

True Peace

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Toward a New Unified Korea

By Jin-tae Joo



I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all the people of the world who loved and supported our peaceful event, Inheriting Heavenly Fortune and Enhancing the Country's Prosperity by Opening the Way for the Safe Settlement of the Era of a Heavenly Unified Korea through the 2019 Hopeful March Forward Rally. To members of the International Leadership Conference who came to Korea to discuss peace regarding the situation of Northeast Asia and reunification on the Korean Peninsula and who on May 17 attended the event, I, too, express gratitude. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to our True Parents and all those who participated in this new hopeful effort to accomplish Korea's reunification.

Today, humanity is experiencing an upheaval unprecedented in history. In particular, the international situation around the Korean Peninsula is changing in such a way that we cannot neglect it. We are at the crucial point of elevating the national spirit and opening a new era of a unified Korea by taking advantage of the unprecedented opportunities in a rapidly changing period.

A hundred years ago, when troops under Gumi [a patriotic organization associated with Syngman Rhee] fought to preserve what was then a unified Korea, our country was too weak to protect itself from imperialism. Nevertheless, we've grown into the eleventh largest economy in the world today, reminding us of the lyrics of the national anthem, "God protect and preserve us. Long live our nation!" However, the international situation surrounding the Korean Peninsula is complex enough to recall the atmosphere leading to the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese War and the Russo-Japanese War of the last century.


In this respect, I am convinced that today's ambitious hopes will call forth an excellent opportunity to determine the direction of our people. In the period of Korea's liberation, in August 1945, this country lacked strength and missed a heaven-sent opportunity; we should now wisely overcome many pending issues such as ideological confrontations, polarization, and generational conflicts, thus turning the current crisis into an opportunity for national prosperity, a time of hope. We must therefore unite all our people and rise with passionate enthusiasm to create a new unified Korea, God's homeland, which no one can ignore.

In particular, we should begin a new era of unification based on healthy families, a happy society and a strong nation under the slogan, "Home power is national power," in that the nation is also strong when the family is wholesome. True Parents, the founders of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification, have carried out the inclusive true family movement around the world, and participants in the May 17 blessing ceremony received the honor of being part of that sacred line.

The True Parents of Humanity, the King and Queen of Peace, traveled to many nations, meeting even Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in 1990 to establish a decisive opportunity for the end of communism. In 1991, they met North Korean leader Kim Il-sung and engendered a reconciliatory mood across the Korean Peninsula.

Since 2017, when North Korea's nuclear and missile tests brought the crisis on the Korean Peninsula to a peak, True Mother has held a series of large-scale rallies for the hopeful march forward of Korea, Japan and the United States. To address the situation on the Korean Peninsula, she has established the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace and Interreligious Association for Peace and Development and has hosted a series of global leaders' summits to declare that peace on the Korean Peninsula will soon be world peace.

Today we are competing to promote hope as we move toward the beginning of what will become the first century of a new unified Korea. That is why the leaders of political, religious, cultural, social and civic organizations united in an interfaith and non-partisan position to pray for the joint holding of the thirty-fifth Summer Olympic Games in Seoul and in Pyongyang in 2032.

To those who seek unity with our Heavenly Parent's only daughter, God bless you and your families. Your deep sincerity and determination to fulfill Heavenly Parent's ideal will lead the world to peace and fulfillment. Let us become the cornerstone of this new era of national reunification on the Korean Peninsula. 

Rev. Joo is vice-president of FFWPU-heavenly Korea and head of Korea's Subregion One.

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Reuniting with Our Brothers and Sisters in North Korea

True Father delivered this speech at the inauguration of the Citizens' Federation for the Unification of North and South Korea on Friday, May 15, 1987, at the Little Angels Performing Arts Center. It is from Pyeong Hwa Gyeong Book 8, Speech 6.



My fellow citizens, we are gathered here today to mark the founding of the Citizen's Federation for the Unification of North and South Korea. The reunification of our divided country has been our long-cherished hope and desire.

As Koreans, we are proud of our rich cultural heritage, exemplified by our unique language and its system of writing, our elaborate arts, and our long history extending more than five thousand years. Korea is noted for its exceptional historical continuity and ethnic homogeneity. Koreans have long inhabited this beautiful land in peace-loving communities. From the beginning, we knew that we were destined to live in unity, not in separation.

Despite this destiny, we now have experienced forty-two years during which our people and our land have been divided. Our joy and gratitude at the time of our liberation in 1945 did not last long, as we fell into the tragic separation between North and South. How long will this national tragedy continue? Although the prospects for peace appear dim, does this mean we have to give up our hope for national reunification?

My fellow citizens, I declare with my full conviction that the time for the unification of our homeland is at hand. We are gathered here today to facilitate its coming through the founding of the Citizen's Federation for the Unification of North and South Korea.

Think for a moment how Korea was able to obtain its liberation in 1945. There were two prominent factors: One was the sacrifice and dedication of those who gave their lives for the restoration of our independence; the other was the global situation with the defeat of Japan at the conclusion of World War II.

The unity of the homeland today must come in the same way. The international communist movement of the past seventy years is now in its final phase. The decline of the Soviet Union and the countries under its domination is evident for all to see. They can no longer conceal their record of failure and deception. The fall of communism will be linked, without a doubt, to the fall of Kim II Sung. This will be a factor that will

facilitate the unity of our homeland.

Under the circumstances, it is most appropriate that we ignite the flame of a movement for unification, and elevate this movement by our faith in Heaven. To do this, we need to strengthen our desire for reunification. It is said, "Where there is a will, there is a way." It is also said, "God helps those who help themselves." Without a will and a desire for unification that is strong enough to move the heaven and earth of the North, how can we possibly expect unification? This is the very reason we are organizing the Citizen's Federation for the Unification of North and South Korea today.

God or no God, the fundamental question

The thirty-eighth parallel not only marks the physical division of a people related by blood, it also designates a boundary between conflicting ideologies and value perspectives. It is because of this difference that despite the fact that we all are descended from the same ancestral root, we fought against each other during the Korean War. This difference of values became an impenetrable wall that separated the brothers and sisters and severed the relationship between parents and children.

What is the basic difference between these conflicting value perspectives? It is faith in God versus the denial of God. The value perspectives that confront each other are theism and atheism.

The fundamental tenet of communism is the denial of God. There are no absolute values in communism because it rejects the idea of God and hence does not espouse any standard of good and evil. From these beliefs, one can easily derive the principle that the end justifies the means for the cause of communist revolution.

Communist theoreticians claim that communism is a science and use this claim to justify the denial of God and all religions. They denounce faith as superstition and declare that religion is the opium of the people. But did science in the twentieth century in fact render religion, faith and God obsolete?

The answer is no. On the contrary, science reveals that communism itself is a nineteenth-century superstition.

Science in the twentieth century is serving as a witness to God by overthrowing communism's false view of the cosmos. The cosmos in the nineteenth century was seen as composed of absolutely solid particles that could not be divided into smaller units. Based on this concept, communists expounded their fundamental philosophy of materialism, saying that the universe essentially is composed of material.

However, the physics of the twentieth century has overturned this false view of the universe. Physics has revealed that in actuality, material is intangible energy and the physical universe and energy are compatible and interchangeable. A growing number of scientists today are of the opinion that the emergence of the universe was not an accident merely resulting from some autonomous laws of causality. They leave open the possibility that there was a primary act of will. This primary cause in science is what religion calls God.

The Creator of the universe is a God of intellect, emotion and will. We were formed in His image, and He finds delight in the flow of love to and from us. To experience joy through loving relationships with His children is the very reason God created. It follows that denying the existence of God is like denying the existence of one's parents. All values in human society begin from recognizing and establishing a filial relationship with the Creator. Science itself verifies that communism has no basis upon which to provide a value perspective. Hence it is destined to disappear.

Communism's brutality and inhumanity

Communism regards people merely as machines, as matter in motion. This is the obvious and inescapable conclusion of communism, which denies God. Labor is the communists' god, and people are merely a higher-stage animal evolved from apes that learned to use tools. They believe that it was through labor that language developed, and then reason. Through this process, apes became human beings. In short, they argue that labor is god and human beings are evolved animals.

In communist society a person is just a tool for use in the revolutionary struggle. Human beings have value



True Parents onstage with prominent Korean citizens, among them Dr. Sang-hun Lee, the first director of the Citizens' Federation for the Unification of North and South Korea, on the day of the inauguration.

only when achieving this end; otherwise they are worthless. This is why people in communist society are treated as subhuman. The record shows that communist governments annihilated more than 150 million innocent people in the seventy years following the Russian Revolution.

Humanity's dignity arises from the fact that we are the children of God, the Creator. In other words, our value originates from the fact that we have divinity, endowed by God. Therefore, to harm someone is in effect harming God, and to love someone is to love God. Each and every person is an individual embodiment of truth created by God. Every human being is a substantial manifestation of God Himself, and our life is eternal just as God is eternal.

The greatest sin committed by communism in regard to humanity is that its ideology denies God. Next, it considers people to be merely higher animals or moving matter, that is, machines. That is why countries espousing communism systematically deny human rights and human dignity.

We see the confrontation of these two conflicting value systems on the Korean Peninsula and in many other

regions of the world. Unless this confrontation is resolved in a way applicable to the entire world, the problem of communism cannot be resolved and our hope for Korean unification is an illusion. Hence, to resolve the issue of Korean unification, it is essential to resolve the world problems, and vice versa. This is because the solution for Korea and for the world is the same.

I have been expounding the proposition that Godism, an expression of Unificationism, will resolve the conflicting value systems in the world today. Godism aims to clarify the existence of God and basic God-given human rights. Godism is indispensable if we are to free the communist world from its distorted vision and liberate Europe and America from secular humanism and decadent materialism. Our movement for unity must be grounded on this system of thought, which provides us with a new formulation of values.

In the confrontation between these conflicting value perspectives, our primary goal must be to pursue unification based on the principles of freedom and democracy. Unification has no meaning without these principles. Freedom is a sacred and inalien-

able right endowed by God. Our brothers and sisters in North Korea have this same right, despite being deprived of it for more than forty years. If the reunification we achieve is one through which they too can enjoy freedom, it can be called true unification.

Unification must be done properly

We must learn from the experience of Vietnam. It is entirely wrong to consider that Vietnam is now unified. On the contrary, I tell you that Vietnam has been placed in servitude to the Soviet Union. Millions of Vietnamese have been purged, and boat people still take to the high seas at the risk of their lives. Vietnam now ranks as one of the poorest nations in the world, with its per-capita income at less than one hundred dollars per year. Truthfully speaking, no one can say that Vietnam has been unified.

Our brothers and sisters in North Korea thirst for liberation, and our movement's work on a global scale is the only way to accomplish it. We must strive diligently on behalf of our brothers and sisters who live under the darkness of communist rule in North Korea while longing for freedom and happiness.

The North Korean regime has been propagating its own unification tactics and strategy. It declares that South Korea must be liberated from the rule of US imperialists and that the people of the South eventually must unite with the Juche, or self-reliance, ideology of Kim Il Sung. The obvious result of such a strategy is that the rule of Kim Il Sung and his son will subjugate the people of the South under their own banner of unification.

For forty years, the North Korean regime has been pushing for unification under the guise of various so-called peace offensives. Despite this constant pressure and the threat of armed invasion from the North, South Korea has achieved remarkable economic growth and has attained a prominent place in the international community. South Korea's gross national product now exceeds the North's by a ratio of five and a half to one. At the end of 1985, the South ranked twentieth in the world in terms of GNP and twelfth in trade volume.

