A
gain we saw the power of God open up all gates and remove all walls and barriers every step of our journey on the 3rd pilgrimage to the Holy Land, October 22, 2003. This time not only were the sons of Abraham in the vanguard to bring liberty and reconciliation, but also representatives of the 7 former enemy nations that worked for 40 days in New York to establish the Abel UN also marched side by side through the old city of Jerusalem. Their presence together proclaimed that God’s Kingdom is coming on the earth now that the internal causes of division between these nations have now been solved through the 40-day course which concluded with the rally in Jerusalem.

Brothers and sisters from 7 nations walked directly under the guidance of our True Parents, marking a covenant with God here in the Holy Land in a rally where 2,000 gathered from Islam, Christianity and Judaism. In one of the most tense cities on earth, we proclaimed that peace is now inevitably coming to the Middle East because the sons of Abraham have experienced the love of God and also understand the call of True Parents to build true families and end the divisions of history.

Over 140 clergy, imams, and Blessed Central Families from the US came to the Holy Land. They were joined by over 260 brothers and sisters from Europe, Korea, and Japan, so our core group of over 400 Blessed Central Families, having gone through 40-day course, were united as one. Archbishop Stallings, Rev. Jesse Edwards, and many chairmen of the ACLC fearlessly returned to the Holy Land for the third time, pledging to God that with True Parents’ love and guidance we will solve the problem of the Middle East.

We were also joined by Taj Hammad, Frank Kaufmann, Andrew Wilson, Michael Mickler, and many others, each having prayed sincerely whether this really was their time to come here. Many had to consider the fact that just days earlier there was an attack on American citizens which claimed three lives in Gaza, the same area that we traveled to one month earlier, and the very place where we traveled again today. Because of that reality, many did not come with us on this journey.

Some of those who did come because they felt the call of God were still nervous and concerned, yet with our opening night of prayer in which Archbishop Stallings preached the word of God, the atmosphere became one of feeling God’s anointing and Holy Spirit all around us. Rev. Jenkins also brought a message calling on everyone to be clear in their minds about their decision. He said, we cannot guarantee anyone’s safety here. We are in a spiritual war, the outcome of which determines how quickly God’s Kingdom
Meeting Point of Good and Evil

Over six billion people are living in the world today, but no one has clear knowledge about the origin of humankind. History began through some indistinct process—whether it was good or bad, we don’t know.

That history has continued to the point where today the world’s population exceeds six billion. Since the origin and process are unclear, the end cannot be clearly seen. Thus, in the world today, we see continuous disorder and confusion. If humanity had found the correct path in the beginning, we would have traveled on a one-way path to the Kingdom of God on earth and in heaven, without any confusion or disorder. The fate of humankind, after losing sight of this one path due to the Fall, however, has been to drift down the river of history as something good at first, then confusion, rising at times while falling at other times.

Why would a path that human beings traveled in goodness suddenly stop to go downhill? We did not want to go downhill, yet went down nevertheless. This is the issue. We wanted goodness to continue, but we went down. Why would goodness decline? When human life violates the absolute, fundamental principles of goodness, it will deteriorate. What does this mean? It indicates an intersection of good and evil. All kings and presidents in this world live without any knowledge of when their sovereignty will rise or fall. All sovereigns want things to be good forever. Any sovereign who is not in harmony with or aligned with the standard of true goodness, however, will certainly be defeated and perish.

Who, then, is in charge of good and evil? We know that even the most powerful empire that pursued an absolute good and evil by its supremacy. In other words, no sovereign, on his or her own, can adjust good and evil according to his or her own wishes. We cannot deny that good and evil are determined by some higher power or force in the background.

Each nation has its own laws. National laws exist to establish goodness. Each nation’s constitution was enacted for the purpose of safeguarding goodness, and there are no laws that were established for the purpose of destroying goodness. That is why anyone who breaks a nation’s laws is sent to prison. The problem, though, is that in any given country, those who make laws can be corrupted, and the laws can be applied incorrectly, depending on the temperament of the sovereign.

That is the reason that humankind has always languished at the intersection of two paths until this day, with one path leading to prosperity and the other to ruin.

Human beings have a dual structure. The mind is a “positive” (plus) standing on the side of Heaven, and the body is a “negative” (minus) standing on the side of Satan. Mind and body were originally intended to form a complete oneness automatically, but this did not happen because of the Fall of our original ancestors. Instead, the body attempted to take the position of another positive, and this brought mind and body into mutual contradiction. Ultimately, this led to Satan conquering the human body. By means of the Fall, Satan took the bond of love, connected humanity to the satanic lineage, and let human beings be entangled in the trials of the world.

This is the problem. This struggle between mind and body has become a chronic ailment more terrible than cancer or AIDS. That is why we must, no matter what the cost, push the body back into the position of negative. By the law of the universe, poles with the same charge attract each other. When a pair of substances with the same charge come into contact, they repel each other.

If there is an absolute subject entity, an absolutely objective entity that stands on the side of Heaven, will come into being. This can be seen in the course of my life. America and the entire world stood in opposition to my life as absolute subject, which began when I received Heaven’s command. Yet, the side that struck the absolute subject eventually became the negative realm, and was absorbed. This is because anyone who receives opposition while standing on the side of goodness is protected by the universe, that is, the universe. It is because I knew this principle with certainty that I was able to fight Satan in the struggles involving individuals, the struggles involving nations, and the struggles involving the world. We see in history that God always pushes the body back in the direction consistent with fundamental principles of creation, that is, toward the purpose of true love, but that the Devil has an absolute “plus” position and overcame everything. This made it possible for me to acquire and maintain an absolute “plus” position. This has been a life of following the original fundamental principles of Creation.

The Absolute Necessity of True Parents

I have lived according to the fundamental laws of the universe. I am a successful example of a human being who was led by His conscience to carry out. In doing so, I have never faltered, not even for a moment. When Satan threatened to take everything from me, I maintained an absolute “plus” position and overcame every hardship and adversity. I could do this, because I knew for a certainty from the outset when I have followed this path to the position of the victor. God and all of creation will greet me with joyful celebrations.

Satan has always mocked Heaven and me, and boasted of his domain of power: “My kingdom is greater than yours.” Even the omniscient and omnipotent Creator God cannot defeat me in this fight. See how the side that is facing down on the body completely tramples the conscience. Love has been completely degraded, and I plan to execute.
Through the Peace United Nations

not become a world of hun, where grandfathers, fathers, and sons stand in relation to mothers, with whom they cannot become one? How can such a world of evil ever be reestablished as God's ideal world? Who could accomplish such a task?

God, though, has shouted back in this way: "Just a moment, Satan! Isn't it true that through the active work of Rev. Moon, the True Parent, true love's realm of influence in the earthly world is increasing? The True Parent is the owner of true love. He is the king of true love. Satan, is it not true that you are helpless in the presence of true love?"

Ladies and gentlemen, how are we to restore true conscience? This is the responsibility of the True Parent. The True Parent must establish the original world where the conscience is always victorious, that is, where only the world of absolute goodness that is most treasured by humanity. The secret for accomplishing this is simple. When faced with True Parents, true love, true life, and true lineage, the false parent, Satan, is completely helpless, no matter how much he may kick and struggle. To align ourselves completely with God's Will, God and human beings must form eternal relationships as subject and object partners, centered on true love. Satan has no way to wedge himself into such eternal relationships. When you begin to live by altruistic, true love, you will receive the Holy Marriage Blessing and be connected to the true lineage. Then your eternal life will be assured. True love, true life, and true lineage will expand eternally through your descendants. True Parents are absolutely necessary in this process.

All people without exception are descendants from the Fall. As a result of the Fall, we have become like those whose eyes look normal but who are actually blind. Can the blind save the blind? Someone sent directly by God must come. This person must be someone who stands in a position unrelated to the Fall, closely examines the Fall, and bequeathed everything to you. You will receive the Holy Marriage Blessing and be connected to the true lineage. Then your eternal life will be assured. True love, true life, and true lineage will expand eternally through your descendants. True Parents are absolutely necessary in this process.

You must first find the path leading to oneness with God. How is this possible? Where does the foundation of love for the sake of others originate? It originates with your love organ. Your reproductive organ is your palace of love, palace of life, and palace of lineage. Until now, humanity has lived without knowing the truth that is through the love organ that bonds of life are created, love is realized, and the connection of lineage is established. Now we see that no truth is more precious than this. Satan has controlled humankind for thousands and tens of thousands of years by means of the reproductive organ. He turned things around 180 degrees in order to bring about the human Fall. If the Fall had not occurred, there would be no need for such words as "Savior," "Messiah," "Lord of the Second Advent," and "True Parent." Because the True Parents of humankind have returned to this earth, humanity can now be liberated from Satan's yoke. It has become possible to recover all that was lost through the Fall. Through the original mind, it has become possible to recover the original value of human beings. We can accomplish a worldwide realm of absolute goodness that will not tilt toward Satan ever again.

Becoming a Tribal Messiah

What does the True Parents' realm of victory mean? It means that complete victory has been achieved in the fight against Satan. Victory was achieved in the realm of individuals. There was victory on the level of families. Complete victory was achieved on the level of tribes, societies, nations, and the world. It was a steep path that was never easy. I overcome every difficulty and won the victory however, and on January 13, 2001, I dedicated to Heaven "The Coronation Ceremony for the Kingship of God," which accomplished the miracle of liberating even God. On the world level, I am also the one who is rooting out communism and pouring life into Christianity in America. This is a part of the True Parent's responsibility. The True Parent forgives true love and embraces even the collapsed communist countries. I am liberating and pouring life into the communist realms.

Ladies and gentlemen, beginning some ten years ago, I have been commanding all blessed families to become tribal messiahs. This means they must become the new ancestors of their tribes. All your ancestors throughout history have cherished the hope and earnest desire for tribal messiahs. The True Parents, who have won all the victories as the Messiah of humankind, bequeathed to you their foundation, and on this foundation you must become victorious messiahs on the tribal level. Families that have received the holy bequeathed everything to you. You will liberate the world and establish it anew before Heaven. In relation to the Messiahs of the tribal level, this is like a branch growing from the main trunk. When leaves sprout, blossoms bloom, and fruit ripens on these branch messiahs, that fruit will possess 100 percent of the victory of the original Messiah. You will advance into the realm of protection, where good spirits can protect you.

Ladies and gentlemen, humanity is in a position of having lost its homeland. A person who temporarily leaves his homeland can return, but a person who has lost his homeland cannot return whenever he chooses. At the moment that history began, we lost our homeland. We were expelled and have lived as nomads. We have not been in a position to return, and we have not even known the way back. So we have lived as wanderers without a home. Even more so, we are alone for thousands of years. Those who came alone from North Korea as refugees and now live as people without a homeland, have returned to this mortifying and weary life. All your friends, siblings, and even your parents were taken from you. You know your homeland exists, but it is not a homeland that you can go to anytime you choose. You don't even know the way there.

