself.

After she started home group activities, she concentrated on the goal of having dominion over herself first. She realized that the problem might be with her and not her husband and tried to remove her fallen nature and develop her love. After a certain time, she experienced a turning point through which she overcame her difficulty and felt heavenly love enter her heart. Her husband, who was lying on the sofa watching TV as usual, looked unbearably lovely in her eyes. Later, her husband suddenly lost his desire to watch TV and would do chores such as washing the dishes without even being asked to.

There were other families that saw positive changes through home groups. Once a "bowl of love" developed as these families carried out home group activities many distant church members started coming back. Within a period of less than a year, around 120 people had returned. We realized that even if some people have difficulties going to church, the number of people coming to home groups wasn't small. Through such home group activities, the basic structure and culture of our church has changed. A culture of the heart through which one yearns for one's brothers and sisters centered on our Heavenly Parent has formed.



Rev. Sasaki's wife Choi Ok-nan (seated) with a small group that is active in Brazil.

ties merely as a witnessing system or another new activity but to see it as a means to also achieve individual perfection; we teach them that carrying out home group activities requires conviction and determination. During these seminars, individual perfection and the significance of the public course as they appear in Divine Principle are interpreted in light of home groups. We guide blessed families to carry out activities, setting up detailed goals in areas such as unity between the husband and wife and the education of their children.

Changing oneself is important

Witnessing works well in home groups not because it is a great system. Instead, witnessing works when members of the home group experi-

activities with the slogan, "Change myself first." If a partner overcomes a part of his or her personality that has been a problem in the struggling relationship between the couple, the buoyance resulting from this victory will raise the other partner, enabling him or her to easily gain victory too. In contrast, when the partner fails to change and shows fallen nature, this may trigger more fallen nature from the other partner. Instead of trying to change the partner, focus on changing oneself; by doing that, the partner will also change. Even if the partner is not a church member, repeating this process several times can move the partner to join the church.

Many people practiced this through their home group activities—a wife who could not witness to her

Home groups and lecturing

With an increasing number of people seeing success in love within their home groups, members across Brazil are becoming more motivated to witness. Through person-to-person lectures using *Exposition of Divine Principle*, regular members are also becoming Divine Principle lecturers. We have heard of mass production but not much about mass restoration. Even though the ability of members giving a person-to-person lecture may not be the same as that of full-time lecturers in workshop centers, they can restore the one person by reading the Divine Principle carefully. Hence, if everyone were doing this, there would be as many Divine Principle lecturers as the number of members across the nation and Divine Principle lectures would be given every day in Brazil even during periods without workshops. Furthermore, members that mainly sent people to workshops during mobilizations, would have the opportunity to raise their spiritual children personally.

Another benefit is that achieving the home group goal of gaining dominion over oneself is closely connected to victory in witnessing. One advantage of witnessing through a one-on-one lecture is that the lecturing time spent to make the target person into a church member is also the time through which the person is fostered into a new Divine Principle lecturer. If the person that is being witnessed to becomes a member after reading the whole book, he or she, as a new lecturer, can witness to another person in the same manner. Of course, we cannot say that all members that are witnessed to become person-to-person lecturers. Yet, since the new member spends around thirty hours with one's spiritual parent in order to read the Divine Principle from the beginning to end, he or she would be familiar with the method and would know that they can implement the same method when witnessing to another person. In contrast, it is not common to see participants who have just completed a Divine Principle workshop immediately become Divine Principle lecturers.

The time needed to finish the whole book through person-to-person lectures may differ among peo-



Members of two Brazilian home groups, named Star and Heart



A person-to-person lecture involves taking turns reading *Exposition of Divine Principle*.

ple, but it usually takes between two to three months, or at times six months. Let us assume that the whole book is read within three months. If five hundred people were witness to another five hundred people taking three months to restore them, the same length of time would be need for a thousand people to witness to another thousand people through person-to-person lectures. Even if the number of target people increases, the time it takes to witness to them would be the same. Hence, no matter what nation it may be, once the person-to-person lecture tradition is established, since the spiritual child has the capacity to lecture and several cycles of the process are possible in a year, the potential exists for explosive growth over time.

A phenomenon that has occurred through person-to-person lectures in Brazil is that the spiritual parents themselves feel resurrected and feel the urge to witness of their own volition. In other words, by lecturing to

one's spiritual children individually, the spiritual parents themselves read as much and feel resurrected as a result. Furthermore, because they read it with their spiritual children, they experience God's earnest love and work of salvation, unlike when they read it alone. In addition, whenever there is a question, the spiritual parent can write it down immediately on the relevant page of *Exposition of Divine Principle* and this will become a unique lecture outline for that spiritual parent. After lecturing in this style once or twice, most members become confident in giving lectures. Some people educate their own children on a person-to-person level. Testimonies about how both parents and children have been deeply moved from the very first day, shedding tears as they read the Divine Principle, have also been given.

Oikos (life-sphere witnessing)

Oikos witnessing implies witnessing within the sphere of one's life and



Left: A Home Group Festival
Right: (in suits, left to right) Shin Dong-mo, regional president, South America; Neudir Simão Ferabolli, Latin America, UPF secretary-general; and Sasaki Koichi, national leader, FFWPU-Brazil

witnessing to one's connections. In other words, not going somewhere distant to witness to someone you don't know but regarding all those in one's life as people to witness to and living accordingly. In order to do that, a member should be able to continuously invest in people around him or her and be dedicated to each step of the process—first becoming an affectionate friend; second, gaining trust and respect, thus developing a close friendship and finally being someone in whom others can confide and from whom others seek advice.

Unlike the method of going somewhere outside one's sphere and meeting that one person guided by God amidst a crowd on the street, this method starts from the idea of loving people within one's own sphere and becoming a person that they acknowledge. If a home group fulfilled its weekly goal and the spiritual parents grew, witnessing within their spheres would be easy. By overcoming one's difficulty, one can help those who are

still in that boat, making it possible to witness to them.

To realize Vision 2020

Chances for experiencing explosive witnessing results are higher when three elements—hoondok family churches, person-to-person teaching and *oikos* witnessing—are being done concurrently. Being in a home group helps members heal internally; members will also learn how to witness to themselves and those within the group and how to overcome one challenge after another, enabling home group members to increase their capacity to love and be happy. When this happens, those in the neighborhood will find the small groups appealing. Based on this foundation, home group members would love those connected to them in life or through *oikos* witnessing and the home group would be able to play the role of an institution that raises those people that become connected through a person-to-person lectures.

When this takes place, it is ideal.

If the witnessing goal is set at a thousand people per year, achieving it would result in only thirty thousand more members after thirty years. This pace, however, is too slow, and it won't be possible to have any influence on the national level. Hence, instead of setting up a goal of restoring a certain number of people per year, the church in Brazil focuses on how to bring about explosive witnessing even if it takes some time. Once home groups and person-to-person teaching is firmly established, countries with many members will see quick growth.

Brazil is still at the beginning phase of this development and still needs to work on maintaining continuous growth such as by developing intensive education for those who join the church after being witnessed to. We will do everything in our might to live up to the expectations of the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind. *TP*

Finding New Ways to Reach People in Costa Rica

By Daisy Salas

As nations strive to bring about significant growth in their churches, they are making fundamental changes. This article covers three changes in the approach and mind-set toward witnessing being implemented in a Central American nation.

The Costa Rican church introduced the person-to-person method of Divine Principle teaching as a witnessing approach last year with the arrival of Rev. Seo Sung-jong, whom True Mother sent in 2013 as a Cheon Il Guk special envoy. The first stage of the national providence's transition toward Vision 2020 occurred when the members were taught about home groups, the person-to-person teaching system¹ and the *oikos*² witnessing method.

Although adapting to changes hasn't been easy during the first quarter of this year, thirty-four people were teaching Divine Principle under this practice. The main feature in boosting the effectiveness of the teaching is the personal contact.

During the previous ten years, our Adam-nation national messiah, Rev Kim Joong-soo, developed a providential project to introduce True Parents through Telepaz, a national television broadcasting system, on channel 52. Eighty-five percent of the members accepted True Parents through the Divine Principle lectures broadcasted by Telepaz TV. About a thousand people came to the national headquarters over the years to buy the book and prerecorded lectures. One-, three- and seven-day Divine Principle workshops were frequently announced on Channel 52 in order to attract new people who could become members. Actually, through-

out those activities, more than eighty TV viewers attended a workshop. Although we invited international and national renowned lecturers like Ricardo Ayerza, Ricardo de Sena, Fernando Barrantes, Alexander Lopez and Daisy Salas, the effort has not translated into a significant increase of members; only 10 percent of those people continued attending our movement after the programs.

With the arrival of a new era and the need for each person to become a true owner of the Cheon Il Guk, Costa Rica took the first steps toward a new vision. In 2012, after True Father's ascension, a workshop about the vision of home groups, person-to-person teaching and the *oikos* wit-

nessing system was taught by Rev. Seo for the first time in our country. The program inspired some people with its way of organizing the life of faith and the spiritual growth of the members. When Rev. Seo arrived in Costa Rica in April 2013 as the Cheon Il Guk special envoy, he carried firm determination to expand the Vision 2020 Project nationwide and beyond our borders, as requested of him by the regional headquarters. Soon after Rev. Seo's arrival, a Cheon Il Guk Latin American Leaders Convention was organized at the central office in San José City from May 5 to May 7 (3.24–26 on the heavenly calendar).