South Korea will be far superior to the North in economic and military strength by the time of the Seoul Olympics in 1988. Therefore before Kim Il Sung dies, North Korea, in desperation, might seek to achieve unification by armed aggression. No one can deny that they might mount a military threat and even try to harass the Olympics. North Korea will employ all kinds of schemes with the purpose of halting the South's progress, and they are of the opinion that, if the Olympic Games go through successfully, their chance of uniting the Koreas by armed aggression, which they believe in almost religiously, will disappear forever. In order to stop the Seoul Olympic Games, North Korea, using propaganda and other tactics to confuse South Koreans, will strive to heighten anxiety and tension on the peninsula, creating political confusion in the South.

Arm ourselves with Godism

Taking the ideological offensive with head-wing thought I declare with complete confidence that the next twelve years will be a decisive period. Hence, our gathering today for the founding of the Citizen's Federation




True Parents lead other patriots in pledging to fight for the reunification of their divided nation.

for the Unification of North and South Korea is of great significance in the history of our nation.

What is to be done? Our task is not simple or easy. In the first place, we need to empower ourselves by formulating a new value system appropriate for the process of reconciliation and unity of our people. The free world, including the United States, is now revealing its main weakness, which is the lack of a guiding ideology. This void is the result of material affluence, a confused sense of values, and secular humanism spreading its influence. Because of ideological confusion, the free world has retreated again and again. Exploiting this weakness, the communist world continues to expand its hegemony.

The Third World War will be a war of ideas. Military power alone will not defeat communism. Rather we need to strengthen our ideological stance, and only Godism can accomplish this task. Falsehood can be conquered only by the truth. The weapon needed for this is none other than Godism. From now on, unless the free world arms itself with Godism, that is, Unificationism, and assumes the ideological offensive, it cannot win over communism.

To fortify the thinking of our people, the Citizen's Federation for the Unification of North and South Korea has to be in the vanguard. Godism is strong; it offers the resources needed to liberate our brothers and sisters in the North and all people suffering under the yoke of communist rule. While alerting the world to the dangers, the Godism movement also motivates people through a spiritual awakening, which will turn them away from the self-indulgence, immorality and corruption rampant in the affluent free world....

Let us go forward, in accordance with the Will of God, to build the Citizens Federation into a practical foundation that will help the world. With vigorous faith, we now solemnly declare that we accept this calling to become the vanguard of the movement for unification. Let us unite all our energies and march forward until the day our dream of the unification of South and North Korea is achieved. I pray that God may bless you and your families abundantly. Thank you. 

The text of this speech has been edited for inclusion in TP magazine.



Heavenly Parent's Difficult History

This was Mother's message at a special meeting of HJ Cheonwon leaders hosted by True Parents on Wednesday, May 1, at Cheon Jeong Gung.

A few days ago, I spent some time with my grandchildren. A granddaughter said she had a question for me. So, I told her to go ahead and ask it. She said, "I want to know what kind of being Heavenly Parent is."

At first, I couldn't tell her that Heavenly Parent is a loving God. Since the fall of the human ancestors, throughout the historical restoration through indemnity and the providence of salvation, the God revealed in the Bible was a fearsome, judgmental God. We see it so clearly when he destroys Sodom and Gomorrah and during the tribulation around Noah's Ark.

He made his creation to be eternal. The Earth is the only place where creatures can live. For the planet to live, volcanic explosions are necessary. However, because of the Fall, human beings became incompetent and ignorant. Even lower creatures protect themselves from upcoming tragedies, but human beings don't know how to.

What God desired

Despite humanity having fallen, God's dream was to be humanity's True Parent. Blessed couples here today, you too likely have children. Is love for children predetermined? Your love for them is unconditional. God wanted to become such a being. But human beings ruined that. Parents love their children. Parents worry about their children. They hope their children have a good future. Wouldn't Heavenly Parent feel the same? As such, Heavenly Parent, for six thousand years has been suffering, has been lonely because of us.

Until victorious human ancestors appeared... True Parents on earth! Until he could find True Parents, Heavenly Parent could not appear. Put simply, God was not happy. However, while driving the providence, after six thousand years, he found our True Parents.

Reception of the Saviors

Neither Christianity, the prepared religion, nor the democratic world created a supportive environment for True Parents. The sixtieth anniversary of the Holy Wedding is next year. When I think about the world's 7.6



The audience in the second-floor hall in Cheon Jeong Gung as True Mother speaks about God's nature and the travails that our Heavenly Parent went through, as recorded in the Bible.

billion people, I feel so sorry. While God found True Parents after six thousand years, he could not embrace and love his sons and daughters.

Due to our failure to receive the environment created with much arduous work for these long years, all efforts, all work, had to start again from the very bottom. True Parents, too, could not fulfill their filial duty toward Heavenly Parent. True Parents' appearance had to start from the national level.

Two thousand years ago, when God sent his only son Jesus Christ, if the people of Israel had received him, Jesus would have been in a True Parent's position on the national level. Unfortunately, once again, he could only show God his efforts, his historical arduous work. That's why he said he would come again to celebrate the marriage supper of the Lamb, but they did not understand that.

In Christianity's two-thousand-year history, all Jesus' disciples were his bride. Nevertheless, they did not know God. They did not know God's providence. They did not understand Jesus properly. For that reason, Christianity today must find a way to break through and make a fresh start. They should have realized that they cannot continue with the same old habits.

Recognize blessings received

You are genuinely lucky. You are happy people. You've received every-

thing for free. Four years ago, when I first said, "I am God's only daughter," you were half in doubt. When I said you must become one with me, you interpreted it in your own way. I explained all the metaphors and the symbols that appear in the Bible to you. Have you recovered your senses, yet?

Beloved Heavenly Parent! Until you can say, I accomplished everything... Our Heavenly Parent has worked so hard; shall we become filial sons and daughters that can make Heavenly Parent no longer cry but smile? God, Lord of creation! Our Heavenly Parent is love.

God created the environment so that the entire world can experience the mountains and natural scenery. Isn't that true? We don't have much time left until 2020. In this time, let's fully do our filial duty in relation to God. You must show the world. This country must be able to fulfill its responsibilities.

This nation must attend True Parents. Otherwise, the going will become more difficult. You people can clearly see that. Do you think it is possible for Korea to reunite through political power? Politicians should be aware that they are in fearful positions. Make them aware. UPF do you understand?

Leaders of the HJ Cheonwon Complex, you are central figures in making a heavenly unified Korea come sooner. You'll fulfill your responsibilities, won't you? Thank you very much. ♪



神統一韓.玉時代開門安着

인참부모님 주관 제1지구

We Must Reach the Beginning Point, the National Level

True Mother encouraged members of Subregion 1, weeks before their May 17 event, at a special meeting she hosted for them in the Main Hall of the HJ Heaven and Earth Cheonbo Training Center on Saturday May 4.



We must solve the mystery of the providence. What is Heavenly Parent's dream? God created all things in heaven and on earth in his image, from the mineral world to the animal world (as plus or minus). Finally, he created Adam and Eve, who were to become the first human ancestors; male and female he created them.

God gave human beings responsibilities. During their growth period, they had to grow to perfection while maintaining absolute oneness with God. This position, as humankind's ancestors, is one in which the Creator, God, could manifest as our Heavenly Parent. This was God's dream.

But what happened? Human beings did not accomplish their responsibilities. They failed. The fallen human race of today, 7.6 billion people, became a people without a relationship to God. So, is God joyful or tearful?

Humanity's fall created a tearful history for our Heavenly Parent. How difficult this must have been for God! God chose the Israelites. However, regarding the providence, if we look at biblical history, no country reached chosen status until its people had laid a national foundation. Thus, they could not stand at the center of the world. For God to prepare foundations from the individual level to the national level took four thousand long years.

Errors in Jesus' time

God sent Jesus Christ as his only son, who had indemnified everything. But what happened? From the standpoint of the principle of creation, if God sent his only son, an only daughter was necessary. Mary's family, Zacharias family, and the Jewish people (the Israelites), should have prepared the environment for that. If that had happened, Jesus would have received the blessing from Heavenly Parent and been in the position of a True Parent.

Seeing such a prepared environment, we know Rome was indeed the great Roman Empire. For a time, God allowed Rome to be the great Roman Empire. They said, "All roads lead to Rome." If Rome had accepted our

True Parents, they would have established the kingdom of heaven on earth quickly. This was Heavenly Parent's dream, but human beings were unfilial.

So, Heavenly Parent could not be a joyful God, a joyful, glorious God, but is a parent crying tears of sadness. Since God created us to be eternal, through the two-thousand-year Christian foundation, God, without fail, would give birth to his only son and only daughter (in the flesh) that they might fulfill their responsibilities.

Those forming the Christian foundation, who knew God's providence, should have understood the essence of Jesus Christ, who came two thousand years ago. Today's Christianity, however, does not have a center. Jesus prophesied that he would come again. This wouldn't work with Christianity awaiting a Messiah returning on the clouds. Without True Parents' manifestation, fallen human beings cannot go to God, which is why even fallen human beings' original minds yearn for God, our parent.

Exercising faith in God

In May, we have Children's Day and Parents Day. Aren't those beautiful customs? Especially you, whom God has chosen, do you ever think of Heavenly Parent on Parents' Day? Some people are unaware of God's providence. We cannot keep thinking that human efforts can resolve the world's political, religious and all other issues. Human efforts alone cannot resolve them. This is the reality and the conclusion we can draw. Isn't that so?

From this point of view, especially in this beautiful, hopeful season, in May, (if in order to bring national restoration) region 1 educates people and gains a position from which they can give the blessing, will Heavenly Parent be happy or sad when he sees that?

The starting line

I told you that from the standpoint of God's providence we need to see the beginning point of the providence, which means forming a national-level foundation. Two thousand years ago, if Jesus had been in a True Parent's position on the national level, achiev-


ing unity in the world would have been easy. Now, finally, after two thousand years, God sent his only daughter, True Mother, to this nation and as a result the True Parents could appear.

Seven years ago, at the time of True Father's Seonghwa, we were not filial blessed families. Isn't that right? We had to hold the seonghwa ceremony on a national level in front of all the world's leaders. Not achieving that is partly our responsibility, but the elder blessed families failed in their family-level responsibility to create that environment. Right?

Anyway, I, God's only daughter, asked you to help me make Heavenly Parent's dream come true. Since under the current system we were not able to fulfill the promise we made to Heaven, visualizing this country like a continent, I divided Korea into five sub-regions. At the southernmost point is sub-region five, comprising the Gyeongsang Provinces; three others comprise the Jeolla Provinces, the Chungcheong Provinces and the Gyeongwon Provinces, respectively. Sub-region one however, had not been able to reach the national level. What do you think? Don't you have to do your absolute best? Please show us what you can do on May 17. So, I will rename sub-region one "the nation of Gyeong-in" [Seoul, Gyeonggi Province and Incheon]. Heaven will be with you in this contest.

Open a way forward

As you all know, at this point, this country has no future. All directions have been blocked, but thanks to you, because we are here, because the nation of Gyeong-in is here, we will be able to bring God hope, we will be able to bring victory. I repeatedly wish that the nation of Gyeong-in, sub-region one, can wipe our Heavenly Parent's tears away.

I will give you a reward on the condition that you are victorious on May 17. The next day, I will invite all district leaders to Cheon Jeong Gung, and through them, I will allow you to have a party in your churches. We can't be the only ones that are fine. Everyone should be happy. So let's be determined to make everyone in the area come to know us. 



HyoJeong Offering Ceremony for the Inheritance of Heavenly Fortune

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Boldly Fulfill God's Expectation

True Mother delivered this address at the Hyo Jeong Offering Ceremony for the Inheritance of Heavenly Fortune on Saturday, May 11, in the Tree of Love Plaza outside the HJ Heaven and Earth Cheonbo Training Center.

Beloved blessed families from all over the world, leaders from various backgrounds and ambassadors for peace!

Today at this beautiful time, in the queen of all seasons, [spring] when all things in creation come to life, specifically, in May, we have Children Day and Parents' Day. This month, I would like us to use this time to think about the heart and jeongseong that brought us to this position.

