

True Peace

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APRIL 2017





True Mother's Long Vision for Africa

By Bakary Camara



The Extraordinary African Leaders Assembly took place April 1–3 at the Intercontinental Hotel in Lusaka, Zambia, under the theme, “African Leaders for the Victory of Vision 2020 and the Realization of Cheon Il Guk.” More than a hundred and fifty participants attended thanks to True Mother’s grace.

A special delegation including Rev. Cho Sung-il, director general and Dr. Yun Young-ho, secretary general of the FFWPU International Headquarters, Dr. Thomas Walsh, president of UPF International and Mr. Suh Hyun-ook, communications officer at the World Mission Strategic Center brought their wisdom and deep-hearted concern to the assembly.

Among the leaders from Africa that participated were the UPF Africa chair and special emissary for West Africa, Mrs. Kathy Rigney, the West Africa regional president, Dr. Cho Dong-ho, the special envoy for Nigeria, Rev. Park Chang-seong, the special envoy for Benin, Rev. Sasaki Tatsuo, and the special envoy for South Africa, Rev. Robert Williamson.

The assembly was the first of its kind for all the leaders in Africa. We had the opportunity to discuss how best to restore each nation and shared success stories and ideas on how to work effectively toward the realization of Vision 2020.

Rev. Cho Sung-il, who reminded us of the need to align ourselves with True Parents’ teachings, said “Whether you are asleep or awake, you must testify True Parents.” He expressed how even now True Mother is praying for Africa. True Mother wants the FFWPU International Headquarters’ staff to go out to the field. “True Mother believes that Cheon Il Guk will start in Africa! She sees so much potential in Africa. The person who knows the mission field best is True Mother,” he said. Rev. Cho exhorted all the leaders of Africa to become one.


Dr. Walsh said that the assembly was a kind of “Abel African Union” summit. UPF as the Abel UN is at the center of the peace strategy division. “It is significant that True Mother is starting this strategic plan in Africa. The Abel UN requires first the restoration of Abel nations. For the true African Union, we need at least three Abel nations to steer it,” he said. He continued, “Please understand that the world is watching Africa. Africa is rising. True Mother knows that!”

Dr. Yun Young-ho gave an extensive explanation of the strategies True Mother is initiating. “When we look at True Parents’ lives,” he said, “the core is Hyo Jeong (filial heart) and True Mother wants to bequeath that to us. To have children of filial piety, you need a family and our objective is one family under God. Therefore, centered on Hyo Jeong (HJ) True Mother wants to expand Cheon Il Guk. Thus, the Cheongpyeong complex has been renamed as HJ Cheonwon.” He stressed the need to implement efficiently the culture of heart and develop HJ Cheonwon into a model of the kingdom of heaven on earth.

In the afternoon, Mrs. Rigney gave a presentation on 2016 activities of UPF in Africa showing that “miracles” are possible if we are united. Dr. Walsh presented the vision of UPF International with a special focus on the mission of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP). “IAPP is not another organization but a project of UPF,” he said.

Rev. Cho Sung-il and Dr. Yun Young-ho closed the African Leaders Assembly with encouraging and hopeful remarks for the firm settlement of Cheon Il Guk in Africa. Afterward, the deputy director of the Tunnel Foundation, Mr. Kim Byung-soo, spoke of the importance of Peace Road 2017, which will start from Cape Town in South Africa.

Rev. Jean Pierre Kadima, president of FFWPU in the Democratic Republic of Congo read the African Leaders’ Resolution and Call to Action, which everyone then proceeded to sign.

All those working in Africa are grateful to True Mother for this Extraordinary African Leaders’ Assembly. We clearly saw her long vision and came to understand it better through the assembly. All the African leaders pledged their absolute support to True Mother and centered on her, promised to work for the unity of the continent and make Vision 2020 a reality. 

Rev. Camara is the president of our East Africa region.

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Inheriting the True Parents' Realm of Victory



Until True Parents emerged on earth, God could never have his own direct children in the spirit world. Through me, the children whom God originally intended could be born for the first time. I am saying that through me, God's royal family could come into being. Therefore, you should take pride in it. It is we who are to connect all nations to the original garden of Eden. I laid the victorious foundation transcending heaven and earth. The True Parents built such a foundation and they are trying to bequeath their achievements to true children.

