

## **This week in history, May 31 – June 6:**

Michael Mickler  
June 1, 2015

### **May 31, 1963 HSA Officially Registered in Korea**

True Father and four disciples founded the Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity (HSA-UWC) in May 1954. However, the church did not achieve legal recognition until May 31, 1963 when it was officially registered as a charitable organization (n. 261). Prior to that, the Unification Church was essentially an underground church. Widely vilified in Korean society, registration followed intensive pioneer witnessing in Korean villages. Legal recognition of the church in Korea followed the incorporation of HSA-UWC in the United States on September 18, 1961 and preceded legalization of the church in Japan in 1964.

### **May 31, 1997 First Summit Council for World Peace**



True Father convened the First Summit Council for World Peace at the Lotte Hotel in Seoul, Korea on May 31, 1987. It was an outgrowth of the Summit Club which he established in 1981. The Council was conceived as a forum where world leaders, particularly former heads of state, prime ministers, and senior government officials, can utilize the best of their creative energies, knowledge, wisdom, experience, and statesmanship for the sake of world peace and development. In his Founder's Address, "Challenges and Opportunities for World Peace," True Father stated that the reason why it has been

impossible to achieve world peace is that "the internal struggle that goes on within each individual has not yet been resolved." World conflict, he said, "is nothing other than the manifestation of the inner conflict of individuals." He argued it was necessary first to find peace with God, then peace with people through true love and on that foundation a world community of nations could be "substantially established" centered upon a common value system and eternal principles. Nine former Presidents, 9 former Prime Ministers, 12 former ministers of government, 17 nobility, 5 former ambassadors, 3 current ambassadors, one university president and 6 others attended the first Summit Council meeting. The Council played a significant role in True Parent's meeting with Mikhail Gorbachev and relations with North Korea.

### **June 1, 1976**

#### **America Is God's Hope: The Yankee Stadium Rally**

Thirty-eight years ago, our beloved True Father gave a public speech at Yankee Stadium in New York. He gave an urgent appeal to America to turn back to God. Yankee Stadium was the first of two major rallies held in 1976 as part of the movement's Bicentennial God Bless America Festival. The second was held at Washington Monument on September 18. True Father compared himself at Yankee Stadium to a "doctor" or "firefighter" who came from the outside to help America meet its third great "test" as a nation, that of "God-denying" communism.

A rainstorm with strong winds hit the stadium prior to the start of the rally, blowing away many of the

decorations. Unificationists rose in their seats or danced on top of the Yankee Stadium dugouts, singing “You Are My Sunshine” until the storm subsided. Approximately 45,000 people attended.



*True Father takes the stage at Yankee Stadium*

At the time, True Father’s message was translated as “God’s Hope for America,” but recently the original text of the speech in Korean was located. The title that True Father himself chose was “America Is God’s Hope!” which adds even more meaning to this historic and providential message. A 25-minute video of historical footage at the Yankee Stadium Rally can be viewed [here](#). True Father’s entire message is narrated. He declares his message in his own words in the video at around the 12:00 minute mark. To read the entire speech, click here: <http://www.tparents.org/Moon-Talks/SunMyungMoon76/760601.htm>

#### **June 4, 1962**

##### **72 Couples Holy Marriage Blessing Is Held**

True Parents held the second major Holy Marriage Blessing Ceremony after the original 36 Couples Holy Marriage Blessing Ceremony on June 4, 1962. They blessed in marriage 72 couples. Providentially, these 72 couples are understood to represent Cain and Abel’s restored families in relationship to the 36 couples who represent the original ancestors. They also correspond to Jesus’ 72 disciples. According to True Father, “Through the unity of the 72 couples representing Cain and Abel with the 36 couples representing Adam and Eve, all providential requirements for the family have been met, and the restoration of the family has been completed.” The way was opened for expansion of the providence beyond the family.

#### **June 6, 1946**

##### **True Father arrives in Pyeongyang, North Korea**

True Father went to Pyeongyang, North Korea, in obedience to God’s revelation that he “Go across the 38th parallel! Find the people of God who are in the North” (As a Peace-Loving Global Citizen, p. 84). True Father, who was then 26, had set out to pick up rice and was concerned for his wife and his first son, who was born only a month earlier, when he received this revelation. True Father has said, “God’s commands are very serious, and they must be followed without reservation or hesitation.” He took nothing with him except his Bible. Christianity had set down its roots deeply in Pyeongyang, and it was known as “the Jerusalem of the East.” However, it was then under communist occupation and more than a million refugees already had fled to the South. Upon arrival, True Father began his ministry in the North.