

# Visit of special emissaries Dr Pak and Dr Moon

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By Hans Campman

In the Netherlands, we recently had the great privilege of the visit of the special emissaries of Europe, Dr No Hi Pak and his wife Dr Lan Young Moon.

The highlight of their four days stay was the national Sunday gathering in a community centre in Utrecht on Sunday, August 9. During the morning service Dr Moon shared experiences from her life testimony. During lunch Second Gens shared a table with Dr Pak and Dr Moon. The emissaries asked each one of them to briefly introduce him or herself. In the afternoon, there was a special session during which Dr Pak shared a number of points of guidance.

I will now report about some of the **content of Dr Moon's testimony, followed by Dr Pak's guidance.** This report is based on my unofficial notes.



## Some highlights from Dr Lan Young Moon's testimony

Dr Moon conveyed how she joined the Church following her mother in 1955. She was 13 years old. This was in the dramatic time when students and professors of Ehwa women's university in Seoul had been touched by True Father's teachings. Many of them were joining True Father who was in his mid-thirties at the time. Dr Moon's mother was a high school teacher who was in regular contact with Mrs Won Pok Choi and Miss Young Oon Kim, both professors of Ehwa University.

Through them she came to learn and accept the Divine Principle and meet **True Father.** When Dr Moon's mother registered as a member, she was number 109; Lan Young Moon, the daughter, was number 110. This shows how small the movement around Father was in that time.

Dr Moon has the same family name as True Father. Father was proud of that, but he said that because of that she should put more effort than all others. True Father raised Lan Young Moon almost like his own daughter. She feels she received a lot of love from Father, but also Father was at times rigid with her. Father helped her to finance her studies, and at the same time gave her strict guidance. When the young Dr Moon said to Father that she wanted to study law, Father told her **"I don't need lawyers now, I need people who can spread God's Word into the world"**. True Father asked her to study English. She did this; in later years she studied theology.

Sometimes True Father would test her, by putting her in truly difficult situations. When she endured such situations True Father would comfort her and finally bless her. Only afterwards did it become clear why the challenge had been necessary. For example, it was only after passing such a painful test that Dr Lan Young Moon was appointed International President of the Women's Federation in 2000. As such she has been working directly as **True Mother's extended arm.**

Already long before this, Dr Moon was sent around the world by True Father for various missions. She was one of the co-founders of Little Angels in the early 1960's. Little Angels had been Korea's special promoters long before K-Pop, Korean drama and Korean cars & technology caught the world's attention and interest.

**Dr Moon has worked as True Parent's** special worldwide emissary and agent for many years. She did this as a leader of the Little Angels but also in other missions, finally as International President of the Women's Federation. True Father not so long ago asked her how many times she had travelled around the world (meaning how many times the full circle around the equator). She researched and found out it had been more than 60 times. She personally met numerous heads of state, dignitaries, even movie stars.

All of those missions, including president of the worldwide WFWP she did under the guidance of True Father. Sometimes Father would instruct or even correct her directly. Once, Dr Moon was invited to speak before a gathering of distinguished ladies. However she was not been allowed by **the group to speak Father's name.** When afterwards she reported to Father about the conference, True Father scolded her strongly for not having mentioned his name. From this we can understand how important it is, especially on public occasions, to **mention Father's name directly.**

In 2004, as Dr Moon was preparing in **Korea to attend a special Women's** Conference for MEPI in Israel, True Father called her to his side. Together they prayed and did Hoon Dok Hwae through the night, even though departure was to be early on the next day. The reason Father did this was to make a condition for the safety of the sisters who would be going to the conflict-ridden area of Palestine. True **Father didn't want the sisters, all his** daughters, to be in any danger.

When Dr Moon was appointed **President of the WFWP, the Women's** Federation already had a strong foundation. It had gained the general

consultative status at the UN. This is the highest level of worldwide recognition an NGO can get. Dr Moon expanded this foundation. Under **Dr Moon's leadership the WFWP has** become even more successful and influential in Korea, not only in the South but also in the North. One of the projects Dr Moon initiated is the one per cent Love Sharing project for helping North Korea. (Our Dutch **Women's Federation has been** supporting this project quite consistently). Dr Lan Young Moon, in her various missions including as President, WFWP, has been to North Korea **19 times. As True Parents'** representative, she has been warmly **welcomed every time. WFWP's** activities have contributed to the process of the unification of the Koreas. South Korea also is aware of this.

A main theme of Dr Moon in the **context of the Women's Federation is to** tell "her-story". The role ("story") of women has been very much underestimated in history. History has **been very much "his-story". Dr Lan** Young Moon tells "her-story" next to the already existing "his-story". **However, she doesn't do this as a** feminist, but in order to bring unity and balance between man and woman.