The broadcasting of thirty-three hours of Divine Principle lectures using the person-to-person teaching



Rev. Seo giving a person-to-person lecture

1. A member reads the red part; a newcomer listens, asks questions when necessary and then reads the blue part.

2. The word is Greek for "family." The "method" is to treat everyone in a friendly manner and when an opportunity arises to invite a person you have developed a friendly relationship with to your to your home group.

method, along with the seminars held during 2013 in five of seven states—San José, Heredia, Cartago, Alajuela and Limón—have encouraged a significant number of members to take up person-to-person lecturing. Viewers of Channel 52 also wished to attend a seminar and many of them requested colored Divine Principle books. During this first year, the foundation of a new paradigm has been established, which feeds a system that provides support to the reorganization of True Parents' movement nationwide.

All these initiatives were carried out with two hundred of the tri-colored version of *Exposition of Divine Principle*, acquired by members motivated to become lecturers. Soon after, many other people asked for the book. This situation placed Costa Rica on a higher level of providential development.

Currently, the one-day Divine Principle workshops announced by Telepaz TV are aimed at finding and educating new candidates to become person-to-person lecturers. This task is done by gathering people beforehand that wish to become Divine Principle teachers or who are already experienced in teaching the Divine Principle in the region where the workshop is going to take place.


The activity for a particular region is planned with those motivated to carry it out. We design the program with the characteristics of the region in mind, preparing to monitor and care for the socially-prominent guests and following the educational standard set up by Rev. Seo for the new members. The educators who are most enthusiastic about person-to-person teaching adapted their time and pace to the characteristics of each guest, gradually building a relationship of trust and heart.

On March 30, 2014, a workshop for person-to-person lecturers was attended by thirty-four people who teach Divine Principle using this system. The goal for this year is to educate at least twelve members, each one of them with the goal of teaching at least a Divine Principle workshop per month, plus twenty-one members to teach at least a Divine Principle workshop every three months and forty more members to do it every six or twelve months.

Our main nationwide activities are focused on the person-to-person witnessing, home groups and *oikos* activities. The headquarters facilities were remodeled to create an adequate space for the person-to-person Divine Principle lectures. There are four rooms spe-

cially arranged by Korean, Japanese, Brazilian and local members; however, the central building is used almost entirely to lecture on weekends.

After a short time, we could already enjoy positive results at the national level produced using this system to organize our church development activities. Results have already appeared in the national providence, through the multiplication of home groups for the Victory of Vision 2020 using socially prominent people as lecturers. We have experienced an expansion of membership. With the recent arrival of two thousand colored Divine Principle books, supplied by the international headquarters, a new era will begin for the person-to-person lecturing method in our country, starting from May.

A convention that brought together leaders from Latin American countries was celebrated in Costa Rica May 9–11, with the purpose of conducting in-depth analysis of home groups, person-to-person Divine Principle lecturing and the *oikos* witnessing system. We sincerely hope that many more members join in building the culture of Cheon Il Guk, contributing to the development of the providence toward the fulfillment of Vision 2020, as expected by our True Mother. 



A person-to-person lecture training graduate



The writer (right) giving a person-to-person lecture

My Spirit Will Forever Be a Missionary in Palau

By Matsuyama Tatsuya

A forty-day special workshop for the second batch of Cheon Il Guk missionaries was held in the Tokyo area from April 7 to May 17. Around sixty missionary candidates from all over Japan came to the workshop. The theme of the workshop was “Let us inherit our Heavenly Parent’s true love and become leaders in the establishment of Cheon Il Guk!” The young missionaries drew their mission countries at the beginning of the second half of the workshop, which gave that portion a stronger focus. From that point, they engaged in language instruction and other training for their future missions. Here, we present a testimony from a first-batch missionary who found success on a Pacific island. He shares a happy, heart-warming report on finding three spiritual children through the conviction of the Principle’s greatness and its life-saving strength in Palau, where 65 percent of the population believes in Christianity.

Palau is an island nation that lies close to the equator, so the weather is always stifling. People are relaxed and calm, possibly due to the climate. The island is small as is the population of twenty thousand people. However, if you gaze into the ocean, you will come to think that this place is truly God’s artwork. It could never be expressed with only the word, “blue.” The view is as magnificent as if a sapphire gem were embedded in every nook and cranny of the ocean. Based on this view alone, you cannot deny God’s love. Although the Pacific Ocean still shows signs of battle, it is well-known that Palau’s relationship with Japan is friendly.

Change in values and in perspective

I have been on the path of a missionary in this country for seven months. In my life, it has been an experience as valuable as treasure. When I came here from Japan, the culture, language, habits, climate—every condition in this lifestyle of a completely different country—has not been easy. During this experience, religion left the strongest impression on me. The majority of Palau citizens believe in Christianity. Therefore, though the island is small, church signs are all over the place. Even now, a majority of the people are waiting for the Second Coming of the Messiah.

In Palau, for the first time, I attended the worship service of a Christian church. When I entered the church, I saw a huge stained-glass



Three young Palauan men came to know True Parents through the author’s efforts.

image of a shining Jesus. For two thousand years, many people have believed in the words, “I will come again!” and waited for a person they had never met. Christianity has been through sacrifice and suffering and occasionally there have been those who have given up their lives to protect the faith. As a missionary, being in that position, I felt self-respect and responsibility, and I had a strong desire to tell those people that the Messiah is here. Knowing the history of the past two thousand years and being able to live in these times, I was completely moved to tears of gratitude and happiness. At the same time, I realized that my mission was to create heaven on earth in Palau. Therefore, I was strongly determined.

However, witnessing is not easy because the people of Palau have a very solid Christian faith and they do not throw away their old customs and

concepts. They consider it natural for everyone to be affiliated with a church, and because the island people have the habit of using the unusual heat as an excuse to regard everything as tiresome, they rarely move their bodies. They are extremely kind and feel like family, but there have been times when they promise things or say things and do not keep their word. Therefore, it is very difficult to arrange meetings and actually meet. From a religious standpoint, I thought it was very strange.

In the beginning, I worried a lot about revealing my being a missionary because I had experienced people suddenly changing their expression and leaving their seats when I brought up the issue of religion or church in Japan. Thus, I was hesitant because I was concerned people would consider me strange. One day, a possible witnessing candidate and

some other people were gathered in some place, however, another missionary's witnessing candidate pointed at me and said, "You're a missionary, right?" I could not lie, so I answered, "Yes!" After that, different people shot many questions at me, "Do you believe in Jesus? What church do you attend?"

From all of the intimidating thoughts inside of me, a liberating confidence arose. I thought, "Yes. I am a missionary. I have to go out confidently." Determination and confidence soared inside of me. At that time I felt, "Religion is a natural thing. If I don't have that, then what am I going to do?" I realized, "I had thought people are biased against religion, but I was the prejudiced one and had misunderstood religion myself." This was the moment where I truly experienced that one's values can change just by changing one's perspective.

One day, I met a person from the Marshall Islands in my university dormitory in Palau. I revealed to him that I was a missionary and asked him if he wanted to come to my church. He asked, "Can you explain it to me right now?" So for three hours, I explained a series of lectures through charts. He told me that he enjoyed hearing the lectures and from that day onward I continued to teach him. After that, other people started to develop an interest and listened to my lectures. Four people attended our church service; some continued to come every week. They believe in Protestantism, so they had some foundation of Christianity. However, because the Unification Principle gives explanations that are easy to understand based on the Bible, they could understand.

Whenever I am lecturing, what I make the most effort in is humility. A variety of religions and an overflow of denominations are in the world. In the middle of all this, if every church thinks that it is correct, unity is impossible. Everyone must be humble to embrace the new truth. On hot days, I would buy juice for those I lectured to. Every time I prepared a lecture, I would think, "How can I explain the content of the Principle in a way for them to easily understand?" Like a servant, I invested.

Therefore, little by little, I began giving lectures to my witnessing candidates inside their rooms. They would wait for me to come or they would bring other people. I began to feel a change. In the middle of my lectures, they would agree enthusiastically saying, "Aha...!", and respond, "This is God's word!" Every time that happened, I could feel the greatness of the Principle that True Father risked his life searching for. We may have different cultures, languages and habits because we are different people, but with each passing day I realized that because everyone possesses an original mind that God created, a truth that anyone can sympathize with is a universal common truth.

Birth of my three spiritual children

The common base of any religion are God and peace. History has continued to exist until now with people from all corners of the world—from Japan, Palau, Africa, America, China—pursue God and peace. I came to realize through my witnessing recipients that the truth was needed and that the shortest way to attain world peace is by saving each person's life.

A month had passed since I started giving lectures on the Principle. It was time to give the lecture on the Second Coming of Christ. I hesitated to clarify that True Father is the Messiah, as it says in the section of the Second Coming. If the witnessing recipients, who had a strong faith in Christianity, heard that it isn't Jesus but Rev. Moon who came instead of Jesus as the Lord at his Second Coming, I wondered if they would accept it. I then thought about what to do in case they rejected what I say. In the midst of my prayer, trying to seek an answer, I thought, "What is your reason for not revealing the True Parents of humanity? There is nothing as sad as children not knowing who their parents are. I must reveal it to them as fast as possible." I then decided to tell them that True Father is the Second Coming of the Messiah.

The time for the lecture came and three witnessing recipients came. One person was missing, and the people already there suggested that we start. However, I said, "No! Today is a very important day." So we waited until everyone had arrived and then

started the lecture. I then said "The Messiah at his Second Coming will come from Korea," basing it on the Bible. When I said this, their response was positive to such a surprising degree that I had to confirm it. So, I asked them, "Do you really believe this?" They even understood that the Korean language will bring unification. I questioned whether they would be able to accept the Principle from this point on and although I hesitated for a moment, I remembered my determination, and decided to tell them everything. When I asked, "Does everyone believe in this truth?" and without hesitation they answered, "Yes!"