In 1914, in Europe, World War I and [later] World War II, began with racial issues in Europe and created many victims over thirty years. However, we thought this World War ended in 1945. Korea is a nation that God has been protecting; for God to complete his providence, he has been raising this nation for over two thousand years. This year marks the centennial of the Independence Movement that many righteous Christian leaders and students had yearned for.

God worked hard to find the victorious human ancestors, God's only son and only daughter. As we know from the past, throughout history, Heavenly Parent has been looking for his only son and only daughter, who would become humanity's victorious ancestors. According to the Bible, God worked hard and after four thousand biblical years of preparation, God sent Jesus Christ, his only son, to the Israelites.

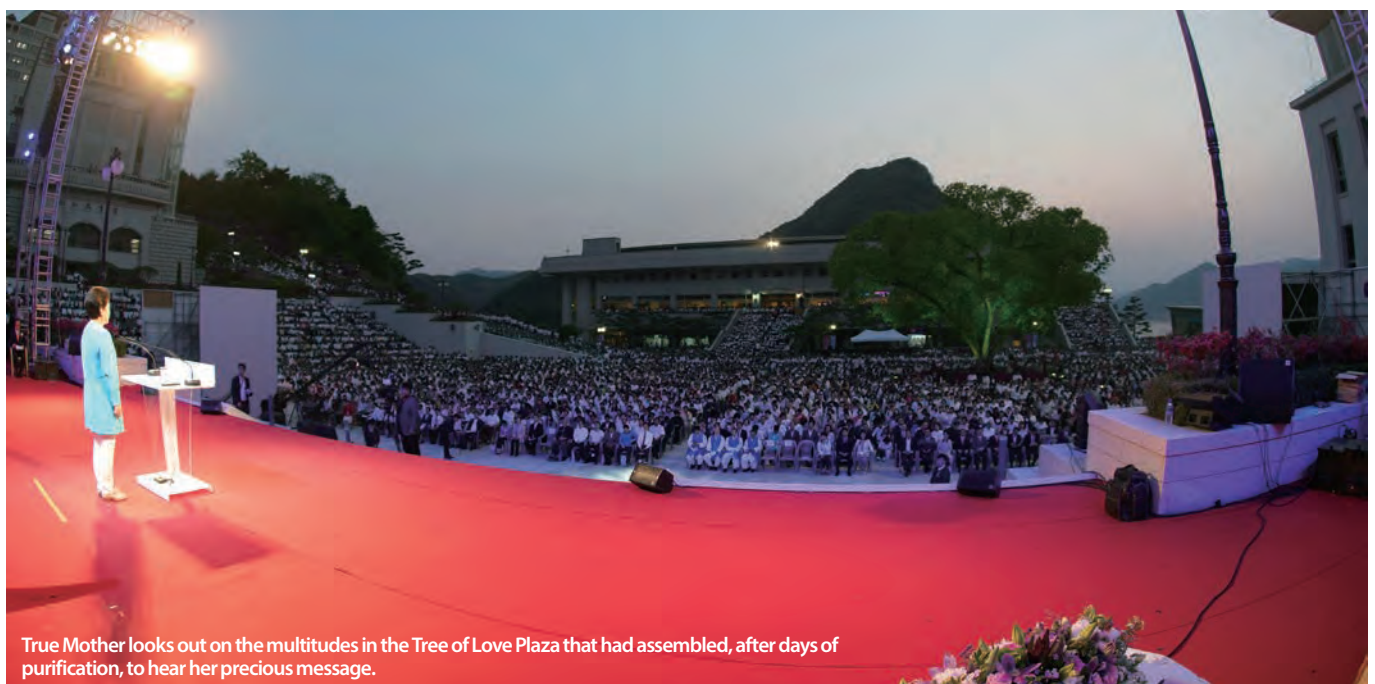
Unfortunately, they did not fully understand God, the Creator. They did not understand God's providence. That's why the country that had been prepared for such a long time, when it had to leap forward from a national foundation to a global foundation, its citizens did not complete that responsibility. As a result, Jesus had to go the way of the cross and said he would return.

Christianity's course

Christianity began from the resurrection and the [coming of] the Holy Spirit, thanks to the work of the Apostles, who were looking forward to the day when Jesus would return. The providence can be completed when we meet the returning Messiah, but we must be prepared for that. We know that the Israelites went through much indemnity for not completing their responsibilities. When we look at the completion of the Christian providence, God had to create an environment for his only daughter to be born and he chose and prepared Korea. Christianity had not yet even celebrated its centenary in Korea, but Christianity in Korea was stronger than in the rest of the world. Filled with the spirit and the truth, they served God. With this kind of foundation in Korea, through the Christian foundation, God's only daughter was born in 1943.

This country was liberated in 1945 but then was divided into the two Koreas. We must accomplish God's providence without fail, through this nation. The reality is that we cannot wait any longer. God, the creator of the universe, made everything for humanity. Human beings, from the position of serving God, must fulfill the dream of one human family under God! God, the Lord of creation, wanted to be humanity's parent. He created everything else in the universe and then created human beings to be humanity's ancestors.

Before realizing our Parent's dream, look at the reality of what's happening in the world today. Hope for the future is scarce. The livable environment for living beings is ever shrinking. In a nutshell, there is no hope for the future. This is not what God had hoped for. We are living in this difficult environment because of fallen human beings. God prepared the Christian sphere and the democratic world, but people in both just think in a human-centric way. More than fifty providential years have passed since the True Parents of Humankind came to earth, but Christianity is awakening from its sleep. Blessed families have the responsibility to make a foundation so that God can see the completion of the providence. Do you understand?



True Mother looks out on the multitudes in the Tree of Love Plaza that had assembled, after days of purification, to hear her precious message.



From the top of the training center, the size of the crowd becomes apparent. At left is the Cheonbowon, where tribal messiahs' genealogy records are. At right is one of the workshop facilities. The stage is temporary. The seating on the right, rising in front of the workshop hall, is a permanent new fixture of the Tree of Love Plaza.

Become better children

In the world we have a Parents Day, on which we receive our children's love and respect. How many blessings and thanks did you give to the parent of the world, the owner of the universe, the creator of humanity, our Heavenly Parent? In our Heavenly Parent's eyes, we are always insufficient, so every year on those days, we should repent to our Heavenly Parent for not having created a better environment and not having done our best. This is the kind of blessed people we should become.

The providence doesn't wait for anyone. When Jesus died on the cross, to whom did he pass the keys to the kingdom of heaven? This means that blessed families here on earth must solve all the world's problems. As people who received the blessing, what is your responsibility? Blessing is not just for you. As tribal messiahs, the more your tribe expands and you increase your environment, the more your ancestors will benefit.

Being a human-centric history, it has been full of vicissitudes, with many twisting turns. It couldn't be a smooth road. Today, though, you've met True Parents; now, in resurrected and reborn blessed families, you are in the position of saviors to your tribes.

Let people know

The more you share happiness, the greater it becomes. So what is God and True Parents' hope? For the 7.6 billion people in the world today, even though they are all living at the same time as True Parents, if they go to the spiritual world without knowing the providence, how great will their *han* (rancor) be? Moreover, people from this country, the nation blessed by God, as citizens, have a responsibility—attending True Parents.

As for the inter-Korean affairs this country faces, people can't solve them, nor can politics. What should we do? Fulfilling your responsibility is the key. The only way for true peace and unity to come about is for this nation to become one with and move with True Parents. Only by becoming one with True Parents can this nation's hope—true peace and unity for Korea—come about. You must let them know that. Time waits for no one. How could we, a hundred years ago, when communication equipment didn't exist, have brought about the March 1st Movement?


You have work to do

We are at a point where you cannot just sit there. I listen to reports from the world missions every day. A new

revival is happening in Taiwan. A young person of nine years old witnessed to a fifty-year-old restaurant owner. True Parents have prepared the environment; you just need to start moving. This is what I mean. Why can you, adults, not do what even children can do? Now, this country should attend True Parent.

So, you should go to all corners and make True Parents known. This is the only path for this nation to have a future. For a long time, God has waited for the dream of one family under God.

This country must play a significant role in realizing this dream. Beloved members, raise your voices, take responsibility, make sure that everyone from young children know!

Your ancestors that received liberation thanks to your devotion will fully cooperate with you. All human beings living on earth and all that went to the spiritual world hope for this. If you aim for that goal, your ancestors will strongly support and cheer you on. Wouldn't they? You should be determined. Do you understand? I pray that when we meet here next year, you will be able to bring satisfactory results so that you can be proud in front of Heavenly Parent. 



Longing for Unification and Peace

At the May 17 event for Inheriting Heavenly Fortune and Enhancing the Country's Prosperity by Opening the Way for the Safe Settlement of the Era of a Heavenly Unified Korea through the 2019 Hopeful March Forward Rally, True Mother delivered this keynote address.



True Mother speaking to the massive crowd on May 17: In the run up to this rally, Subregion 1 had held large rallies in each of Seoul's 25 boroughs before this event to reach 100,000 people.

Distinguish guests from home and abroad, ambassadors for peace, blessed families and beloved citizens of the nation of Gyeong-in, we came here with one wish in our hearts. Our wish is for God to be with the us in Korea as a heavenly unified country. I hope you know that today is the day to make that determination. A hundred years ago, patriots worked extremely hard and cried out to the world for this country's independence. Their hope was for a united country, a country that God protected.

Elsewhere in the world, thirty years of race and border issues sparked the fire that caused World War I and World War II, which created an indescribable and disastrous history. The Allies ended World War II, but regarding the Korean Peninsula, two superpowers, UN members, divvied this great country in two, into South Korea and North Korea. This was not what the Korean people wanted. After seventy years, we still long for unity. To conclude, human power cannot achieve reunification.

What I want to tell you today is that the way to solve all the problems that are happening around the world is to know the original owner, the

Lord of the Creation, God. The Lord of the Creation had a dream. The dream was for the invisible God to substantiate himself and love the world's people, embracing humanity as his sons and daughters. That is why he created everything in his image and finally created the first man and the first woman to be humanity's ancestors.

However, God gave us responsibilities during our growth period. The Lord of the Creation wanted human beings to help in the process of the Creation. However, when we look at this world, it did not achieve God's purpose for creating it.

During the growth process, Adam and Eve were to become absolutely one with God. In oneness with God, they should have grown and received God's blessing. However, because no human could achieve that, an unthinkable disastrous history followed.

The omnipotent and omniscient God will accomplish without fail his purpose for the Creation. Since God cannot abandon fallen human beings, he is carrying out restoration. In the Bible, it is written that God chose the people of Israel, who in the process of indemnifying everything over an extended period of four thousand biblical years, established a national-level foundation.

Seek True Parents' essence

How rough must this road have been that it took four thousand years to go down! God waited until that time and finally sent his only son Jesus and proclaimed, "This is my beloved son."

We can conclude however, that even Mary, Jesus' mother; Zachariah and his family, the Jewish leaders and the Israelites did not understand God. They did not understand the Jesus' essence. From a human viewpoint, we did not fulfill our responsibility to prepare the environment for Jesus. As a result, he went the way of the cross. Finally, after four thousand years, Jesus came in the position of a True Parent. When Jesus went the way of the cross, he promised he would return. We all know the indemnity the Israelites had to go through since Jesus' crucifixion. Heaven cannot use a nation that failed to fulfill its responsibilities.

God's only son was born, but the birth of his only daughter did not occur. So, after two thousand years, God chose Korea, and in 1943, God's only daughter was born here. The Korean people need to know that. God blessed this nation's people. As chosen people, we should know that we have responsibilities. Just as I said before, a peaceful world cannot come



True Mother onstage delivering this address, surrounded by True Family members, key FFWPU leaders and a Buddhist monk who had participated in a prayer to secure the 2032 Olympic Games for the two Koreas

about on account of people's selfish desires. Only when we serve the Lord of the Creation, our Heavenly Parent, as our parent can peace come about.