You must now become leaders who guide families that have received the holy marriage blessing from me and have joined the ranks of blessed families. You must now become leaders who guide the world and saviors who save humanity as tribal messiahs. You must become devoted children and patriots that erase the grief of God, who has been waiting for this time for thousands and tens of thousands of years. You will work in all countries of the world as the vanguard, expanding the realm of victory gained by True Parents, who have been victorious over Satan's vicious opposition and persecution and have now bequeathed everything to you. You will liberate the world and establish it anew before Heaven. In relation to the Messiahs of the tribal level, this is like a branch growing from the main trunk. When leaves sprout, blossoms bloom, and fruit ripens on these branch messiahs, that fruit will possess 100 percent of the victory of the original Messiah. You will advance into the realm of protection, where good spirits can protect you.

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Perfect from page 3

The heavenly kingdom extends itself lives in such a family, and the root of the ancestral root. The root of history children will live together in harmony.

The four generations of grandparen
tions, parents, children, and grand-
parents, parents, and grandchildren, respectively. The root of the past rep-
resents the spirit world, the root of the present is a palace representing the present world, and the root of the future will establish the grandchildren as princes and princesses living in a palace of peace representing the two worlds—
that is, the spirit world and physical world. The mission of the tribal mes-
iah is to establish the families of God's kingdom of Cheon Il Guk, where four generations—grandparents, parents, children, and the children's children—
live as one family that is attending the eternal God. This is also God's heart- felt desire. The mission is to establish families that God, if He were to go to another land, would want to return to.

It is to prepare families where God can feel comfortable visiting anytime, just as a parent would visit the home of a child. That is a life of service to God. In such a family, God becomes, verti-
cally, the subject being of conscience. Your own mind will follow this vertical

subject being and bring your mind and body into unity as your own vertical subject being. In this situation, parental love, conjugal love, children's love, and sibling love—that is, the four great realms of love, or four great realms of the heart—will be perfected. This is how a family must be in order to exist eternally through continuous spheri-
cal movement connecting up and down, front and back, and left and right as

Ladies and gentlemen, why is it nec-

cessary to marry? We marry in order to

to plant the seeds of love, must be filled with love. Once these seeds of true

love are planted, no one will be able to

steal them. They are the seeds of the

heart of true love. The families and

countries where these seeds sprout will

remain forever in God's possession;

those families will become distinguished families of Heaven producing God's rep-

resentatives generation after genera-
tion, and those countries will become

true Parent so as to gain vic-
tory in the course of indem-
nity needed for the salvation of

What then, is God's heartfelt desire? It is to restore the kingdom of God in any
means possible, so they can find their way back to their homeland. Religion is God's strategy to open this way.

Through religious movements, He laid a foundation for people who could return to the homeland together, transcend-
ing our various environments, lan-
guages, cultures, ethnic backgrounds, ideologies, systems, and philosophies. He has countless times come to see the situations in which each of you lives. He waits anxiously for the day when you can return to your homeland.

You must understand that God is the vertical True Parent who has con-
ducted His providence in ways that were appropriate to each historical peri-

of being a parent would visit the home of a
country needed for the salvation of

humanity. You are going to recover the land that we can never forget, even in

liberated, and the path to the home-

land lost by Adam and Eve.

You are going to recover your dreams, has been cleared. This is the

position of a representative of the return-

Adam, the perfected Jesus, and in the

domestic world, and the first true human family. You are going to recover your dreams, has been cleared. This is the
domestic world, and the first true human family.

Heaven will be born in the future. We must achieve this precious, liberated

position of a representative of the return-

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Central Focus on the Middle East Peace Initiative

by Rev. Dr. Chung Hwan Kwak

Under the establishment of the Inter-Nations and International Peace Council, or "Peace UN," and the series of pilgrimages to Jerusalem in the Holy Land, Father has recently given direction for a major, providential mobilization related to the Middle East Peace Initiative. Father has asked that, centering on December 22, as an inter-religious and International Day of Prayer for Peace in the Middle East, 3 million people from around the world gather, primarily in Israel and Palestine, but also in regions and nations around the world, for the sake of peace in the Middle East and the world. To successfully fulfill this direction, we will need a unified effort from our entire movement and all Ambassadors for Peace. Of course, we will also need the support and cooperation from the Israeli government.

The primary sponsor of this event is the IPCC, as the principal project of IIFWP International. Co-sponsors will include the Eastern Clergy Lea- tership Conference, Women’s Federation for World Peace, United Press International, Yugoslavia Federation for World Peace, and many other NGOs from around the world. Father appointed Rev. Kwak as the Chairman. Under Rev. Kwak there will be an Executive Committee led by Dr. Sun Jo Hwang, Dr. Chong Shik Yang and Mr. D. M. Douglas Joo, with each taking central leader- ship responsibility for a key aspect of the events. In particular, Dr. Hwang is overall responsible for international mobilization, Dr. Yang for the rally. In addition, all IIFWP Regional Chairs, as well as Dr. Abe, are serving as Senior Advisors.

Dr. Thomas Walsh and Rev. Michael Jenkins will direct the Steering Com- mittee that includes Mr. James Flynn, Mr. Taj Hamed, Dr. Frank Kaufmann, Mrs. Karen Judell Smith, Mr. Shunichiro Yoshida, Mr. Hod Ben Zvi, IPCC’s Sec- retary General in Israel, and others. And internally, since December 22, Japan, America, Europe and the Mid- dle East are each asked to mobilize as many volunteers and participants as possible. In some cases, planes, buses, even boats will need to be chartered, rather than relying on traditional com- mercial airline schedules. Volunteers from all nations are also invited, as our goal is to have every nation represent- ed. Please do not only think of adult individuals. Encourage married cou- ples and entire families, and special- ly the youth, to attend this emergency peace effort. The world’s future is at stake, and we can make a difference.

In addition to the main rally in Israel, each nation is asked to hold a large mobilization and to keep a vigil, as part of the Interreli- gious and International Day of Prayer to address the root causes of conflict in the Middle East and to outline a path to peace that builds on the vision, strengths and methods of Father’s teachings and practice. This Sympo- sium will take place from November 80 coming from the Middle East, and an additional 40 from around the world.

Finally, beginning in the first week of December, an advance team and task force will assemble in Israel to lay the groundwork for the rally. This team will include 120 of our core members and committed Ambas- sadors for Peace. The advance work will include meeting religious lead- ers, political leaders, scholars, media, etc., throughout Israel, and promot- ing the rally and the Middle East Peace Initiative. This team will also focus on all necessary preparations for a successful rally. We are asking that our core members and Ambas- sadors for Peace apply/volunteer to be a part of this special task force and arrive in Israel by December 1.

Please begin to prepare to support this powerful event of the IPCC or Peace UN. This initiative will estab- lish the unique contribution of Father’s teaching and movement to bringing practical results to this region of such long-standing heartache for God and humanity.

We are in the final stages of God’s providence and the resolution of the problems in the Middle East, and our mobilization will unlock the way to world peace and will awaken the world to our Father’s mission of true love, pray, and take action. If you receive any spe- cial inspiration, insight or suggestion related to this mobilization, do not hes- itate to share this. Meanwhile, many updates and follow-up communica- tions will be sent out in the near future as plans are put in place, policies clar- ified, etc., for the Middle East Peace Initiative.

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other. Religious leaders who had previously refused even to sit down together—Jewish clergy representing the First Israel, Muslims representing the Second Israel, Christians represent- ing Islam, and American clergy rep- resenting Christianity—gathered in Jerusalem, and others from across religious boundaries took each other by the hand and announced the Jerusalem Declaration. Next, representatives of religious lead- ers from across religious boundaries gathered in Washington, D.C., the cap- ital of the United States, which repre- sents Christianity, the realm of the Sec- ond Israel. These religious leaders pro- claimed a resolution from the earthly world in response to the resolution adopted by many leaders—including the five great saints—in the spirit world. On the basis of these declarations in Jerusalem and Washington, a third decla- ration, the Seoul Peace Declaration, was adopted in Seoul, Korea, on August 15 and announced to the world by its Jewish, Islamic, and Christian clergy signatories. Please bear in mind that these are the fundamental prepara- tions for the founding of the Abel Unit- ed Nations.

"Abel United Nations" means “Peace United Nations.” The existing United Nations is a Cain-type United Nations, a United Nations of strife. In contrast, the Abel United Nations will be a struc- ture that guarantees world peace. This is nothing less than the most revolu- tionary and wondrous event to happen since God created humankind. Now the world will begin to change rapidly. More than 120 billion blessed couples on the safe of goodness in the spirit world have been mobilized. On earth, tens of thou- sands of Ambassadors for Peace and millions of other leaders around the world are carrying the torch of the Peace United Nations.

Humanity now has the responsibil- ity to work through the Peace United Nations to build, on the earth, the Peace Kingdom that God and all people have longed for. Attending God as our King, and aligned internally on Cheon Il Guk and externally on the Nation of the Fourth Israel, it is our responsibility to build a world of peace that represents both the spiritual and earthly realms and that transcends religious and nations.

The Peace UN

I want to make it clear to all the world that I will gladly transfer the control of the Peace United Nations the entire foundation that I have built with God, sweat, and tears over more than eighty years. To begin with, the Family Fed-
Inaugural Meeting of the Middle East Interreligious and International Regional Peace Council (MERPC) (MERPC)

by Dr. Frank Kaufmann

On September 22, 2003, approximately 40 key leaders from the Middle East (predominantly from Israel) gathered for a ceremonial launch of the Middle East Regional Peace Council (MERPC). The event transpired in the context of a crowded day of interfaith and peace activities. All participants present were active throughout the day’s events. These included the historic and miraculous “Peace Under One God, Jerusalem Peace Walk,” a symposium for harmony among the faiths in the family of Abraham, and an evening humanitarian celebration of multi-faith song, dance, and testimonials. The MERPC inaugural occurred simultaneously with the interfaith symposium.

The Middle East has a number of distinct challenges to function as a “region” due to the unusually intense hostilities among many of the nations in the region. The geopolitical reality makes it virtually impossible for peace-seekers from diverse nations to gather together to share, to learn, to mutually educate, and to work together for common cause. No one nation in the region can serve as an ideal venue for such peace pursuits, since residents from some countries are always forbidden to travel to others. Due to the convenience and benefit of associating with a wonderful interreligious and international event for peace (the Peace Walk, and the symposium), the inaugural for the MERPC transpired in Israel. For the council to function legitimately, regional meetings will have to occur in all countries of the region, and ultimately in all countries of the world.

At the meeting as well. These are relevant portions of the draft charter of the North American RPC, as well as relevant portions of an introductory statement from IIFWP, presented as a supplement to invitation materials for the October 1-4, 2003 inaugural meeting of the Interreligious and International Peace Council, held in New York City. These latter two documents were presented to all gathered as guidelines and general principles designed to help introduce the essential vision, concerns, and purposes of this new project.

In addition to the documentary record of the meeting, several assigned, as well as impromptu speakers expressed their thoughts, hopes, and recommendations for the council. Dr. Frank Kaufmann chaired the meeting, and functioned as its moderator. Dr. Kaufmann used his brief speaking time to give an historical background on the evolution of regional councils, as well as to help veterans of IIFWP grasp how this emerging effort is distinct from extant efforts, which bear similar vision and purpose.

