

## UPF Founder Says Peace Is Close Despite Renewed Tensions on Korean Peninsula

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**Michael Balcomb - UPF-International**

Tuesday, November 23, 2010

**New York, USA** - Despite the sudden outbreak of renewed hostilities between the two Koreas, UPF Founder Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon has reiterated his firm belief that a new era of lasting peace is close at hand. His confident prediction came at the conclusion of the UPF World Assembly 2010, which drew a crowd of over 3,000 at the Manhattan Center in New York on November 22.

"We are living in a historic time of great transition," Dr. Moon said. "It is a time for a great revolution to change history, to unite the spiritual and physical worlds and to create the ideal kingdom of heaven that God has longed for since the beginning of time."

Back in April, when the South Korean navy ship Cheonan was sunk by an alleged North Korean torpedo attack, Rev. Moon called for restraint in a tour of major Korean cities, and held special Seunghwa ascension services for the 46 South Korean sailors killed in that attack.



*UPF Founder Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon delivers the keynote address on his vision of peace and unity at World Assembly 2010*

"The problems afflicting humanity can only be resolved through an ideology based on the true love of God," he said. "At the same time, we must be concerned to liberate the grieving heart of God, the heavenly parent who lost his beloved children. How many of you have shed tears, yearning to comfort our Father in Heaven?"

More than 30 Ambassadors and diplomatic representatives from the United Nations and from embassies in Washington DC were in attendance. "I believe the principles we heard tonight could help our nation, and I want to invite the UPF to come and hold a leadership program," said H.E. Dr. Mory Kaba Guinea. "We should all become Ambassadors of Peace," said Dr. Mahamoud Adam Bechir, Ambassador of Chad.



*Interfaith Prayers for Peace*



*Delegates from 194 nations in attendance*

Rev. In Jin Moon, President and CEO of the Unification Church opened the program by urging those gathered to become the new “peace generation” the world needs. Georgia State Senator Donzella James called for a return to traditional values and affirmed UPF’s commitment to marriage and family.

Dr. Hyung Jin Moon, who serves as the UPF International Chairman, spoke not only of the need for interfaith dialogue and cooperation, but insisted that spiritual values must serve as the foundation for good governance and harmonious international relations, referring to his father’s call for an interfaith council at the UN.

The evening also featured a interfaith prayers and the lighting of peace candles by representatives of seven major world religions, and an uplifting musical interlude from the *Lovin’ Life* Band.



*Rev. In Jin Moon, Senator Donzella James, and UPF Chair Dr. Hyung Jin Moon*

Dr. Hussein Hassouna, the Ambassador of the League of Arab States to the United States was a featured speaker. He commented on the importance of the UPF’s Middle East Peace Initiative, (MEPI) launched in 2003 to work for reconciliation despite deep historic resentments. “I know that resolving the situation in Palestine with justice, equality and fairness, to the betterment of both sides, has long been a goal of the UPF, as it is of us all,” he said. “Yet such an outcome cannot come solely through political, diplomatic and economic efforts. It will need the application of universal principles that help all the parties go beyond the artificial barriers and boundaries that have been created by race, religion and nationality.”

Ambassador Anwarul Chowdury, the former UN Under-Secretary-General who served two terms as President of the UN Security Council applauded the UPF’s vision of UN renewal. “Tonight’s gathering, with representatives of 194 nations seated in conference, supported by the prayers of religious leaders of every faith and creed, and watched over by thousands of observers, is truly a model of what a Peace UN should and could be,” he said. Amb. Chowdury has been promoting the UN *Decade for the Culture of Peace*, which began in 2001 and ends this year.

With national representatives seated in alphabetical order, delegates from neighboring East African nations of Ethiopia and Eritrea found themselves side by side. For three decades Eritrea fought Ethiopia for its independence, which was finally recognized in 1993. The two men, who currently work in Washington, DC, made plans for joint cultural programs to build better understanding and goodwill between their nations.



Lighting of the Peace Candles



Entertainment from the Lovin' life Band

Many in the audience said they left with a renewed hope for peace. New York professor, author and ethicist Dr. Lucinda Mosher observed "It was truly uplifting and respectful of all faiths, and I fully agree that the United Nations will only be able to fulfill its mission by putting God and faith at the center." New York United Methodist pastor Dr. Luonne Rouse agreed. "Father Moon is speaking with absolute commitment, revealing the pure truth without hesitation," he said. "We must let the world know about this critical and opportune moment."



