

UNIVERSAL PEACE FEDERATION

Seoul ILC on New Paradigms for Peace



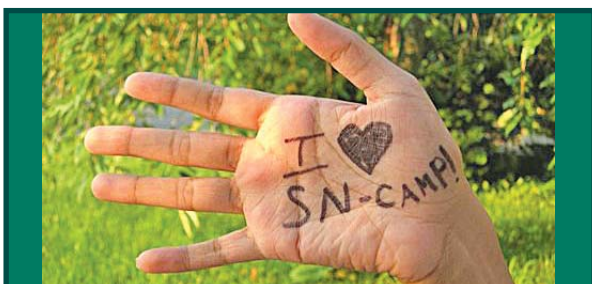
Chil Pal Jeol Anniversary • p. 3



Meeting Mega Churches • p. 5



ILS Keynote Address • p. 7



New Voices • p. 22-25

I N S I D E

| | |
|------------------------------|----|
| Church Calender | 2 |
| UPF in Sri Lanka | 8 |
| Rev. Kwak Address at ILS | 9 |
| National Witnessing Assembly | 10 |
| World Premiere Concert | 16 |



by Hiroshi Yamazaki

Seven years into the new millennium the dream of peace is still a far cry from reality. Yet the UPF continues to explore new and innovative paradigms for peace. This was the theme of the most recent International Leadership Conference (ILC) hosted by the Universal Peace Federation in Seoul, South Korea from July 17-20, with more than 300 participants including 20 senior diplomats as well as religious, academic and media leaders.

Most of the participants were from the United States, Britain and France -- the former Allied powers of World War II. According to the organizer, the New York-based Universal Peace Federation, a similar conference will be held this autumn with participants from the former Axis powers of Germany, Italy and Japan. This unusual grouping infers that current obstacles to world peace stem from certain limitations and contradictions inherent in the post-war regime.

One of UPF's diplomatic initiatives is the renewal of the United Nations, the primary post-war institution for international peace and security, set up initially by the former Allies. Among its proposed reforms, UPF has suggested that the United Nations create an Inter-religious Council that would include represen-

tatives from all the world's religions. This proposal was contained in a draft resolution submitted by the Philippines' U.N. representative, calling for inter-religious dialogue under U.N. auspices. The resolution was endorsed for further deliberation, according to Ricardo de Sena, UPF's director of U.N. Relations.

Global security is deeply affected by religious factors, as the current international Islamist jihad and the War on Terror demonstrate. Yet UPF's leaders see calls for violence as the political misuse of religion, which could be corrected if world religious leaders had a stronger international voice. The group does not hesitate to advocate diplomacy and global governance centering on faith in God and spiritual reality.

"When the world is facing problems whose solutions are so elusive through political, economic or military means, people have become desperate to look for value-oriented options, including religion," said Jack Corley, assistant secretary-general of UPF.

Dr. Thomas Walsh, UPF secretary general, sees religions as "drawing people and their conduct to a higher reality, higher principles and higher calling."

Mohammed Idrees of the Birmingham City Council in Britain, agreed with the idea of seeking to involve religious leaders in peace processes. "No religion preaches hatred," he pointed out.

see ILS on page 14

FOUNDER’S DISCOURSE ON UNIFICATIONISM

People of Peace

by Reverend Sun Myung Moon

These are notes from the 5 am prayer and reading with True Parents at Cheong Jeong Goong Original Peace Palace, July 6, 2007. Notes by Rev. Michael Jenkins, translated by Tossa Cromwell, edited by Louise Strait and Mr. J. Flynn. These notes are taken from a simultaneous translation. Simultaneous translation is done in summary form and depends greatly on the translator’s ability to communicate the essence of the message. These cannot be published as definitive texts and should never be used in the future as an “official” publication on Rev. Moon’s words. However they do provide a good idea of the “spirit” of the message.

Korea, Japan, and America must work together centering on the Universal Peace Federation to fulfill the blessing of all families. Centering on Christianity and America, we must bring about unity for the sake of the blessing and create the unified realm of the ocean culture in the next three years. Together we need to connect everything internally and externally. Even the different kinds of martial arts, Tae Kwon Do and Won Hwa Do, must be unified We must expand the realm of martial arts to block Satan. We have to reverse the realm of incorrect teaching leading to terrorism. Terrorists are

like false martial arts practitioners. To reverse this, there must be true martial arts.

The parents were kicked out of the door of heaven through the fall of Adam and Eve. The evil lineage couldn't be stopped until True Parents came with the heavenly lineage. You need to know how great Heaven's will is at this time. All citizens of Korea should be encouraged to receive the holy wine and engraft into the true olive tree. This should be accomplished by January 13, 2013, first in each community with 20 people, then 200 people, then 2,200 people, rising beyond each and every level.

God is going to clean this world up. Everything will come together through the blessing and cross-cultural marriage. We must make a world in which heaven and earth can come together, creating a whole realm of liberation and complete release. We must be successful on July 17, August 17 and September 17. The day before yesterday was America's Independence Day. We had the blessing of previous marriages, the blessing of age 24 and older, and the blessing of ages 16 - 24. Those seven years between 16 and 24 are important. The blessing protects young people. You don't know when they will fall, in college or the army. Satan will attack.

God must clean up the fallen world. The first thing is we must clean up our own lives and family. Satan has worked

for thousands of years. We must get rid of the name of Satan. You can't just play around; this is a matter of life and death. The satanic world must be cleansed. Don't just use money any way you want -you must make sure there is no one starving. Your property is not your own. The death of Jesus made God and True Parents suffer. Now I am seeking to rectify all of this in one generation. No matter what, you must hold on to True Parents. We must create a heavenly world.

Because three generations have been connected through the True Family, then you cannot live for your own family. This is the age of Cheon Il Guk. Whoever has opposed me in history has declined. If you don't accept your responsibility, you may disappear. Politics has come to dominate the spiritual realm because of the satanic world. We must set things in the proper balance. The spiritual realm must be in the lead, centering on true love.

We must build an organization of leaders and educate them. You should know this principle clearly. Through educating the leaders, we can fulfill and lead the nation. I will not be a peace king who just sits around.

We will now read the 3-7th peace message. We must read all the way

through 10 today! Maybe we will have to skip breakfast!

[Won Ju read the peace messages].

Father Moon:

The peace messages began with True Parents introducing the true owners and True Parents. They end with the Pacific Rim Era, in which True Parents and true owners are completed and the era of peace unfolds. A special memo must be created.

Rev. Hwang: We must create Cheon Il Guk based on Father's message and on the completion of God's providence. One key to the establishment of Cheon Il Guk will be the second anniversary of the establishment of the Abel UN. Father will launch the substantial Abel UN on September 12, 2007. Father is creating the Abel UN, to lift up God as the center of peace. On September 17, Father will create an organization of former diplomats.

The Pacific Rim Era was launched in Hawaii on March 17 and on April 17 in Korea. May 17 was the Washington Times 25th anniversary. Next there will be a special conference from July 17, involving America, France, and England. Then on August 17, leaders will gather from Germany, Italy, and Japan. Finally there will be a special five-day

S E P T E M B E R 2 0 0 7

Ahn Shi Il • 3rd, 11th, 19th, 27th

- 1 Cheon Bu Ju Hwi: Declaration Day of Heavenly Parentism (1989)
- 6 Hyung Jin Nim & Yeon Ah Nim's Blessing (1997)
- 8 Sa Sa Jeol Declaration (1998)
- 9 9.9 Jeol: Heaven and Earth Unification and Liberation Ceremony (1999)
- 10 Shin Ji Nim's Birthday (7/30/94)
3.10 Jeol (1999)
- 12 Shin Joong Nim's Birthday (8/2/93)
Universal Peace Federation Inauguration (2005)
- 14 Interrreligious and International Blessing and Rededication Ceremony (2002)
- 15 Hye Shin Nim's Ascension (1971)
- 16 Hyung Jin Nim's Birthday (8/6/79)
- 18 Foundation Day (1976)
Ultimas Noticias Established (1981)
- 25 Chusok – Korean Thanksgiving (8/15)
- 26 Kook Jin Nim & Ji Hye Nim's Blessing (2004)
- 27 Day of Dispensational Transition Point Toward Unification (1988)

O C T O B E R 2 0 0 7

Ahn Shi Il • 5th, 13th, 2st, 29th

- 1 Ocean Church Founded
- 3 Foundation Day for the Nation of the Unified World (1988)
Interreligious and International Peace Council Inauguration (2003)
- 4 Foundation for the Support of HSA-UWC Established (1963)
Day of Victory of Heaven (1976)
- 5 Proclamation of Total Liberation and Unification between the Physical World and the Spiritual World (1998)
- 10 New York City Symphony Orchestra Support Began (1975)

C A L E N D A R

Sang Ship Jeol: Double 10 Day (1999)

- 11 Father's father's Ascension (1954)
National Professors and Students Federation for North-South Reunification Established (1986)
Opening of Cheonsung Palace Training Center (1999)
- 14 Ji Hye Nim's Birthday (9/4/79)
6000 Couples' Blessing (1982)
- 18 Shin Myung Nim's Birthday (9/8/86)
- 21 In Sup Nim's Birthday (9/11/72)
777 Couples' Blessing (1970)
- 23 Declaration Ceremony for the Liberation of the Parents of Heaven and Earth and the Substantial Realm (1999)
- 26 Shin Eh Nim's Birthday (9/16/89)
- 27 Young Jin Nim's Ascension (1999)
- 28 Shin Mi Nim's Birthday (9/18/77)
Shin Ok Nim's Birthday (9/18/89)
Shin Ah Nim's Birthday (9/18/98)
- 30 6500 Couples' Blessing (1988)

N O V E M B E R 2 0 0 7

Ahn Shi Il • 6th, 14th, 22nd, 30th

- 3 Daemo-nim's Ascension (1989)
Shin Pal Nim's Birthday (9/24/98)
- 10 True Children's Day (10/1/60)
- 13 Shin Sun Nim's Birthday (10/4/90)
- 14 International Christian Students Association (1981)
- 15 Shin Hoon Nim's Birthday (10/6/94)
- 22 Hye Shin Nim's Birthday (10/13/63)
- 23 Shin Chool Nim's Birthday (10/14/99)
Tiempos Del Mundo Established (1996)
- 27 Shin Young Nim's Birthday (10/18/86)
Sun Hwa Academy purchased (2002)
- 29 3.6 Million Couples' & 36 Million Couples' Blessing (1997)

Due to the manner in which the lunar calendar corresponds with the solar calendar, Yun Ah Nim's and Un Jin Nim's birthdays are not celebrated in 2006. Contact me if you come across any errors. (c) 1999-2004 Kathryn Coman [KathrynComan@worldnet.att.net]

FOUNDER'S DISCOURSE ON UNIFICATIONISM

and the Pacific Rim

education program centering on September 17. The Abel UN should not be a simple, internal organization; it should have the participation of nations and become substantial. Other nations must receive God's guidance and become united in harmony.

This is the direction of the providence; this is what is given to us. To achieve this, each nation must be born through the blessing of its people. To accomplish this, we should send out 2,000 saints to the nations to bring the blessing. Blessed families need to go around the world to give the blessing. Two thousand families from Korea, two thousand from Japan and 200 from America must go out to 200 nations for this.

We have to find the people of each country who are prepared to be anointed and educated by God to become the patriots to lead their nations into the heavenly kingdom. Each tribe of Korea can work to create peace in these organizations; every tribe should participate. We have to basically win over societies and nations with love.

In 2000 Father was 80 years old, and there was a great celebration. In 2001 Father created Cheon Il Guk. In 2003 Father was blessed again. 2005 was the external Cheon Il Guk. What Father has been seeking to do is to create the Universal Peace Federation. In 2005 and 2006 True Parents and the True Family traveled the world. It was the time to rally for the Universal Peace Federation. Then Father asked 120 religious leaders to carry the Peace Message around the world. Then 12,000 peace messages had to be delivered in all 120 nations. This was completed by the beginning of 2007. On March 17, 2007, Father announced the creation of a new era of peace, centering on the Pacific Rim Era. Now we must establish the Pacific Rim

culture centering on the leadership of women.

Father summarized: We have to create a new leadership body that will guide the world. Cain killed Abel, and thus history was one of bloodshed. We have resolved the Fall and restored the position of the Elder Son; we are entering an age when even Satan can help the

cause of goodness.

The fifteen peace messages are the Three Great Subjects Thought, which was there even before God created. This is the course of restoration through indemnity.

Even my family has to attend True Parents. The Moon family and the Han family should have exchange blessings.

The peace messages are completed; the truth armament is here. When you use the peace messages as your pair of glasses, you can distinguish between the satanic world and the good world.

It doesn't matter how much property or wealth you have or don't have; from now your prosperity, wealth and happiness will come about centering on the peace messages. The fruits of what you do now will be seen in three years. What you do now will bear fruit 100 and 1,000 years from now.❖



The
11th Anniversary
of Chil Pal Jeol
August 1 2007
CJG, Korea



International Leadership Conference

by Dr. Michael Jenkins

From July 17 to July 21, the International Leadership Conference (ILC) conducted a seminar in Seoul, Korea, for Ambassadors for Peace and delegates from the United States, United Kingdom, and France as well as ambassadors to those nations and to the United Nations from many countries of the world. The theme of this conference for the over 300 diplomats and leaders was "Providing Vision and Leadership at a Time of Global Crisis." Dr. Hyun Jin Moon chaired the conference, and Amb. Phillip V. Sanchez was cochair. Dr. Thomas Walsh, secretary general of the Universal Peace Federation (UPF), designed and guided the conference, which received high marks in reflections given by the participants in terms of quality, diversity, and uniqueness.

The opening dinner was moderated by Jack Corley, assistant Secretary General of the UPF. Welcome remarks came from Amb. Phillip Sanchez, Rev. David Hart, international secretary of the World Congress of Faiths, as well as the Hon. Donzella James, former senator of Georgia. The keynote address for the evening was given by Dr. Chang Shik Yang, chairman of UPF for North America. There was great excitement from the very beginning as three nations that represented the Allies of World War II were gathered together. The spirit of the conference emphasized the importance of achieving peace through dialogue and understanding, with a new vision of leadership based on core values that affirm faith and respect for all religions, races and cultures.

The next morning Dr. Walsh moderated the opening plenary titled "Providing Vision and Leadership: What is needed at this time in history to create a world of peace and human development." Renowned journalist and author Mr. Alan Hart from the United Kingdom gave quite a stunning address, in which he mentioned, "I never have talked about God in a public forum before, but today I will speak about God." He emphasized that in all his years as a journalist, one of the things he saw was that leaders and elected officials do not stick to their principles but often are caught trying to win votes rather than lead nations. Therefore, many of the things needed to bring statesmen, diplomacy, and a world of peace are lost as politicians focus not on the benefit of the nation but on their own political survival.

One former American ambassador, appointed to various diplomatic posts by several U.S. Presidents emphasized the importance of the family and that though she was new to the UPF, she enjoyed very much the spirit of the conference and the respect demonstrated for all faiths, as well as the theme of

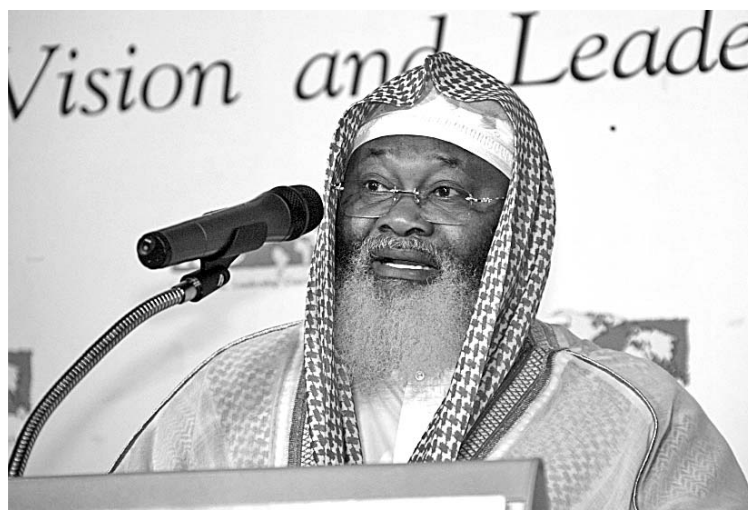
the centrality of the family.

Amb. Pierre Lafrance, former ambassador from France to Mauritania and Pakistan, encouraged the delegates to seek new ways to achieve peace at a conference such as this, which focuses on core values that together with the spiritual perspective brings a new

onated in a profound way with the audience, which was composed of elected officials, diplomats, ambassadors, opinion makers, journalists, and religious leaders. The gridlock at the dais after his speech was evidence of the overwhelming impact he had on the delegates. His presence and leadership are

alties.

Session 4 was "A Vision for Peace: One Family Under God." Mr. Tim Miller, vice-chair of UPF-Europe, moderated. Mr. Jim Flynn, secretary general of UPF-North America, gave a presentation on God's original ideal of peace. These were high-level presentations of



and fresh understanding to the possibilities for peace.

Rev. Dr. Clinton Bennett, former executive secretary for interfaith relations of the British Council of Churches and associate professor of ministry at UTS Interfaith Seminary, shared that though he is a theologian, he would not talk about God and religion but rather about politics. He went on to describe the fact that the faiths get involved with building boundaries and barriers, and politically dividing one from another over the slightest thing. This is destructive. He called for the delegates to realize that we were all part of one global community and that the faiths of the world should not be political; rather, they should show the way to value and appreciate every manifestation of God in humanity by seeking unity and understanding.