Speakers on the dais included, Reverend Lee Sun Ji (IIFWP regional director), Reverend Masatoshhi Abe (IIFWP representative for Israel), Professor Eliezer Glaubach (Former City Councilman for the City of Jerusalem), Imam Hattham Bundakji (President and Imam of the Islamic Center of Passaic County, CA) and Rabbi Moshe Chen of Jerusalem, and Archimandrite Abuna Hatoum of Nazareth.

Several of these speakers are long time associates and contributors to the international, peace work of the IIFWP, as well as individuals who occupy prominent and influential positions in society. Several of these individuals are ministers in the government, as well as religious and spiritual leaders all around the region. The following are the deliberations marking this inaugural meeting.

At the time of this writing, ongoing work for the MER IIPC, is ongoing in the US, Israel, and in a harmonious peace team of major Arab nations.

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S

hoeless children w

and bright smiles eagerly helped the

RYS volunteers in building their new

school in Puerto Diana, Paraguay this

August. The volun-

teers, mostly high

school students from

the United States, readily embraced these children, hop-

ing they could make a
difference in their lives. Assisting in the construction of

a primary school in

Puerto Diana, an

indigenous com-
munity on the

Paraguay River in northern Paraguay, was the primary

work of the volun-

teers. Additional

experiences in Puer-

to Leda, Asuncion

and Foz do Iguaçu, Brazil made this a trip to remember.

The project had a rough beginning as the black out in

New York caused

some travel delays,

but the incredible vol-

unteers made their way and started with a busy Sunday where they visit-
ed three indigenous communities in Paraguay’s capital. A cordial welcome

by the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification started the day.

Then an afternoon visit to the Pueblo de Dios, a local Paraguayan spiritual

community which advocates prayer and sexual purity, introduced the volun-

teers to more traditional evangelical practices. An evening visit to the Church

of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Asuncion – an area people had no way to understand the

development would continue to expand, providing economic stabil-

ity and improved living for the greater region.

After a day in Leda – where the Japan-

es pioneers had successfully created a

water purification system and brought in generators for electricity – we took

a three hour boat journey to Puerto Diana, a community of Native Ameri-

cans of the Chamacoco tribe. In Diana we had no running water, no electric-

ity and no telephones. Many of the local people had no way to understand the

concept of Internet – the children who were often sick and hungry were delight-

ed with the simple technology of a flash


camera.

Although the children lived simply, most with no shoes to wear, they were

incredibly friendly and hard working. Eight and ten year old Chamacoco boys

and girls helped us carry 50 kilogram sacks of sand for the construction. They

showed fearlessness at the sight of tarantulas and dangerous snakes (like

the one the old lady said would kill us if it pinched us). The children also

showed us who was boss on the fútbol (soccer) field, beating our older, yet less

skilled, USA team 4-1 in a lopsided

match.

On Monday, we visited ‘las chacar-

itas’ – the slum area of Asuncion - an

area some people warned us not to visit for its dangers. Beyond a tall iron gate,

we discovered a local primary school and requested a meeting with the direc-

tors. The director and teachers were so happy to have visitors and pleaded with us to stay. They told us that no one comes to help them because they are in the ‘red zone’ (i.e. danger zone) and that the children are very hungry for attention and love. We stayed the entire afternoon, playing with the children, reviewing their work and embracing them even though we could. When school finished, there were no parents waiting to greet the children by the iron gate. We walked some of the children home as we made our way out of las chacaritas.

We traveled in two groups to Puer-

to Leda, a terrific development in the

Paraguay’s desolate Chaco region. We heard the story from native people of the ‘miracle of Leda’ – how in four short

years, Rev. Takeru Kamiyama and his


team of pioneers had transformed a
difficult area into a thriving ranch and center of employment for the region. It was Rev. Kamiyama himself who invit-
ed the RYS to come to Paraguay to learn about the region and offer service to local indigenous communities. We dis-

covered that local people considered it an honor to work in Leda and hoped that the development would continue to expand, providing economic stabil-

ity and improved living for the greater region.

Many families are stuck in pover-
ty. Although they have plenty of land available, they have not yet learned rudimentary farming and animal hus-

bandry techniques. Fortunately, a Catholic NGO is now working to teach
gardening in the community.

Our time in Diana was too short. We returned to Leda for a day of fishing and relaxation before making the jour-

ney back to Asuncion and then to Foz do Iguaçu in Brazil. Iguazu means ‘big water’ in Guaraní – the indigenous

language of most of Paraguay and some part of Argentina and Brazil. Foz do Iguaçu is Portuguese for Iguaçu Falls, considered by many as the most spec-
tacular water falls in the world.

A follow-up project is planned for July 1-10, 2004. This project will increase the international participa-
tion bringing volunteers from Japan and South America to make the pro-

gram a more diverse inter-cultural expe-
rience.

For more information on this or other projects in Paraguay, about Puerto Leda or Puerto Diana, send an email to paraguay@8/rys.net.
by Robert S. Kittel,

The tripod, more than a dove, may be an image that correctly symbolizes peace. The representation of a dove and olive branch as a sign of peace reaches back to the time of Noah. At the end of the 40-day flood judgment Noah released three sets of doves to check if the waters had subsided. When the second dove returned, “lo in her mouth was an olive leaf plucked off: so Noah knew that the waters were abated from off the earth” (Gen. 8:11). Ever since the dove and olive branch have symbolized peace.

But peace is more than the end of a period of severe judgment and turmoil. The traditional definitions of peace are: “a state of tranquility,” or “the cessation of war.” But peace can also be defined as a time of “public quiet, order, concord and contentment,” and it is in these later expressions that a tripod may more appropriately stand for peace.

In order not to get a blurred photograph, the camera must be stable—unshaken on any terrain. The four legs of a table or chair can be stable but unshaken on any terrain. The four legs of a tripod may more appropriately stand for peace. These legs form a perfect plane. How many of a table or chair can be stable but unshaken on any terrain. The four legs of a tripod may more appropriately stand for peace.

Having understood these problems that stand as roadblocks to peace.

In May 2003, one hundred and thirty one Christian ministers went to Seoul on a pilgrimage of reconciliation. Having understood that Jesus originated peace and did not come to die on the cross but on a wooden cross, representing the crosses that they had already taken down from their churches throughout the United States before beginning this pilgrimage age. Then in reaching out to a similar number of religious leaders from the other two monotheistic faiths, namely Judaism and Islam, they sought to reconcile the family of Abraham and signed the “Jerusalem Declaration.”

The first leg of the tripod reached back into history, healing wounds of animosity that still prejudice current events in the Middle East. Participants of each faith, as the declaration stated, wished “to repent for the dark parts of [their] past... for genocide and killing others.” Christians repented for their “prophetic function which ended Jesus’ physical life” while Jewish leaders sought “to liberate themselves once and for all from the burden of Jesus’ crucifixion.” In the end, Jews, Christians and Muslims pledged to seek Divine grace and forgiveness, to forgive and reconcile with each other, and to build “one family of G-d.”

One month later, in Wash- ington D.C, the second leg was added. Building upon the Mid- dle East Peace Initiative, particip- ants gathered in the capi- tals of the nation most respon- sible for establishing the United Nations at the end of WWII. Cen- tral to their mission was the call to establish inter-faith assem- blies not only at the local and national level, but also “estab- lishing an Interreligious Coun- cil at the United Nations.”

As an integral part of this, the IIFWP worked closely with the American Fam- ily Coalition which assisted conference delegates in visiting members of the United States Congress, both the House of Representatives as well as the Sen- ate. Religious leaders meeting the Interreligious Council initiative and explained to their political coun- terparts that the family’s true love is the building block for world peace, both in terms of char- acter and moral education as well as a model of gov- ernment. The rel- evance of the con- gress could be understood from the headlines on the front pages of news- papers across Ameri- ca. The destruc- tion was unabated in the Middle East and on the opening day of this confer- ence, the U.S. Supreme Court had just legalized homosexual relation- ship. The significance of and need for the “Washington Decl- aration” was that religious leaders played a role in overcom- ing the painful his- tory of conflict, mis- understanding and separation, and are indispensable to good government. The seventh article in this declaration stated that ideally religions would “manifest the highest moral and spiritual values... would embody true and enduring love... and be the cen- tral axis and model of global good government.”

The final part of the tripod of peace was put in place in Seoul, Korea on August 15, 2003. Nearly 360 delegates, from 120 nations convened what was justly called the Summit of World Leader- ers. The delegates represented one of the largest Interreligious gatherings ever assembled on the Korean penin- sula. A subset of these deliberations was a concurrent committee that offered creative and bold steps to solving the 50-year old division of the Korean penin- sula. After all, one of the few times that the United Nations advocated military intervention was during the Korean War where 16 nations, including the United States, came to defend South Korea against a communist-backed assault from the North.

The “Seoul Declaration” laid the groundwork for establishing a “King- dom of true love and peace.” The seed was sown by participants dedicating themselves to the “fulfillment of God’s ideal, for the sake of the coming gen- erations, particularly those through the establish- ment of blessed families of true love that apply the principle of living for the sake of others and go beyond the bar- riers of race, religion and nationality.”

The image that encapsulates this vision was the Closing Plenary session. There H.E. Hamilton Green, the for- mer Prime Minister of Guyana, was flanked by IFWP Chairman, Rev. Dr. Chung Hwan Kwak, and surrounded by more than a dozen religious leader- ers from around the world. After read- ing the Seoul Declaration by His Excel- lency Green, delegates stood in line to sign this historical document.

The common theme running through the three conferences was that the world, now more than ever before, was at a turning point. Moral confu- sion, political turmoil, corruption and the new scourge of global terrorism have made this point self-evident. Unan- swered, however, is the question of how we can overcome these impediments to peace.

IIFWP believes that this series of three conferences is far more than a gathering of hundreds of people in areas of turmoil across the world as a show of solidarity and good-will. Lasting solu- tions to world peace require multiple approaches.

Firstly, historical resentments are real; they cannot be ignored. Hatred is like a ghost of the past that haunts and ferments bad relationships. We are spiritual and emotional beings that are influenced by these powerful, sen- sitive forces. The history of our past cannot be overlooked in seeking peace; historical enmity must be reconciled by players of this age.

Second, peace must not be based on models of good government. The heart of a political thinker who has his or her seat at a table that is quite different than that of a religious leader who has his or her seat at an altar. God’s chri- stians can be likened to an exasperat- ed parent coming to their wits end, demanding that their disobedient chil- dren “just stopping fighting.” In doing so, they could be appeased with ces- sations of hostilities and lulled into thinking peace has been restored.

But the religious heart must go fur- ther—it calls for the ceasing and the tied. Parents, at their best, would use con- flicts as learning opportunities and would not be satisfied until the errant sibling expresses sorrow and seeks for- giveness and reconciliation from the wounded party. Any institution that separates the spiritual and religious from the political, educational and moral is crippled and shortsighted. It will likely not deal with the primary root of the problem.

And finally, true peace seeks peace more for others than for oneself or for nations than for ones own nation. Peace must be altruistic: it lives for the sake of others and is future- oriented, thinking more for the unborn than for oneself. Parents, at their best, would use conflicts as learning opportunities and would not be satisfied until the errant sibling expresses sorrow and seeks for- giveness and reconciliation from the wounded party. Any institution that separates the spiritual and religious from the political, educational and moral is crippled and shortsighted. It will likely not deal with the primary root of the problem.