True Parents' realm of victory

The realm of True Parents' victory refers to the scope of their victory in the battle against Satan. It means that the True Parents are completely victorious on the individual level and on the family level. Further, they brought victory on the levels of the tribe, people, nation and world. It was indeed a challenging course; by no means was it easy. However, I overcame every difficulty and won the victory. I offered to Heaven the Enthronement Ceremony for the Kingship of God, which brought about the miracle of liberating even God. True Parents, with true love, forgave even the failed communist nations and embraced them, while leading the providence forward.

The fact that True Parents established the realm of victory means that they recovered all that Satan kept in his possession, including all providential individuals who were lost. Because Eve was lost, Adam also was lost. However, now that Adam has been recovered, it is time to recover the women of the world. That is why, for their recovery, on April 10, 1992, I placed Mother in the forefront and developed a movement for the liberation of women. We are entering the age of the Mother. This is the age of the Mother.

When we say that the True Parents are victorious, we mean that everything that was lost due to the false parents has been recovered: the True Son, the True Daughter, and the True Husband and Wife. The True Parents are the root from which will arise one humanity, where all are related as blood kin. From that True Husband and Wife will come only good de-

scendants, continuing for countless generations.

The realm of True Parents' victory is not limited to them as individuals. It leaves a mark on the history of the universe. You have to inherit this. In order to do so, you have to recover what Adam and Eve lost by their failure to have absolute faith and absolute love, and you have to clean up the stain in the lineage. You can accomplish this within the realm of victory that I have prepared; all you need to do is follow the original track, climbing up the eight stages beginning on the individual level, then starting again at the bottom on the family level and climbing up again, and so on. Then you should be able to go about your life freely. From a two dimensional viewpoint, God and human beings have been separated at opposite poles. Hence, True Parents had to go and bring God back into the family. I surmounted all eight stages both vertically and horizontally and broke free from the realm of Satan's accusation. Therefore, I can now freely attend God in the family and also on the national level.

What grounds do I have to take pride in the name True Parents? I established the realm of internal heart that, through love, breaks down all barriers and opens gates in every field and on all levels, horizontally and vertically, throughout history. This victorious foundation should not just be something that I alone can rejoice over; it should be cause for heaven and earth, history, and all ages to rejoice. Only when there is rejoicing to this extent can we truly rejoice. We should not rejoice over our individual victories while ignoring the past ages of history. What we accomplish should be cherished as a victory that all people—people in the past, present and future—equally can rejoice over.

The family of absolute faith, absolute love and absolute obedience is responsible for changing the lineage, changing the ownership and then forming the proper Cain and Abel relationship in the realm of heart. That family determined to bring victory and was victorious. On this condition, as True Parents, we could proclaim, "True Parents and the Completed Testament Age," and "Settlement of the True Parents and

the Completed Testament Age."

Because we, True Parents, are settled on the family level, the families of the world can give us recognition as their subject partner. With that, they can inherit True Parents' realm of victory. Then by that formula we can expand our foundation through the levels of the individual, family, tribe, people and nation based on the realm of the four position foundation of Adam and Eve. This expansion does not occur all at once, but gradually. The center and destination of this national level foundation is the world. The nation is the starting point for reaching out to the world.

You must praise True Parents and love True Parents. The era has come for the settlement of True Parents and the Completed Testament Age. True Parents' settlement allows you to inherit their victorious realm. Now that they are settled, they can give the Blessing throughout the world. This is how the world can be settled. In fact, True Parents have bequeathed everything to you. You, representing fallen humankind, should be grateful for this. You should be able to praise True Parents and love True Parents. Since the Parents from Heaven gave you the Blessing, took pride in you, loved you and served you, now in return you should praise and take pride in the Parents from Heaven. This is how you can alleviate the sadness of Heaven's family.

Adam's family was lost, and that lost family expanded worldwide; hence, True Parents must restore everything worldwide. Since things became as they are due to the love, life and lineage of the false parents, it is the True Parents who must bring every individual, family, tribe, people, nation, and the entire world back to God's side. The false parents turned all these things totally upside down. Thus, it is not only the family that True Parents must restore.

They have to restore every level in heaven and on earth through indemnity. Specifically, they have to reorganize every level based on their family, and straighten out all eight stages. In other words, although due to the false parents it was the family that was lost to God, True Parents cannot return to God after straightening out only the family level. They can resolve all the problems at that level only by bring-



ing victory at all levels in the cosmos.