The same goes for the issues this nation faces. Unification will not come about just because the government wants it. When this nation and its people accept God's will, we will gain heavenly fortune and a peaceful world can come about.

So, through the blessing, Heavenly Parent can embrace and love the Family Federation. Only through Cheon Il Guk citizens under his direct dominion is it possible.

In this way, they can fulfill God's dream and humanity's yearning to see the heavenly kingdom (with humanity as one human family under God). This means that fallen humanity must pass through the process of rebirth, resurrection and the blessing from True Parents. The true family blessing movement is the only way that we can be in the position of God's child and be with him. Korean blessed families, of course, but also blessed families elsewhere in the world, need to reflect deeply on this. The more we examine ourselves, the more we will be able to create a world of freedom, equality, peace and happiness—heaven on earth.

Use internal and external means

True Parents had to start in the lowest position because those in the Christian cultural sphere could not prepare the appropriate environment. This is nearly the sixtieth year of giving the blessing. There are many true families all over the world. The blessing movement is the key to saving our country and the world. People in many other countries understand that.

Thus, in 1981, at the International Conference on the Unity of the Sciences, True Parents advocated building the International Peace Highway. This global superhighway would start from the Cape of Good Hope in South Africa, go from the African continent to the European continent, and through Eurasia to Korea, on to Santiago, Chile, across North America and South America thorough a passenger tunnel that passes under the Bering Strait to Asia and Korea. This is because, Korea is the birthplace of our True Parents, the parents that humanity has longed for.

So, while Japan and Korea are in a somewhat awkward political position externally, True Parents forgave Japan and encouraged it to fulfill its mission as the mother country for the sake of the world's 7.6 billion

people. Therefore, without fail, we will build a Korea–Japan undersea tunnel.

Benefits of True Parents' presence

If there were no True Parents in this country right now, it would have become a nation isolated from the rest of the world. However, because True Parents exist, you can boast of Korea as True Parents' birthplace and be proud in front of the world. You should know this.

North–South reunification is the same. The Korea–Japan undersea tunnel, the International Peace Highway and Peace Road, which True Parents advocate, are being created. From Eurasia to Europe, the highway will make the dream of one family under God into reality. I hope that all of you add your strength to this and join us on this path.

Blessed couples who received the blessing today, as citizens blessed by God, you have to help this country fulfill its responsibilities, through your tribe.

You cannot, as the Israelite were, be ignorant of True Parents coming to your nation. Do you understand? It is my sincere hope that all blessed families and the nation of Gyeong-in can work to bring us to that day sooner. ㄸ

2019 Spring Hyo Jeong Cheonbo Great Works





- ❶ International President Moon and her husband In-sup Park hold vessels of holy water in which representative wish papers are dissolving.
- ❷ Rev. Ki-seong Lee and his wife Un-jeong Jang lead the Hyo Jeong Offering Ceremony for Heavenly Fortune.
- ❸ True Mother expressed love and affection to thousands of members that day.
- ❹ The desire to liberate ancestors and to inherit heavenly fortune attracted many thousands of members from Korea and overseas.
- ❺ True Mother and Sun Jin nim lead the crowd in three cheers.
- ❻ Senior church elders were entrusted with offering the wish papers.
- ❼ The Little Angels sang a number of songs to the delight of the crowd.
- ❽ Young people entertained the audience at the Spring Great Works with a dance routine and their rendition of "Unconditional."



2019 Hopeful March Forward Rally for Subregion 1 on May 17





- ① True Mother giving the main address
- ② A view of the crowd at the Korea International Exhibition and Convention Center (Kintex) which is in Ilsan, a suburb of Seoul
- ③ True Mother receiving flowers
- ④ Joo Jin-tae, leader of subregion one gave opening remarks; Dan Burton, US Congress 1983–2013 and R. James Woolsey Jr. US CIA director 1993–1995 gave congratulatory remarks.
- ⑤ Representative couples onstage receiving the blessing
- ⑥ A diverse group of people read a prayer to Heaven expressing the desire that the two Koreas jointly host the 2032 Olympic Games. Lee Ki-seong, in religious garb that True Mother had made for him, led the group in beseeching God.
- ⑦ Cheers of Eog Mansei resound throughout the conference center.



The Victory Celebration on May 18





- ① Sun Jin Moon and True Mother light the celebratory cake.
- ② From left: Secretary General Yun was the MC; Vice-President Kim offered the opening prayer; Subregion 1 Leader Yoo reported about the rally; Director Jenkins spoke about developments outside of Korea; President Lee led the final cheers.
- ③ A view of the room, showing the tables set up for various groups that took part were able to share in the celebration of True Mother's success.
- ④ True Mother had said that if their rally was successful she would provide funds for the churches to celebrate that victory. Here, she provides the funds to Subregion One head Joo Jin-tae and his wife.
- ⑤ Presenting True Mother was a gift highlighting her love for the world and her many tours to bring love and truth to the peoples of the world.
- ⑥ Our happy, beloved True Mother
- ⑦ Toasting their success
- ⑧ Members in suits entertain the crowd with a song

LETTERS FROM TRUE GRANDCHILDREN



Beloved and most respected True Parents of Heaven, Earth, and Humankind,
I would like to sincerely congratulate you on the 59th anniversary of your Holy Wedding.

Whenever I think of how happy Heavenly Parent must have been when the Holy Wedding was held in 1960, my heart also beats in excitement as if in a dance. I cannot even conceive the tremendous bitterness and pain that was alleviated from Heavenly Parent's and Jesus' hearts on that day after so long.

I feel tremendous gratitude whenever I think of how Heavenly Parent protected our True Mother from Satan, the extreme hardship you endured, and the tremendous effort you had to make until you met True Father and had your Holy Wedding together. I am truly thankful for being able to attend our True Mother on this joyful day.

I do not know how long we will be able to be with you and attend you directly, but I sincerely pray that Heavenly Parent allows us and guides us to become children who are able to return only joy to you, True Mother, the highest and most noble in the world. I sincerely pray that we are able to become people who can proudly stand in front of Heaven. I feel repentant as well as tremendously grateful to True Mother for embracing us with a mother's great heart despite our inadequacies. And more than anything else, I sincerely pray for True Mother's long life and good health.

I love you!

Sincerely, Moon Shin-yeo

Beloved True Parents of Heaven, Earth, and Humankind,
 We are tremendously grateful for this day and congratulate you once more on the 59th anniversary of your Holy Wedding. We remember how you said that we must think of Heavenly Parent first and how you have lived your entire life in this manner. We will advance with all our might in 2019 to ensure that this path of love you have followed, rooted in your filial heart for Heaven, becomes substantial as Cheon Il Guk to all people of the world.

Just like your smile, which gets more beautiful by the day, we will do our utmost to ensure that your days on earth, which are spent in loving us, shine even more brightly. We will complete our filial duties in front of Heaven's victory, which continues to develop in all glory.

May you remain in good health and may the day come when you will truly enjoy the peaceful world of Cheon Il Guk that you so desire and envision with Heavenly Parent.

3:16 by the heavenly calendar (Apr. 20, 2019), Hyo-jin's Family

Dear True Parents,
 I sincerely congratulate our True Parents on the 59th anniversary of your Holy Wedding. Thank you for healing this fallen world for the past fifty-nine years.

True Parents, I want to become a great person like True Parents. I will work hard to become such a person, True Parents. Thank you! I love you!

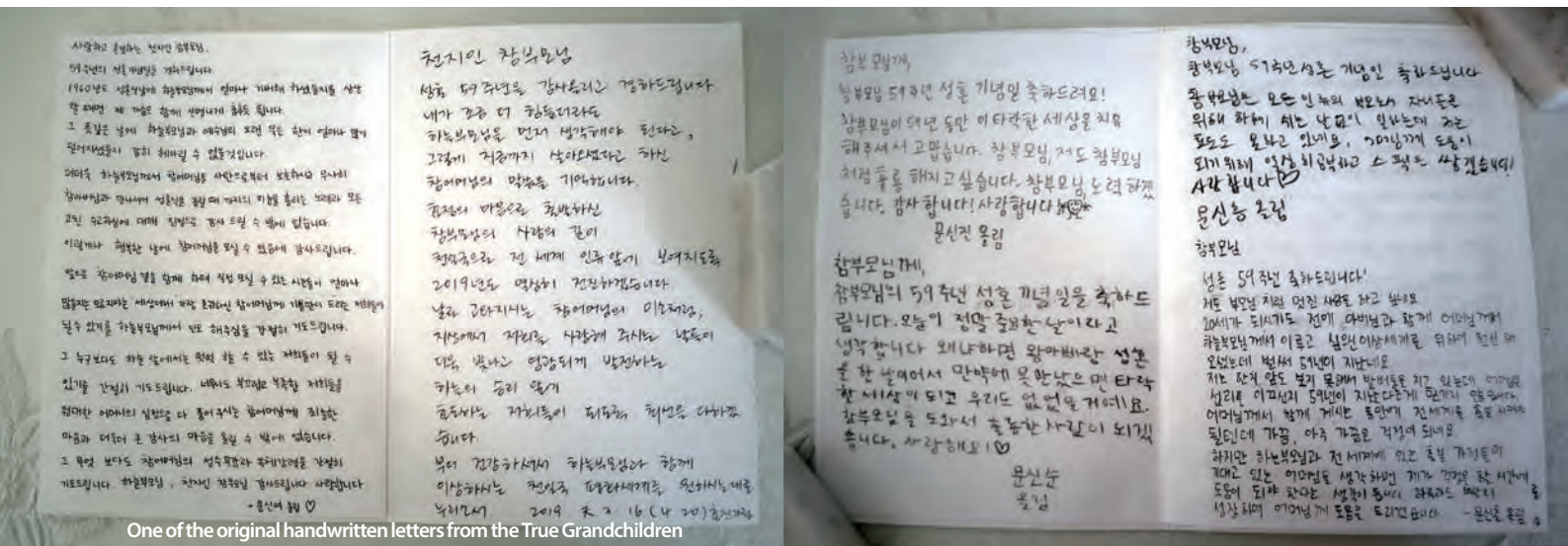
Sincerely, Moon Shin-jin

Dear True Parents,
 I sincerely congratulate our True Parents on the 59th anniversary of your Holy Wedding. Today is a truly important day because it is the day you had your Holy Wedding with grandfather. If you had not met, the world would have remained in its fallen state and we would have not existed. I will become a great person that can help True Parents. I love you!

Sincerely, Moon Shin-sun

Dear True Parents,
 I sincerely congratulate our True Parents on the 59th anniversary of your Holy Wedding. As the parents of all humanity, you work day and night without much rest for the sake of your children and yet, I have not been able to do anything for you. I will study hard and develop my capacity to a level where I can help you, Mother. I love you!

Sincerely, Moon Shin-heung



One of the original handwritten letters from the True Grandchildren

Dear True Parents,
I sincerely congratulate you on the 59th anniversary of True Parents' Holy Wedding. I really want to be able to live a life of great love just like that of True Parents. Even before you turned twenty, together with Father, you devoted yourself toward realizing the ideal world that Heavenly Parent has wanted to realize. And fifty-nine years has passed since then.

In comparison, I am still struggling, not being able to see beyond my nose. I cannot believe that fifty-nine years have already passed since you began leading the providence. I worry sometimes when I think of how we can bless all people in the world while you are still with us. But when I think of you Mother, and how Heavenly Parent and all blessed families worldwide are relying on you, I realize that instead of worrying, I should spend that time to become of help to you. I will grow quickly and be of help to you.

Sincerely, Moon Shin-chul

First of all, we would like to sincerely congratulate our True Parents of Heaven, Earth, and Humankind on the 59th anniversary of your Holy Wedding.