Peace means healing the past, building models of good government that encompass the four universal spiritual and moral dimensions of our human nature, and creating blessed families were we learn through experience the value of living for others.
Families Gather for Dedication of the National Won Jeon Shrine and Commemorative Memorial Service
by Bill & Donna Selig

Last month, Unification News reprinted Dr. Yang’s remarks at the dedication service. In this issue we reprint Dr. Yang’s remarks of Rev. Jenkins and some of the testimonies.

During the historic ceremony which took place at the front of the Won Jeon property in Washington, D.C., on the 50th anniversary of thestrand, the families of ascended members had an opportunity to participate.

Kitty Wojcik, whose husband, Tom, went into a final coma at the very moment the terrorists struck the Twin Towers in 2001, said, “Everything when you come down to it — is how can you love. … I really thank my husband because he was a real man. I wish all you men could be loving people who love your wives, children and love God.”

Our beloved families are receiving that heavenly commendation at this time. Some of you may not have overcome your sorrow as of yet, and that’s all right. You will if you hold on to God’s grace.

Also, we are at P. Lincoln cemetry. We must be cognizant of the fact that we are here on hallowed ground where Lincoln gathered his generals and planned the great victory that would liberate the Union.

I believe, brothers and sisters, that we are certainly at the high water mark of evil in our culture, in our movies and television, in our world. Let this be a spiritual Gettysburg where the sons and daughters of the South gathered to defend the cosmic front line with the Second Coming of God.

Let this be the high water mark of evil, and let our resolve be such that we are strengthened and forward the Second Coming of God. Let this be a spiritual Gettysburg where the sons and daughters of the South gathered to defend the cosmic front line with the Second Coming of God. Let this be the high water mark of evil, and let our resolve be such that we are strengthened and forward the Second Coming of God.
**Ambassadors for Peace in Queens**

by Rev. Mizuguchi

The Queens Church held an Ambassadors for Peace Breakfast Meeting at the Carmichael Diner, Tuesday Oct. 14, 2003. As the Repeat of our past experience: an empty room except for a few faithful ministers and a lot of anxious members. However by the time the program got under way one-half hour behind schedule, the room started to fill. We found ourselves in a rare situation where we scrambled for chairs to accommodate an overflowing crowd. About 30 guests squeezed into a dining room fit for 25 people. Then when you add the 20 or so members to that group, our program was literally spilling over into the rest of the diner. The manager was happy to see so many people and so many extra breakfasts being ordered. We were happy to see so many Muslims and Sikh leaders joining us this time. Though congested we were, no one complained while everyone attentively listened to the messages from Rev. Miyazumi, Dr. William Johnson of the CME Churches in Los Angeles and San Diego, Rev. Leonard Jackson of First AME of Los Angeles, President of the Los Angeles Council of Churches read from the Beatitudes. Imam Huaithun Bunlakul read from the Koran in Arabic and English. Pastor Srigins of Christian Light BHC from the read the Founders’ Address. As the readings progressed, views of Christian landmarks and personalities filled the screen and gave way to slides representing Islam and even Hinduism all of Rev. and Mrs. Moon and the Pilgrimages for Peace. The breakfast prepared by volunteers representing three churches was amazing: pastries, eggs, bacon, potato, fruit salads and all the extras made a buffet that was sure to please. Following the keynote address the five-minute video of the 3rd Pilgrimage set the tone for testimonies. The testimonies of the 2nd and 3rd Pilgrimages by Rev. Avan Harwell of God’s Extended Hands Ministry, Chief Gayokla Nichi of the Pikuni Tribe and Rev. Sheri Rueter of the Los Angeles Family Church brought to light the heartfelt experiences of current pilgrims of life-risking adventure in Gaza, and deep realization in the darkness of the Memorial to the Children at the Yad-Vashem Memorial. Hearts were moved. When the appeal for support of the signature campaign to move from the Cross to the Crown was made, thirty-five clerics returned signed forms. Many that ten reported that they want to attend the Pilgrimage as a result of this program.

The Sadic Christian Singers, who have supported ACLC from its start and are top contenders and often winners of nation-wide Gospel singing competitions, stirred the soul with “It’s a God Thing” and “Walking in Jerusalem”! The ACLC Breakfast was hosted by the McCarty Memorial Church and the offering went to support their ministry in the center of Los Angeles. Truly this was an amazing event, well-attended by around one-hundred clergy of various denominations and several brothers of the Muslim faith. At the end all stood and sang “Let Their Be Peace on Earth” and an earth-shaking prayer was offered by Pastor Darrell Wilson of the House of the Redeemed that seemed to sum-marize all that had happened in this memorable morning. Now, its “Onward to Jerusalem”.

**ACLC Thanksgiving Prayer Breakfast in Los Angeles**

by Rev. Renning

Saturday, November 15th at the McCarty Memorial Church, the ACLC Prayer Breakfast provided a powerful testimony to the True Parents by high-level speakers from several denominations. District Elder Dr. William Johnson of the CME Churches in Los Angeles and San Diego delivered a dynamic keynote address and Rev. Leonard Jackson’s Inaugural Address for the Peace Council on October 3rd.

He quoted Father’s message and explained it in terms of real experience of the local Christian congregations. He drew a standing ovation. Rev. Leonard Jackson of First AME of Los Angeles, the President of the Los Angeles Council of Churches read from the Beatitudes. Imam Huaithun Bunlakul read from the Koran in Arabic and English. Pastor Srigins of Christian Light BHC from the read the Founders’ Address.

As the readings progressed, views of Christian landmarks and personalities filled the screen and gave way to slides representing Islam and even Hinduism all of Rev. and Mrs. Mizuguchi, for his superb organization and coordinating efforts that made the execution of this program almost flaw-less.

**Unification News**

AACLC Thanksgiving Prayer Breakfast in Los Angeles

American Church Council of Lake Nirvana

ACLC Prayer Breakfast

Nov. 15, 2003

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AIDS: Blazing Cameroon’s Candlelight Success

by Jennifer Hyman

The man responsible for helping Cameroon to become the world’s largest and most expansive network of International AIDS Candlelight Memorials believes his unprecedented success could be mirrored worldwide, given sufficient resources.

As the president of the Yaounde-based International Relief Friendship Foundation (IRFF), Mike Lamson has used the memorial since 2001 as a catalyst to enthuse people otherwise reticent to speak personally about the impact of HIV/AIDS and come together as a unifying, community-wide effort against stigma.

Gearing up for this year’s May 18th International AIDS Candlelight Memorial entitled “Remembering the Cause, Renewing the Commitment,” Lamson says he intends to continue pushing his efforts further out of the cities and into rural villages.

Although he only worked in the capital of Yaounde in the first year, he was able to bring in 56 healthcare NGOs to speak at the event. We attracted 8,000 participants and had national television coverage,” recalls Lamson.

But even though the first AIDS Candlelight Memorial in Cameroon was such a tremendous success, last year Lamson purposely turned his attention away from the capital, transforming the project into a network spanning 450 villages, with 25,000 participants.

“There are enough NGOs in the capital, as well as the UN, galvanizing awareness efforts,” explained Lamson. “But most of these groups avoided the villages because there are over 300 regional dialects.”

Lamson soon found that language barriers were easily surmountable when he turned to the fundamentals of peer education, drawing in local partners who best understood the most effective means of reaching out to their community members.

“As an American, not only can’t I speak each dialect, but there’s no way I can go to the villages and have the same impact as someone from that village, or understand their specific take on the disease,” he said.

Consequently, by promoting factual information and combating rumors with its theme of acceptance, tolerance and honoring those who have died from HIV/AIDS, the Candlelight Memorial’s impact was even stronger in rural communities than it was in the capital.

“In many cases rural families don’t tell their neighbors why a loved one has passed, and it prevents them from ever really saying goodbye. It becomes something hidden and shameful during death ceremonies,” said Lamson. “The AIDS Candlelight Memorial has been liberating, because it plays a definitive role in tackling stigma at the community level.”

IRFF will scale up its efforts during this year’s AIDS Candlelight Memorial to include 500 villages and perhaps 30,000 participants, but the organization is heeding the heavy financial burden that comes with promoting grassroots activism.

“We get stressed out every year over the expenses, as we spend the month promoting AIDS awareness as a fundamental part of patriotism and citizenship. But I believe our success could be possible.”

As part of the month long program, on October 3, 2003 a Rally was held at the United Nations to support the inauguration of the Interreligious and International Peace Council. According to the police chief, it was the largest and most peaceful Rally ever held at Dag Hammarskjold Plaza across from the United Nations. The IIFWP is also supporting an initiative that the Philippines has put forward before this session of the UN’s General Assembly to establish an Interreligious Council at the United Nations. The underlying premise of all these works is that politics and diplomacy alone cannot create world peace. Without the unity and support of the leaders who represent the world’s religions, peace will never be possible.

Mr. Amar Anand, a Sikh and writer from India who was also appointed an Ambassador for Peace said, “Every place is a Holy land and we must be able to live in peace and together. Then peace will truly be possible.” The Ambassadors for Peace initiative will continue. For more information about this initiative, email nadine@iifwp.org.

IIFWP Ambassadors for Peace

by Nadine Andre

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New York on October 3, and to appoint Ambassadors for Peace, who are part of a global network of leaders representing a broad range of fields—religion, politics, the media, academia, and civil society—who work cooperatively for the sake of world peace. Throughout the United States and internationally, the Ambassadors for Peace initiative will continue. Among those appointed at Saturday’s program were Mr. Singh Mulchand, the Sikh of the Sikh Center of New York, Imam Omar S. Abu Bakr, the Imam of the Al Aqsa Mosque and spent time in Gaza, illustrating a model of peace that has not been forthcoming in that region of the world.

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GLORY

from page 1

GLORY can work a miracle and end the struggle of those who give their lives on this pilgrimage.

Recently Father Moon gave us guidance on the occasion of the sacrifice of Alexi and Kwan Jung, two of our young people who died in a car accident. He said that because they died during the 40-day providence to establish the Temple of True Parents, and thereby to usher in God’s Kingdom, all those who had been educated through the religious and political cooperation began at the Jaffa Gate, which was chosen to march from the Western Wall.

 Jerusalem March

On October 22 our march began at the Jaffa Gate, the old gate to the City of Jerusalem that has been there for 2,000 years. Our ranks were strengthened by support from Nazareth. Rev. Nartoum brought over 100 Christians from that holy city. Leaders of the Druze, whose spiritual heritage is traced back to Moses’ father-in-law, Jethro, and whose people have lived in the Holy Land for 4,000 years, have completely given their lives in order to help bring reconciliation.

 Jerusalem March

When our march through Jerusalem was stopped during this 3rd pilgrimage, there were some resisters who didn’t want us to continue. Due to the work of Rev. Abe and Mr. Hod Ben Zvi we have an excellent relationship with influential people on all sides in the Middle East. It’s truly a headwing foundation.

We really have to thank Rev. Kwak Glaubach, former city council member, Dr. Shuki Ben-Ami, Jewish scholar, Shelly Elkyamy, Mira Ramal, and our beautiful Israeli family who have built a sense of trust with the Israeli authorities for our work, plus the success of the last walk for peace, the Israeli authorities again supported us and the march continued.