At this time I am making many proclamations, such as the “Realm of the Cosmic Sabbath for the Parents of Heaven and Earth,” the “Settlement of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification and the End of Indemnity,” and so forth. There is no other way than this, since True Parents have to pave the path to the liberation that God originally intended. To do so, I had to level mountains and build a global foundation. Without such actual accomplishments, my wife and I could not have become the True Parents. Nor could I have become the Messiah and the returning Lord.

The path to inheriting their victory

The settlement of the Completed Testament Age means that we who center on the True Parents’ family have become one large family in the plus position. All human beings are in the minus position. With True Parents’ family in the plus position, all other families are its counterparts. If they unite as one with True Parents’ family by taking the position of a perfect minus, they will all rise to the same position as the True Parents’ family. This is the formula for recov-

ering the universe. Three main conditions are required for this to happen. First, the lineage must be changed. Second, the right of ownership must be changed. Finally, the realm of heart must be changed. The realm of heart includes three stages: the individual, family and tribe. The stages in this realm form one set that cannot be divided up. Therefore, as tribal messiahs you must connect these three stages of heart into one. Based on this foundation, you can then move up to the level of the nation.

God’s ideal of creation is based on love that partakes of his chief attributes: absolute love, unique love, unchanging love and eternal love. Based on such love, you can maintain your purity. This means that coming from a fallen lineage, you need to maintain your purity—to take the completely correct position for true love and true life. On the foundation of purity you can change your lineage. After that, you can experience pure love. You receive your inheritance after settling as a family of filial children; and then you expand the scope of your family to become a family of patriots, saints and divine sons and daughters, uniting the world

on the horizontal plane. Then you will inherit the authority of victory, which is as sweet as a fragrant flower.

In order to become the eldest son, and to inherit the right of the eldest son, you have to be better than Satan. You have to represent God in all areas and stand in the position to take responsibility in accordance with God’s rules and principles. The person who loves God the most receives the prize. Because of this principle, it is possible for God to carry out the providence of restoration. Inheritance is received based on love, and it is in accordance with this principle that you can claim back the birthright of the eldest son. As sons and daughters on Heaven’s side, you must be more filial to your parents than the sons and daughters of Satan’s world. As people on Heaven’s side, you must love your family, your nation, the world and all humankind more than the people of Satan’s world do. You must be better in all aspects. They have to give you their inheritance voluntarily; you cannot take it by force. *☞*

This is from Cheon Seong Gyeong, Book 2, Chapter 5, Section 3.



The Modern Marriage Supper of the Lamb

True Mother delivered this address on April 12 on the fifty-seventh anniversary of True Parents' Holy Wedding at Cheon Jeong Gung.

What is today? Is it a joyful day? Of the four seasons, spring is when all creation revives. In this beautiful season, due to human ignorance, many living things are dying from fine [airborne] dust, yellow dust. Do you know this? Human beings, because of the situation of the world today, are suffering from uncontrollable insecurity and fear. It is as if humankind is heading out to sea without a captain or compass. The world has become a dark place, unable to take even one step, unable to speak of hope for the future. To summarize, it can be said that it became so bad that the true owner of the world act as the owner.

Originally, God created all things in the universe and then created humankind's first ancestors, Adam and Eve. They should have grown well and had a beautiful dream to-

gether with God. However, during the growth stage, Adam and Eve developed self-centered greed. They looked to themselves before the time was right. Humankind's ancestors could not wash away their mistake, which led to the world's current situation. In summary, the result was that God, who should have been the owner of the world, could not act as the owner. However, the start and the finish of the omniscient and omnipotent God must be the same. God's will must absolutely be achieved. Therefore, Heaven had no choice but to take the lonely and sorrowful path of the providence of restoration through indemnity. Relative to the rest of the fallen world, God raised a good people and gave them hope. We know this well through the Bible. How difficult must it have been that it took four thousand years? For the first time

in four thousand years, God sent his only son, whom humankind had wished for dearly. However, the environment around Jesus, the Israelites, figures in Judaism, Zachariah's family and Mary were unable to fulfill their responsibilities. They did not understand Heaven's providence or the purpose of Jesus' coming. Due to those who should have formed Jesus' environment not completing their responsibilities, Jesus had no foundation to stand on. So he had no choice but to go the way of the cross. He said he would come back and hold the marriage supper of the Lamb. The marriage supper of the Lamb! That day was the day Heavenly Parent's dream, humankind's wish, could have been realized! If the Israelites had accepted Jesus as God's only son at that time (which God had waited patiently for) he had been able to meet



the only daughter of God and had been able to go forward as the True Parents, through Rome, a part of the great Roman Empire, all the surrounding nations would have been absorbed and united. If that had happened, God's wish and humankind's wish would have been achieved and the world as one family under God, the kingdom of heaven on earth, would have been realized.

