

FFWPU Europe and Middle East: Song Hee-cheol supporting Holy Mother Han at S Korea's Detention Center

Knut Holdhus
November 15, 2025



Song Hee-cheol in front of his altar in his tent outside Seoul Detention Center November 2025.

Over 50 Days in Vigil Outside Detention Center

Living and sleeping outside the Seoul Detention Center for over 50 days of devotional vigil: "I could not leave that place"



Song Hee-cheol campaigning in front of Seoul Detention Center November 7, 2025

A message by Song Hee-cheol (송희철), Director of the World Peace Martial Arts Federation, delivered as part of an interview by Cheonshim Weekly, a [Family Federation](#) video news program in Korean shown on 14th November 2025 at a prayer vigil in Gapyeong, South Korea. Slightly edited.

Introducing Song, Chan Soo-byeon representing Cheonshim Weekly said,

"Ever since [True Mother](#) was taken into the detention center, there has been someone who has not missed a single day - staying there day and night, living and sleeping in front of that place, offering devotion.

That person is Song Hee-cheol (송희철), Director of the World Peace Martial Arts Federation.

He was moved after hearing a lecture on Unification Martial Arts in 2006 and joined the [Family Federation](#). Even though his wife is Catholic, he has never wavered in his firm conviction toward

our [Federation](#)."

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[True Mother](#) is the [Only Begotten Daughter](#). Because of that she is now in a place she should never have had to enter.



TV coverage of [Mother Han](#)'s case on a large screen in Seoul's Yongsan Station September 2025

On 23rd September, when I saw the first Korean TV report, I was deeply shocked.

Not only I, but I believe all members of the Korean Unification family (통일가의 식구들) - and indeed members of the worldwide Unification family - must have felt devastated when they saw that news report.



Song Hee-cheol campaigning in front of Seoul Detention Center September 28, 2025

When I opened the door to the prayer hall (도장) and turned on the lights, thinking that I should offer a prayer to Heavenly Parent before the [True Parents](#) again, at the very moment I switched on the lights in the prayer hall, I felt a strong light coming toward me from the [True Parents](#)' portrait. At that moment I clearly heard [True Father](#)'s powerful voice saying to me,

"Go quickly! Go quickly! Go quickly!"

Even now the memory gives me chills. I was shocked - Where am I supposed to go so quickly? Where should I go?

Then it came to me: because I had seen the news about [Mother](#), [Father](#) must be telling me to go to [Mother](#) quickly. So I thought,

"I must go right away!"

I packed the mat I used, the portrait of [True Parents](#), and my blankets, and the next day I arrived at 8:20 a.m. That place is exactly where I am standing today.



[Mother Han](#) being wheeled out of Seoul Detention Center November 4, 2025, while Song Hee-cheol is walking by her side, holding her hand

"[Mother](#), you have gained the victory!"

And when I took her hand, [Mother](#) firmly held my hand in return. For about two or three minutes - around 20 meters - I had the honor of accompanying [Mother](#) all the way to the car, saying,

"[Mother](#), I love you. [Mother](#), you have gained the victory!"

I assisted her until she entered the car. Experiencing this, I felt, Heaven is truly working.

I had prayed at this place for 43 days, sincerely offering devotion for [Mother's](#) release, praying only that she would be found innocent and set free. And Heaven allowed me to take [Mother's](#) hand. I felt that our ancestors, Heavenly Parent, and [True Father](#) were working - [Father](#), through me, allowed [Mother](#) to take my hand.

Why? Because [Mother](#) took my hand so naturally, so warmly. It was such an honor. I could attend her with the heart that [Father](#) was holding [Mother's](#) hand as she came out.

If any wrong has been done, it was we "sons and daughters" who may have done wrong - not the [Only Begotten Daughter](#). She is the one who wishes only for fairness, prosperity, and blessing for every nation, for all people of Korea - offering help spiritually and materially. She is [Holy Mother Han](#), the [Only Begotten Daughter](#). How can such a person be confined in a detention center in Korea - how can an 82-year-old person be placed there and interrogated? I simply cannot understand or accept it.

