

True Peace

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The Mainstream of God's Providence

By Thomas Hwang



We Unificationists have a unique understanding and clarity about history. Divine Principle provides us with the right views, right insights and correct understanding about the currents and events that have shaped our history. We fully grasp the fact that God is behind human history. God's history is the mainstream, the true history.

For example, we know the reason that the communist movement appeared on earth in the twentieth century and how and why it ended in failure. Communists themselves do not understand this. We know clearly who Kim Il Sung was, and why South Korea and North Korea were divided. Kim Il Sung himself did not know who he was, or understand clearly his role in history. But we know very well.

Mainstream history has consistently been inspired and guided directly by God through his chosen people. We have the record of his efforts through Judeo-Christian history, and in the present day, we have witnessed his work throughout the challenging course of the unification movement. All other historical events and narratives are peripheral.

The people who were called to lead God's mainstream history were real, down-to-earth people who had to cope with real, down-to-earth challenges. Outstanding figures like Moses and Jesus faced their missions with amazing courage and determination. They were not afraid of death. In the face of tremendous opposition, they won people's love and devotion by moving people's hearts and minds. In the end, they won great victories for the sake of the world.


Despite all those years of wandering and following Moses, the Israelites still had nothing when they came to the border of Canaan. Yet, out of that nothingness, they went on to found the nation of Israel, which would become the base for God's future providence.

Jesus' fate was far worse. When Jesus died on the cross, he was completely alone. None of his followers remained with him to the end. Golgotha was like a perfect "ground zero." At that time, in that place, it looked as if all of Jesus' strenuous effort to build God's kingdom had been in vain. Yet, out of that nothingness, Christianity arose to become a powerful, dominant force in the world. There is only one reason for this astonishing resurrection: God was behind it.

The same pattern repeated in the history of our unification movement. Like Moses, like Jesus, True Parents followed an arduous path beset by obstacles and opposition, rejected and persecuted. There were times of betrayal and abandonment when it appeared that all their devotion and exertion would come to nothing. However, no one, nothing, can stop God. God has always been behind True Parents. That is why they were able to surmount the eight stages and win an amazing victory for all of humankind. God's victorious foundation covers the whole world now. Cheon Il Guk is expanding every day, in every corner of the world.

Thanks to the victory of True Parents, we now stand on the strongest divine foundation ever seen in human history. God is not only alive and well, but must be delighted and excited. Now, with True Father in the spirit world and True Mother on earth, God manifests both male and female aspects in directing mainstream history toward the coming of the kingdom of heaven. Since the Fall, God's dream has never been closer to realization. Any attempt to separate Father and Mother is foolish nonsense, and will never succeed. The new dimension in God's providence in our time is based solely on the inseparable, holy relationship between True Father and True Mother.

When we pause to reflect on our place and time in history, we all know that we are deeply blessed to be alive at this amazing time. We are right in the swift and powerful current of God's mainstream history. Dear brothers and sisters, Blessed Central Family members, please stay in the mainstream. Do not get lost wandering along peripheral paths. God's power is manifested through the mainstream, which is True Parents. Centering on the mainstream, history will continue to flow into the future, our shared victorious future.

As long as we stay afloat in the mainstream, we have nothing to worry about. As we say in Kenya, "Hakuna matata!" God bless you all. 

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America and God's Will

True Father delivered this public address in front of the Washington Monument on the National Mall in Washington DC, on September 18, 1976 as part of the God Bless America Festival to mark the United States' bicentennial, two hundred years since her Declaration of Independence from Great Britain.

Honorable citizens of the United States and world delegates:

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all of you for meeting us at the monument. Tonight we are celebrating America's bicentennial in the name of God. For you and me, this is a historic moment. This evening I would like to speak on the subject, "America and God's will."

God is eternal, unchanging, unique and absolute. If those are the qualities of God, his purpose of creation must also be eternal, unchanging and absolute. In the beginning, God's ideal was to create one world of unity and harmony. Today, however, our world has no unity or harmony. Instead, there is much division, disharmony, confusion and chaos. Individually, our minds are separated from our bodies, and our families, races, nations and world are torn apart. This reality is in total contradiction to God's original inten-

tion. Clearly, something is fundamentally wrong.

Religion has an explanation: It says that this worldwide division is the result of our first ancestors' rebellion against God, the Fall of Adam and Eve. In order to save fallen humanity, God sent the Messiah. His purpose was to restore people to their original state before the Fall. Therefore, salvation is the same as restoration.

The human Fall brought about this fallen world. Disobeying God's word, Adam and Eve rebelled against him. This put them in the position to be overpowered by Satan's lies. So, finally Adam and Eve united with Satan, receiving Satan's personality and love instead of God's personality and love.

To be restored as an original person, we must reverse the process of the Fall. This time we must separate ourselves from Satan, reach out to God whom we have lost, and obey his word. In this way, we can receive God's personality and his love.

God is supremely selfless and

supremely public-minded. Satan, however, is absolutely self-centered and only out for himself. God's formula to restore us is for us to become God-like. This means that we must become completely selfless and public-minded. Each of us has to become a person who is able to sacrifice for the sake of others.

Such a selfless and public-minded person will prosper through becoming the image of God. The selfish, self-centered person will decline because such behavior is contrary to God. This is God's rule.

Central nations' inability

Human history has been a history of struggle, a history of war. It has been almost like a tug-of-war between God and Satan, with humanity as the prize. Good and evil have been struggling to win people to their respective sides.

Because human history started with the Fall, evil got a head start. Therefore, in history, the evil side has always taken the aggressive and

offensive position. Good has been passive and defensive. Yet, God is on the side of good. In the end, the good side always wins the victory. The good side is always the underdog, yet it comes out victorious and expands.

For example, during World War I and World War II, the evil sides attacked first, yet they were the ones to be defeated. Today, there is much talk about World War III. This time evil, represented by the communist nations, is challenging the Free World, provoking conflicts and war everywhere. Yet, again, based on God's formula, the ultimate victory will surely be on the side of God.

There is another formula in God's work of restoration. Before God sends the Messiah to restore people, he always prepares a central religion and a chosen nation as the foundation to receive the Messiah. According to this formula, God established Judaism as the first central religion and Israel as the first chosen nation. Upon this base, God sent Jesus Christ as the Messiah. God's hope was that the chosen nation and religion would become one with Jesus, establish the kingdom of God on earth and restore the world to God.

For this purpose, God prepared Judaism and Israel for nearly four thousand "biblical years." If they had recognized Jesus Christ as the Messiah and worked with him in a spirit of sacrifice, he would not only have been successful in Israel, but also would have gone on to unite all the Arab nations and Asia, linking the East and West. By unifying the world under the sovereignty of God, he would have established the kingdom of God on earth at that time.

Israel and Judaism, however, did not fulfill their responsibilities. Jesus was not accepted as the Messiah, and finally was crucified. Thus, God's kingdom remained a promise, not a reality. However, Jesus opened the way to spiritual salvation and started Christianity, which is spiritually in the position of the Second Israel.

The early Christians witnessed and taught in Rome, only to encounter terrible persecution. For four hundred years the blood of martyrs was spilled. Their sacrifice atoned for the loss of four thousand years of God's preparation for the Messiah. The Christians finally triumphed in Rome and Christianity became the state religion. Thus, Rome came to occupy the position of

the Second Israel physically and received the blessing of God. At that time, God expected the papacy and empire to completely unite and unselfishly build the unified world left unaccomplished at the time of Jesus. However, the papacy also did not realize the significance of its mission and often used its power for its own glory. There was abuse and corruption within the church and it departed from the will and expectation of God. The dignity of the papacy fell.

In reaction, a thousand years later, humanism arose, and Protestantism called for reformation of the Catholic Church. Instead of heeding the call, the papacy and Catholic princes unleashed persecution against the reformers. During that period, it was no coincidence that Henry VIII, king of England, also revolted against Roman Catholicism. He enacted new laws through Parliament and founded the Church of England. This was actually a golden opportunity for Great Britain to join the Protestant movement of Europe and bring about a new hope for the advancement of God's will.

At that time, the British Empire started on its path to become the greatest power in the world, inspiring



the famous saying, "The sun never sets on the British Empire." This extraordinary blessing was not for England but for the advancement of God's kingdom. If Britain had understood God's will, it would have supported the Puritans and other reform movements and tackled the God-given task of world restoration. Through accomplishing that, Britain could actually have built a United Kingdom of God, transcending all national barriers.

However, Britain persecuted the Puritans and was apathetic toward the reforming spirit. The persecuted people had to look for a land of hope. They were united by a common destiny. Transcending race and national barriers and fleeing persecution, they came to the New World, the American continent. Here they established an independent Protestant nation. This is the providential background behind the birth of America.

Today, America and Christianity together must take up the sacred task of world restoration. America must unite the cultures of the West and the East, as well as the Middle East, and create one great, unified culture, ultimately fulfilling the mission of establishing the kingdom of God on earth.

America's responsibility

Judaism was God's first central religion, and Christianity was the second. The Unification Church is the third, coming with a new expression of truth that will fulfill the final chapter of God's providence. These central religions must unite in America and reach out to unite the religions of the world. Judaism, centered on the Old Testament, was the first work of God and is in the eldest brother's position. Christianity, centered on the New Testament, is in the position of the second brother. The Unification Church, through which God has given a new expression of truth, the Completed Testament, is in the position of the youngest brother.

These three religions are indeed three brothers in the providence of God. Then Israel, the United States and Korea, the nations where these three religions are based, must also be brothers. Because these three nations have a common destiny representing God's side, the communist bloc as Satan's representative is trying to



isolate and destroy them at the United Nations.

Therefore, these three brother nations must join hands in a unified effort to restore the United Nations to its original purpose and function. They must contribute internally to the unification of the world's religions and externally to the unification of the world itself.

One world under God is the unchanging, eternal and absolute desire of God. This goal will be realized. Yet, in order to accomplish this goal, the unity of religions is the foremost task. When all people worship one God as their Father, accept one Messiah and uphold Godism, an absolutely God-centered way of life, the dwelling of God will be with humanity. It will be only a matter of time before we see the kingdom of God here on earth.

The United States of America, transcending race and nationality, is already a model of the unified world. The people of the United States must realize that the abundant blessings God has been pouring upon this land are not just for America but for all human beings throughout the world. Upon the foundation of world Christianity, America must exercise its responsibility as a world leader and the chosen nation of God. Israel did not meet the expectation of God, nor did Rome, nor did Great Britain. Now, what about America?

To inspire America to avoid the same mistakes, to inspire America to sacrifice herself for the sake of the

world, to inspire America to work toward one world under God, God summoned me to this country to proclaim God's new revelation. In particular, God called me to lead the young people of America, the leaders of tomorrow, back to God.