However, what happened to the Israelites who did not receive Jesus as the owner? For two thousand years, they were a nationless people and then in WWII so many people had to take the path of death. That was their history. Why is this? This was because it was indemnity for being a people who had not fulfilled their responsibilities for the Parent, and [for Jesus] to become the Parent. However, they are unaware of this. Jesus said he would return and hold the marriage supper of the Lamb. God must select a nation for the foundation of the only daughter of God and give birth to the only daughter of God, who could not be born at Jesus' time.

That honor went to the Han people. Please applaud! After Jesus died on the cross, for Christianity to find its place took three hundred years. That was the work of the Holy Spirit; in summary, Christianity—which human beings who did not know God's purpose of creation or his nature—created has left many stains. How could communist thought, which asserted there was no God, come from Christianity, which professes God's existence? Through Heaven's sad and lonely providence of restoration through indemnity, the only daughter of God could be born among the Han people.

Regarding the IAPP, leaders from nations around the world are continuing the inaugurations. A few days ago

in India, which has a population of 1.3 billion, 120 legislators met at the Parliament in the presence of the president and prime minister. That shows how strongly people—though they don't know what it is—possess the hope of living in accordance with Heaven's will. Britain has been involved with India since the 1600s. During the age of the Atlantic civilization, Europe's important coastal nations spread Christianity through global trade. Through that, England has had a long relationship with India. Hinduism, India's traditional religion, could not receive Christianity, so in the end, a new level of providential work had to be done through India. However, as we held the regional inaugurations of the IAPP, a righteous person appeared. In India, a nation of 1.3 billion people, truthfully, our foundation is not strong, because it is difficult to register and work as a religion. However, through members who recently joined, we were able to achieve this great victory.

I am speaking of this because human beings today are looking for hope amidst all this despair. One hundred years ago, the Indian poet Tagore... Korea liberation occurred in 1945, so this was before that. He came to Japan and looking at Korea, he wrote a prophetic poem. "In the golden age of Asia, Korea was one of its lamp bearers/And that lamp is waiting to be lit once again/For the illumination of the East." What does the light signify? Light is truth, the Word. The Word must be the Heavenly Parent's Word, the Creator's. The poem was recited like this, a hundred years ago.

Heaven, through a righteous person, created the foundation to be able to send the Returning Lord, however the foundation of Christians, who did not understand the providence was difficult. Neverthe-

less, today, we have overcome all obstacles and the only daughter of God and the only Son of God... Jesus Christ was born without sin two thousand years ago. The only daughter of God was born without original sin. This is the truth. On the day of the marriage banquet of the Lamb, the only daughter of God and the only son of God, born without sin, accepted God's will! Glory in heaven, humankind's joy, wish, and hope! However, we do not know the reality and are ignorant; no completion is possible through ignorance. Blessed families, who have received the blessing through True Parents, must inform others, must teach others. In order to do that, national restoration is urgently needed. The problems that this nation is facing, between North Korea and South Korea, cannot be solved by politicians. Ideologies cannot solve it. Only one thing can solve this problem, the True Parents! When all large or small nations, centered on True Parents, unite as sibling nations, true peace for humankind will come.

However, at this time, we are being pushed left and right by a few strong nations, these nations need someone to educate them. Christianity came from ignorance, not knowing anything. You know the providence. You have been learning for 57 years. In light of that, you, blessed families, have responsibilities. True Parents' manifestation should have been achieved on a national foundation. When we think of this... Everyone! Today, tomorrow—until the last moment of your lives... You mustn't leave just your name behind. We need results. That is why I wish to make a Cheon Il Guk family record. The members who have received the blessing will become the ancestors of the past, present, and future. This is for you to decide. This is your responsibility. Then what must you do? Will you take responsibility for national restoration?

