

FFWPU USA: Leaders reflect on Anniversary of True Father's Seonghwa events

Naokimi Ushiroda

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Photo courtesy of Steve Sakuwa

Leaders of the Unification movement in America returned from a series of events in Korea that culminated Aug. 14 with the [10th anniversary](#) of True Father's Seonghwa. They shared personal experiences and takeaways in a meeting on Aug. 23, recounting the International Leadership Conference (ILC) Summit, Think Tank 2022 Forum, an international symposium, and Cheon Il Guk (CIG) leaders' meeting, among other activities.

"This was a really providential time in history," said Rev. Naokimi Ushiroda, President, FFWPU USA. "Our united American team was really together. I felt so much support from all of our sub-regional directors ... The central point was honoring True Father for the 10th anniversary and everything was centered on that."

Leaders applauded the efforts made by Unificationists and their guests in preparing for the events. Dr. Michael Jenkins, Universal Peace Federation (UPF) International President, said a vast cross-section of people participating in Korea this year was a "huge liberation for God's heart," with heads of state from every continent present, particularly Asia and Africa. He also noted great support from prominent faith leaders and clergy from around the world.

"With the ACLC, Dr. Luonne Rouse did a really good job having outstanding clergy attend," said Dr. Jenkins. "There was a beautiful meeting with True Mother that occurred ... and a beautiful photo was taken together." Dr. Jenkins identified key components of the conference, including the strong turnout of leaders from Africa and Asia, a special UPF fact-finding delegation for peace on the Korean Peninsula, and the 40th anniversary celebration of The Washington Times.

"True Mother is working on a world stage to break down barriers," said Dr. Jenkins. "And Asia is now

playing the most central role to open the door to North Korea ... Bringing top world leaders together was amazing. They all stood with us absolutely, and we had a religious freedom program right in the middle of [the summit]."

Some 350 global figures convened during the ILC Summit events, including Senegal President Macky Sall, former Canadian Prime Minister Stephan Harper, former U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, former Taiwan Vice President Annette Lu, U.S. Pastor Paula White-Cain, former Brazilian President Michel Temer, former Niger Prime Minister Brigi Rafini, and Dr. Sok Siphana representing Cambodia Prime Minister Samdech Hun Sen.

"Ten years ago, only North Korea sent flowers at the time [of True Father's seonghwa]," said Rev. Kevin Thompson, FFWPU USA West director. "This time, we heard there were 85 countries who sent flowers ... I just felt so proud. True Mother knows the importance of getting True Father to be recognized worldwide ... One by one, she is accomplishing the things True Father wanted to get done."

"Our clergy were so grateful and excited and happy to be [at the summit]," said YCLC National Director, Joshua Holmes. "They felt so much of the love from God."

Rev. Kazuo Takami, FFWPU USA Midwest director, shared about the CIG leaders' meeting in Korea where a "Vision 2027" plan for America was unveiled by continental President Dr. Chung Sik Yong. Target goals were outlined: to bring 30,000 single Blessing candidates, 144,000 CheonBo couples, and establish a thousand church communities and 1,200 missionaries in 120 nations.

"I really felt America brought such a significant offering," said Rev. John Jackson about the preparation for the events. "We've been able to break through in more other ecumenical ways with Christian clergy ... and they were very moved ... I'm grateful that we were able to come and make a great offering in Korea."

You can learn more about the ILC Summit events [here](#).



National

Global Leaders Honor 10th Anniversary of True Father's Seonghwa



Photos courtesy of Graeme Carmichael

"Father, I love you, I miss you," said True Mother in her remarks during a special program celebrating the 10th anniversary of True Father's seonghwa. "These past 10 years have been a tremendous journey to realize the promise I made before you. From now on, please do not worry. We will, without fail, complete our responsibility."

True Mother was joined by many global leaders, organizations, and supporters who all honored the 2012 passing of her husband during the event, "Seonghwa Ceremony 10th Anniversary of the Holy Ascension of Sun Myung Moon, the True Parent of Heaven, Earth and Humankind," held near Seoul on Aug. 14. Some 86 floral tributes and messages were sent from world leaders for the 10th anniversary, including a large floral display from North Korea that required two men to carry it on stage. "Rev. Moon worked for the sake of world peace ... and his achievements and legacy will be remembered for eons," read a condolence message sent from a North Korean peace institute on behalf of Chairman Kim Jong-un. "We would like to wish prosperity and success to the International Family Federation and UPF."