We know that the Holy Wedding was the day when God's only begotten son and only begotten daughter met, had the marriage supper of the Lamb, the day that humanity and Heavenly Parent long waited for. We sincerely thank Heavenly Parent and our True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind for the tremendous grace and blessings bestowed to members through the Cheongpyeong chanyang sessions, Cheonbowon, etc. Knowing that these blessings and grace come from you, True Parents, we will work even harder than before. As Heung-jin's family, I and Moon Shin-wol will always be aligned like sunflowers and attend our Heavenly Parent and True Parents at the center and we will do everything to fulfill our duties as devoted daughters of the True Parents of Heaven, Earth, and Humankind.

We are tremendously grateful for the grace bestowed on us by Heavenly Parent and True Parents.

We dedicate this letter in our names, Moon Heung-jin's family, a Blessed Central Family. Aju!.

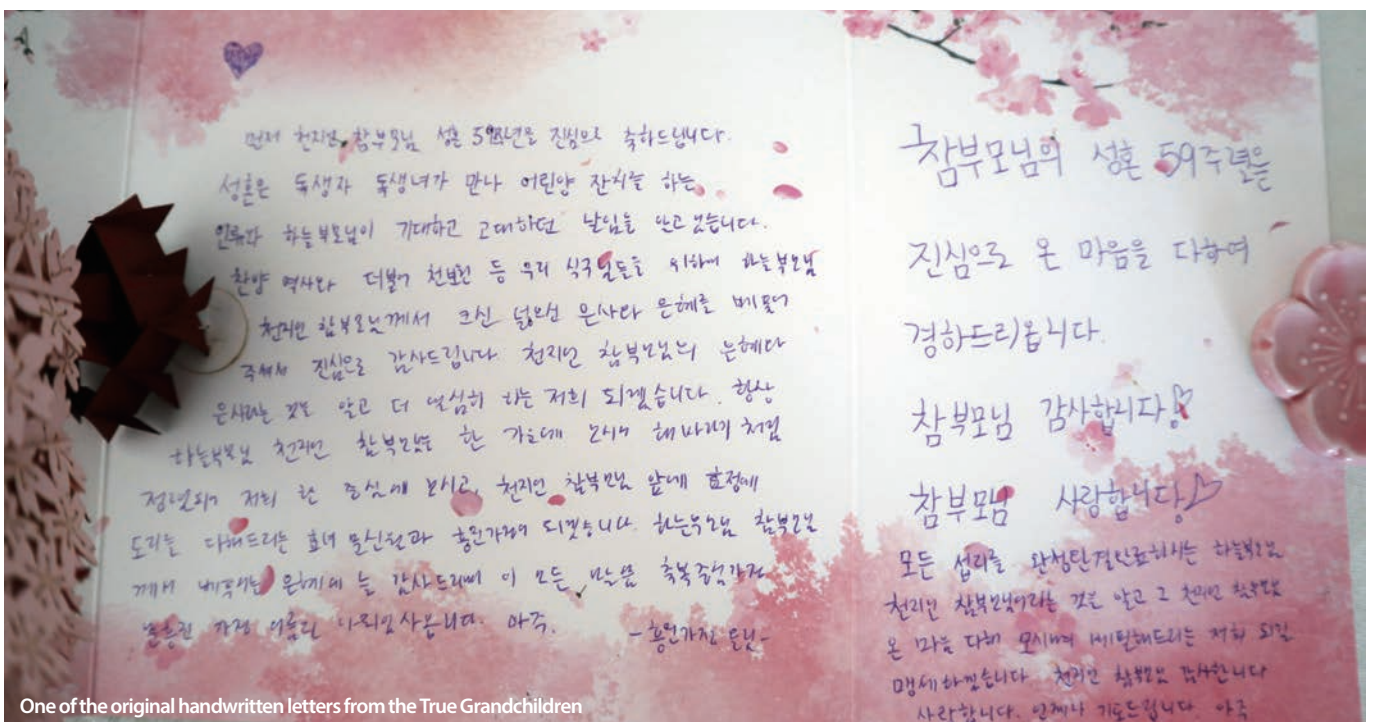
Sincerely, Heung-jin's Family

We sincerely congratulate our True Parents on the 59th anniversary of your Holy Wedding!

True Parents, thank you!

True Parents, we love you!

Knowing that Heavenly Parent and the True Parents of Heaven, Earth, and Humankind completed, concluded and perfected the entire providence, our family pledges to attend True Parents in all sincerity and devotion. True Parents of Heaven, Earth, and Humankind, thank you. We love you! You are always in our prayers. Aju.



One of the original handwritten letters from the True Grandchildren

In Support of Peace

These were the remarks at the 2019 Hopeful March Forward Rally on Friday, May 17 by Dan Burton, a member of the United States House of Representative 1983–2012 for the State of Indiana, who was a member of the US Army and US Army reserve and who among other educational institutions attended the Cincinnati Bible College, 1959-1960.

Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, distinguished representatives from Korea, Japan and America. I am happy to join you here in Seoul, at this most urgent and significant time as an American who recognizes the Republic of Korea as one of America's greatest allies. We have assembled here today with over a hundred thousand people, including dignitaries from Korea, Japan, the United States, greater Asia and Europe to call for peaceful reunification on the Korean Peninsula. As an American citizen who was member of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the US Congress for over thirty years, this enormous gathering greatly encourages me. I believe that the painful crisis of a divided Korean can only be solved if the Republic of Korea and the United States work together as one and that together in prayer, we seek God's help.

I also ask that the leaders of South Korea, North Korea, the United States, Japan, China and Russia also seek God's guidance and that they include in the peace process the moral and humanitarian power of civil society movements like the one gathered here today at Kintex, and by live stream broadcast, elsewhere throughout the world.

My history with their work

I first encountered Rev. Sun Myung Moon and his wife, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, during the cold war nearly forty years ago when I was a new congressman. I was requested to speak at a conference they had organized. The God-centered critique and counterproposal to atheistic Marxism-Leninism they were offering was exactly the answer America needed to counter the fearful threat of the Soviet Union. For thirty years as a member of the US Congress, every day I was informed, strengthened and encouraged by the *Washington Times*, the now world-famous news organization that Rev. Moon and Dr. Moon founded in 1982.

From those first moments in the 1980s until today, I have seen first-hand the profound commitment of Rev. Moon and Dr. Moon to peace, freedom, human dignity and democratic values. Most of all, I have experienced the impact of their most essential contribution of strengthening marriage and family by inviting God's blessing to be at the heart of the family.

Since Rev. Moon's passing in 2012, his wife, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, has carried on the legacy of their commitment to world peace and the task of bringing unity of heart within God's global human family. Dr. Moon's leadership has been bold and principled. She addressed members of the US Congress in Washington a couple years ago, and at that time, launched some of the most effective



Dan Burton, a stalwart supporter of the objectives True Parents have championed, delivering this address in Kintex

peace organizations that exist in the world today. One of those organizations, is the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace, which I am honored to serve as co-chairman.

The organization now has several thousand members of national parliaments in over a hundred and twenty countries. Their participation and support for this gathering today means that the entire world is engaged in the effort to bring peace to the Korean Peninsula.

The Washington Times

Dr. Moon, I want to thank you on behalf of the worldwide membership of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace, for bringing so many people together in the name of peace and security on the Korean Peninsula. All freedom-loving people appreciate your continued leadership and your support for the *Washington Times*. The role of the *Washington Times* in America's capital city has been one of the most powerful influences on America and the world in support of faithful marriage, religious freedom, respect for all faiths and races and the leadership presented daily in the pages of this great newspaper supports the democratic free world in standing firm against terrorism and tyranny.

Global events

I have been to Korea many times to meet with your nation's leaders. This past week I brought a congressional and diplomatic delegation of leading American experts on geopolitics and security, and key ministries of the Korean government and President Moon's Administration received us well. I have great respect for the leaders we met. President Moon's administration and the Korean National Assembly are working with their democratic allies, under difficult conditions, to build effective solutions leading to peace in Northeast Asia. I was also able to see, in the people we met, the unshakable bond that exists between the ROK and the USA. Ours is more than an alliance between two countries. It is a brotherhood forged in the fires of war and cleansed by the blood of heroes who fought side by side for Korea's freedom.

Marriage blessing

In addition, ladies and gentlemen, I want to express the respect and love I feel for Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon and her late husband, Father Moon, for the inspiring work that they have done for the cause of strengthening families through the marriage blessing movement, which is a reaffirmation of our allegiance to the values of keeping a marriage centered on God, and fidelity and commitment to the sacred union of matrimony.

Mother Moon continuously goes to every continent to bring a message that is fundamental for human happiness: that all of humankind are members of one family under God. Jesus Christ was



At the beginning of his address, which was deep-hearted and emphasized the principles he has in common with UPF and ultimately with True Parents, Mr. Burton turned toward True Mother and complimented her on her earlier address.

called many things, one of which was the “Prince of Peace.” When you see what Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon is doing worldwide, finding anyone who is doing more than she for the cause of peace is impossible. What I have witnessed with my own eyes is that primarily, Mother Moon is a profound woman of faith, prayer and action. She is unique in her capacity to bring together in unity the many diverse members of the great Body of Christ, as well as people of all the world’s other faith traditions.

Call to action


I would like to conclude by saying my personal admiration for Rev. Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon has only grown through the years. The world should know now of all the things that Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon has done, and is doing, to bring the world together and to advance the cause of peace.

Through the Universal Peace Federation (1) she continually holds rallies of hundreds of thousands in Africa, Europe, Asia, the US and even the old Soviet Union to bring the world together in the quest for peace. (2) She sponsors and supports the “Peace Road,” a global-international bicycle ride by young people to promote peace. (3) She convenes clergy from all faiths and religions, and nations, to discuss the many things they have in common to bring about peace and understanding. (4) She founded the Sunhak Peace Prize to recognize the great unsung heroes who are working to solve the crises of hunger, environmental problems and war. (5) And of course, as I said, she founded the worldwide Parliamentarians for Peace, which brings thousands of parliamentary together in the quest for peace. (6) Also, as I alluded to earlier, another global peace organization she founded is the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development, which convenes faith leaders on a global scale.

Finally, I’ll conclude my remarks with this call to action for each of us. The work of building peace in the world is the work of building bridges between nations, between religions and between races. This is work that God requires of everyone—faith leaders, elected officials, people of influence and ordinary men and women who desire peace.

God’s blessing, which Mother Moon is working to bring to the attention of the world, is gradually bringing enemy nations to the table for dialogue. Members of different religions are seeking dialogue and common cause with one another. Troubled marriages are healing.

The rest of this year and 2020 will be important for the world. This is the time for people to come together. This is the time to seek unity, rather than division, the time to turn toward God for answers we are unable to find for ourselves. This is the time for us to be one family under God.

I can think of no one who has worked so hard to bring about peace and understanding in the world than Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon. She is truly the Princess of Peace. 

The text has been edited for inclusion in TPmagazine.

Precious Freedom

This interview of Sun Moon University Professor Myung-chul Cho took place on May 16, on the sidelines of Universal Peace Federation's International Leadership Conference 2019 in Seoul.



Professor Cho, I would like to ask you about your experience in North Korea, teaching at Kim Il Sung University.

I received my doctorate from Kim Il Sung University in October 1987 and that same month I was appointed instructor in the Department of Economics, in North Korea we all received an appointment from the Party.

You weren't born in South Korea.

No, I was born in North Korea, in Pyongyang, in a district called Man Gyeong Dae, the district where Kim Jong-un's grand-



father was born; that's where I was also born.

Does that give you a certain prestige in North Korea?

No, we are all considered equal citizens of Pyongyang. Man Gyeong Dae belonged to Daedong County, South Pyeong-an Province, and was then annexed (to Pyongyang).