"If so," I asked, "who revealed the Principle?"

"Rev. Moon."

"That is correct. Reverend Moon is the one. He is the Second Coming of the Messiah!"

When I said that, I wanted to close my eyes out of nervousness. However, to my surprise, their reaction was positive. I could not believe my eyes. I wanted to double check, so I asked several times, "Do you truly believe in this?"

Then like a dream, all three people, without hesitation, answered, "Yes!" It was a moment when I wanted to jump up for joy right then and there. I could also feel that God was happy. That was the moment when my three spiritual children were born. I was full of gratitude and happiness. A few days later, I prepared the membership applications and they formally became my spiritual children. Two months later, we completed True Father's autobiography.

Through this experience, I realized the greatness of the Principle and that God's words have the power to save people. Clearly, I felt that God was working and supporting me. I had thought that it would be impossible to witness to people since I had less knowledge of the Bible than the people I was trying to witness to, but I found out that it wasn't I, but our Heavenly Parent working through me. Through my missionary work in Palau, I came to understand the hardship, happiness and gratitude experienced when loving others. My public period has finished, but my spirit will forever be a missionary in Palau. ❧

FFWPU-Germany's Pentecostal Weekend

Neumuehle, Bad Camberg, Germany, June 7–9, 2014

By Fritz Piepenburg

After weeks of meticulous preparation, the fourth All-German Festival took off at our Seminar House Neumuehle, about fifteen kilometers from the small city of Bad Camberg. Thanks to True Mother's generous grant and the successful sale of the other seminar house in Schmitten, Seminar House Neumuehle is now almost completely restored and ready to function as a center of education especially for our young generation. European regional president, Rev. An Young-shik, has established a new European headquarters in the main house at Neumuehle and was able to watch all preparations at close hand. True Parents had stayed in Neumuehle on four separate occasions—in October 1975, in June 1981, when they conducted a matching and a Blessing Ceremony; in November 1989 and in April 1990, having come straight from the historic World Media Conference in Moscow.

Fortunately the weather was perfect and thus some six hundred peo-

ple—members, ambassadors for peace, other friends and guests enjoyed the Pentecost weekend full of activities and events over a period of three days. (Fifty days after Easter, is the Monday holiday called Pentecost, celebrating the Holy Spirit's descent on Jesus, described in John 1:32–33. The Sunday of Pentecost weekend is sometimes called Whitsun in reference to many people that choose to be baptized on that day and wear white for the occasion.)

Our sports festival

Saturday was dedicated to a sports festival, mainly, but not exclusively, for our young people, both men and women. The competition was fierce but fair, with live commentators, background music and lots of noisy support from onlookers. The community of Giessen, just north of Frankfurt, won most of the competitions, such as soccer, dodge ball and Frisbee. The southern region (including Stuttgart, Munich and Nuremberg) won the volleyball tournament and

the northern region (including Hamburg, Hannover and Berlin) the relay. The winning teams were honored on Sunday evening. Between breaks, everybody joined in Zumba dancing—something new, especially for the elderly.

Just before lunch, the All-German Festival opened with greetings from Dieter Schmidt, national leader of Germany, Rita Seewald, president of German WFWP, Rev. An our regional president, and (the highlight of the opening ceremony) Kim Young-hwi, three-time national leader of the Korean church, who had been staying in Neumuehle for the previous four days.

Other activities in the afternoon included a guided hike to nearby Gnadenthal Castle, dancing classes and a seminar on "maintaining good health" conducted by a medical doctor.

After dinner, Rev. An presented True Parents Award 2014 to fifteen recipients from Germany, as well as Cheon Il Guk citizenship cards to all ten community leaders in a short but beautiful ceremony.

This was followed by a PowerPoint presentation on True Parents' eleven visits to Germany. Following this, everyone, holding a lit candle, went up to the holy ground for prayer and meditation. We finished the day there in a wide circle around the two trees.

Honoring early members

After hoondokhae in the morning, everyone prepared for a large outdoor Sunday Service starting at 10:00 am. Our band comprising second-generation musicians set the stage with songs, including a workshop song written by one of our HARP members. Dieter Schmidt gave a moving sermon, "It is not



Participants in the fourth All-German Festival express their winning spirit.

finished yet," calling upon the audience to leave the past behind and make a fresh start toward fulfilling the goal of Vision 2020.

In the afternoon, we began our Open Day program, to which local government officials and people of the neighboring village of Beuerbach had been invited. Both the mayors of Huenstetten (of which Neumuehle is a part) and of Bad Camberg came as guests of honor. Each brought a gift on the occasion of the reopening of the seminar house.

Karl-Christian Hausmann, vice-president of the German Family Federation, led the program. Heinz Schaus, president of the Bad Camberg City Parliament, remarked in his address that God is beyond religious denomination and not confined to only the Catholic or Protestant branches of Christianity. He brought a large clock as a gift to be hung on the wall of the seminar hall. Wolfgang Diehl, deputy mayor of Huenstetten, elaborated on the time, when in 1973 the Unification Church purchased Neumuehle. People of nearby Beuerbach were wondering who the new owners were, especially since the road leading through the property up to the village was then closed to the public. He explained that the local government now very much appreciates the new open policy of the house, in which people can freely visit and even rent the facilities for conducting their own seminars or celebrations. He presented a book, *Six Thousand Years of history in Beuerbach*, and a glass tablet depicting the eight communities (in-

cluding Beuerbach) that now belong to Huenstetten.

Dr. Marko Frenschkowski, a protestant theologian and professor of comparative religion, then took the podium, stating in quite personal terms why he likes to work with the Family Federation and UPF. In terms of interreligious dialogue, according to Dr. Frenschkowski, the mainline churches can learn something from the small Unification Church. "We have learned to deal in much more relaxed way with new religious movements. There is lots we have in common."

The well-known soprano Seiko Lee rendered two songs in German at the end of the event. The mayor of Bad Camberg liked this small lady from whom such a brilliant voice emanates, so much that on the spot he invited her to give a concert in the city's public hall. Later, she performed for another full hour in front of an enthusiastic audience.

About forty people had walked over the hill from Beuerbach to have a look at the new premises of our seminar house. They were invited earlier by folders passed out to every household by our HARP members. After coffee and cake, they received a guided tour in and outside of the two buildings.

The first order of business in the evening was announcing the winning teams from the sport competitions and awarding them with trophies. Winners of a competition on creating a logo for Neumuehle were then announced and presented with prizes.

The evening was dedicated to honoring the founding members of the German "Society for the Unification of World Christianity," as it was called fifty years ago. Representing the founding members, who signed the original registration documents, where Ursula Schuhmann, Christel Werner and Johan van der Stok, husband of Elke Klawitter. Gertrud Koch wrote a nice letter of greetings on the occasion of this ceremony. Reiner and Barbara Vincenz unfortunately could not join the celebration for health reasons. Fritz Piepenburg, vice-president of the German Family Federation, led the program, first honoring the missionaries, who were sent out from Germany in 1972, pioneering other European nations, others in 1973 especially to the United States and yet more in 1975 to nations all over the world. Then the founding members were given time to talk about the early days and how they met the church. They were finally presented with flowers and a certificate of honor and gratitude.

Special emissaries, special lecture

Meanwhile many other European leaders had arrived at Neumuehle for the inauguration of the two special emissaries to Europe, Prof. Moon Lan-yong, special emissary to Eastern Europe and Rev. Sa Kwan-kee, special emissary to Western Europe. Prof. Moon was introduced by Caroline Handschin, president of WFWP Europe and vice-president of the European Family Federation. Rev. Sa was introduced by Mark Brann, UPF Europe's secretary-general. European Regional Leader An, explained more about the tasks of the special emissaries.

After the inauguration, Pres. Kim Young-hwi addressed an overflow audience, with three hundred people inside the hall and two hundred outside the hall. He gave an overview of the development of the Unification Church starting sixty years ago in Korea and presented a projection of our expected future development until 2020 and beyond. Brothers and sisters warmly welcomed him, giving him a long standing ovation. Everything was recorded as audio and video and will be made available to the public in due time. ☞



German members enthusiastically received Rev. Kim Young-hwi.

Reclaiming the Past and Future for God

By Laurent Ladouce

The following was translated from French and then adapted. It originated as a Sunday service, given by Laurent Ladouce in Paris, in which he described his recent activities in Benin, West Africa.

My mission to the Republic of Benin lasted fifteen days, April 14–28. I was invited there like an older brother as an adviser; however our church community is much bigger in Benin than in France. Benin has around 1,400 members. They invited me essentially to teach their young people and members in charge of their Sunday worship services. Benin is a small West African country, six hours by plane from Paris, with a population of about 10 million; her capital is Porto-Novo and the seat of government is Cotonou.

The country has a good reputation because in the 2013 Ibrahim Index of African Governance (IIAG) it ranked thirteenth among fifty-two Africa nations; among the members of the Economic Union of West African States (ECOWAS), Benin ranked first. This country was spared post-colonial

problems—starvation, civil wars and natural disasters. Benin is poor but I didn't see flagrant misery. Notably, it's a country that takes care of many refugees and does it well. Nowadays, Benin is also used as a model in this region for its attitude toward its past—more on that later.

Benin lacks gigantic cities. Cotonou has six hundred thousand inhabitants and its suburb, Abomey-Calavi, equals that population. Benin is located between Nigeria and Togo. There is a conurbation of sorts from those three nations' major coastal cities. They are going to build the Trans-West African Coast Highway. The region is now undergoing economic transformation. Nevertheless, Benin's coast is still wild. When we went to Ouidah the wind was blowing strongly. In Benin, nature rules, not human beings. Many traditional activities remain, especially in net fish-

ing and agriculture.

