

True Peace

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Cheon Il Guk Consecration Ceremony to Celebrate
The 9th Anniversary of the Holy Ascension Anniversary of True Parent of Heaven, Earth, and Humankind



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Let's Move Forward Toward the Day of True Father's Settlement in Heaven

By Young-ho Yun



Beloved leaders and blessed families:
It feels like yesterday that we sent True Father off to the spirit world, yet nine years have already passed. No single place in heaven or on earth has been left untouched by his essence, tears and sweat. Wherever we go, we breath and experience Father's love and heart.

After emerging as our Heavenly Parent's only begotten son, he met True Mother, Heavenly Parent's only begotten daughter. Ever since the marriage supper of the Lamb in 1960, they have trod the path of the True Parents of humankind, overcoming all kinds of hardships, shedding their blood, sweat and tears to realize the ideal of the Cosmic Nation of Peace and Unity—one great family of humanity on earth under our Heavenly Parent, which Heavenly Parent has

been envisioning since the time of the Creation.

Throughout his life, True Father was always on the move, going east, west, north, and south without ever having time to relax, investing completely day and night, journeying throughout the world to search for and find God's children. His life was like that of a captain sailing a ship in a raging sea. His was the model sacrificial life of true love, solely dedicated to realizing Heavenly Parent's wish and humanity's hope. Though nine years have passed since his Holy Ascension, the thought of the blood True Father shed still makes our hearts beat faster. Memories of the sweat and tears True Father shed set our hearts on fire.

Our True Father's Holy Ascension occurred on the seventeenth day of the seventh month in 2012. True Mother made a promise in front of True Father's holy body, "I will firmly establish Cheon Il Guk within my lifetime." With firm determination, she declared that we would continue without stopping. She has lived each day as if it had the significance of a thousand years, thereby bringing victory in the first Seven-Year Cosmic Canaan Course, and on the basis of the restoration achieved, she proclaimed the Heavenly Parent's Holy Community.

As we celebrate the ninth anniversary of True Father's Universal Seonghwa this year, True Mother is setting more serious conditions than ever before. She is also already contemplating how best to hold the tenth anniversary of True Father's Holy Ascension next year.

In particular, thinking of True Father, who so longed for the providential fatherland and for peaceful reunification on the Korean Peninsula, in 2022, when we mark the tenth anniversary of True Father's Holy Ascension, it will go beyond a simple "day of remembrance" to commemorate Father's life on earth. True Parents interpret the number ten to have the providential meaning of "completion," and they have newly defined the meaning of the tenth anniversary of True Father's Holy Ascension as "the day of True Father's settlement in heaven." Regarding the standard of "settlement" and of "completion," True Mother set the goal of realizing the unification of the homeland, which True Father had so desired to bring about, and of laying the foundation for the firm establishment of a heavenly unified Korea. This six-month period, beginning from the anniversary of the Holy Ascension in September and running until next year's celebration of True Parents' Birthday in February, is designated as the "Period of the Ninth Commemorative Ceremony of the Holy Ascension." In a sense, True Mother is setting up the final base camp and advancing forward.

During this six-month period, by being totally united with True Mother, I am convinced that we will reap the amazing fruits of the providence as we have never experienced before. I believe True Father is performing great miracles in Heaven. Let us all move forward toward victory! 

Dr. Yun is the director-general of the FFWPU International Headquarters.

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The Seonghwa Ceremony

Because Unification Church members know that there is a spirit world, they are not afraid of dying. In the Unification Church, a funeral is called a Seunghwa Ceremony. It means to ascend nobly to heaven. The Seunghwa Ceremony is about ascension. To inaugurate it, I had to rejoice more over the death of my son than I did at the birth of my sons and daughters. I had to experience the joy that God would have felt had his princes and princesses been born to him. If this did not come to pass, my son could not have crossed over the hill of death. At the place where he died, we, his mother and father, had to offer a prayer to celebrate the victory of love, that is, of his having achieved liberation. That is why, when Heung-jin passed on, I did not shed even a single teardrop. Because



he had a long way to go in the next world, I held the Unification Ceremony for him.

The Seunghwa Ceremony and the Seonghwa Ceremony
 There is a three-year course that had to be established during the forty-year period of the restoration of Canaan on the world level. Through this three-year course we needed to reach the conclusion. The second year was the most dangerous. It was the most difficult time. That is why, at that time, Heung-jin passed on, and I went to prison. As the leader who had been shouldering responsibility for heaven and earth, I was very serious. Satan was the one who caused what happened to Heung-jin. Therefore, I first conducted the unification ceremony, then the Seunghwa Ceremony, and then, because I had to send him off as my victorious son, I did not shed any tears until Heung-jin passed on. This is a dreamlike story. However, in this world, things are actually happening



True Mother bowing in front of True Father's casket and his portrait during his Universal Seonghwa Ceremony, through which he ascended to heaven

just as I prayed and just as I said. Unbelievable events are taking place.

When Heung-jin went to the spirit world, I held the Unification Ceremony and declared the Day of Victory of Love. The love of True Parents treads on Satan's world and overcomes death. That is why, as I viewed Heung-jin during the three days before his passing, I could not shed any tears. Even in the presence of our dead sons and daughters, we should be able to share God's love and dedicate our love to them. For this reason, I declared the Day of Victory of Love. Because love triumphed over everything, the ceremony is called the "Seunghwa Ceremony."

In the Unification Church, we call a funeral the "Seunghwa Ceremony." Our birth, the Holy Wedding Ceremony and even the end of our life are to be offered to God. The complete fruit of these is the Seunghwa Ceremony. However, you have no idea what an embarrassment it is for a person to be given a Seunghwa Ceremony and honored

with many flowers if they lived a careless life and did as they pleased. Therefore, knowing the Principle, we should lay our foundation by living in accordance with it.

Though Heung-jin passed on alone, I blessed him on earth on the fiftieth day after his passing—just as on the Pentecost fifty days after the passing of Jesus, the one hundred and twenty believers who had gathered in the Upper Room were filled with the Holy Spirit, as recorded in the Book of Acts (2:1–4). With that, I made up for all the incomplete work that Heung-jin would have done during his lifetime. I could not shed tears as I sent him off. I also made Mother pledge not to express sadness in front of Heung-jin when he departed for the spirit world. If I had not prepared the way for him at the time, he would have gone to the spirit world in tragedy, like other people. He would then have had no relationship with Jesus or the world of the Blessing amid a spirit world rife with divisions. That is why I named his depar-

ture the "Seunghwa Ceremony." That ceremony I conducted was the original Seunghwa Ceremony.

At Heung-jin's Seunghwa Ceremony, no one was allowed to shed tears. This was especially so for True Parents. Later, in the United States, only after they received the report from Korea that the Seunghwa Ceremony had been performed joyously, did they shed tears of blessing as they bid him farewell. In this way, the history that had been divided in tears was brought together in harmony with tears. Therefore, no one should shed tears during a Unification Church Seunghwa Ceremony. If tears are shed, the deceased cannot go the way he or she is supposed to go.

There is no hope without a heart of love. You cannot form bonds with others if you do not have a loving and caring heart. You should even embrace death itself; otherwise you cannot form a relationship with God, who governs the world beyond death. Without transcending death, you



Great multitudes thronged into the World Peace Center to express love and gratitude to True Father at the "Universal Seonghwa Ceremony for Sun Myung Moon, the True Parent of Heaven, Earth and Humankind" and to see him off on his journey to heaven on September 15, 2012.

cannot enter God's world of love. You need to rise above the fallen realm; otherwise you cannot find love no matter how eagerly God awaits your arrival. Where there is hope, there is love. To have hope for the spirit world, you need to love, which will enable you to overcome even death. That is why in the Unification Church, a funeral is called a Seunghwa Ceremony. It signifies breaking through Satan's wall straightaway and ascending to heaven.

Throughout your life, you should have nothing to be ashamed of before your wife or husband. You should be able to say, "I have kept true to the tradition of safeguarding God's pure lineage, in order to bequeath it to my descendants. I have lived my life according to the tradition of building the kingdom of heaven, where God desires purity, and now I am departing. I am coming to you, my Father, and I entrust myself to you." With that, the commemoration of your death will be called a Seunghwa Ceremony.

People do not know what it means to die. They think it is a sorrowful occasion, but it is not. Death is a transition from a lower-dimensional world to a higher-dimensional world by crossing the bridge of love. That is why the Unification Church calls death "seunghwa." To die is to ascend to a higher dimension. It is possible only through love.

A funeral in the Unification Church is called a Seunghwa Ceremony. Since it is a ceremony of seunghwa (ascension), you should not hold on to the deceased and cry. When the spirit of the dead person sees you cry over him or her, that spirit will lament. He or she will say, "The people's ignorance is a rope that ties me down and prevents me from going on my way." Since we know these things, we in the Unification Church call it a Seunghwa Ceremony. "Seunghwa" means "soaring gloriously to heaven." With the power of love, you should lift the deceased up. Instead of pulling the dead person down, you should lift him or her up.

The Seunghwa Ceremony began with Heung-jin. The meaning of "victory of love" in the Day of Victory of Love is being victorious over death through love. Other people's mothers would be overwhelmed with sorrow, writhing and wailing with deep emotion, but Mother was required not to shed tears. We needed to hold his ceremony within three days of his passing. We had to proclaim victory over death. It is on this basis that we can hold the Seunghwa Ceremony in the Unification Church. It is a ceremony of going beyond death and onward to joy. Those who go through the Seunghwa Ceremony can easily cross over all the valleys in the spirit world.

The word "death" is sacred. It is not a word that should evoke sadness and anguish. That is why I announced that I changed "*seunghwa*" to "*seonghwa*". The character "*seong*" (聖) means to be sacred or holy. We should no longer use "*seung*" (昇), meaning "to ascend." "Seonghwa" is a term I coined. The previous word, "seung-

hwa," did not clearly reflect the sacredness of death, so I rectified it and announced that it is now "seonghwa." The moment of entry into the spirit world is the time when you enter the world of ecstasy and victory. It is the moment, after your life on earth has bloomed and borne fruit, when you embrace the fruit of your life. It is a moment that comes only once. That is why you should rejoice in that moment. In that moment, others should congratulate you as much as they desire and then send you off. In that moment, they should shed tears of joy, not tears of sadness. Every person has eternal life. Compared to the span of eternity, the period of three days after death is shorter than a second. So the question is, "Why should you feel sad about it?" If you lament during that time, your prospects for eternal life will vanish. How dreadful is that? It is so true. It is a time when people should shed tears of joy, not tears of sadness. This "seonghwa" refers to laying out the body of the deceased for three days and offering devotions for his or her passage into the spirit world. I have changed the term, "Seunghwa Ceremony" to "Seonghwa Ceremony."

The Wonjeon Ceremony

Members of the Unification Church overcome fear of the spirit world. I have no fear of death. The Fall brought about death, so religion should create the realm of resurrection. Based on the Day of Victory of Love, we could begin holding the seunghwa (ascension) ceremony. Also on that condition, we could call the burial site the "wonjeon," which means "original palace." It is not about dying but about direct passage to the kingdom of heaven. This palace is a link from the earthly nation to the heavenly nation. That is the meaning of "wonjeon." There is no religion in the world with anything like it other than the Unification Church.

The place of burial for deceased members of the Unification Church will be known as a "wonjeon." To enter the wonjeon means to find our way to the original palace within our mother's womb. Where is your wonjeon? It is the inside of your mother's womb before you were born. From the moment your father's sperm met



People of many different faiths from nations all over the world came to pay their respects and express their gratitude and love for True Father at his Seonghwa Ceremony.

your mother's ovum, although one was small and the other large, they breathed together, clung to each other and lived in joy. They dwelt together, holding on to each other and giving each other a boost. You need to pass through the ideal of that wonjeon. In the word "wonjeon," the character "jeon" (殿) means "house." It is the same character as the "jeon" in "goong-jeon," meaning "palace." You are to find your way to the origin within God's ideal, which existed before your mother's ovum met your father's sperm and you were born on earth.

Do you know what a mortuary table is? When a person dies, before the body is placed in a coffin, it is washed clean and prepared. Before the body can be moved into a coffin, it is placed on the table and washed clean. Unless someone can unite in heart with the deceased at that place, the body cannot be placed in the coffin. Who is supposed to carry out this task? It should be done by the person who loved the deceased the most. The garments for the deceased

should be prepared with care in advance, and the deceased should be dressed in them before being sent off. The ceremonies are the garments that the body is dressed in when it is placed in the coffin. A representative, loyal friend, or a filial son or daughter should receive the fabric for the ceremonies and sew them. If the deceased is to go to the kingdom of heaven, to a good place in the spirit world, he or she should have upheld the tradition of a loyal patriot and loyal subject. A Korean funeral has this type of meaning. The place where the Unification Church buries its dead is not called a "graveyard" but a "wonjeon." To liberate heaven and earth, we should desire to be buried in such a place. The wonjeon refers to the original palace. It is not a place where just anyone can be buried. Only those who have been martyred or whose life was on a comparable level can be buried there. ㄸ

This is Section 2 of Chapter 3 in Book 11 of Cheon Seong Gyeong.



Let's Realize Heavenly Parent's Dream

This was True Mother's speech at the Commemorative Pledge Service Celebrating the Ninth Anniversary of the Holy Ascension of Sun Myung Moon, the True Parent of Heaven, Earth and Humankind on August 24 at the Cheongshim World Peace Center.

Today is a very happy day, because it is the day on which we are setting off toward Cheon Il Guk's bright future. God, the Creator, had a dream to become the Heavenly Parent, and together with the victorious True Parents and with God's children on earth, he dreamed of achieving the substantial heavenly kingdom on earth. However, due to the Fall of the first human ancestors, humankind's dark history led to the state it is in today, a state in which our Heavenly Parent's dream cannot be realized. What the omnipotent

Creator begins he must see through to the end. The word "failure" is unacceptable to the Creator. Thus, through the history of the providence of salvation, he has been educating humankind. How difficult this period was, which lasted six thousand years.

Though Heavenly Parent found the True Parents, who could realize his ideal of creation on earth, sixty years passed because the right environment could not be created. Truly, providential history has been indescribably long and dark.

