

2015 Peace Road Events

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On June 15, 2015, Peace Road world tour for Burkina Faso took place in Ouagadougou. Bikes, motorcycles and cars flying Peace Road flags went through the town from the Patte d'Oie crossroads to the Municipal Stadium – about 7 km. Three bikes led the way with the leader holding the flag. They were followed by motorcycles and cars that participated in the rally. Some policemen cleared the road at intersections. The rally took about 15 to 20 minutes to reach the Municipal Stadium. The arrival ended with a picture in front of the main banner.

We presented the peace road flag to the state representative, Mr. Fousseni Ouedraogo, who was sent as a representative of the Prime Minister. After a two-minute explanation about the global meaning of the Peace Road, the National Leader of FFWPU invited the national official to sign the flag and asked that he may help to send a top representative of Burkina Faso to Korea in August 30, where the flag will go. The official representative Mr. Ouedraogo signed the Peace Road banner.

Then Mr. Ouedraogo gave a speech, explaining the Prime Minister's interest in peace activities. He assured us he would report to the Prime Minister about the invitation. Ambassador Peace Mogho Naaba Baongo, the traditional king of the Mosse tribe, which comprises 48% of Burkina Faso's population invited us to his palace. He always supports our activities. His majesty kindly signed the flag and gave an interview explaining how it is important for him to see young people acting for peace.



The Peace Road event ended with some popular entertainment, such as dances by the Les petits anges

dancers, new hope choir, popular singers and majorettes.

To conclude everything, His Majesty, King Mogho Naaba Baongo, joined Peace Road participants in a final photograph.



From June 17 – 20, 2015 the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification in Suriname held the Peace Road 2015 project. Despite the heavy rainy season, Heaven granted us on our prayer request 4 beautiful sunny days. Ambassador for Peace, Mrs. Mary Ghafoerkhan-Karamat Ali, who is a faithful member of the Surinamese Islamic Association (SIV), and who was one of our main speakers that day, reminded the audience of the fact that the Ramadan fasting period had started.

On Wednesday June 17, we had launch at Congress Hall at the Independence square. We started the program at 10:00 a.m. with several Ambassadors for Peace seated. We had a special item added to our program, a candle-lighting ceremony in remembrance of 8 of our Ambassadors for Peace who are now in the spirit world. Everyone appeared deeply moved and grateful. Hoon Dok Hwe was done by the National Leader of FFWPU Suriname, Rev. Roel Rotgans, who read the first chapter of True Father's autobiography.

Afterwards there was a special message and Congratulatory song. Everybody who attended was asked to sign the PEACE ROAD 2015 banner and several group pictures were taken.

After we closed off the program inside the Congress Hall, we all walked outside to the monument close by, which was donated by the South Korean government to Suriname in remembrance of the fallen Surinamese soldiers in the Korean War. A beautiful wreath was laid at the monument and we released 93 balloons in the colors of the Surinamese flag into the air with three cheers of Og-mansei.

The next day, Thursday June 18, we held our first Peace Bike ride from Paramaribo to New Amsterdam, District Commewijne. The start was at 4:00 pm. at the Head Office of GOW2 Energy Suriname at the Van 't Hogerhysstreet close by the Jules Wijdenbosch bridge. In total, 7 riders participated—4 from the army, 1 from the Surinamese Cycling Union, 1 youth and 1 motorcyclist. It was a heavy but exciting ride, especially going up the Jules Wijdenbosch bridge.

On Friday June 19, we held our second Peace Bike ride from Poelepantje-William Kraanplein, Paramaribo to Lelydorp, District Wanica. It was an easier easy and more relaxing ride. We had 4 riders from the army, and 1 motorcyclist. On the way a motorcyclist called out to join us on the ride, so we attached a Peace Road flag to his motorcycle, which he gratefully accepted.



Media Coverage: We got good media coverage from 3 television stations and 1 newspaper. On Tuesday June 16, a day before the launch, we were twice on television station “RBN” that evening for an interview and the next day Wednesday June 17, there was an article in the newspaper “Dagblad Suriname.” On the day of the launch June 17 we got media coverage from “Apintie Television Station” and our launch appeared on their most famous and widely watched everyday hot itemed television news program named “In de Branding.”

On Thursday June 18, the first day of our Peace Bike ride, we had media coverage from newspaper “Dagblad Suriname” with an article appearing on Saturday June 20 in their newspaper, and on Friday June 19, the second day of our Peace Bike ride, we had media coverage from our national, government-owned television station “STVS.” They reported on us twice in their news journal, once the next day Saturday June 20, and again the day after that.



On June 20, in Zimbabwe, Africa, FFWPU and UPF members, with the Zimbabwe United Nations Association (ZUNA) had selected children from ten schools and some of their teachers to take part in Peace Road. We had arranged for fifteen police officers to escort them from Harare City town House. 165 participants gather for the launching. The Zimbabwe government doesn't allow any public gatherings because of the difficult political situation. Our Ambassadors for peace stayed away for that reason. We had to have police clearance for this march but still on the day of the march there were plain clothes policemen and central intelligence asking us questions before and after the march. Once they were satisfied, they left us alone so that the march was indeed a success.