Today, America is plagued with problems—racism, juvenile delinquency and immorality. Christianity is declining. Communism is rising. The menace of communism is everywhere. Of all these problems, atheistic communism is the worst. It is not just America's problem; it is the problem of religious people and the problem of God himself.

Ladies and gentlemen, at this crossroads of human history, we must listen to the call of God. God prepared America for two hundred years. This is the time for awakening. America must accept its global responsibility. Armed with Godism, America has to free the communist world, and at last build the kingdom of God here on earth. God has chosen America as the flag bearer. America must rise up today. Tomorrow may be too late. I not only respect America but I also truly love this nation. I respect and love the United States as a great nation, as a godly nation and as the central nation in God's providence. America is now at the threshold of its third century. America must not disappoint God. Today let us pledge to God Almighty that we shall do his will. We shall never let him down. Never!

Today in this holy place, let us together lay the cornerstone of the kingdom of God on earth. Let us all join together as the coworkers of God. Let us be the pioneers of his kingdom.

My dear brothers and sisters who long for unity, this is the place of commitment, the moment of decision. If you are willing to give your sweat, your blood and your very lives to the call of God, then in this sacred moment before heaven and earth and before all the people of the world, let us shout it out. We know we can build the kingdom of God here on earth, in his power and with our own hands.

May God bless you and your homes, and forevermore may God bless America. Thank you very much. *☞*

Pyeong Hwa Gyeong, Book 9 Speech 4



문선명 천지인참부모 천주성화 4주년 기념

창립 50주년 승리보고

Heritage and Destiny: CARP at Fifty

True Mother spoke on September 25 at the Cheongpyeong Training Center to CARP students from Korea and abroad celebrating CARP's fiftieth anniversary. This is what she said to them that day.



I was very excited as I was coming to meet all of you. From the beginning, when God created the universe, he had a dream, something he had hoped for. When looking at the immediate results of his dream, I think in his heart he had this same happy expectation.

The Bible says that God had created the universe in six days and rested on the seventh. The concept of time in the Bible, the notion of days, is not six actual days. It says, "there was evening and there was morning, one day." [Genesis 1:5] The creation of the universe is not a concept of time but represents the necessary period to give life to all created beings.

God created Adam and Eve and saw that it was good and he was happy. God created the first human ancestors, Adam and Eve, and specifically gave human beings responsibility. He hoped that they would grow and become one with God, through the heart of absolute faith, absolute love and absolute obedience.

This was the providence for God to feel joy and happiness through future humans. Unfortunately, the heart expressing selfishness and greed formed. The result of that untimely

greed was the Fall. That is how the beginning of fallen history of humanity, with no connection to God, began.

Carrying the providence

Most of you here today, are second-generation members from parents who have received the blessing from True Parents. In that case, each of you is the "pure water" that our Heavenly Parent can feel joy toward for the first time in six thousand years. Do you understand? Through True Parents—pure water.

You are in a position with no connection to the Fall. Yet when we look at the environment of this fallen world, do you think we still have a long way to go, or a short way to go? You all are in the position of true children who have received the blessing from heaven for the first time in six thousand years. In that case, you must all absolutely become one with True Parents. You must become the filial children, loyal subjects and soldiers who will realize our Heavenly Parent's and True Parents' dream. Do you understand that?

In order for you to do that, you must all become the best in each of your fields. In this large environment—the

- ① A CARP member presenting flowers to True Mother
- ② Sun Jin nim, In Sup nim, Cho Sung-il, director-general of the FFWPU IHQ; Wonju McDevitt, chief of Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon's Secretariat; and Yun Young-ho, the deputy chief; listening to True Mother speak.
- ③ CARP talent on display
- ④ Mr. Moon Sang-pil, president of CARP-Korea
- ⑤ Katsumichi Motoyama, president of CARP-Japan
- ⑥ The motto for the meeting expressed optimism and determination
- ⑦ A commemorative photo of True Mother with the CARP members

world—we must make a protective fence that embraces 7.3 billion people. In that sense, the world today has been without hope, without peace. This world has many walls. Religions do as well. The walls in religions are very tall. In light of the original standard, religions that do not know God's providence should not be greedy but should humble themselves.

Responsibilities

The world today has no owner. In short, this is not the world that our Heavenly Parent desires. You must lead the way in broadening our Heavenly Parent's and True Parents' hope and in bringing their wish to fruition. On your own volition, you must



gather the 7.3 billion people of the world to praise the heavens, and guide them to live their lives according to their original minds, offering joy and glory to True Parents.

I am reflecting on the modern conveniences in this twenty-first century. Throughout history as civilization has developed, no one has known Heavenly Parent's and True Parents' situations. To say that instead civilization has rushed in the opposite direction, toward destruction, would not be wrong.

When we look at the history of civilization and the history of wars—far from making the world that God originally created more abundant and healthy—our highly developed scientific civilizations have produced weapons of war and nuclear weapons as means of destruction, leading to hopeless wars that put our world in danger.

Turning the world around

When God originally created energy, human beings should have done research and begun developing in a beneficial direction. The result of destructive research is today's nuclear weapons. If we cannot resolve this, there is no future for the world, no

future for the human race.

True Father brought together and educated many intellectuals through the International Conference on the Unity of the Sciences and the Professors World Peace Academy. In the midst of this, he was able to end the reign of communism. The United States, a world power, could not even imagine this and felt threatened by communism.

True Father was able to accomplish this without anyone's help. The United States was raised centered on the providence, but it is now in the midst of chaos. Once again, for you and me, our task is to give the world, not despair but hope!

That is why from next year, I will research ways to heal the damage in the world and the damage to humans done by the misguided use of civilization's scientific developments. That is not all. You all like games, right? We will create healthy games for those in preschool, elementary school, middle school, high school and university, based on the providence, using Divine Principle and True Parents' global peace initiatives. I have given the order to research this and create a general plan.


Invincible in unity

No one can go against those of you who go forward united with True Parents. We must fulfill our responsibilities for this nation, which is at the center of national restoration and restoration of the world.

This is not something that someone will do for us. Heavenly Parent and all people of the world must see you and all the blessed families united as citizens of God's homeland.

You are the pure water that took six thousand years to emerge thanks to True Parents' efforts. Through all of you, this murky world, this dirty world, must become clear.

Total Commitment

In order to do that, you must all be thorough. Absolute faith, absolute love, absolute obedience! Those who become one with True Parents and march forward cannot be defeated on that path. CARP students, national restoration and global restoration will happen with your hands! We must mobilize members of CARP from around the world here in Korea, God's homeland and unite to go forth boldly toward national restoration and global restoration! 

Concern for the Future Draws Leaders

International Leadership Conference in London, United Kingdom, September 7–9

By Jacques Marion



Sun Jin Moon, on behalf of True Mother, addressed the audience at the launching of three new chapters of IAPP in the House of Commons. To her right are her husband and Dr. Walsh, president of UPF.

September 7–9, the Universal Peace Federation held an International Leadership Conference in London, the third in a series of events held this year to launch worldwide the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP). With the theme “Interregional Dialogue Addressing Critical Challenges: Europe, Eurasia, the Middle East and North Africa,” the London conference represented the official launch of IAPP in these three regions (North Africa being part of our Middle East region). About a hundred and fifty people came from forty nations, including political and religious leaders, woman leaders and representatives of civil society.

Thirty members of parliament from fifteen nations attended the event and signed the proposal to establish an International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace in Europe, Eurasia and the Middle East.

Also in attendance were two former European heads of state and ten former members of parliament.

The conference began on September 7 with a session on A Vision for Peace-Building in the Global Era. Mr. Jack Corley, the UPF regional chair; and I, the UPF regional secretary general; both of UPF-Europe, presented the UPF peace-building principles and practices.

On critical challenges

Three UPF ambassadors for peace then commented on the presentations and gave their views on the theme of the conference: Professor Martin Ramirez, chair of the Center for Conflict Studies at Nebrija University in Spain; Erna Hennicot-Schoepges, the former speaker of the Luxembourg Parliament; and Mr. Robert Vandemeulebroucke, a former ambassador from Belgium’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

At the Opening Dinner, Baroness Sandip Verma, from the House of Lords and Dr. Edwin Shuker, the vice-president of the European Jewish Congress, warmly welcomed the participants. Rev. Marcus Braybrooke, the president of the World Congress of Faiths, and Sheikh Dr. Hojjat Ramzy, an executive member of the Muslim Council of Britain, gave the invocations. The evening closed with Dr. Thomas Walsh, president of UPF.

International, speaking a few words about the worldwide IAPP inauguration conference series, and former President Alfred Moisiu of Albania (2002–2007), emphasizing how significant such a conference and themes were for their nations.

The immigrant issue

The second day began with a session on “Peace and Migration: Cross-Regional Perspectives.” The



Baron Nazir Ahmed, a member of the House of Lords, speaking at the London ILC



presentations and discussion focused on the compelling issue of refugees, their integration into their new communities and the various factors behind migrations. The speakers were: Dr. Werner Fasslabend, Austrian minister of Defense (1999–2000) now president of the Austrian Institute for European and Security Policy (AIES); Ulla Sandbaek, from Denmark, a member of the European Parliament (1994–2004); Dr. Mohammad Al Antaki, a medical doctor attached to Palestinian refugee camps and secretary-general of the Integrated Community Based Initiative in Jordan; and Dr. Antonio Stango, secretary-general of the Italian Helsinki Committee for Human Rights and Paulo Pisco, a journalist and member of parliament from Portugal.

Toward Economic Harmony

The second morning session was devoted to the theme: “Addressing Peace and Security Challenges through Trade and Economic Integration.” The session dealt with economic integration plans between Europe and Eurasia, and the Chinese project of a “New Silk Road” connecting Asia and Europe. It shed light on the UPF founders’ project of an international highway for peace connecting the world in order to foster economic equality and intercultural exchange, requiring the construction of tunnels between Korea and Japan and crossing the Bering Strait between Russia and the US State of Alaska. The panel’s members were: Dr. Victor Razbegin, the director of the Interdepartmental Center for Integrated Regional Transport Projects at the Russian Ministry of

Economic Development, who studied and promoted the Bering Strait Tunnel project; Dr. Vladimir Petrovsky from the Russian International Affairs Council and a specialist on Far Eastern studies; Dr. Katsumi Otsuka, UPF-Eurasia regional chair and a former president of the Corporation for Building the Japan-Korea Tunnel; Ms. Madi Sharma, the UK representative at the European Economic and Social Committee in Brussels; Mr. Keith Bennett from the UK group, “The Icebreakers,” which specializes in China’s foreign economic policy.