Through the process of many proclamations in stages over the past

sixty years, True Parents finally proclaimed Foundation Day in 2013. The founding year of Cheon Il Guk had arrived. However, True Mother, the only begotten daughter, was by herself in ushering in that beginning.

Knowing Heavenly Parent's dream, I worked for seven years amid indescribable circumstances with the determination to realize, without fail, an environment in which we can attend Heavenly Parent on earth. In so doing, I restored seven countries and seven religious groups. I let people know that the day is coming that humanity has been seeking. With



True Mother encouraging brothers and sisters around the world help fulfill the dream of the world becoming “one family of 7.8 billion people attending their Heavenly Parent as children receiving his love and living as they would originally have at the time of the Creation.”

hope, and through the process of restoring a continent, I came to proclaim the firm establishment of Cheon Il Guk. In this way, we have finally created the environment in which we can dedicate the Cheon Il Temple that Heavenly Parent can directly preside over.

Now, True Father, who has entered the heavenly realms, will conduct the providence to attend Heavenly Parent together with God’s only begotten daughter, True Mother, on earth. As the True Father, he has responsibilities to carry out on earth. Matthew 12:31 reads, “But blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven.” You must think about this verse. True Father is the one that will deal with people who are engaging in relationships for private gain or going in an unprincipled direction. He will take on that task.

Hence, in the future, there can be no shadow of a repeat of the Fall. Only the victorious True Parents and other people that are attending Heavenly Parent will—through attending him—realize Heavenly Parent’s dream, the kingdom of heaven on earth that we have for so long yearned to see realized.

However, to bring this about, the responsibility of the Cheon Il Guk Cheonbo couples is important. Through you, only the beautiful environment of the kingdom of heaven will remain, an environment in which those in our second and third generations will naturally attend Heavenly Parent and return love, joy and glory to him. Therefore, the responsibility of Cheonbo couples, who are to realize Heavenly Parent’s dream, is a weighty one.

As a result of human ignorance, the earth’s environment today has been completely devastated. Due to the Covid pandemic we cannot see far into the future. So many obstacles are blocking the way to the peaceful world that humankind has so dearly desired and dreamed of. It also falls to us to clear away these obstacles, one by one. We must restore the earth to the original state that our Creator had initially established for the realization of a beautiful dream.

We were created as eternal beings. The unfallen world, all creation, moves according to the original order by which it was created. If humankind does not destroy the natural world, it will exist for all eternity.

However, due to global warming, caused by human activity, in many parts of the world forest fires continue to occur because of drought and elsewhere torrential rain has resulted in many casualties. We cannot simply stand by without doing something.

You, the blessed families attending Heavenly Parent, must become one with True Parents on earth and work to solve these problems. Our dream is to have one family of 7.8 billion people attending their Heavenly Parent as children receiving his love and living as they would originally have at the time of the Creation. You must educate and guide all people so that they can do that. Shouldn’t those who already know about this be the ones to act? You must never again take the path of unfilial children who bring pain and sorrow to our Heavenly Parent.

I sincerely pray and bless you to all become genuine Cheonbo blessed couples who realize Heavenly Parent’s dream and who all complete the path of your duties as truly devoted sons and daughters and loyal patriots. I bless all of you to create a brightly shining future environment for Cheon Il Guk. 

Becoming Lights of the World through Filial Hearts for Heaven

The Commemorative Pledge Service Celebrating the Ninth Anniversary of the Holy Ascension of Sun Myung Moon, the True Parent of Heaven, Earth and Humankind featured an online event that reached 194 countries. This article describes that event.

The commemorative ceremony celebrating this year's anniversary of True Father's Holy Ascension took place from 9:00 am on August 24. While strictly observing their respective governments' social-distancing guidelines, political, economic and religious leaders from around the world joined blessed family members from 194 countries at the service.

Under the theme, "Becoming Lights of the World through Filial Hearts for Heaven," due to the Covid-19 pandemic, it took place in the form of an online-platform-based event using augmented reality and a two-way video communication system. Out of consideration for non-Korean participants, simultaneous interpretation was provided in sixteen languages.

At the Commemoration of the Ninth Anniversary of True Father's Universal Seonghwa, True Mother said, "Due to global warming in many parts of the world caused by human activity, forest fires continue to occur because of drought, and torrential rain has resulted in many casualties. While attending Heavenly Parent, we must become one with True Parents on earth and work to solve these problems." Based on many proclamations over the past sixty years, she ultimately announced Foundation Day in 2013 and declared the establishment of Cheon Il Guk after having created an environment in which we can attend our Heavenly Parent. We need to educate and guide billions of people so that we all live as one family, just as it was conceived at the origin, at the time of the Creation."

True Father taught us that the Seonghwa Ceremony begins the moment we leave our physical body behind. "At that moment," he said, "we are born again into the realm of the infinite expansion of love, and we enter the world of joy and victory." Accordingly, the Family Federation conducts the Seonghwa Festival as a means of celebrating True Father's new start in his eternal life in the spiritual realm.

True Father was born on January 6, 1920, in Jeongju in North Korea's North Pyeong-an Province and went the way of Seonghwa on September 3, 2012. In 1954, True Father founded the Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity, which has grown into a global organization with chapters in 194 countries.

The ninth anniversary of the Holy Ascension of Sun Myung Moon, the True Parent of Heaven, Earth and Humankind started with an opening performance, the entrance of numerous national flags and an opening address by Dr. Young-ho Yun, director-general of the FFWPU International Headquarters. Yeon-ah Moon, representing her ascended husband Hyo-jin Moon and Hoon-sook Moon, representing her ascended husband Heung-jin Moon, lit candles. Including those from the Confucian, Islamic, Protestant, Buddhist, Daejongist and Chondoist religions, members of seven other religious groups participated in the Family Peace Blessing Ceremony. The leaders of the non-Unificationist religions cooperated in making this year's Blessing Ceremony possible.

Following the Peace Blessing Ceremony, everyone sang the Cheon Il Guk anthem, recited the Family Pledge, participated in a Cheon Il Guk service and heard messages from prominent figures from various countries, such as Newt Gingrich, a former Speaker of the US House of Representatives, Goodluck Jonathan, a former Nigerian president, Fatmir Sejdiu, a former Kosovar president and Il-shik Hong, the former chairman of the Sun Hak Peace Prize. In the end, Wonju Jeong McDevitt, chief of staff of True Mother's Secretariat, read a tribute and part one of the memorial ended with a hyojeong cultural performance by the Little Angels.

Part two consisted of a speech by True Mother, the reading of a tribute by former US Senator Orrin Hatch, another special hyojeong cultural performance and three cheers of Og Mansei.

In the coming months around thirty events will be held to commemorate the ninth anniversary of the Holy Ascension of Sun Myung Moon, the True Parent of Heaven, Earth and Humankind, among those will be The Think Tank 2022 Rally of Hope, The Think Tank 2022 Forum, The Peace on the Korean Peninsula Summit 2021 and The Heavenly Unified Korea Peace Forum, as well as five regional Rallies of Hope, an International Leaders' Conference, Peace Road 2021, a Hyojeong Cheonbo Special Great Works and a Heavenly Parents' Holy Community Peace Festival. Commemorative events will be held all over the world in an online socially distant format with the goal of peaceful reunification on the Korean Peninsula. 

A True Peace magazine staff member contributed this article.

Declaration to Heaven

By Ki-seong Lee



Most noble and precious Heavenly Parent! Beloved True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind!
Today, the seventeenth day of the seventh month in the ninth year of Cheon Il Guk, we are celebrating the ninth anniversary of the Holy Ascension of Sun Myung Moon, the True Father of Heaven, Earth and Humankind. We have prepared a sacred, commemorative altar here at the Cheongshim World Peace Center. It is with the sincerest devotion that all members of the True Family as well as blessed couples both in the spiritual and physical worlds render all glory and praise to you on this day, and it is with this heart that we are holding today's commemorative Pledge Service. Please therefore accept all glory and praise.

Our True Father of Heaven, Earth and Humankind to whom we are grateful, you came to a world full of sin, and after fighting with billions of Satan's minions, you discovered the Divine Principle. You found God's only begotten daughter, and you finally emerged together as the True Parents of humanity. As the True Parents, you shed blood, sweat and tears for the world and were successful in your work of restoration. Even if earth and heaven collapse, your greatness as the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind will shine and be remembered forevermore.

In order for True Mother to realize your will and fulfill her promise to accomplish it after you ascended to the heavenly realms nine years ago, she invested herself completely with a life-or-death resolution to overcome a situation in which she could not see even one step ahead and endlessly journeyed to all corners of the world—to the east, west, north and south, seeking to embrace the world. She carried the heaviest cross of tears in the world and victoriously concluded her seven-year course.

She embraced the world as the Mother of Peace, wiping away humanity's tears, the Mother of Love, and the Mother of Blessing. As a result of these efforts, True Mother opened a new history through her proclamation of the firm establishment of Cheon Il Guk and of Heavenly Parent's Holy Community. Hosting the Rally of Hope series, she has gathered leaders from all over the world and launched Think Tank 2022. It is based on this triumphant expectation that we are celebrating the ninth anniversary of True Father's



Holy Ascension.

Through all the commemorative events held over the ensuing six months, we will let all people know that True Father is working inexhaustibly with True Mother twenty-four hours a day with the authority of the Lord of Truth, Holiness and Virtue in Cheon Il Guk!

Help us to know and believe the truth and attend the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind, who are working both in heaven and on earth! Please allow this festive period of miraculous great triumph to bring us awareness of what a blessing it is for humankind that True Parents have come to our world, which will inevitably perish if we continue on with our sin, conflict, sicknesses and environmental problems and awareness of what a great joy it is to attend Heavenly Parent's only begotten daughter, the True Mother of humankind!

Dear Heavenly Parent! Please also work so that the tragedy of Covid 19—the end of which we cannot predict—becomes a condition of restoration through indemnity, so that all world leaders and all of humankind can move forward to victory in 2027 under the embrace of the Heavenly Parent's Holy Community! To the True Parents of Heaven, Earth, and Humankind at this time we wish you infinite honor and glory! Those of us who have received the grace of Cheonbo through victory in tribal messiahship, please make this a time of determination when we swear to take the path of loyalty and filial piety with absolute faith, absolute love and absolute obedience!

Drawing together the conditions that the Cheon Il Guk leaders and blessed families of Heavenly Parent's Holy Community have set, I report and offer this in our names, Ki-seong Lee and Yoon-jung Jang, of a blessed central family. Aju! 

Rev. Lee is the chair of the Cheoneuiwon-Korea and president of the Cheonshimwon.

A POEM IN MEMORY OF TRUE FATHER

Building a Mansion in the Homeland I've Longed For

By Wonju Jeong McDevitt

Alonging that would make even clouds shed tears...
"Beyond that mountain is my old hometown, where I once lived."
Father longed for his hometown, Jeongju
and the surrounding fields where wild plants grew.
Often, his eyes would well up with tears and his voice would break.

So strong was his longing and nostalgia for his hometown
that one hot summer midday, just before he ascended to heaven,
Father visited the Osan Middle and High School in Hannam Ward,
remembering his student days there when it was located in North Korea.
As he looked at the playground, hallways and empty classrooms,
Father let himself be washed in nostalgia for his hometown,
bringing back memories of long before, like waves breaking on distant shores,
falling like rain, then flowing like white bubbles.

Boldly and eloquently, like a powerful waterfall, Father addressed the world.
He cracked open the Iron Curtain in the cold lands of the Soviet Union,
and in Red Square in front of the Kremlin in Moscow,
he unrolled the World Media Conference carpet of peace.



Calling for the Juche ideology flag at the Mansudae Shrine in Pyongyang to be lowered,
 Father tightly embraced Kim Il Sung, resolving that the two would become an
 older brother and younger brother that attend Heavenly Parent.
 Finally, after forty or so years of longing, Father arrived in his hometown, Jeongju.
 Yet, even after his reunion with his sisters,
 even at Mt. Myodu in the setting sun,
 as he greeted his parents, Gyeong-yu Moon and Gyeong-gye Kim,
 who rest in the family burial ground,
 Father remained resolute.
 Like Jesus, who had to spread God's word in a wilderness swept by the wind,
 Father's sole aim was the liberation of God's homeland and the unity of his people.
 He did not hesitate to take on the wilderness course, with its raging wind and rain.
 Yet, deep down in Father's heart,
 flowed a river of longing that could not be described in words.

As Father ascended to the spirit world he held Mother's hand.
 His last words were, "Omma, thank you. Please take good care of everything."
 Mother began offering prayers at Father's tomb, Bonhyangwon, the original garden.
 For three years of 365 days, whether there were storms or blizzards,
 True Mother stoically offered devotions in remembrance of True Father
 and waited for the absent prodigal son to return.
 She lit the wick of a lamp, left the door open,
 and counted the stars in the night sky after each sunset and moonrise
 as she waited anxiously.

"I am the only one left."
 With a desperate heart, and only Heaven to hold on to,
 Mother went into the wilderness, buffeted by the wind and rain,
 to embrace the 7.8 billion people of the world.
 The Mother of Peace who wipes away the tears of humanity
 proclaimed the firm establishment of Cheon Il Guk
 and opened a new era under the great umbrella of the Heavenly Parent's Holy
 Community.

In an era of despair amid the coronavirus pandemic,
 Mother hosted online Rallies of Hope, marking the thirtieth anniversary
 of their visit to North Korea with public slogans for peace.
 She has brought the vision of a heavenly unified Korea
 to germinate, and the flower of hope to blossom.

Think Tank 2022 for peace has taken off
 for the reunification of the Korea Peninsula.
 To realize this miracle of reunification,
 Mother is sending flowers of peace across the mountains and streams of North Korea,
 and has hung a beautiful flower lamp whose light
 will liberate God's homeland—True Father's lifelong wish.
 Heading across Gaeseong's Sonjook Bridge and Mansudae in Pyongyang,
 toward Jeongju and Anju, the original garden of Eden,
 and reaching the palace of flowers by the Dallae River in her hometown,
 where rose and lily petals shimmer,
 Mother continues to offer her utmost devotion today
 and waits anxiously for God's land to be free.

