

WFWP-USA's North Korea - South Korea Bridge of Peace Ceremony

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Newsis (www.newsis.com) is a Korean language news agency, similar to Reuters or Association Press (AP). Their web site posts with fair regularity small "breaking news" types of reports about our events, though sometimes with just the bare essence of what took place or what the events accomplished. On May 12, they had a photo of True Mother with the caption, "On the 11th (local time) Dr. Han Hak Ja of the Family Federation for World Peace and

Unification giving a keynote speech at a UN International Peace Conference hosted by the UPF and the WFWP at the United Nations headquarters in Vienna, Austria." A photo posted some months earlier had the caption, WFWP International President Moon Yeon Ah giving a welcoming speech at the "Peace-Loving Global Citizen, Reverend Sun Myung Moon's Women's Peace Movement -- American Continent Briefing Session." The posts mainly cover events taking place in Korea. Their coverage of Peace Road, which is being coordinated in Korea, included how the event was conducted in at least a dozen countries.

On July 12, a posting highlighted an event in faraway America. "WFWP-USA held a Bridge of Peace Ceremony at the Korean Community Center in Tenafly, New Jersey, wishing for the unification of North Korea and South Korea. Domestic and foreign guests, about 400, attended, including people such as the President of WFWP-USA, Angelika Selle, coordinator Marguerite Dabis, Tenafly Councilman Daniel Park and chairman of UNESCO Center for Global Education, Dr. Ada Okika. They watched a documentary video about the activities of WFWP and there were performances by the director of Pyeongyang Arts Group Ma Young Ah playing a yang geum, beatboxing by Lee Seong Yun, Korean Youth Drummers and soprano singer Seiko Lee sang 'Song of Korea.'" At the time of the 2010 US census, 36,000 people of Korean descent lived in Bergen County, where Tenafly is located.

A decade later, the number had jumped to nearly 57,000. The Korean Community Center opened its doors earlier this year. It is a modern, three-story building covering 2,000 square meters.

What follows are excerpts of a WFWP video that covered the event: The founder of WFWP, Mrs. Hak Ja Han Moon, said in one of her speeches. "A clear objective of our federation has been to carry out a number of activities that will aid the reunification of the Korean peninsula.

Women have to take the lead in both national and global unification by providing an example through education base on a true value system and the practice of true love." It has been a long-standing goal of the WFWP to promote a peaceful and harmonious reunification of the Korean peninsula.

WFWP International over the years has been involved in efforts for unification. In 2007, over five hundred women from around the world went to North Korea and engaged in a peace conference, which culminated in a Sisterhood Ceremony of Peace. (In fact, ten North Korean women took part in the 2007 event. Ms. Kyeong-ok Kim, the vice-chairperson of North Korea's Choson Democratic Women's Alliance, expressed her feelings upon seeing, in North Korea, WFWP members from all over the world. "Though our skin color or language may not be the same, I know that the WFWP officials who have come from different parts of the world have committed themselves to the promotion of the peace and unification of our nation. I would once again applaud, and to them express my appreciation.") In the US, over the past twenty-three years, WFWP fostered reconciliation between former enemy nations (such as Japan and the United States) as well as between African American and Caucasian Americans, where women from both countries or races cross a bridge and embrace in the middle, beginning a life-long relationship of sisterhood. These events and more, led to President Clinton acknowledging the Bridge of Peace Ceremony as "a promising practice."

On July 11, 2015, the New Jersey chapter of WFWP hosted an historic Bridge Of Peace Ceremony between Koreans representing North Korea and South Korea at the Korean Community Center in Tenafly New Jersey to help foster the beginning of the end of a divided Korea.

Cumulatively, over time, a Korean news agency presenting information of interest to Korean people about our events in an unbiased manner shows our movement to be integral to Korean society and to be addressing issues of deep interest to the nation.