*Dr. Hussein Hassouna, Rev. Zoe Chang, and Ambassador Anwarul Chowdhury*



*Among those offering prayers for peace (L to R) were Kenoh Yamagata, Buddhism; Eli Epstein, Judaism; Joshua Cotter, Unificationism; Mousaa Drame, Islam; and Satwant Singh, Sikhism.*



*Members of the UPF International Secretariat with UPF President Dr. Thomas Walsh and Secretary General Taj Hamad*



*Mirriam Omala from the African Union presents flowers to Rev. Dr. Moon at the conclusion of the evening.*

PowerPoint Slides:

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**UPF President Dr. Thomas Walsh opens the Assembly.**

**Manhattan Center, New York**

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Participants stand for a musical tantare honoring the flags of the 192 members of the United Nations.

Theme: The Era of Universal Peace: God's Providence and the "Abel UN"

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Participants in the International Leadership Conference came from 60 nations.

Theme: The Era of Universal Peace: God's Providence and the "Abel UN"

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## A warm welcome for Russian delegates

The receiving line includes UPF Secretary General Taj Hamad.



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European delegates reach out to each other across cultural and religious differences.

Twenty-one nations of Europe are represented at the conference.

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**A welcome to diplomats from five continents.**

**Mrs. Genie Kagawa, UPF Office of UN and International Relations**

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“An understanding of our nature as both physical and spiritual beings is essential for leadership.”

Dr. Michael Balcomb, UPF-International Director of Communications

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**“Peace is only possible when we recover our original value as sons and daughters of God.”**

**Dr. Sun Jo Hwang, Chair, UPF-Korea**

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“Women are called to establish a culture of heart in the family and awaken the conscience of nations.”

Mrs. Tomiko Duggan, Director of Public Affairs, UPF-Washington, DC

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**“The problems of the world cannot be solved by the logic of power but only by the logic of love.”**

**Mrs. Angelika Selle, President, Women's Federation for World Peace-USA**

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**“Our Christian leaders are promoting reverence and respect for all faiths and all holy books.”**

**Rev. Michael Jenkins, Chair, American Clergy Leadership Conference**

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**“UPF-USA organized celebrations of the UN International Day of Peace throughout the nation.”**

**Jim Gavin, Secretary General, UPF-USA**



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“We have been rallying people to the cause of religious freedom.”

Rev. Joshua Cotter, Executive Vice President, Unification Church of America

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Lighting candles to open the main program.

Dr. Satwant Singh, Member, Central Scotland Interfaith Council

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Leaders of seven faith traditions offer  
invocations.

Buddhism, Christianity, Confucianism, Islam, Judaism, Sikhism, and  
Unificationism

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## A gracious welcome to the Manhattan Center

Rev. In Jin Moon, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon and  
C.E.O. of the Manhattan Center

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“Compassion and solidarity, recognizing humanity’s oneness, are the necessary steps to peace.”

Amb. Anwarul K. Chowdury, Former Under-Secretary-General and High Representative of the UN

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I'm encouraged by Rev. Moon's focus on strengthening the family as the school of love and cornerstone of peace."

H.E. Dr. Hussein Hassouna, Ambassador, League of Arab States to USA

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"Father Moon's wisdom has shown me the way to peace in the family, my state, and the whole nation."

Hon. Donzella James, State Senator of Georgia, USA

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*Lovin' Life Ministries* musical ensemble



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“My father and mother inherited the true love of God, perfected it, and are bequeathing it to humankind.”

Rev. Hyung Jin Moon, Chairman of UPF International

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Lighting peace candles signifying a time of cosmic transition and uniting the spiritual and physical realms

Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon

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“People of New York, have you spent nights in tears, yearning to comfort God’s heart?”

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“As a Korean, I have invested in America to make it a better place. Pray to understand my words.”

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"I am leaving behind textbooks to teach the heavenly way that God has granted to His suffering children."

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“May this Assembly bring us to the settlement point where God and human beings can meet each other.”

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Rev. Moon challenged the audience with the vision of a cosmic Sabbath and God's direct dominion.

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## Signing the “Abel UN” Peace Campaign Declaration

Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon add their signatures to those of the hundreds who signed earlier in the day.



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The campaign focuses on interfaith, conflict prevention, humanitarian relief, family, and the environment.

UPF chapters, affiliated organizations, Ambassadors for Peace, and concerned individuals are invited to collaborate on peace initiatives in the spirit of an "Abel UN."

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**Sounding of the gong to close the World Assembly.**

**Two more Assemblies are announced: in Las Vegas, USA (November 27) and Seoul, Korea (December 4).**