Though we cannot even handle one thread of God's providence,
 you have still blessed us as Cheon Il Guk Citizens and allowed us the grace of Cheonbo.
 We are ushering in the providential spring of the new era of the heavenly heart.
 O God! Please allow us to strike the Boshingak Bell of Jongro with our heads,
 so that the sound of the dawn bells ringing in Cheon Il Guk will be heard throughout the
 world!
 Allow us to shout out the advent of God's only begotten daughter, the Mother of
 unification!
 Allow us to cut down cinnamon trees from the moon and pine trees from Mt. Baekdu to
 our heart's desire,
 to build a mansion in that original garden by the Dallae River,
 where we will attend our True Parents for eternity!
 True Mother, please live long and remain in good health! 

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Laying the Framework for Peace

By Newt Gingrich



I want to welcome all the dignitaries, parliamentarians and heads of state who gathered for this ninth annual celebration of the struggle for peace, led initially by Father Moon, continued now by Mother Moon. They are people who personally know the value of peace, people who experienced the pain of communism. In Father Moon's case, he was a prisoner in a North Korean communist prison. Mother Moon managed luckily to escape from North Korea before the war began, but both have an intimate deep knowledge of tyranny and of its cost to everyday normal human beings.

This is a particularly important time for you to be gathering to celebrate this effort. The uncertainties created in the world by the process in Afghanistan mean that all over the world people are going to be looking and saying, How can we move toward peace and not war and how can we move towards stability and freedom and not tyranny and dictatorship?

What you are doing is very important. Once again, Mother Moon and the worldwide effort she is leading is trying to help lay the framework for peace for all of us. And by participating, you are helping in that extraordinarily important process. I also want to thank Mother Moon and Father Moon for the enormous commitment they made in developing *the Washington Times*, reflecting their belief that having a strong solid America is so important to the whole process of trying to achieve peace.

The Washington Times is a leading voice for the efforts needed in order for us to have a peaceful world. So, thank you for participating. I think you will find this a very important moment that you will remember for the rest of your life. I think that it is vital, everyone, at this particular time, that you are willing to spend your time working on this effort to have peace. 

Newt Gingrich was Speaker of the US House of Representatives 1995–1999.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Let Us Bring Peace and Harmony

By Goodluck Jonathan



Our Dear Mother Moon, the Mother of Peace, Your Excellencies, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen:

On behalf of myself, my family, the International Summit Council for Peace, ISCP-Africa, and indeed the entire college of ambassadors for peace, I wish to salute you on this special anniversary of the passing of Father Moon, the co-founder of the Universal Peace Federation.

This occasion, which marks the ninth anniversary of the passing of Father Moon serves to remind us, and all partners of the Universal Peace Federation, of the life and times of Rev. Moon. It is a time to reflect on the vision of peace, reconciliation and harmonious co-existence that Rev. Moon led and pursued with vigor.

I recall with a deep sense of nostalgia my last personal encounter with him on his visit to Nigeria in July 2011, when I was president of my country. It will be recalled that Nigeria was the last country in his life that he visited outside his country of residence. He believed in Nigeria and never hid his love for her and her people. The message of peace and reconciliation which he shared remains with us until today.

As a peacemaker, he lent his efforts to the successful peace process in many countries including Poland, Germany and the then USSR. It will also stand to his memory and indeed, to the credit of all of people of peace, when his dream for the reunification of the North Korea and South Korea, for which the multinational Think Tank has been set up, is achieved.

As we remember him today, ISCP Africa, which I chair, hereby restates our readiness to collaborate with bodies such as the Universal Peace Federation to promote dialogue, unification, peace and development in a unified Korean nation.

We also wish to congratulate Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, the co-founder of the Universal Peace Federation, for her capability, wisdom, commitment and untiring advocacy for global peace and harmonious existence and for carrying on with the initiatives which she co-founded with Rev. Moon.

As we reflect on Rev. Moon's legacies of love and peace, I urge the leaders of Korea to be open to continuous partnership with both local and international organizations in order to achieve lasting peace on the peninsula and the world. Let the healing of the world begin with reunification on the Korean Peninsula.

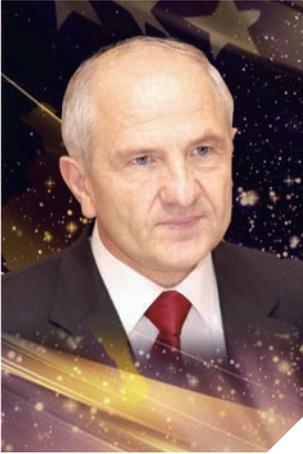
Once again, to all world leaders, let us reflect on the vision of Rev. Sun Myung Moon, and promote policies, programs and initiatives that will bring peace and harmony to our world. May the world stand with Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, so that together we shall continue to move with the laudable programs of the Universal Peace Federation, which is dedicated to world peace. I wish you all a happy anniversary celebration. I thank you all. 

Goodluck Jonathan was president of Nigeria 2010–2015.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Let Us Celebrate Rev. Moon's Legacy

By Fatmir Sejdiu



Dear Mother Moon, Your Excellencies, Ambassadors for Peace, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I greet you all, wishing that you are healthy and doing well. I am honored to be able to address you at this significant event, held on the occasion of the ninth anniversary of Rev. Moon's ascension.

To remember the day of Rev. Moon's passing, not in mourning but by celebrating his legacy and achievements is wonderful. We have a meaningful expression in Kosovo, "Let us not be sad that he left us, but let us rejoice and celebrate that we had him among us." I had the privilege to participate in the International Leadership Conference organized by UPF in February 2011. I met Rev. Moon at that time, when he was ninety-one years old.

I was amazed by the grandiose event itself, but I was especially surprised by the likability of a ninety-one-year-old man who could speak for hours—and with such passion. Throughout his life, Rev. Moon was a champion of interfaith cooperation, good governance, family values, reconciliation and service to others. Indeed, he lived his life for the sake of others, and his achievements are recognized and respected throughout the world.

For me to participate in the great work of the Universal Peace Federation which he founded together with Mrs. Moon is an honor. Today I am happy to see that Mother Moon is successfully continuing her husband's legacy of love and peace. Her visionary leadership can be clearly seen through the series of World Summits that UPF has held around the world in recent years, and through the Rallies of Hope that are being organized during the pandemic, which millions of people participate in online.

In December 2019, I had the opportunity to meet with President Moisiu from Albania and participate in the Continental Summit and Peace Blessing Festival held in Johannesburg, South Africa, where one hundred thousand people filled FNB Stadium; it was a truly amazing experience!

I believe that the work of UPF and its global peace initiatives will be increasingly needed and recognized as we live in a time of crises never seen before. It is a time for world leaders to reflect deeply, come together and develop a strategy to help humankind live as one world family.

As the pandemic continues to spread, we can see that the world was not prepared at all for this phenomenon. Surely this is a lesson for world leaders to start thinking differently. We should work together cooperatively and in consultation with one another for the sake of mutual prosperity and peace and be prepared for crises in the future.

I am convinced that UPF and its global network of ambassadors for peace have an important role to play as we pursue these efforts. Thank you once again for allowing me to address this important gathering. God bless you. 

Mr. Sejdiu was president of Kosovo 2006–2010.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

The Widely Respected Rev. Moon

By Il-shik Hong



As a person who has always respected Rev. Sun Myung Moon's exceptional peace ideology and great achievements, I am honored to have been chosen to give this speech in memoriam of him on the ninth anniversary of his Holy Ascension.

I believe Rev. Moon was the first pioneer to propagate Korea's culture and ideology to all parts of the world, as well as being the most widely respected Korean in the world.

My first meeting with Rev. Moon dates back forty-some years to 1980. At the time, I was working as a professor in Korea University's College of Liberal Arts and serving as the director of the Research Institute of Korean Studies, and as such I was quite immersed in the compilation of a Chinese-Korean unabridged dictionary. We had been having much difficulty in procuring funds for the compilation, when Rev. Moon readily provided what was then quite a large sum in support of our project, even though he and I were complete strangers. He said, "The compilation of the Chinese-Korean unabridged dictionary will not only serve as a cornerstone of exchange between Korea and China in the future, but will also be directly linked to the fate of Korea in the coming days." His words and determination, shown at a time when Korea was yet to establish diplomatic relations with China, made me realize what a great and remarkable man Rev. Moon was.

Afterward, through various other experiences, I realized that Rev. Moon's great ideology, philosophy and vision are the new peace ideology for humanity created by fusing the West's Christian ideology with traditional Korean ideology.

Recently, the international community, including the UN, is holding active discussions on global citizenship, which entails all of humanity coming together in solidarity transcending nationality. Long before this, however, Rev. Moon went a step further and spoke of "one global family." To bring about a peaceful world with humanity living as one family, Rev. Moon invested endless passion, superhuman energy and an enormous amount of money to carry out his interreligious, international, interracial movement on a global scale.

Moreover, he attained incredible results in many fields, which is an almost impossible feat for a single individual. It is important for us to not only revere his greatest achievements but also to take the next step and reflect upon what he believed in and dreamed of. This is because human thought is flexible, unrestricted and limitless, to the point where it can transcend the entire universe.

Isn't it true that all kinds of unique cultural phenomena originating from the young Korean generation are spreading like wildfire across the world today? For the first time in history, Koreans and Korean culture have moved from the tributary to the mainstream in the creation of human history. Instead of being a passive object, they have become the active subject and moved to the center where they are now leading others.

However, when we reflect upon it, we can see that this great and unbelievable change is not mere coincidence. We cannot help being deeply moved, for we know that this phenomenon is actually the germination of seeds sown earlier by Rev. Moon despite all kinds of difficulties.

In 2012, two years after Rev. Moon ascended to the eternal realm, I was made chairman of the Sunhak Peace Prize Committee created by Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon to memorialize his great peace ideology and achievements, where I served faithfully until the fourth award ceremony. I believe that Rev. Moon in heaven is feeling deeply rewarded to see what has become a global peace prize in so short a time.

My firm belief is that Rev. Sun Myung Moon's heartfelt love for humanity will become a great beacon in human history and light the way for us all in the future. Dear Rev. Moon, who I am sure is looking upon us from the spirit world even at this very moment!

Please give us much wisdom and courage and help us bring together all of humanity as one global family through your great ideology, philosophy and vision. I pray for Rev. Moon in heaven to be eternally at peace. *TP*

Dr. Hong is chief director of the Research Institute for Cultural Territory and a past president of Korea University.

MEMORIAL SERVICE
I Miss Reverend Moon
By Myung-chul Cho



Though this day comes around every year, I always miss him with all of my heart. I cannot help but long to once again see the face of Rev. Sun Myung Moon, who brought sunlight to Pyongyang with his bright yet rumbling voice, with Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon by his side.

One reason for my missing Rev. Sun Myung Moon so much could be the harsh reality I am facing, in which my brethren, my family, my brothers and sisters and my friends are still unable to escape from the “Republic of Darkness.” Looking upon today’s situation, in which we talk of justice and peace and yet cannot say even a word to the leading characters in that Republic of Darkness makes me realize once again what a bold and heroic man Rev. Sun Myung Moon was.

Though we talk of peace and prosperity, we are as yet unable to grasp unification even in its simplest form, which would entail nothing more than our sitting together with our separated families and sharing a meal together. Perhaps that is why I miss Rev. Sun Myung Moon all the more.

Nowadays, grand words related to unification and peace flood our conversations. However, those words have as yet failed to bring about such historic results as shining warm rays of sunlight directly on the suffering residents of North Korea. Indeed, Rev. Moon stood boldly, courageously and, at the same time, endearingly, in Pyongyang, the center of the Republic of Darkness, and solemnly declared the end of the Juche Ideology, saying that it is wrong, and inadequate for uniting our homeland. I truly, truly miss him and how heroic he looked that day.

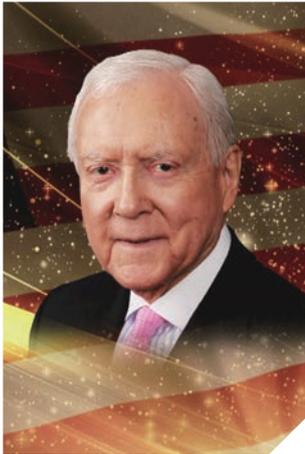
On this day, I cannot help missing him to my very core. On the other hand, today is also the day on which the more we miss him, the more shame we feel as we reflect upon our being unable to follow him undauntedly upon the path he trod during his lifetime. We cannot help feeling ashamed at the thought that, if we had inherited his courage, his Unification Thought and his achievements completely, our present situation would perhaps be different from what it is. However, we will stand up and march forward once again.

We will inherit the achievements accomplished by Rev. Sun Myung Moon in Pyongyang and once again march forward determinedly toward a heavenly unified Korea under Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon’s leadership. This determined pledge is also the pledge we renew every year on this day when we miss Rev. Moon more than ever. We will not hesitate. We will follow in the footsteps of Rev. Sun Myung Moon. *TP*

Myung-chul Cho is a professor at Sun Moon University. After defecting from North Korea, he served as a South Korean National Assemblyman 2012–16.

MEMORIAL SERVICE A Remarkable Life

By Orrin G. Hatch



On the ninth anniversary of Reverend Sun Myung Moon's passing, I welcome this opportunity to share a few thoughts on the life and legacy of a good friend.

Reverend Moon was a powerful voice for freedom in the world. As a young man, he endured unspeakable horrors in a North Korean prison camp. Thankfully, he escaped and found refuge in South Korea, where he committed himself to fighting the evils of communism. He understood—perhaps better than anyone else—the destructive potential of the communist ideology.

And so, he devoted his life to building up the strongest bulwark against tyranny: the family. He was a spiritual leader and a role model to countless across the globe—and he used his influence to affirm the centrality of the family in a world that had long ago forgotten its value. His beloved wife, Mother Moon, was his partner in this cause, and together they worked to bring hope and happiness to families across the world.

I believe that an attack on one religion is an attack on all. That's why I supported Reverend Moon when it appeared that his religious beliefs were being threatened. Whether you wear a mezuzah or go to a mosque, whether you follow Buddha or the Bible, the US Constitution empowers you to worship God according to the dictates of your own conscience. Reverend Moon believed this as well.