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Just as we did during the 2nd pilgrimage, we visited the imams at Al Aqsa on the day before we were to bring our interfaith group. Again, this proved to be critical in allowing our 600 marchers access to grounds. We have built a sense of deepening trust with the imams there, who have a very sincere respect for Father’s life and heart and genuine understanding of Islam as a central religion created by God.

One of the believers, when they were in meditation during the 5 p.m. prayer, looked up at us as we were leaving with one of our marchers and said in Arabic, in a very tense and rapid voice, “Tell them to help liberate us.” It was understood that we were believers from foreign lands and that somehow we were there to help bring reconciliation and security to the Islamic believers.

We had a very fruitful visit. Friends appreciated the visit, and even the security staff of Al Aqsa has become more confident of our genuine support and protection of their faith as believers.

Interestingly, one of the key imams was leaving the mosque in the car at the same time we were departing and he drove us home. These are occurrences that could not be planned.

The site of Al Aqsa is built on stone, of which the temple area forms the western boundary. It contains the Dome of the Rock, Al Aqsa mosque, and several other ancient buildings covering 35 acres. Just an hour before our march arrived, Israel’s Interior Secu-

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words the joy we felt when Rev. Hapun of the Catholic Church of Nazareth arrived with 150 believers. Christians and Muslims and Jews together. It was beautiful. Coming all the way from Nazareth was not an easy journey, as they have to go through security checkpoints. The joy shown on Rev. Hapun’s face when they arrived at the mosque area just in time to be included in our march. This added greatly to the surge of spiritual power we felt at that moment, that we will bring peace to the Holy Land.

Although we are not one yet, the doors are now opened for that unity to be possible. We of the ACLC, who are to this the anointing of our True Parents by Jesus, the confirmation of that anointing by Moses, and the spiritual support we feel from Mohammed. It was a glorious moment at this holy site, from which it is understood that Mohammed ascended to heaven, and also the site upon which Abraham offered his son. This is also identified as the site of the Temple that existed in Jesus’ time. For us to go there on the second pilgrimage was a great miracle coming from God. To go there again with an even larger group, on a day when tense conflict had occurred just an hour earlier, was confirmation that our unity is deepening and solidifying. Christians, Muslims, and sisters, the Kingdom of God is coming on the earth. It is now time for us to rise up and believe.

[Father has said that in some ways the Muslim believers are taking the lead in helping to bring the whole world together as one family, through their families being blessed by God, and pleading to become true parents themselves. An example of this leadership is found in the former president of Indonesia, President Wahid, who as a religious leader personally brought 150 delegations to the peace march from Nazareth, took the platform. He gave a truly great message about the concept of islands. He talked about the message that was Rev. Moon. He is one who is doing the work that is bringing all of Jerusalem together. He went on to praise Father’s vision and the efforts made to bring Muslims, Christians, and Jews together. The city of Nazareth was proud to be well represented by the ACLC in conjunction with the April 27th 144,000 couple blessing that was held in Washington, D.C.]

From this place a small delegation, including Sen. Doraujea. Jones and Sen. Howard Stephenson from Utah, went with 12 clergy representatives to the Kneseet, where under the able leadership of Dr. Baruch Shalev, Shelly Elkevich, Rabbi Vital, and the IIFWP, centering on True Parents, they are calling forth the leaders of the Druze group, who are lauding Dr. Abe and the IIFWP, and the Druze group emanated from the core team in Israel that welcomed our pilgrims. The Japanese sisters, who are called the IIFWP, centering on True Parents, are being respected by the Palestinian sisters. Sheik Birani has made an indispensable contribution to the provision of the centering on True Parents. As happened in the Druze group before, the Druze group emanated from the Druze group. Sheik Birani has made an indispensable contribution to the provision of the centering on True Parents. The core team in Israel is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect. The team is precious and perfect.
GLORY from page 13

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established the true family, become a True Parent. This restores the fall of the first Adam and Eve.

Now he is called by God to extend that anointing to you, calling upon you to have your marriages blessed to change the blood lineage to that of God, under the blessing of your own religious leaders, that you now shall become true parents building true families, to resolve the historical enmity between Israel and Palestine. Father Moon revealed that we must love our enemy. To really manifest that love we should even consider what he calls "exchange marriage." We should marry our enemy. The prophet Mohammed set the example by marrying a Jewish woman to keep peace under God's dispensation.

Also Father Moon understood that the fact that Jesus was not welcomed 2000 years ago became the condition through which the endless struggle between Israel and Palestine could not be resolved. Now that all have repented for this condition of 2000 years ago, it is inevitable that Palestine and Israel, Ishmael and Isaac, will reconcile, weep together in tears, and study war no more. My brothers and sisters, this is the day of the Lord. This is the day that the Koran has spoken of, that the Torah and the prophets, and the New Testament have spoken of. This is the day that has been prophesied that the Messiah would come.

I would like to invite Archbishop Stallings on stage at this time to join in reconciliation because we are not only to reconcile Ishmael and Isaac. We know that as Christians we did not fulfill our responsibility to bring reconciliation to all humanity. Therefore, together we repent that Christians did not love the Jewish people properly with the love of Jesus for the last 2000 years. Also we in America must reconcile black and white, as well as American Indian and white. We Americans repent for what was done historically to the blacks. Though my repentance is not enough, it sows a seed that will multiply. Archbishop Stallings, can you embrace your white brother at this time? Archbishop Stallings said, I will gladly do so.

Our American Indian brothers, will you embrace your white brother at this time? Archbishop Stallings shared later that as he was leaving the rally site, he passed some of the Israeli police who were present at the event, and they too were singing these words of hope.
by Miguel Werner

The IIFWP is working now since quite a few years for world peace, the desire to be found among the peoples, races, cultures and religions of this world. It is in the heart of everyone, and the desire to be found is the most important one. The IIFWP is working to establish an Interreligious Council (with representatives of all religions) in an official manner, not only as a simple advisory or figurative commission. Jose de Veneza, President of the Chamber of Representatives of the Philippines, took up the proposal of Rev. Sun Myung Moon at his speech on August 18th, 2000, held in the Cristal Palace of the United Nations, founded more than half a century ago.

Family, Values and Public Service

There were still topics left having to do with peace, but more on an everyday level, namely, the peace being constructed in the family through the practice of values and public service, topics being addressed by Andrés Melgaro, Carlos Varga and Alitza R. Melgaro, respectively. Peace starts with the unity between mind and body in the individual, it develops towards the family and expands itself towards the society, basic points which the different expositions were based on. Prophet-including spontaneous applause and showings of approval by the audience, to whom new perspectives were opened about these, apparently commonly known topics.

What is there to say about the family, which hasn’t been said already? The family is not only "The School of Love", “The basic Cell of Society”, but also the place where one can experience love at its utmost expression, the only institution created by God. Andrés Melgaro left this very clear with his explanation of the Blessing Ceremony. God wanted to give the first man and woman, Adam and Eve, and the Renewal of the Marital Vows. The IIFWP, through its successful and inspiring work, is working to tear down divisions, to all cultures and nationalities, to all religions, to all peoples, races, cultures and religions. This “is not an exclusive celebration of the Unification Movement”—to reaffirm the love of the couple and restore value to marriage—"but a calling to all religions, to all cultures and nationalities, to unite through the power of maternity centered on the love of God, capable to break all divisions and conflicts."

Character Education, which is Incorporating Essential Values," was the title of the exposition by Carlos Varga, in which he explained, again, that education is the invaluable tool by which a society may be transformed. But not just education exclusively dedicated to form professionals ready to get involved with our modern world of technology and international business, whose backbone are values. To the President of CARG (Collegiate Association for the Research of Principles), this is fundamental, to be able to give young people a sense of direction towards “true love”, preventing them the consequences of “free sex”, whose results are abandoned babies, abortion, domestic violence, juvenile delinquency, illegal activities, beinging 17 000 people and killing 10 000 worldwide daily.

Peace Founded On Truth

One of the fundamental tasks of the Interreligious Federation is to end all barriers traditionally dividing people of different faiths and religions, on which base true peace for the world can be constructed. As part of this work, the Interreligious Federation is distinguishing different leaders of society as Peace Ambassadors, working to tear down divisions and to resolve conflicts, who are models of family life and live with a continuous engagement for the welfare of their neighbors and on the innermost level of the vision given by Sun Myung Moon.

Luzmiana Cámara, Secretary of the Interreligious Federation in the country, was explaining this precise role and the mission of Peace Ambassadors, of which Argentina has the highest number (including the 21 new distinctions at this even), and showed that on this level there are around 30 000 Peace Ambassadors. She started with agreeing applause, that “the most terrible deficit of a nation is not to be found with its finances, but in the souls of its citizens.” Cámara was very pleased with the presence of representatives of the provinces of Tucumán, Corrientes, Santa Fe, Corrientes and Jujuy and invited all to a “silent revolution” toward the recognition of this deficit, “the most terrible deficit of a nation is not to be found with its finances, but in the souls of its citizens.”

Unification News

IIFWP Seminar in Buenos Aires

The Seminar at the "Salon Panamaoceno" of the autonomous city of Buenos Aires, to assist a seminar entitled: "The World at a Turning Point: Construction of the World of the XXI Century", was read by Gustavo Ricardo de Sena, the Interreligious Federation representative to the United Nations. In his presentation: "The Role of Religion in the XXI Century", he was talking about the necessity of man, society, nature and the world as it is to construct peace, which is not at all possible, without contemplating the transcendental aspect to be found in the soul of every human being.

After describing the advances of interreligious relations, De Sena was also talking about the folding of religions in the all of the human beings, the loss of relevance and moral authority into which some spiritual leaders have fallen and that the majority of national and international conflicts, prevailing today, have a religious root from which one should contemplate the voice and comprehension of religious leaders in bringing about a solution towards the main problems and struggles of today. Therefore, part of the slide-show on the giant screen had also images of the ominous September 11th 2001, a show of force of the rawest terror, result of human hatred and resentment.

After that, the conference focused on the central topic of De Sena’s presentation: a reform of the United Nations. He lifted the reasons, or problems, by which it was necessary to give the body of the United Nations the most terrible deficit, poverty, crime, drug trafficking, corruption, domestic violence, terrorism, the lack of education, etc. “These are all profound human topics requiring extraordinary solutions”, to which religions may have their input. From this juncture on the imperative should be to conclude on an interreligious Council as part of the United Nations.

Finally, he commented that the Ambassador of the Philippines to the United Nations in September, between the 58th General Session of the United Nations, will be formally presenting the proposal to establish this Interreligious Council (with representatives of all religions) in an official manner, not only as a simple advisory or figurative commission. Jose de Venecia, President of the Chamber of Representatives of the Philippines, took up the proposal of Rev. Sun Myung Moon at his speech on August 18th, 2000, held in the Cristal Palace of this international organization, founded more than half a century ago.

Unification News
by Kevin Thompson

P rime Principle study nights are an integral part of our 2nd Generation curriculum. Every week we have an average of 150 participants, par-
ents and children gather together to hear lectures on Principle and the recent providential directions from True Par-
ents.