The Beninese church

The country was tempted by Marxism in the past, but did not fall into dictatorship. In 1972, Mathieu Kérékou deposed the chairman of the Presidential Council of the nation, which was then known as Dahomey. In 1975, the year that our missionaries arrived, President Kérékou (1972–91 and 1996–2006) declared himself a Marxist–Leninist, declared Marxist–Leninism as the nation's model and changed the nation's name to Benin. (Public protest caused Benin to abandon Marxist–Leninism in 1989.) Mr. Kanatani, the father of a second-generation member in France, was one of the 1975 missionaries to Benin. The earlier members had to work under the Kérékou regime for years; nevertheless, the number of members didn't stop increasing.



A group photograph with Rev. Laurent Ladouce in a matching and blessing preparation workshop

Today, Benin has the third-most members in Africa, after the Democratic Republic of Congo and Cote d'Ivoire. As a portion of the population, it's the nation in Africa that we have most deeply penetrated. I believe that is because Beninese members are very well organized and they attentively follow instructions. The members in general are uncomplicated, simple people. I was continually surprised to see the diplomas they had earned. They are so modest. One woman was a biological engineer; most of the members have advanced degrees.

The assistant national leader, Mr. Jérémie Egueh, invited me to Benin and I worked closely with the president of Benin's Blessed Family Department. I also saw Kevin Winter in Benin. He was one of the 1975 missionaries to Africa. His original country was Chad. Since October, four Japanese missionaries have been working there.

They have centers scattered throughout the country, though the urban population of the country is concentrated on the coast. Their headquarters is located in Godomey on the outskirts of Cotonou. It's a very popular quarter but quite poor. The building covers three thousand square meters. Construction isn't completed but everything works well. It has a big courtyard. When they conduct workshops, dozens of people live there, under rudimentary but still decent conditions. They have a big hall that holds



three hundred people.

My mission work in Benin

My schedule was quite full for the first and second weeks. I first conducted a four-day Succeed in Life workshop for people eleven to twenty-one years old. I was impressed by the general level of those young people and their knowledge of Divine Principle. I believe that if members of our second generation competed against them, the Beninese would win. They know Divine Principle much better than we do. I was impressed even when I was with the youngest, the seven- to ten-year-olds. When I spoke about Universal Prime Force, I asked, what is a force? Immediately, one stood up and said that it was energy and another without hesitation said that it was power.

They don't learn by heart but I felt they are very spirited. I worked with the youngest ones for two days. I don't have experience teaching people so young. I was challenged. At first I told them that I did not think I could carry out the program, but they told me it was very important to them. So I did it and it was very interesting. A hundred members came to the first workshop for the older ones and ninety to the second. They were so well disciplined. After an hour and a half if I told them, "Let's take a break," they wouldn't understand. They are not used to having breaks as we are in France. They are more focused. Another point that surprised me is that the young boys have the dignity of grown men. Also, if I were to give them a microphone and ask them to answer a question, they do not just give the answer, they shout it out; they proclaim it, like young prophets.

Hoping for international matching

I had a matching preparation workshop with the older ones. They are at an age when they increasingly think about the matching, but they don't have the same facilities we do to connect to the internet. The language barrier is very strong too.

These are some points with which

we can help them. Our experience in that field is precious for them, because they want international marriages, if possible. It's a big challenge when you live in Benin.

Teaching teachers

I was asked to teach their Sunday school teachers for three days. I had never done that before, so I told them that I didn't see why I should do that. "It's very important," I was told, "You need to prepare yourself and train them."

It turned out to be a very useful experience. They are as deeply concerned as we are to develop a systematic approach to teaching those in our second generation from nursery school until the end of high school. They have many documents on Sunday school education that are in English and come from Korea that they take very seriously. Few of them understand English, however. When I looked through the documents, I realized that we should also be interested in them. I learned many things there.

Among other things, I taught the fifty Sunday school teachers the education theory that I had taught in France before. Benin is well known in Africa for its extreme interest in education. There are many hyper-intelligent people in the country, who graduate from high school very early and study in big schools usually in France or in the United States. They are talented in studying.

Campus witnessing

We organized *parole donnée*,¹ with the theme, "global education," at the Abomey-Calavi National University, which has a good reputation. Located near Lake Nokoué, the university, which was founded in 1970 and has sixty thousand students, is considered one of Africa's best. CARP, which is officially recognized, has been active on campus for twenty years.

I finished my stay by giving the Sunday worship service in the education center, where they recently had a seven-day workshop for forty students. Believe me, when they hold workshops, it's intense.

1. Literally: "Words Given." It is a witnessing program Rev. Ladouce started in Paris that focuses on carefully choosing themes to speak about and then presenting them well.

Beninese historical sites

I had the opportunity to visit three of Benin's most famous sites. All three were impressive. I visited the royal palaces of Abomey-Calavi, which are unique in Africa. Cities like Timbuctoo in Mali and Agadez in Niger have interesting ruins, but only in Benin can you find African royal palaces of this type. This UNESCO World Heritage Site comprises around forty palaces. It goes beyond being a curiosity and gives a sense of the greatness of Benin's past civilization.

French colonial officials banished the last monarch, King Béhanzin (1844–1906) to Fort de France on the French island of Martinique in 1894. Later, the king requested to be transferred to Blida, Algeria, where he eventually died.

The Beninese people have a complex relationship with their kings, because these kings were indeed great and well organized but were also involved in the slave trade. It is generally understood that they shipped 2 million slaves from Dahomey; so the relationship with their kings is complex.

Beninese people are bright; they have an unusual philosophy toward slavery, one in which they think one should repent first before accusing others. In February 1999, when Mathieu Kérékou was president of Benin for the second time, he visited the Church of the Great Commission in Baltimore, Maryland, in the United States. In front of the mainly African-American congregation, the president got down on his knees and apologized for the key role that Africans played in the slave trade and for his nation's participation. Following that, Benin hosted an "International Conference on Slavery and Reconciliation," at which the then president of Ghana, Jerry John Rawlings, apologized for his nation's historical involvement in the slave trade. Because they appreciate this language and the heart behind it, African-Americans have invested in Benin as a nation that has a sound philosophy regarding this painful historical reality.

A bit of Europe in Africa

Another curiosity full of charm is Ganvie, on Lake Nokoué. The lake water is brackish. Seawater enters the



A group of high school students with their artistic depiction of "how to succeed in life."

lake making it undrinkable, leading to many health issues. Nevertheless, it's an experience to see, just a few kilometers from the capital, such an astonishing place. It looked as if we were in Southeast Asia; the houses are built on stilts above the lake surface. People travel by skiff, which they propel using poles in the shallow water. It's full of charm. Genvie is a fishing village of thirty thousand inhabitants that is known as Africa's Venice.

Reclamation, liberation

Finally, on the day before going back to France I went to Ouidah, which is famous as a prolific slave-trading port. It's also the world headquarters of voodoo. Those two dark aspects come together in Ouidah. I visited a voodoo temple. I was photographed holding a python with another around my neck; voodoo adherents believe pythons are the ancestors of the local people.

I was moved by being in those places; I could sense what people forced to go to the New World went through. I could "put myself in their shoes." I saw the precise place where their bodies were branded with a red-hot iron, as if they were cattle.

In order that their screams not disturb the slave traders in their fine, nearby houses, the slaves were forced to bite down on a stick, which was held in place with a rope. Not only were they reduced to a position lower than human beings but the idea was

that they must forget everything about their homeland before leaving.

Everything that was done to dull their brains made them almost crazy before they boarded the ship that would take them away. I visited a mass grave for those that died in the process even before the traders were able to get them onboard a ship.

In 1992, UNESCO created a Gate of No Return. It's an archway you pass through in the area leading up to the Atlantic shore. Passing through the Gate of No Return is meant to help you empathize with the men, women and children who were forced to board ships bound for Brazil, the Caribbean and the United States never to return to their homes, families or villages.

In Ouidah, I felt that something in Benin is like an initiation course that teaches about the development of human beings, because finally it's a message of hope that is given there. They don't rejoice in suffering. Ouidah is a city that is flourishing now, in part because of African-American investment. When I think about the fact that Benin is governed well and is beginning to prosper, I am prone to think that it has something to do with its attitude toward history. Dae-mo nim is coming there soon. The fact that spiritual liberation will take place in Benin gives us all hope that those that suffered on earth and suffered in the spiritual world because of their deeds on earth have some means of becoming truly free. *TP*

Hoon-mo nim's South American Tour 2014

On May 24–25, Hoon-mo nim presided over a Cheongpyeong special two-day workshop in São Paulo, Brazil. The chairman of the Cheon Il Guk Supreme Council accompanied her and held a briefing session on the Cheon Il Guk Constitution. This was a heart-moving time for members in South America, who were able to receive special blessings. Members were encouraged to do everything possible to bring about explosive witnessing results in order to bring more members for Hoon-mo nim's workshop next year.

True Parents' boundless love and Heung-jin nim's and Hoon-mo nim's utmost devotion imbued the Cheongpyeong special two-day workshop held at the FFWPU headquarters in São Paulo. A bit more than two thousand members came to attend the workshop from many nations in South America, such as Paraguay, Uruguay, Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Bolivia, Peru and Brazil.

Blessed couples, blessed children and single members attended holy song sessions, an Ancestor Liberation Ceremony, a Heaven–Earth Engagement and Blessing Ceremony, Registration Blessing and a Wish Paper

Burning Ceremony during this period. Many appeared deeply moved, shedding tears and expressing gratitude for having received deep grace from the beginning to the end of the workshop.