Reverend Moon used his global platform to defend the ideals of freedom, faith and family through the Washington Times, which he established in 1982. To this day, the publication has a dedicated readership and a talented stable of writers who ably defend American values through the written word. Reverend Moon's legacy lives on not only through this paper but through the millions of individuals he touched over a lifetime of service. I am grateful to have known Reverend Moon and I wish peace and blessings upon his family, friends and loved ones as we look back on his remarkable life. *PH*

Orrin Hatch was a United States senator 1977–2019. He chaired the Senate Hearing on Religious Liberty on June 26, 1984, at which True Father testified.





Blessed Families and Cheonbo Families Have Roles to Play

This was True Mother's message at Heavenly Parent's Holy Community's Grand Festival of Cheonbo Families Sharing Hyojeong Testimonies on August 29.

Today I am proud of you all. As a result of all the hard work and effort you have put in up until now to fulfill your responsibilities as cheonbo couples, you are making a start as the first generation of Cheon Il Guk families.

When I was a young girl, I had a dream. It was not long after our country had gone through the Korean War, so it was not in a normal state. Its mountains and rivers had been dev-

astated and our people were going through a time of tremendous hardship. It was at that time that I fell in love with many beautiful songs written in America in the 1800s. Among these, I especially liked the words of "Home on the Range," which was written about a hundred years after the founding of the United States, when cowboys were working hard to pioneer the West. The song speaks of their dream, that one day they would build a home on a beauti-

ful hillside, where deer and antelopes run free under a cloudless sky and live there without any worries or concerns. I remember many songs from that era.

It was about that time, in 1960, that I stepped into the position of the True Mother, because I was the only one that could. However, from my perspective of the providence, many of the early members seemed to have no interest in the only begotten daughter. Despite that, I persevered and waited.



God accomplishes his will unfailingly: He knows no failure. That is why, for the sake of Heaven, I had no choice but to wait until my time came.

Finally, I was able to declare Foundation Day and the founding year of Cheon Il Guk. Yet making a proclamation is not enough. It is True Parents' responsibility to create the environment wherein our Heavenly Parent can realize his dream on earth. That is why I declared that I am the only begotten daughter. After I had done so, although many were agitated, the work drew together the divided religions, which provided the way to embrace Muslims.

In so doing, I was able to accomplish the feat of restoring seven religious orders, seven nations and a continent and go on to proclaim the firm establishment of Cheon Il Guk. Declaring it firmly established does not mean that the environment has been fully prepared. This country, where True Parents were born, needs to be a nation that can attend them. Two thousand years ago when Jesus Christ came, the people of Israel were in an environment wherein they

could be established as a central nation that could take on Rome. Yet this resulted in failure.

In this age of Cheon Il Guk, however, True Parents are in a position of having accomplished the providence on earth and can dedicate a temple in which we can attend Heavenly Parent on earth, but it is not only up to them to fulfill this task. It depends on the blessed families, the proud cheonbo families of Cheon Il Guk. When the number of cheonbo families is sufficiently increased, True Parents' dream, that is, the realization of a heavenly, unified Korea, must be achieved while True Mother, the only begotten daughter, is still here on earth. Please know that through your efforts and devotion we are now just one step away from the top of the hill, at the point of recapturing the highest ground.

Our Heavenly Parent is love itself. As long as Heavenly Parent's love is with us, the people of Korea will need to stand upright and become heavenly, unified Korea. Once again, I bless you all to become victorious cheonbo families and blessed families

- ① Dr. Yun, gave welcoming remarks at Heavenly Parent's Holy Community Grand Festival of Cheonbo Families Sharing Hoyojeong Testimonies.
- ② True Mother gave the speech on page 20.
- ③ In-yeong Song and his wife, Soon-seon Cho, were the MCs during the Heavenly Parent's Holy Community Grand Festival of Cheonbo Families Sharing Hoyojeong Testimonies.
- ④ A group of Cheonbo couples

as you continue working to make that a reality.

This garden, the Cheonwon Complex, reminds me of a hill that I dreamed of when I was a young girl and where I experienced no worries, no concerns and saw no clouds in the sky; here, True Mother's dream, the only begotten daughter's dream, has come true.

One day, I saw a small deer in broad daylight on my way here, the place where the deer and the antelope roam, the beautiful garden of Eden, the Cheonwon Complex! Please show much love for the Cheonwon Complex, the Heavenly Parent's homeland, which is like the hometown for all people, whom you care for with love and devotion. 

The Grand Festival of Cheonbo Families Sharing Hyojeong Testimonies

At which twenty-four blessed families shared their hyojeong testimonies

Under True Mother's guidance, blessed families from around the world joined the Grand Festival of Cheonbo Families Sharing Hyojeong Testimonies of Heavenly Parent's Holy Community, which was celebrated on August 28–29. This festival—during which participants shared success stories of activities and of work to realize forty-three core families—was blessed with lively performances, expressive of hyojeong culture. Twenty-five families were selected from among forty-five candidate families from each region, and twenty-four of these families shared their testimonies of hyojeong love. The cheonbo families made it clear in their presentations how a life of true love and a life lived for the sake of others is the essence of their activities.

On the second day, six families who had spoken the previous day added to their testimonies. In a festive atmosphere, families shared their experiences. It felt as if the audience was privy to testimonies by those worthy of the title Cheon Il Guk Apostles. Mrs. Wonju Jeong McDevitt described the emotion of the testimonies heard over the two days. She then read the message that Mother had given last year at the Cheonbo Festival and everyone had an opportunity to renew his or her determination.

True Mother, evidently filled with pride, listened attentively to the testimonies of each family, remembered them, and blessed the success of all the blessed families in the world. Those giving testimonies conveyed their heart and expressed their determination, which left a strong impression on audience members.

Listeners at the Cheonbo Families' Hyojeong Testimony Festival spontaneously felt a surge of respect for the speakers. These two days shared with True Mother were emotional and the memories of the wonderful speakers were unforgettable. The testimony of the twenty-four couples was the fruit of filial piety as well as the result of shedding blood, sweat and tears for God. It made me feel that achieving forty-three families is the way of Cheonbo Cheongshim training that perfects the three great blessings. The Grand Festival of Cheonbo Families Sharing Hyojeong Testimonies was an opportunity to kindle fire in the hearts of the blessed families toward becoming Cheonbo families, and many people benefited from that opportunity. It was a great occasion for Cheonbo families to renew their commitment to realize forty-three core families.

Members were able to find hope in achieving the goal of the forty-three core families as they were deeply moved by the inspiring testimonies by Cheonbo families. Blessed families from around the world who participated online likely felt a commitment to do everything in their power to become Cheonbo families, Heavenly Parents' precious treasures. 

A True Peace magazine staff member contributed this article.

이미제 삼창
Cheers of Eog Mansei



Our lives Transformed through the Heavenly Tribal Messiah Mission

By Yeon-soo Kim

I am the wife of Kwang-min Kang. We're from the Gwangsan Church in the Gwangju Region. We were blessed among the 360,000 couples in 1995. We have two sons and a daughter. My husband started out as a poorly paid delivery man, but he was diligent and sincere. He took over a company he had been working for and grew his own business. However, everything was destroyed in a fire. We had no money nor did we know anyone that could support us, so the only ones we could hang on to were Heavenly Parent and True Parents. Since then, my husband and I have lived a life of faith with hearts of absolute faith, absolute love and absolute obedience. Whenever I had any income, I ran to the Cheongpyeong Training Center to take part in ancestor liberation and ancestor Blessing Ceremonies.

Blessing activities and cheonbo citizenship

My husband and I returned to my in-laws' house in order to fulfill our mission as heavenly tribal messiahs, and we witnessed to both his parents and his brothers and they all joined. In addition, as a Cheonbo family, my husband and I are working hard in order for our children to inherit the heavenly lineage. After True Father's Seonghwa, True Mother toiled to complete God's will and to save humanity. She traveled from Asia to the south and to the north to speak to and meet prepared people. Her lips were chapped; her legs were so swollen that she could not even stand. As we saw True Mother giving her all, our family wanted to give a little back, give a little joy to True Mother. With this fervent heart, we went ahead and brought people to God, and finally we were allowed to be registered as Cheonbo citizens.

Our witnessing method

First, we systematically researched activities to bring in families even as we were creating a spiritual foundation of prayer and devotion based on spirit and truth. We wanted to witness to local dignitaries and create a witnessing environment through the distribution of True Mother's autobiography. The public figures to whom we gave her autobiography are righteous people. As our spiritual children and as the heads of organizations in the region, they helped us greatly in the realization of forty-three families. They also attend church services. We took the lead in witnessing about True Parents by inviting local leaders to the launch of the International Association for Peace and Economic Development (IAED) and that of Think Tank 2022.



We are making efforts to form close relationships with our spiritual children through volunteer activities and hoondok services. We visit them with other members every week, so they can feel comfortable with church members, while we continue working toward our goal of reaching forty-three families. We went to other churches and held hoondok worship services. We would then speak to the participants one-on-one, asking each to share his or her thoughts. In this way, we are contributing to the creation of a natural hoondok culture. In addition, after doing hoondok worship with our spiritual children, we teach them in a natural way how to attend, do jeongseong for and bow to True Parents. Our spiritual children are taking the lead now in witnessing about Heavenly Parent and True Parents. We give our contacts attention and love every day by sending videos and quotations by True Parents' through SNS. Once or twice a week, we deliver church news to our spiritual children, our forty-three families. When I receive a reply saying someone will attend Sunday service or a home group meeting, or I simply receive a thank-you message, it is very rewarding. In this way, through the activities to realize forty-three families, our family is increasingly feeling the miraculous grace of True Parents.

The fruits of realizing forty-three families

In the process of preparing for forty-three families, our family received great grace from True Parents. Our oldest son and daughter-in-law were matched and are preparing for the Blessing Ceremony. Also, we witnessed to my own sister who became my spiritual child. She and her family became part of the church. This was possible due to the foundation our family laid when as a heavenly tribal messiah couple we completed the blessing of four hundred and thirty couples on September 23, 2017. 

A Winding Road to Cheonbo Success

By Young-tae Yoon

Hello dear family members. My wife and I are one of the 430 couples doing Home Church activities in Cheonan. On August 30, 2012, at 2:00 pm, True Mother personally gave me the mission to be a heavenly tribal messiah. During the World Leadership Conference in Cheon Jeong Gung, she asked, Did Yeong-tae Yoon, who stood onstage during the tour, come? So, I said, Yes and stood up. Mother said, from now on you should get involved in heavenly tribal messiah activities.

Dealing with doubts

I thought she might ask me to stop all activities. At that time, because of the after-effects of herpes zoster, I was in great pain. So, in my mind I had thought, "Okay, I should take a break and receive treatment with a grateful heart."

At the end of February 2013, I received a call from my oldest daughter, Soon-mi, who attends the church in Changwon. She said, "Appa, when your health is better, let's do some blessing activities! I am sure it is significant that True Mother called you personally and instructed you!" She then sent ₩500,000 to cover any expenses for our heavenly tribal messiah activities.

So I looked around, at the place where I pastored once for a month, in Cheongju. I had received membership applications from 120 close relatives during my activities in Hwan-myeon in 1991, and in Gyeongju, my hometown, I had blessed 160 families. Many years have passed, so most of them are elderly. Many have gone to the spirit world.

I began to think blessing 430 couples was impossible and I gave up thinking that it was feasible. However, on the morning of May 24, 2013, I had a dream. I was explaining the heavenly tribal messiah activities at the Cheonan Church. I asked family members sitting in front if they knew what the Chinese character "God" was in relation to the "shin" character, but no one answered. So I wrote the word "God" on the blackboard and explained it. Up until then, even when I spoke like this, I wasn't convinced I could do heavenly tribal messiah activities.

A firm decision

However, on October 29, 2014, when True Mother came to the new church in Cheonan, and spoke, I was convinced that I had to do it. In 1991, when the blessed couples were asked to return to their hometowns, True Parents said that there are Abel and Cain tribes. If you evangelize your own clan, you will become an Abel tribe; if you evange-



lize another tribe, they will become a Cain tribe.

But in a dream, I felt three tribes must exist and I drew a diagram with the third tribe being the children in blessed families. I woke up in the morning and drew the diagram on a piece of paper and tried to figure it out. In our family, we have a son and three daughters, and we have been lucky enough to raise twelve grandchildren, so on average, one person "produced" three children.

When I did this calculation, I concluded that if I went down to the fourth generation, there would be 160 people. So, if only three unmarried children of the Abel and Cain families were to be blessed, the third generation could have four hundred people. Therefore, we discovered the potential for any blessed family to restore 430 families and fulfill their heavenly tribal messiah mission. Since then, I have been actively evangelizing at Cheonan Church, finding children of faith all over the country, creating genealogy-like charts and organizing activities.

With the active cooperation of my spiritual children and our son and daughters, and my sister and younger brother, on September 5, 2018, we declared the completion of the 430-couple blessing, and on February 17, 2019, 430 families received citations and medals. Also, Mrs. Hwa-soo Kim, who was riding with my wife and me when we had a car accident on July 26, 2020, survived and attended the Cheonbo Registration Festival on October 10, 2020, and received a plaque too. It felt like we received a great blessing after a big test. I was very grateful to Heavenly Parent, True Parents, and my ancestors for creating a miracle in my life so that we could be listed as a living Cheonbo family. ㄹ

Working toward and Achieving Forty-Three Core Families

By Gyeong-hee Yang

We are Gyeong-hee Yang and Misao Itakura of the 6,500-couple Blessing group. We attend Seonsan Church in North Gyeongsang Province. We achieved forty-three core couples through the Mueul Hyojeong Cultural Center. I will speak about the good work the cultural center is doing.

In 1992, in obedience to True Parents' order, we returned to our tribe. After following the providence and restoring 160 families and completing the Jardim Ideal Family Education, we completed the Total Living Offering. We were living to fulfill our responsibilities as a blessed couple on the road of God's will. On January 20, 2018, having successfully completed blessing forty-three couples, we registered as a Cheonbo family.

We strive to be people who serve True Parents and create a substantial heavenly tribal messiah foundation. To foster and support citizens, we planned to operate a Hyojeong Citizens' University of Hyojeong Culture in line with the strategies and policies of FFWPU-Korea's sub-region 5.

The Cultural Center planned to use the village hall, so we held a briefing session for village representatives. Everyone cooperated. The entire second floor of the village hall was opened as the Hyojeong Cultural Center and the Hyojeong Citizens University on February 12, 2019. We provided education there about three times a month. The students are mainly middle-aged and are important people on the local level.