Presenting peace road

Following this was a session introducing the Peace Road 2016 project, aimed at actualizing the vision of the international peace highway by promoting symbolic marches or



- ❶ The speaker is president of the Italian Helsinki Committee for Human Rights; Paulo Pisco is a member of parliament from Portugal; Dr. Mohamad Al Antaki is a physician connected with Palestinian refugee camps.
- ❷ Dr. Petrovsky is on the Russian International Affairs Council; Mr. Bennet is a member of a pro-China-trade group, the Icebreakers; Ms. Sharma is with the EESC in Brussels; Dr. Razbegin is in the Russian Ministry of Economic Development.
- ❸ This ILC saw the launch of three chapters of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP) including the one for Europe. Jack Corley is Europe's regional president.
- ❹ Katsumi Otsuka, president of our Northeast region, for which the launch of IAPP occurred in London
- ❺ Umberto Angelucci, president of the Middle East region, for which the launch of IAPP also occurred in London, during the ILC
- ❻ Dr. Walsh presenting certificates to new ambassadors for peace
- ❼ European FFWPU members in the audience



bicycle rides for peace throughout the world. Mr. Matthew Huish, national director of the U.K. chapter of Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU), an affiliated organization, and organizer of the Peace Road in the United Kingdom moderated the session. After a video describing Peace Road events held around the world in 2015 and 2016 in support of the reunification of the South Korea and North Korea and world peace, three participants representing Europe, Eurasia and the Middle East expressed their support for the project: Sun Jin Moon, daughter of Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, read her mother's address. Gerardo Giovagnoli, member of the San Marino Parliament; Mr. Maxim Misko, chair of the Belarus Peace Fund; and Issawi Frej, member of Israel's Knesset also spoke.

The house of the people

In the afternoon, all the participants moved to the British Parliament for two afternoon sessions in Committee Room 14 of the House of Commons. The first session at the Parliament had the theme of Overcoming Extremism and Promoting the Peaceful Resolution of Conflict: The Contribution of Religious Leadership. Thomas Brake, a British Liberal Democrat politician and Member of Parliament for Carlshilton and Wallington in South West London, hosted this session.

Faith-based efforts

Baron Nazir Ahmed, a member of the House of Lords and the first person to become a member of the House of Lords after swearing on the Holy Quran, greeted the audience. The session focused on the role that reli-

gious leaders and faith-based organizations could play in cooperation with political leaders in bringing effective solutions to violent religious extremism. The panel comprised several prominent speakers: Lord Robin Eames, the former primate of All Ireland (a religious post), who is well known for his role in the peace process in Ireland; Fatmir Sejdiu, former president of Kosovo (2006–2010), who was involved for many years at the highest level in the process of his country's independence; Sen. Latifa Gahouchi, member of the Belgian Parliament and head of the Commission on Education of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation; Dr. Afzal Ashraf, a consultant fellow at the United Kingdom's Royal United Services and an expert on terrorism and radicalization.



Participants of the ILC in the Palace of Westminster, where the House of Commons and House of Lords deliberate

IAPP established

Virendra Sharma, a member of the House of Commons and the patron of UPF-UK, who greeted the participants, hosted the second session at Parliament, where the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace was launched for Europe, Eurasia and the Middle East. Moderating the session, Dr. Thomas Walsh explained the purpose of this world-level association of parliamentarians, describing it as a forum through which to work together for peace and human development by going beyond differences of ideology, race, nationality and religion. He then gave the floor to Lord Rajinder Loomba, founder of the well-known U.K. charity Loomba Foundation, which supports widows around the world, who greeted the participants and supported the UPF initiative.

True Mother's message

The FFWPU international president, Sun Jin Moon, daughter of UPF Co-Founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, delivered True Mother's address. "I

will do my best to convey the warmth of love and the hopes for peace that she has in her heart," President Moon said, "and I invite you to all pay close attention to her message."

In the address, True Mother recalled that when she spoke at the United Nations in Vienna in 2015, she called for a spiritual awakening and urged each member-state to serve the whole, looking beyond national self-interest. She also asked the audience in London to consider establishing a fifth UN Office on the Korean Peninsula in order to work for peace in the Asia Pacific Region.

"I want to emphasize the importance of the role of parliamentarians," Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon said in her address. "You represent the people. You are entrusted by the people with a great responsibility. If parliamentarians of the world join together in harmony and cooperation for the sake of peace, we can transform the current reality of our world, creating a world of joy, harmony and lasting peace."

Representative members of parliament from Europe, Eurasia and the

Middle East then took the floor and gave brief statements of support for the new association, starting with: Nina Novakova, member of the Czech Parliament; Gen. Karlis Kreslins, member of the Latvian Parliament; Eleonora Bechis, member of the Italian Parliament; Silvio Parnis, member of the Maltese Parliament; and ending with Hilik Bar, deputy speaker of Israel's Knesset, who closed the session with a rousing speech calling for peace in the Middle East. (Unable to attend, Sen. Ahmed Palankoev of the Committee on International Affairs of the Russian Senate, had sent a message of support to the conference.)

All the panelists then signed the displayed proposal for the foundation of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace, joined by the former presidents of Albania and Kosovo, the former Austrian defense minister and his wife, and the three UPF regional chairs. All the participants separately signed the proposal, and then added their signature on the board.



Afloat on the River Thames

The evening concluded with a wonderful dinner-cruise on the River Thames, during which the participants could admire famous London sights while enjoying music, songs and dance.

On the closing day of the conference, Friday, September 9, participants had the opportunity to choose between four breakout sessions in the morning.

Those at the session on Family, Peace and Sustainable Development discussed the role of the family in building peace, its impact on social stability and prosperity and the challenge to define family policies for sustainable development. Members of Parliament and prominent supporters of family values in Europe comprised the panel: Rajinder Loomba from the House of Lords; Mr. Harry Benson, the research director of the UK-based Marriage Foundation and a regular voice on the issue of the family in UK local and national media; Inga Bite, a member of the Latvian Parliament;

Ulviyya Aghayeva, a member of the Azerbaijan Parliament; and Mr. Antoine Renard, the French president of the European Federation of Catholic Family Associations.

Media in modern times

A concurrent session on Media and Peace-building: The Impact of Social Media discussed the influence of social media in current societies, their role in relation to conflicts and to what extent laws should regulate them. Moderated by Mr. Humphrey Hawksley, a BBC world affairs correspondent from the United Kingdom, it brought together media professionals from Europe and the Middle East. Among these were Professor Simon Holberton, a lecturer in journalism at Deakin University in Australia; Professor Predrag Vujovic, the founder and president of the Public Relations Business School in Serbia and a leading communications expert in the ex-Yugoslavia region; Mr. Kiriakos Pierides, a journalist and founding member of the Association for Social Reform (OPEK) in Cyprus; Zuheir Bahloul, a member of the Knesset and a well-known television and radio sports broadcaster in Israel.

The role of women

In the second morning period, the session on "Women's Leadership in the Prevention of Radicalization" brought together woman parliament members from Europe, Eurasia and the Middle East who discussed the role of female empowerment and leadership in countering extremism and resisting radicalization. The panel was composed of: Alenka Jeraj, the vice-president of the Slovenian Democratic Party and president of its Women's Committee; Dilara Jabrayilova, a member of the Azerbaijan Parliament; Ksenia Svetlova, a journalist and member of the Knesset in Israel; Flora Brovina, a poet, pediatrician, women's rights activist and member of the Kosovo Parliament.


Since the "male representative" on the panel, Roberto Rampi, a member of the Italian Parliament, had to depart unexpectedly, Dr. Walsh joined the panel and offered his views on the interactive and complementary role of men and women in overcoming conflict.

Conflict resolution

The concurrent session's theme was Resolving and Preventing Conflict: Reconciling Secular and Religious Perspectives. The panelists discussed the interplay of religious and secular perspectives in conflict resolution and prevention, in view of searching for lasting, democratic solutions to contemporary conflicts. The panel comprised: Dr. Emmanuel Dupuy, the president of the Paris-based Institute for European Prospective Studies, who served as advisor to the French secretary of defense; Dr. Roman Joch, the president of the Civic Institute from the Czech Republic, a former advisor to the Czech prime minister on human rights and foreign policy; Asdin El Habbassi, a member of the Austrian Parliament and a deputy of the Austrian People's Party youth organization. Dr. Edwin Shuker, vice-president of the European Jewish Congress, who concluded the session with heartfelt words on Jewish spirituality's role in implementing peace.

Some reflections

A final luncheon ended the three-day conference, preceded by a ceremony in which thirty-two participants who had requested it received an ambassador for peace certificate from Dr. Walsh. One participant from each region offered a heartfelt testimony on their experiences throughout the conference, and a professional soul singer sent us all off with two farewell songs.

In their evaluations, participants described good impressions of the conference, appreciation for the high quality of the speakers and the relevance of the themes discussed. They were particularly impressed by the sessions at the Parliament, by the support from prominent members of the House of Lords and the House of Commons, and by the variety of political and religious views represented in the audience. Several members of parliament expressed their desire to join the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace and to participate in UPP activities. Reports of the conference made the news on TV channels and some major newspapers in countries around the world. 

A Significant Step Higher in the Italian Providence



History is made in the Italian Parliament with the founding of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace.

On September 13, we held an important conference in a special hall of the Italian Parliament, sponsored by UPF and WFPW. From 9:30 AM. until 7:00 PM, we convened with a very high level audience of sixty-three guests, including parliamentarians and other politicians, academics, leader of NGOs, journalists and presidents of important institutions—a rather elite group that we can definitely say belong to the social mainstream.

The occasion was made possible by two Italian Parliamentarians, MP Eleonora Bechis, whose constituency is Piedmont 1 in the Turin area and who is a member of several important parliamentary commissions; and MP Roberto Rampi, whose constituency is Lombardia 1, near Milan and who is a member of the Democratic Party. They had attended the recent Inauguration of the European chapter of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace. Being enthusi-



Italian Parliamentarians that had attended the launch of IAPP in the UK wanted a chapter in Italy.

astic about their experience in London, even before coming back, they requested one of the most beautiful and important halls in the parliament for reporting about it.

We had just a week time to prepare everything, inviting people, organizing a reception, preparing our speeches and complying with security requests. We had to run very fast but we made it, cooperating well with each other, UPF, WFPW, FFWPU staff members, including several from our second generation.

Speaking of True Parents

Finally, we held one of the most significant events in Italian providential history. First of all, the location was the one where parliamentarians discuss new laws. In our speeches, Carlo Zonato, president of UPF; Elisabetta Nistri, president of WFPW; and Giuseppe Calì, president of FFWPU gave the most beautiful testimonies to True Parents' vision resonating, for the first time ever, in a core place of the country. Gabriella Mieli, vice-president of WFPW, as MC of the event, read True Mother's speech, the one that Sun Jin Moon read in the Parliament Building in London.