This intensely spiritual workshop, which members in South America are not easily able to take part in surely would have left participants feeling newly resurrected and grateful, amidst the indescribable love and grace at the workshop, to the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind, Heung-jin nim and Dae-mo nim.

It was apparent in the way that Hoon-mo nim spoke that she wished to express love and hoped for bless-

ings to come to South American members. Audience members had the opportunity to straighten out their priorities, direction and purpose as True Parent's children and citizens of Cheon Il Guk. It was a good time to strengthen one's determination to remove fallen nature, unite body and mind and to unite throughout South America as a loving group seeking to successfully witness to people throughout the continent.

True Parents especially sent Kim Jin-chun, the chairman of the Cheon Il Guk Supreme Council, to Brazil with Hoon-mo nim. The Cheongpyeong workshop and the briefing session on the Cheon Il Guk Constitution were conducted together. On the first day,



Hoon-mo nim speaking



Ancestor liberation being carried out



The Wish Paper Ceremony being conducted



Hoon-mo nim in Brazil

Chairman Kim gave two lectures to all the members. On the second day, in the afternoon, he gave a lecture to two hundred and eighty pastors and other leaders, after which he answered questions.

The briefing made possible for members a clear understanding of the Cheon Il Guk Constitution. Grasping the heart of the constitution engenders gratitude to True Parents and personal happiness. Leaders likely realized the importance and value of the Cheon Il Guk Constitution through the in-depth explanation on the second day because they ex-

pressed eagerness to convey the contents of the lectures to their members.

What was especially memorable during this workshop was when True Father suddenly appeared to Hoon-mo nim and bestowed tremendous blessings on South America by teaming three special witnessing absolute-good spirits to each member. The members had offered many conditions until then, helping Hoon-mo nim to work on the Cheongpyeong sessions with less difficulty. A Cheongpyeong lecturer assessed how the chanyang team in the holy song sessions was better than those at Cheongpyeong. Such encouragement and deep love were conveyed to participating members throughout the workshop.

After the workshop, a celebration was held with Heung-jin nim and Hoon-mo nim. Several performances were enthusiastically prepared and presented by over a hundred and sixty Brazilian CARP students. Hoon-mo nim said she greatly enjoyed the performances. Heung-jin nim, Hoon-mo nim, the regional president and all members sang "Sarang-hae" (I Love You). Many people were in tears as if from a longing for True Parents.

Members in Brazil and other parts of South America had an opportunity to engrave True Parents', Heung-jin nim's and Hoon-mo nim's great love and dedication in their hearts. It is expected that they are now determined

to do their best to return happiness to True Parents by investing in witnessing and bringing about tremendous results with the goal to gather more members for next year's workshop by Heung-jin nim and Hoon-mo nim.

Reflections and Testimonies from Workshop Participants

Ricardo Aparecido Calvario (a member from Curitiba, Brazil): I experienced the miracle of being healed from a disease during this workshop. I heard sounds of drums and soldiers marching and then I felt strong winds blowing. I looked on the side and saw spirits guarding the temple. I saw that each of those spirits was beautiful and had this dazzling light. When I offered my final prayer, I felt as though I were elevated in mid-air and saw angels (absolute good spirits) around people. Each person had three angels, just as Hoon-mo nim had said. At that moment, I saw True Father's face; he was in front of me. The angels were taking evil spirits with them. What I

This page: CARP members give Hoon-mo nim a bouquet and Ancestor Blessing Ceremony benediction; **Opposite (left to right):** Rev. Kim Jin-choon, Rev. Lee Myung-gwan, Dae-mon nim, Rev. Shin Dong-mo and his wife; and Rev. Sasaki's wife shout, Mansei!



saw felt as though it happened in a few seconds, but I do not know exactly how much time passed. When I went home, I visited my doctor. He told me that the tumor that had been in my chest was gone. I am truly grateful for this miracle. I now truly understand True Parents' value. Heaven's army was at the workshop. I saw it and felt it. My life has completely changed. Thank you Heavenly Parent and True Parents.


María Lima de Araujo Correa (a Santo Amaro Family Church member, city of São Paulo): When we were getting ready to come to the workshop, my husband told me that the headquarters had no sleeping accommodations and to leave our son at home. However, we decided to bring our son so that he could receive some of the workshop's grace. Our son, Kaue, was born with a handicap. Many doctors tried to treat him, but to no avail. According to the doctors, our son had to eat only eat fruit because he had a weak digestive system. Eating anything heavy can make his stomach heavy and cause pain. He could not even discharge normal shaped stools when he went to the bathroom. During the first holy song session, our son did not participate because we let him play with the other children. Then his stomach started swelling and he was in great pain. I wanted to take him home;

however, my husband told me to stay until the end of the workshop. During the second session, Director Lee came to us and lay hands on our son. At that very moment, I felt confident that our son had been healed. Before leaving the headquarters, our son's stomach started to function normally like all other children and all the pain we had suffered until then was gone.

Silvio Correa (pastor for the Tocantins State): After the workshop, my family departed for home. My wife, my son and daughters and one church member were with me in the car. When we entered a city called Uberaba during our trip back home, the car suddenly seemed to not listen. I am an experienced driver but I could not stop the car from going in a strange direction. According to my daughter, she saw a black hand pulling the car away from the road. The car overturned several times; my wife was breastfeeding our son, who is only two years old, when it happened. The accident caused our son to be thrown out of the car. My wife, however, could not understand how it happened. Our son fell ten meters away from the car. I got out of the car to find our son right after the accident. Surprisingly, he was safe and sound, without a single scratch, just like me. When the accident happened, my wife sincerely prayed to True Parents that they protect us. During the work-

shop, my wife had written a wish paper for the safety of our son and daughters. The car was completely destroyed and could no longer be used. Yet, everyone in the car were safe. I offer my sincere gratitude to our Heavenly Parent and True Parents for miraculously protecting us.

Rodrigo Cardozo da Silva (full-time CARP member): This is a young man who became a member two months ago after being witnessed through a person-to-person Divine Principle lecture; he is presently living his life of faith as a full-time CARP member.

Until I went through the workshop, I did not deeply understand the Divine Principle and questioned the existence of God and True Parents. However, during the third holy song session, my hands suddenly became warm and even though I had no fever, my entire body became hot. It felt as though something had come out of my body. I was so deeply moved that I kept shedding tears. Then I suddenly wondered why I was the first to come here from among my family members and relatives. I had not believed in God, because everyone had their own way of explaining God. However, during the holy song session, God certainly came to me. I could see my entire past and this enabled me to remove the many bad thoughts I had. I feel reborn through this workshop. Thank you. 



To Hasten Sunrise on a United Korea

A greater variety of voices point the way forward

This report is based on papers submitted by presenters at the conference that had been translated into English. In Dr. Larin's case, only his PowerPoint slides were available.

UPF's May 29–31 international conference in Vladivostok, Russia, occurred within the framework of their Northeast Asian Peace Initiative, the main goal of which is “to contribute to peaceful reunification on the Korean Peninsula.” UPF's consistent reunification efforts are important

even in times such as these, when prospects for peace between the Koreas seem dim.

In the aftermath of the 1989–1990 reunification of Germany, South Koreans dared imagine that their dreams of one Korean nation might come true. Following True Parents' visit to Pyongyang in 1991, two summits

took place, orchestrated by South Korean President Kim (2000) and President Roh (2007) momentarily raising expectations. Optimists hoped the summits would lead to greater interaction between the Koreas and encourage mutual trust resulting in economic benefits for North Korea, all of which would make future reinte-



Dr. Victor Larin, a Russian university department head and Chinese language interpreter was among the highly qualified speakers at the conference.

gration of North Korea more likely and less burdensome for South Korea.

Pessimists contend that the summits' true aims were to benefit the political parties of the presidents in South Korea and that the scant results (in terms of improved inter-Korean relations) have only compounded the South Korean public's general cynicism.

On the other side of the fence, North Korea has been a belligerent neighbor throughout all the years since the nation was divided in 1946. In recent times, she has become a nuclear menace.

An obstacle to unification

Even were North Korea to abandon all efforts to develop nuclear missiles, two major issues would still block the way toward Korean reunification. According to Jonathan D. Pollack and Lee Chung-min, authors of *Preparing for Unification: Scenarios and Implications*, these two issues are: Who

would pay for unification, and toward what political power structure would a united Korea orient itself? The latter question—whether a reunited Korea would ally with China or the United States—made this conference, which drew a hundred highly qualified participants, especially interesting.

Currently, U.S. troops are stationed in South Korea near the North Korean border. Were those troops to remain at the northern border of a united Korea, they would be at China's doorstep. This would not be acceptable to China.

On the other hand, a united Korea within China's sphere of influence would be anathema to the United States. In 1997, Samuel Huntington, a renowned political scientist, called the emergence of China as an East Asian hegemon a long term threat to America's national interests, and he was only stating what others had been thinking for some time before then.

It would be pleasant if Korea could unite and choose her own allies as she wished afterward, but the fact that various countries would look at a Korea aligned with China or a Korea aligned with the U.S. as a threat to their national security, dampens enthusiasm for unification. UPF's International Conference in Vladivostok made this clear.

U.S. insists on an Asian role

In the early days of the cold war, George Kennan, a career U.S. Foreign Service officer, wrote an article, "The Sources of Soviet Conduct," for the magazine *Foreign Affairs*. His purpose was to explain to the American people that though Soviet Russia had been a World War II ally and a key force in defeating Germany and then a partner in creating the United Nations, her Communist essence meant that Soviet Russia should henceforth be regarded as an untrustable threat to the United States. Perhaps to draw more attention to the article or to himself, Kennan's name was not initially associated with the article; the writer's name was given merely as X.