The task you are facing, heavenly tribal messiahship, is the urgent priority. You must also fully advance toward solving the problems the world is facing today. You must boast of, inform, and teach others about True Parents. That is your responsibility. Do you understand? Will you do that? I pray sincerely that you will make that determination today. ☞



Dedicate Your Lives to Heaven

True Mother delivered this message on March 29 to the National Pastors Assembly for the Victory of the Fifth Year of Cheon Il Guk at the Cheongpyeong Heaven and Earth Training Center

Sit down. I feel relieved after hearing you recite your oaths filled with such determination. If what I will say today had a topic it would be "Heaven's providence seen through the history of human civilization and our responsibility today".

God created the heavens, earth, and all things. He then created Adam and Eve and said that it was good. Especially through Adam and Eve, God had a dream. However, the result was that through the Fall, God's dream could not be accomplished. The omniscient and omnipotent God must be consistent from beginning to end. There can be no such thing as failure. Yet, in accordance with the principle of creation, God had hoped to unite with humankind and accomplish his will. Due to that principle,

God had no choice but to become a lonely God and go through a miserable course of waiting, filled with sorrow—the history of the providence of restoration through indemnity.

From among those in the fallen world, God chose a people who (relatively speaking) were closest to God—the Israelites. It took four thousand years, beginning from the individual, through the family and the tribe, to create, finally, a foundation for a people. In the case of America, it took more than two hundred years to establish a nation. In contrast, how difficult must the providence of restoration through indemnity have been that it took the long period of four thousand years to establish the Israelites? In that process, through Mary, God sent Jesus Christ whom he could call "my son." My son! At that

time, many people were in the satanic world, but only one son! There must have been a purpose for sending his son. Mary and others surrounding him should have created an environment for Jesus. They were responsible to create the environment through which Jesus could accomplish his purpose. As it happened, Mary could not fulfill her responsibility. Mary should not have had a family while Jesus was alone. This was an unfortunate circumstance filled with sorrow.

Jesus alone was unable to complete and achieve God's will. He had no choice but to take a path under circumstances in which he had lost everything. The environment became one in which he had no choice but to go the way of the cross. Therefore, in the end, Jesus said, "I will return!" He would return and hold the marriage

banquet of the Lamb. Those words meant that if Mary had fulfilled her responsibility at that time and Jesus had met the only daughter of God, despite the failure of the first Adam and Eve, they would have been able to achieve God's dream as the True Parents. At that time, Israel was a part of a great empire, the Roman Empire, of which it was said, "all roads lead to Rome." If Jesus had achieved the status of True Parents, of course, they would have absorbed Rome. At that time, they would have already accomplished Heaven's providence, Heavenly Parent's dream. In fact, though, humankind made this great and sorrowful history.

Strive to be God-centered

Meanwhile, over a period of three hundred years, Christianity went through the work of the Holy Spirit and the resurrection through the Holy Spirit. Then, centered on the Italian Peninsula and the Island of Great Britain in Europe, Heaven was once again able to have a dream, the age of the Atlantic civilization. The British military had a saying, "The sun never sets on the British Empire." That meant that one nation centered on the Iberian Peninsula and then Britain seized the world. That was how Christianity was spread, but those who did not know God's deep wish could not practice true love.

Because they did not know anything. They attempted to rule through pure human greed, so they reached their limit. Therefore, in conclusion, the ideology of thinking of the benefit of your own nation stayed. At that time, the Atlantic civilization, centered in Europe, ushered in modern civilization.

Lives of faith continued but because they moved according to human thinking, without a center, many mistakes occurred. How could Communism come and say "God is dead" from within the Christian sphere? That one phrase meant that humankind was wrong. Christianity—Catholics, Protestants—all the people following those religions, more than thinking of God's wishes, were greedy and thinking of themselves. There is nothing in their teachings to explain why they were living and why their environment was so depressing.

"If you believe, you will go to heaven" comforted them. They lived with that hope. Those with deep faith felt dissatisfaction over having to follow one person. "Under a monarchy," they said, "we can no longer have freedom of religion" so they emigrated. The nation that they moved to developed into the representative democratic nation, the United States. In this way, Heaven guided those people to create an environment for the returning Messiah, who must come again. Those

people then had to go forward aligned with Heaven's will. A song I like listening to recently has the lyrics, "I threw away one thing, my greed, and flowers of happiness blossomed". This greed is a problem.