This program was started by Bento Leal when he was teaching his own children and a few other liked children. When we got our new church in 1998, we simply ported the program to the church wide weekly event. It has become a major part of our 2nd Generation education strategy. Coupled with the ongoing middle and high school workshops, we are trying to guide our children towards the Blessing and a life of faith with ownership with our True Parents.

This desire for peace, this profound need to reiterate our desire to realize them. Here are some of the highlights preceding the re-
edition, which will be presented by the Philip-
pines at the United Nations. Rev. Moon is deserving the highest respects, even though I don’t know him that well, as I do know his followers. He is a giving man; he doesn’t invest solely in mate-
rial projects, but in the family as well. That’s why I want to make it clear, that we should support this initiative, not only in lifting up our hand, but in being responsible together with the Philip-
pines.” (Part of Senator Julio Ledesma’s speech).

“This day we may continue living as politicians, economists, profession-
als, religious leaders, closed up in an intellectual monastic cubicle or we may permit that the doors of the mind and heart may be opened to receive differ-
tent proposals, which may enrich us to work for world peace. We may permit a “marriage” between different walks of life and, as part of this collateral effort, permit that God may take control and govern in different areas and realms, with ethical and moral values and with true love.” (Reflections of the Evan-

The Second Generation Section

The Unification News is adding a new section for all 2nd Generation youth ministries. It will include a variety of reports, articles and testimonies from regions all over the nation. We hope this section will help in the development of your youth ministry.

For information on how to contribute please contact the US 2nd Generation Department’s Assistant Planning Team Leader Rachel Johnson at 4 West 43rd St. New-
York, NY 10036, tel: 212-997-0650 ext. 123, cell (914) 882-6338, or email at: BC2ndGen@FamilyFed.org.
The main conference opened with a terrific ice breaker by Brian Sabourin teaching teens effectively and strong program objectives; participants considered: the world of children's ministry. The program began with two all-day Pre-Conference Workshops - one in children's ministry taught by Rev. Brian Sabourin and one in youth ministry taught by Dr. Kathy Winings. Through both workshops, participants studied, learned, discussed, and shared. They were able to continue their journey to becoming professional religious educators. Sunday School teachers examined the vital areas of: the fundamentals of faith in children's ministry, creating a program in which children learn to love God with all their hearts, hands, and minds – creative teaching methods: what constitutes age appropriate education for children; and they looked at new resources and more effective lesson planning for children's ministry. In youth ministry, participants considered: the world of today's teen, the challenges of development, creative religious education. In transitioning youth ministry starting with strong program objectives, teaching teens effectively and going beyond the classroom to reach teenagers creatively and energetically.

Opening and Closing Plenary

The main conference opened with a terrific ice breaker by Rev. Brian Sabourin and Tony Devine oriented the attendees to the conference highlights that ended with a prayer for all in the room gathered as True Father on the heart of being an educator.

During the Hoon Dok Hae on Saturday, Dr. Chris Brunkhorst connected participants to the current focus in the church, the marriage of faith; and in service learning projects, provided a wonderful Hoon Dok Hae and inspired a rich nuts and bolts approach to creating an effective youth ministry. Participants were offered another new theme this year, with a look at "Outreach: Discussing Current Issues and Exploring Effective Models." This was a good area of exploration as participants talked about witnessing by young adults naturally. Rev. Sabourin raised key concerns of youth in this area.

We added a new theme this year with Young Adult Ministry, and it proved to be a wise choice. The morning began with a look at "Active Learning: Experiencing God in Children's Ministry," taught by Dr. Kathy Winings. Engaging students to strengthen their skills in lesson development and a teaching methodology that emphasized inclusive body teaching, games, and activities. Youth Ministry likewise had a similar format in "Active Learning: Youth Ministry! What do I do?" In that session, Dr. Winings encouraged participants to examine 10 steps to an effective ministry. It set the stage for a look at how to "Engage Our Youth in Service Learning" where participants learned about the basics in utilizing service learning in our own ministries. Mr. Tony Devine and Ms. Lillie Kirkley addressed what to do and what not to do in involving youth in service learning projects, provided a list of service learning programs, and was informed by the best practices of the Bridgeport, CT, Summer of Service program as well as the experience of the Service for Peace club at the University of Bridgeport.

In the closing plenary, Dr. Winings advised participants to join the Religious Education Association (REA), an organization committed to quality religious education in churches and schools. She encouraged a strong home-centered and church-supported system of education as well as an effective adult education based on adult learning concepts and theories as well as adult issues, questions, and needs.

Breakout Sessions

This year there were a total of 15 separate breakout sessions organized under five themes - Children's Ministry, Youth Ministry, Young Adult Ministry, Family and Schooling. There were offered in three tracks of five sessions from which participants could choose. In looking at each of the five themes as a whole unit, it was clear that there was progression and development in each breakout. In Children's Ministry, the day started with a full plate of ideas and inspiration stemming from years of experience in Laura Nabetani's session on how to "Get Started in Children's Ministry." For those fortunate to attend, they were treated to a wonderful. It was only natural then to take Children's Ministry one step further to "Designing Effective Lessons" with the help of Rev. Brum Sabourin. This session, together with the final session in Children's Ministry on Pre-Conference Workshops

Poster Sessions

On Sunday, the final day after an inspiring and refreshing Hoon Dok Hae where we could renew our own soul, participants were offered another new feature of the conference – Poster Sessions. With continental breakfast in hand, participants were treated to a variety of booths in which fellow participants shared their particular projects, educational programs, or ministries. The sessions featured the international school in Brazil, PowerPoint series of lessons for 3rd grade Sunday School classes, the innovative Roots & Wings program from Northern California, methods of personal financing, and LEAD – a youth leadership innovation.
Educators Conference
Affirming Our Commitment to Education

Action Committees

The Action Committees are the real means through which a great deal of work, study, and insight can be developed. Participants are challenged to take their work to another level through contributing to these committees. Based on their brief time together, the committees decided the following: Children's Ministry - review the current curriculum and revise it where necessary, and then draw together good lesson plans and activities from teachers in our Sunday Schools targeting spring as its deadline for such a revised curriculum. Youth Ministry - identify effective teacher professionalism in teaching through a certification process. Young Adult Ministry - develop a pilot seminar in skills development for marriage and relationship-building to be offered in California by early spring. Family Ministry - challenge families to find two other families to form a trinity for greater support and encouragement of blessed family life. Camps - develop a leadership training program for camp counselors who then can work in multiple camps across the country; continue to coordinate the scheduling of camps. Resource Fair & Networking - announce the dates for the 3rd National Education Conference, and (3) the development of a website. Every participant expressed their gratitude for this unique opportunity to come together as educators with the goal to continuously improve their ongoing efforts and each left with new inspiration, new ideas and wanting to give more.

We would like to thank all of the presenters, panelists, our host UTS, N. Rim and the 3rd Generation Dept. our committee members, the educators who traveled far and wide to attend, for their total investment to make this conference a success. Most of all, we all want to thank True Parents and Hyun Jin Nim for the inspiration to gather and unite as educators and in giving a strong root to the effort of educating future generations.

TESTIMONY

John R. Williams

Anyone who walked in a little late to the opening session of the Second National Education Workshop at UTS would have seen scores of mostly middle aged people running around shouting and maybe showing a piece of paper to one another until groups clustered and heeded individuals found their place. Then you’d hear often feeble efforts to sing “Meet Generation staff was cheerful, attentive and working around the clock to care for us. Even the Hoon Dok Hae program was imaginative. The first morning we were surprised to have Dr Yang give us his honest and heartfelt report on his trips to Israel. On Sunday morning we had the choice of walking Father’s trail with commentary and reminiscences by the participants, or going on a prayer walk through the labyrinth lit by candlelight and the dawn. I loved the walk on the trail and ended up talking with an old friend about what she was doing—never imagining the kinds of great things she has done since I last saw her and the great things she is planning to accomplish.

The Action Committees were the real means through which a great deal of work, study, and insight can be developed. Participants are challenged to take their work to another level through contributing to these committees.
STF Explodes to the Worldwide Level
New Educational Materials for 2nd Gen. Now Available

Thanks to Hyun Jin Nim’s leadership, over the past 2 years, second generation education and training has rapidly advanced to a whole new dimension. The STF International Assembly came as the culmination of the past 2 years of STF development under Hyun Jin Nim. He outlined the purpose to everyone, which was to deepen our vertical alignment by meeting with Hyun Jin Nim, to share experiences and build a sense of international teamwork, to receive heavenly wisdom and inspiration through presentations and testimonies, and to then take off with new determination and ownership of the STF vision and culture of heart. Each member received a beautiful STF yearbook from International STF Director, Mr. Ittetsu Aoki. One of the highlights of the Assembly was a presentation by Akiko Ikeno, one of our most outstanding leaders second generation, and International Ambassador for Service for Peace. She spoke of Hyun Jin Nim’s trust in the STF members and his concern and determination to train and educate all second generation. “Hyun Jin Nim believes in you as the seeds of a new revolution of heart!” Another theme of her talk was “It is not only you who is out there on the front-line. Be the one who fulfills what the first generation and all the saints sacrificed for themselves. Behind you one prayed for a savior to come. That savior — that son or daughter of God and hope for the future is you. Please inherit God’s Providence and be the vanguard of the culture of heart.”

On the second day of the Assembly, members shared impressive video reports on the activities of STF in their countries, and then their testimonies of meeting God and the heart of True Parents and True family on the front line, through witnessing and fundraising. Many testimonies reflected their tearful experiences of God’s love and a deep heartistic connection with Hyun Jin Nim. Later that day, as they sang to prepare for Hyun Jin Nim’s speech, the whole room exploded with energy and excitement, with STF Japan taking the lead in jumping on top of their chairs and calling out to their brothers and sisters of Korea, US and Europe. When Hyun Jin Nim arrived to greet a room full of excited STF members, all dressed in their black T-shirts, his first words were “I didn’t realize how much Hyun Jin Nim loves and believes in us. I can see it when I look at you — such a heart of true love in my brothers and sisters.” One sister expressed that especially in the Japanese members, she felt incredible spirit and heart, and love and sacrifice for God and True Parents. “When we are all united like this, we are living out Hyun Jin Nim’s dream. Now I can see my potential and what I lack too. I have something to reach for. It is more real to me now, when I see Hyun Jin Nim and he says, ‘If I am a betting man, I will bet on STF!’”

Good News
As a result of the developments taking place in STF training and workshops, a whole series of videos and DVDs are now available to use for second generation education. These include precious speeches of Hyun Jin Nim, advanced DP lectures given by Rev. Phillip Shanker at major STF workshops, and introductory lectures given by Rev. Kevin Thompson at the kickoff workshop, as well as numerous found and moving testimonies by STF members about their experiences meeting God and actualizing the Divine Principle on the front line. Witness the transformations taking place in the hearts of our second generation, and share in the wonderful educational resources by contacting the address below to order your own professionally edited videos and DVDs.

Here is the contact info: email - stfusa@worldcarp.org, phone 510-295-1139. address - P.O. Box 3068, Hayward, CA 94545. All the above are to the attention of Shungi Nakamura.