Similarly, but under her own name, U. S. Secretary of State Clinton wrote an article, "America's Pacific Century," for the magazine *Foreign Policy* in October 2011 to explain the U.S.

policy of "rebalancing" toward Asia. According to an architect of this policy, Kurt Campbell, then an assistant secretary of state, the article was not mainly to educate the U.S. public but to signal to China that the U. S. was committed to and would be investing in Asia for decades to come.

Dr. Campbell stated that China had misinterpreted U.S. severe economic difficulties at the time to mean that America would soon be too impoverished to maintain its involvement in faraway Asia. "Beginning about 2007 or 2008," he said, "the Chinese believed that the United States was in the beginning of a very profound decline, and we would be out of their region in just a little while."

Clinton also used the article to reassure Europeans that the U.S. would not be abandoning their continent. (Nevertheless, Europe requires less U.S. attention because the threat of Russia in any way preventing U.S. access to Europe and European markets no longer exists.)

Clinton's announcement of what became widely known as America's "pivot toward Asia" was a brash statement; many would call it hubristic. The reactions to her article that were voiced at UPF's International Conference in Vladivostok indicate that these power structures are real and for the U.S., for China and for all other nations in the region, the stakes are very high. Thus, not knowing which central nation a united Korea would orbit, China or the United States, is indeed a key demotivating factor for other nations to involve themselves in helping to unify Korea.

Russian—Chinese cooperation

Dr. Victor Larin, director of the Institute of History, Archaeology and Ethnography of Peoples in the Far East at Far Eastern Federal University, spoke about the failure of the Six Party Talks to stem North Korea's nuclear ambitions but added that he feels the Six Party Talks are "the only pragmatic and effective solution to the Korean Peninsula's nuclear issue... All parties should do more for peace and stability in the region, and should work for a restart of the Six-Party Talks and for lasting peace." He sees America's pivot to Asia as interference in interstate conflicts such as





The conference took place in Vladivostok, the capital of Primorskiy Territory, which borders the area of northeastern China once known as Manchuria and shares a short border with North Korea.

between China and Japan, China and Vietnam and between the two Koreas. He expressed confidence in China as a leader and source of security within the region and noted that Russia is supportive of Chinese initiatives in creating “a new world order” and new system of security. His Power-Point presentation includes a slide that states, “China and Russia are working together to construct a basis for a new regional security framework keeping the United States outside. This security vision also seeks to downplay the importance of regional military alliances, a major source of U.S. influence in Asia.”

From the People’s Republic of China came Dr. Ge Zhili, a professor, a business authority and an advisor to the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Perhaps unintentionally, Dr. Ge’s paper runs counter to the hopes for regional unity expressed by Dr. Larin. Dr. Ge covered the Tumen River Area Development Project, an undertaking that would allow the China, Russia, the two Koreas, Japan and Mongolia a much cheaper means of getting their products to the European market. Despite a good deal of money and two decades of effort having been invested in the project, it has yet to come on line.

The major obstacle, as one report stated it, is that “the countries involved are long-time adversaries and

several wars have been fought in the region during the past one hundred years.” Internal conflicts among Asian neighbors has stymied all efforts to get this mutually profitable venture off the ground.

Dr. Alexander Zhebin, director of the Center for Korean Studies at the Institute of Far Eastern Studies of the Russian Academy of Science in Moscow, stated that the U.S. view of the degree of threat posed by North Korea is not commensurate with North Korea’s military capabilities. “Actions of the U.S. and their allies, who have boycotted the negotiation process and at the same time are trying to use UN sanctions to paralyze North Korea’s entire foreign trade and foreign economic affairs, provide reasons to believe that in line with their strategic plan, the U.S. is not interested in full and final settlement of the situation and disappearance of ‘the North Korean threat’ because it inevitably would reveal their true motives—preserving the U.S. military presence in South Korea and Japan and the deployment of Theater Missile Defense in the region.”

Finally, Ms. Tatyana Kim, apparently a Russian-Korean, is the director of a Korean cultural center in the territory that includes Vladivostok. She is an activist that has long been interested in Korean integration and an enthusiastic supporter of UPF’s work.

As she expresses it, the Northeast Asian Peace Initiative opened a branch in Russia in 2009 and since then ‘active work on the convergence of North Korea and South Korea is going on.’” Ms. Kim is a real treasure. One could say that she represents NEAPI’s ultimate target audience, North Koreans. “North Korea is a unique state,” she wrote. “Impressions gained from visiting the country are not possible to compare with that from any other place on Earth. For many people born in the USSR, the trip to North Korea is a real journey back in time. This country of ‘completely victorious socialism’ lives by laws and regulations that are very different from most of the modern world.” Let’s hope that NEAPI is able to win the hearts of many more (approximately 24.8 million) like Tatyana Kim.

UPF has taken a great step in welcoming the views of those from the Far East. Greater exposure of these views to Western audiences is essential. (Apparently, Far East Asians are familiar with the message coming from the West.) Let us hope that empathy between East and West can develop and lead to enthusiastic support for Korean reintegration. ☞

This article was written by a TP magazine staff writer.

A New Stage in FFWPU-Myanmar's Development

By Saito Hajime

Until recently Myanmar had been a deeply oppressed country since 1962. Missionaries pioneered the nation despite the danger. In very recent years, freedom has gradually returned to the nation. The most recent development, described here, is the appointment of the first FFWPU national leader to the country.

The FFWPU movement has gradually moved forward in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar (also known as Burma, population 48 million, capital Naypyidaw). A Japanese leader, Mr. Tanaka, in cooperation with Japanese missionaries, began mission work in Myanmar in the early 1980s. During the time under which the society was oppressed, members kept their faith even though the missionaries were away from the country for more than ten years. Following Myanmar's democratization, people began to respond to their appetite for God's truth and to practice God's will. Since 2012, a few members made tremendous effort in witnessing, which has resulted in fifty members being in the movement today. Even though Myanmar has a long Buddhist history, members in Myanmar gave straight Divine Principle lectures, in the form in which the text was written.

At the beginning of May, Regional President Yong visited Yangon (also known as Rangoon, Myanmar's largest city) with Dr. Lek Thaveetersakul, the special envoy to Thailand. Dr. Yong and Dr. Lek came to encourage ambassadors for peace

and members to work to fulfill the will of our Heavenly Parent as the way to bring victory in Myanmar. They conducted an inauguration of a national leader, Saito Hajime. Mr. Saito expressed his determination to bring the membership to five hundred by the end of 2014. The visit of Dr. Yong and Dr. Lek planted the vision of restoring the nation by 2020 in the members' hearts.

After receiving this encouragement, members discussed how to fulfill the goal of Vision 2020. In order to fulfill the goal, we need to do nationwide activities and not focus only on the city of Yangon.

Geographically, Myanmar is the largest mainland nation in Southeast Asia and borders China, India, Laos, Bangladesh and Thailand. It has a 1,900 kilometer (1,200 mile) coastline.

It is providentially important. We decided to visit Hakha in Chin State, which is located near by the Indian border. Even though Myanmar is a strong Buddhist country, 8% of the population is Christian. Chin State is one area where most of the people are the Christian. FFWPU members went there to deliver True Parents' teachings and to prepare a foundation. We

are planning to expand this foundation throughout Myanmar's seven states and seven regions.

Even though some members went to other states, members in Yangon continue their efforts to witness. Continuously doing three-day and seven-day Divine Principle workshops to both those with a Buddhist upbringing and those with a Christian background. We can directly explain Divine Principle to Christians, but for Buddhists, WFWP activities help to deliver the message of Divine Principle. Because of the investment from Asian Regional President Yong, a few people who came back from a hundred and twenty days of training in the Philippines are now lecturing Divine Principle in Burmese, the national language. Because of their investment, we already have one-hour and three-hour Divine Principle lecture manuals in Burmese. We are now translating *Exposition of Divine Principle* into the national language. ☞

Left: The writer speaks to members for the first time as their national leader.

Middle: Dr. Lek, a special envoy to Thailand, at Rev. Saito's inauguration.

Right: Myanmar seven-day workshop participants with their new national leader



Sorocaba FC: A Filial Child in the Brazilian Providence

By Kim Heung-tae

The Brazil World Cup started on June 13 and will continue until July 14, bringing the world together through soccer. The Korean media recently reported on the Brazilian Sorocaba Football Club, which was bought by True Parents, who came in order to establish unification and peace on earth. This article, which covers the present state and future plans for Sorocaba, was provided by the president of the club, who is dedicating himself to fulfill Sorocaba's providential mission.

True Father envisioned establishing a soccer club and a sports, educational and cultural center for world peace and asked that a parcel of land be found where this center could be erected. Father personally inspected the city of Sorocaba, in São Paulo State, by flying over it in a light airplane in April 2000. He instructed that

seven hundred thousand *pyeong* of land be bought (2,315,000 m²; “pyeong” is a Korean unit of measurement). During this time, Father also bought Atlético Sorocaba, a C League club.

On May 6, True Parents visited the Sorocaba Football Club, for the first and last time. While talking to the players and the staff, Father interpreted the meaning of Sorocaba. According to him, Sorocaba means “covering each other (서로 커버)” or “helping one another through sports-

manship.” He added that Sorocaba will be able to greatly contribute to world peace and the unification of North Korea and South Korea through soccer, bestowing upon the club deep significance.

Sorocaba FC's special features

Among the many professional football clubs in Brazil, the Sorocaba Football Club possesses the largest training complex. The São Paulo club is the most prestigious club in Brazil and prides itself on its long history.