Already, the Atlantic civilization has begun to wilt, and in the 21st century, centered in Asia, the age of the Pacific civilization has begun. Korea is at the center of it. This is not something we can just feel pleased about. You have responsibilities. Christians, who two thousand years ago could not find the only daughter of God, do not know they have to follow the way of a new providence. In order to find and give birth to the only daughter of God, Heaven found the Han tribe and began to conduct providential work. Looking at history, Christianity has not been in Korea for long. Has it been a little more than a hundred years? In those days, Christians were waiting for the Messiah to come down from heaven riding on a cloud.

A Heaven-directed life

Meanwhile, one holy, Christian group, centered in Pyongyang waited for the Messiah to come in the flesh. Only through the Messiah in the flesh can the marriage supper of the Lamb take place. That was the historical time of the providence of restoration through indemnity to find the only daughter of





A representative couple read the pledge in True Mother's presence.



Flag bearers from major organizations onstage with True Mother and the FFWPU international president as the Korean movement solidifies its determination to succeed through this solemn ceremony.

God, not found two thousand years ago. Therefore, for the first time in six thousand years, I, the only daughter of God was born in 1943. This is undeniable. It has been six thousand years. Though I had parents who gave birth to me, I was raised knowing God as my father. My grandmother and Dae-mo nim both acknowledged this. God is my father! Among all mankind, I alone was born knowing God as my father. Two thousand years ago with Jesus Christ...

What happened? Korea was liberated in 1945. At the time of liberation, they were divided, North and South—democracy and communism. At that time, I was in the north. No intellectuals or youth wanted to become communists so they all moved south. Dae-mo nim, on the other hand, had a steadfast faith in the work of spirit world. [Spiritual phenomena was taking place] in the north. Despite this, Heaven could not have me stay in North Korea and risk losing the only daughter of God, found after six thousand years.

So through my uncle, Heaven made it so that we had no choice but to go to south. My uncle had been studying pharmacology at Waseda University. After graduating, he should have returned to his hometown, but we received news that he had joined the army in South Korea. The line of division had already been decided as the 38th parallel, and it was guarded tightly. As it turned out, three females and a guide crossed over in the night. The Korean War began two years later. Father had been in South Korea. Why had Heaven told him to go north? You must understand this. Adam and Eve went through the growth stages and had

responsibilities. Father, who received the mission as the returning Lord had to fulfill his responsibilities, which meant going through the restoration through indemnity Jesus had not completed and establishing the truth Jesus had not implanted. Father had to accomplish those responsibilities! He would then meet the only daughter of God and through her completing the Holy Wedding with the only son of God, they would become the True Parents. Do you understand?

How much of this great truth can you understand and feel? You must not be controlled by circumstances. Heaven's providence... Now centered on the Korean Peninsula, where Heaven's providence gave birth to True Parents, we will raise Japan, the surrounding nations in Asia will unite, and we will have to move towards creating an environment for North Korea to unite with South Korea.

Heavenly records

You must become one with me. My thoughts must become your thoughts, and your thoughts must become mine. Do you understand? On that point, you must clearly boast that you are the children of our proud True Parents. Confidently! Why is there any need to hesitate? Those people think they are so great—politicians. Tell those people, "Heavenly fortune will not work with you on what you are trying to do, but if you listen to what I say, follow, and do as I say, Heaven will work with you. At that moment, your dreams will be achieved."

I am asking this of you. You are the central leaders of the unification movement. Isn't that so? You must

unite with True Parents 100 percent.. 120 percent! On that basis, no obstacles will arise in the places you go and on the paths you take. Do you understand what I am saying? Internally and externally, we need to clean up many things. Over the next three years, let us keep our heads straight. We must bear in mind that national restoration is the path of saving this people and the world. Do you understand?

In the world today, even a powerful nation cannot survive alone. China says it is a great nation and that they are trying to do well but all the results are destructive. Greed is creating anger. Because True Parents were born and True Parents' providence progressed, none of the nations around the world that say they should live well on their own will prosper in the end. Only those nations that think, "We must live well together" will remain. Do you understand? In light of that, what resolutions do you have to make?