True Father was born in 1920 in what is now North Korea. From growing up in Japan-occupied Korea until his ascension at age 92, he lived his life with utmost passion and dedication to God and His providence to restore humanity and create a peaceful world. “Father Moon left a colossal legacy of peace of inestimable value in all aspects of human life,” said H.E. Brigi Rafini, executive secretary of the Community of Sahel and Saharan States (CEN-SAD), which has 25 Member States and represents 650 million Africans. “Just like Father and Mother Moon, I invite us to enter and remain in history as peacemakers in the world.”

The three-hour program, held at the HJ Global Arts Center, was emceed by Dr. Yun Young-ho, director general of the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) International. True Parents co-founded UPF in 2005 as one of many peace-building ventures they pioneered worldwide. Former U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo recounted the arrests, tortures, and imprisonments True Father endured during his life, including the North Korean Hungnam death camp that was liberated by UN forces led by U.S. Gen. Douglas MacArthur. True Father survived this, and other severe hardships, “by faith and a loving God,” said Mr. Pompeo.



In 1954, True Father established the Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity (HSA-UWC) to call for “the unity of all Christianity and for each of us to love each other,” said Mr. Pompeo. True Father also stood unwaveringly against God-denying ideologies, creating the successful Victory Over Communism (VOC) program and newspapers, including *The Washington Times*, as well as the anti-communist educational non-profit organization, CAUSA International.

“Rev. Moon and his peace work impacted millions,” said Cambodian Assemblyman Suos Yara, who delivered a message from Samdech Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Royal Kingdom of Cambodia. Cambodian leaders are among those around the world working with UPF in its quest to bring peace on the Korean Peninsula through mutual prosperity, interdependence, and universal values.

The anniversary program recounted True Father’s life through a combination of beautiful song and dance, videos,

photos, and a live orchestra. Spotlights included True Father's 1935 Easter morning visitation from Jesus, who called him to carry forward the mission to build the Kingdom of God; the persecutions he endured when he started preaching; and his 1960 Holy Marriage to True Mother, which led them to share the Marriage Blessing with other couples around the world. The program also highlighted True Father's many speeches, campaigns, rallies, conferences, and visits held in different parts of the world, as well as his meetings with global leaders, including Soviet Premier Mikhail Gorbachev and North Korea Chairman Kim Il-sung.

True Father deeply touched countless lives throughout the world, and continues to connect with many hearts through his legacy of peace and love for humanity and God. True Mother closed the program by offering the nearly 30,000 attendees silken-cloth bags filled with rice caramels, one of True Father's favorite sweets. "Let us move forward in hope," she said, "practice true love, be stewards of the Creation, and lead lives centered on God."

You can learn more about True Father's extraordinary life in his autobiography, "As a Peace-Loving Global Citizen," available [here](#), and True Mother's memoir, "Mother of Peace: And God Shall Wipe Away All Tears from Their Eyes," available [here](#).

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UPF-ITALY HOLDS PEACE EVENT AT TURIN BOOK FAIR

UPF-Italy held an event at the Turin International Book Fair titled "Paths for a Culture of Peace."

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|-------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
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AUG 30: [UPF-UK: Commemorative Program on the 10th Anniversary of the Passing of UPF's Co-Founder](#)

AUG 31: [WCLC: Honoring the Life and Legacy of Rev. Sun Myung Moon](#)

SEP 21: [UN International Day of Peace](#)

SEP 21: [UPF-EUME: Peace Road at 38th parallel in South Italy, Reggio di Calabria](#)

OCT 24: [United Nations Day](#)

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Europe and the Middle East—The International Leadership Conference focused on Korean reunification and a global culture of peace.

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EUME ILC2022: Session I

Berlin, Germany—The International Leadership Conference opened in the city that symbolizes the hope of reunification.

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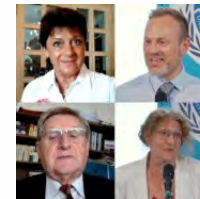
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Germany

EUME ILC2022: Session II

Berlin, Germany—The conference's second session was held under the title "Peace Road: A Global Project toward Sustainable Peace."



United Kingdom

EUME ILC2022: Session V

London, United Kingdom—The fifth session was "Conflicting Narratives and Values – Perspectives for a Common Vision and Culture of Peace."



United States

UN NGO Shrimad Rajchandra Love and Care holds Hunger Relief Drive

New Jersey, USA—The Hunger Relief Drive sponsored by Shrimad and Rajchandra Love and Care was held in New Jersey on July 15, 2022.

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