



International Leadership Conference 2016 – Japan

Opening Plenary

Keynote Address

Sun Jin Moon

November 16, 2016 – Keio Plaza Hotel, Tokyo

Distinguished leaders. Ambassadors for Peace. Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is my great honor and privilege to be here with you today for this very important International Leadership Conference, sponsored by the Universal Peace Federation of Japan, with a focus on the theme, “Japan’s Choice in a Turbulent World.”

On behalf of my mother, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, I want to extend my warmest, heartfelt greetings to all of you.

Along with my father, Rev. Sun Myung Moon, who passed away four years ago, my mother founded the Universal Peace Federation as a global network of individuals and organizations dedicated to building a world of lasting peace. My parents travelled the world, carrying their message of peace to every corner of the planet.

Since my father's passing, my mother has worked tirelessly, and with absolute determination to leave behind a legacy that will benefit future generations.

There is not a day that goes by that she is not providing encouragement and guidance to UPF Chapters in well over 120 nations, and to the hundreds of thousands of Ambassadors for Peace--- who represent every nationality, race, religion, ethnicity, cultural background and professional field, and who share the core values and principles that underlie the mission and programs of UPF.

In addition to our primary areas of work---promoting interfaith cooperation, strengthening family, supporting the mission of the United Nations, engaging in humanitarian service, and advocating "soft power" approaches to peace and conflict-resolution---my mother has recently asked UPF to support the work of parliamentarians around the world.

With this in mind, UPF has formed the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace. A series of worldwide IAPP programs have been convened throughout 2016, in Korea, Nepal, the United Kingdom, Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, Paraguay, Zambia, and now Japan. Tomorrow we will have a special session that focuses on this initiative.

My mother also recently initiated the Sunhak Peace Prize to honor individuals and organizations that have demonstrated outstanding service to humanity, making the world better for future generations.

The inaugural peace prize was presented to President Anote Tong of Kiribati, a leading voice raising awareness about the devastating impact of climate change, and Dr. Modadugu Gupta, a pioneer in developing fish-farming to promote nutrition and development among rural poor in Africa and Southeast Asia.

Protection and preservation of our planet, the earth, the oceans, and all living things, has been a central concern of my parents. Likewise, the concern about food and nutrition for our world's 7.5 billion people.

To build a world of lasting peace---one harmonious human family under God---we need to active participation of all sectors of society, including the religions, civil society, the private sector

(business), international organizations, intergovernmental organizations, women, youth, and government leaders, including parliamentarians.

I believe our meeting here in Japan is extremely important. In many ways, Japan is like an engine that drives the work of UPF globally, providing leadership and setting the highest standards of best practices that are emulated by chapters around the world.

Additionally, Japan has been our most generous benefactor when it comes to providing the necessary resources that are required to carry out our programs.

From the United Nations Headquarters to small villages in Africa where tribal chiefs embrace UPF's vision of peace, the brand of UPF is gaining respect, and is increasingly recognized as an NGO that is making a difference, as we all seek to transform our world, overcoming threats such as climate change, extreme poverty, injustice, and military conflict.

Just as we all worry about the headlines today in the US and my homeland of KR there is a looming sense of uncertainty, instability, and social distrust of our leaders and government as demonstrations, riots, shootings, and protest shake our nations. As more hate, division, individualism, materialism, corruption, abuse of power, loss of social capital and confidence recedes, this not only effects one nation but the stability of the world, we need more transparency, good governance, checks and as one guest put it last night at the opening banquet what we need is "balance." I completely agree, as would my parents as they have always taught that we must live for the sake of the world and not just ourselves.

This philosophy is the way of higher governance, or to use a term that my father coined, it is "God wing or head wing" philosophy. This is not just a right wing or a left wing battle or bias, it is rather the balance point where all truths and ways work in harmony for the betterment of the whole; it is the way of a higher consciousness and a higher power that elevates and unites us all as one human family under God and strives for harmony, mutual respect and prosperity through the opening of our hearts to practice true love and create a world of lasting peace.

I not only have hope for this dream of peace but I witnessed the power and reality of true change last night as all international leaders from around the globe gathered beyond race, religion, nationality, borders and differences to unite and come together as one united family of peace loving global citizens.

I thank you all from the bottom of my heart for your support for UPF. You are all my inspiration. My mother asked me to express her deep and profound appreciation to the people of Japan. Japan plays a key leadership role as a balanced, dignified global peace leader. We have faith and offer our peace loving support to this nation, and as we launch the IAPP here in Japan, I am sure this work will flourish and bring about greater abundance and blessings to all nations

who live for peace. We offer our eternal gratitude, love and deep respect to you all. Arigato gozaimasu.

Thank you very much.