When did you come to South Korea?

I came on July 18, 1994. I arrived that day.



Could you tell us how you came here?

Yes, as a professor at Kim Il Sung University, in 1992 I had to go to a training course in China. I was in China for two years, one year in Beijing and one year at Chongjin Namgae University.

In 1994, several dynamic events took place, including the death of Kim Il Sung. Leader Kim Il Sung died on July 8 and as I recall I left Beijing on July 10 for Hong Kong and from there I came here.

I remember that when Kim Il Sung died many people were crying,

many were moved. Having been a student at Kim Il Sung University, it can be said that you were part of an elite and it is interesting that while others were crying, you were leaving the country.

At that time I entered the (North Korean) Embassy in Beijing the interior of the embassy was convulsed; there was grief and tears were heard; I also went there to give my condolences and yes, in the midst of that environment one became infected and tears flowed from our eyes, it was a group psychological effect as everyone cried. Another cause may be that I had been brainwashed myself;

changed in your mind, in your heart.

It's a topic that gives me enough time to talk to my students for a whole semester, because there's a lot to say, but from my perspective, the North Korean regime has a lot of problems. Really, there is no freedom, there is no freedom for the individual, a lot of repression in different aspects, things that you have to live with while inside North Korea, but when you go out and meet people from all over the world you wonder how you endured so much; it was really very difficult (life there).

To give you just one example, which I don't know if you can un-

anywhere. On New Year's Day! Is there another country like this (in the world)?

One final question. What is your impression of your South Korean students?

Not just the Sun Moon people, but all South Koreans in general, I really envy them! Don't they enjoy a freedom that they can enjoy just because they were born here? Is anyone going to control them? They couldn't be happier if they were born in a natural state, in a country like South Korea, because they get freedom. Isn't that right? But even though the



Pyongyang, capital of North Korea, where Prof. Cho lived and where he attended and then taught at Kim Il-sung University. Once the center of Christian revival, from the time in 1945 that the Soviet 25th Army entered North Korea, Pyongyang became the capital of an atheist state, and its people suffer. *Facing page:* He speaks from the heart.

in fact, I shed many tears.

In fact, the present Foreign Affairs Minister Ri Yong-ho and Choi Sun-hui, (Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs) who recently went along with Kim Jong-un to Vietnam and Russia, were my classmates at Namsan High School in Pyongyang, a school attended only by children of ministers and vice-ministers. There we graduated together. At that time Ri Yong-ho's father was the private secretary of Kim Jong-Il, while Chi Sun-hui's father was the private secretary of Kim Il-sung.

Then, something must have

derstand. As I told you, I spent two years abroad. That's when Sol arrived, the first day of the lunar calendar year, and you're on school holidays. The Chinese and foreign students who studied with me, there were also Americans, Colombians, Pakistanis, from several countries in the same classroom. As it was the first day of the year, everyone went to have fun or went home. We had to learn the whole speech of Kim Il Sung on the first day of the new year and then, on the third and fifth days, pass an exam (from Kim Il Sung's speech). The whole thing had to be memorized; we couldn't go

North Koreans did not commit any sin, just because they were born in North Korea, unlike the South Koreans, they are oppressed. I always emphasize to the students how important freedom is. I envy them myself; not just me, my whole family could have been happier. I talk about it often. I always tell students that we must build a future in which North Koreans can be as happy as you are, a future in which all citizens of North Korea and South Korea can grow and live well together. I tell you, that is the task and the obligation that they have. *✍*

Opportunities in and Threats to Korea's Economy

The writer read this as a speech at the International Leadership Conference 2019 which took place at the Lotte Hotel Seoul, May 15–18.

By Myung-chul Cho

The late Reverend Sun Myung Moon said, "Communism is doomed." History has borne this out. "Juche ideology is ill-conceived." Reality in North Korea bears testimony to that. "North Korea and South Korea should seek a breakthrough through multi-faceted cooperation."—There is no better way than this, as long as it is based in peace.

The message is clear: the future of our country and her opportunities lie in cooperation between the two Koreas on diverse fronts; therefore, communism and Juche ideology—characterized by repression, isolation and inefficiency—should give way to opportunities instead of making threats at each other. This message, though laconic, is profound. His audacity and insight merit our praise; no one else made such bold statements to the North Korean leadership.

South Korea's economy is at a crossroads. No doubt, it is experiencing a crisis in terms of both economic cycle and structure. All indicators, including of production and investment, the consumption trend and business sentiment have been worsening. Under the current administra-

tion, which has championed the cause of job creation, the economic downturn has become the order of the day, taking a toll on distribution of wealth (contrary to expectations) and increasing the unemployment rate sharply among the low-income class.

The reality is such that it seems to be gnawing at the fundamentals of the economy, which remained resilient enough to give hope during the nation's financial crisis in 1997. Major macro-economic indicators, such as the economic growth rate, prices, the unemployment rate and the current account balance are sending us warning signals. The nation's potential growth rate for 2019 has been on a steady decline at 2.8–2.9%, while its expected real growth rate for 2019 stands at 2.3%, well below her potential growth rate. Investment and employment are in the worst shape since the 1997 financial crisis. The economy is experiencing stagflation, where prices are increasing amid a dwindling growth rate. Just as deplorable is the performance of the nation's external trade, which has been supporting her economy. Exports have begun to take a sharp decline in the last 18 months. Sales of large corporations leading the nation's exports,

such as Samsung and Hyundai, have plummeted.

The problem is that tomorrow may be worse than today. The Index of Leading Economic Indicators gives us a clear message. The number is lower than the OECD average of 99.31 in terms of employment, consumption, investment, finance, construction and machinery inventory. (A number larger than 100 bodes well for the economy, while less than that bodes ill for the economy.) The figure shows a slim chance of the economy rebounding. The gloomy prospect may cause businesses to resort to belt-tightening to reducing investment and recruiting, prompting social unrest with a high unemployment rate.

That is just part of the problem, though. The nation's major industries, boastful of being the world's top, are facing a challenge of grave proportions. Her industries with a traditional competitive edge, including semi-conductors, electronics, shipbuilding, chemicals, steel and iron, have been losing their global market share owing to competition from China and Southeast Asian countries, with some even losing their top position.



South Korea began focusing on heavy industry in the late 1960s and entered the shipbuilding market in 1968. With government support and the aggressive efforts of industrialists Korea became one of the global leaders in the industry but it now struggles against competition in less developed countries.

What is worse is that our external economic situation is unfavorable to us: Sino-US trade disputes made our exports of intermediary goods to China drop sharply, adding to the nation's overall export downturn. South Korea is facing ever-intensifying trade pressure from the US.

South Korea's birthrate

As if that is not enough, Korea's low birth rate and aging has long been a serious economic and social problem by any measure. Her proportion economically active population is 63.2 percent, lower than that of Japan. Administrative unites facing extinction among the cities and counties number as many as four. Her birth rate is the lowest among OECD member nations, eclipsing Japan's, which has been known for having the lowest rate (1.3 for Japan and 1.25 for South Korea). In the meantime, her population is aging at the fastest pace in the world. The low birth rate and aging is expanding the cost of social and economic welfare dramatically, unleashing the inefficiency of the nation's overall economic system. It is a stark reminder of a collapsing growth engine.

Korea is the only nation that suc-

ceeded in transforming itself from a basket case to a donor country in the 20th century and in the 21st. Many developing countries have been trying to emulate Korea for their economic success. Now the nation is encountering a moment of truth. Will the nation be able to counter the challenge by expanding her fiscal spending (increasing the tax rate) to create jobs directly, increasing welfare benefits to halt the low birth rate, with her financial authorities lowering her interest rate, rediscount rate, and reserve requirement, etc.? Will the quantitative easing, which is invariably employed in crises, do the job this time? Will the innovative growth championed by the government fit the bill? The measures are common in other countries as well. Is there not any extraordinary way out? There is, indeed upon deep reflection: North Korea and reunification. These variables are unique to us, but never have they been put to use properly.

Imagine this: What if North Korea were free of nuclear weapons and had a free economic environment? It would, as all would agree, have economic consequences of an unimaginable magnitude. It would become an instant magnet for huge

investment in infrastructure, industries, services, and development of natural resources.

On its part, South Korea would take advantage of her proximity to expand investment sharply in infrastructure, including railroads, landroads, ports and airlines that would help her connect Pyongyang, Sineuju, China, Russia and all the way to Southeast Asia and Europe. Abundant energy, industrial raw materials, and goods from China and on account Russia would be transported through this infrastructure to South Korea, drastically reducing the cost of logistics and production.

Suffering a setback, South Korea's leading industries, such as shipbuilding, machinery, electronics, steel and iron, and chemicals would see their competitiveness soar through the combination of South Korea's capital, technology and management know-how and North Korea's resources and labor. A surge in consumer population from 50 million to 80 million on the peninsula would create a much larger market, touching off a production-inducing effect by a large margin. Market liberalization of North Korea would attract global investors and businesses for



Steel and iron production is another area where South Korea is losing market share to companies in China and in Southeast Asian countries.

investment and exchanges. The economic effect of such a scenario would be overarching.

The New North Policy and the New Southern Policy spearheaded by the government would materialize within the framework. North Korea variably certainly appears to be a panacea for all of South Korea's economic ills. Will it be? The expected certainty presupposes North Korea renounces its weapons of mass destruction, such as nuclear weapons and missiles, its variable will turn out to be a threat greater than an opportunity; no country or business would invest in or pursue economic cooperation with a tinderbox. Given that North Korea is experiencing sanctions from the international community, including the UN, on account of this nuclear arsenal, its intransigent position on the nuclear issue would deter other countries, including Russia and China, and even the current South Korean government, ore friendly than its predecessors, from expanding economic cooperation with the North. North Korea's nuclear issue, in other words, poses the biggest political threat to South Korea's economic rebound.

Reform is indispensable

North Korean variable could prove to be a risk rather than an opportunity if the country did not reform and open up, following in the footsteps of China for Vietnam. Creation of economic efficiency calls for a free, timely and efficient combination of capital, management know-how and labor. Lack of reform and opening up by North Korea may invite humanitarian aid or friendly investment, but not large-scale investments. Friendly investments, if at all, are not likely to translate into profit. One has to look, for assurance, nowhere else than failures of business investments in North Korea in the past. From an economic perspective, North Korea's anti-reform and anti-market policy is the greatest of economic threats.

Openness

North Korea's investment attraction practices are far from being favorable to South Korean businesses. Countries around the world are willing to go an extra mile to offer a variety of incentives to prospective investors not just on the government level but also on the corporate level in addition to the favorable regulations on foreign investment. North Korea,

however, does not seem much inclined to encourage foreign investment apart from the relevant law. If anything, the north has not been doing justice to southern businesses. Investors complain that entry ticket to north Korea cost more than the amount of investment itself. North Korea's propensity to equate an investment opportunity with favoritism is another threat to potential investors.

Behavioral changes

North Korea's human rights issue is one of the big threats to investment or aid from the international community. Despite the attractiveness of the North Korean variable, its reprehensible human rights abuses negate the cause of South Korea's engagement with her northern brethren. Any initiatives, be it in economy, cooperation or reunification are about the dignity and welfare of people of the two Koreas. Economic engagement with North Korea, if its economic fruits enriched North Korea's elite at the expense of most of the people, would not last in the face of international censure and resistance.

Southern cohesiveness

Ideological confrontation between the left and right in South Korea stands in the way of her engagement with the north. The democratic forces for peace and the forces for liberal democracy are locking horns over a whole gamut of issues, including North Korea's nuclear ambitions, its human rights, the US– ROK alliance, inter-Korean matters and economic ideology (balance between growth and distribution). Confrontation and conflict between the two groups are all too obvious in inter-Korean issues and engagement policy. The democratic forces for peace believe that peace can take root by building mutual trust through economic cooperation, and on the basis of the trust, gradually eliminating threats, such as nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction. This attitude is underpinned by two propositions: one is the belief that Kim Jong-un is a man to be reckoned with in accomplishing a feat and the other is the disposition to approach the inter-Korean issue from the perspective of the Koreans. Naturally, they are bent on autonomous solutions to the inter-Korean issues.