The keynote speaker of the day was Dr. Hyun Jin Preston Moon, chairman of the ILC. Dr. Moon delivered the core message that he's been repeatedly delivering during the 50-state tour of America, the 12-city tour to churches last January, the Korean Parliament, as well as to youth leaders in the Philippines and throughout the world. That message concerns the vision of his father, Rev. Sun Myung Moon, a vision that is now manifesting globally as a direction for peace and understanding in the world. That vision is one family under God.

His address and his presence res-

definitely helping people understand the life and ministry of his parents, Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon.

The next session was titled "Providing Vision and Leadership at a Time of Global Crisis," moderated by Ms. Margaret Ali, director of UPF in the United Kingdom. President Yong Cheol Song, chair of European Region I of the UPF, gave welcoming remarks. Mr. Jack Corley gave an overview of UPF in 2007, and a presentation on the need for new vision was given by Dr. Michael Jenkins, chairman of UPF-USA.

Session 3, "Religions, Diplomacy and Conflict Resolution," was moderated by Dr. Song. Dr. Thomas Walsh spoke on the significance of religious life and spirituality. Mr. Ricardo de Sena gave a presentation on renewal at the UN and the significance of civil society and religion. This session emphasized that conflicts arise for many reasons, but one of the primary factors related to their emergence is the disharmony among world religions. When we witness global tragedies, we should recognize how important it is for religions to come together to dialogue for the benefit of the whole human family. At the root, human problems are not entirely social or political, so those kinds of solutions will always be of limited effectiveness. Religion lies at the heart of national and cultural identity and has far greater importance in people's hearts than do political loy-

the core values expressed in the Principle about God's original ideal of peace, emphasizing the importance of the family as God's original model for teaching the four great realms of heart—parents' love, children's love, and love between husband and wife, and brothers and sisters. Jack Corley gave a presentation on the family as an instrument of peace.

The evening concluded with a special address by Rev. Chung Hwan Kwak, chairman of UPF. His address emphasized that the core breakdown that occurred in humanity happened at the very beginning, when the first human ancestors disobeyed God. The International Leadership Conference under Rev. Kwak and Dr. Walsh's leadership is bringing forward the most essential teachings on ethics and values and helping people understand the broader perspective of the work of UPF and its founder, the Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon. Over 50,000 Ambassadors for Peace in Korea have now completed these seminars, creating a whole new dimension of leadership in which diplomatic skills and leadership qualities are now being strengthened and supplemented by moral values and ethics. Honesty, trust, integrity, faith, fidelity, and living for the sake of others are core principles that are absolutely necessary for diplomatic efforts to bring peace. Rev. Kwak stated, "Given this reality, how can we move forward and

see **ILS** on page 6

Meeting with Mega Churches

by Rev. Michael Jenkins

We have begun an effort through ACLC to meet some of the key Christian megachurch leaders of America. We have been working through Archbishop Stallings, Pastor Barrett, Rev. Bennit Hayes, Rev. Charles Keys, Rev. Edwards, Senator Donzella James, Rev. Abernathy, Bishop Pugh, and many other key leaders.

The foundation has been already been established through True Parents' decades of work to embrace and support Christianity and to foster unity of all faiths. The doors are opening. During this week we set up appointments for Dr. Hyun Jin Preston Moon who graduated from the Unification Theological Seminary and has truly been anointed by God to pick up the work of his father's ministry.

We began in Los Angeles and have been meeting some of America's most renowned spiritual leaders. We are in Chicago now, tomorrow Atlanta, and then to Newark. Throughout America all the megachurch pastors have been contacted by our ACLC pastors and District Directors. We have received such an incredibly warm welcome.

The foundation is totally prepared and so many of the old barriers are gone. Dr. Moon speaks with confidence and love as he says we have moved into the era when faith leaders must show the example and bring faiths, races and peoples together as "One Family Under God." This message has profound impact and is so timely. The leaders feel this universal message is consistent with their fundamental beliefs.

All the spiritual leaders we have met have agreed that now is the time for faith leaders to unite to secure the direction of America in a way that cannot be done by political or social leaders. Only faith leaders can really promote faith in God and a practice of building true families with the love of Jesus and, with that love, embrace all religions. America was designed to be the leader of the world in this way. However, because the faith leaders are divided, Amer-

ica is in trouble, from the families in this nation to global affairs. The Christian leaders and Christianity at large are the foundation of the spirit of America. America is founded on the spirit that we must love our enemies and serve them so that we might make them our family.

The foundation of True Parents is real and the ACLC clergy leaders are now in a position to gain the support of the pastors that God has blessed.

The ACLC clergy have absolute conviction. Bishop Stallings, who is very well known in his own right, has opened many of these doors. Also our Muslim leader, like Imam Haitham Bundakji, have done genuine interfaith work in America and are also playing a key role to open the hearts of these key leaders to see the that the ministry of Dr. Hyun Jin Moon is bringing unity to the body of Christ.

To see the expression of the teach-

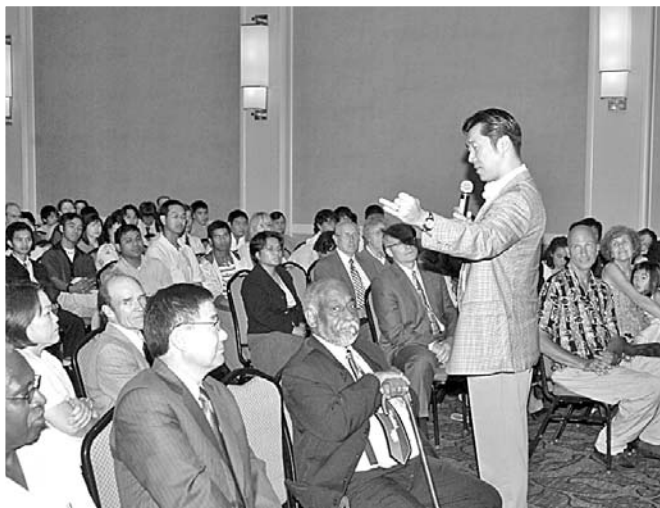
ing and heart of True Parents through their son Dr. Hyun Jin Moon is a sight to behold. Many of these megachurch pastors we are meeting are the sons (and daughters) of great clergy who pioneered hugely important ministries that influence the nation. There is a resonance between them and Hyun Jin Nim as they affirm that spiritual leaders must lead this nation. They share with Hyun Jin Nim the special experience of having inherited the legacy" of their fathers and the responsibility to build on the legacy to make a better world. There is a special heart-to-heart experience being shared. Jesus is blessing this effort and we believe Jesus is liberated by the fact that his church is coming together now.

Father asked all blessed central families to take care of the Christian churches by each family caring for three churches. (One family-three churches). Now is the time that every family should visit every month a Christian church of ACLC just to take care of the pastor and his family and help them come together with ACLC. Help them see the vision of "One Family Under God". The

foundation is totally prepared. We could see in LA the incredible years of outreach by Rev. Tim Henning, Rev. Mark Tengan, Susan Munsell and Naoko san. The deep connections they had to these churches and their key associate pastors allowed our appointments to be firmly secured.

We are grateful for the inspiration that Hyun Jin Nim had that now is the time to reach out for the top leaders and that these great independent pastors are ready to move together to bring unity of all faiths to rebuild the family, restore the community and renew the nation and the world.

Thanks, America. The time has come for the harvest. ♦



CHICAGO
August 9, 2007



LOS ANGELES
August 8, 2007

ILS from page 4

create a world of true and lasting peace? That is the purpose of this conference. We will learn principles and methods that show the way to move from a state of hostility and conflict, to a state of peace: from resentment to reconciliation: and, from enemy relationships to relationships of true love."

The 50,000 Korean Ambassadors for Peace who graduated from these seminars are former and current members of parliament, governors, ambassadors, military generals, professors, and leaders of society. That's why a very noticeable change is occurring in Korea at this time; the value of the life and work of Rev. Moon is coming to be appreciated and understood. Many are clearly identifying this work as a central hope for a peaceful reunification of Korea as well as for bringing peace in the Middle East and ending war and conflicts in the world.

The next day was very special experience. The whole conference was invited as special guests to the Peace Palace at Cheong Pyeong. A stirring performance was given by Professor Kim, renowned opera star with a very full and rich baritone voice, of the theme song from Exodus as well as a Korean folk song. The Peace Palace is

high in the mountains surrounding Cheong Pyeong and generally has a magnificent view of the valley and lake. On this day, however, the whole area was cloudy, with only the tops of the mountains peaking through the clouds and the light rain. It gives a mystical feeling that the Peace Palace is sitting on the clouds.

Dr. Walsh was the emcee for this special luncheon. Archbishop Stallings gave a beautiful prayer to open the occasion. Mr. Alan Hart from the United Kingdom noted that he himself had been married 44 years, which drew applause from all. And he offered a toast calling for all families to be blessed in marriage, to be faithful in their marriages, and to bring peace in the world.

Mr. Richard Jorandby (who was elected to seven terms as public defender in south Florida), was one of the participants who gave reflections. He has been aware of Reverend Moon's work for 27 years but watched from afar. He apologized to Reverend Moon for not having helped him during



those 27 years; but now he has found a way to help as an Ambassador for Peace. He pledged his full commitment to take some of the burden off Reverend Moon and expressed appreciation for his Moon's tireless, patient efforts to love all humanity.

Dr. Khan, a heart surgeon from the

bringing peace in the Middle East. He pledged that this would be his lifelong work.

Dr. Hyun Jin Moon introduced his father, the founder of the UPF. Father Moon gave the Pacific Rim Era address, which was the same address given on March 17, April 17, May 17, and June 17, and now became part of this July 17th convocation. Reverend Moon emphasized that these seven convocations from March 17 in Hawaii each month until September 17th in New York have an important significance as foundations for preparing for a complementary United Nations, which he called the "Abel UN."

Though Reverend Moon's written text only takes 30 minutes for him to read, his address lasted more than three hours as he felt deeply inspired by the gathering of the Allied nations of the United States, the United King-

dom, and France. He emphasized that we're creating a new era, revisiting the time after World War II, when the Allies launched the UN; now they are creating the Abel UN. He emphasized the role of women, saying that nations with a majority of women as elected officials will more quickly rise to the call of peace. He also emphasized the importance of the dignity of women and the

importance of respecting them. He called upon all of the women there to think of him as an elder brother who wants to protect them and reminded them that the greatest protection is forming strong families with faithful husbands, children, and grandchildren to make three generations.

There was great humor, warmth, and love, in the address, as well as seriousness appropriate to the crisis we are facing at this time. Overall there was an enormous spirit of confidence. Diplomats from Africa, the Middle East, Asia, South America, and Europe were in attendance, coming from UN and diplomatic positions in the United States, the United Kingdom, and France to learn and understand how we might deliberate more effectively toward peace.

Hearing a three-hour address was overwhelming for many of the participants. Father, however, won the day with his passion, his love, and his heart. People were amazed that a man of his age could express such vibrant energy akin to that of a man in his 40s.

At the end, the ambassador from Chad and his wife presented flowers to True Parents. Dr. Walsh, the moder-



United Kingdom, spoke movingly about how the conference's emphasis on the family couldn't come at a more crucial time, when the family is under great stress. If the family is weak, society is weak. Dr. Khan also praised the work of the UPF in the Middle East and said that the greatest gift we could give Reverend Moon at this time is our commitment and ultimately success at

dom, and France. He emphasized that we're creating a new era, revisiting the time after World War II, when the Allies launched the UN; now they are creating the Abel UN. He emphasized the role of women, saying that nations with a majority of women as elected officials will more quickly rise to the call of peace. He also emphasized the importance of the dignity of women and the

ator of the luncheon, called upon Reverend Jenkins to give four cheers of Ok Mansei, which means eternal blessing upon your faith, family, nation and all humanity.

It was beautiful to hear the testimonies of the participants after the event was over. They felt truly that Rev. Moon had changed their perspective and given them a new and fresh understanding that all religions can be harmonized and that we can achieve peace in our time.

The conference had further presentations on reconciling enemies and the core cause of conflict. All in all the conference was uplifting and filled with hope that peace will be realized. That night the conference were special guests of the Peace Cup Tournament and watched France win against Argentina.

The next morning at breakfast at the Original Peace Palace and Museum, Rev. Kwak, Dr. Yang, and Rev. Song gave very detailed presentations on the testimonies from the various participants in this extraordinary conference. True Parents were moved at the profound commitment for peace that the Ambassadors are sharing and realizing through UPF. ❖



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ILS KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Open Your Mind to a Vision of Peace

by Hyun Jin Moon

This is the keynote address given by Hyun Jin Nim at the International Leaders' Conference for Japanese, Italian, and German Ambassadors for Peace. Aug. 18th, 20007, Seoul, Korea. Lotte Hotel.

Distinguished panel, respected guests from abroad, especially from the axis nations of Germany, Italy, and Japan. Welcome to Korea and to this

International Leadership Conference. I know that you have all made a long journey to this, my homeland and the homeland of my parents, to participate in this most special and illustrious of conferences that deals with the current crisis that our world is engaged in at this very moment.

As you all know, the world is in peril. We stand on the precipice of a century that could lead to peace, or a century that could carry on the horrible legacy that humanity had to endure since the beginning of human history; the legacy of war, conflict, misunderstanding, hatred, you name it. Those of us gathered in this auditorium were probably born in the 20th century. Many of us developed ourselves, our concepts our perspectives in that century. Yet when we reflect on the 20th century—that century rooted in the Atlantic sphere, it has been a century of the greatest violence, wretched in its crimes against humanity.

Comparatively, to all the centuries preceding, more people died in the 20th century than in all the centuries combined. The war was engaged in conflict. Up until the 20th century there was no such thing as a world war; yet, we had three world wars in the 20th century. We had the First World War, the Second World War and then we had the Cold War. It was a century of unprecedented violence, bitterness, and hatred. Yet, tremendous things happened in the 20th century, things that we take for granted today in terms of development in the sciences, as well as efforts to bring the international community together.

As we can see, the founding of the United Nations happened shortly after the Second World War and what a commendable effort it was for the world community, trying to build an illustrious international body that could deal with the problems of war and conflict. Yet still, as we look at the world today, we see that we have not resolved these fundamental root problems that lead to war and conflict.

The reason why we are gathered here today, the reason why I am able to stand here and talk to you about a potential formula for peace, is because of the effort of my parents, The Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon. Now the course on which they built this foundation on which we stand today was not an easy one.

In order for me to contextualize and put this into perspective, we have to go back many, many years to this hillside in North Korea, when a young boy at the

age of 15 went into those hills, climbed up top of those hills and prayed with the heart of liberating God. To pray for humanity and how humanity could realize the dream that God had and has been having ever since the beginning of time. There he was anointed by Jesus and was inspired by God to be the owner of God's dream, the dream of building one family under God. Somehow, it had not been lost or forgotten because isn't that the true way to peace, first going back to God? Going



back to the dream that he had for humanity? Not our dream for humanity but God's dream for humanity. God stands in the position of our eternal parent and a parent does not have favorites. The parent looks to the family that the parent is the steward of. Well we have a Divine Heavenly Parent

My father realized that if we can somehow bring this message of One Family Under God to this human family and allow the conscience to speak to their hearts, then, maybe the process of restoration, of touching the conscience and the soul of that individual, or that family, or that nation, could bring about the foundation for eternal peace as that dream becomes owned by that individual, by that family, by that nation, and eventually the world. The work of the Universal Peace Federation is to realize that fundamental dream of building one family under God beyond our religious traditions, beyond our nationality, beyond our ethnic differences or our racial differences; to bring the human family back to the origin of building one family under God.

Today, we gather the illustrious leaders of the axis powered nations – this is not a gathering to bring back all the crimes and horrors that were perpetuated by these nations during the 20th century. It is not a time of judgment and it is not a time for forceful redemption. It is a time in which we can liberate the history of these nations by bringing to light the mistakes that these nations made.

When we look at World War II, the horrible crimes that came about during this world conflict was rooted in a national identity. Where the nation surpassed the dream of God or religion, where the nation

surpassed the dream of humanity or sense of global justice, it was an egocentric vision. The difference today is, if we learn from the past and we come out of our egocentric perspectives and somehow align ourselves to a higher calling, a higher vision, that goes beyond nationality, that goes beyond race, that goes beyond religion, then, potentially, we have the ability to touch on a truth that can liberate us and that can bring the human family together.

My father believes that the human family, if it was able to realize the dream that God had since the beginning of time in the family of Adam and Eve, if that dream was realized in that original family, that we would not be inheritors of this world in which we live; the world of conflict and war. Yet what is that original family built on? That original family is built on the culture of heart. True love, a culture that is rooted in true love; true love, which is a divine love of living for the sake of others.

There is one illustrious panel member here who talked about a love that can embrace ones enemy. I believe that if we go back to our religious roots and study the teachings of our founders, may it be Jesus or Mohammed or Moses, the fundamental truth of true love, of living for the sake of others, even loving thine

enemy is the true path to everlasting love and peace. It is the true path in which one can find redemption, one can find forgiveness, one can find the strength to bring the human family together. Also, within that vision, the creation of God centered families, I believe that all the panel members here all talked about the importance of families, of building traditional God centered families. Well, my father has always believed that the way to peace, to learn about true love, can only happen in God centered families. Because is it not in the family that we learn about true love and become the owners of that love?

As we own the love of a parent loving a child, as we own the love of a husband or a wife loving their spouse, as we own the love of a son or a daughter loving his or her parent, as we own the love, the true love of a family member living for the sake of that family, as we own it then take that love that we've learned, that we own, to the broader community, to the broader nation and to the world, could we not build a foundation for everlasting peace?

That has been the dream that my father had since the beginning. Although he had faced tremendous persecution he has stayed faithful to that dream because he realized the fundamental root of the problem of war and conflict happened in that original family. And in order to build a world of everlasting peace we first need to restore the family.