For the Media Coverage: The day before the event we appeared on national TV Zimbabwe Broadcasting Cooperation (ZBC) and explained True Father's vision for peace and the peace projects initiated by True Father and about the forthcoming 3rd anniversary of his ascension. We explained about Peace Road 2015 and that we wanted to march to bring attention to the world about True Father's achievements.



On June 20, in Bissau, Guinea-Bissau, we organized a Peace Road march with peace bikes. We prepared a hundred white T-shirts and a hundred and twenty blue T-shirts. The event started at seven in morning from round point at the Bafata airport to the national palace. We march and rode bikes for 7 kilometers.

The national television, radio and private radio covered this event, broadcasting it to the people for two days. At the end of the event, there was a speech about using peace messages. The national TV also carried the information in its main journal for two days.

On June 21, in North Poland city Gdańsk, the first Peace Road in Europe, FFWPU and UPF organized Peace Road 2015, under the regional theme, "No more war, no more communisms." Gdańsk is the where Second World War broke out in 1939 and where the end of communism began with the Solidarity Movement in 1980.

Furthermore, Gdańsk is where many religions and ethnicities once lived together.

We started the Peace Road Project in a place that commemorates the first victims of the Second World War – Polish postmen in Gdańsk. We prayed, listened to a speech, placed flowers and lit candles there.



We then marched to the monument, which commemorates victims of communism in 1970 near the Gdańsk Shipyard where the Solidarity Movement was established after the strikes in 1980. We prayed, listened to a speech, placed flowers and lit candles there.

Next, we marched to the Nonexistent Cemetery Memorial, which commemorates people of many ethnicities that once lived together in Poland. We prayed, listened to a speech and lit candle there as well.

We finished Peace Road 2015 in Gdańsk on the hill from which we had a beautiful view of Old Gdańsk and New Gdańsk, with shipbuilding cranes. Cranes in nature (birds) are a symbol of the Heavenly Kingdom. We hope that God's Kingdom will be established together with True Parents in Gdańsk, in Poland, in Europe, in the World before 2020. That was our ultimate prayer in Gdańsk during Peace Road 2015.



On June 21, with lots of participants we held the Peace Road march in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. The fifth Central America nation. We started the march from a few blocks away from the Presidential Palace, Tegucigalpa, walked down ten blocks to the National Stadium then kept walking down to the Congress Palace, a total of 28 blocks.

Honduras is in the middle of conflicts, so everyday many organizations are marching. They also call their marches "Marches of Peace." The day before (Saturday), one of those marchers threw a bomb at the Congressional Legislative Palace. Fortunately, it did not explode. Because we also had planned to finish at the Congressional Legislative Palace, the authorities advised us to stop the march the next day and reschedule it, but we decided to do it anyway.

On that same Sunday, someone else threw a bomb at the Justice Palace and it exploded. The

circumstances were not easy, but under the protection of Heavenly Parent, our Peace Road march was successful. At the end, near the Congressional Palace, we celebrated the victory of our March for Peace and Family with folk music, dancing and some speeches.



On June 16 The Peace Road event in Cote d'Ivoire, was launched in Yamoussoukro, the Administrative Capital City. The Regional President, Rev Dr. Cho Dong Ho and the National Leader, Philbert Seka, members from UPF and FFWPU gathered in front of the UNESCO International Peace Foundation to launch the Peace Road event in Cote d'Ivoire.

The main event was held in Adzope on June 23, a city near to Abidjan, the economic capital city. The tour had the theme: "One Cote D'ivoire, One Family". It started at 9:00 AM. The Governor of the city, the President of the District of la Me Me, the Mayor and Members of Parliament attended the event. At 9:30 AM, Mr Adama Doumbia, General-Secretary of UPF Africa and Rev Philbert Seka, gave signal to depart to 54 riders from Cote d'Ivoire, Mali, Nigeria, France, Guinea, Benin and Burkina Faso. All the participants were dressed in the Peace Road colors. The Riders went through 100Kms. More than 4,000 people attended the main event. It was a kind of festival for the population to see people from diverse nations as rider to promote peace.

The 100 Km tour started in front of the city hall. At the end, the National Leader gave a speech to explain the meaning of Peace Road and mention the importance for people to break down barriers and live together as One Family under God. The authorities did congratulated UPF for holding such a wonderful event to build peace in the country. The event was covered by National TV and many other media.



On June 23 along the course of the Peace Road in Central America, Guatemala received the Peace Road baton. They marched from their FFWPU national headquarters to John Paul II Plaza. Participants

marched with Peace Road the banner and flags. With the support from the traffic police, the march ended successfully.