The forces for liberal democracy, on the other hand, view all inter-Korean cooperation not supported by fundamental change of course of the Kim Jong-un regime as propping up the dictatorship at the risk of South Korea's security. This attitude is buttressed by two ideas: one is the belief that Kim's regime's dictatorial gene would give way, and the other is the issue of improving inter-Korean relations. Naturally, US–ROK alliance, human rights and the UN sanctions are their main concerns.

The former argues that now is the unprecedented "national opportunity" to push ahead with improving the inter-Korean relations and extensive cooperation: the latter argues that now is the unprecedented "international opportunity" to turn the Kim Jong-un on its head. The former stresses cooperation rather than criticism against North Korea, believing that the peace of tomorrow is forged by peace of today and no value is greater than peace. They are preoccupied with cooperation of today, leaving behind for the future issues, such as human rights and hereditary



(Jamshil, Seoul) The author asserts that Korean reunification will be mutually beneficial as South Korean companies invest themselves in making a more pleasant living environment for their northern brethren.

succession of power.

The latter, on the other hand, stresses change of North Korea rather than immediate cooperation, believing that peace of tomorrow is forged by eliminating the threats of today. They put on the agenda of today such issues as nuclear arsenal, missiles, human rights, and character of the regime. These issues constitute major times on the agenda for improving inter-Korean relations. They diametrically opposite positions do not seem to afford and possibility for them to meet each other halfway. Failure to break and domestic deadlock itself is a threat to South Korea.

International ties

Historically, North Korea and inter-Korean relations have been international issues as well as national issues. The nation was liberated by international power politics. The Korean Conflict was a civil war, indeed, unleashed by North Korea, but to the extent that it was intervened by China and the UN, it was an international war as well. Korea's economic recovery and prosperity after the war is credited to a combination of her resilience and international support. The current economic challenge the two

Koreas are facing is international in nature as a breakthrough should be found in expanding cooperation with the outside. The North Korean nuclear arsenal is a domestic and international issue as the Kim Jong-un regime is resorting to maintain stability of its regime and have its security guaranteed by the international community, including the US.

All inter-Korean endeavors are geared to revive the nation as a whole, for sure. The efforts, however, have been and will be made within the framework of international cooperation. In other words, all the Korean challenges related to improvement in inter-Korean relations and work for reunification would be overcome with international approval and cooperation, more importantly, reduction or elimination of the threat from North Korea and its active engagement. Local and international environment conducive to a potential success is an opportunity. From that standpoint, the current environment surrounding the Korean peninsula affords more opportunities than before, but falls short of being dispositive. *TP*

This article was edited for inclusion in TPmagazine.

Seeking to Improve the Natural Environment

By Hyun-tae Kim

I am an expert on the environment. My parents are part of the six-thousand-couple blessing group, blessed in Korea. I'm the oldest boy in a family of two boys and three girls. My family lives happily with one another, especially my parents.

I was deeply curious and spent a lot of time observing nature. Especially when I was a university student, I was impressed by Aote Tong, then president of Kiribati, who received the Sunhak Peace Prize for his efforts to solve the climate-change problem. The climate change problem and clean energy needs, which will affect future generations shocked me. I became more concerned about global problems. I led a green era volunteer group at my university and planted trees as a Green Earth project.

In Korea, we went to Seoul Grand Park and Jungnangcheon Stream [a Han River tributary], and I also went to China, the source of yellow sand [microdust], and planted trees in the desert. And I thought, through this green core activity, it's important to plant real trees, and to plant in people's minds the love of nature. Because if you do that,



Hyun-tae Kim speaking about his efforts in responding to the rapid deterioration of our physical environment

you will naturally improve our Green Earth.

As a result of this activity, I was awarded a certificate of merit for volunteer from the city of Seoul. I was selected as a youth representative to the National Climate Change Forum and attended twenty-one United Nations Conference on Climate Change international conventions, including a convention in Paris. At that meeting to discuss climate change, I was able to wear hanbok and represent Korea. I met then UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon there.

We need to realize the dream of reunification with North Korea. We need to plant trees on vacant land and solve the crises in food, energy and water. I am now studying the threat of climate change, sustainable development goals and energy in order to create a green Earth in the Graduate School of Energy and Environmental Policy at Korea University. In addition, I am supporting the Ministry of the Environment in their Low-Carbon 2050 Vision Forums in the city of Seoul.

Just like True Parents who have been concerned about humanity's hunger and environmental problems all over the world, flowing from their parental heart, I am also constantly trying to practice and strive to create a green Earth full of love that all humankind can live in centered on our Creator—Heavenly Parent. I hope that you will become interested in our environmental issues through my story today, and that you join us in your daily lives by creating a green neighborhood and a green Earth. *✍*

This is the translation of the transcribed text of a Hyo Jeong Speech given at the May 17 Kintex event.

Finding My Identity

By Hong-hee Kim

I am a Korean who has a Japanese name, Hiroaki Noda. Thanks to my father and mother, I naturally consider both Japan and Korea as my country. However, in general society, it is not natural at all.

People always ask me which country I support in games in which Korea versus Japan. I was living with Japanese blessed family members at school. Japanese friends in the dormitory looked at me as Korean; Korean friends at school looked at me as Japanese, and I was always facing Korea and Japan as a foreigner.

In case you haven't heard it, the nation is nobler than the individual. I formed strong bonds with people, and I always wanted to have a clear sense of belonging. Also, the role of soldiers has immense value because people think that soldiers exist only for their country and would sacrifice everything for their nation. People connect soldiers with the patriotism.

In my third year of high school, I finally made my choice. My love for Korea, for True Parents' country, and my desire to be a soldier for my country, was the opposite of conscientious objection; I went through



Hong-hee Kim speaking of obstacles he faced to fully living his patriotic dream

naturalization to be a Korean citizen for the conscientious choice of serving in the military. And I supported the Military Academy to become the best soldier.

I worked hard academically and physically to get good grades, but they rejected me as an officer. In their judgment, children of parents who weren't

both Korean were unfit to become officers. It was unfair because it was an unreasonable, but my mind did not change about being a soldier. So after attending a general university, I applied to the Marine Special Investigation College and served in the military on Yeonpyeong Island, one of the furthest front-line units. [North Korean artillery units bombarded Yeonpyeong Island with 170 artillery shells on November 23, 2010, killing four South Koreans and injuring 19.]

I found myself in an increasingly difficult position because I wanted to dedicate myself and have a meaningful military life. I accept the fact that choosing naturalization did not make me wholly Korean. I am myself. I am a true person of Japan through my father and of Korea through my mother. From now on, I will do my best to grow into a future person who can play a bridging role for the peace and prosperity of my parents and my chosen countries, Korea and Japan. Thank you. ㄸ

This is the translation of the transcribed text of a Hyo Jeong Speech given at the May 17 Kintex event.

Life amidst a Crowd

By Gi-woo Shin

I am in my last year at Kwangyang Middle School. My parents received the thirty-six-million-couple blessing and are Korean-Japanese couple. They have had eleven children, five sons and six daughters, starting with my older sister, who is a freshman in college and ending with my three-year-old twin sisters. There are thirteen people in my family and my parents have not yet finished.

In order to raise eleven children, my parents divided us into groups of small children in elementary school and older children. The older children take good care of the younger children and the rest follow their examples.

Now, while I'm in my third year of middle school, I have to take care of my four younger brothers and four younger sisters. I am taking care of my younger siblings by changing their diapers or giving powdered milk to my three-year-old twin sisters. I guess my younger brothers are confused as to whether I'm a mother or an older sister.

I can't have my own room, and it's hard to go to the after-school lessons, but I like my family because we have many siblings. I have never felt lonely. My parents



Gi-woo Shin speaking about the social value of her large family

love my siblings, it's impossible for me to feel lonely because my sisters and brothers are always with me even if my parents are busy.

We are not lonely but happy siblings, sometimes a small crisis will come, and my parents will fight. I think there is peace

between Korea and Japan from my family, but on the other hand, when my parents are arguing, I think there is a conflict between Korea and Japan in my house. At such times, my brothers and sisters quietly breathe a sigh of relief when the fight is over.

At present, the population problem is serious due to the low fertility rate and the aging population. In the midst of these social problems, I think our family has the best answer.

I'd like to take this opportunity to tell my mom something. My mother, who has been bringing up and raising children for nearly twenty years since my sister's birth in 2000, has had a lot of responsibilities related to her family and has no time for herself. Now that I have grown up a little more, I want to be a daughter who can shower my family with love and share my mother's burden.

Thank you, Mom and Dad, who give birth to and have cared for all of us. Thank you True Parents, who protect our family. I love you. *TP*

This is the translation of the transcribed text of a Hyo Jeong Speech given at the May 17 Kintex event.

A Month of Faith-Based Efforts in the DRC

This is a description of the major outreach efforts of members in the Democratic Republic of Congo in the month of April.

In April, when the True Mother of humankind was recognized in the wider society in the United States as the God's only daughter and True Mother of humanity, in the Democratic Republic of Congo a new wind was blowing in order to facilitate the movement of the country as an emerging Cheon Il Guk nation.

Heavenly tribal messiahism

In central DR Congo, in one of our strategic provinces, a Christian pastor received the blessing with twenty-six couples from his church. Pastor Gabriel Tembe, of the Eternal Glory Church, revealed that at the begin-

ning of his ministry he had had a spiritual vision in which God told him that humans must receive physical and spiritual resurrection without which they would be burned and consumed by spiritual fire. He saw a crowd of people of all colors on their knees in front of the "house of the eternal" on earth. For more than twelve years he sought this house of the Lord, but he never found it. On the day he came to follow the teachings regarding the blessing in our provincial headquarters, he was surprised to see this crowd of all colors through the various slides projected during the presentation of

the original palace, Cheon Jeong Gung.

On April 5, he, his wife, and twenty-six other couples began their forty-day separation, which will end on May 15. In the same room were four other pastors, including a young one from Kinshasa, who wanted to receive the blessing and other couples from their different churches.

All these couples that received the blessing that day reached deep unity as husband and wife to the point that they now feel closer than when they first fell in love; they now come to church hand in hand and testify directly to their neighbors. We were

Pastor Gabriel Tembe, his wife and other couples of the Eternal Glory Church received the blessing in April.





WFWP-Democratic Republic of the Congo celebrated the anniversary of their providential organization's founding in April.

preparing a two-day seminar before the end of their separation period and they are mobilizing their neighbors for the next blessing. The pastors are ready to study the complete cycle of the Divine Principle.

A testimonial environment

The DRC chapter of the Women's Federation for World Peace celebrated its twenty-seventh anniversary. As part of the celebration of this, the women organized a conference at the Bandalugwa Blood Transfusion Center on April 24, focusing on women's self-care. Many women from civil society, NGOs and mothers in the Unification Church attended this conference. The room was full to overflowing.

The national media came to cover the event and interviewed key figures in the Women's Federation for World Peace, in particular the president.

Notably, the wife of the national leader, who was also among the speakers that day, attended this celebration. Mother Maria Kadima urged mothers to always develop positive thinking. Another intervention came from the president of WFWP, focused on the importance of women in society, while one woman gave her thoughts on the risks of abortion. The WFWP president explained the organization's background and presented their activities at the international level.

Thanksgiving service

On Sunday, April 21, FFWPU-DR Congo's national leader, Jean Pierre Mundadi Kadima, held a special worship service. DR Congo is a special strategic country; the point of the service was to the launch of a special condition of support for national restoration. Before announcing this condition, the central figure took care to mark the path to success in the hearts of the members by preaching about the intent of the condition.