I can say that as a member of my family – all fourteen brothers and sisters, as I look upon each of my siblings, there is not one who is like me. Each one of us is unique and special. Yet because we are members of this family, we are able to go

beyond our differences and come together with the knowledge and the identity of being part of the Moon family.

Now what happens if the human family was able to look beyond the differences of being a German, a Japanese, an Italian, an American, a Jew, a Christian, a black, a white, an Asian, look beyond those differences and see each other as members of that God centered human family? Could we not then build within our hearts the ability to empathize and to love that brother? That sister? That father? That mother? That son or that daughter? Of even our enemy nations? It is a quest to build a culture of heart rooted in true love that allows us, on an individual level and eventually on the level of the family to look at humanity as our extended family, as our brothers and sisters, as our fathers and mothers, our sons and our daughters, under the eternal God.

We have to get out of our boxes. Too long have we relied on economic and political solutions as a pathway to peace, while UPF is offering an alternative, in which we go back to our spiritual center and our root because we are essentially human beings, we are essentially spiritual beings. That is where we find our moral compass and our sense of right and wrong, and that is where God is able to speak to us, in our conscience, in our hearts.

We believe that there has to be a great spiritual awakening that allows us to recognize that dream of God's as not being just God's dream but the dream of every single human being – 6.5 billion people around the world. If we can do that, then we can plant the seed of peace that can bring eternal peace in our lifetime and set the legacy of peace in this 21st century.

We want you, as Ambassadors for Peace and members of this conference to open your hearts and minds to this dream, to this vision of building one family under God. Because this is not just the dream of one man, or one woman, or one family; it should be the dream of humanity. For it is the path way to peace that allows us to open up our hearts to our neighbors, to our brothers and sisters, to our parents, to our children, in building a community, a world, of everlasting peace.

I know, that from my background, a diverse background – I do wear many hats, so many times, the discussions that come up when we talk about world peace touches on the peripheral issues and not the root issue. I've been in that situation over and over again and I can't tell you how refreshing it is, centered upon these ILC conferences, that we are able to bring people who are looking out of the box and looking to new pathways to peace and are inheriting this vision of building one family under God because they recognize that there must be another alternative to peace and that alternative is rooted in more root causes; causes that stem from violence and conflict of that first original family. In order to deal with this first cause we need to restore the family and the original relationships within the family.

So with that said, I commend you for your participation and I hope that you will enjoy this conference series. I can say on behalf of myself and the Moon family that we are grateful that you have come to participant in these conferences. I hope that you will have a truly fulfilling time here in Korea. ❖

Universal Peace Federation in Sri Lanka

by Dr. Robert Kittel

The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs in collaboration with the Universal Peace Federation held a "ground-breaking conference that set a new level of cooperation between government and non-governmental organizations," said Dr. Thomas G. Walsh, Secretary General of UPF. The Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, Mr. Ajit Nivard Cabraal, agreed, noting that usually people sat and listened to Members of Parliament, but in this conference, the tables were turned—MPs sat and listened while people spoke.

to understand," he told the audience of legislatures, "that they do not have supremacy, but have responsibility."

The next speaker was Hon. M.H. Mohammed, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, who personally invited the Universal Peace Federation to partner with his ministry to hold this conference. The idea for this conference grew out of a meeting between Mr. Mohammed and the Chairman of UPF International, Rev. Dr. Chung Hwan Kwak, during a conference on



UPF. He was so exhausted from the countless details that demanded endless hours of his time that he fell asleep while driving home one evening. The ensuing accident, less than two weeks before the conference, left him hospitalized with his leg broken in two places.

Prayers and flowers were sent to his hospital bed.

Ms. Sujata Koirala, the special envoy (and daughter) of Nepal's Prime Minister Girija Prasad Koirala, reminded the mostly male audience of the need for gender balance even in parliament. She described Nepal as a model of transition from

of all human life and experience." He underscored the point that, "families form the foundation of the society and the nation, and family breakdown for whatever reason undermines the stability of the society and nation."

Prime Minister Ratnasiri Wickramanayaka closed the inaugural session of the conference by noting the numerous definitions of

'good governance,' including that of the World Bank. He emphasized that leaders have the capacity to understand the essence of good governance, despite its often changing definitions. More importantly, he said public officials should act not only by external criteria or mandates, but need to govern for greater good of the nation based on their own conscience.

In summary, the conference provided a unique forum for cooperation between government and civil society. Discussions focused on responsibilities each party must undertake in relation to the future development of the country. In the end, Minister M.H. Mohammed said he was very pleased with the outcome of this maiden venture and hoped that UPF would continue its cooperation with the Sri Lankan government. Dr. Kwak assured him UPF would maintain and even accelerate its support. ♦



The theme of this two-day International Leadership Conference held August 5-6, 2007, was "Good Governance for Parliamentarians." The venue was the Sri Lankan Parliament building in the capital Colombo. All 225 Members of Parliament were invited, and they attended sessions as their schedules permitted.

Opening remarks were given by the Sri Lankan Speaker of Parliament, Hon. W.J.M. Lokubandara, who stressed that the life of an MP should be the same in public and private. "MPs need

good governance held in Korea earlier this year.

Reflecting his simple, humble nature, Mr. Mohammed's comments were brief and pointed. He invited UPF to Sri Lanka because he felt this conference could benefit his country since this organization focused on "international and interreligious harmony and cooperation."

Mr. Mohammed's grandson, Fazal, was a central player in coordinating the planning between the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and

crisis to representative democracy and called upon those present to support the forthcoming historic Constitutional Assembly elections in November.

"In many ways," said Dr. Kwak, "good leadership begins in the family, the root

RYS Training in the Netherlands

The Youth Service Initiative (YSI) is a one-year volunteer program providing educational activities and experiences for young people to take initiative in their communities as well as abroad. The YSI team, made up of 8 international youth, was an extraordinary group to participate in the Netherlands RYS Training for Trainers workshop. Training for Trainers is normally given to RYS alumni. However, the experimental training was given to this already intact group as a preparation for their first RYS, which they will be attending in Ghana later this year.

The training ran for 3 days from March 24th thru March 26th. YSI attended the service learning education seminar, led mainly by Ron Burr, senior advisor and educator of RYS. Ron Burr, who comes from America, was accompanied by two colleagues, Marshall de Souza and Carol Pobanz.

Participants were taught two education theories, about experiential learning and development process- education. They learned the value of a vision, and active listening through which conversations can be more smooth and respectful. They learned how to facilitate issues during projects and got to know more about themselves through the Interaction Styles Inventory survey. They reviewed some energizers- activi-



ties they can apply in their own projects; and they came to understand that a well organized project can bring forth beautiful friendships and real understanding between different cultures.

The YSI group was able to grasp the RYS training in a very short period of time. I'm certain the contents of this workshop will have greater significance to them once they experience the Ghana RYS later this year.

Here is a new website all about True Parents.
www.reverendsunmyungmoon.org

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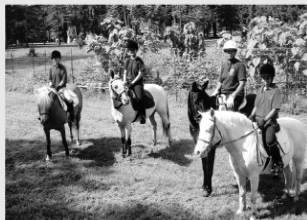
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ILS CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

Providing Vision at a Time of Global Crisis

by Rev. Dr. Chung Hwan Kwak

This address was given in Seoul, Korea, on August 17, 2007

On behalf of the Founders, Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, I want to warmly welcome you to this International Leadership Conference sponsored by the Universal Peace Federation on the theme, "Providing Vision and Leadership at a Time of Global Crisis."

Our purpose in gathering here is for the sake of peace. You represent nations who were involved in World War II. That was a time of conflict and suffering. However, now I believe we can be great allies in the effort to build a world of lasting peace.

All people hope for peace. This is a universal value shared by all human beings, regardless of their race, national origin, educational background, or religious belief. The ideal of a world characterized by harmony and cooperation among all people is rooted in the conscience of all people.

Yet, despite the universality of this ideal, we all know that the world we experience on a daily basis falls very short of that ideal.

The 20th century was a century of growth and development in areas of the economy, technology and communications. It was also the century of two World Wars and the Cold War. The same century that saw the emergence of the League of Nations and the United Nations was also the world's bloodiest century.

From Iraq to Darfur, from Sri Lanka to the Horn of Africa, from Palestine and Israel to the Korean peninsula, we see evidence of a world that is not at peace. Poverty persists despite the promises of globalization. Family breakdown, sexual promiscuity, and HIV/AIDS are spreading to the detriment of children, the economy and the overall quality of life. Nuclear proliferation and the arms trade continue.

Nations, governments and countless citizens have lost their moral compass, surrendering to the lure of materialism and selfish individualism. Human rights violations continue. Even the United Nations has not been able to function effectively in putting an end to these problems.

Family breakdown and the decline of moral standards, especially among the youth, are extremely serious. Even if great effort is made to solve poverty and achieve the Millennium Development Goals, there will be very limited success if we do not address fundamental issues of human character and human relationships. After all, human problems are rooted in the corruption of the human heart.

As we look at our world, we cannot help but ask, who is really working effectively to solve these critical problems?

Who is providing the leadership needed to change this world?

Where can we find a clear vision and sense of direction to guide us in the search for solutions?

In general, governments act largely for their own national self-interest. Is it any surprise, therefore, that when government representatives assemble at the

United Nations as member states, it is difficult to move forward effectively with an agenda that serves all humanity?

The same could also be said of the community of religions in our world. There is a lack of cooperation and unified direction. Religions, and their representatives, often behave competitively and according to their own self-interests.

UPF's Founder, Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon, has underscored the root cause of our world's problems, which is relat-



ed to marriage and family, the root of human life. Unless marriage, as the means of reproduction through love, is fully aligned with a vision of peace centered on God, there is little hope that the next generation will have the tools needed to transform this world. Marriage is to be a partnership of man and woman, and when it is centered on the highest spiritual principles, it is the most powerful instrument of peace that has ever existed.

On the other hand, family breakdown destabilizes not only the husband and wife but also their children and extended family. Families are the core component of our society, and their breakdown through infidelity, promiscuity and divorce undermines peace.

Due to family breakdown, there is the loss of true sibling love, not only within the family, but in the wider society. In other words, the love, harmony and cooperation that should exist between brothers and sisters in a loving family, does not exist in this world. This tragic reality is seen in the story of Cain and Abel.

In the first family, after Adam and Eve fell from grace, their first son, Cain, killed the second son, Abel. This story is an archetype of a universal human problem. As we examine the conflict between nations, religions, races, ethnic groups, political ideologies, and economic classes, we see the recurrence of the Cain-Abel pattern.

Abel was slain by his brother. Why? There was enmity between the siblings. Was this God's ideal for this family? No.

The Cain-Abel problem has its root in Adam and Eve's separation from God. As a result, jealousy, resentment, and feelings of having been wronged or violated became dominant. Acting on these feelings, Cain killed Abel.

The essence of the Abel-like person is to live for the sake of heaven and for the sake of others. For this reason, Father Moon encourages us to become Abel-like persons, and to develop Abel-like institutions, governments, nations and even

religions. In fact he encourages the UPF to become an "Abel-type" United Nations, "offering its efforts for peace to heaven and ceaselessly living for the sake of others."

Abel, with an elder brother's heart of love, is to find the way to love Cain and turn his resentment into good will and reconciliation.

How can we move forward together to create a world of true and lasting peace?

That is the purpose of this conference, to consider a universal vision of peace, based on core values. This vision, which will be presented over the course of the next three days, will speak of God's ideal of humanity as one universal family of true love.

Additionally we will consider principles and methods that will allow us to move from a state of conflict to a state of peace, from resentment to reconciliation, from enemy relationships to relationships of true love.

The starting point and front line of peace is not to be found in some external institution or situation. The starting point is within me. The question we each must ask is, "Can I recognize and overcome the corruptions within my own heart?" Before I ask my neighbor

to change, I must look deep within myself, understand my own faults, and set out on a course of self-correction.

The next focus of peacebuilding is with those who are near and dear to me, my own family; if I cannot successfully establish peace within my own family, how can I dare expect to establish peace among strangers?

In the end, Father Moon says that peace is only possible if we each come to develop the strength to love the enemy. Love must conquer resentment and the stubborn determination to redress wrongs that have been committed against us or those we love.

We must move beyond thinking that "my people" are only those of the same skin color, gender, ethnic background, nationality or religious ideology. Our circle of love and respect must expand to include and embrace even the enemy.

When we imagine God's viewpoint, don't we think of God as large enough to include and embrace the whole of humanity?

This is the vision of UPF: to establish "One Family under God," beyond the barriers of religion, nationality, race, ideology and ethnicity.

Is this an easy task? Of course not! It is the most difficult. And yet this is the path we must walk. That is why the great peacemakers of all times have often suffered and endured so much persecution.

If there were an easier way, surely we would all want to go that way. Military power alone cannot bring lasting peace. Economic power cannot bring a just peace or true reconciliation. Peace only comes on the foundation of true love. No adversary submits to power, intellect or wealth alone. Rather, peace only comes as we love and serve the adversary. This is the vision and mission of the Ambassadors for Peace move-

ment.

I hope that, through this conference, you will come to recognize several important points:

First of all, please understand the destructive nature of promiscuity, sexual immorality and family breakdown.

Second, please support Rev. Moon's three core strategic initiatives: the Middle East Peace Initiative; the Northeast Asia Peace Initiative, centering on the Korean Peninsula; and the Bering Strait Peace King Bridge and Tunnel Project, not merely for the sake of trade and development, but for the sake of peace and cooperation between East and West; in fact, this project can contribute to the achievement of the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals.

Third, let us work together to convene a global interfaith summit among major religious leaders from around the world, for the sake of bringing peace to the world. In this way, we can further the development of an interreligious council at the United Nations, showing that religions can be allies in the search for peace.

Fourth, I ask that you support the mission and work of the Universal Peace Federation, as an "Abel UN," a global movement that offers its efforts for peace to heaven, ceaselessly living for the sake of others. In September UPF will convene a major Assembly, at the time of the opening of the 62nd Session of the UN General Assembly. At that time, UPF will launch a Peace Education Initiative, in cooperation with governments and NGOs. We hope each of you will join in support of this effort.

To accomplish these goals we must all work together. Let us begin that process now. The world truly needs each and every one of us. We are living at a critical turning point in history, a time of global crisis. Let us turn this crisis into opportunity, and let us turn conflict into reconciliation and lasting peace and prosperity for all God's children. ♦

Journal of Unification Studies

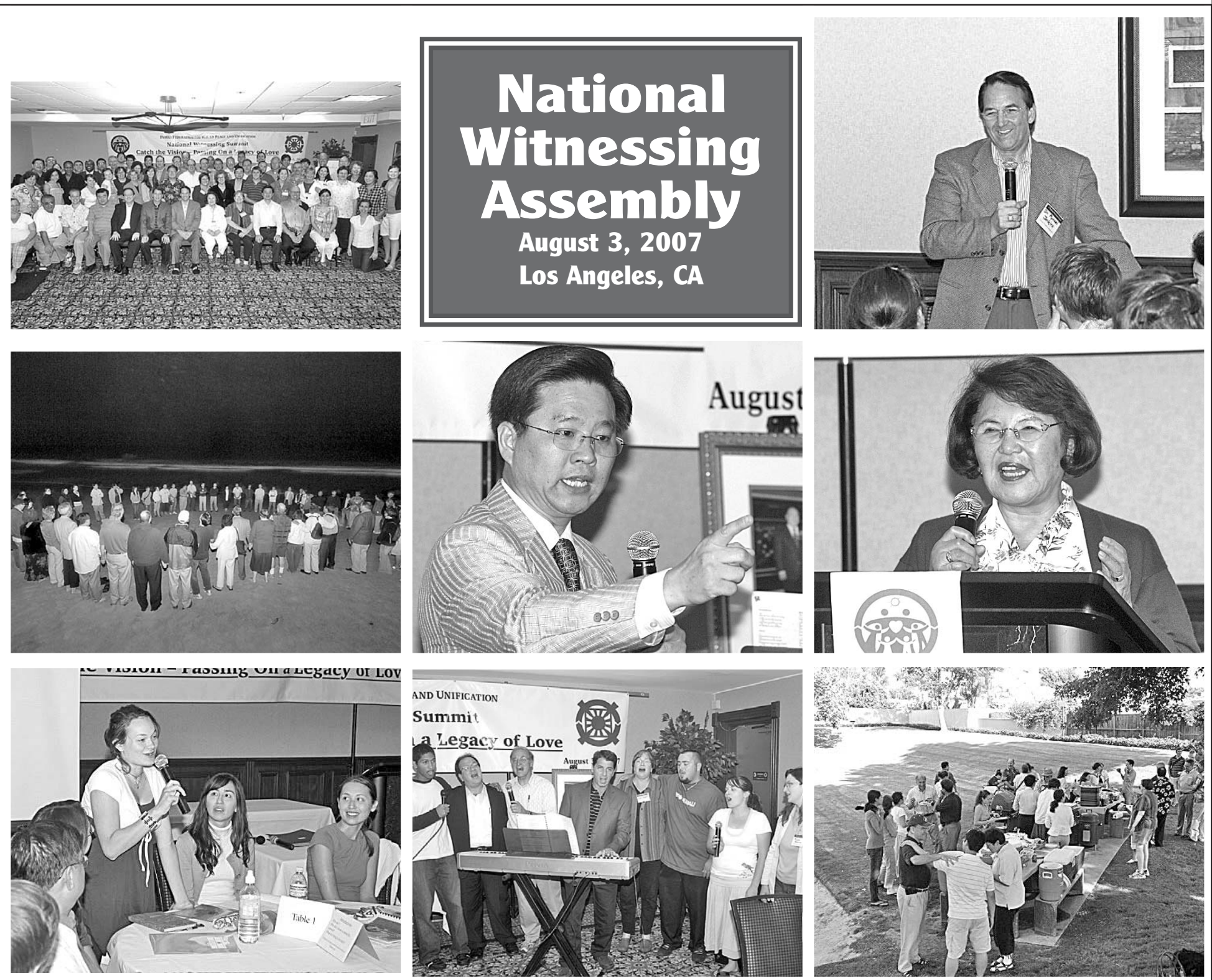
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2004-2005

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| <i>The De Vinct Code and Divine Principle</i> | Michael L. Mickler |
| <i>The Marginality of the Cross</i> | Robert M. Price |
| <i>"They Shall Be One Flesh": Fulfilling the Ideal of Creation through the Family</i> | Robert S. Kinet |
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| <i>Taking Religious Education Out of the Classroom: Service Learning as an Effective Contextual Pedagogy</i> | Kathy Winings |
| <i>What is the Matter? Understandings of Matter in Unification Thought and Modern Physics</i> | David Burton |



Northeast Ohio Prayer Breakfast

As we arrived at the Greater Fellowship Assembly on Cleveland's east side, Pastor Ann Washington, the host pastor, was busy preparing a wonderful breakfast with other sisters of her church.