The entrance to the Sorocaba training camp. Above is a ceiling tile used in the buildings; they are made from plaster by our members.

Yet, São Paulo FC owns only land covering 350,000 *pyeong* (1,157,000 m²). Sorocaba FC not only has the largest training complex but no club in Brazil owns a hotel among its facilities other than Sorocaba FC, which has completed building two, both of which are now in operation. Having a big lake on its land, the view from the hotels is also something to boast about.

Brazil will host the 2016 Olympics. Currently, an Olympic Center is being built in the city of Sorocaba, making Sorocaba FC more familiar and better known to people. Many people within Brazilian soccer circles know that Sorocaba FC belongs to True Parents. When True Parents held a peace event in Uruguay and Brazil in 2000, the chairman of the São Paulo Football Association was invited and True Father particularly praised him as someone who could become Brazil's future president. Presently, he is the president of the Brazil Football Association and is preparing to run for president in the next election.

Also, when the first Peace Cup was held, in 2003, True Father invited

Pelé, the King of Soccer, and Marco Polo, president of the Brazil Football Association to Korea and directly gave them a Divine Principle lecture, asking them to guide soccer in a way that it greatly contributes to world peace. In 2008, True Father personally gave Pelé his autobiography. Plans are being made to hold the next Peace Cup, which True Parents established, with the involvement of Pelé and Marco Polo in Brazil in 2015. In particular, Sorocaba is setting up plans that will enable the North Korean national club to make sequential visits to Sorocaba for off-season training. Sorocaba FC plans to visit North Korea and have a friendly match in Pyeongyang.

One special project that is being planned is to have young North Korean and South Korean athletes come to Sorocaba for soccer training, thereby creating an environment where they can live and train together on the same grounds. If North Korea and South Korea become one through soccer centered on Sorocaba FC in this manner, we could say with certainty that unification between the two Koreas will surely be realized.



Kim Heung-tae, president of the Sorocaba Football Club

The current state of the Sorocaba FC

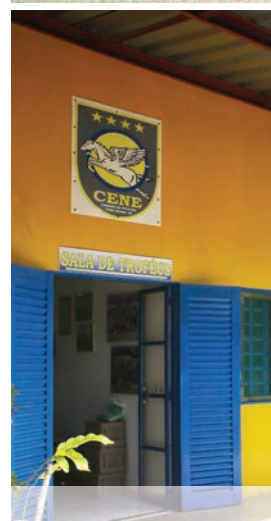
This season has officially ended for the Sorocaba club. Our players are now taking a break during the ongoing World Cup. Presently, we are accommodating Algeria's national club within our training complex, which is therefore under FIFA's direct management. The area is closed and off limits



The Sorocaba team greeting Seongnam Ilhwa and the audience before a game in the Peace Cup Tournament



The Mato Grosso do Sul State Championship Cup is among many of the awards won by Sorocaba



until the World Cup finishes. Atlético Sorocaba is an A2 League club. We plan to scout players to elevate it to A1. After the World Cup, we plan to compete in São Paulo's championship, which is called the *Copa Paulista*. Unlike in Korea, soccer clubs in Brazil can become independent on their own. As of this year, we have started to build a system that will enable Sorocaba to be-

come self-reliant by carrying out an internal reshuffling and beginning a systematic reorganization managed by professionals.

Future plans

The things True Father spoke about when he first took over Sorocaba FC and bought land for our training complex are coming true one by one. We are maintaining a close relationship

with North Korea and are playing an important role in advancing the unification of the Koreans. In addition, we will invite two very famous European clubs and the North Korean national club to the Peace Cup when it is held in Brazil next year. We are preparing to hold a festive event for world peace through soccer with True Parents. We are also making plans to carry out True Father's vision of creating a soccer uni-



2001

- Elevated from C league to B league; Sun Moon University Soccer Club and Joseon University, which is affiliated with Jo-chongnyeon, trained together in Sorocaba during the off-season.

2002

- Pelé, "King of Soccer," visited Hannam-dong for the establishment of the Peace Cup project at True Parents' invitation

2003

- Elevated from B League to the elite A1 group (Generally, to be promoted from a B to an A league club takes about seven years; hence, this was surprising.)

2004

- Degraded to B after poor championship results

2008

- Opening of the expanded Sorocaba training facilities (The president of the Brazil Football Association and the president of the São Paulo Football Club Association gave congratulatory remarks at the opening.) Won the Copa Paulista Cup (São Paulo's championship)



One of the team's four private football pitches



The team bus



The team lodgings



The 2014 champion CENE team

versity, which does not yet exist in Brazil, at the Sorocaba Club and to invite famous soccer leaders worldwide to give lectures, in order to develop great soccer players through Sorocaba.

Aside from Sorocaba FC, there is also the C.E.N.E. Football Club (*Centro Esportivo Nova Esperança* [Center Sports New Hope]) in Campo Grande city in Mato Grosso do Sul State. C.E.N.E. is another professional foot-

ball club that True Parents acquired; it is presently in D League. However, every year it wins the state championship. Based on what True Father said, that we should “cover each other” and exhibit sportsmanship, Sorocaba FC and the C.E.N.E. club will become more united. We are earnestly working to contribute to the soccer providence.

Fourteen years have already

passed since True Parents acquired Sorocaba FC. Now that the World Cup has begun, the soccer providence in Brazil has also begun in earnest. What True Parents said is coming true and the Sorocaba Football Club is determined and plans to play the role of a filial son so that our victorious Peace King, the savior of humanity, the Messiah, can have great influence within the Brazilian providence. *TP*

2009

- Held friendly matches in South Korea, North Korea, Japan, China and Russia; Won the Wongu Peace Cup against Seongnam's Ilhwa FC; Had two friendly matches with the North Korean national club at Kim Il-sung Stadium, North Korea, in front of eighty thousand spectators

2010

- Visited North Korea a second time and had a friendly match in Pyongyang

2011

- Invited the North Korean women's national club and youth team to Sorocaba and supported their off-season training; Visited North Korea a third time for a friendly match

2012

- Elevated from B League to A League; Completed the first hotel

2014

- Completed the second hotel; Our training facilities were designated as the base camp for the Algerian national club for the World Cup (The Algerian club is renting the Sorocaba FC facilities during the World Cup.)

UPA and What Change May Come

Universal Peace Academy, which True Mother founded to foster mid-level leaders in their thirties, forties and fifties, opened its doors in March 2013. As the first class moves through its final year, we look at institutions with similar characteristics that were influential in accelerating the growth of their religious spheres.

Only a little more than a year has passed since Mother began the Universal Peace Academy and the first class has not yet graduated, so it may seem premature to attempt to predict what sort of impression this one small school will make on our movement's future, but various indications can be seen of Universal Peace Academy's latent potential.

Mother said to UPA cadets recently, "That you can study here is truly a miracle and historic. You will be carrying out activities after graduating. Please, be proud of yourselves. You are children attending True Parents. You are different."

By calling their being able to study at UPA "historic," Mother indicated that in the future when people look back to earlier times, they will see that UPA and the students it produced influenced the course of history. To gain some sense of the potential that UPA has, let us look at two analogous projects in history that elevated the growth and development of other faiths.

Geneva Academy

John Calvin was nine years old when Martin Luther ignited the Protestant Reformation by nailing his 95 theses to the door of the Wittenberg Cathedral. At his father's behest, Calvin studied first Catholic theology and then law. Calvin converted to Protestantism in 1532. In his native France, he cautiously preached until persecution became too severe. In 1536, he took refuge in Switzerland.

Calvin took on a mission similar to our own. In a time when people for generations had adhered to a defined set of beliefs about God, spirituality

and religious practices, Calvin (among others) worked to convince people in great numbers to reevaluate and reconstruct those beliefs. Calvin's work was innately revolutionary.

In light of this, the creation of Geneva Academy in 1558 can be seen as a strategic move to reach the masses. As one scholar put it, "Inspired by Calvin's truly ecumenical vision, which penetrated far beyond the horizon of his own environment, Geneva became a dynamic center or nucleus from which the vital missionary energy which it generated radiated out into the world beyond."

Young students in Calvin's Academy got a thorough education including Latin and Greek at a lower-level (*schola privata*) before studying theology in preparation for the mission field at the upper level (*schola publica*). Students came from all over Europe, helping to spread Calvinism. One of the school's mottos was "Send us

your wood, and we will send you back arrows."

The Azusa Street Mission

In more recent times, in 1906, a thirty-six-year-old African-American preacher, William Joseph Seymour, traveled from Texas to preach at a home in Los Angeles to a group of believers. These believers had been expelled from a Baptist church because of their belief in "baptism in the Holy Spirit," spiritual healing and the imminence of Christ's return. The congregation grew, so they moved to an abandoned church building at 312 Azusa Street. Under Pastor Seymour, a son of slaves, who was described as "a self-effacing preacher with a halting delivery," the congregation mushroomed. Los Angeles city newspapers began writing of the "the howlings of worshippers who spend hours swaying forth and back."

Though other religious movements



True Mother told the UPA students in Las Vegas, "For people to be able to be reborn through you, you need to go through this compulsory period."

of a type we now call Pentecostal sprang up in other areas, none so dramatically transformed modern Christianity as did the Azusa Street Mission. It was intensely active for three years. During that time it put out its own newspaper, *The Apostolic Faith*, which was mailed to perhaps fifty thousand recipients. The newspaper included accounts of active missions in India, missionaries headed to African nations and missions on the Azusa Street model developing all over the United States. The spirituality that has influenced the charismatic movement in mainline churches and many Pentecostal type churches throughout the world can trace their roots to Azusa Street.