Unification News

STF VIDEO & DVD SERIES

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- **Spoken by Rev. Jokuen at Workshop, July 2003**
  - 1h 30min | $15.00 | $30.00

- **Seoul Immersion by Jin Sun Kwon, Seoul, May 2003**
  - 45min | $17.00 | $34.00

- **Spoken by Dr. Jin's Children Miyo & Byou, Oct. 2002**
  - 40min | $17.00 | $34.00

- **Lecture by Rev. Thompson #1, Kick-off W/S 2003**
  - Introduction | 1h | $15.00 | $30.00

- **Lecture by Rev. Thompson #2, Kick-off W/S 2003**
  - Spiritual World | 1h 20min | $12.00 | $24.00

- **Lecture by Rev. Thompson #3, Kick-off W/S 2003**
  - Spiritual World | 1h 30min | $12.00 | $24.00

- **Lecture by Rev. Thompson #4, Kick-off W/S 2003**
  - Spiritual World | 1h 10min | $12.00 | $24.00

- **Lecture by Rev. Thompson #5, Kick-off W/S 2003**
  - The Full of Man | 1h 10min | $13.00 | $26.00

- **Lecture by Rev. Thompson #6, Kick-off W/S 2003**
  - The Full of Man | 1h 45min | $15.00 | $30.00

- **Lecture by Rev. Thompson #7, Kick-off W/S 2003**
  - The Full of Man | 1h 20min | $15.00 | $30.00

- **Lecture by Rev. Thompson #8, Kick-off W/S 2003**
  - Overcome & Deliver | 1h 10min | $12.00 | $24.00

- **Lecture by Rev. Thompson #9, Kick-off W/S 2003**
  - Father's Life Experience | 1h 30min | $15.00 | $30.00

Please note that these videos are professionally edited videos and DVD's are now available to use for second generation education. These include precious speeches of Hyun Jin Nim, advanced DP lectures given by Rev. Phillip Shanker at major STF workshops, and introductory lectures given by Rev. Kevin Thompson at the kickoff workshop, as well as numerous found and moving testimonies by STF members about their experiences meeting God and actualizing the Divine Principle on the front line. Witness the transformations taking place in the hearts of our second generation, and share in the wonderful educational resources by contacting the address below to order your own professionally edited videos and DVDs.
How Could, or Should, Religions Contribute to Peace?

by Dr. Frank Kaufmann

T he question “How Could, or Should Religious Contribute to Peace?” evokes a sense in everyone that they already know the answer. It is so automatic, we automatically think, “The answer to that question is obvious. Just ask me.” I’ll tell you.” Not every question evokes the same feeling. For example, “How many calories are there in an apple?” The fact that everyone thinks they know how religious should contribute to peace says a great deal.

We must ask, if the answer is so obvious, then why don’t we have peace already? Can it be that everyone in the world wants peace except religious people? If we can see a clear answer, then there must be something either in religion which is inherently antithetical to peace, or there is something in we ourselves which baffles our own desire to bring to pass our own desire, and something (peace) which is patiently in our own interest.

Whichever way one answers, the essential problem is the same in both cases. That is that there exists something split, divided, a house against itself. All religions teach peace, just as surely as all people desire peace. Is there some dark shadow in religions which inherently contradicts its own promise, its own sublitude and elevated credenda? Maybe surely as all people desire peace, it is the exact raison d’être for religion in the first place.

A resolution to this debate is possible, but it is one which odds a touch in the direction of the religious side. It would state that religion given by God to His people is without the abashings which lead to war. But as insomuch as it must be received, constructed and maintained by human beings, it comes to be contaminated by the internal contradictions of its administrators. This resolves the modern debate so that both religions, and the human being to bring to the table an inner contradiction which results in a world of war and terror.

Back to the question: What must religions do to contribute to peace? They must purge themselves and their leaders and believers of internal contradictions. In the case of religion, the battle rages between the higher part of each religion which says the religion must exist for the whole world and for every person. This battles with the impulse, likewise in all religions, which says that the religion exists only for its own sake, and the sake of its own believers. Our only concern is with Catholics, we have no compunction or concern for any other sort of religious believer. They are not my problem. (Or only Jews, or only Buddhists and I go on and on). This impulse to devote oneself only to self interest at the expense of the greater whole contradicts the view in all religions to serve the whole world, and every person.

The human contradiction is identical. There is a natural aspect of our make-up which altruistic, and conversely a part which is oriented to our own ways, habits (traditions), and self-preservation and promotion. As with religions, these parts of the self must be harmonized, so that the higher (interpretation) of self takes the lead as the primary force guiding our existence.

So, is there a way religions can or should contribute to peace? Yes there is. Enlightened leaders in each tradition must analyze the root revelation and sacred origins and development of each respective tradition to determine which aspects call for serving the whole world and every person, as well as to find in each those impulses which interpret in the direction of greater parochialism, and self-preservation and promotion. Finally these leaders must harmonize this contradiction into a seamless and unified whole in such a way that the narrow parochial elements support and the risk of the inter-indwelling which calls believers to love the whole world and every person.

To the extent that each tradition can accomplish this is the extent to which religious difference will cease to be a causus bellum, and shift to become an indispensable voice and contributor to peace on earth.

Boston Ambassadors for Peace Fellowship Night

by Shelley Watanabe

On Monday night, Nov. 10, we held a dinner for Ambassadors for Peace who had participated in the Peace Pilgrimage. We also invited new guests who are interested in becoming Ambassadors for Peace.

The evening started off with a prayer from Father Cooner, one of our greatest allies and after the dinner our 2nd generation Miho Yoshida played the violin beautifully.

The short version of the video on the pilgrimage to Israel was shown. Rev. Wright and the Holic Church Baptist Church in Worcester gave his testimony detailing his 2 visits to Israel. He said he was very glad to have gone there and wants to be part of the reconciliation and understand of the situation there. He said he was very glad that he gave there and made a lot of effort to do this by being there. Rev. Richard Buesing then got up and gave brilliant account of his experiences there, adding in dimensions of Divine Principle and the meaning of spiritual conditions to accomplish God’s will. He spoke of the story of Abraham’s offering and the fact the Moslem, and Christian faith have the same root.

He described how in 1972 when Kim, Il Sung former president of North Korea announced that he was going to celebrate his 60th birthday in Seoul. Father Moon asked our members to pray that the Im Jin River would not freeze over. Miraculously, the river did not freeze that winter disabling Kim, Il Sung’s plans. Rev. Buesing went on to explain that after experiencing this pilgrimage to Israel, he came to understand that “the heart of both the Israel side and the Palestinian side. He said there is no other way but to help to bring about cooperation and understanding. He encouraged the audience to come on the next trip and their lives would be changed.

Bishop Sayers of the Chairman of True Family Values in New England, gave a very warm and deep understanding of Father Moon’s intention to bring world peace. He has been doing this work for over 50 years. He also described the condition of the Holy Land, and how God wants to see it restored so desperately. He is spiritually a very important part of the world since civilization began there.

We are trained in conflict resolution and they go into schools and run assemblies to teach the students about managing anger and positive ways to direct their energy. He and some of the students are very interested in the rally in Israel.

There were about forty people in attendance including twenty four guests. Most of these guests are ministers working with ALCF New England.
This is the twenty-eighth in a series of excerpts from the book 40 Years in America: An Intimate View of the Unification Movement 1959-1999. The editor is Michael Inglis, the historical text by Michael Mickler. The book is available from HSA Publications for $70 + $8 s&h. Contact them at: 4 West 43rd Street, NY, NY 10036; tel: (212) 997-0050 x2520 or at their web-site: www.hisachooks.com.

However, all of this came at a price. The movement was conducting Blessings on a mass level with double or even triple the number of participants, virtually every six months. It conducted Blessing '97 for 40 million couples in November 1997. MSG for 120 million couples followed in June 1998. Blessing '99, scheduled for February 7, 1999, was to include 240 million couples. Factoring in the billions of participants, virtually every six months.

The secret, as already noted, was to be distributed and was the result of one's efforts and to break through spiritually. This allowed God to work. Once God was free to work, there was no place for limits in terms of permissible methods or achievable totals. The leading proponent of this approach was Mrs. Young Soon Kim, commonly known as "Lady General" Kim. She was assigned to the U.S. by Rev. Moon as a "prayer lady." Highly expressive with a disarming habit of embracing members in trade- mark hugs, she organized midnight prayer meetings and fasting con- ditions in Alaska, Boston and Washington, D.C.

Many members began employing mass distribution techniques. They prepared plastic bags with holy candy and Blessing commitments printed on FPWPU business cards. The technique was to purchase large bags of hard candy from whole- sale outlets, to sanitise the candies with prayer and re-pack it, two individual pieces of candy at a time, with a single FPWPU card into small plastic bags or sealable pouches. This was time-consuming but had the advantage of involving entire tribal messiah families in assembly-line-type productions. Bags, then, could be distributed where there were large gather- ings of people. Dr. Hendricks noted, "Even a deaf sort such as I can come hand out two hundred in 20 min- utes on a crowded Manhattan corner at rush hour." Others targeted sports stadiums. Some families took to the streets with their windshields of parked cars in mall or country fair parking lots, rows at a time.

Spirit world blessings and spirit world mobilizations continued to be used, typically with a new emphasis. Moon spoke many times about good and sometimes evil spirit world assaulting the earth. The difference in 1998 and 1999 was that rather than speaking in general terms, the movement was quite specific. Thus, to some extent, flowed from the MSG event, which cited thirty-four particular spirit world representatives among the 16 billion spir- its blessed. Rev. Kwak reported that on October 5, 1998, "all spirit persons who have received the Blessing were assigned to mission countries on earth, and they will help us if we focus our efforts." At Blessing '99, 56 bil- lion spirits were reported to have been blessed. A list circulated by the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification International (FPWPUI) included the names of sixty-five Old Testament figures, twenty-seven New Testament figures, thirty-five figures from Chinese history, fifty-seven popes, twenty-six Byzantine emperors, and twenty-eight emperors of the Holy Roman Empire. The Blessing, at this point, was understood to have transcended the limitations of time and space. It had become not only a global but a cosmic event.

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Rev. Moon inaugurates a mass distribution by vice-president of the FPWPU.
A second important difference related to the time and circumstances of publication. Virtually all of the other apostate accounts had been penned between 1975-85. Especially during the early years of that period, the movement was almost universally regarded as a cult. The situation was quite different in 1998. Although the movement had not entirely shed the cult label, it made numerous inroads into American society and was accepted as legitimate in many quarters. Some members still engaged in full-time spiritual and business missions, but many others had returned to their hometowns as tribal messiahs or worked outside the church and were more or less indifferent. The circumstances created a much different environment. Between 1975-85, the movement’s defenses were up, and most members had neither the time nor the interest to assess criticisms. By 1998, the movement’s defenses were down. If members still were disinclined to read apostate accounts, many were forced to assess this one if only in response to their older children who were as yet not fully formed in the faith. And who were sensitive to public criticism. In some cases, this led to painful reassessments.