Dr Moon has used every opportunity to witness to True Parents. Several years ago she contacted Mrs Pak, the sister of the current president of Korea. Mrs Pak attended 3 day workshops many times and received the Blessing with her husband several years ago. She respects True Parents and is impressed by the harmony within our movement, especially between Koreans and Japanese. She appreciates deeply the work of our Japanese sisters (wives) in Korea.

**From Lan Young Moon's testimony we** learn a **lot about Father's** love for us. She experienced it in a very direct way. True Father wants to protect us, take **care of us, doesn't want us to be** harmed in any way. At the same time, True Father must challenge us, test us and even scold us. Out of his deep love for us, he wants to train us to become great, successful, happy people who can influence other people, even heads of state.

Now True Mother has appointed Dr Pak and Dr Moon for the mission as special emissaries for the European continent. Dr Lan Young Moon has **been True Mother's extended arm for** many years. We can hardly imagine a more direct channel to our True Mother than this couple whom Father **once called "Lovely Couple".**



### **Some key points from Dr No Hi Pak's guidance.**

Dr Pak emphasized that True Mother's visit to Vienna had been a great success. True Mother really wanted to see and acknowledge all the long-standing members of Europe, including many pioneers. On that foundation, she wanted Europe to look ahead and make a big leap forward. She was particularly happy about the Cranes club event where a good number of Second Gens had gathered from all over Europe; they truly gave wonderful attendance to her. This filled her heart with hope.

Dr Pak told us how, at the age of 17, he had joined the Church by just following his elder brother Bo Hi. When Dr Pak studied the Divine Principle, he could easily accept it. From his Confucianist background, the Principle seemed perfectly natural and logical. To him it was clear, self-evident truth.

As he was hearing from some of us our testimonies of joining and the struggles we experienced on the way, he expressed his appreciation to us for overcoming those struggles.

He mentioned he could feel a family atmosphere during our meetings. He encouraged us to cooperate in that spirit of family atmosphere to find new members and make True Parents and the Divine Principle known to others. We have to create Cheon Il Guk by ourselves. It is not coming down from Heaven. We need to witness.

Not only should we witness to outside people but to each other. Worldwide, there is the phenomenon that many of **our Second Gens haven't been** witnessed to yet. They are True Parents' great hope and pride but many must **still "meet the Messiah, the True** Parents" and inherit their legacy.

Hearing the struggles that many of us have gone through (and are still going through) Dr Pak, wanting to give encouragement, quoted True Father saying **"What we take with us to** Heaven is our suffering."

Dr Pak gave many more precious points of guidance.

### **Visiting the Yi Joon Museum (Saturday afternoon August 8th).**

Dr Moon told us that in Korea the Netherlands are famous for two things: wind mills and Yi Joon. When Koreans visit Holland, they usually come to see the Yi Joon museum in The Hague. Yi Joon is the person who, with two other people, in 1907 travelled by train to the Assembly of the League of Nations in The Hague. Japan was in the process of annexing Korea after the notorious EULSA-Treaty. Yi Joon wanted to warn the Assembly about Japan's evil actions and intentions in Korea, but he was not listened to. A few days later, in his hotel, (the place where the museum is now located) he was found dead. Nobody knows the exact cause of his death; however, in Korea Yi Joon is celebrated as a martyr who sacrificed his life in an attempt to protect his nation.

Dr Lan Young Moon explained to us that her grandfather had been a friend and colleague of Yi Joon; and he had wanted to make the trip to Europe with him. However he felt could not go because as the first son he had to take care of the traditions of his tribe; his relatives also urged him to stay in Korea.

Rita had informed the caretaker couple of the museum, Mr Lee and Mrs Seong, of our planned visit; and knowing that we were coming, they guided our special emissaries through the museum, explaining every detail in Korean (of course). Afterwards, Dr Moon exchanged some words with Mrs Seong, who was very moved to discover that she and Dr Moon had so many memories in common from long ago in Korea.

After visiting the museum, we also went to see the monument of Yi Joon at a cemetery not far from there.

### **Dinner with Peace Ambassadors (Saturday evening August 8th).**

We were a group of 16 people (including the emissaries) who gathered together for dinner at a restaurant in a hotel on the beach in The Hague (Kijkduin) with a view on the North Sea. We were 8 members (including the special emissaries themselves) and 8 Ambassadors for Peace. It was a gathering of open sharing. Everyone, Peace Ambassadors as well as our members, felt comfortable in the presence of the special emissaries. We spoke freely about a variety of topics, including True Parents and family values. To one couple, who are experts on family matters, Dr Moon showed a model of the 4 position foundation (using knife, fork and 2 spoons to make a square) and 3 generations.