On a Sunday full of enthusiasm and joy, the members accepted the condition as announced by the national leader. Please note that this condition consists in launching the entire nation into an intense tribal messiah activity with the objective of reaching 120 tribal messiahs in seventy days. For this reason, the leaders and administrative staff of the national headquarters have accepted the onus of succeeding in this condition, which represents a national offering. The condition necessary to receive the True Mother of humanity in DR Congo. To support, we will do a condition of twenty-one full bows and a twenty-one-minute prayer three times per day. That is forty bows and seven minutes of prayer, morning, noon and night.

The noon phase of the condition we must do at noon, wherever you are (at the office, on the way, in a train or elsewhere). Our members responded with massive enthusiasm to the

national leader's proposal.

Reaching young people

Youth and Students for Peace-DRC organized several activities to prepare future leaders. First, as part of its collaboration with the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA)—a large youth platform that existed even before the independence of DR Congo—young members launched peace activities throughout the nation. The president of YSP-DRC, Merveil Kambale, read a speech outlining YSP's activities. He defined peace according to the philosophy of Reverend Sun Myung Moon and urged the participants to develop a culture that promotes peace.

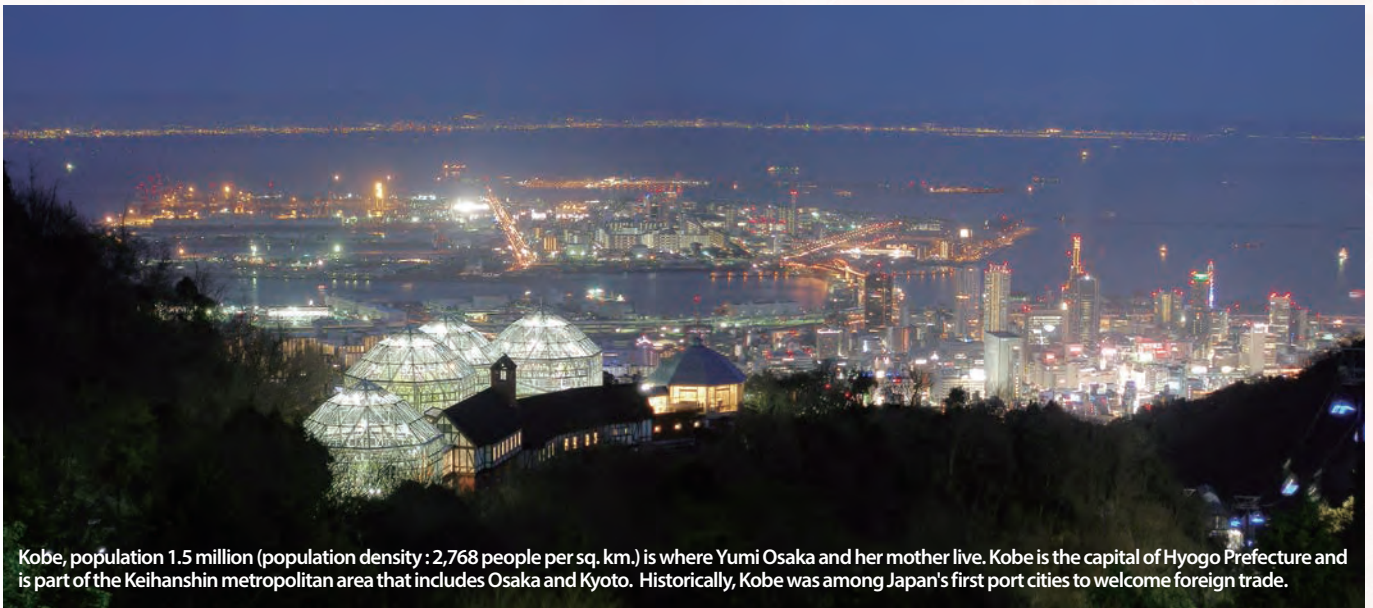
April 13–19, two three-day seminars for YSP students took place at the Hyo Jeong Kimbwalala Training Center. For greater efficiency, YSP-DR Congo employs segmentation by age and education level. Those in the orientation cycle between eleven and sixteen years of age were the first group and those involved in more intensive studying and were seventeen years old or over were in the second group.

The world Tong-il Moo-do Federation DRC chapter organized on the fortieth anniversary of the founding of their federation, on Sunday, April 21, a belt award ceremony for new members and a three-day seminar preceding that ceremony. This rounds off the major events that took place in April. 

A Mother's Persistence, a Daughter's New Faith

On October 2, 2018, the headquarters church in Shibuya, Tokyo, celebrated the fifty-ninth anniversary of the founding of FFWPU-Japan and honored nine church members with the Witnessing Award. This is the testimony of one recipient, a member of the Kobe Family Church in the Hyogo District. This article originally appeared in World Family, a publication of FFWPU-heavenly Japan.

By Yumi Osaka



Kobe, population 1.5 million (population density : 2,768 people per sq. km.) is where Yumi Osaka and her mother live. Kobe is the capital of Hyogo Prefecture and is part of the Keihanshin metropolitan area that includes Osaka and Kyoto. Historically, Kobe was among Japan's first port cities to welcome foreign trade.

My mother led me to the church, so I am a “Jacob child.” [Note: The origin of this term is unclear, but it is a respectful term for children born before their parents received the blessing.] My mother joined the church in 1977 when she was pregnant with my older brother. Then, she led her mother, her mother-in-law and her brother-in-law (my uncle) to the church. My uncle received the

30,000-couple blessing. My mother later received the 360,000-couple blessing for married couples with my father. However, she was on the path of faith alone; her family members did not look on the church favorably.

My mother was a very strong person. Her faith did not waver no matter what her family members said. I believe my father kept silent about her faith because he believed in her from the bottom of his heart.

At my mother's suggestion, I studied the Divine Principle for the first time when I was twenty-three years old. But since I was terribly busy, having begun my career as a nurse, it did not take me long to quit studying it.

I was preparing for my wedding when I was twenty-nine years old, and that somehow reminded me that my mother's church used to make claims about the value of a family. I



From left: Mrs. Osaka, her grandmother Shizuko Sadakane and her mother Keiko Sadakane, three generations of blessed women

thought to myself, “Perhaps I should listen to that lecture one more time.” This made me attend the church again.

Though I comprehended the content of the Divine Principle as mere knowledge, I neither rebelled against it nor was I convinced that this was the truth. When I heard a lecture on True Father’s life course, however, I experienced a huge change of heart. I was inspired beyond description and my eyes were filled with endless tears. At first, I was merely curious about Rev. Sun Myung Moon whom my mother has respected for such a long time, but when I learned about the path he went through, it had on me a profound impact. That moment, he was no longer “Rev. Sun Myung Moon” but was “True Father.”

Wishing for my grandmother’s blessing

In June 2017, I quit my job and participated in forty-day Cheongpyeong workshop. I wanted to reconsider my own self and to encounter God. Ever since I married my husband, I had been searching for a way to open myself up in front of him. Furthermore, I had the feeling of indebtedness for not being fully connected to the church despite

having studied its teachings. Although I could not understand its value, I wanted to resolve this sense of being in debt.

One day, in the latter stage of the workshop, while I was praying at the Jeongshimweon Prayer Hall, a certain feeling hit me all of a sudden. “God has forgiven me and has been waiting for me for a long time.” In that moment, I was moved to tears and felt indescribable joy. Since then, I focused my prayer on building a happy family. As a result, I received a message from God at the end of the workshop. God said, “Come to me with your husband.” This made me reflect upon myself and I tried harder to become a good wife.

After returning from Cheongpyeong, I was encouraged with strong hope that my grandmother would receive the blessing. As I became positive toward the church, I wanted my grandmother to receive the blessing as an award for her constant faith and contribution to God’s providence even when she was in great difficulty.

My grandmother had deep vertical faith toward True Parents. However, she had refused to receive the blessing for many decades because of her bitter feelings toward her husband (my grandfather) for the hardships

she went through in their marriage. With slight hope that she might listen to me if I talked to her as her granddaughter, I headed for my grandmother’s house in Fukui Prefecture after reporting to the church leader and to my mother and preparing elaborately.

During my stay for three days, I listened to all of my grandmother’s struggles and bitterness. Then, I told her how grateful I was for being able to join the church on the foundation built by her and my mother. Little by little, her bitter feelings died down and finally, she said, “If you insist that much...” and agreed to receive the spirit world–physical world blessing.

A deep transformation

My grandmother is a member of the Fukui Family Church, and the church members have taken care of her for a long time. When I called the church and told them that she was willing to receive the blessing, they came over for the holy wine ceremony right away.

My grandmother is spiritually sensitive. When they conducted the holy wine ceremony, which they did with solemnity, her heart became light and her resentment toward my grandfather disappeared like magic.



The city of Fukui, pop. 264,217 (density: 69.2 people per km) is the capital of largely mountainous Fukui Prefecture, which abuts the Sea of Japan. On her approximately two and a half hour train or car trip from Kobe to Fukui, Mrs. Osaka would have spent about thirty minutes alongside Lake Biwa, the largest body of fresh water in Japan.

She says such negative feelings have never come up in her ever since. Within an instant, she felt liberated from the resentment that she had been caught up in for decades.

Actually, at my mother's strong request, during the forty-day workshop, I attended the blessing ceremony for unmarried first-generation spirits for my great uncle, who happened to be my grandmother's eldest brother. Since my grandmother respected him the most among her brothers and sisters, I supposed that from the spirit world he had greatly contributed to convincing her to receive the blessing. Later, she completed the three-day ceremony on the foundation of sincerity and dedication paid by the members of the Fukui Family Church.

My husband and I

While preparing for my grandmother's blessing, I also encouraged my husband to study the Divine Principle. As a result of numerous discussions, he finally accepted my suggestion and said, "I'll do it if that will make you happy." We are now participating in a Divine Principle lecture course together. Thanks to the instructor's comprehensible lecture, my husband grew interested in the Bible. He says he is attending the

course to learn about the Bible. At first, I expected my husband to change and that he would consider receiving the blessing for previously married couples. But through the course, I grew aware that that difficult time was a time necessary for me to reconsider my relationship with him and that this course was a chance for me to develop my love.

I have not received the blessing yet, but the people supporting me the most are my parents who are watching over me and over my husband, encouraging us to become happy at all times. My mother would often say, "God wants you to receive the blessing. You will receive it as long as you don't give up." It truly encourages me because her words are based on her own experience of more than forty years. I respect her for not giving up her faith even when her family, including me, were against her.

I was honored with the Witnessing Award on behalf of the Kobe Family Church, but I believe it was given to me on the foundation built by my mother and grandmother.

Newcomers and married members

The Kobe Family Church is making progress in witnessing through seminars promoted by Rev. Myeong-

gi Shim who received his assignment as the minister in 2017. There are two types of seminars: Newcomers Seminars, which gives a comprehensive explanation of the introduction of the Divine Principle and the Marriage Preparation Academy, which is focused on young people considering marriage. Currently, the lecturer for the Newcomers Seminar is the director of the Youth Department, Mr. Tomoaki Yoshida. As for the Marriage Preparation Academy, we invite Mr. Osamu Fushitani, director of Subregion 4's Witnessing and Education Department, as the lecturer.

Because they give us clues on building a happier family, not only newcomers but a wide range of people such as blessed children and female members come to listen to these seminars. At first, it was not easy. But as the lectures took place on a regular basis, more people connected to Divine Principle courses. Currently, one of my guests is taking a Divine Principle course. It may not be easy to bring guests into the church, but I want to do my best to connect as many people to True Parents as possible. *✠*

Youth and Students for Peace-Senegal formed on January 19, 2018.