In order to support the Korean-Japan undersea tunnel proposal, we invited key leaders, including the president of a development association and the woman leaders of North Gyeongsang Province for an explanation of the project. In addition, to familiarize new people who had participated in the Blessing Ceremony with the Unification Church and raise them as blessed families, we decided to hold a two-day, one-night seminar in the Cheonju Cheonbowon July 19-20, 2019. Forty-three people attended. Do-seon Park gave the main lecture. The participants went on a pilgrimage to Cheon Jeong Gung and a tour of the Cheonbowon, where Sang-ho Kim gave them an introduction to the Cheonwon complex. They also learned about the value of the Blessing, the indemnity stick rite and the Three-Day Ceremony.

Everyone seemed impressed. In their testimonies they expressed the desire to hear the lectures all again. In the evening, we attended a one-hour chanyang session and



many of the participants had spiritual experiences. The core of education at the Hyojeong Cultural Center in Mueul Village is on the mainstream of the modern era, explaining how to use smartphones and other technological innovations. In a rural area, technical knowledge contributes to development. Before beginning the studies, we have a reading of the word and a brief talk on the Unification Church. Our culture center students also participate in online events.

At the end of the year, we invite residents to a special commemoration day. We hold village festivals, film screenings and hoondok meetings to unite the residents and bring harmony in the village.

Development

The Hyojeong Cultural Center expanded and opened branches in Seonsan Hamlet's Imun-ri Hall in June 2019 and Mueul Village's Baekjari Hall in September 2020. Through the Mueul Hyojeong Sansuwon Mountain Hiking Association we expanded our activity base and attracted retiring farmers and villagers. Meanwhile, Forty-three core families conducted activities to disseminate True Mother's autobiography. We also began to provide meals to the elderly.

We invite people to peace festivals and worship services enticing political leaders and those in public organizations to establish a heavenly unified Korea. We hold regular meetings with provincial councilors and city councilors. We will follow the path of proud blessed families to make known the presence of True Parents on earth. The Holy Spirit is with us! 

I Dream of Your Future in Cheon Il Guk

On August 22, True Mother spoke to young blessed children who were participating in a Hyojeong Nuri Children's Workshop this was her guidance for them.

Dear second- and third-generation children of blessed families. Did you enjoy the worship service today?

If the first human ancestors had not fallen, Heavenly Parent's dream, on earth. ... Today, just as this worship service has been offered through you to Heavenly Parent, three generations—that is, of blessed children—should be able to attend Heavenly Parent in reality, and from such a position, render love, praise, and joy to God and make Him proud. They should be able to fulfill their filial duties in a very natural way, returning gratitude and glory to Heavenly Parent. This kind of environment is the dream Heavenly Parent sought to actualize on earth.

Living in the kingdom of heaven on earth means living together in harmony with Heavenly Parent every day, giving daily reports on how your days are going, and expressing and nurturing more gratitude, filial devotion and love with each passing day. Leading such an ideal life in the kingdom of heaven on earth is the wish and dream of Heavenly Parent and humankind.

Today marks only the beginning; I dream of a future where you can live in an environment created by True Parents, that is, Cheon Il Guk. I hope for you to live in the beautiful, original garden that our Creator made, with your hearts filled with joy and gratitude—where you can discuss with Heavenly Parent on how to improve the kingdom of heaven on earth to make it even more ideal. Such is the life I hope you will lead in the kingdom of heaven on earth.



It is indescribably difficult to live in today's environment in the fallen world. I pray that you will grow up healthy and well as second- and third-generation members that can correct and put right each and every

wrong, and protect the beautiful, original garden. I hope that you will grow up into filial sons, daughters and grandchildren who can spread Heavenly Parent's and True Parents' dream far and wide. 

Heavenly Parent's Holy Community Seonghwa Children's Hyojeong Nuri Service

We held Heavenly Parent's Holy Community Seonghwa Children's Hyojeong Nuri Service for the first time on August 22 with the participation of seonghwa children (toddlers through elementary school) from all over the world through online virtual platform at the Hyojeong Cultural Center Cultural Hall through Peacelink. About twenty thousand people from three countries—Korea, Japan and the United States—participated in the event.

Hyojeong Nuri was designed to spread hyojeong culture, in which three generations can attend Heavenly Parent and True Parents through praising and worshiping them. Hyojeong Nuri is a new name for Seonghwa Children's Worship. It is a place of grace where we educate people from birth by applying hyojeong cultural contents created to teach children have heart of hyojeong toward Heaven from birth.

The first part was a report from the director general of the FFWPU International Headquarters, Dr. Young-ho Yun. Director-general Yun introduced the overall event to commemorate the ninth anniversary of True Father's Cosmic Seonghwa, which will take place over the next six months, and emphasized its meaning and the mindset we should have. The second part was entertainment. In the third part True Mother delivered a speech.

Part two started the full-fledged Hyojeong Nuri, a fun and exciting seonghwa children's worship service. Professor Yeon-ah Moon read Mother's life story, published as a children's cartoon to foster in them in filial love for True Mother. "The Tiger Rock that Grants Wishes," a story that was turned into a play, reminded the children of the value of filial piety, making them vow to become a filial child through hyojeong public service and activities. Cheon Il Guk children's songs were sung and cultural performances were expressed in various ways.

In the third part, we heard True Mother speak. She presided over the Hyojeong Nuri festival and shared an affectionate message with the children asking them to grow up into filial sons, daughters and grandchildren who can spread Heavenly Parent's and True Parents' dream far and wide.

This was the first Hyojeong Nuri Festival for Seonghwa-aged children worldwide. The children, members of our second and third generations, were able to reflect on the value of the blessing. In addition, through cultural content centered on the value of hyojeong, an alternative way of holding a worship service was presented through the Seonghwa Hyojeong Nuri, with the participation of members in three countries, Korea, the United States, and Japan, who provided an opportunity to introduce hyojeong-focused content. 



Testimonies from Hyojeong Nuri Festival

Hwa-seon Won, teacher at Seonghwa Children's Kindergarten in Eastern Seoul

When I think of the benefits of children this age of being able to actually attend True Mother and the Hyojeong Nuri Worship, my heart swelled with emotions and tears of joy flowed. My three-year-old daughter has been attending Sunday School. I always feel thirst because of the lack of content tailored to the children's age level, both emotionally and externally.

I believe that if we become one with True Mother's heart, my husband and I and our family will become children who can fulfill Heavenly Parent's big dreams in the environmental realm of Heavenly Parents and True Parents, who are already preparing and waiting for everything.



Jin-tae Joo, president of Korea's Sub-region 1

According to the words of Jesus who preached that the kingdom of heaven belongs to people who are like children, it would be difficult for us tainted adults to enter the kingdom of heaven. Thanks to the Hyojeong Nuri, we could all experience the kingdom of heaven on earth. After a long time, I took off my tie and went into the world of a child's heart, and I felt that it was helping me to clean my spirit body. I didn't even think about it but I was transported into the world of an innocent child's heart and I followed along with the hand gestures.

Shin-Young Park, with Seonghwa Children of the International Church

Seeing it with Mom and Dad was even more fun, and the story of "The Tiger Rock that grants wishes" was interesting. I wish there were more opportunities like this. 



The Peace Forum for the Realization of a Heavenly Unified Korea

Heavenly Parent's Holy Community's Peace Forum for a Heavenly Unified Korea opened under the theme "The Road towards a Heavenly Unified Korea." During the forum, the lectures and the performances, it was as if the spirit of yearning for reunification was pouring down like a waterfall. The forum consisted of welcoming remarks, a hoondok reading, lectures, testimonies, reports on the agenda and special activity reports by all sub-regional chairs.

In his welcoming remarks, Dr. Yun shared the forum's action plan. He said, "This bi-monthly peace forum that is starting today will be a forum on the ideological foundations of the vision of a heavenly unified Korea. It will consist of a series of peace seminars that will lay the foundation for the Rally of Hope and the Think Tank 2022 Forum. This is an important opportunity to stimulate awareness of the vision of a heavenly unified Korea through educational programs on the philosophy and ideology of the vision.

Christopher Hill, a former United States ambassador to South Korea, spoke on the US role in addressing issues on the Korean Peninsula, saying, The US wants to work for the countries in the region, especially with the Republic of Korea, on finding a solution to the problems on the peninsula.

Seong-bae Jin, chair of Hyojeong Academy of Arts and Sciences asked, "How can true peace be realized?" He went on to remind us that God is the origin of peace, so true peace can only be achieved based on Godism.

Hyun-young Lee, president of the Universal Peace Federation-Korea, said, "Korea's vision is to move toward a heavenly unified Korea. Hope is like a path. Only after many people walk over the same course, does a path begin to appear. The same is true of heavenly unified Korea. It will be created when many people trod the path together toward the creation of a heavenly unified Korea. All members of UPF will walk together. Let's walk together to widen the path and increase the hope of the emergence of a heavenly unified Korea. After saying that, he pledged that UPF members will walk down this road together with others. The Peace Forum, planned as one of the Peace Seminars, aims to reaffirm heavenly unified Korea's vision through ongoing educational programs in Korea and abroad. 

A True Peace magazine staff member contributed this article.



Heavenly Unified Korea Theory

The FFWPU International headquarters asked Dr. Seong-bae Jin to produce a Heavenly Unified Korea Theory. He presented a “basic, fundamental version” of this theory at the “Peace Forum for the Realization of a Heavenly Unified Korea” on August 21. What follows is excerpts from the beginning of his presentation. Please see the full video via Peacelink or YouTube (Search for the full event title.).

By Seong-bae Jin

South Korea established a single government in 1948 based on liberal democracy and market economy and has grown into a G11 country.

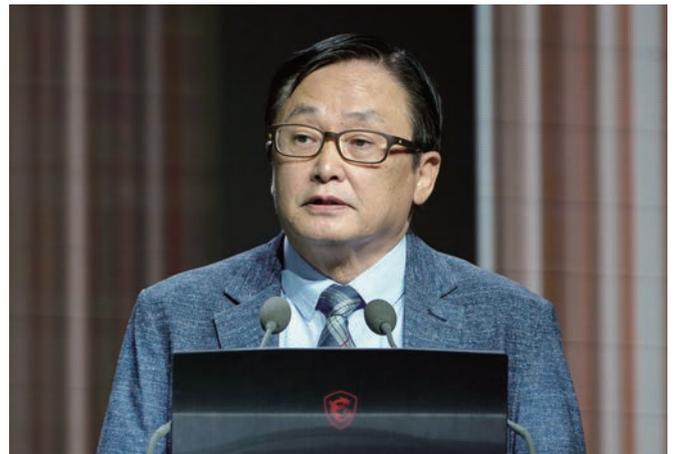
After establishing its own separate government in 1948, North Korea nationalized all land and provided housing, medical care and education for free. At the beginning of the regime, society stabilized, but as Kim Il-Sung established the world’s only hereditary communist system, the nation’s productivity gradually declined, economic growth slowed, and North Korea finally became the world’s poorest country facing a serious economic crisis.

The Chosun Workers Party, heart of North Korean power, was founded on October 13, 1945, and defined Marxism-Leninism as the Party ideology. At the 5th Congress in November 1970, Kim Il-Sung’s Juche ideology was first introduced along with Marxism-Leninism. At the 6th Party Congress in November 1980, Marxism-Leninism was eliminated, and the Kim Il-Sung Juche ideology was stipulated as the only party philosophy. Politics for the Kim Il-sung family began, not for the people.

The indoctrination in the ideology of North Korea is well evident in the Chosun national view of history. North Korea is fabricating the history of the nation in line with the history of class struggle. The North Korean version of history starts from a primitive community that shared the means of production, then goes through a class society stained with possession and exploitation of the means of production, culminating in a communist society in which the means of production are commonly shared once again.

Unity through Godism

Looking at the history of the Korean peninsula, the 38th Parallel (DMZ) separating the South and North is not



simply a military ceasefire line, but a tense front line separating good and evil values, communism and democracy, the ideologies of idealism and materialism, theism and atheism. In this manner, the confrontation between the two Koreas can be seen as a confrontation of ideologies, philosophies and values.

The philosophy that can unify South Korea and North Korea can be found from neither Communism nor Democracy, which are in extreme confrontation with each other. This is because the two ideologies and systems exclude the other to the extreme. Hence, the solution is bound to be found in a third zone. This is the thought of Godism—a movement to restore the common origin of both the South and the North. The Godism movement exposes the limitations of both communism and liberal democracy and is calling people to return to the fundamental source of freedom and equality. Godism does not deny or exclude either Democracy or Communism, but seeks to reveal the essence of the two philosophies and thereby unify them. This third way or Godism alone

guarantees a future of peace and unity.

Godism in heavenly unified Korea is a movement that claims to restore the *Gyeongcheon* ideal of Gojoseon [the first Korean kingdom founded by Dangun [a legendary figure]]. Since ancient times, Koreans have been a people who serve heaven. The God Koreans served is defined as three-in-one type of god, the three being Hwan-in, Hwanwoong and Hwan-geom. The Chinese character 'In' means fundamental cause. Hwan-in, whose name contains 'in', refers to the source that created this universe, in other words, it can be seen as a traditional Korean expression that refers to the biblical Creator.

According to the founding legend of Gojoseon, Hwanwoong, who was from heaven and Ungnyeo from earth married and gave birth to Korea's founder and first king, Dangun. Dangun represents the united ideology of heaven and earth; this ideology of heaven and earth becomes the starting point of the threefold ideal of *Gyeongcheon* (exalt Heaven), *Hongik Ingan* (broadly benefit humankind), and *Gwangmyeong* (resplendent nation).

Likewise, the heavenly unified Korea ideology must be based on the history of Korean traditions just like the founding ideology of Dangun. It must be a universal ideology that can embrace both the North and the South.

It must also be an ideology that can propose a future coordinate for a heavenly unified Korea. The founding theory of a heavenly unified Korea is love God, love humankind and love the nation.

Furthermore, the theory of a heavenly unified Korea is an ideology that can inherit and develop not only Dangun's *Gyeongcheon* ideas, but also the *Hongik* and *Gwangmyeong* ideas. It is a universal ideology that can contribute not only toward the unification of the two Koreas, but also to world peace.