Grappling with modern issues

Several other speeches were presented on various topics: Peace and Mass Migrations, Family, Peace and Sustainable Development, and Women's role in Preventing Radicalization. Finally some case studies on good practices from our peace federations. Giorgio Gasperoni, FFWPU national leader of San Marino; spoke about some recent projects in cooperation with Italian

and Israeli movements. Umberto Angelucci, regional president for Middle East, gave us a meaningful testimony of his work in Afghanistan. Particularly significant was the speech given by MP Centemero, who is the Secretary of the Permanent Commission on Constitutional Affairs. She wanted to go to London but she couldn't so she participated with a paper on human rights, to confirm her will to cooperate with us.

Moving ahead

The conference was dense with important information, deep discussions and suggestions, but also full of hope, good will and spirit. We felt God's Grace coming down, not only to us but to all of Italy. It was the first time such a powerful testimony to True Parents entered so clearly into our main national institution.

All participants were caught in this spirit and offered their cooperation to develop the association of parliamentarians and the federation for peace. All this looks as if it is the beginning of the fulfillment of our's and True Parents' dreams, to build the substantial Cheon Il Guk, after so much sacrificing. Of course, we are well aware that there is still a long way to go, but we are in the age after "Foundation Day," after the fourth anniversary of True Father's seonghwa, and increasingly, the impossible is becoming absolutely possible. We just started but we are committed to embodying and promoting the change we want to see in our country and in the world. 

The heads of various Italian Unificationist organizations contributed to this article.



Blessing Those in Our Second Generation

An interview of Ursula McLackland

In this interview, Mrs. McLackland, head of the Blessed Family Department for the Asia region, answered questions about the parent-matching process, in which God manifests his love for blessed children and guides the process through the parents' unity, the bonds of trust and love in the parent-child relationship and interaction between families. A key point that arose is the great need for matching advisers. Among TPmagazine readers, mature members who relate well with others and have a wide circle of contacts ought to consider becoming qualified matching advisers. On the point of advisers, the interview began.



Speaking in Bangkok

Q How many matching advisers does your region have and how many do you think you need?

A To be quite honest, we are struggling still to raise effective matching advisers in each country. I am still doing a lot for the elder second-gen and the elder families that I know. I have more of an international network.

My hope is to raise matching advisers who are confident and experienced in each country and in each major city and center. A need for them exists in each country in more than just the capital city. I can't give a number but my hope is that we will have in each major city where we have elder second-gen a matching adviser to help them locally.

What certification process do matching advisers go through?

We do have matching adviser training especially during the parent matching convocations. I think that is the best time because they get a practi-



Mrs. McLackland in her role as secretary-general of UPF Asia

cal experience on the material presented—the parent matching process—and we can teach them more about the matching web site. Afterward we have a matching adviser meeting where we can go over points and help them more. That is the process.

Sometimes we have had local matching adviser training in a country, where we present the same material but it feels theoretical because they don't go through the actual parent matching convocation. [Please see the article on a matching convocation on page 21.]

Does your region have its own handbook or do you use one from the international headquarters or another source?

Well, so far in English our first parent matching convocation was held by the American Blessed Family Department [BFD], so we mostly used the materials we inherited from the US BFD at the time, both

the presentations (we update them) and the handbook.

In the interview process of the candidate and the parents, you ask questions of them separately and together. Are the questions pre-formulated or does the adviser go on intuition?

They have two interviews. I think you are not talking about the purity interview.

No, not the purity interview.

OK. In the matching process, we refer to a Family Matching Worksheet, laid out by the US family BFD, which comes along with the US Parent-Matching Handbook. I have found these to be very good questions and I found it helpful to interview the parents, get their idea, and then interview the children. I try to help them come to some common ground if they have different opinions.

One slide I saw encourages church education before the blessing to

strengthen a person's qualifications and mentions that Asia, the US and Europe require a minimum of one-year membership. Is that minimum for first-generation or second-generation members?

Actually, it refers to the first gen. Of course, ideally, we want the second gen to have a kind of membership standard. If second gen never come to the church and don't know anything, it is not a good foundation for a successful blessing. If they come regularly to Sunday service and are tithing...

Of course, they are members, technically, from the day they were born, but they should also lead a member's life as a foundation for the matching. The reason we put "one year," is because Korea allows six months. Actually, Korea uses the international standard, in the headquarters it is six months. But some regions fear that six months is not enough—especially for the first gen. With second gen we can be lenient depending on the parents

and guidance but especially the first gen, we do feel that as minimum they should be a one-year member before they enter the matching.

In Korea, usually in the final year of high school, it's understood that blessed children are too busy studying for the crucial university entrance exam to go to church or do activities.

Honestly, I didn't hear that directly but I was informed that in Japan, they have developed an alternative. If the second gen don't have time to go to church because of their studies they can do some kind of online thing—maybe doing hoondok reading and answering questions or something else. Our Japanese Filipino couples asked us whether that would be okay as a requirement. I said yes, that is the standard in Japan and that is their situation. In Asia, we did not find that a person absolutely cannot come once or twice to church in a month.

What would you say to parents that find it disturbing that we have goals for how many second-generation members the Blessed Family Department wants to match? Doesn't some tension exist between the idea that both parties of a couple need to be fully prepared and these numerical goals?

Honestly, in Asia we do not really have much of that problem. For example, we had a goal set by the BFD leader, looking at the realistic situation, how many second-generation members they had who were seriously preparing or already entering the application process, because you cannot set a goal if there are no candidates, and pushing someone into a matching to reach a goal is an absolute disaster. We would never push—neither parents nor children. We try to focus on their education and to help them, support them so that they feel confident that there is a support system for them as parents and second gen. We try to set up good models—couples who are successfully matched and blessed, so that the younger ones want to

get blessed, not that anyone feels pushed into it.

That is an excellent answer. I will be happy to put that into the magazine. Even I worried a bit that there are these goals.

No. It is just for us as a guideline. For us as the BFD and leaders and educators, we have to set up necessary education programs. That means that if we put up a goal for ourselves, we have to produce the educational programs; we have to provide support for the parents, the second gen, everyone. It helps us to push ourselves, to realize what we have to do. Otherwise, you just let it be and let other responsibilities take precedent and we do not set up education programs. Of course, then you won't have qualified candidates and the parents won't be ready either.

I do wonder, in looking at the education process that you outline, if perhaps, in Asia you have emphasized church life within the family when the children are much younger than other nations have.

In general, yes. Especially since Dr. Yong came, ten years ago, now, almost. His first emphasis was on doing hoondokhae, family hoondokhae. People were doing hoondokhae on their own, and for hoondokhae we have a very clear system: You first read the DP one-hour lecture a hundred times and then the three-hour lecture... That is for everyone, including those in the second gen. That hoondokhae tradition is very strong.

We are lucky in the sense that most of our second gen are very young. A maximum of fifty-three or fifty-four are looking at matching now. For this generation we have been able to build up CARP and HARP and summer camp and regular workshops and a support system. We have the International Peace Leadership College. Besides doing the regular academic degree—because it's our own university—they do one year of fund raising in other countries, gaining international experience. They are now the leaders of the new generation of second gen. I feel we have a very good system. I hope we will


establish a good process so that our second gen do not lose their faith.

We do have some older second gen, twenty-five and above, some whom (especially if they had a broken matching)... I, myself, personally try very hard to help and support them find a suitable match and work with the parents, because they are the older ones. We put much emphasis on helping the older ones to have a support system. We are helping them to find a successful blessing.

Could you speak about the role of the FFWPU International Headquarters' Blessed Family Department? Do you interact with them?

All the time. We are really, really, really, really happy. In the past the Korean BFD, understood themselves more as the Korean BFD. Of course, they tried to help through several international BFD leaders meetings. For years, they tried to interact with the international BFD directors, trying to provide support, but there was a little bit of conflict, a conflict of interest or of wish because they were the Korean BFD but they also should be the international headquarters. Especially we had problems with translation. At that time, they did not always have a capable translator who could always be there to help us. Now, they have a very good system and it is very clear. The Korean BFD takes care of the Korean situation and the international BFD helps all the thirteen regions.

Now they have assigned someone to focus on international communications. They have very good translators, so we have a very good communication system. They started a monthly report system. They even have individual calls between the BFD directors so we can interact and understand each other. We are really happy to have the international BFD directly under True Mother's guidance.

Mr. Bang used to be in the Korean BFD but now his mission is to focus on the regions. He has a very capable young translator who is there for him to help us. Now, the past problems have been ironed out. 

Guiding Your Children into Blessed Marriage

Parents' involvement in the matching process is a profound act of love calling on the parents and child to trust each other and to bear mutual responsibility. The Asia region demonstrates that it sees value for our movement's future in this process.





The Asia region held a two-day Parent Matching Convocation (PMC) September 10 and 11 at the FFWPU-Philippines Headquarters building. Ninety-five participants attended from Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and the Philippines. Blessed Family Department directors from Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines and Filipino members living in Japan were also present during the whole event.

Progress is needed

The two-day event provided a foothold for further development in the Asia region in the area of Parents' Matching Convocations because it was the first time for most of the delegates to attend an assembly of this type. For many of the parents, learning about the matching itself and realizing the importance of their role as blessed parents in preparing their children for the matching and blessing was illuminating.

On the first day, Dr. Julius Malicdem, the national leader, welcomed the parents with a warm message. The parents had the opportunity to gain clear knowledge of the preparations needed to become involved in the process in terms of spiritual practices and practical matters from Mrs. Ursula McLackland, special envoy and director of the Blessed Family Department for Asia, who spoke about the parent

matching and blessing qualifications in the first lecture. [Please see the interview of Mrs. McLackland on page 18.]

Parents are vital

Dr. Chung Sik Yong, president of the Asia region, followed this with a powerful lecture, instilling into the parents' hearts the seriousness of their roles before, during, and after the matching. Shortly after that, Mrs. McLackland introduced and discussed the details of the parent matching process.

Real life stories

Mrs. Yie Sun Vergara, a blessed second-generation member who attended the Blessing Ceremony in Korea last February testified to her experience, as did a senior couple from Thailand, Mr. Solot and his wife. They had found a wife for their son at the last Asian Parent Matching Convocation.

Taking those first steps

After the lectures and testimonies, the excitement grew as the parents of matching candidates one by one introduced their child's profiles onstage using PowerPoint presentations. Then the parents had the opportunity to network with the other parents as well as search for potential matches through the display of profiles



- ❶ Dr. Julius Malicdem, our national leader in the Philippines addressing the convocation participants
- ❷ Women looking at some of the candidates' photographs and information during the Parent Matching Convocation
- ❸ During the convocation, couples introduced a child whom they were seeking a match for. Couples who have successfully gone through the parent-matching process testified about their experience.

from other regions for the remainder of the first day and on the morning of the second day. During this time, parents also had the chance to clarify question and learn about the use of the bcmatching website. Dr. Yong also made himself available to advise parents personally on their options and potential matches for their children, which greatly encouraged them.

The morning devotion led by Dr. Yong each day provided a rich spiritual atmosphere and foundation to look at the matching process from the wider perspective of God's providence. The holding of the Asia Parents Matching Convocation in the Philippines was truly timely as a growing number of blessed parents in the Asian Region are seriously preparing to match their children.