I believe firmly that this will be the year when our Unification faith of the [Kingdom of Heaven](#) ([Cheonil-guk](#)) is recognized in the nation of Korea. It is a new religion of the East that can unite the whole world through love, peace, and [true love](#). With this conviction, I declare that [Mother](#) will gain the victory.

Why? Because she is the [Only Begotten Daughter](#) - she will prevail. Because she is [Holy Mother Han](#) - she will prevail.

The reason I have been able to light incense every day until now, attending [Father](#) and [Mother](#) and offering devotion in front of the detention center, is because Heaven has been working. And because [Father](#) gave me that urgent command from the spirit world, I was able to endure well until today by that power.

Suddenly one day one employee started running across the courtyard, moving hurriedly.

"Huh? Why is he moving so fast?"

Then someone said, "[True Mother](#) is coming out."

So I waited at the closest spot, and soon [Mother](#) appeared - being guided out by the prison officers. As she came out, she gently waved her right hand.

As she lowered her hand, I said,

[True Father](#) has gained the victory, and only if [True Mother](#) also gains the victory will the [Unification Principles](#) be fulfilled (fully realized), and the whole world be unified.

A world of glory, unity, and happiness will surely unfold after [Mother](#)'s release - I am certain of it.

And now, in front of the detention center, not only Korean members but members from all around the world gather.

Translated to English from the transcription of the original Korean. Slightly edited. The viewpoints expressed are those of the speaker.

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Inside The Detention Center: A 10-Minute Visit

- November 14, 2025
- Knut Holdhus



A personal account of seeing Mother Han in Seoul Detention Center – and her message: “Tell them that I love them.”

Extracts from a message delivered by Dr. Michael Balcomb, President of the [Family Federation for World Peace and Unification](#) in Europe and the Middle East, at an internation prayer meeting on Zoom 12th November 2025. Slightly edited.

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Tuesday [11th Nov.], at last, it was time to visit [True Mother](#).

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[...] And I know you'll be disappointed, but [...] I can't say much about the details of this visit [...].



From the prayer tent in front of Seoul Detention Center, October 2025. Screenshot from video by [FFWPU](#)

I had prepared a short report for [True Mother](#), which I read in Korean. [...]

And [Mother](#) kindly responded,

“Wow, your Korean is improving. Please explain well about my situation to all the members of Europe and tell them that I love them.”

[...] Then I can just share a little bit about my impression on meeting [True Mother](#). Frankly, it was pretty shocking.

The first interesting thing was that I was told by the Korean team to wait in the wrong place. So I was waiting down at the detention center prayer tent, and about half an hour went by and I thought, “This might not be right.”



Moon Yeon-a, October 2025. Screenshot from live transmission by [FFWPU](#)

So I called Yeon-a, who told me, “No, you have to go into the detention center.”

And [...] I thought, “How can I get in?” But it turns out it's very easy – show your passport and you walk in. You go into the reception area and show your passport again. You surrender your cell phone and other things, and then you take a number.

And there are 30 visiting rooms at the detention center. They're all in use all the time – 15 for men, 15 for women. There are a lot of people there waiting to see their loved ones in detention.

In the lobby, I met with Julia, with Shin-chul, and with Shin-heung, and this “brother” that I didn't really know called Peter Kim, not the [Peter Kim who ascended](#), but Peter Eun-sang Kim who was coordinating the visits to the detention center and also working with [True Mother](#)'s lawyers.

You stand in line and get called, and then you make your way to the interview room.

The interview room is really small. It's like two and a half meters by two and a half meters.

And then there's a solid glass wall with bars as well. It's completely soundproofed.

The person you've come to visit is on the other side. And the only communication is through a small microphone on something like an iPad, [...] which also gives you a countdown.

You get exactly ten minutes, no more, no less. And it's not easy in 10 minutes to really convey your heart.

[Mother](#) was already waiting there when we came in, but the sound wasn't switched on.