One by one, the guests came to the simple but colorful basement dining room; it filled with beautiful people who love peace and want to be together beyond faith and race. After all had eaten, our wonderful fellowship moved upstairs to the chapel. The emcee, Dr. Thelma Johnson, who is our district 6 co-convenor, began to welcome everyone with her usual joyful heart. The scripture was read by Rev. Joel Lindstrom, and the prayer was offered by Rev. Bruce Biddle. Membership drive details were presented by Dr. Johnson and then Reverend Washington intro-



duced the keynote speaker, Pastor Orville Gainer, founder of MASH Ministries. His high-spirited choir set the mood for the sermon.

Pastor Gainer spoke about church peace and unity. He emphasized the need to not just "hoot and holler" each Sunday, but to really "walk it out" --- make our faith very real in daily life. He preached with strength, high spirit, and much humor and made it clear that sacrifice is necessary to build God's kingdom. As a new friend to our community, Pastor Gainer isn't familiar with the five points we focus on for

Ambassadors for Peace membership. However, his talk touched on each of those ideas in his own personal spirited way. What a wonderful heavenly coincidence!

After the love offering, announcements were made by Sis. Keiko Biddle. The Holy Blessing Ceremony was held with the Pastor and Mrs. Gainer. Closing remarks were given by Rev. Washington and Dr. Johnson, who explained the meaning of the Family Peace Flag and made the presentation to Reverend Washington, Reverend Gainer and Bishop Corthon, who is the

bishop of this host church. When all three stood together with their beautifully framed flags for a photo, it was very beautiful, as if God had finally found a place to dwell. We concluded with a benediction by Bishop Corthon and a greeting from a community leader who is running for a seat with a local school board of education. As always, a big thank-you goes to all precious first and second generation who supported this successful prayer breakfast. ♦

Bay Area Prayer Breakfast on Parents' Day

by Rev. Bento Leal & Rev. David Rosenblum

"Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it." ~ Proverbs 22:6

It was a Hallelujah! morning Saturday, July 14, 2007, as more than 50 people gathered to celebrate the vital role parents play in raising up their children and the important impact good parenting makes on the community at large.

The theme was "A Day In America To Honor Parents", and the event was jointly sponsored by the American Clergy Leadership Conference (ACLC) of Northern California and the Parents' Day Council of Northern California, and held at True Worshipers Praise Center in Oakland, California.

Rev. Dr. Andre Jackson, local co-convenor of ACLC, served as the dynamic and spirit-filled emcee. He, as always, invested his whole heart in making sure the program was on track, both time-wise and spiritually. A young lady of the church then sang a beautiful hymn to set the tone. Co-Pastor Carla Jackson, co-pastor of Carriage Hills Community Church, followed as she passionately read the Goals & Objectives of ACLC in a way all could understand and be inspired.

The host pastor and member of ACLC, Rev. Nathaniel K. Jones, of True Worshipers Praise Center, gave the Keynote Address on the value of Godly parenting. "The trouble we see in the world today, and running in our own streets, connects with a lack of good parenting. We need to lift up parents as the hope of the community," he said, "Only good parenting with God's guidance can lead our children in the way they should go."

Rev. Bento and Mrs. Kimiko Leal then officiated a Marriage Blessing Ceremony, inviting all of the couples, and also the singles, to participate. He explained the meaning of the Blessing—that it is God's gift to humankind to have "God's new blood lineage" through the partaking of the Holy Wine." Then after everyone had committed to the Blessing Pledge and drunk from the holy wine cups, he and his wife offered the Blessing prayer.

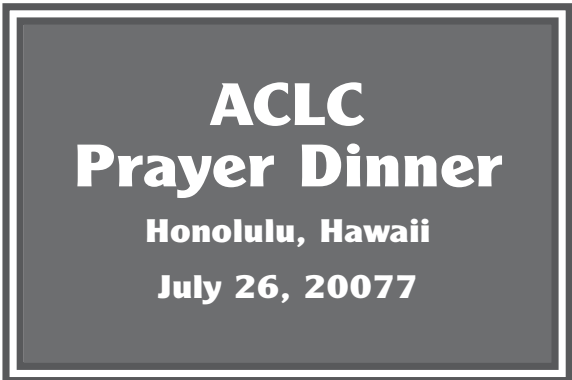
Next, 16 couples and single parents were honored by Bento Leal, our AFC (American Family Coalition) leader in Northern California, with a 2007 Excellence in Parenting Award framed certificate. One by one they came to the stage to be recognized and applauded being outstanding parents, and for many, for overcoming great obstacles to do so. After the award presentations, all the awardees gathered for a beautiful picture. The attending pastors were urged to celebrate Parents'

Day in their churches on Sunday, July 22, which, being the fourth Sunday in July, is the official date of Parents' Day this year.

As we were drawing to a close, Rev. David Rosenblum, who is coordinating many of ACLC's local activities, announced that one of our closest ACLC clergymen, Rev. Stephen Goldiamond, of Mighty Miracles of Faith Ministry, had accepted a national ACLC scholarship to attend the Unification Theological Seminary this fall. Rev. Goldiamond was literally

bouncing with joy as he told everyone how humbly grateful and excited he is to be going to study at this prestigious institution.

We then gathered in one large circle, sang "Amazing Grace," and closed with prayer. Many stayed afterwards and fellowshiped together for some time. It was a fitting program and celebration of a providentially "in-tune" event uniting Parents' Day, 2007 with our monthly Bay Area ACLC prayer breakfast. ♦



Useful Internet Addresses

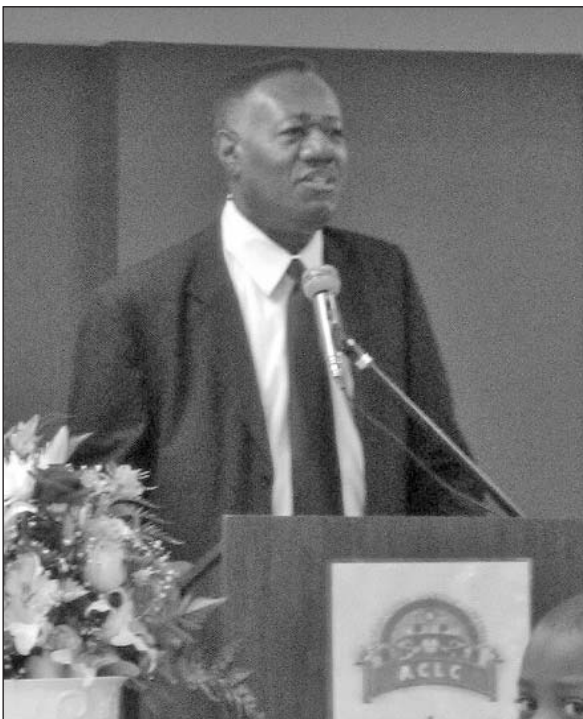
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|-----------------------------|---|
| Unification Church: | unification.org |
| Family Federation: | familyfed.org |
| IIFWP | IIFWP.org |
| Blessed Family Dept. | familyfed.org/bfd |
| USA 2nd Generation Dept. | www.ipathfinder.net |
| Special Task Force (STF) | stfusa.com |
| Matching, 1st Generation | firstgenmatchmaker.com |
| Matching 2gen Website: | bccandidates.com |
| HSA Bookstore: | hsabooks.com |
| Unification International: | www.tongil.or.kr |
| Bridgeport University | bridgeport.edu |
| World Community Journal | worldcommunity.com |
| UTS: | uts.edu |
| Ocean Church | oceanchurch.org |
| Sun Moon University: | sunmoon.ac.kr |
| PWPA: | pwpa.org |
| World CARP: | worldcarp.org |
| HSA E-Directory: | suntek.ch/edirectory |
| ICRF: | religiousfreedom.com |
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| Int. Religious Foundation | IRF@mindspring.com |
| IRFF | irff.org ; www.irff-europe.org |
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Please let us know of any mistakes or potential additions.

ACLC Ohio Prayer Breakfast

ACLC Our monthly' prayer breakfast was held at Five Pointe Community Center in the Collinwood neighborhood of Cleveland's east side on June 9th. About 40 people gathered. The host pastor this month was Dr. Patrick J. Reynolds; his wife, Rev. Bonnie Reynolds, served as the Mistress of Ceremonies. Dr. Reynolds is a chaplain for Cleveland City Council and they both work hard for the city of Cleveland and for their own service to the Lord, "Out of Egypt and Saved by the Blood Ministries". During the delicious breakfast prepared by Mrs. Mary Fayne and her helpers at the community center, musical offerings were presented by 2nd gens, Noah Biddle and Seikai Lindstrom, raising us up "On Higher Ground," and everyone joined in singing "We Are One" composed by our own District 6 Co-Convener Dr. Thelma Johnson.

Testimonies were shared, and musical offerings by Min. Valerie Lumbus



opened everyone's heart. Dr. Thelma D. Johnson, our beloved District 6 ACLC co-convener, gave welcoming words and touched on the importance of true family values. The keynote speaker, Dr.

Reynolds, shared scripture (Matthew 5:9) on the theme of peace and urged everyone to become a peacemaker.

This prayer breakfast was clearly marking a new stage for Cleveland's outreach efforts. Through the host pastor, the key ACLC ministers and even from the attendance that included one current and one former city councilmen, we recognized the importance of our movement for the city of Cleveland. Dr. Reynolds told everyone that this is only the beginning; great things are truly happening. Our

wonderful cook, Mrs. Fayne, saw a picture of one of her relatives in a book about our movement. She was quite amazed. Truly the spiritual world is really guiding people to be with our family now. Although many of the guests were new to our

organization, it is amazing that we could be sitting around the same table, eating and sharing the same heavenly messages, laughing together, praying together.

Let us remind ourselves confidently with each prayer breakfast that we are certainly creating one incredible world family under God. Aju! Thank you very much for Dr. Johnson, Rev. Lindstrom, Brother Chris Bihary, the faithful second generation, and everyone else for your support with your attendance and prayer.❖



10th Annual March Against Drugs in Billings

On Saturday, June 9th, 2007, the 10th Annual March Against Drugs and Violence took place in Billings, Montana. Lead by the American Clergy Leadership Coalition and many other community organizations, it had a very positive impact on the city, with over 375 participants of all ages.

Initiated ten years ago by Pastor Mike Yakawich and Rev. Hilton McClendon, the first march had several youth walking with them down the main street of Billings. Today, it was awesome to see hundreds of young and old turn out with a firm commitment and desire to address meth (methamphetamine) and other serious drugs that are ravaging our community. With the local police department, the DUI Task Force, Tumbleweed run-

away teen program, neighborhood task forces, churches, and ACLC, there was an unprecedented support for this program took place.

The day began with Pastor Tom from the King of Glory offering a prayer and then words from the Mayor and Chief of Police. Then the entire crowd was led for a one-mile march around town by the Young Marines Association, followed by many other civic-minded organizations carrying banners and blowing whistles. Even the Elks Club Mascot, Elroy, walked the entire mile with us. An 87 year old using a walker and a lady in a wheelchair completed the entire mile with us as well. It was a wonderful sight to see. Then, as the police department escorted the marchers back to the Downtown County Courthouse Lawn, all marchers walked down the middle of the main street (27th Street),

standing firm and determined against drugs and violence.

Then the Windy Creek Band welcomed the marchers back with a wonderful song as Meadow Gold popsicles was distributed to the dry mouthed participates. After a prayer by Dr. Dennis Briggs, the co chair of ACLC, and blessing by Crow Nation Elder Rabbit Knows Gun, an amazing barbeque donated by State Van IGA was shared with all, including Coca Cola products also generously donated.

We were entertained by the Windy Creed Band plus a local second generation ensemble playing Chariots of Fire. The gathering was then even more energized by words from the representatives of our U.S. Senate office One person stated, "Drugs are undermining our families and destroying the lives of our youth; your commitment to this event is not only commendable but vital!"

A U.S. Congress field representative stated, "This is an opportunity to gather and with a collective voice demonstrate our concern about drugs and violence."

During the event, a free drawing was held for a road bicycle donated by a local taskforce. Then, with many months of preparation, our art contest concluded as part of the event, with over 65 individual participants. Winners were awarded gift certificates from Target in four age categories and one People's Choice category. All received free tee shirts with the march's logo. It was a clear day and we were blessed with wonderful weather. The county commission closed our event again this year by encouraging all those

who attended to keep up the good work.

We had some great media coverage, with interviews on FOX, ABC and NBC local affiliates. The regional paper, the Billings Gazette did a great job as well. In fact, one local grocery store placed a free ad on the march in their weekly mailing. We felt that the entire community was responding to the seriousness of these issues and the importance of this event.

The next day, Sunday, June 10, 2007, the Billings Gazette printed a photo of the event that painted a thousand words. Five second generation young ladies were pictured leading the march, displaying the official banner of the march. The article commented, "A long line of marchers walked the streets of downtown Billings Saturday during the 10th Annual March Against Drugs and Violence."

Fulfilling this successful event required nine months of preparation and commitment. Meeting once or twice a month, sending out fundraising letters, gaining commitment, and planning helped bind a diverse group people and organizations together. It also allowed for others to see the sincere dedication and commitment that ACLC has to the community.

We are discovering that drugs and violence are real issues in our community. The vision of Father and Mother Moon is clear that we must roll up our sleeves and help our community not only in word but in deed. The hard work of so many groups plus our local families including the DiLorenzos, Martins, Woods, Johnsons and our home church members really made this event such a great success.

The guidance and support of our District and our District leader, Rev. Larry Krishnek, are a major key in allowing the freedom and trust necessary for the local community's ability to work are able and willing. We pray such evil drugs as meth and other drugs and the related violence that is destroying our families and community will be eliminated completely and that the kingdom will come soon.❖

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by John Von Dinklage

The 7th World Peace Tour entitled "God's Ideal Family and Peace Kingdom" took place in the island nation of Samoa from July 28 – 31, 2007 with the assistance of seven Japanese and three Korean volunteers, the national director Mr. John Anae, Seti Suafa and John Von Dinklage. The Ambassadors for Peace network and excellent relationships with Samoan leaders built by Yves and Jacinta Moreau over their past years of dedication prepared a solid foundation for this tour. The first stop of the tour was the village of Malaela in eastern Upolu Island for a traditional island welcome and exchange of gifts. The ACLC video that focuses on a commitment to marriage and family as the cornerstone of world peace was shown as an introduction to the World Peace Blessing. The Japanese-Samoan sisterhood ceremony was followed by a traditional lunch and joyful dancing in the big open house called a "fale."

Sunday was spent with the local Anglican church, where after the service there was an opportunity for fellowship with the congregation. The Japanese volunteers sang, and over light refreshments there was time for sharing a brief explanation about the peace tour and giving invitations for the main event.

Monday the UPF delegation met with Prime Minister Hon. Tuilaepa at the Gov-

ernment House for a very cordial meeting where he could hear about the nature of the current world peace tour. Gifts of ginseng and Japanese handicrafts were given to the Prime Minister

There was time to visit old friends in

The program started at 7 p.m. and was emceed by Dr. Unasa Va'a, lecturer of Samoan language and culture at the National University. The World Peace Blessing was well received, after a brief video on the importance of building strong

ister spoke with graciousness and goodwill, offering cooperation in ventures such as sports activities or other areas. He and his wife gave each of the UPF staff special South Pacific Games pins. Samoa is proud to host to these games for the first



Samoa, discover new ones, and give many invitations to the main event on Tuesday.

The Treasure Garden restaurant served as the venue for the main event, with a good turnout which filled the VIP room and overflowed outside. Several Ambassadors for Peace were among the receptive audience.

The Prime Minister sent as his personal representative the Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hon. Tapasu Leung Wai. Also in attendance were the Minister of Police, Fire and Prisons Hon. Papali'i Petaia Samuelu; former Minister of Health Mulitalo Siafausa Vui; and Dr. Viopapa Annandale of the Pan Pacific South East Asia Women's Association. The Reverend and Mrs. Fepai Kolia and others brought the total to 72 guests, an overflow crowd.

marriages and families. Japanese women's leader Eriko Mitsuishi read Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon's speech entitled "A Providential View of the Pacific Rim Era in Light of God's Will."

Several Ambassador for Peace certificates were awarded, followed by a brotherhood and sisterhood ceremony involving Korean and Japanese international staff with Samoan men and women, accompanied by heart-felt hugs and exchanges of gifts. The banquet followed a thanksgiving prayer, and songs from the Japanese volunteers brought the evening to a close.