Assessment afterward

Following the PMC, the Asian Blessed Family Department leaders and Matching Advisors met over the next two days to evaluate and

improve the PMC as well standardize qualifications and required documents for the Matching and Blessing throughout the region. Mrs. McLackland shared the guidelines and discussions during the recent International Blessed Family Department Directors meeting in Korea with the Asian Blessed Family Department directors. By holding the PMC and Blessed Family Department leaders meeting twice a year, we will be able to cooperate closely and help each other provide better care for and guide our blessed couples and their children.

Testimonies

"I can feel God's heart... Everyone was happy and eager (the parents). In the original Garden of Eden, this was supposed to be God's plan. I lament that God could not feel it at that time but we, blessed families, were able to feel this joy and excitement as we reach this point."

"As I was preparing two of my sons' profiles, I realized that this was supposed to be Mother Mary's role, which she was not able to fulfill... I am very grateful that I could raise these children of God and True Parents on their behalf to continue God's lineage. I realize that there are so many things to prepare. I thank Dr. Yong, Mrs. Ursula, and the staff for preparing this kind of event." 

Remembering True Father Is a Call to Witness

The Albanian movement commemorates the fourth anniversary of True Father's seonghwa in a public building and in a very public-minded manner.



Based on True Mother's guidance to organize and commemorate the fourth anniversary of True Father's seonghwa in each nation, on September 3, around two hundred and eighty brothers and sisters, ambassadors for peace, and prominent societal figures including Members of Parliament and those that served as Members of Parliament in the past as well as other members of government and guests, met at the main hall of the Tirana International Hotel to honor, remember and celebrate the life of our True Father, Rev. Sun Myung Moon.

The whole program was a combination of personal testimonies and music performances, giving everybody present a small taste of how great, strong, and single-minded True Father was when facing death and being persecuted by the world. The event also recalled the other side of True Father's character, how sensible he was and how he could be moved to tears by the fall of a leaf.

After offering the bouquets of flowers, the opening remarks was given by Rev. Giuseppe Cali, the national leader of FFWPU- Italy, who was in Albania to teach Original Divine Princi-

ple to young Albanians. Rev. Cali shared his personal experiences with True Father and how his life had changed since as a young man he had heard and been touched by the teaching and life style of True Father, which was a living principle life.

After a moving video about True Father's life and achievements, Mr. Ali Lacej, the coordinator of the Albanian Peace Council, testified about the greatness of True Father's teachings and the spiritual revolution he brought to peoples' minds and hearts. In addition, he mentioned how much True Parents did for Albania and Albanians.

Two beautiful songs were performed by UPA students Mica and Riza and Albanian blessed members who wanted to offer their hearts and gratitude to True Father. The performance concluded with an exciting rhythmic dance performed by four Japanese brothers who are part of Cheon Il Guk missionary program.

After the joyful performances, the program continued with four heartfelt moving testimonies given by one ambassador for peace, Mrs. Kozeta Zavalani, and three members, Daniela Pupa, Arnold Grami and Anila Prethi. You could feel the sincerity of their words coming from the heart. Naturally, most of the participants were in tears, recalling their own experiences with True Father and missing him dearly. In that spirit, the famous Albanian singer Marisa Ikonomi, an ambassador for peace, sang "Let it Be", followed by an famous a Albanian song.

The program concluded with a moving poem by the chairman of the Universal Peace Federation in Albania, Mr. Gaqo Apostoli entitled "Oh, how much I miss you Heavenly Parent." This moved everybody. At the end, we offered three cheers of loud Eog Maneis!

It was a short program, just one hundred minutes, but we felt in a different world, close to our True Father and True Mother, as we left the hotel. Many guests who did not know much about True Parents were very happy and asked to learn more about True Parents. It was very clear to all of us that what we should do to the fullest is testify to True Parents and let people know they are here. *TP*

The Albanian headquarters staff produced this article.

- ❶ The event ended with cheers of Eog Manseil
- ❷ International cooperation: Rev. Giuseppe Cali, the national leader of FFWPU-Italy, who was in the country leading a workshop for Albanian members hungry for spiritual nourishment, testified to the changes True Father had brought in his life.
- ❸ Flowers being offered on the day the Albanian members publicly commemorated the anniversary of True Father's ascension



Serving the Nation in a Time of Social Change

The Republic of Korea, which has long treasured its homogeneity, has one of the world's lowest birthrates. Thus, it is on the cusp of profound social change as it opens its doors to immigrants.

Given that True Parents have led the way in marrying Koreans to spouses from other nations, we have a role to play in promoting harmony and the acceptance and smooth integration of families with roots in different cultures.

The second Multicultural Peace Festival, "Exploring many cultures together, a hopeful Korea!" took place on September 10, beginning at 10:00 AM at Yeouido Park's Culture Square, in central Seoul. Around ten thousand people came to express respect for social diversity during this festival promoting harmony.

The Peace Festival

The Korea Multicultural Peace Federation and the Multicultural Social Welfare Center organized the event. The Ministry of Gender Equality and Family, WFWP, the Segye Times and World Masters Committee, a Korean-based organization founded to create one world through art and culture by introducing foreign cultures into Korea and Korean culture to the world, sponsored the event. Twenty-four branches of the Korean Multicultural Peace Federation, fifty-five member groups, ambassadors of various countries, NGOs and organizations with connections to multicultural activities participated. Korean citizens, bicultural families and audience members from more than fifty nations including Japan, Mongolia, Norway, England, Malaysia, Belgium, Ukraine, the Philippines and the United States combined in a festival for all people of the world.

The festival began with a pre-event performance. Part one of the event was ceremonial;

part two had special performances and the third part comprised a three-on-three basketball tournament, multicultural singing festival, various other programs and booth visiting.

Beyond ideology

During the ceremony, Mr. Hong In-myeong, secretary-general of the Multicultural Peace Federation; and Ms. Moon Hye-rim, president of the Philippines International Family Council were MCs and introduced distinguished guests and a video presentation. Prof. Yeon-ah Moon, president of WFWPUI, welcomed the large crowd.

Ten thousand people came to Yeouido Island, in the heart of Seoul, to the multicultural festival.





Mrs. Wonju McDevitt, chief of Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon's Secretariat, presenting awards to model citizens from bi-cultural families—such as good daughters-in-law and excellent students

In President Moon's welcoming address, she spoke of Lee Eun-ju, a female South Korean gymnast in the 2016 Rio Olympic Games. Lee Eun-ju comes from a bicultural family, having a Korean father and Japanese mother. Yeon-ah nim told the audience that Lee Eun-ju showed us the true value of peace by going beyond political ideology when she took a photograph with female North Korean gymnast, Hong Un-jong. She went on to say that many people with mixed cultural backgrounds are professionals in a variety of fields and their influence is beginning to spread.

Good citizens

Our movement was granted a license on July 5, 2010 to run a center in Seoul focused on improving the lives and circumstances of foreign-born people living in Korea. Since then, we have opened additional facilities in the city of Daegu and in Iksan, in North Jeolla Province. The work done is for the good of the nation and these centers serve foreign-born people in Korea regardless of their religious background.

In the opening speech, Ryu Kyeong-seuk welcomed all the participants who had come to the festival in the spirit of overcoming national, racial, lingual, cultural and religious boundaries. In his speech, he said, "Bicultural families work energetically in their own fields and of course in the Republic of South Korea they are becoming dependable citizens who contribute

greatly to society, through their children who go through mandatory Korean military conscription and also through service activities." He declared them beacons of hope that will guide us into a globalized era.

Pax Koreana

Ms. Kang Eun-hee is head of the Ministry Gender Equality and Family, her deputy director-general Mr. Yoon Hyo-shik read the minister's speech. In it, she congratulated everyone and promised to help, actively, the bicultural families who are growing and developing so that through government policy and support, these families can open the way to an age of harmony and peace as members of Korean society.

Kang Myung-young, president of a local branch of Lions Club International said, "When we look at the foreigners here in Korea, these bicultural families are our neighbors. We must think of them as our family, as our neighbors... I cannot wait for the 'white-clad folk' and the bicultural families that shine brilliantly in various colors to work together to create a 'Pax Koreana.'"

A multicultural society

Ambassador Raul Hernandez of the Philippines spoke of how happy he was to be able to participate in the Multicultural Festival. "In order to have social diversity we must have cross-border



cooperation; increasingly I am realizing the importance of international exchange.” He also spoke about his support of multicultural organizations focused on improved rights and social integration programs.

Awards presented

Next, the heads of the National Defense Committee and the Korean Multicultural Peace Federation presented the Defense Award and President’s Award, respectively. Recipients also took home scholarships and other grants for improvement of multicultural welfare and cultivating human resources.

Wishing peaceful settlement

Following this, a man and woman read a multicultural peace declaration ostensibly representing the wishes of two million immigrants. Those wishes were that a multi-cultural society can smoothly emerge in the Republic of Korea and that the nation will help immigrants settle properly and resolve any problems and conflicts that might arise as society becomes multicultural.

Culture in sound and movement

During the second part of the festival, the Rainbow Girls performed a dance from the Philippines. Shin-myeong put on a Nanta-like (Korean modern percussion) performance, and the son of bi-cultural Unificationist parents

- ① Rev. Ryu Kyeong-seuk, welcomed everyone to the festival and spoke of how those from other countries who have become Korean citizens are contributing to society.
- ② A booth showcasing the culture of the Philippines
- ③ Malaysians display art and crafts from their country.
- ④ The Rainbow Girls, from the Philippines entertained the audience
- ⑤ One booth helped keep children occupied

played an electric organ. Love and Truth, likely an ad-hoc group, performed “Ae-wa-Jin” a Japanese dance. The Thailand Community Culture Team played traditional Thai instruments and the Team African danced. A multicultural children's choir Cha-ming and other performances showcased a variety of cultures through dance and song.

K-pop meets basketball

A K-pop song festival and a three-on-three basketball tournament composed part three of the festival. Meanwhile, forty-four booths featured activities such as drawing on tiles, promotion of the various cultures immigrants to Korea have brought with them. Festival goers could try on traditional clothing or play traditional games. There was a multicultural photo zone as well as a consultation booth for enlisting in the military that featured Mixed Martial Arts. Multicultural family counseling was also promoted.



A hotel banquet


The ambassadors to Korea from Laos, Algeria, Bangladesh, Columbia, Peru, Angola and the Philippines, also participated in the festival. After the special performances, the ambassadors and others attended a luncheon held at the nearby Kensington Hotel. Ryu Kyeong-seuk spoke of the history of the blessing. Ambassador Rahman from Bangladesh later said that having seen the Multicultural Festival he had begun to understand FFWPU's international blessings. Another point of interest is that the wife of Ambassador Derragui of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria asked Yeon-ah Moon many questions about WFWP. Among other comments, Prof. Moon replied that in Korea's male-centric society many difficulties arise due to disputes and conflicts, therefore in WFWP, women come to the forefront to work on creating a peaceful world. During the luncheon, Wonju McDevitt spoke on behalf of True Mother, aiding in creating a harmonious and happy event.