The philosophy of love for God is the spirit of loving God, and this can be said to realize *Gyeongcheon*, a founding ideal of our people. The philosophy of love for humans is the spirit of loving humanity, and this realizes the *Hongik* ideal. The philosophy of love for one's nation is the spirit of loving the country, the *Gwangmyeong* ideal.

The essence of God is shimjeong; God is the being of shimjeong

Genesis 1:27 says, "God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them." This means that the invisible image of God was embodied through the visible image of Adam and Eve.

If you interpret God's image as traditional Christianity does, as the spirit of Plato's philosophy, it greatly erodes the meaning of the Bible. The Bible clearly defines the image of God as the image of Adam and Eve. Hence, the intangible God is manifested through the visible form of Adam and Eve. Therefore, God would be the intangible True Parent God present with Adam and Eve, while Adam and Eve would be the visible True Parents and the ancestors of human beings. This is the definition of God as the invisible True Parent of humankind.

In terms of attributes, God is a God of dual characteristics, namely the neutral subject of *sung-sang* and *hyung-sang*. But, in view of the essence of *shimjeong*, God is the

True Parent God or Heavenly Parent. As discussed earlier, God is the True Parent of humankind, and God is one God. God is not the God of a specific religion or doctrine, he is the ultimate cause, the ultimate reality whom all have been seeking through their conscience. God is the central point who can unite all humanity across borders, races, religions, languages and cultures.

And because there is only one God, religion is also one. Some religions advocate a personal God while others advocate impersonal truth, but the ultimate reality pursued by all religions is one, the same Heavenly Parent. This is because the starting point of all religions is from one God. Thus, all religions must return to the one God, the starting point. The purpose of religion is for all mankind to become one family, brothers and sisters under one God.

Alternatives to Juche ideology

Regarding the Juche ideology of North Korea, Godism suggests an alternative to the three major Juche ideologies, which is called the Three Great Subjects Thought. According to the Three Great Subjects Thought of Godism, parents are the subject in the family, teachers are the subject at school, and owners are the subject in the workplace, so these are called the three subjects.

However, the conscience, as the center, is a subject that encompasses all three subjects of parent, teacher, and owner. Therefore, the conscience has all three subjects within it, and Godism call these three great subjects of the conscience universally shared values. Universally shared values means moral thought with the universal conscience as the subject.

Therefore, God, the subject of the conscience, which is also a subject, becomes the parent of parents, the teacher of teachers, and owner of owners. However, since all three characteristics can be represented by the parental heart, God is the True Parent God, and that is why we call God our Heavenly Parent. Only this ideology can stand up to Kim Il-Sung's Juche philosophy.

Article Three of the North Korean Constitution promulgates a people-centered worldview, and defines the Juche ideology as the revolutionary ideology that will bring about the mass subjectivity of the people.

In Kim Il Sung's manual, "Principle of Philosophy," man is the master or subject of his own destiny, but in his book, *Principle of Social History*, the subject can be the popular mass, rather than a personal human. In the book, *Theory of Father Leadership*, the Father-Head becomes the subject of subjects in the end. That means the "Father-Head Subject" is the one and only ideology and religion of North Korea's authorities.

From a sociological viewpoint, Juche thought is much more religious than Stalinism or Maoism. It is ranked as one of the top ten religions of the world with 20 million followers. In the end, Juche ideology became an atheist religion, a national civic religion. The theory of eternal life in Juche thought is the epitome of civic religions. The slogan in North Korea is "Father-Head Kim Il-Sung will stay with us forever," although Father-Head Kim Il-Sung has already died. ☞

Dr. Jin is chair of the Hyojeong Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Regarding North Korea's Nuclear Weapons

By Christopher Hill

I want to thank Mrs. Moon for her efforts to bring the United States and other like-minded countries together to focus on this issue and see what can be done in the context of working with one another, working with like-minded countries and the region—ultimately working with the North Koreans themselves on finding a solution, finding a better way forward.

There's no question the issue has been very difficult over the decades. I myself worked on this question during President Bush's administration back in 2005–2009.

Speaking about the relationship with the Republic of Korea, obviously it's one that goes back a long way but it certainly goes to those dark days during the Korean War in 1950, in the 1950s generally, where the US demonstrated, I think, a remarkable capacity to understand a problem many kilometers away from its shores and to remain working on that problem and to make clear that it had the staying power to deal with it. It is now 2021, over seventy years since we helped defend South Korea against the very brutal attack from North Korea.

I think it's important for all to understand that this is enduring. This is not a question of whether US relationships or US interests in the region are up for grabs or about to be changed. These are issues the US wants to work on with the countries in the region, especially with the Republic of Korea to find a solution to the problems on the peninsula.

The problem posed by North Korea's nuclear weapons is of course a problem of worldwide concern. After all, there are international agreements, the nonproliferation treaty being the centerpiece of those, that make clear that North Korea's efforts to create a nuclear force is something that we cannot accept. The North Koreans have claimed that other countries have been successful. Why can't we? They've come up with many excuses why they think they need nuclear weapons. But the enduring fact is that North

Korea does not need nuclear weapons. North Korea needs a relationship with its region and a relationship with the world. The US has on a number of occasions put this forward as something we are prepared to work with North Korea on.

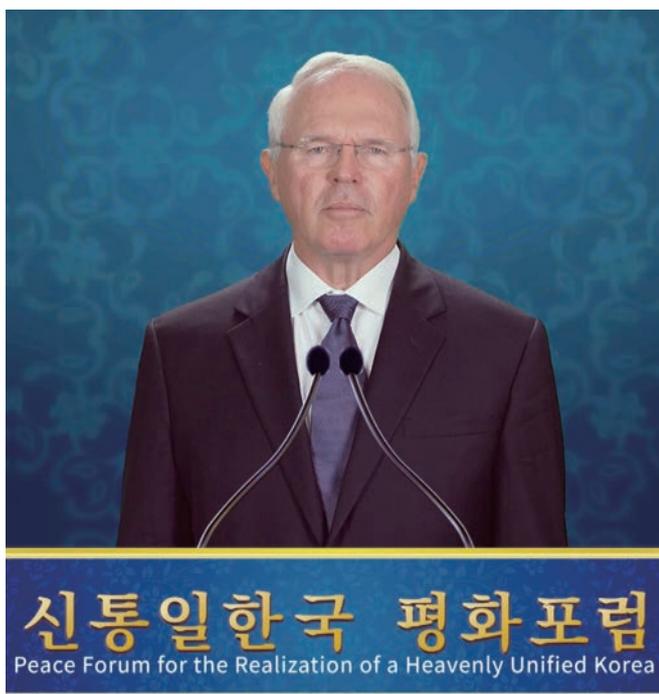
But we are not prepared to work with a nuclear North Korea. We are not prepared, and I would say, never will be prepared, to work with a nuclear North Korea, one whose centerpiece of security is based on the idea that it could threaten its neighbors. We need to make very clear to the North Koreans, that that is not on the table.

We also need to be very clear to the North Koreans that it's not just the nuclear issues that are on the table; it's the overall approach by North Korea that aims to create a circumstance where the US somehow tires and somehow waivers in its commitment to the region. That too is not on the table, and that too is something that is not going to happen. The US is very firmly committed to South Korea not only because of North Korea but because of two other factors, which lie between the US and South Korea.

South Korea is a major trading partner for the US. Many people of Korean descent live in the US. They are our citizens, American citizens. The US has a commitment to this part of the world because this part of the world is, in some [abstract] respect, part of the United States. The US of course seeks no territory in northeast Asia; it seeks no monopolies in northeast Asia, the US simply seeks to have good relations in this region.

What can be done?

The new administration in the United States has taken some time to study the issues. That is important because when you look at what has happened over the years, you can see that many different projects, many different approaches, have not ultimately been successful.



I would say the proposition the US needs to advance along with other countries is to convince North Korea that it could have a better future without nuclear weapons than with nuclear weapons. There are those who say North Korea has somehow invested much time and energy on nuclear weapons and surely we cannot expect North Korea to back away from this long-standing commitment to develop these weapons. In fact, I would say what North Korea needs to contemplate is what kind of future it could have without these weapons versus a continuation of its isolation and frankly its sheer poverty in trying to maintain these weapons. North Korea needs help with its economy. It needs help with the humanitarian basis for its people, who every day face difficult problems, whether from climate change or simply from the grinding poverty that people there have faced for many years.

The US needs to work very closely with the Republic of Korea. After all, the Korean Peninsula belongs to the Korean people. So the US should avoid, in any circumstance, the perception by Korean people that somehow the US only cares about its own interests. It cares about a broader set of interests; it cares about a broader “symphony,” where people may play different notes, but it comes together in the idea that this region should offer to be exporting not just goods and services but also stability to the rest of the world.

What’s important is that the US and the Republic of Korea work together. The Republic of Korea may want to approach things differently. They may want to deal, for example, with the humanitarian catastrophes that loom every year in North Korea due to its inability to manage its fight against climate change, even to manage some of the public health issues that have clearly bedeviled North Korea, especially Covid.

So the US needs to work on the relationship with South

Korea to make sure that what South Korea does is of no surprise to the US and complements the issues in the US. The US needs to maintain its security commitment to South Korea, and the best way to do that is to maintain troops in South Korea, and that is what the US has done. These troops are not a threat to North Korea but these troops are there in the event that the North Koreans get ideas of repeating what they did in 1950. The North Koreans should know that the US stands by South Korea and will remain so.

The North Koreans have often talked about how they regard any exercises between the South Korean and US troops as somehow threats against them. Well, in fact these exercises, as any military person knows, are exercises designed to make sure that the US and the Republic of Korea forces are able to work together in peacetime but also in the event that they are called upon to defend the Republic of Korea.

I hope there could be some kind of understanding of what the Chinese want. I do not believe that China is in any way interested in a nuclear North Korea. I think China shares our goals in that regard, so I think there ought to be some effort to reestablish the patterns of cooperation between the US and China, and what better place to start that than on the North Korean challenge?

China has some responsibility to solve the problem of the nuclear weapons in North Korea, the Republic of Korea has this challenge as well. We all do. And I think we all should commit ourselves to the process of dealing with this. I think we should commit ourselves to being strong in the event that deterrence is needed in the event that North Korea ultimately does not see the problem the way we do. But we also should keep open the door to negotiation and maintain to the North Koreans that we are prepared to sit down and discuss it with them. We should put a lot of things on the table—things in terms of what a future relationship with North Korea might look like. But what would not be on the table, and the North Koreans perhaps need to understand this better than they do today, is the quality and indeed the quantity, of the US relationships with these other partners, especially Republic of Korea.

North Korea should look at its own interests and not look to see that it somehow is its interest to weaken the US-Republic of Korea relationship or weaken the US commitment to the region, because that is not going to happen. What North Korea needs to decide is whether they could have a better future without these weapons or do they need to continue these weapons programs?

I hope they come to the understanding that what they need to do is to sit down with the US, with the Republic of Korea, with China, with Japan and understand that they can have a better future but a future without nuclear weapons. I hope these few thoughts will be helpful to you in your deliberations. *PH*

Christopher Hill was ambassador to Macedonia, Poland, Korea and Iraq. He led the US delegation to the Six Party Talks on North Korea’s nuclear weapons program 2003–2009. The full Peace Forum is available on Peacelink and YouTube with English interpretation.

A Realistic Look at the Two Koreas

By Myung-cheol Cho

Rev. Sun Myung Moon's Pyongyang Declaration signifies one God-centered world; that is, unification under a single system. He was a great reunification thinker, an audacious practitioner and a patriotic person.

Rev Moon is a great thinker on inter-Korean reunification

"True peace for mankind is neither right nor sinful. The reason is that neither the right nor the left has a fundamental motive to liberate selfishness. When we focus on ourselves and our own interests, there is a conflict of interest that never goes away, but if there is no unification there is no peace."

Rev Moon is a sincere unification activist who is full of love for humanity

"As much as South Koreans love South Korea, there must be some South Korean who loves North Korea more. Also, as long as North Koreans love North Korea, someone who loves South Korea should emerge. Even though we live in South Korea, the path will open only if we have a heart to live together with those who live in North Korea and to become one.

The two systems must harmonize

However, the reality of South Korea and North Korea is that the two worlds have completely different personalities: Therefore, the most important task is to make efforts to match the characteristics of the two systems. The people of South Korea have the freedom to create a world centered on God, but the North Korean people are deprived of their freedom even if they wanted to live in God's world for just one day. But is there any history of the peaceful merging of different systems built on the basis of different ideologies and values?

National economic integration into a single country

Countries have successfully integrated partially self-governing states. To name a few, the United States, the Swiss Confederation and the Federal Republic of Germany. There is a history of unification and integration of countries or regions with the same capitalist market economy. However, there is no history of unification between a capitalist country and a socialist country; that is, a market economy state and a planned economy state, like South Korea and North Korea. The South Korean government's unification plan ultimately aims for a unified state under a single system, but North Korea's unification plan aims for two federal systems. The South Korean plan calls for three stages—an Exchange and Cooperation Stage, a Union Stage and a Unification Stage.

We need ask, "What type of country is North Korea? It is a socialist country. The economic system is planned production and distribution, and the politics is party-centered management based on collectivism (totalitarianism). Production is controlled by a planned economic system. Consumption relies on a farmers' market system.

What is North Korea's reputation? How does the world look upon North Korea? It is a feudal hereditary dynasty. A state in which a single individual rules and that supreme leader is hereditary, through the Kim family. It is a garrison state; the government mobilizes citizens as if they were soldiers under state control. It fits the categories "gangster country" "secluded country" and "closed country." It appears to be a socialist, democratic republic in terms of its constitution, but it's actual government acts like a monarchy.

The Marxist theory of stages of historical development (based on production methods and productive

forces in relation to production) assert that societies move from a slave-owner society to a feudal society to a capitalist society and reach their peak as a communist society.

Marxian general theory when defining the character of the state: The character of the (economic) foundation determines the character of the superstructure (various institutions such as laws and institutional systems, culture, etc.). If the character of the economic foundation is capitalism, the superstructure also has the characteristics of capitalism (free democracy and free culture). If the nature of the economic foundation is socialism, it also has the characteristics of socialism (a collectivist system and collectivist culture).