One professor, who had come with his wife, afterwards sent an email of thanks to Wim and Rita. The gathering had been most rewarding; it lifted our Peace Ambassadors one level higher.

### **Gatherings of our members with the special emissaries at the local Churches of Utrecht, Nijmegen and Amsterdam (August 10th and 11th).**

A group of members of Utrecht region came together in the house of Mrs Elfi Verstraeten. Members shared some of their life testimony, particularly how they had joined the movement. This is when Dr Pak spoke about how he joined the Church in Korea. Some openly mentioned their struggles and sorrows of past and present. Dr Pak and Dr Moon listened carefully to all the testimonies. Where needed, they gave words of hope and encouragement. They gave praise to everybody having kept the faith in spite of difficulties.

On Tuesday noon time, we gathered in Nijmegen in the house of Bert and Lisa Janssen. Three couples and one Second Gen (Sophie) shared their experiences, accomplishments, hopes and vision. In the same way as in Utrecht, Dr Pak and Dr Moon appreciated the fact that brothers and sisters had achieved quite a lot by overcoming many challenges.

In Amsterdam, Argonautenstraat, we had dinner in the evening with 11 Second Gens. Dr Moon talked about a famous mountain in North Korea, called Geumgang Mountain (Diamond Mountain). It is situated in North Korea not far from Dr Moon's Home Town on the east coast of North Korea. According to Dr Moon, it is the most beautiful mountain in the world. Our sister Elfrid had brought a video about this mountain, which includes a song about the mountain. Dr Moon said that **this song, "Longing for Geumgang Mountain"**, is the favourite song of many Koreans, both in North and South.

After dinner, there was a gathering of the Amsterdam community including all the Second Gens who had participated in the dinner. There were some guests. All those (1st and 2nd gen) who had not yet had the opportunity to introduce themselves now had the chance to do so. Again the special emissaries listened attentively. Sometimes they commented. Between the short testimonies there was entertainment. Performers were Carlos, Christopher, Elfrid and Grace. They offered their songs in their own particular ways and styles. There was a bright atmosphere, where all felt free to express themselves. Dr Pak gave a message of encouragement. Then Dr Pak and Dr Moon sang a famous **Korean song about Korea's** eight natural wonders. The evening was an uplifting experience for all attendants.

### **Some final points**

Dr Pak and Dr Moon stayed at Glory House, where they were attended by Carlos and Kaori Figueroa. During one breakfast, Rosie Boland explained to them

how, over the years, Glory House had been developed as a successful hotel.

There were also some opportunities for sightseeing. Mihoko Koetsier, who is a professional guide, showed Dr Pak and Dr Moon around the National Museum in Amsterdam. Our emissaries enjoyed and appreciated the detailed information she gave about some of the works of great Dutch painters such as Rembrandt and Vermeer. On another occasion, we walked on the beach near Bergen aan Zee, and on **the last day we visited the Dutch "folk village", the "Zaanse schans", full of wind mills, traditional houses, wooden shoes, cheeses and pancakes.**

The program during the 4 days was very tight. We drove many miles every day, visiting many places. This put, no doubt, a great strain on our special emissaries; however they were resolved to serve and attend our members with all their heart and might. Even during the travels they shared with us from their heart and gave advice. Dr Pak mentioned the value of creating a Home Church manual in which are recorded all best practices of Tribal Messiahship in the nations of Europe. He also emphasized the importance of reporting. Even small things which seem insignificant are worth reporting. They may be the seeds of bigger successes. Dr Pak and Dr Moon especially expressed their concern for the matching and Blessing of our members. It is their deep, heartfelt wish that all our 2nd gens, and also our young 1st gens and older 1st gens, may be guided into a successful matching and a marriage of happiness.

Our Church in Korea started in dramatic circumstances on the ruins of the Korean War. We read about this in books. Our emissaries have experienced those times in their own lives. They feel the pain of the Korean division as their personal pain. They have been separated from their closest loved ones. Besides, they went through the times of the fierce and unrighteous persecution during the early days of our Church. They became victors of suffering.

In this way not only can they connect deeply to Our True Parents, but also they can understand all of us, all our brothers and sisters who have met with all kinds of challenges in their own lives. As our emissaries themselves have been victorious over so many obstacles, they can give us the hope and courage to become victors as well.

We thank our special emissaries deeply for **sharing with us God's guidance and parental heart as the direct channels of True Parents' love.**