Developments

Through this event with people from many nations, we could see the fruits of True Parents' lifelong work for world peace and harmony among all elements of humanity, as we are realizing the settlement of Cheon Il Guk. Yeongmi Park, a second-generation member from southern Seoul, said that meeting people of

many different nations was opportunity to feel that we are all one family under God.

The Thai International Family Council prepared a drum dance. During this performance, people who have recently met our church performed together. They also enthusiastically participated in the Thai Boxing booth. They had taken a day off from work to share Thai culture. Our members visited Korean-Thai couples whose families have not been active in the church, inviting them to participate in the performance and booth activities. Those who could not participate gave donations that helped provide a variety of activities. Yada, a Thai woman with a Korean husband, said this festival was not just something to participate in, but an opportunity for witnessing, creating harmony and development. She said she was very happy for this opportunity.

The Wonmo Pyeongae Foundation, the Cheongsu Group and others gave financial support toward "programs that cultivate multicultural talent." They were also supportive of improving self-esteem in bicultural children so that through the Korea Multicultural Peace Federation, bicultural families who settled in Korea as citizens and as citizens of Cheon Il Guk, can lead happy lives as blessed families, where parents raise second-generation members who can grow and lead the way. 

The Multicultural Federation submitted this article.

Champions of True Parents' Vision for Peace

Forty years ago, when True Father stood at the foot of the Washington Monument before three hundred thousand people, he declared a pivotal and urgent message for America: "The United States of America, transcending race and nationality, is already a model of the unified world. She must realize that the abundant blessings which God has been pouring upon this land are not just for America, but are for the children of God throughout the world." These visionary and enduring words have driven the work of numerous organizations, including the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU) and its affiliates, to this day.

The first of the weekend's events to commemorate the forty-year anniversary of the groundbreaking 1976 Washington Monument rally was a commemorative banquet on the evening of Friday, September 16, at the Arbor Ballroom of the Washington Times building in Washington, D.C. True Father's speech, "America and God's Will," was the theme of the banquet and the common calling that brought together over two hundred and fifty guests and Unificationists to commemorate the speech and celebrate several outstanding individuals and non-profit organizations based in the Washington, D.C. area that have championed its message these past forty years.

Dr. Ki Hoon Kim, regional president of FFWPU North America, offered welcoming remarks both somber and hopeful in tone. Invoking the themes and concerns voiced by True Father at the monument forty years ago, Dr. Kim acknowledged the challenges our families and nation currently face, while also reaffirming that the only possible remedy to

these challenges is the practice of forgiveness, love, and unity.

"Forty years ago, Rev. and Mrs. Moon felt a calling to bring this message, America and God's Will, to the great American people," said Dr. Kim. "His approach was not a simply patriotic message; he touched the very soul of the nation, highlighting the challenges to the family and nation, and proclaiming that if we unite, we can overcome communism. It was hard to believe then, but it was right on target. America can't fulfill her role today without principled leadership. God prepared great leaders like you to lead America to real peace. True Mother feels hope from you and feels that America is God's hope. If we unite, we will witness transformation just like in 1976."

Awarding public efforts

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Ambassadors for Peace Awards and the Three Blessings Service Awards, when individuals and organizations were recognized for their efforts to actualize True Parents' vision of peace in the world.

Rev. Karen Thibodeaux, founder of Lifeway Church of Dallas, and her husband Dr. Bishop David Thibodeaux were appointed ambassadors for the stellar work they have done as pastors to care for and uplift their neighbors and community in Dallas. Amir Adam Khan, a singer, actor, and model, was honored for his sincere efforts to advance the principles of peace in each of his professions. "I'd like to thank Father Moon for the choice he left us to move forward," said Bishop David Thibodeaux. "We are here today to take charge to move forward."



- ❶ Thomas McDevitt, chairman of the *Washington Times*
- ❷ Larry Moffitt, vice-president of the Washington Times Foundation
- ❸ The DeGoede family had come from New Jersey for the events and to "see God work in a powerful way."
- ❹ Rev. David and Dr. Karen Thibodeaux, ambassadors for peace
- ❺ Award recipients and leaders of the sponsoring groups

Vicki Tiahr, president of the Congressional Club for Spouses of Congress, chairwoman of the 91st First Lady Luncheon, and co-founder of American Prayer Initiative, was recognized for her efforts to honor faith and family values in Washington. "This is more than just a piece of paper to me," said Vicki Tiahr. "It's an incentive."

Unificationist Shinyoung Chang expressed how "looking back over the years that it has been active, it amazes me the reach UPF can extend into the wider community through the Peace Ambassador program. It's refreshing to see so many faces and organizations established in the world being recognized tonight in light of True Parents' vision for world peace."

Three blessings

Mr. Tom McDevitt, chairman of the Washington Times presented the Three Blessings Service Awards to four organizations.

The First Blessing award recipient was Seraphim Global. Cynthia Turner, the executive director, and members of the organization received the award and a \$1,000 donation toward their work to combat domestic violence and human trafficking both in America and abroad.


Kazi Mannan, owner of Mayur Kabob House restaurant, which provides free meals for the homeless to "heal their suffering with true love" and Douglas Leadership Institute, and education

and public policy organization founded by Rev. Dean Nelson were awarded the Second Blessing Award. The award given to the Douglas Leadership Institute was accepted by Rev. Kerrick McKain, who said on behalf of the organization that they are "excited about what God is doing through the local church, the body of Christ and the greatest instrument of God."

The Institute for Faith, Work & Economics, which makes efforts to enhance the workplace by applying biblical principles, revolutionizing the way people view work, was awarded the Third Blessing Award. Rev. Art Lindsley, vice-president of Theology Initiatives, accepted it.

Also recognized were the veterans of the 1976 Washington Monument rally, who stood up. Miilhan Stephens, vice-president of FFWPU USA, read four excerpts from the speech, "America and God's Will," followed by stories of impact that delved deeper into each of these four themes: overcoming atheistic materialism, strengthening marriage and family, uniting faiths and creating a global community of leaders for peace. Brief and poignant presentations were then given by four Unificationists on each of these themes.

Call to action

Mrs. Angelika Selle, president of WFWP USA, closed the evening with a call to join in the activities on Saturday. "Are you feeling stirred up? Let's keep the fire burning, tell the story to someone new, and find new and creative ways to make True Father's message our own—to adapt it and make a difference." 

FFWPU in the United States contributed this article.

Reaching the Peak of World Martial Arts

By Gustavo Giuliano

The first World Martial Arts Mastership took place recently in the city of Cheongju, in North Chungcheong Province, in the Republic of Korea, September 2–8. The 2,487 participants from eighty-seven nations, practitioners of seventeen styles of martial arts came together under the motto, Martial Arts for One World, One World for Martial Arts. Representatives from Tongil Moo-do, Taekwondo, Judo, Hapkido and Karate were among those that invited to join the Organizing Committee.

Being together, we felt that we had reached “the peak” of the martial arts world. The city had been investing for decades to promote martial arts, creating healthy communication between athletes using different styles, upholding the values of dignity and harmony, peace, coexistence, asceticism and caring among all the martial arts fighters worldwide. This first World Martial Arts Mastership was a global festival, in which not only were friendship and fellowship promoted but nationalities, races, religions and ideologies were transcended. Surely, this reflects the great work that our True Parents have been doing throughout much of the twentieth century and into the twenty-first century. I feel I must deeply thank Grand Master Seuk, who along with some key masters have been making a foundation for this since 1979.

Characteristics of the event

With the goal, harmony among the world’s martial arts, the styles taking part were Taekkyeon, Taekwondo, Wushu, Kickboxing, Muay Thai, Judo, Jujitsu, Kurash, Kendo, Hapkido, Yongmudo, Sambo, Tongil Moo-do, Belt Wrestling and Horseback Archery. The event logo represents the site where all the world martial arts come together, the city of Cheongju, in the heart of the Republic of Korea. The mascots’ names were Mudori and Yesuri, derived from the Chinese characters, “mu” and “ye” which mean “martial arts.” The entire organization came together with great attention to detail and with dedication, in the pure style of the Olympic Games. The city government, the provincial government, the national Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism; the Korean Olympic Committee and UNESCO supported the event.

Tongil Moo-do had athletes from fourteen different nations: Korea, Japan, Argentina,

- ❶ The author demonstrating his strength in front of an audience that included True Parents in 2008. (All seven layers broke).
- ❷ A Hopki-do demonstration
- ❸ A performance by a martial arts athlete
- ❹ A Taekwondo demonstration
- ❺ Practitioners of Sambo, a combat sport developed by the Soviet Red Army in the 1920s, during a competitive match
- ❻ Two adherents of Taekkyeon, a Korean fighting style that is at least two hundred years old, fiercely compete



Brazil, Thailand, Cambodia, Nepal, India, Iran, Kenya, Ethiopia, Congo, Taiwan, the United States and the Philippines.

In addition, FFWPU regional and national leaders joined the Organizing Committee as jury members, referees and judges. The organization paid for all their air tickets and bought tailored suits for everybody.

Follow these links for more on this magnificent event:

www.2016martial-arts.kr/home_eng/sub.php?menukey=711
www.facebook.com/martialartsmasterships/
www.tongilmoodo.com

Help for the aged

Following the tournament, we went to Cheongpyeong, specifically to Cheong-A Camp, for a two-day Il Won Do workshop. This new martial arts form, created by Grand Master Seuk Joonho, aims primarily to help people who cannot perform aggressive exercises due to age or poor health. It consists of breathing exercises and yoga-like, soft, relaxed circular techniques, to help prevent disease. It encourages a healthy diet with meditational exercises. Additionally,

Master Moon Pyung-rae, president of the Martial Arts Federation, taught us the exercises that True Father did while in prison.

Primarily, this martial art should help elderly people and women but also every young person who does not have competitive inclinations. Soon we will put together a description of what each movement symbolizes as well as a video library to follow the different movements.

On the second day after lunch, all the martial arts athletes participating in the workshop walked from Cheon A Camp to Cheon Jeong Gung under the heat of a summer sun, which was a challenging experience. Later we learned that our True Mother had talked to Dr. Seuk asking him to further support Vision 2020, since the martial arts federation is also a providential organization. All Tongil Moo-do athletes in the world are excited about this recognition. Our deepest desire is to create a world of wonhwa, a world of harmony. 7

Master Hector Gustavo Giuliano is the Tongil Moo-do and Ilwon-do director for South America and Central America.