In this sense, the United States, Japan and South Korea have been classified as capitalist countries while the Soviet Union (Russia) China and North Korea have been classified as socialist countries. However, from the 1980s, a completely different form of socialist state appeared. Social-democratic countries emerged from capitalist countries. Their key characteristic was that they implemented socialist economic policies under a capitalist system, with their state intervening directly in distribution. Among these states were those in Northern Europe and Greece.

Meanwhile, market economies were developing in China, Vietnam and Cuba, which are all socialist countries. Under the socialist systems, they introduced capitalist economic principles. In other words, capitalist socialism emerged. On the other hand, within the socialist country of North Korea, tyranny was born. Their socialist system operates like a feudal dynasty; that is, it built a feudal dynasty, the only one on earth.

South Korea: Economic life

Production and distribution activities (wholesale and retail market transactions, agricultural and fisheries and industrial product transactions, price research, overseas market research, human resources market research) all take place within the individual businesses.

Companies engage in financial transactions (stock trading, bank loans, various insurance subscriptions, etc.) They may deal in real estate transactions for housing, land, commercial buildings, etc. South Korean consumers have a wide variety of products to choose from. Consumption dictates production. South Korean consumers are constantly encouraged to consume as targets of the advertising industry.

North Korea: Economic life

Working life is predominantly concentrated on production activities. The reason is that the means of production are completely owned by the state cooperatively. There is an absence of a private trading market (except the farmers' market), due to the absence of a stock market, financial market and real estate market. Government and business bureaucrats start each day by checking the annual, quarterly and monthly production plan (quotas). Production activities go according to production orders, unrelated to consumption. Consumer life: the government encourages savings and reducing consumption. North Korea is the only country



in the world without advertisements targeting consumers.

Aspects of political life (within a political organization)

In South Korea you are free to take part in political activities or not. Political organizations have few members. The number of political party members is less than two million for both men and women. South Koreans enjoy freedom of speech, publication, assembly, demonstration and association, which are all signs of political freedom, which is practically guaranteed.

In North Korea, all residents aged seven and over are obligated to join a political organization and are not allowed to refuse. At age fourteen, they would be part of a youth organization. Those over twenty-five are required to be members of the Labor Party. Among other labor organizations are the Women's Union and the Agricultural Workers Union.

In North Korea, all citizens join a political organization and live within a political organization. Social activities and religious activities, etc. are forbidden. These are considered sectarian acts; offenders are strictly punished. In other words, freedom of the Press, assembly and association are fundamentally blocked, though freedom is clearly stated in the constitution. It is constitutionally legal but illegal in terms of organizational norms. ❌

Professor Cho was the first North Korean defector elected to the South Korean National Assembly, in which he served 2012–2016. The full Peace Forum is available on Peacelink and YouTube with English interpretation.

The Hard Road to Reunification

This is an edited transcript of the English translation of Rev. Yoon's presentation at the August 21st Peace Forum for the Realization of a Heavenly Unified Korea.

By Jeong-ro Yoon

A condition is needed to have interdependence, mutual prosperity and universal values. It has to be centered on Godism. We have to trust, believe and want to follow Godism and God. Only when we are prepared to do that will we be able to succeed. If we don't want to do it, as much as we talk about interdependence, mutual prosperity and universal values, nothing will change. Based on Godism and God's heart I will speak about interdependence, mutual prosperity and universal values.

In history when we talked about creating an ideal world, people tried different ways, including capitalism and communism. They have been working hard around the world to create an ideal world, but they have not been able to do that. I will try to explain why they were not able to do that through the theme interdependence, mutual prosperity and universal values.

Political systems

There are now four different types of thought, capitalism, socialism–communism, the theory of evolution and liberal democracy. None of these fields of thought have God at their center. Did America become the number one nation by living with liberal democracy? Capitalism emerged at the beginning of the eighteenth century. It started with Adam Smith, who spoke about monarchy and said that with monarchy each individual has to be able to live as he or she desires. At that time, the monarchs were living as they wanted but the people were not living freely.

Adam Smith wanted to start a system that begins with individuals first—the people of the nation. If they live well, the nation will improve. Under capitalism, which is about how money is used, we need to reduce the selfishness of the country. Many things developed in the eighteenth century. For more than three hundred years up to



that time, nothing had changed. To say things have improved, we have to see that the daily lives of the people improved. Some people were not able to eat well. This is bad for the health of the nation. We don't come here to suffer. We want to live well. Any of those economic thoughts should be able to discuss how we are going to live well. We have to find a way that everyone can live well.

At the moment, everything is going the other way. The poor are becoming poorer and the rich are becoming richer. The situation of people who don't have money is worsening. They are living like beggars. You might reflect, What kind of world is this? What happened to human values? If we do not correct this, a wonderful world will never come. That's what Karl Marx explained. That is why so many revolutions arose at that time. The revolutionaries were trying so hard to bring change in their lives,

but nothing happened.

Capitalism didn't help; a capitalist society is not the answer. One percent of the people were living well but the rest had terrible lives at that time. This was the case with the Agrarian Revolt [in late nineteenth century America]. Karl Marx spoke about this as well. We have countries today, North Korea and Vietnam, in which the basic idea is that money should not be held by the people. The nation should control the money and share it with everyone. In the Soviet Union at the beginning of the Communist Revolution, people often went dancing and drinking, happily thinking that everyone was receiving an equal amount of money from the government. North Korea is the only country that is still under a communist system.

A new thought is emerging, environmentalism. We know that God created all of nature, but environmentalists do not think that. They think about the Big Bang and that nature just developed. They do not think that we were created by God; they think that we developed from monkeys and evolution helped so we became who we are today. That's what environmentalism is about. They remove God from the picture, so animals and humans are the same.

If you look at America, two or three hundred years ago, it was not a well-off country. How did they become the strongest country in the world? What system are they using? Democracy. They created a democratic country by bringing all kinds of people together. They developed a better system than others.

Korea doesn't follow completely what America is doing. In America, they have to follow certain systems; they have to follow certain laws. As they kept following laws, human beings do not have a chance to breathe. In a democracy, if they do not help the poor it looks as if democratic countries are failing, so democracies are trying their best to help people. Alexander Hamilton created a system so that the nation could be strong. America became a great America through the laws and systems Alexander Hamilton introduced [when he was the US secretary of the treasury]. It became the strongest country in the world.

Capitalists have been working hard for three hundred years, but capitalism still has many problems. The gap between the rich and the poor is large. Everything is focused on materialism. If you have money, everything is fine. They revere money. They do not think about good ethics or a good life, principals or values. I'm not saying that is true only in America. Here in Korea, this is the situation. Everyone has many complaints; they have many problems. If they only had more money everything would be solved.

What about Communism? What is Communism about? Basically they removed God from everything. They want everything to go to the nation, everything to go to the person above. This is the kind of system they have.

People have been working very hard to develop different systems but nothing is working. The nation needs to have the money, but the party that is in power at the time is taking everything. That's why we can't find happiness or enjoyment in a beautiful country because people are just living for money.

With democracy, everyone has a different idea about

what it is and what ethics and values are associated with it. When we think about North Korea and South Korea, they have different systems, they have different thoughts; they are so far apart. How can they unite? People fight because they have different thoughts. Even between a wife and a husband, when they have different views, they fight. It's not easy because they are completely different from us. We have to change the system. We are all brothers and sisters. We have to begin speaking about us as brothers and sisters and bringing the parent, Heavenly Parent into the picture. That's our standpoint. We need to talk about Godism, interdependence, mutual prosperity and universal values.

How is reunification even possible?

Interdependence is about living together. But because communists don't accept God, do not think about God, we have to find a way to make them understand that the fact that I am alive here on earth is because of God, and when I leave this world, I will be going back to God. If they say, God does not exist, we have nothing to talk about. We have to interact with the love, the heart, of Heavenly Parent. Then, we can do something.

Please say this: "We will all die." We should not live in this world as if we will be here for thousands of years. No! Don't think that you should just live well. We should live for others because whether we like it or not, at seventy, eighty, ninety or a hundred we will die, so there is no reason to live only for oneself.

We have to change the idea of what it means to be living well. For example, to live well, we have to think that the cosmos is God's country. I am here but I am "borrowing" this place. I am in the Land of God and I will go back to God. When you think like that you have to begin to return the "money" back to somebody. If you see somebody that is poor, not living as well as you, you have to support the person. That is what the children of God are like.

The more children you have, the better you can understand God's heart. True Mother had thirteen children. She helped them grow and saw them grow. Her heart could only become bigger. She can embrace more people and has love for more people. She is a mother who wants to give love. This is the principle of interdependence. It is not because I am here, so I will live in the way I want. It is about living for others. True Father, for example, I have never seen heard that he ever ate lunch alone. He always wanted to share with others. That's a parent's heart. We need that heart. That's why we have to attend workshops. What does it mean when we say "interdependence"? It doesn't mean we have nothing for ourselves.

Interdependence means I work hard and I want to become a wonderful person and then help others. If you don't have any talents, you're not able to do anything. That's why you have to try very hard to develop yourself. Increase your talents, live well and live for others. Use the surplus you produce to help others. If you have the money you could provide a scholarship to a young person so that they might grow up and be like you. ☞

The full Peace Forum is available on Peacelink and YouTube with English interpretation. Dr. Yoon is the vice-chairman of Segye Ilbo.

Hyojeong Cheonbo Great Works

The Hyojeong Cheonbo Great Works Commemorating the Ninth Anniversary of True Father's Holy Ascension and the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Cheonbo Spiritual Works took place in the hall of the Hyojeong Cultural Center and was broadcast online on August 21 and 22.

The event took place in two parts, for the Cheonbo Great Works, ninety thousand members from eighty-three countries registered and participated in ancestor liberation, ancestor blessings and spiritual world—physical world blessings. In addition, two hundred thousand members from Prophet Samuel Radebe's congregation in South Africa joined in, as did members of Archbishop Johannes Ndanga's congregation in Zimbabwe and Bishop Noel Jones' congregation in the United States.

At the event site, training center staff members and Cheonwon Family Church members had to undergo a Coronavirus test within three days of the event and strictly follow quarantine guidelines. To take part in the event, people had to wear masks and sit in installed partitions. The event was also broadcast live.

The main event on the first day of the Great Works was broadcast live from 5:30 pm to 9:30 pm, and the recorded video was aired from 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm on the second day. Simultaneous interpretation took place in Korean, Japanese, English, Chinese, French, Spanish, and Portuguese—seven languages. In addition, four optional programs that had been prepared for easy viewing and uploaded to websites to provide useful content to family members.

The main program had a pre-ceremonial event consisted of a hyojeong cultural performance and announcement of the winners of a contest. Part one was the Hyojeong Cheonbo special chanyang session and part two was the Hyojeong Cheonbo Special Commemoration Ceremony. A relationship improvement program took place as an online pilgrimage.

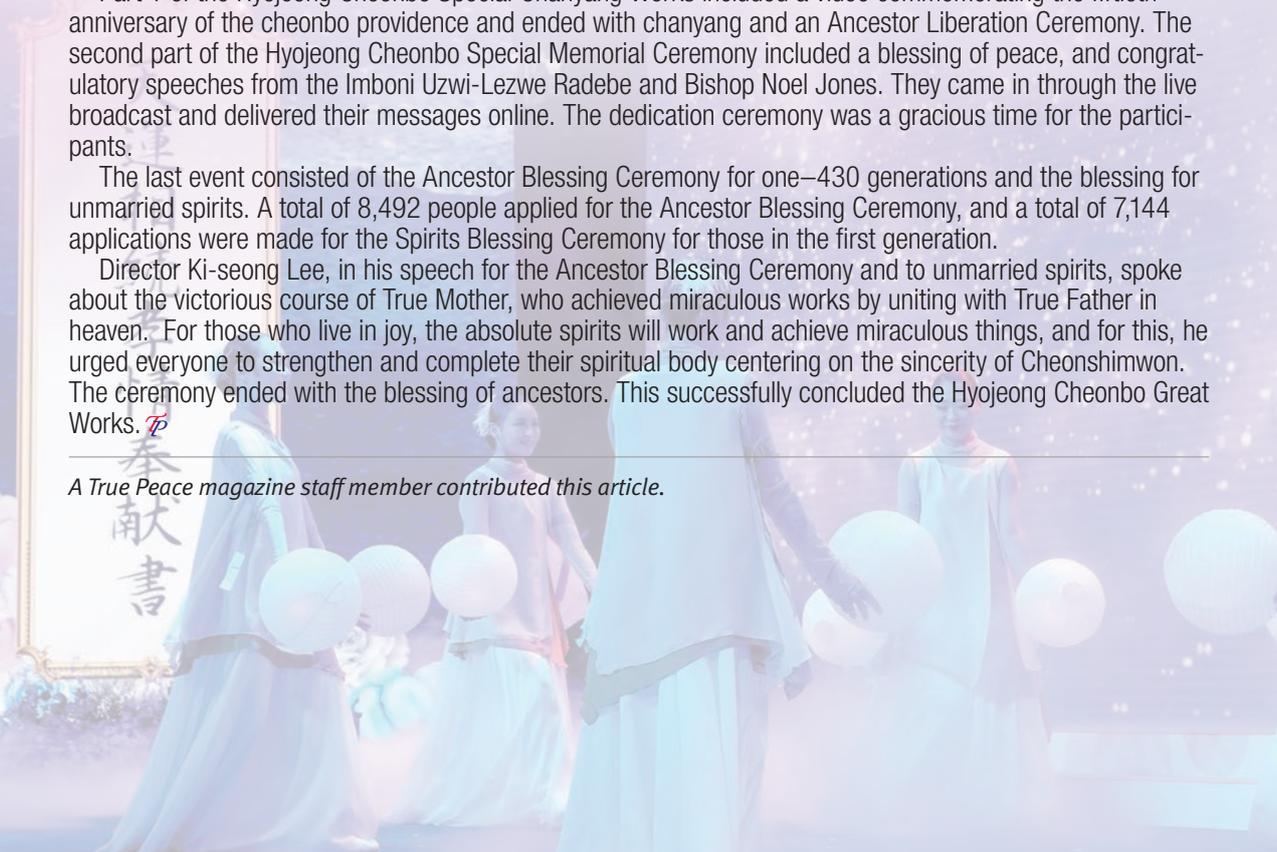
Part 1 of the Hyojeong Cheonbo Special Chanyang Works included a video commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the cheonbo providence and ended with chanyang and an Ancestor Liberation Ceremony. The second part of the Hyojeong Cheonbo Special Memorial Ceremony included a blessing of peace, and congratulatory speeches from the Imboni Uzwi-Lezwe Radebe and Bishop Noel Jones. They came in through the live broadcast and delivered their messages online. The dedication ceremony was a gracious time for the participants.