UPA and the Geneva Academy

UPA shares qualities that are at the core of both these historical initiatives. Like Calvin's Academy, educational expectations at UPA are high. It is a graduate school; cadets at the academy already have graduated with degrees in fields such as Linguistics, Business and Finance, Engineering and Information Technology.

Whatever subject they study they are expected to use the best possible secular source material as well as looking at the subject from a Unificationist perspective. They scrutinize subjects such as Cheon Il Guk and its formation—a spiritual ideal that we are working to give earthly, visible form. This entails boring into True Parents teachings in the original language to understand the essence of

the ideals for the individual, family, society, nation, physical world and spiritual world. Indeed, this would lead them directly into God's heart to discover the hope God held in the moment that he "breathed into Adam's nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being."

Additionally, they do case studies, investigating the success and failures that have occurred in the history of our global movement's efforts to build Cheon Il Guk. This may encompass research on practices in individual spirituality, family counseling, church administrations, providential organizations and social issues.

Language study

Like students in the Geneva Academy, UPA cadets need to have a thorough grasp of the core language of our faith, Korean. Thus, today, UPA runs the graduate school and a Korean language school for those otherwise qualified to attend UPA but who have not passed the necessary Korean language test.

To qualify for the graduate school, Japanese native speakers had to pass the Korean government's Test of Proficiency in Korean (TOPIK) at level 4; speakers of other languages had to pass at level 3.


Once they enter the graduate school, language studies continue, even for Korean cadets. Each UPA student studies two foreign languages among Korean, Japanese and English.

Last year, candidates that were qualified to attend UPA but had not passed

the TOPIK test entered UPA's Korean language school. After a year of concentrated study, most but not all of the students were able to pass the TOPIK.

UPA's Azusa Street spirit

One aspect that separates UPA from other HSA educational institutions is its strong emphasis on the spiritual facet of our faith. Their program, and thus the students' lives, are entwined with the Cheongpyeong spiritual works. Dae-mo nim speaks exclusively to UPA students at the beginning of nearly every month and she gives guidance to them at UPA's Wednesday worship service. The school itself is within Cheonwon (Heavenly Garden) the term Father gave for the holy ground surrounding the Heaven and Earth Training Center.

Graduate students experience a Heart and Unity Workshop at the beginning and end of each semester, which includes Cheongpyeong holy ground prayer, offering bows, sharing individual goals, hopes and experiences. From UPA, nestled in the hills below Cheon Jeong Gung, a great spiritual wave is sure to follow the investment of spiritual effort that these young people are offering on the altar of God. This follows naturally in line with Father's own experience as he stated, "How much indeed has heaven guided us spiritually and loved us constantly!" 

This article was written by a TP magazine staff writer.

(See cadets' testimonies overleaf)



Cadets study Divine Principle thoroughly.



UPA students strive to be united in heart.



Physical training, an important discipline

As a project that is close to True Mother's heart, the Universal Peace Academy is situated close to Cheon Jeong Gung. She began the academy as a means of strictly educating young adults to be leaders in faith and examples for other young people. Hence, the young men and women in the program represent True Mother's hope for a broad renewal of faith among those in our younger generations. We are pleased here to present accounts of two of the cadets who have immersed themselves in the UPA experience.



A cadet from the first class of UPA students

Beacons that Pierce the Darkness

By Jana Lajdova

In autumn 2012, True Mother first spoke about establishing a training program to educate young members of the movement to become future leaders in the era of Cheon Il Guk. She said she was going to make the Universal Peace Academy, which would become more famous than West Point and would raise leaders that are able to convey True Parents' teachings to the world.

At that time, I had graduated from Sun Moon University and was doing a forty-day workshop in Cheongpyeong to prepare for getting a job in one of the large companies in Korea. When I heard True Mother talking about raising young leaders and establishing the Universal Peace Academy, I felt that I should change my plans and join the program. Naturally, I desired to do something in the providence and to help True Parents, but at the same time I felt more than anything that it was God who wanted me to go to UPA. I did not know exactly why God wanted me to go, but I knew that I should apply.

On the day of my UPA interview, I remember having mixed feelings. I felt inadequate to enter the pro-

gram, because so many other second-generation young adults are more experienced in doing church activities or are more capable in one way or another. I felt that they should be there because they would do a better job in becoming leaders and working in True Parents' stead. After finishing the interview, I prayed to God. I was sorry that I was not good enough, but if I could join the program I would work hard to become a better person for God. Suddenly, I felt deep in my heart that God was grateful, saying that it is true that there are more capable people than I am, but what is important is that I was there.

(After we officially started the UPA program, almost everyone shared a similar story of having different plans, not really feeling adequate and yet feeling a strong calling by God to join the program).

On the day of the ceremony for the incoming class, which took place at the Cheong Shim Graduate School of Theology on March 4, 2013, True Mother spoke. She said that the Universal Peace Academy will become an institution raising young leaders with a principled outlook, correct understanding of

the providence and abilities in various fields. I strongly felt her heart of great hope and high expectations for the cadets. She said that we should become lights shining in the dark world. She also mentioned that if we would follow that path, Heaven would help us on the way.

Every single day spent here in UPA is challenging as we undergo training to unite mind and body. It has been challenging but also a very precious experience of personal growth. The one thing that I have been able to invest in since coming here is my relationship with God. This time, it is on a more profound level than ever before. I feel that since coming to UPA, God wants me to overcome my limitations quickly and expand my heart, so that I can become his representative. I feel very grateful for this kind of training and all the challenges because I know that it will have a good outcome in the end.

The important aspects that UPA emphasizes are that we are all being trained to have diplomatic ability, economic ability and the ability to speak God's word. A partial view of our schedule includes Divine Principle lecturing, presentations on current global issues, discussions and special lectures by church leaders that have a lot of experience in the field, staffing at various events and also raising funds based on our own business plans, which we design ourselves.

As a part of our experience abroad, last winter break, UPA cadets travelled to the United States to do a cross-country tour from the East Coast to the West Coast. We travelled in vans from Washington DC to San Francisco. The trip was a really great adventure because we

could get a sense of the beauty of American nature, its free spirit and the mixture of different nationalities and cultures. Most of all, I could feel the deep heart of love from True Parents, who have been investing for so many years to lay the providential foundation in the nation of America, which represents the whole world.

During the trip, there was a very special time when we went to see True Mother for hoondokhae at the Las Vegas residence. That morning,

True Mother was wearing elegant clothes, looking very young. She started to speak about the providence of restoration and then about our mission as UPA cadets. She mentioned that our role is to bring hope to the 7.5 billion people of the world.

I felt a lot of love from her. The words she spoke were words of love, encouragement and also sincere expectations. True Mother treated us as her sons and daughters. We then sang a medley and

played a video of True Father singing in between. True Mother seemed genuinely touched by our performance. This was the first time in my life that I was so close to True Mother. I could feel her love and care. Since that time, I have been determined to work hard.

I wish that in the future many young people of our movement can join the Universal Peace Academy, train themselves to become leaders and shine in the dark world for God and True Parents.



A cadet from the first class of UPA students

Not a Path Just Anyone Can Follow

By Lim Dong-seok

It has been a year since I entered UPA and began living here. We have now started a new semester, and I am doing my best every day. Reflecting on the past year, I wonder how I could have digested that such a great amount of studies and programs; that I did it now feels like a miracle. When I first applied to UPA, I thought I was fully prepared not only academically but also from an experiential point of view. However, I came to realize as each day passed that this was a great mistake and arrogance on my part. I started having the same worries I had when I studied in the Department of Theology at Sun Moon University; however, having gone through it once before, it is true that I was able to lead a more stable life compared to other cadets in this regard. Other than that, I experienced much difficulty every day as a result of my physical limits and personal circumstances, just as other cadets did.

We went through so many programs during the semester; so, I had the small hope that it might be more

relaxing during the summer vacation, even if it might still be difficult when doing activities. Unfortunately, we could not relax at all because we did activities throughout the vacation without resting for even a day. It was quite common, in one day, to have three or four projects conducted simultaneously. However, all the projects were different from the existing methods of activities we had been used to; hence, the contents were new to all the cadets. I would yell every day in my heart: This is something I cannot do no matter what. ... In the end, however, we were all able to digest all the programs and projects and were able to bring results. How we were able to do that is a mystery to me, more like a miracle.

Only now I feel certain that our Heavenly Parent and the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind have always been with us. To raise funds the entire day and then stay up until two or three in the morning to prepare for other projects—some other students would even stay up the whole

night—without having a single person collapse or give up in the process and still be able to complete our mission, would have not been possible with our own capacity. That is because we were all certain that these projects were impossible from the beginning. Yet, we still did it. We could experience that Heaven was with us from deep within our hearts. The fact that the hearts of all the cadets from the first batch of UPA students is more passionate than ever before is evidence of this.

The first and second semesters came to an end in this manner. We have now started our third semester. With the second batch of cadets joining us, we face other challenges again every day. The life of a UPA cadet is not a path anyone can follow. Even intellectuals from Harvard or Yale University would not be able to follow this path just because they have many capabilities. Only those who have experienced in their hearts that our Heavenly Parent and True Parents are their parents can follow this path.

Only those who feel our Heavenly Parent's pain and True Parents' circumstances more acutely than their own personal pain and circumstances and are determined to carry on to resolve Heavenly Parent's agony and True Parents' circumstances can follow this path. It is my sincere hope that the day when all the young members of the Unification family within the second-generation realm have such burning hearts and take the lead in substantiating Cheon Il Guk arrives as soon as possible. ☞