The movement as a whole responded to the situation in several specific ways. Hyon Jin Moon, recently inaugurated as Vice-President of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification, International (F FWPU), sent a letter addressed to all members on September 9th which was intended to share “the heart and spirit of my family.” He stated that they considered “Nan Sook to be part of the family...do not criticize her, even though we do not agree with what she sets forth in the book...[and] are ready to take care of unresolved problems and...would like Nan Sook to be part of the healing process.” The following day, HSA Headquarters sent a letter to members intended to help them respond to issues raised by the book. The letter outlined the movement’s position on personal and marital abuse, financial accountability, issues of political power, religious freedom, the teaching and practice of family values, and lifestyle issues. Finally, though declining to speak with media representatives, Rev. and Mrs. Moon submitted a brief statement to “Sixty Minutes” stating in part, “We commiserate with Nan Sook’s over the suffering arising from the tragic personal problems our son has faced. We, as parents, feel a deep sense of responsibility.”

On Monday, September 21st, the day after the nationwide “Sixty Minutes” broadcast, Rev. Moon addressed the movement’s East Coast members. Calling them together indicated that he took the book, the media attention, and members’ concerns seriously. Nevertheless, he placed the controversy “in the same category as other attacks upon his work” and made it clear that he would “not allow these attacks to interfere with his fulfillment of God’s will.” He told members, “Don’t worry about Nan Sook; she has fanned the fires that he’s even spent one hour talking with her.” He said that he had no regrets, that there was nothing of which he was ashamed in his life, and that he committed no fail. He concluded by asking members to send him off “with a comfortable heart, by reassuring me that you will be strong to deal with this media and keep going toward the goal.” These were the last public statements he made about the incident. However, Rev. Moon reblessed Hyo Jin at Blessing’99. He commented, “I have forgiven some of the worst criminals of history. Can’t I forgive my own son?”

A second breakdown during the latter part of 1998 precipitated less a spiritual than a material crisis. It revolved around the apparent collapse of Tongil Group, a conglomerate or chaebol of the movement’s business and industrial holdings in Korea. According to one report, difficulties facing the Tongil Group had become increasingly apparent since May when one of its mem-

ber firms, the Il Hwa soft drinks maker, went out of business. This was followed by failure to win the right to develop a tourist resort in North Korea, part of an agreement Rev. Moon had reached with the late North Korean Premier Kim Il Sung but which was lost during the autumn as a result of financial concerns about Tongil. On November 5, 1998, four companies of the Tongil Group—Tongil Heavy Industries, Hankook Tita-

ritum, Il Song Construction and Il Shin Stone—filed for bankruptcy. An official of the South Korean government’s newly formed financial supervisory service said that the debts of the group’s sixteen companies exceeded $1.7 billion U.S. dollars.

South Korea’s economic crisis, particularly restrictions on bank lending following the International Mon-

etary Fund’s $58 billion bailout of the Korean econo-

my, contributed to Tongil’s decline. The wider Asian economic crisis, especially in recession-hit Japan, an important market for Tongil Group products, also con-

tributed. However, the main problem, according to a South Korean analyst, was that “The Tongil compa-
nies suffer from bad management.... They relied too much on church donations. It was a kind of moral haz-
ard.” There also were misunderstandings between man-

agement and labor. Tongil Heavy Industries laid off 800 workers who then charged that they had been illegally dismissed without pay. Those who lost their jobs staged demonstrations and even threatened violence during a speech tour Rev. Moon conducted in Korea during Jan-

uary.

Amazingly, these breakdowns had little effect on Bless-


“About twenty days before the actual day of the Blessing...I received the news that...Blessing’99 would be held not in ChamShil Gymnasium as planned by the Korean Church, but rather at Seoul Olympic Stadium!! Outdoors!! In February! Wintertime!!!” How the Korean movement mobilized more than 100,000 people and 3,000 buses, fulfilling practically all seats in the stadium three hours before the event was something of a mystery to Western observers. However, it was apparent that the weather had not deterred. Sub-freezing temperatures warmed considerably, and conditions on the day of the ceremony were quite good. Blessing’99 and associated events penetrated Korean society far more than had the previous two International Blessing Ceremonies and WSCF’s in 1992 and 1995. The key breakthrough was South Korean President Kim Dae Jung’s presence at the Tenth Anniversary Celebration of the movement’s owned Seogyo Times newspaper on February 1st. Though Tongil Group might be suffering, The Segyo Times had “placed its founder on the map in Korean society and in its corridors of power.” Kim Dae Jung not only disguised the fraud but also suffused his from attending but, according to a move-ment report, “brought with him the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the leaders of political parties, and other figures central to the administration of the nation.” He shared the podium with Rev. Moon and participated in an anniversary cake-cutting.

Gen. Alexander Haig, Jr., former U.S. Secretary of State under Ronald Reagan and White House Chief of Staff under Richard Nixon, provided a similar focal point for the WSCF’s Special Convocation on “Family Ethics and World Peace: “In an introduction to Rev. Moon, Haig described how their lives first intersected during the Korean War, praised Rev. Moon for his conciliatory approach to President Nixon during the Watergate cri-\n
sis, and again praised Rev. Moon’s role in the downfall of communism. At a well-attended press brief-

ing, when asked if he were a Unification Church mem-

ber, Haig replied, “No, but who couldn’t support the val-

ues espoused here at this conference? It would be like being against motherhood.”
I explore deeper into the story of Pi. It is during this time that we find an orangutan, a hyena, and a Bengal tiger on a small lifeboat. The company of a zebra, a hyena, and a Bengal tiger is a dramatic and surprising twist of fate, blending seemingly independent thinkers and ideas to possess: perfection in simplicity. Pi's concern for the other passengers on the lifeboat is so touching and desirable.

As Pi lingers in his lifeboat for 287 days, watching all but the tiger and himself die, he undergoes spiritual and physical realization and growth. Pi slips away from his satirical reality and finds God in his own way. He finds Krishna in the tiger's stripes, he finds Jesus in the raw fish he eats, he finds Allah in the sun that watches every night. It seems so easy for him to relate religious thought to his own life. Alone for nearly a year, he finds Allah in the sun, Krishna in the tiger's stripes, and Jesus in the raw fish he eats. Pi's journey through India and the Pacific seemed fate, something we all can ponder the influence of. His destiny held complicated tangles of histories and decisions, of challenges and faith. He defeated obstacles brilliantly, relying on his beautiful characteristic of making over-dramatized things painfully clear. He came out in the end with all of his Gods, all his beliefs, and an understanding of religion and life that no one could take away.

Life of Pi teaches us about religion, balance, human nature, and the inclusive life.

IN MEMORIAM
Natsuki Yoshida

Natsuki Yoshida was born in Japan in 1983 and moved to Kenya with her family when she was 6 years old. Her parents were Blessed in the 1800 Couple Blessing, Natsuki joined STF in the beginning of March, 2003. During the kick-off workshop in July, she became sick and was taken to Albany Memorial Hospital where she was diagnosed with leukemia. She received chemotherapy for almost 2 weeks and was preparing to have a bone marrow transplant in Japan. Unfortunately, her central nervous system suddenly became infected, and she went to the spirit world on August 19th.

The Seung Hwa Ceremony was conducted on August 29th at Kosei Church in Tokyo, Japan, and attended by over 100 people. On the same day, Natsuki was buried in One Reen where many other church members are buried. International STF Director, Mr. Ittetsu Aoki, and 2 IW's (Ritsuko Setida and Makiko Watanabe) from STF USA attend, as well as the STF-Japan Director, Mr. Ohkawara, World CARP-Japan President, Mr. Matsunami, and STF-Korea Director, Mr. Yoon.

IN MEMORIAM
Ulrike Bessell

Mrs. Ulrike Bessell passed to the spirit world on September 13, 2003 while brothers and sisters from around the world gathered in New York representing the seven providential nations related to World War II. Historically speaking, these are enemy nations, but their sons and daughters are coming together for peace and the fulfillment of God's providence.

The Bessell family has been a model of Abel-like and faithful responsiveness to the will of God. As a National Messiah couple, they have taken on a major responsibility, and have carried out that responsibility in Guatemala in an exemplary way. I also know that the second generation of the Bessell family are leading exemplary lives in service to God's providence.

As we know, our True Father has taught us of the three realms of life. That is, our life in the womb of our mother, our life on this earth, and our life in the spiritual world. Our cosmic home and destiny is to dwell with God in the spiritual world. God does not consider this life as our permanent dwelling place. Rather, it is the school from which we are to graduate. Our mission during our time in this physical world is to develop our character as people of true love, as true sons and daughters of our True Parents.
of the Nazarene, which fostered the Bible Missionary Church. They split into the extremely strict Wesleyan Holiness Church.

Getting Along

The majority of Americans are Chris-
tain. Americans also know lots of people who
aren't. Most get along just fine, as
neighbors and in the workplace.
Conservatism is all okay, whether the attrac-
tion is social, spiritual, or intellectual.
Unfortunately, instead of accepting this social variety, a few religions strain only to look backward. Supposedly, things were just peacily a thousand years ago, and everything done since ought to be blown up, or at least banned.

That's the total opposite of American optimism. It's also tragic, and they're hurting their own believers even more than those at which they sometimes lash out.

Believers

Almost all believers are sincere, whether they've been educated in their faith, or survivors might gather at Ground Zero in

NYC.

Everyone I've asked says, "No way!"

They say there's a mindset that will never change. Also, that it's too squalid over there, for them to even be alive in fifty years.

I'm certain that folks said the same thing about the Imperial Japanese.

Fakes

There are pretend believers.

In impoverished lands, missionaries coined the term 'rice Christian' for those who sang loudest in choir, but took off the minute the food ran out.

Christianity got a lot of insincere con-
verts after the persecution ended, and
churches became wealthy and influen-
tial. A handful of notorious televangelists have brought such efforts to a pinnacle.

Most fake believers are self-serving,
but worse, a few serve a hidden cause.
These range from discreet spies to agents provocateurs, who join religious organi-
zations to watch, or even disrupt, them.

Be Always Thankful

Be thankful to those who train me to be strong and mature.

Be thankful to those who crumple me, for they strengthen my legs.

Be thankful to those who forsake me, for they teach my independence.

Be thankful to those who beat me, for they activate my courage.

Be thankful to those who defame me, for they refine my personality.

Be thankful to those who hurt me, for they harden my will.

Believers almost have a 'believer's guilt.' It varies, though in most churches, women are the more vulnerable. On any Sabbath day, just about their own religion (or lack there-

of). The Principle explains history's unfold-
ing, and religion is the best place to get

an answer, and practice. In it, I mentioned that Pearl Harbor sur-

vivors might gather at Ground Zero in NYC.

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Representatives of

Seven Nations visit Japan

November 12, 2003

84 representatives of 7 nations came to Japan through the Fukuoka Seaport on November 7. They made three teams for Tokyo, Okada and Nagoya to establish Peace UN. They worked for the Inaugural Convention of the Peace UN held in Japan on November 20.

They're grimly sincere about their cause.

Be thankful to those who hunt me, for they harden my will.

Be thankful to those who cheat me, for they increase my wisdom.

Be thankful to those who defame me, for they refine my personality.

Be thankful to those who beat me, for they activate my courage.

Be thankful to those who forsake me, for they teach my independence.

Be thankful to those who betray me, for they mature my judgment.

Be thankful to those who crumple me, for they strengthen my legs.

Be thankful to those who scold me, for they remind my shortcomings.

I am thankful to all those who train me to be strong and mature.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

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