The Foreign Affairs Minister and his wife surprised the UPF staff with an invitation for lunch the next day at the famous Aggie Grey's Hotel restaurant. The min-

time; much new construction and preparations are underway.

The last day together was time for relaxing and savoring the beautiful experience achieved in such a few intense days. Early morning devotions were highlighted by Rev. Han's spiritual encouragement, and Rev. Kang provided excellent translation from Korean language to Japanese and English with great humor and gusto, not to mention his dance and acrobatic skills, too!

Will Samoa bring us all together some time in the future? Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon had once said: "Samoa" is the sound of children longing for their mother, or parents; it sounds like "some more." ♦

Los Angeles ACLC Prayer Breakfast

by Stephen Goldstein

The Los Angeles chapter of the American Clergy Leadership Conference hosted its monthly prayer breakfast on Saturday June 23, 2007, at New Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church with about 70 participants.

Dr. Rev. Walter W. Millsap, the pastor of Sadoc Christian Peace Family Church, emceed the meeting, which was held for the first time at Mt. Zion. He and his wife, Michelene, also presided over the Holy Wine ceremony, at which Tony and Natasha Christian renewed their Blessing vows.

The invocation was given by Rev. Clark of the Helping Hand Ministry.

The Scripture reading was Joshua 1:5-9, which portrayed the passing of leadership from Moses to Joshua.

Mrs. Millsap delivered an excerpt from "A Message of Peace" on true love and true family by Rev. Sun Myung Moon.

Rev. Margaret Tate, co-pastor of Christ Community Truth Church, then recited the goals and objectives of the ACLC.

We next heard inspiring music from the New Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church's choir, which was hosting the event.

Dr. Rev. James Toldson, pastor at New Mt. Zion MBC, delivered the keynote address, "One Family under God." Reverend Toldson got more inspired as he went on, after a musical introduction and support of his speech, which was interrupted several times by applause. He said racial, ethnic and cultural division can be solved through strengthening the nuclear family and restoring the family of God.

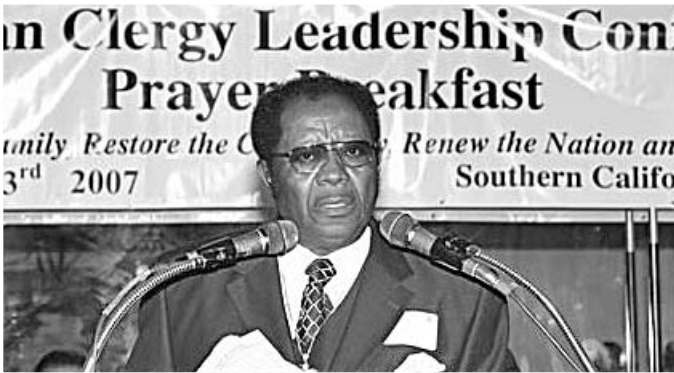
Father Pedro Contreras, priest at St. Jude Thaddeus Parish, shared about his

experience at the International Leadership Conference in Hawaii earlier this month. Father Contreras has been serving on a committee that reaches out to

the community through character education along with Sheriff Baca.

Afterwards, participants enjoyed a delicious hot breakfast lovingly prepared

by ACLC and host church volunteers. Many chose to sit outside under a tent to enjoy the beautiful summer weather ♦



UNIVERSAL PEACE FOUNDATION

ILS
from page 1

Not everyone agrees that this approach is feasible, however. Dr. Hamid Al Bayati, Iraq's ambassador to the United Nations, cautioned, "There are member states which are against religious inclusion, such as the European Union. This proposal may be realized outside the U.N. system." He said he would welcome in principle any UPF initiative applicable to the ongoing conflict in his country.

In his opening remarks, Dr. Hyun-Jin Preston Moon, vice chairman of UPF, questioned the validity of the strict separation of values between people's private lives and public affairs. He point-

ed out that the majority of humanity is committed to a religious belief, while nations follow strictly secular processes in decision making. He also suggested that the United Nations should hold a referendum on revising the U.N. Charter to include a reference to God. (Moon is the third son of UPF founder Rev. Sun Myung Moon, who also established News World Communications Inc., which owns UPI.)

Under the theme "Providing Vision and Leadership at a Time of Global Crisis," participants discussed the deadlocks in peace-building in East Asia and the Middle East, and proposed new ways of addressing these conflicts.

UPF has organized a global alliance of individuals called Ambassadors for Peace - many of them former govern-

ment officials, politicians and diplomats -- who are dedicated to world peace based on faith, family and harmonious cooperation beyond national or religious boundaries. More than one-third of the Seoul conference participants consisted of such "ambassadors."

During a discussion session, an African participant, referring to the 200th anniversary of the termination of slavery this year, suggested that Africans should be taking part in projects for peace rather than merely celebrating this anniversary.

One of UPF's peace projects -- which the participants, particularly those of the Muslim faith, overwhelmingly endorsed - is the Middle East Peace Initiative, which takes diverse groups of people to Israel and Palestine on fact-finding and

reconciliation tours, providing a forum for dialogue and reconciliation in one of the world's hot spots.

The MEPI project has already brought tens of thousands of people of many religions and nationalities to the area to meet with deputies and high officials on both sides of the conflict, including the late Yasser Arafat.

In the midst of constant fear of Palestinian suicide bombers and the persistent division created by Israel's 700-kilometer wall, MEPI has persistently advocated a peaceful solution based on recognition of the common brotherhood between believers in the Abrahamic faiths of Judaism and Islam. ❖



INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



Halelu World Premiere Concert

by David Eaton

On the foundation of the important work of the Middle East Peace Initiative and the historic MEPI concert on September 13, 2004 at the International Convention Center in Jerusalem, David D'Or and I set upon the task of co-creating the Peace Cantata, Halelu. David was deeply moved by the ideals of Ambassadors for Peace and as an artist who is dedicated to the concept of "music-for-peace," his wish was to contribute to MEPI in the way he thought best---through his music.

Composed in 2005, Halelu, a 40 minute, 10 movement composition for solo voices, chorus and orchestra, was recorded in Tel Aviv in April of 2006 with the Ra'anana Symphony Orchestra and members of the Philharmonia Chorus of Israel, Israel's most professional concert choir. The motto of MEPI, "Peace, Shalom, Salaam Aliekum, figures prominently in the lyric and the music is sung in Hebrew, English, Arabic, Latin and Korean. The music is largely based on several melodies that David composed as well as several of my ideas. I did the orchestrations and arrangements. David D'Or and I were the solo vocalists in the recording.

The recording required a budget of about \$40,000. David D'Or, and I, raised financing from various sponsors as well as our own personal contributions.

Upon hearing the music for the first time David D'Or confided in me that he cried more deeply about this musical creation than he did at his Father's passing. He was deeply moved by what we had accomplished. It was, in his words, "the realization of a dream."

World Premiere

Upon finishing the CD, we sent the music to various producers and contacts with the hope of finding an occasion for a world premiere performance. In November of 2006 we received an invitation to present the premiere by



the Israeli Ambassador to Israel in Serbia, Madame Yaffa Ben-Ari. The Ambassador is a longtime admirer of David D'Or and had invited David to Belgrade to perform as part of the annual Israel Independence Day celebration in Serbia. David persuaded Ambassador Ben-Ari to organize a performance of Halelu with the Belgrade Philharmonic Orchestra and the 120-voice choir of the Academic Cultural Artistic Society.

The concert was financed by member businesses of the Israeli-Serbian Business Partnership and was presented at the Sava Convention and Media Center in Belgrade to an audience of 2,400 guests, including 40 Ambassadors from other nations. The concert was taped and broadcast to several other countries in the region and also via satellite to the so-called "Diaspora" regions. We will be receiving a DVD of the performance soon.

It is also our hope to have a high quality audio recording as well.

Press Conference and VIP Receptions

Upon arriving in Belgrade a press conference was held at the Sava Cen-


ing tour of the city.

Future Concerts of Halelu

David D'Or informed me that there are possibilities for other concerts of Halelu at the Beijing Olympics in 2008, Greece and Jerusalem as part of the 60th Anniversary of Israel Independence with either the Israel Philharmonic or the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra.

Of course we are hoping to do concerts in New York, Washington and Los Angeles in 2008 as part of the Israel Independence activities. We are actively seeking sponsors and the American-Israeli Cultural Foundation (AICF), the Israeli Embassy in New York and the Los Angeles Jewish Symphony have expressed interest in working in partnership to make these concerts a reality.

David D'Or has attained a very high profile among Jewish communities throughout the world and with his connections we might have a unique opportunity in 2008 to produce important events featuring Halelu. This type of occasion can attract leaders in politics, business and religious spheres. Culture has the ability to foster conditions conducive to dialogue, reconciliation and healing. It is our hope to use this unique cultural project to broaden the base of MEPI and to further the ideals of the Universal Peace Foundation. ♦



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Interfaith Celebration 2007 in Watford, UK

by Françoise Murphy

Over 2,500 people attended *Celebration 2007!*, a community event that brought together over 80 organisations from around Watford. Despite a rainy windy day people came out of their houses and flooded into the Colosseum, a large building next to the town hall, often used for BBC performances. The whole afternoon was buzzing with colourful performances from the various cultural and faith groups of the town and there was a steady flow of people circulating among the many stalls. A Sacred Space, adjacent to the main hall offered a quiet reflective time for people to learn about the various faiths of the town. There was something for everyone: children were welcome to take part in various activities. In a separated area, delicious and exotic food from the different communities was generously served by a wonderful hard working team from the Watford Chinese Association.

The idea of Celebration was initiated in 2005 when Françoise Murphy from the Bridge of Peace WFWP, Judith Bruni from the Watford Interfaith Association and Sharifa Chaudry from the Watford Muslim Women Organisation went to visit Richard Chewter the Town Centre Chaplain to talk about interfaith and the Bridge of Peace bringing Christian and Muslim women together. During that meeting we realised that the lack of the Rainbow Festival in Watford was creating a need for some event that could bring the town together. We decided on that day to form a committee and worked together on organizing a Festival of Culture and Faiths. We called it Celebration. Our motto was: "Living our Faith, Loving our Neighbour." The event took place on September 24th 2005 at the Multi Cultural Community Centre in Watford. It was a great success, more than 21 organisations participated. Those who came on the day were inspired and asked us to do it again in a larger venue next time: the Colosseum! Very pleased by the success of Celebra-

tion, Mayor Dorothy Thornhill offered to pay for the rent of the Colosseum and we went to work. This time more people joined our committee most of them Ambassadors for Peace: Greg Peachey (A4P) offered to co-ordinate the event, Judith Bruni (A4P) took responsibility for the publicity, the



children's area and the Sacred Space, Françoise Murphy organised stalls for over 60 organisations and supported Judith with the publicity and the decoration of the hall. Sharifa Chaudry (A4P) took care of inviting VIP's, Richard Chewter was overall responsible for the security of the event, Levi Francis (A4P) with the help of Jeff Bateman organised the performances, Sue Liu from the Watford Chinese Association managed the food and Fitzero Williams investigated the sponsorships. The National Lottery, award for all became our main sponsor.

In the early hours of Monday 28th May, the core members of the committee met and started the day with a prayer lead by Richard the Town Centre Chaplain. We prayed for a safe and successful day and God granted our prayer. The event went smoothly and many were inspired by the experience, thanked us and wished for us to organise another Celebration next year.

At 11am the stalls were all set up, everyone was ready. The head of the Council and his wife opened the day welcoming everyone. Luther Blisset one of Wat-

ford finest strikers and coaches spoke afterwards. MP Claire Ward followed congratulating the Celebration team for their achievement bringing together the various communities of Watford. She spent time going around the stalls speaking to people. There was a large array of stalls

Bridge of Peace offered a variety of cakes and a great amount of sushi.

In the mid afternoon, David Rennie gave a talk in the Sacred Space about the Family Federation for World Peace. Later on, in the main hall, Sal Brinton (candidate MP and representative of the Mayor who unfortunately could not be present on the day) gave a talk about how Watford is one of the most integrated towns in the country, a model town of community cohesion. She congratulated the Celebration team for all their efforts to offer everyone this amazing afternoon mentioning each one of the team members.

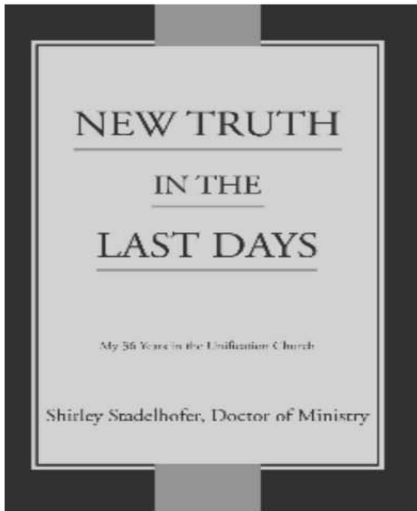
We concluded the afternoon with a Bridge of Peace Ceremony. Louise Rawlence gave a wonderful talk recording the work of the Bridge of Peace in Watford and its main role in creating and organizing Celebration. Louise guided the ceremony inviting the women first than the men. Françoise and Sharifa were the first to cross the Bridge opening the way for everyone to follow. At one of our committee meetings Sharifa had suggested we finish the afternoon with a Bridge of Peace and it was a wonderful ending to a most amazing day. And to conclude the whole ceremony a toast of Holy juice was raised to peace in the family, the community and the world!

We would like to thank all the members who came and contributed to make this event successful. Mr and Mrs Hayashi for their presence and prayers, David Rennie who spoke in the Sacred Space, Louise Rawlence who led the Bridge of Peace ceremony, Mr Kobayashi and the Japanese sisters who prepared so many delicious sushi, Monica Bateman who co-ordinated the cakes and Anthony McGuigan and all the sisters who brought cakes, Chikako Raineri who helped to decorate the hall, Taeko Duckworth who organised the Holy Juice and everyone who helped at the stalls and everyone who came. ♦

from cultural to faith groups, charity to arts organisations, sport and businesses... Christians, Muslims and Jews all had stalls close to each other and conversations developed among them. Sai Baba, Latter Day Saints, Eastern European, Spanish... Interfaith groups, Community Fire Safety, Camera club, Watford Writers, football club... a variety of small businesses. And among all of them: the Universal Peace Federation, the WAIT UK Team and the Bridge of Peace WFWP. Performances were taking place at the same time on the stage during the whole afternoon, amongst others there was; Scottish, Chinese, Spanish dancing, WAIT UK, Hare Krishna and Brahma Kumaris presentations. Jeff Bateman shared the MC responsibility with Levi and 2 other persons.

From 12 noon to 2pm there was long lines of people going to the food area to receive a plate filled with delicious exotic food prepared by the various communities: Chinese, Bulgarian, Pakistani, Spanish, Japanese etc...and served by a team of hard working young people from the Watford Chinese Association. The

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Parents Day Celebration in Florida

by Rev. Isabelle S. Davati

Parents' Day celebration was held on Saturday July 21, at the multi-purpose auditorium of PCC & USF joined campus in Lakeland, Florida. This community project was sponsored by the local churches and the City of Lakeland and hosted by the University of South Florida. Mayor Buddy Fletcher was the honorary chairman of the project, he put down his signature on every certificate that I had requested to be issued for the honoraries.

I started to plan and rent the University facilities as early as March. Rev. Jesse and Brenda Mc Neil from Word Alive church were side by side helping me. I had presented Parents' Day as a community project to the University of South Florida, requesting to rent their modern, brand new auditorium and their exhibition hall free of charge. It took me one month to get approval from the university board. A big thanks to University staff; Sharon Beavis, John Schfield, Tracy Porter, Bill Eberat and President Dr. Nat Thomas for their hard work in making it possible for Parents' Day to be held in USF facilities on Saturday which is a day "off" for the staff.

My gratitude to Mayor Buddy Fletcher, vice Mayor Howard Wiggs, secretary Chris Chadwell, Helen-City office receptionist, Sheriff Grady Judd, Lieutenant Alvin Denmark, Captain Snail-fire Department, Dr. Nathaniel Hill, Rabbi Steve Weiler, Pastor Picket-head of Ministerial Association of Polk, Wendy McCarthy Dance Director, Rev. and Mrs. Arevalo, Rev. and Mrs. Leonia Trevino, Rev. Willie and Felecia Chatmon, Rev. Walter Jenkins, Kyonda Sparks and Lilia Medina, Rev. Darrell and Katrina Pelham-stage manager, Dr. Liana Valante, Celeste Brown-Senator Bill Nelson's office, and Rev. Gary Chidester. For taking time to meet and plan and afford to support me with their unconditional love and their patience with me.

Also would like to thank Frank's Radio show of ww AB, Lynn's Radio show, Yenes Ojarrah of Ledger, Vision Latino news, for their publicity and support.

Parents' Day Celebration program started at 4: Pm, with the prelude by kyonda sparks and Lilan Medina from Highland Church of God. National anthem was performed by Dr. Liana Valnate, faculty of Polk Community College. Pledge of Allegiance was performed by ten years old Raymond, Pastor Gina Browns' son from African Episcopal Church of God-Polk city.

Master of Ceremony was Jan Breslin, Tampa coordinator of Women Federation for World Peace. Invocation was lead by Pastor Jesse Mc Neil founder of Family Focus and associate pastor of World Alive church. Pastor Jesse and Brenda were last year awardees, and one of the sponsoring organizations for this year of NPD event. Musical selection was from Jerusalem Missionary Baptist church choir.

Rev. Isabelle S. Davati, Polk Country director of ACLC and Parents' Day coordinator made the opening remarks, wel-

coming all the guests and dignitaries. She also read few passages from the proclamations issued by 12 cities in Polk County.