Martial Arts, an Inner Battle

By Jinsu Giuliano



The writer with his medal; *Below, left to right:* Pres. Moon Pyung-rae and Pres. Seuk Joon-ho of the Martial Arts Federation and the writer's father, Gustavo Giuliano

I am grateful for the experience of participating in this fantastic tournament along with brothers and sisters from around the world. Through Tongil Moo-do we could share with the martial arts world part of our True Parents' great work. As often happens, we do not realize the magnitude of the circumstances until a while after the facts occur. The same applies to True Father's life; only now are people beginning to discover how great an example of a human being True Father is for humankind. Great also is the work of our faithful and devoted older brothers and sisters who allow this historic providence to continue moving forward. The first thing I feel is a very deep appreciation. Just before the tournament, I participated in the

first Global Top Gun Youth workshop in Korea, together with more than a thousand young first-, second- and third-generation members, which was a blessing. We, the participants at the GTGY workshop, went through a range of activities, such as a pilgrimage to holy grounds around Korea, listening to guidance directly from Sun Jin nim and Yeon Ah nim, receiving internal guidelines, studying True Parents' courses, and taking time for meditation and reflection in Cheongpyeong. Especially wonderful was the opportunity to be face to face with True Mother, receiving much love and guidance. Immense gratitude overcame me for all I had received, as a second-generation member, from True Parents, both a spiritual foundation and external blessings.

Why am I getting so much? Why do I receive such an abundance of blessings? I did nothing to deserve these blessings. Gradually, I understood that we must inherit with pride everything amid this history full of achievements by our True Parents (with help from our older brothers and sisters) in order to share this grace with the world.

My parents and True Parents

Tongil Moo-do is part of True Parents' legacy. I inherited love for martial arts from my father. Since early childhood I admired my parents deeply, both passionate admirers of True Parents. As far back as I can remember, they have always been actively involved with God's providence. I perfectly understand those young second-generation members who suffered the physical absence of their parents,



Left: the mascots and logo; Above: Tongil Moo-Do competitors at the World Martial Arts Mastership in Cheongju, Korea

at some stage of their lives, because their parents had public missions. I had the same experience. I want to tell those members that unless they willingly try to follow a similar course and experience it themselves, they are unlikely to understand that our parents' absence in our lives was the evidence, a token, of their greater love.

Tongil Moo-do and I


Tongil Moo-do has always challenged me. Although I have practiced it since childhood, it is not something for which I have natural talent. In order to apply correctly certain techniques, I need sufficient training time.

Before the competition, all the competitors went to a village where we lived together for four days. As I mentioned, I had participated in the GTGY, so for over a month before the tournament I could not do my usual training, something essential for a competitor. When I became acquainted with the competitors, I could see that many had prepared well. Small but persistent pessimistic thoughts about my performance at the competition began invading me. I was trying to repel those thoughts, trying to be strong and to trust my acquired knowledge, but just a day before the competition four more Tongil Moo-do practitioners from the Republic of Iran showed up. As soon as I saw them, I tried to gauge their height and weight—essential points to determine whether they were potential adversaries for when the time of combat arrives. After a few minutes, I confirmed that we were in the same category and that I might fight one of them. I must say that they were competitors with

great physical and technical preparation. At that moment, all kinds of doubtful thoughts invaded me completely. I felt powerless.

Why should I bother to prepare myself if I am going to be defeated, anyway? I share this thought because for that whole day I did not train. That evening, after dinner, I went to the gymnasium, pushed only by my conscience but without much other motivation. So I sent a messages to my father, telling him my feelings; I felt I was not prepared. My father's only words were "Take it as a challenge."

After reading that, I closed my eyes. In prayer, I received determination to go beyond the situation, to challenge my own character, just as I thought my father would. At that moment, I felt determined to do my best. I was able to remain in the training hall when everyone else had headed to the dormitory. The next day, I competed in individual styles and I won the bronze medal. After the decision I had made, my attitude changed, not only as a participant in the tournament but as a representative of True Parents to the world. Besides that, although I wasn't part of the organizing committee, I felt I was an owner, responsible for the success of the event.

I understood that perhaps I could never match True Parents' achievements nor older members' successes, but I would continue expanding Tongil Moo-do, with the firm conviction that God would do what was beyond my capabilities if I really did my best. 

Mr. Giuliano is the recently blessed son of Master Hector Gustavo Giuliano.

TIME TO RISE AGAIN

Washington Monument Forty Years Later





In preparation for the fortieth anniversary of True Father's Washington Monument speech, a group of "speech readers," arose reminiscent of our Asian regions' members who read the Divine Principle one-hour lecture booklet a hundred times. Alexander and Toyoko Hunter and their family began the practice. As a cooperative venture, members of the New Hope Family Church in Maryland and those attending the Washington DC Family Church decided they would read aloud, four hundred times in public, the speech Father read onstage four decades ago. That they reached the intensity of sound that Father produced on that September day or employed the same hand gestures is unlikely, but surely, they mirrored his love for the nation.

It seems they mainly read at the Washington DC Holy Ground that Father established on March 14, 1965 during the first world tour. It is in the Ellipse, a fifty-two acre parcel of land just south of the White House. (A May 1965 English description of the location of the Holy Ground takes as reference points a column of the White House—second, from the right—a street lamp and the third and fourth poles from a baseball screen.)

Americans are fortunate to have this "root" message (which you can find beginning on page 4 of this magazine) through which the Messiah spoke out in no uncertain terms about God's expectations for their country.





- ① Milhan Stephens, FFWPU vice-president in the United States, was instrumental in preparing the anniversary event.
- ② Archbishop George Augustus Stallings read True Father's message from forty years ago at the celebration
- ③ Organizations and local churches had booths
- ④ A full view of the stage as Sun Jin Moon reads True Mother's address

A call to duty

At the event, which attracted multitudes, Sun Jin Moon read True Mother's message, which again called upon the American people to fulfill national responsibilities and to be a force for good in the wider world.

We stand at a very serious time in this nation's history. Indeed, we are at a very serious point in world history. To overcome this challenge and help realize God's ideal, I call upon Christian leaders—all religious leaders—to awaken and stand firm on behalf of God's will. We must join together, going beyond the boundaries of race, ethnicity, gender, status, culture, belief and religion to form one family under God. I call also upon the legislators of this nation to set aside partisan-


ship, and to move toward collaboration for the public good of the nation and for the sake of the entire world. Public servants must be awakened in the same way that spiritual leaders must be awakened to a life of service, living for the sake of others. That is the essence of good governance.

The event brought together many first-generation Unificationists who had personally worked on the 1976 campaign to bring people to the Washington Monument event, such as the FFWPU president in the United States, Michael Balcomb. From his own account, convincing people to come to the event was not an easy task, but they did it. Rev. Balcomb recently said, "People may not realize it, but September 18, 1976 is a more significant date than even July 4, 1776 because it was on that day that America received the commission from the Lord of the Second Advent to restore the world to God as a nation."

Naturally, though, second-generation members were encouraged to take part. The event helped members catch a sense of True Father's fervor in

1976 as the movement in the United States moves toward 2020 and it's goal of blessing a million people.

CARP Las Vegas was there. They were on a pilgrimage that began in New York, where they visited the New Yorker Hotel, East Garden and Belvedere. Four new CARP members and five Cheon Il Guk missionaries were among those that prayed together at the Holy Rock, where Father had prayed on many early mornings and where vigils took place, sometimes led by True Family members, to pray for True Parents and the providence.

An article on the Las Vegas CARP Daum Café site records Joan Batayola's experience at the 2016 Washington Monument anniversary event. "It was a beautiful event where I could really understand and feel True Parents' heart even deeper and how much they truly loved America. I felt a lot of the love and unity that True Parents' worked so hard to achieve, and I'm so grateful to be a part of this movement." 

A TP magazine staff member wrote this based on numerous sources available on the internet.

A Dual-Family System to Restore Tribes

By Oyamada Hideo

T rue Father talked about doing heavenly tribal messiah activities until just before his ascension. When True Father saw me, he said, “You have many relatives. So, restore your relatives.” We use a dual family (husband’s and wife’s) system. Important aspects are the basic small group leaders and carrying on a hoondok tradition in the family.

I was born on May 10, 1941, in Higashineishi in Yamagata Prefecture. I was the youngest child among seven siblings, five boys and two girls.

In 1960, I entered Tohoku University Department of Educational Philosophy. In November 1963, when I was in my fourth year, I encountered the word of God. Before then, I had been going to a Christian church. When I joined the Unification Church, I asked which was teaching I thought was deeper, I

thought the Unification Church was much deeper. Soon after I joined, I received Kagoshima as my witnessing area. Every day, I did street preaching. I am not good at speaking in front of people, so I struggled a lot.

Father listened intently

On June 12, 1967, True Parents visited Japan with several Korean disciples. On May 1, 1966, Exposition of Divine Principle had been published in Korean. Based on that Divine Principle, we had a large Divine Principle workshop June 17–30. I met Teacher Eu Hyo-won for the first time. I had a chance to listen to his wonderful lecture—the first Korean church president and one of the three first disciples, among the thirty-six couples. At the end of the workshop, we had a Divine Principle examination



and I won first prize. True Father said, "Give your lecture in front of me and President Eu."

So, I did the introduction in front of those two as well as Choi Won-bok, Hwang Hwan-chae and Kim Young-hwi (another of the first three of the thirty-six). They looked like Gods of the Divine Principle. I had a dreadful feeling; at the same time, I felt honored at that time. Because I have given a lecture in front of True Father, I have never felt fear no matter what type of prestigious person I gave lectures to. Thanks to this training, I could give lectures to many national-level leaders, such as three prime ministers of Japan.

If True Father said, You should give lectures to President Bush, I would not be afraid. One day, he said, "Among those to whom you have lectured Divine Principle, I am the one who listened most intently."

Two urgent telegrams

My parents worried very much when I joined the Unification Church, but they did not say this to me directly. One of my brothers and one of my sisters considered my parents' anguish and they called my other brothers and sister and discussed how they could get me to come back. I will never forget one incident; even now. When I was an itinerant missionary in Okinawa, I received a telegram saying, "Our father is in a critical condition. Come home immediately," which I did. However, my father was fine.

When I saw him, I thought that this was a trick from my brothers and sisters. That telegram came two different times. The second time, I told my father, This is the second time you've died.

For the first time, August 29–31, 1966, we had a workshop for parents in Japan, at the Hakone Hotel in Kanagawa Prefecture. My parents attended it. The parents that finished the workshop visited the headquarters church in Shibuya, Tokyo. My parents said that our church teachings were right, so in the future, we needn't worry about them. The last thing they that told us, though, was that we should not make trouble in society, because that would be a problem. Because my parents supported our church, my brothers and sister that had been against our church became quiet.