I will make a Cheon Il Guk genealogy center here at this training center. Cheon Il Guk! I hope that you can become proud people who can be entered in [the records]. Will you work hard to do that? Your descendants, thousands, even ten thousand generations will say "Ah! I am so proud of my ancestors. I am truly grateful and honored." We must make the kingdom of heaven on earth, which will remain for eternity. I am making that for you now! What do you think? Do you have confidence? Are you happy? Shouldn't you boast? You should say, Without a doubt, I will achieve national restoration! I will accomplish national restoration! Mother, please rest! ㄹ

57th ANNIVERSARY OF TRUE PARENTS' HOLY WEDDING

On April 12 (3.16 by the heavenly calendar) members came to the Cheongpyeong Heaven and Earth Training Center to join True Mother in celebrating the fifty-seventh anniversary of True Parents' Holy Wedding.

- ❶ True Mother lighting the single candle representing the fifty-seventh anniversary of the event that our Heavenly Parent had awaited for thousands of years, as reckoned by the Bible, when God's true son and true daughter joined in holy matrimony.
- ❷ True Mother looking out over the audience as she gave this speech.
- ❸ The audience that day included some elder members who had personally experienced the True Parents' Holy Wedding on April 11, 1960.







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- ① Representatives of Japan, Korea, and the United States offering a gift to the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind
- ② The FFWPU International President, Sun Jin Moon, gave welcoming remarks
- ③ Yeon Ah Moon, the president of the Women's Federation for World Peace International, gave a victory toast.
- ④ Wonju McDevitt, chief of staff of True Mother's Secretariat, read a congratulatory poem
- ⑤ Kim Ki-hoon, regional president of North America gave the invocation prayer
- ⑥ Dr. Yun Young-ho, secretary-general of the FFWPU International Headquarters, was the master of ceremonies.
- ⑦ The Little Angels was among the groups that provided cultured entertainment



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Our Central Mission

This is an edited extract of the author's presentation on February 8 at the 2017 Special Gathering for Heavenly Tribal Messiahs in the Youth Center at Cheongpyeong.

By Yong Chung-sik

I want to congratulate all of you for becoming part of this assembly, bringing together victorious tribal messiahs from all over the world. Congratulations to all of you for your hard work and dedication to fulfill True Parents' wish, to bless 430 couples.

When you return home, carry your great inspiration to work harder in order to advance God's providence in your nations. We must offer our deepest gratitude for our True Mother for her special love and attention given to our heavenly tribal messiahs. We are moved and touched by her love for all of us.

When we see this great development, the expansion of the heavenly tribal messiah activity in many nations, continuously spreading to other nations, we cannot help attesting to the fact that we are living in a very different time. The victory of Foundation Day brought us the opportunity to enter God's direct dominion. What does it mean to live in the era of God's direct dominion? As long as we take responsibility and take action in accordance with God's will and desire, tremendous results will surely come, beyond our expectations. True Father mentioned that even if only twelve tribal messiahs complete their mission, national restoration is just a matter of time.

We confirm this when we see great development in our nations. I think you already have had beautiful, incredible experiences. My dear brothers and sisters we have heard several times how much our beloved True Mother expressed her concern for the completion of Cheon Il Guk and the fulfillment of Vision 2020. We can feel how serious she is to bring results and realize Cheon Il Guk. She emphasizes repeatedly that the remaining years until 2020 offer great hope for bringing the greatest victory.

As filial sons or daughters, how should we respond in this situation? We should become such filial children who can say, Please don't worry True Father. Please don't worry True Mother, I will be responsible for Vision 2020 from now on. As filial sons and daughters, we must make the same determination as True Mother. We should be clear that the purpose of fulfilling the True Mother's mission is not just for our own selves. We need to see the greater vision, to understand the purpose. Doing the Heavenly Tribal Messiah mission is to restore one nation one people and one sovereignty for God.

Once you complete your 430-couple blessing, you realize that you cannot rest. It is just a starting point. I think all of you, even though you have completed 430 couples, know this is not the end but the beginning point. You need to understand that. If we understand God's desperate heart and True Parents' desire to offer the nation to God, we cannot rest. This is why your participation in this heavenly tribal messiah assembly should give you heightened motivation and more energy to expand. We need to multiply owners of Cheon Il Guk. We need to multiply heavenly tribal messiahs. That is True Mother's wish.