And because her eyesight is not very good, especially after the medical procedure during her [brief release](#), you know, she was just sitting there impassively waiting for the sound to come on so that we could greet her.

And she looked healthy, but very thoughtful, I will say. It was also, of course, shocking to see her in her prison fatigues, with her number across her chest. This is not how I'm used to seeing [True Mother](#).



Julia Hoon-sook Moon, here delivering her message at a prayer vigil in Gapyeong, South Korea 16th October 2025. Screenshot from live transmission by [FFWPU](#).

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Also, there's a guard there, a female guard, who brought **Mother** in in her wheelchair.

Anyway, as soon as we started, Shin-chul explained to **True Mother** who was there, because – actually it's pretty crowded, and even without visual challenges – to introduce people is important.

And then **Mother** invited Peter Eun-sang Kim to give a quick report. And his report, which you probably heard about, was that the lawyers – and **Mother** has a lot of lawyers – have been visiting **Gapyeong** to try to get a better understanding of who **True Parents** are, because most of the lawyers are young and they don't know **Mother** too well.

And then it was my turn, so I sat down quickly. One of the reasons for speaking in Korean was because of time. If I speak in English and it's translated, then all the time would be used up. But also I thought,

“At least this is one thing I can do to try to make it easier for **True Mother**.”

And after that, Shin-heung talked a little bit about his children, **True Mother's** great grandchildren. That was the first time that **Mother** really smiled.

Even the guard smiled at that point because it was cute. And then there were a few moments left, and **Mother** said, “Why don't you all sing me a song?”

Of course, we never sung together before. We glanced at each other and thanks **God** we did not sing “Country Roads”, but we sang “Top of the World” instead.

We did pretty good, I would say, and we finished with about two seconds to spare. And then the mic went dead, and **True Mother** was wheeled out. She waved as she went.



*Moon Shin-heung 14th October 2025 in **Gapyeong**, South Korea. Screenshot from live transmission by **FFWPU***



*Moon Shin-chul, here in October 2025 in **Gapyeong**, South Korea. Screenshot from video by **FFWPU**.*

But anyway, afterwards we had a little “debrief” back in the reception area. I asked Shin-chul,

“Is that normally how it is? **Mother** seemed pretty thoughtful and quiet.”

[...] And yes, Shin-chul and Julia both confirmed, “Yes, it was different today.”

Of course, it was **Mother's** first visit since coming back from the hospital. And there is also a pretty busy time ahead. On 18th November – six days from now – there'll be another procedural hearing. And then on December 1st, the actual trial will begin.

Usually those hearings last six months, but apparently, they may try to do it more quickly, but that still means about four months. So there's a long hard road ahead.

And I think we need to remind ourselves what **True Mother** has said, which is, “Keep going! Work hard!”

And of course we have to pray hard. But I think the point is there's no point worrying about things that we can't change ourselves.

Some people have asked me, “Isn't it time to be more vociferous and to speak out and challenge what is going on?”



*Young members of the **Family Federation** at a prayer vigil outside*

Seoul Detention Center in October 2025. Screenshot from video by PeaceTV.

And that might be true, but one thing to bear in mind is that until now, this whole process has been driven by the prosecution team, and they've been doing what prosecutors do, but now it's transitioning to the judges.

There are three pretty senior judges in the Seoul court. And one thing I know about judges from experience in the UK and in America is they don't like being told what to do or think.

So we definitely want to pray for them. [...] We want to pray that [God](#) gives them wisdom and insight because this is not a simple case.

And Korea at the moment is rather strange. There's a lot of activity going on which I don't really recognize, but I'm not going to speculate it here because you don't want to hear that.

I think what you want to hear is that [Mother](#) is well, yes, she's well. Her medical procedure went well.

She's very thoughtful. She has time to think about the people she loves, and that includes us.

She asked me to explain to you the situation as it is. I've done that. And she said, "I love you." I think we all want to see her soon.

Featured image above: Dr. Michael Balcomb outside Seoul Detention Center 7th November 2025. Photo: Michael Balcomb

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