Presenters were Dr. Rev. Nathaniel Hill, pastor of Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church in Mulberry. And Rabbi Steve Weiler, senior Rabbi of Shores David Messianic Synagogues in Tampa and in Lakeland. It followed by three beautiful

er cause is more impotent than which party you serve in

Vice mayor of Lakeland Howard Wiggs presented the certificates to the honoraries. We had 12 Parents of excellence, in addition to one out standing Student of he Year, one Faculty of the year, one Model Business and one Teacher of the Year, and one Best Employee from police depart, total of 18 honoraries from 12

Rev. Gary Chidester also made a presentation of the Ambassador For Peace asking for volunteer, it followed by presentation of the Ambassadors For Peace video.

Rev. Walter Jenkins from City of Refuge-Church of God in Christ in Lakeland, made the benediction. It followed by Spanish version benediction (due to participation of Spanish community) Rev. Leonie

Trevino the superintendent of churches and Senior Pastor of Iglicio De Dio in Polk County.

The program ended with postlude, a group picture by Danny Aguilar from Tampa. Participants enjoyed refreshment and socializing at the Exhibition Hall before their departure.

After the program was over, some pastors approached me, asking me to please call them anytime if I needed their assistance in any ways. That was a victory!

Thanks again to Rev. Gary Chidester for taking time to make a long, long trip to Lakeland to bless this group of very special people. Thanks to Jan Breslin and Danny Aguilar and Mike and Nina Magan, as well. ❖



Israeli Folklore dances. Audience was fascinated by the graceful Jewish dancers, and their touch of the rich Jewish heritage.

From the office of Senator Bill Nelson (democrat), Celeste Brown presented a letter of Recognition in support of Parents Day in Polk- County and she also read another letter of Recognition from the office of Senator Mel Martinez who is republican. She proved a kind heart toward her opposite party to read their letter in the absence of their delegate. It showed that the character of devotion to the high-

cities in Polk County. We also recognized a letter of Appreciation for USF to afford hosting our program, received by President Dr. Nat Thomas of USF Winter Haven.

Reginald Director of Florida Rev. Gary Chidester from Miami, was the guest speaker. His speech was concluded by the holy wine ceremony. All the participants received the holy wine followed by the pure love affirmation read by Rev. Isabelle Davati. Then live band led by Pastor Willie Chatmon and his people from Holy Faith and Prayer church in Auburn-dale.

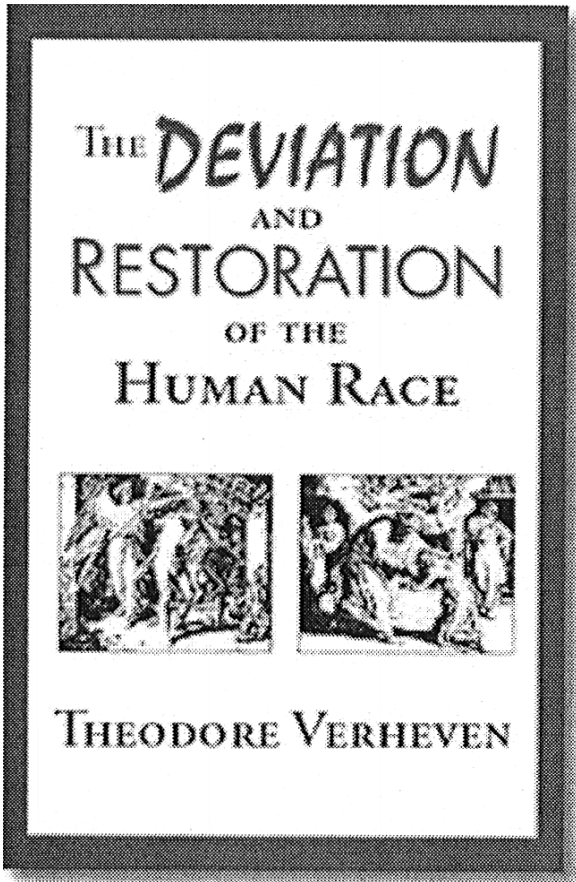
The Deviation and Restoration of the Human Race

by Theodore Verheven

Teddy Verheven was sent as a lone missionary in 1965 from Los Angeles to Holland (his country of birth), by the leader of the Unified Family, Reverend Sun Myung Moon.

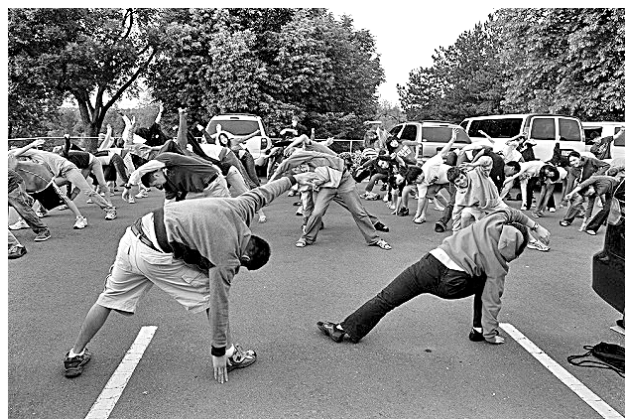
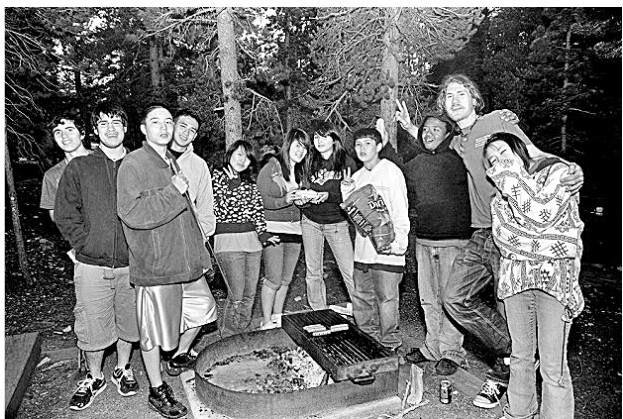
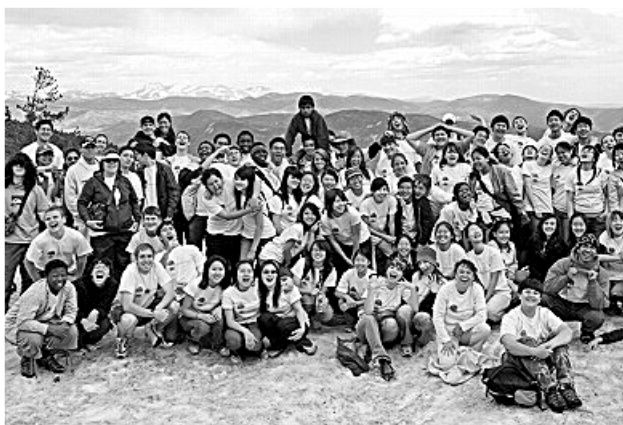
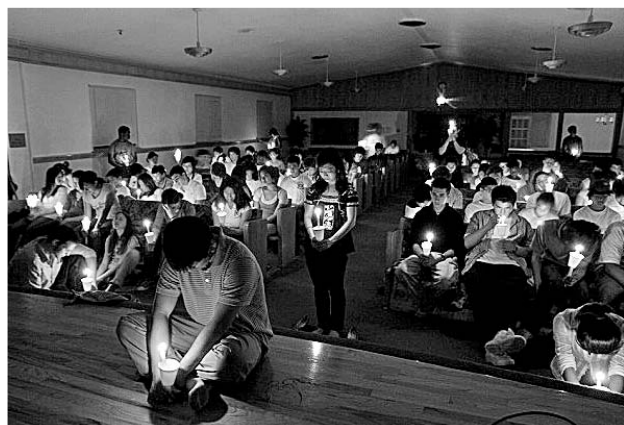
This writing not only explains the purification and development of the inner personality (moral and intellectual), but also the unfoldment of the innermost spark, by awakening and feeding the growing soul with the Love and Truth of God.

For more detail, go to: "The Deviation and Restoration of the Human Race" on AtlasBooks.com - "Category" Biblical Studies or Body, Mind, Spirit. See Summary and Testimony and click on "excerpt" for Foreward and 10 pages of Table of Contents.



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Summer Workshop 2007 Camp Lone Star



by Stacey Cho

The addition of states into our newly formed district led the Texas core staff to relocate to Colorado in an effort to create new relationships with the new youth. Because the age group was from 13 to 18, the theme of the workshop — Denver, June 5-10, 2007 — had to be the right balance of core values and leadership training. Thus, we created the theme “Let’s Get Rooted.”

In getting rooted, we wanted the participants to first understand where they fit in with True Parents and the course of the First Generation. We wanted the participants to open their hearts to True Parents and the First Generation so that they could better understand their value as second generation. Secondly, after understanding that God’s love was the root and propelling force of True Parents, we wanted the participants to change their lifestyles accordingly by living for the sake of others, loving God and True Parents, and maintaining their purity.

Before the participants arrived, there was a day and a half workshop for staff in which they learned about the theme and how they were the connecting bridge between the participants and God. In the evening, we had a challenge activity in which the staff had to fundraise until they had enough money for sleeping arrangements and breakfast. When the staff reunited the next morning, everyone was able to connect on a deeper level after experiencing God’s love and challenging themselves through fundraising. Afterwards, everyone reflected and prepared for the participants’ arrival.

As soon as all the participants came, the excitement in the air energized everyone to sing at the top of their lungs during the first meeting. Teams were made and groups met with their team captains for the first time. Here they made team chants, names, and flags, and later shared with everyone the meaning behind their team names. It was a night of laughter and joy as kids from all over united and prepared for the upcoming days.

The second day of the workshop main-

ly consisted of internal guidance through lectures. All the lectures were taught by second gen. Youngil Fleischer taught the first lecture, which dealt with how True Parents were working to rebuild God’s dream. The lecture taught the participants how they could also bring God joy.

The next lecture, by Hero Hernandez, dealt with True Father’s course and focused mainly on the fact that God’s love motivated True Father to persist and break through. The final lecture was taught by myself and dealt with True Mother’s course. The participants were educated on True Mother’s own struggling course and how her love for all of humankind and God motivated her to stay true to God. All three lectures focused on God’s love and how much love we could give God just by recognizing him and True Parents and living our lives for them. Following in the evening, the teams made their own Cheon Il Guks out of a box of crafts. By having to create their own ideal worlds with limited supplies, the participants realized how much God invested when he created the world for us. The participants were able to further appreciate God’s creation and this prepared them to feel God in the natural beauty of Colorado.

After the internal guidance, the rest of the week consisted of outdoor challenge activities. First, the participants went camping. On the glorious mountains of Colorado, five challenge stations, each based on a specific core value, were set up by Tomeo Wise and Ryan Mahardy. These core values included communication, compassion, knowledge/strategy, patience, and sacrifice. As the teams found their way to the stations, each participant had a chance to lead the group. The leader was then blindfolded and protected from random grape shooters by cardboard shields held by the team members. This taught the team members to protect and trust each other. After each station, points were gathered by how successful the teams were. These points were used in a store at the end in which the teams had to buy their dinner supplies to make their own dinners. Surrounding a campfire, the teams were able to reflect

upon their day in the hushed setting of the woods.

On the fourth day, Aunt DJ gave an important lecture on the course of First Generation and the importance of each second generation. She spoke from her heart about how much value each participant had and how important he or she was to God, True Parents, and their own parents. Afterwards, the participants went whitewater rafting. Arriving back at the church, the participants had a spectacular dinner and all the groups reflected and shared on their experiences.

On the fifth day, the participants went hiking. Because a few were injured, the participants took care of each other as they hiked up and down the mountain. Group pictures were also taken amidst the magnificent backdrop of the mountains of Colorado. The rest of the evening consisted of sports and skit rehearsals for the talent show. During the talent show, each group performed a skit based on the theme. Certain participants also shared their unique talents in the talent show. Because so many wanted to share, the talent show went on for two hours. After all the fun, the participants gathered for a candlelight prayer. Here, they watched a moving PowerPoint on True Parents’ course and a unison prayer followed. It was incredibly moving to hear so many of the younger BC’s sincerely praying and crying tears for God and True Parents.

The participants shared their final day of the workshop with the Denver, Colorado, community in which the core staff led the Sunday service. Here, the participants and staff gave testimonies in front of the Colorado families. The finale included a fantastic slide show by Joon Koo that documented the entire workshop. As everyone hugged their goodbyes, many participants already began to promise to see each other at the next winter workshop. Brothers and sisters cried tears as they separated. One Colorado core staff member, Ryan Mahardy, commented on how empty the church felt with everyone gone and how much he missed his brothers and sisters.

The focus of this workshop was for the

participants to deal with the question that all second gen face and that question is, “What do True Parents have to do with me?” Ultimately, the goal of this workshop was for the participants to identify with True Parents in their mission to fulfill God’s dream. After having an understanding of what God’s dream is, we wanted to teach them what True Parents and our own parents had done to make it a reality. In recognition of that sacrifice, the participants could open their hearts to that same dream and change their lifestyles accordingly. After being in an environment immersed with true love, we hope the participants left with inspiration and a new sense of purpose as they continue to embark upon the journey of figuring out who they are as second generation.

Testimony, Hero Hernandez, Director of Camp Lone Star

My heart as a director of a district workshop is always full of mixed feelings. I feel I have been blessed to be able to discover a sense of responsibility in myself and an urgency towards the education of the younger second generation. Through my experiences fundraising and witnessing and even from situations as a college student, I have gained a certain confidence that I can make a change in the spiritual lives of the youth. However, on the other hand, there is always the lurking sense of inadequacy and incompetence, a strong bothersome reminder that blames me for not being enough of a leader. This conflict follows me to every workshop, and I even encounter it as my staff and I meet and create its content in the preparation stages.

Sometimes it is difficult to clearly decide which will be stronger: Holding on to the belief that God had chosen me for a reason despite my shortcomings or to surrender to the temptations of thinking that I had no value.

During the workshop, I struggled to find my balance. I was always afraid of overstepping my authority or forgetting that I was simply an instrument being used in conducting the workshop. At the

see **LONE STAR** on page 20

Blessing Preparation Workshop for 2nd Gen

by Rev. Randy and Kumiko Francis

On Friday, June 15th, 130 BC's, parents and staff converged on Camp Mar-Lu-Ridge in Maryland. There was a great excitement in the mountain air. Participants were traveling from all across the country for this weekend workshop near Harpers Ferry, West Virginia.

The workshop was originally thought to be mostly for the southeast block of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification. As it turned out, after the 50-state speaking tour concluded, many registered during the last week. This led to an overflow crowd for the camp facilities and staff. They graciously succeeded in accommodating all our needs.

Mar-Lu Ridge sits atop a line of foothills overlooking the Potomac River to the west. The MC and coordinator was David Hunter, FFWPU Education Department. David, along with fiancée Mitsuru Kubo, will be attending the Blessing on July 5th, David did a wonderful job bringing together all the elements of fun, fellowship, and focus centering on the word of God. Our music team was led by Josh Berndt and Kyla Quinn, with technical assistance by Alex Francis.

The primary Divine Principle and Blessed Life Skills lectures were presented by Rev. Phillip Schanker. He brought the entire principle into real life terms, weaving the thread of God's original purpose of creation into modern reality. He also expressed

the deep struggles that have inundated much of our lives as we struggle to pioneer the Cheong Il Guk path.

Saturday night we had entertainment and testimony time; several original songs, poems, and dramatic interpretations were

went to England, arriving the day True Father entered after the ban was lifted. She followed the European tour of True Parents and then was back in Korea for the matching and Blessing. Somewhat reluctant but peacefully she watched as True Father matched those in front of her. As it came her time, she mistakenly stood forward as Father pointed her way but he said no and motioned to another. Then he pointed again her way, and she froze, not wanting to be mistaken again, Father said, you! And it was done. Christian Holdhus and Eunha Stein were together. To make a long story short, they have a beautiful one-month old daughter.

All the parents were very supportive and shared in their own discussion groups. This spirit of unity and hope was expressed by Daniel Hess during his Sunday morning service as he shared the points he has learned before and after the Blessing with his wife Homi. They also have a beautiful new third-generation daughter of God.

As we adjourned for the group photo in front of the peaceful chapel that overlooks the Potomac River valley, everyone sensed this was an opportunity for new beginnings for all the participants. Rev. Inguk Seo, director of the 2nd Generation Blessing Department., led us in the graduation ceremony. In giving his guidance and testimony he stressed the meaning and value of BC's as creating one world family of God.

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Several times he reminded the BC's present that they are like amphibians coming out of the world surrounded by fallen nature. "You have to do your best to shake off the tails you have as you start to walk this path. You have to breathe the air of God's true purpose for your lives."

Each participant was connected to one of 15 groups lead by other 2nd Generation. There were discussion periods when all had the opportunity to share their hearts and ask direct questions. If others in the group could not answer the questions, then the group leaders brought them to resource persons like Mrs. Hiro-mi Stephens, Rev. Schanker and others.

shared. David Hunter shared his life course that brought him into the education department position after going to school and working in a Christian education setting. As he introduced his peer and childhood friend, Eunha Stein Holdhus, he described her as his trusted guide and savior. Eunha had guided him to study Divine Principle and then go to Cheong Pyeong as he confided in her his struggles with his life course. "Two years later," he said, "I am here and excited and ready for the Blessing".

Eunha shared her path to the blessing as one being guided by solely relying on God's direction. She had gone to Cheong Pyeong for forty days and more and then

LONE STAR from page 19

same time, I felt weak or not skilled enough to be able to create a life-changing workshop, and so thinking that God was making the decisions helped to push away my insecurity. Sometimes it is awkward or difficult guiding and leading my own staff because of our closeness in age, some older than me, and many of them being good friends of mine. However, I felt

set up for them, that as staff, we must grow as well. We reminded ourselves that for the participants to grow in their relationships with God and True Parents, we as staff had to grow and breakthrough first.