The last event consisted of the Ancestor Blessing Ceremony for one—430 generations and the blessing for unmarried spirits. A total of 8,492 people applied for the Ancestor Blessing Ceremony, and a total of 7,144 applications were made for the Spirits Blessing Ceremony for those in the first generation.

Director Ki-seong Lee, in his speech for the Ancestor Blessing Ceremony and to unmarried spirits, spoke about the victorious course of True Mother, who achieved miraculous works by uniting with True Father in heaven. For those who live in joy, the absolute spirits will work and achieve miraculous things, and for this, he urged everyone to strengthen and complete their spiritual body centering on the sincerity of Cheonshimwon. The ceremony ended with the blessing of ancestors. This successfully concluded the Hyojeong Cheonbo Great Works. 

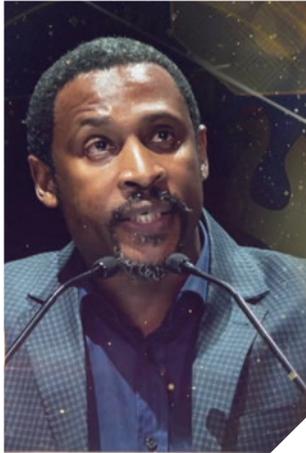
A True Peace magazine staff member contributed this article.

奉獻書



Special Hyojeong Message During the Hyojeong Cheonbo Great Works

By Imboni Uzwi-Lezwe Radebe



Beloved True Mother, the Mother of Peace and the Only Begotten Daughter, Beloved Cheonbo Families and Blessed Families attending the Cheonbo Great Works Workshop to celebrate the ninth anniversary of Father Moon's Holy Ascension: Warmest greetings from South Africa. This is Imboni Uzwi-Lezwe, Prophet Samuel Radebe, chair of the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development-Africa.

I would like to thank Umfihlakalo, the Creator and Heavenly Parent, for giving us the great blessing and joy to participate in this Cheonbo Great Works with more than two hundred thousand families from the Revelation Spiritual Home joining live and millions more members watching.

First, I would like to congratulate True Mother as we celebrate the ninth anniversary. Congratulation, also, for the Hyojeong Cheonbo providence. True Father's Holy Ascension is not an occasion to mourn but to celebrate. Yes, it is an occasion to celebrate Father Moon's life and accomplishments.

True Father lived his entire life for the sake of God and humanity, marching forth "with the heart of a parent in the shoes of a servant, shedding tears for man, sweat for earth, and blood for heaven."

Before his ascension, True Father asked all blessed families to become heavenly tribal messiahs and True Mother is working tirelessly to bring Heaven's blessings to all of us. In particular, she gave the incredible grace of our being able to become Cheonbo families, Treasures of Heaven.

Since 2018, True Mother has toured Africa, from Dakar to Harare, then Cape Town, from Johannesburg to Sao Tome, then Niamey, and back to Johannesburg again. I remember how in Goree Island at the Hector Pieterse Memorial, Orlando Stadium, and FNB Stadium, True Mother shed tears as she prayed for Heaven to bless the continent of Africa.

Today, as the world is suffering from the COVID-19 pandemic, True Mother, with her motherly heart, continues to pray for the blessed families worldwide. Indeed, True Mother is bringing together leaders from around the world to find solutions to the critical challenges of the day. While the world is in despair, True Mother is bringing hope. While the world is suffering, True Mother is bringing healing, comfort, and blessings. I believe the greatest blessings we can receive is to become Cheonbo families, Treasures of Heaven. Yes, we are Treasures of Heaven! Cheonbo families are citizens of Cheon Il Guk who are recognized by Heaven as having accomplished their mission. Today, we are blessed to attend the Cheonbo Great Works workshop. Through this workshop, we can liberate and bless our ancestors.

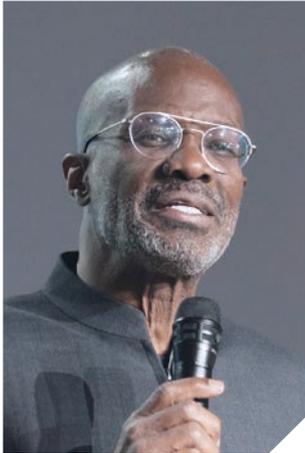
In African spirituality, we believe in the importance of honoring and being at peace with our ancestors. We believe that ancestors are alive and can bless their descendants with their good fortune. We also believe that ancestors who have been wronged in the past need to be liberated from their pain and suffering and be blessed.

Through today's celebrations, we can honor the legacy of True Father and support True Mother's work to bring Heaven's blessing to all 7.8 billion people of the world. As chair of IAPD Africa and as True Mother's son, I am honored to be a treasure of heaven and lead the way in spreading rays of hope throughout the continent. May Umfihlakalo's blessings be with you all. I thank you. 

Prophet Radebe is the chair of the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development-Africa.

Come Together under True Mother's Vision

By Noel Jones



To Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon and to all my fellow yoke servants [see Matthew 11:29] in the vineyard:

I think it is very important to understand this: We are like Noah coming into a new situation after the world was completely destroyed by the deluge—by the flood. And in the same sense, the pandemic wasn't with us only for forty days, but, rather, a year and a half.

And if we can just come together under the umbrella of the vision that Mother has for the world, and I am not just talking about the limited things that we do in our own space, but if all of us can put aside what we do individually, [when greater things need doing] we should still keep doing them. I do not think that Mother wants us to do anything else but what we always do, but we need to come together for the things that are universally significant for our world.

I want to encourage Mother to keep giving us directions, directives, keep showing us what we can do together and if we will just join in and follow—yes, leaders whose ears are tuned to God, yes, listeners who speak—I just believe we can bring unification that we need between North Korea and South Korea and we can bring peace to this world. I just believe that if we can do this together, we can have the victory we need. God bless you. Thank God bless you, Mother! Please, keep directing us. We will follow. ☞

Bishop Jones is the senior pastor of the City of Refuge Church in Gardena, California.

- ① Dr. Yun speaking to those that attended the Great Works
- ② Dr. Yun and Wonju Jeong McDevitt offering the participants' wish papers
- ③ Unificationist wishing their liberated ancestors, wish them a fond farewell as they ascend to heaven.



The Interreligious Association for Peace and Development

The Universal Peace Federation launched IAPD in 2017 as one its primary associations. As children of our Heavenly Parent, we sincerely seek harmonious unity with all people of faith as we work to establish a heavenly unified Korea and a heavenly unified world.

UPF maintains that any successful strategy for peace must take into account the spiritual dimension of our human identity, experience and interactions. Based on this worldview, UPF initiated the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development as a partner organization to the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace. Through interreligious dialogue and exchange of viewpoints among the world's religions and faith-based organizations, terrorism, violent extremism and the world's ills can be proactively addressed. Religious leaders are well-situated to deal with community-based concerns and can play a significant role in reconciliation and building a culture of peace. Due to their moral authority and emphasis on human rights based on the principle that we are one family created by God, religious leaders can help rebuild divided societies and assist in humanitarian services for the alleviation of hunger, disease and trauma due to violence and war. The world's religions and faith-based organizations can provide a unique set of valuable resources for achieving a just and peaceful world.

The IAPD founding resolution

As participants in the Interreligious Leadership Conference sponsored by the Universal Peace Federation and the American Clergy Leadership Conference on November 10–14, 2017, focused on the theme, "Addressing the Critical Challenges of Our Time: The Role and Responsibility of Religious Leaders and Faith-Based Organizations," we affirm the unique and essential role that religions are called to play in bringing about a world of lasting peace, a world in which people of all nationalities, ethnicities, races, cultures, and worldviews may live together in mutual respect, harmony and cooperation, as one family under God.

Throughout the ages religion has served as a guide to humanity, leading us from darkness to light, establishing the foundations of morality, and providing a vision of a good society. The teachings and scriptures of the great religious traditions are humanity's greatest treasures. We dishonor them at our peril.

We also recognize that persons within each of our religions have fallen short and failed to embody those universal ideals that are espoused within our traditions. Religion, too often, has given rise to conflict.

We resolve to overcome the divisive tendencies that have emerged within religion and to work to promote dialogue, mutual respect and cooperation so that we may more effectively work to solve the critical challenges of our time, including poverty, hunger, injustice, environmental degradation, family breakdown, corruption, conflict and violence.

Not only should religions cooperate with one another—Christian, Muslim, Jew, Hindu, Buddhist, Sikh, Jain, and others—they should also work together with the leaders of governments and civil society and the private sector, as partners for the sake of building the world envisioned by our founders, our ancestors, and, indeed, all people.



The inaugural event of the Interreligious Association for Peace [and Development] took place during the November 10–14, 2017 Interreligious Leadership Conference at the Lotte Hotel World Seoul in South Korea.

We applaud the leadership of Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon and her late husband Rev. Sun Myung Moon for their vision and work over many decades to establish one family under God. On this day, November 13, 2017, we endorse the proposal to establish a new interreligious association, known provisionally as the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development.

Response from religious leaders

In the November 2017 issue of this magazine, Dr. Walsh, chairman of the Universal Peace Federation, wrote about the great enthusiasm with which religious leaders welcomed the founding of the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development.

“We experienced an enormous outpouring that indicates a hunger and a need for the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development. We launched the IAPD on November 13. It was deeply significant and inspiring.

“Nearly twenty participants from all different religious groups testified at the launching ceremony. Due to limits of time and because so many insisted on saying something, I limited each of them to three minutes. This made them condense their remarks and, in a very short time, speak with heartfelt passion and insight, endorsing the IAPD initiative. . . .

“The word “development” in IAPD indicates that we are not merely engaged in dialogue, but we are advocating and working for development at all levels: individual moral and spiritual development; development of strong, healthy, loving families; good, stable communities without drugs, crime or poverty; restored nations that are peaceful and prosperous; and sustainable development that includes preservation of our environment while also bringing an end to hunger, poverty and conflict. We have been awakened. We are ready to march forward and get to work.”

IAPD programs and development

Dr. Tageldin Hamad, who among other posts is the vice-president of UPF International and is the international coordinator for IAPD, has spoken about IAPD’s progress. What follows is a transcription of his insights.

Father and Mother Moon founded many organizations to contribute to the establishment of world peace, from the individual level to the worldwide level, building on decades of interreligious conferences and dialogue, held worldwide by the American Clergy Leadership Conference, the World Clergy Leadership Conference and the International Religious Foundation. . . .

Mother Moon founded, as a project of UPF, the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development. In 2018, IAPD inaugural conventions were held on six continents around the world. Over twenty-three thousand religious leaders participated in IAPD events held in ninety-three nations. IAPD assembled global religious leaders and tapped into their profound wisdom, which is found in humanity’s spiritual heritage. Religious leaders and faith-based organizations provide the moral compass to deal with the social problems in contemporary society—family breakdown and



Religious leaders from a great variety of faiths can come together for the sake of peace and development. (Photograph by Graeme Carmichael)

divorce, racism and exploitation, crime, hunger, terrorism, environmental degradation and more.

IAPD harnesses the good will and wisdom of the religions that are called to play a unique and essential role in bringing about a world of lasting peace, a world in which people of all nationalities, ethnicities, races, culture and worldviews are called to live together in mutual respect, harmony and cooperation, a world that the founders of UPF call 'Heavenly Parent's Holy Community.'

Peace is the hope of all ages, but it seems to be so distant, even now. 'Peace' is a magical word. It is emotional; it is like 'love.' You have to live for the sake of others [to have peace and love]. Of course, peace should start with me living for the sake of others in my family, community, society, nation, and ultimately, the world.

On the other hand, religion has an important role to play in promoting and contributing to peace and human development, especially morally. The great religions have been the foundation of ethics and culture in civilizations throughout the ages. Although interreligious conflicts are prevalent in the world, we cannot fail to acknowledge the great contributions of religion and at the same time, we must repent for the mistakes and damage done in the name of religion.

Interreligious dialog is important but even more important is to move beyond dialog to working together. Religious leaders need to work in partnership with each other and with the government and all other stakeholders. They are to be collaborators, not competitors. The "other," is not the enemy. The enemy now is COVID-19, which divides the world, separates peoples and creates insecurities, fear and loneliness. IAPD is needed to bring oneness, compassion, comfort and security, while nations are individually racing for the COVID-19 vaccine, IAPD could guide nations to race toward unity, togetherness and love—the ultimate vaccine for all ills.

Plus, we reemphasize that by connecting and working together, we can overcome this COVID-19 crisis. Rightfully, against any other crisis we may face in the future, the combined contribution of religions will once again make religion relevant in the daily affairs of humankind.

The wisdom of religions is needed in almost all multilateral institutions, especially at the United Nations, where God, the origin of peace, is rarely mentioned or called to help create the peace that the UN was originally created to achieve. This is a good opportunity for IAPD to work in partnership with the UN. After all, the role of religious leaders is to be peace builders, peacemakers and peace-givers.... We applaud Mother Moon for her loving, embracing heart and we fondly remember Father Moon, who still lives in our hearts.

Conclusion

IAPD harnesses the goodwill and wisdom of religions and faith-based organizations which are called to play a unique and essential role in bringing about a world of lasting peace, a world in which people of all nationalities, ethnicities, races, cultures and worldviews are called to live together in mutual respect, harmony and cooperation. UPF co-founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon describes the ideal world as "one family under God," and, teaching by example, says that the path to such a society is through people leading a life of true love and living for the sake of others. ☸



Heavenly Parent's Holy Community Children's Hyojeong Worship Festival

하늘부모님성회 성화어린이 여배

효정누리



하늘부모님성회 천보가정 효정증거 대축제

Heavenly Parent's Holy Community
Grand Festival of Cheonbo Families Sharing Hyojeong Testimonies