A capable spouse

On May 1, 1969, the Forty-Three-Couple Blessing Ceremony took place at the Shoto Ward headquarters church in Shibuya, Tokyo. True Parents matched and blessed me to Kishimoto Noriko. After the blessing, we had wedding banquets in both my hometown, Yamagata and the prefecture where my wife is from, Kochi. When I took my wife to my hometown, my father happily said, "I don't care if I



don't see your face, but I always want to see Noriko." My next older brother, who was the most opposed, as soon as he looked at my wife, he thought, Even though when I argued with my brother we kept on parallel lines, I now have a sister-in-law who is stronger than he is, so I have no hope of winning.

After that, he stopped opposing me.

Basic small group leaders

Next, we visited Kochi, my wife's hometown. She is the second daughter among eight siblings. As it happened, my mother-in-law, three younger sisters and one of Noriko's sister's-in-law were supportive of us. True Father said to make groups of four people when doing tribal messiah activity. In accord with that instruction, those four women are now working as basic small group leaders.

At the time of my father-in-law's funeral, my mother-in-law trusted me to be the chief mourner. When I think of that, it causes me to see that the blessing True Parents give us is not at a level of giving us someone we like (or not) but is for the sake of restoring both families.

Consistent care

Every year my wife sent presents to all brothers and sisters, nephews and nieces in both families, twice a year on O-bon [an autumn festival to honor one's ancestors] and at the end of the year. Nobody dislikes receiving a present. They became closer.

One day, my father-in-law consulted me about his business. For that reason, he came to Tokyo; that is how serious it was. At that time, I was the interim national president. I listened to him at the headquarters church. I sought advice from the mother of one of my spiritual children about my father-in-law's business. I passed that advice on to him. He accepted it. "I told my relatives, he said, "but they had never tried to solve the problem. Thank you." He had not thought highly of our church, but be-

cause of this, he changed his mind.

Our siblings also asked Noriko and I about their problems, especially problems with children that they couldn't solve. Whenever problems occurred, we always gave advice, so they said thanks for often helping us.

Working with the spirit world

Going toward completion after Father's seonghwa, we wrote down our spiritual children's and spiritual grandchildren's names and relatives' names. We have 371 spiritual grandchildren. We wrote the names by looking at hand-written records. We received spiritual help to reorganize the list of names, which proved unexpectedly important.

After having written all the names, every day we prayed for them one at a time. We prayed aloud for the ancestors whom we had liberated and blessed in Cheongpyeong by name. Furthermore, we prayed for our blessing candidates.

My wife and her three sisters began a prayer condition this year. Now, they are doing their fourth forty-day prayer condition. If we do this sincerely, I can feel that the liberated ones and the ones who are blessed are working. Of course, we are not only praying but are visiting spiritual children's houses and the homes of our spiritual grandchildren and restoring relationships. I regret that I had never seen some of our spiritual grandchildren's faces. Now I am counseling one of those families.

After we visited them, we realized that many of them are poor and receiving government assistance, which is why, in the future, I might make a mutual aid society.

My family line

Now, in the Oyamada lineage, couple from the 777 blessing and one from the 1,800-couple blessings and four couples who were married before their blessing became basic small group leaders. In my wife's Kishimoto lineage, four women are doing this.

On church holidays and after touring around my area, Greater China, I meet these basic group leaders and tell them what is going and explain True Parents' teachings.

If we hold Blessing Ceremonies in China and Taiwan, those families are connected to those basic small group leaders. We completed the four hundred and thirty couples because of the support of those basic group leaders. Now those leaders are emphasizing that those four hundred and thirty couples should become full members and are helping me to make the happen.

My son's blessing gives hope

We have five children. In 2014, my third son re-


ceived the blessing. True Mother matched him. His wife is Korean, Ju Min-suk. After their blessing, I invited prominent societal figures that I daily communicate with to their secular wedding. Their image of our church changed. People get hope from the Unification Church blessing. Last year, on September 27, during Chuseok, we visited Min-suk's hometown in Jeolla Province to meet her parents. Her mother studied under Lee Yo-han. She has high spiritual sensitivity. When we arrived she said, "All Oyamada's ancestors and Kishimoto's ancestors have all come and are welcome."

At that time, I thought that I could not have completed the heavenly tribal messiah mission without our ancestor's help. At the end of last year, our son and his wife visited Yamagata, my hometown. In the house are pictures of my father and my grandparents. When my daughter-in-law saw them, the ancestors said, "Because you were coming, we prepared the most beautiful Yamagata." In fact, when I arrived in Yamagata that day, I felt I have been looking at Yamagata for seventy years and I have never seen the mountains look so beautiful. I was so inspired to realize that the spirits prepared and welcomed them under the best circumstances.

In the past, my wife and I argued often. So, True Father even in front of many members, such as on church holidays, asked Noriko to stand up and asked, "Are you beginning to love Oyamada? Some of your children haven't been blessed yet." True Mother remembered that situation and that is why she blessed my third son.

Bequeath the providence

The time has come to bequeath God's will to the second generation. My oldest daughter, Moriko, whose husband is Hori Masaichi, became the president of WFWP-Japan in April this year. My wife, Noriko, used to be president of that organization. My daughter is inheriting that and is inheriting what my wife could not do. Thinking about that aspect of it, I think we should give more opportunities for members of the second generation to be active. In the family, having a tradition of hoondokhae is important. For parents and children to become one based on God's word is necessary. We realize we are giving life through God's word.

We completed blessing four hundred and thirty couples but we have to make the spiritual children's victory too, and completely fulfill the mission of being True Parents' special emissary to the Greater China region. I will do my best to go forward to make the country what God wished it to be. 

This is reprinted with permission from the June 10 issue of World Family.

Spreading New Thoughts in My Hometown

By Barbara Grabner



Clockwise from left: Barbara introduces Herbert to Inge the day before the event was held; The philosopher from Vienna was able to capture the attention of everyone, including artists and business people; All the guests were fascinated by the thoughts of a truly human economy.

T rue Father reminded us so often to witness in our hometown. For almost forty years I lived far away from my hometown, which is south of Salzburg, Austria. For twenty-five years, I have lived in Bratislava, which is my husband Milos' hometown, four hundred kilometers away from where I grew up. Naturally, I can visit only in intervals and for a short time. Nevertheless, I always kept Father's desire that we witness to our relatives and neighbors in mind. In recent years I spend all of July and August there, because the climate is very favorable and the environment healthy and scenic. In the summer of 2014, I started to hold lectures in cooper-

ation with the founder of the local Thannhaus Farmer's Museum. My plan is to organize ten Principle-related events or a one-day seminar there. To pique the interest of the local people, who are mainly Catholics by tradition and live comfortable lives thanks to our highly developed welfare system is not easy. Since the beginning of the new millennium, new thoughts spread by the so-called esoteric "wave" found their way even into the remote corners of my homeland. Many Catholics now believe in reincarnation, a thought foreign to Christianity. Therefore, my first lectures focused on Life in the Spirit World and the chapter on Resurrection, which received much interest. How should

I continue? After some brainstorming, I found another topic that relates to the providence of restoration. Various internet platforms often discuss the End of the World. So I choose the Divine Principle section on the Last Days. To speed up my work I strove to include a second speaker, a brother who specializes in lecturing about social evils, such as exploitation and corruption, which contradict God's command about the third blessing.

The Last Days


Since the world is heading for disaster in many ways, the section on the Last Days offers profuse food for thought. To make the story more attractive to the public I titled my lecture "Europe: Decline or Turnaround?" Besides the Divine Principle (Chapter 3, section 4, The Last Days and The Present Days; and section 5, The Last Days, the New Truth and Our Attitude) and relevant passages in *Cheon Seong Gyeong*, I made use of the work of the famous historians Oswald Spengler (Germany 1880–1936) and Arnold Toynbee (England 1889–1975). True Father mentioned Spengler's civilization theory in his speeches and Spengler's view of the flow of civilization is in line with Fathers what Father has said on that topic. Young Oon Kim referred to Toynbee in her (red) book, *Divine Principle and Its Application* (1968). Oswald Spengler gained world fame with his book *The Decline of the Western World*, published in 1918. Toynbee, the most successful historian of the twentieth century, stressed in his works the role of religions for creating new civilizations. Toynbee coined the famous saying, "History repeats itself." These two historians are very helpful to introduce excerpts from Father's speeches about the rise of the Pacific Rim and the historic role of Korea. I spend almost three weeks putting the various parts of the lecture together but finally I managed to do it. To inform the villagers about the upcoming event, I put almost forty posters in restaurants and shops; the town hall and the tourist office also advertised my event. In addition, I went to the neighboring village to put up posters with the support of my school friend Gabriele, who helped me get permission from the shop owners. That was indeed a fruitful move since a nice number of guests came from there. Twenty-seven people, among them two of my cousins, attended my two-hour lecture on July 26. I was glad that everyone endured the long and elaborate presentation, which would have been more suitable for intellectuals. At the end, I handed out a leaflet with the two-thousand-year parallel between Israel and Christianity, hoping that people realize that the Second Coming had already taken place!

The third blessing vs. greed

The philosopher Herbert Giller, from Vienna, gave the second lecture. His book, *What Comes after Capitalism?* provided the title of the lecture, which took place on August 23. The owner of the museum was a bit nervous because she had never had a philosopher from Vienna as a guest speaker. So we visited her the day before and we toured the museum together. Additionally we helped her to install the instruments and clean the place a little bit. Herbert Giller meditated much of the night about Inge and the place and detected high spirituality. Not as many people turned up the next evening as had promised to come. Potential guests were distracted at the last minute, but thanks to members of our Salzburg community twenty-six people filled the room, among them three artists and several spiritually gifted women. At the entrance, we had put up a small book table. Inge put there the autobiography of Rev. Moon and made a nice statement about his suffering course. All six books were taken. I was surprised and sorry that I had not brought more copies with me.

"Principles, although applied for thousands of years, and opinions repeated for hundreds of years may not necessarily be true. Let us take this chance, after the possible crash, to base the economic activities of humankind upon a new foundation," Herbert Giller said. The story of the golden calf, quotes from the prophets and from Pope Francis enriched his vivid PowerPoint presentation. The response of the audience was enthusiastic and the author sold all his books. Several participants perceived a tense and high spiritual atmosphere during the lecture.

One woman, who organizes events in a region nearby, invited me to give a lecture there too. My maternal ancestors come from that region and I felt I had received an answer to my prayers to teach my mother's tribe. I had earlier asked several people to assist me in finding facilities for a lecture there. In vain! Now heaven sent me this woman, who opened a new gate.

Though I feel lonely sometimes while preparing the lectures and doing all the outreach work, what under other circumstances a whole Unificationist community would do, again and again I experience so much support from "invisible helpers". Never does one experience the direct support of God and good spirits in a more profound way than while working as a pioneer. 

Mrs. Grabner is the author of Mission Butterfly, based on testimonies from missionaries, which she began collecting in 1995.