Then my realization came as well. I as the director of the workshop, as the "team captain" for all the staff, would have to have my own breakthrough before I could expect it from the staff, and thus from the participants.

I felt my breakthrough point would be

how was I setting an example as a leader. I had to remind myself that I was the representative of True Father. In the team meetings after closing, it was a chance for me to really share with the staff my heart and also my honest evaluations of how each of them was doing. In critiquing and advising them, I was actually very afraid to say anything at all; however, I felt that I couldn't just stay silent. In those moments, I would think about what I would say many times over before it came out of my mouth. I was begging God and

to the staff or I was frustrated when the "revelations" didn't come as I prepared my lectures. I felt sorry to those participants that I met that I couldn't touch their hearts more deeply.

Still, I kept thinking about what could God's desire be for me and continued to invest in the workshop. As the week went on, I began to think more clearly and my decision making became more quick and confident. More importantly, I felt that the staff and their teams were having lots of breakthroughs themselves.



if I continued to think of God's desire for me and at the same time work harder than them, then I could have a foundation of authority to guide them.

In the workshop setting, my relationship with the staff is probably most important. It determines how well the workshop flows as well as how deep of an experience the participants can have. I invest most in the staff, hoping that they can invest their hearts in their team members. I tried to remind them that even though we are taking care of the participants and hoping and praying that they grow through the guidance and activities

in how much I could think about God and His desire for me in all the decisions I would have to make.

The many responsibilities of director would test my ability to practice this point. It confronted me in everything I did. In preparing my lecture to the participants, I had to seriously search to find the message that God wanted to give. To simply think about it for a few seconds would not give God justice. I had to sincerely search and pray and reflect back in to my life experiences of how I had met God and True Parents.

In guiding the staff, I had to ask myself

True Parents to give me the right words to say, something that would help the staff grow and not hurt their hearts.

A few times I was able to relate with the participants themselves. In those moments, I tried to simply be a big brother, forgetting my title as the director. I would take each encounter seriously, asking God what could I say to this participant, how can I express love to them in the short time that I have.

Even in practicing all this, hoping to find God's message for me, many times the answers didn't come. Many times I would regret not saying the right things

I felt that God was accepting my small condition to think of Him and work hard at the same time. I felt that God looked at the sincerity of my staff even though we weren't perfect or qualified to lead the participants.

Sometimes I feel that all you can do is work hard with sincerity even when things aren't going completely to plan. I think that participants had a deep experience, but not because of me as a director. I think that God was able to work through us as staff because our hearts were in the right place.❖

Teaching Interfaith Leadership

An Interview with Rev. Estaban Galvan

by Shin Young Chang

Rev. Estaban Galvan is a professor at Boricua College, the Manhattan Annex, Bronx, New York. He teaches in the winter semester, Introduction to Religion and now, in the summer sessions, Remaking of Leadership. This interview with Rev. Estaban Galvan took place on June 2007.

SC: Can you give us the details of the interfaith course you are teaching at Boricua College.

EG: Yes, we have a course in our admissions already, Introduction to Religion, exposing our students to all the religions, and the making of religions, which in turn exposes the student to a whole world or religious history and the development of Christianity, Judaism, Islam, and the eastern religions.

SC: Can you elaborate on these courses you teach in relation to Unification Church missionaries?

EG: First off there are two levels in the course study; one is a inquisitive science and the other is effective development. In Cognitive science, we exercise the theory and practice behind the development throughout history of religion for the student. In the course of effective development (I teach both courses at both levels) the student is oriented more towards the experience of the conscious and subconscious sharing of their own feelings on religion and spirituality, and they share it over here and there's a big response from the students. I'm the only professor teaching that course, offering that course. My students are primarily Hispanic, African-American, and Asian and there are a few European students. It's very interesting, very amazing, really, very good.

So my message at the 43rd street Sunday Service several months back was - some of the students also attend the Jacob Javis Center as part of their course study site visit, and they responded very well to the environment because the school emphasizes learning context and environmental learning. For this particular course, the school is promoting that the student develop an open mindedness.

SC: How would you suggest those involved in inter-religious dialogue improve their ability to be facilitators for interfaith dialogue?

EG: I think it's best thing to do is to be aware, especially, of what we're (Unificationists) doing in respect to the international foundation that we have, that Father has especially with the mission field, such as Universal Peace Federation (UPF). I've been speaking with some of the professors at the college now who are interested in both the Middle East project and our trips to Israel. Also any of the members here should be aware of programs that we have and have confi-

dence to invite people of many faiths and many nations, ethnic groups, and backgrounds. We have an amazing amount of resources. I'm totally confident that we can reach out to the higher level and that's why now I'm

talking about the Hispanic, we're talking about Europeans - where the crhuch and religion plays a key role to the family and that's where, the students primarily - this is an adult college. So a lot of the people coming have experi-



inviting one of the professors to the Hawaii conference as well.

SC: In your opinion then, you feel that our efforts in the Middle East are bringing results?

EG: Fantastic results because it starts with dialogue first. It begins with dialogue first and removing those barriers. For instance, I have a Christian students who came to the Jacob Javis and heard True Mother speak. He came back to my office and he was so moved! He's a Christian and he reads the Bible and knows the Bible. He was moved emotionally and fell down on his knees and he was just crying, so overwhelmed by the love that he felt in that environment at Jacob Javis Center. I feel he was having a spiritual experience. This school started out as a private school. It's the only private Hispanic College in America and there is four locations in New York. It really promotes and encourages dialogue, and open mindedness towards all religions and all faiths and all races. It originally began thirty-three years ago primarily for the Puerto Rican community but now it has completely opened up to Korean, Hispanic, all Latin American countries, Africa - it's changing, the school is become more deep and that's where the alignment with Unificationism I think is really timely.

SC: That's really amazing. The school just naturally progressed into interfaith dialogue.

EG: Yeah it really is. Look at what we're talking about. We're talking about the Afro-American, we're

ence life. They're not just coming right out of highschool. They are people who are either parents, or who have themselves, gone on to express a desire to go back to school. There is a maturity there and an experience there; the knowledge they have of religion and spirituality comes from first hand experience that, not just religion per say, but institutional religion and spirituality more so are what they have experienced with interfaith. I feel there's some high level people here who would believe more now in what we're doing through United Nations and through a lot of the work we are doing with the Call to Israel and through programs with the International Educational Foundation (IEF). Even STF and what it's doing now, I think a lot of people are now opening their eyes to us and listening to what we are doing and not just to what we are saying.

SC: I'm curious to know what your students want to do once they've finished your course.

EG: It's amazing you should ask that. I'm taking another level in my course: leadership. It's a learning process. That's important, the process of learning. So I'm getting the students involved in the course on leadership and that leadership course is connected to a holistic approach to learning of the person, the community, the family. That includes, then, spirituality. You can't get away from it. Leadership issues of peace, for world peace are right now. I took fifteen of the students to one of our events on the world tour. Now many of them are going to be police officers, counselors; they're going to be on the board of edu-

cation, in human resources, do business; these are people who want to do things.

SC: Thank you for the interview. Are there any last things you would like to add?

EG: Yes. I just want to say that I am grateful to the training that I had that the Unification Theological Seminary. I've been here now five years teaching at this college. And now they are opening another college in the Bronx, fourteen floors. What I see now with my three years of training at UTS and with Father's training of leadership is that we are now at the forefront. Father wants us to get out there and help to facilitate leadership, you might say, from the community. Not to program and not to come on top of them with an agenda, but to come underneath them. The way Father has taught me to teach and how to make it passionate and how also to resource; for instance, my main text is World Scriptures by Andrew Wilson. I also use Huston Smith and Dr. Young Oon Kim on theology. I am introducing all these texts in my courses. The two course studies are the cognitive science and the colloquium.

When I was hired there, I asked them point blank, would there be a problem with me being a part of my church and they said no. They wanted to know what was my philosophy of education. It was a two hour interview with three professors, four times - I had to go to all four colleges. I was drilled. They asked me, what have you been doing? What is your philosophy of education? This, that and everything and it was amazing how the doors had opened. Times are so good for us right now to be out in the front.

I had this experience this one time; there was another brother who was teaching at other colleges and he could never say that he was a Unificationist and I have it right there in my office. I have it right there. I have the Ambassador for Peace, I have a picture of True Parents, and I have a picture of Hyo Jin Nim. They ask me openly about it and they know I'm an ordained minister. Maybe I'm a little bit different because the community and the cultural context - you see poverty around you, and my conclusion is this: we need to be here.

I'm grateful to Father because all this can happen now only because of True Parents, and also to Rev. In Hoi Lee who was the regional director at the time. He encouraged me and gave me his blessing to go and take on this challenge. It is my mission. I told them at the school, they loved it when I they asked, "Why do you want to come here" and I said I felt it was my mission from God. And they said, "you're hired."

SC: So it is safe to say to our members, that it is not only good the things were are doing, but that what we are doing is in demand.

EG: That's right. And be confident. This is your call from God. ❖

THE NEW VOICES OF OUR GENERATION



Reflections on the 1st Annual Special Needs Blessed Family Camp

Carol Matsuuchi

Carol is a Blessed Family Mom - from 2075 couples in 1982 - with special needs son, Aki Matsuuchi. She attended the workshop described in the article.

A workshop for Blessed families with special needs children was held on August 2 - 5th at the New Hope Farms. This was the first such event, and it was launched through the tremendous efforts of Yoshi and Fran Ichijo, who are the coordinators of the Special Needs Blessed Family ministry of the Blessed Family Department. Seven Blessed families attended the workshop. In most cases the special needs Blessed children were in their teens or early twenties, although there was one family whose special needs

son was only six years old. Second Generation volunteers were on hand to assist and accompany the special needs BCs in the morning and afternoon, while the parents met together to share testimonies, discuss resources for the care of their children, and gain insight into the unique responsibility of raising a special needs Blessed child. Perhaps the single issue that weighs the heaviest on parents in Blessed families is the desire to see their children Blessed by True Father in marriage - and for parents of special needs Blessed children the issue is the same. Everyone gained tremendous hope from learning about the Blessing by True Father of Kenji Ichijo (who has Fragile X Syndrome) with Sonya Yoder (who has Downs Syndrome) in 2003. We learned that prior to the Blessing, True Father spent a long time with the photo of Kenji and Sonya - who had been matched by their parents - talking

extensively with Dr. Yang about the need to Bless the special needs second generation with each other. The most heart-warming situation at camp was the warm relationships that developed between the second generation volunteers and the special needs kids. Our son, Aki, who is 19 and has autism, was closely attended by three BC sisters, who smiled at him, talked with him (though he is non-verbal), took him to activities, and spent time with him at gatherings. Aki was in heaven. He was delighted to receive so much love and attention. The affection going both ways was obvious. Besides having a great time with other



Blessed families and with the very dear second generation volunteers, we left camp with renewed strength and with a connection to other Blessed families who share a similar challenge. We are all looking forward to next year's camp. For anyone who wants to know more about the Special Needs Ministry, please go to <http://www.familyfed.org/bfd/special.html>. ❖

Blessed Children's Sports Festival 2007

Jin Kwon Kim

A huge thank you to all the participants and people involved in the event and the process and the support as well. We had a very successful weekend with a roughly 25-30% increase in the numbers of participants from last year, some 250+ people came from as far as Alaska, Florida, Maine, Maryland/DC and Ohio as well as locally, from NJ, CT, and NY. It looks like we have some very nice healthy rivalries shaping up in the different sports, and some great sportsmanship displayed as well as some electrifying finals. All the teams played hard and everyone contributed in making it fun and



exciting. We also received contributions from VitaminWater /SmartWater and Starbucks outside of a workshop or national event, safely and with the right heart as we had no major mishaps and offered each match up with a prayer. I'm sure God is waiting to see what other possibilities we can create in the short and long term future in other areas, so I'd like to invite everyone to see what else we can do collectively to bring together the BC community to bring joy to God and offer it up. With this in



mind, we will see you all next year. Special thanks to Rev. Geller District Director and his assistant Mr. McMahon, Mrs. Misayo Bien (NJ), Mrs. Hope Igarashi(NJ), Mrs. Lydia Compton (NJ), Mrs. Claire Haider (NJ), Uncle Joe Leonard (NJ), Soo Yong Kim (NJ), Alex Chin and Charko Patterson (NY), Mike Zambon (CT), Mapolo Buessing and Gullinda Loum (NE), Jin Schrattenecker (OH), Dave Moffit (MD), all the NJ staff and volunteers and parents who made this possible. Please come visit us on www.bcyouthgroups.com and scroll over and click on NJ for pictures of the event, we will post them in the next couple of days. Aju. ❖

Curriculum Mini-Grant Program

The Center for Education at UTS is announcing the Curriculum Mini-Grant Program . The mini-grants program offers grants between \$500 - \$1,000 for the creation of professional curricula and teaching tools for the diverse age groups within the Unification movement. The Center for Education at UTS wishes to encourage the development and publication of effective and creative curricula or teaching tools that can be used throughout the country. There is a tremendous need for effective curricula in each of the target age groups. Currently, some centers are using the national curriculum while others have simply done their best to teach Divine Principle or the Bible or a combination of the two. Then there are other church centers that are not doing any kind of educational program because they don't have any type of curriculum or outline from which to work. Therefore, we wish to encourage those with the desire, experience or means to develop curricula that can be used in: K-6 Sunday Schools , Youth Ministries, Young Adult Ministries and even Adult Ministries. In addition, there is a need to create effective teaching tools such as games, activities, specialized felt board teaching tools, dramas and similar creative tools for use in each of these ministries. Have you designed a game or teaching tool that you have found to be effective? Why not professionalize it or expand it so that others can use it? Those who wish to apply need to review the grant requirements and submit an application. go to www.centerforeducation.net for more Grant Information and details.





THE NEW VOICES OF OUR GENERATION

2007 Discover True Friendship Service Tour: Bangladesh



by Paul Byrne

July 10 - 25

Paul Byrne is the Coordinator for IRFF's Discover True Friendship Service Tour
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The humidity in the air was stifling, as the bricks were passed from hand to hand, down the line of volunteers to their destination - the brand new wall of the Jaigeer Peace Center, a multi-purpose building attached to the Jaigeer School in the Manikganj District of Bangladesh. The hands that the bricks passed through belonged to a startling array of people - American, Japanese, Nepalese and, of course, Bangladeshi. Some of the hands were tough and weathered from years of hard work. Some were gloved to protect hands unaccustomed to handling the coarse bricks. Others were the small hands of children. Sweat dripped from each of them, as Bangladesh's summer weather lived up to its brutal reputation and tested the volunteers with its heat and humidity. But the hands did not falter, as they worked in unison to move a mountain of bricks and piece by piece, create a structure dedicated to peace and empowerment, where days before had been only an empty lot.

These hands belonged to the participants and volunteers of the 2007 Discover True Friendship Service Tour, held in the village of Jaigeer, located 30 km outside Bangladesh's capital city of Dhaka. This year's Service Tour brought participants from all over the United States together with volunteers from Bangladesh, Nepal and Japan in a service learning project that was centered on the Jaigeer School, which serves local students in grades one through five. The mission was to build an addition to the school, in order to allow the school to serve a greater number of students. The building would also, however, be used for adult education classes, business training for microfinance program participants,

character education workshops, community meetings, and as a health care clinic. It would serve the community in a myriad of ways, and be a symbol of friendship and cooperation between the people of Jaigeer and their brothers and sisters from across the globe.

The Discover True Friendship Service Tour, as its name might suggest, has multiple components and purposes to it. The main purpose of the Service Tour is to serve a community in need, which we did this year by building the addition to the Jaigeer School, installing a water pump, and laying a path from the school to the main road. For six intense days, the participants of the Service Tour, who gave up their summers to come to Jaigeer, worked side by side with local volunteers (and dozens of the students of the Jaigeer School) to accomplish these tasks. The Peace Center - a simple structure - was constructed of bricks, with a sheet metal roof. The Peace Road, connecting the school to the main road to make it accessible during the rains, was also constructed of bricks, laid in sand, while the tube well was sunk 210 feet into the ground to bring fresh drinking water to the school and local community. A brick wall was also built around the pump to protect it and provide privacy to those who might use it to wash.

Although few had any sort of prior construction experience, the Service Tour participants worked hard without complaint, doing all that was asked of them on a variety of tasks. In assembly lines, they moved enormous piles of earth, sand and brick to bring them to where they were needed. They helped to build and then plaster the walls of the school, as well as to put the roof on. They scraped the entire inside and outside of the existing building of the Jaigeer School to remove old paint and mold, then painted all of the doors and windows. They laid the bricks for the path to the road and helped in the grueling process of driving the pipes for the well deep into the ground. It was inspiring to watch as each participant pushed themselves to serve as best they could even in difficult circumstances, all the while, having fun with each other and the countless young students who offered their help. Through their work and their motivation, a great deal was able to be accomplished in a short time, and although the finishing details of the school were left for the professional builders, the group left with a feeling that they had contributed in a substantial and significant way to the Jaigeer Community.

After the work was finished, the Service Tour participants went on a tour of Bangladesh. They traveled around the city of Dhaka and then took a trip to Cox's

Bazar, the world's longest continuous sand beach (120 km), and the major tourist attraction of Bangladesh. They were rewarded for their hard work with three days at the beach, where, despite a bit of



rainy weather, they enjoyed themselves and recuperated from the work.

Throughout their time in Bangladesh, the participants engaged in



another major component of the Service Tour - learning. They learned not only about Bangladesh and its people and culture, but of the challenges it is facing as a developing country. They also met many of the amazing men and women who



are finding solutions to those challenges and improving their country. The group visited a mosque and was given an introduction to Islam, the predominant religion of Bangladesh. They also visited historic Buddhist temples. They were treated to cultural songs and performances of Bangladesh.

They met with representatives from large organizations like UNICEF, and tiny organizations like SHUDHA (Support for Hungry Underprivileged Destitute Homeless and Aborigines), a school for street children that was literally started on a sidewalk.

They learned about microfinance and how it is allowing many Bangladeshis to improve their lives, then met with several families who were participating in

IRFF's Microfinance Program. They had opportunities to talk with scientists, local politicians, professors and countless other people who were dedicating their lives to doing what they could to improve their country and its people. As they visited these people and organizations, the participants began to understand Bangladesh and its situation better. They came to understand how important opportunity can be to people who have so little, and how blessed they themselves are to have so much.

The final and most important component of the Discover True Friendship Service Tour is the building of relationships and friendships between people who, on the surface, are vastly different from each other. Coming from America, our participants did not share the ethnicity, the language, the culture, or the religion of the Bangladeshi people that they met and worked with. These differences are ones that often in our world keep people apart from each other and divide them.

Yet, through their time and work in Bangladesh, the participants of the Service Tour were able to break down these barriers and establish true friendships with the people of their host country. Through shared experiences and a genuine desire to understand each other, bonds were created that crossed the divides of superficial differences and that gave everyone great hope for the possibility of a global family free from stereotypes, discrimination and xenophobia.

It is this experience of bonding with individuals that they initially thought to be so different from themselves, and of experiencing the commonality of all people that each participant will carry most deeply with them. They will remember the friendships they made, the way that they served, and the way that they were served, and will be influenced by that in the future. They will remember all that they learned about Bangladesh and its people, and will make decisions in their life accordingly. They will remember those sweltering days in Jaigeer as well as the hands that passed the bricks to them and those that took the bricks from them. They will remember that they were part of something bigger than themselves and that the dream of all people working together and coexisting peacefully can indeed be a reality. ♦

THE NEW VOICES OF OUR GENERATION



A Message from the Assistant Editor

The New Voices of Our Generation has now been running successfully for over a year and the editors at UNEWS would like to thank all those who have contributed an article to this section. Spread the word, communicate, and link yourself to the rest of America by subscribing to the paper and submitting your voice at newvog@gmail.com for this section. We are looking to fill this section of the paper with the following submissions: **articles written by our first and second generation focusing on second generation – that includes ALL second gen’s!** Be as *subjective* as you please, but keep in mind, that as this is a public paper, be respectful in your opinions. If you have an idea for submissions to this section, please let us know at newvog@gmail.com and send something in. keep in mind, everything will appear in UNEWS in b&w. All articles must include name, contact info, relevant dates, etc. If you wish to remain anonymous, please include that in your email. Please send all submissions for this section via email to: newvog@gmail.com. Want to respond to an article, please email at newvog@gmail.com

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Summer Interns Prepare to Teach Character Education

Sally Sayre

Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, United States July 17, 2007

Six eager interns began their internship in character education for the 2007 Character Education Internships Abroad Program with a training held in Kirkwood Camp in the beautiful Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania June 26-29, 2007. The hot and humid weather during the training was perhaps part of the preparation for these college-age youth from 18 years to 21 years of age who are going out to points in the Caribbean this summer to work at day camps and schools where they will be teaching the lessons from *Discovering the Real Me*.

Two interns are already in the Dominican Republic, where they are teaching the lessons in Spanish. Others will be going to St. Lucia, St. Vincent, and Trinidad and Tobago.

Coordinators Poppy Richie and Sally Sayre hosted the interns and four others who came to be trained in UPF's Character Education Curriculum. Mrs. Sayre teaches

Principled Academy, a character education school in the San Francisco Bay Area of California, gave presentations on character education in general, the way her school operates in teaching character education as a comprehensive strategy, and how the UPF focus is unique in its emphasis on a life-long approach which centers on the family as the principal school of character education.

Two of the trainees brought a special serendipity to the experience. Dennis Salmon came from Jamaica in



important character education is in helping young people find their true value.

Veronica Evangelina, a journalist

The success of the training will be better gauged after the interns have completed their internships, but some of the comments of the interns give an indication of how helpful they deemed their training experience:

"I received a deeper understanding of what character education really is and what this initiative is hoping to accomplish. . ."

"I think the most valuable lesson I received was that in order to be a character educator, I must be a person of good character. . ."

"I feel 100 times more confident about going out to do my internship than before I came. . . I learned how to teach the curriculum, confidence in it, and the importance and necessity of what we are doing. . ."

"I was very grateful for Diana's and Maria's testimony. I can use some of their teaching strategies as a model."

UPF's Character Education Initiative is sending interns this summer to seven countries in total, including; Belize, The Gambia in West Africa, Palau, Dominican Republic, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Trinidad and Tobago. ♦



order to be trained in the material himself. However, he was able to answer many questions for the interns about what

and lawyer from Uzbekistan, came from Washington DC and will be returning to Kazakhstan following the workshop. She realized during the training that she had heard these stories and their lessons before. Her mother used books published by IEF (International Education Foundation) in the early 90s to teach Veronica and her classmates. She hopes to bring this curriculum back to Central Asia.

Another highlight of training was having two interns, Diana Santelli and Maria Lee, who had just returned from completing a month-long program in Belize, share their experiences and lesson plans. They gave many helpful suggestions to those venturing out.



English at Northwestern Lehigh High School in Lehigh County, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Richie, who is a teacher at the

life is like in the islands. They learned about the history, politics and culture of the Caribbean, and they also heard how



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Three American Women on a Mission

By Aretha Welch

The following article was taken from Trinidad & Tobago Express, Saturday, August 18th 2007 and is reprinted here.

They could be partying, experimenting with make-up, or making daily forays into the malls. Not so. They've got more important things to do! Instead, these three young American women are on a mission to educate the young people of Trinidad and Tobago. They are implementing the initiative of The Universal Peace Federation (UPF). The organization is sowing its seeds in our twin island state through the work of these young women.

Nineteen-year-old Julia McKenna, Abigail Sayre 21, and Ingraine Convery, 18, are all peer educators. They landed in Trinidad on July 27 for a three-week stay enthusiastic and eager to work with local children in the field of character development.

While the UPF has done work in Trinidad and Tobago before, McKenna, Sayre and Convery's 21-day-series of interactive sessions with hundreds of local children, aged five to 19 forms a major part of the UPF's attempt at peer education initiative.

"We want to show that young people and American culture is not all about parties and celebrity culture. We have more to offer and some Americans want to give back, not just come into a country and take, though that is the general belief," Sayre pointed out.

According to the UPF's website, the federation is a global alliance of individuals and organizations dedicated to building a world of peace in which all human beings can enjoy freedom, harmony, cooperation and prosperity. The UPF works in consultation with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations. One of the major projects undertaken by the UPF thus far is the formation of a volunteer corps of

Ambassadors for Peace. The purpose of this programme is said to be the sponsoring of dialogue and cooperative projects between religious and community leaders in conflict-ridden areas of the world, particularly in the Middle East.

However with Trinidad and Tobago's crime level sky-rocketing out of control, local members of the UPF which includes Sterling Belgrove, chairman of the local leg of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) small grants fund committee, decided to bring the message of love and peace to T&T.

"But we are not focusing on the adults this time, instead it's the children, the future," said Belgrove. He said the country was now at an economic place where global investment could be facilitated and encouraged but only sustained if our human resource is strengthened and personal integrity restored.

"Therefore we must focus on the youth because they are the ones who will carry the torch of our tomorrow," he said. Belgrove believes however that society should not only focus on building young ones academically but building their characters also, "because more money but no conscience will only drive our country into further corruption," he added.

He said this is the reason the local supporters of the UPF decided to bring young people to carry-on the character development sessions. "When young people see other youths they tend to listen more, because it sounds less like preaching and more like sharing," said Belgrove.

That's where the three American lasses come in. All three young women hailing from Pennsylvania share one common trait, "We care about others and want to make a difference."

So far the three women have visited several local communities including Mayaro, Sangre Grande, Chaguanas, Newtown, Cocorite, St Joseph, Arouca, Point Fortin, La Brea, Penal and Laventille. Their workshops

have been facilitated by several non-governmental and community based organisations in these areas, as well as youth groups and churches who all believe in the UPF's message of peace and love.

Through a series of activities, games and stories the UPF's message of reconciliation among conflicting social groups and understanding are being passed on by all three.

"We use books produced by the International Education Foundation who have been doing character building work in Russia, China, Europe and the USA for several years now," explained Sayre.

The books carry stories which illustrate a range of characteristics which the UPF sees as essential to a young child's development, if he is to grow into "a well-rounded, healthy member of society who contributes to his country's development," explained Belgrove.

Fables and traditional stories from various cultures are used to teach the concepts of caring, sharing, cooperation, tolerance and peaceful conflict resolution. The older youths who attend the workshops also participate in HIV/AIDS awareness programs.

"The children have been bonding with us and we believe our messages have been getting through to them. The young ones are very attentive and much better behaved than American children their age. We see them thinking about what we are saying and it makes the trip even more worthwhile," said a doe-eyed Convery.

Belgrove believes, Trinidad and Tobago like the young children whom the girls interact with is still in it's developmental stages and both the children's minds and the entire nation are simply waiting to be built.

"Our next step is the training of local youths to become peer educators and maybe next time Julia, Abigail and Ingraine can return to train other peer educators and not just peers, making this love-movement even bigger," he concluded. ♦



**PAUL
CARLSON**

Mr. Carlson is involved with marine aspects of the Providence in the Bay Area

This article is about loyalty. More precisely, about individual people's convictions and allegiance. Such qualities are among humanity's finest, but in a fallen world they can be exploited.

Humans are gregarious creatures, from our deepest physical and spiritual roots. African primates stick together, and God didn't want Adam to be alone. This helped us survive the Fall of Man, and then, throughout history, to strive together for better things.

These natural affinities are, in many ways, our birthright. In some cultures people squabble, while in others, folks stick together like glue. Here in California, immigrants are beating extreme housing prices by moving three or four related families into one large house. This works great, until they get Americanized . . .

It's said that "the apple doesn't fall far from the tree," which is usually a good thing. In a complex society, kids will naturally imitate things, since having to intellectually grasp every theory and detail would be too much. Indeed, for adults it's too much.

ATTRACTIONS

For intelligent and willful people, loyalty must be earned. When something is sufficiently attractive, people can make new commitments.

Good, neutral, and evil causes can gain people's loyalty. So, how do leaders attract people? Why do followers join something new? Let's look at some common examples.

How do religions gain loyalty? In many ways.

A common method is the Appeal to Authority. This was used by Ellen White, Joseph Smith, Mohammed, and many others. They openly proclaimed themselves as prophets, and challenged people to believe and follow. Because they enjoy a role in God's ongoing providence, the movements they founded

endure and prosper.

Some organizations offer an Appeal to Mystery. Join them, be deemed worthy, and they'll let you in on some hidden truths. In a different form, such folks rejoice in the idea that God is just too big to comprehend. The fact that they *don't* understand becomes a selling point! In this author's case, hearing one such "wonderful ignorance" preacher turned me away from that ministry.

The LDS church has its permanent mysteries, plus Temple ceremonies which only approved members can watch, much less participate in. Opposite this, Unificationists will literally invite people from off the streets.

There are also Appeals to Idealism, Reason, Superiority, Camaraderie, Success, Joy, Healing, Greed, and much else. In each these cases, positive, benign, and sometimes violent stripes are seen.

Loyalty is essential to the function of most organizations. There are many people who prefer, or are required to, place themselves under the authority of another. Not only religious believers (born or converts), but labor union members, political party activists, college coeds, military recruits, and numerous others.

Normally this special trust is honored—but not always. Loyalty can be abused.

TRADITIONS

In previous articles we've discussed positive traditions. Unfortunately, in some areas, it's all too easy to subvert them.

Millions of Turks emigrated to Germany, and Pakistanis to England, and they haven't assimilated very well. Every year, several dozen European Muslim girls die at the hands of their own families, in so-called honor killings. The flip side is, many young ladies have decided to abandon smothering medieval traditions, and embrace the freedoms offered by their host country.

The German government blew a major opportunity for assimilation. First they allowed Turkish immigrants to open their own schools, but then refused to fund any textbooks. The Saudis gladly stepped in, with harsh Wahhabi textbooks, which didn't follow Turkish norms at all. A surge in extremism followed.

Sorry to say, but faithful women from many religions are seduced by the fallen world. It might be a certain

handsome man, or a compelling bad habit, or some inchoate teenage rebelliousness. If they lose their faith, and really corrupt themselves, it becomes very difficult (but not impossible) to regain it.



Young men hardly need an external temptation, to rebel.

STUBBORNNESS

Loyalty can, and often does, override virtually anything else. It's a direct manifestation of the greatest known stubbornness in the universe. People will look for the best in their own people and causes, and ignore (even mentally block out) any bad aspects. Scientists can actually measure these responses in the brain.

Not to worry! If anything, Unificationists have the opposite response...

Who gets your loyalty, and how much do they count on it? To what extent will they go to ensure it?

Some lifestyles offer wonderful rewards, in and of themselves. Rather than pining for an invisible Heaven, one Christian man proclaimed, "We've already won the jackpot!" At the other extreme, you can impose a death penalty for apostates.

Secular groups do all sorts of things to ensure loyalty. Grocery stores call their in-house preferred shopper cards Loyalty Cards. Gangs will tattoos distinctive marks on a recruit.

Someday, might a harsh American

government implant chips in the body of every citizen? The technology is ready, and some people are now 'chipping' their pets—even their own children.

Who would get the enforced chipping contract? Blackwater USA, which is feared by the Left? HillaryCare bureaucrats, who are feared by the Right? Perhaps some well meaning volunteers from an anti-crime program like America's Most Wanted? We can only speculate.

PURPOSES

We are fortunate to offer our loyalty to the True Parents on Earth, and to the Restoration Providence. In practice, how do we express that loyalty? As young people, with no other obligations, we can join in vigorous team efforts. As adults we can do that for limited periods, and perhaps a bit less vigor.

What about people with household and career responsibilities? By individual and/or local efforts, of course. Our members are involved in an astonishing variety of activities. Some have taken on huge responsibilities, but everyone can offer something!

Might we get sidetracked by strange ideas and activities? (Not unprincipled, or even trivial. I mean flat out weird.) Your author has seen it happen, time and again. I sometimes wonder if there is a band of demons working to distract Unificationists, and get them to waste time on utter foolishness. (A prominent Unificationist has agreed this is possible.)

CONCLUSION

In trying times, as when under persecution, people's loyalty is often increased. However, in confusing times, our lives can become a big mess. Loyalties can waver, and it takes wise leadership to keep it strong.

This brings to mind one effect of our many worldwide speaking tours. Some members gripe about the expense and seeming repetitiveness of these events, but in this context, they serve a very important purpose!

Every faithful rank-and-file church member (who can travel) will attend these speeches, in every country. As do the local (most directly influential) Unificationist leaders, plus our closest supporters and allies.

They all get to meet with our international leadership, and the True Family heirs apparent. This experience will be crucial in the coming decades, as we face some inevitable challenges.

Ultimately we are loyal to God, and He, in turn, never forsakes us.

Note to UNews readers: I've made an updated collection of my 'believers and atheists' columns available on line. See, www.cuebon.com/proofs.html ♦

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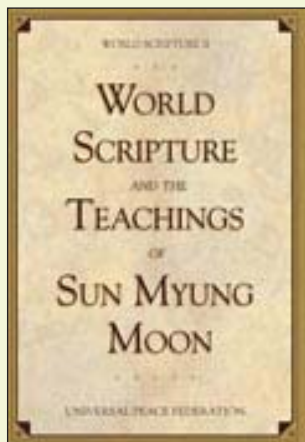
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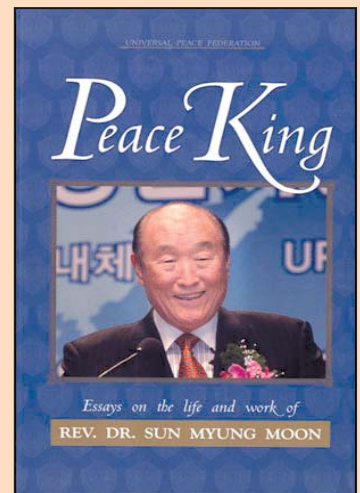
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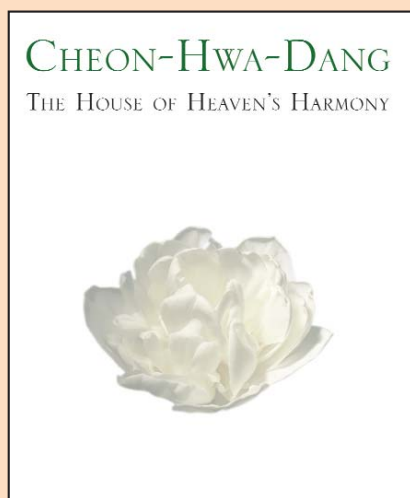
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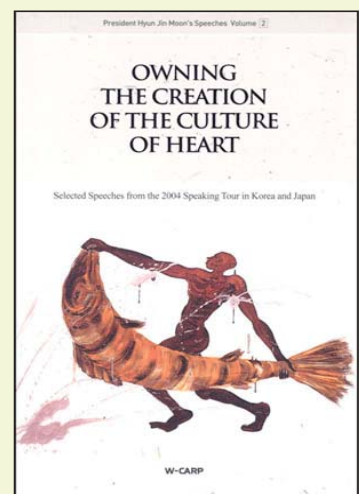
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