One of the most important attributes of true love is multiplication. Without multiplication, your blessing will become stagnant and you will decline. I think most of our blessed couples do not know what our identity is, why our True Parents blessed us—not just because of our own individuality, not just because of our own families. One of the greatest attributes of true love, of the blessing is to multiply.



Dr. Yong had studied the many volumes of *The Sermons of the Reverend Sun Myung Moon* to prepare this presentation.

Therefore, as a blessed couple, if you do not multiply the blessing, you become stagnant and finally you decline. Where there is blessing, all the time as blessed couples, we need to multiply.

The importance of blessing others

Briefly, I would like to share with you the reasons we should fulfill the heavenly tribal messiah mission. I hope through this you will gain more strength to carry on this noble mission, which is the greatest one we received from our True Parents.

The first reason we must fulfill the heavenly tribal messiah mission is to restore one nation, one sovereignty, one people. Without substantiating the kingdom of Heaven on earth, we cannot liberate God's heart, nor can we liberate True Parents' hearts. Only through the completion of this mission can we liberate God and true Parents.

Second, we should do it to realize the third Family Pledge, which is important. I think most blessed couples don't understand what "the realm of the royal family" means. When I researched and thoroughly studied it, I found that Father said, in order to fulfill the mission of the realm of the royal family, you need to fulfill the heavenly tribal messiah mission. This is the perfection realm of the royal family. We need to understand that realms of the royal family form when blessed families as Abel restore Cain families. We can do this through the heavenly tribal messiah mission.

Third, it is for us as blessed families to complete the seven-year course declared by True Parents after we received the blessing. Father said that everyone needs to do a seven-year course right after the blessing. I researched the five hundred volumes of Father's speeches and the conclusion was that Father said in order to fulfill the seven-year course.... Do you know what the main responsibility is during the seven-year course? Someone's seven-year course might become seventy years or twenty-one years. Did you know that? The main mission of the seven-year course is fulfilling the heavenly tribal messiah mission. When you fulfill the heavenly tribal messiah mission, automatically you fulfill the seven-year course. What Father had said amazed me: Through this, we can have the right to inherit True Parents' foundation of victory without accusation from Satan.

Fourth, it is in order to uproot the four great sins. I discovered from Father's teachings. The original sin is linked to Adam and Eve's fall, when human beings lost God's lineage. Only through the Messiah and through the blessing can this be removed. How about hereditary sin? Hereditary sin can be removed through liberating ancestors. How about collective sin? We can remove this sin also through fulfilling our collective responsibility of saving a minimum of 430 families through our heavenly tribal messiah mission. This is one of Father's amazing discoveries.

The fifth reason is in order to inherit the victorious formula course of True Parents based on eight vertical indemnity stages of restoration from the servant of servants to servant level, going up to adopted son, step son, real son mother position to father position and then to God. That is important. In order to inherit Father's eight-stage course, the best way is to fulfill our tribal messiah mission.



Unificationists the world over are focusing their hearts and efforts on fulfilling the heavenly tribal messiah mission. In this article, Dr. Yong gave seven reasons the mission is of vital importance.


Sixth, it is in order to fulfill humankind's 5 percent portion of responsibility. How can we fulfill this? True Father said this 5 percent portion of responsibility is the fulfillment of the tribal messiah mission. It is very clear. I don't have to explain it to you in detail but Father said it. I researched a lot about what a human's 5 percent portion of responsibility is. When we can complete a human's 5 percent portion of responsibility, your job is over as a human being. That's how important the heavenly tribal messiah mission is.

Lastly, the seventh reason is in order to enter the realm of God's direct dominion. Father's word is very clear. Even though True Parents are already in God's direct dominion, if we do not fulfill the heavenly tribal messiah mission, our family will remain in the indirect dominion. Oh my God!

Once you complete blessing your 430 couple it is as if God will govern you. God will be in control of you. You can enter God's direct dominion through fulfilling the heavenly tribal messiah mission. This is amazing. Everyone, clearly understand why we need to fulfill the heavenly tribal messiah mission. These are certain reasons. Everybody who is serious can finally fulfill our portion of responsibility.

Go forward with clarity

In the past, whenever I thought of building the kingdom of heaven on earth, I didn't have a clear concept of how it can be achieved. But I tell you now, the situation is very different. I can see the vision of realizing Cheon Il Guk, God's kingdom of heaven on earth. I almost can grasp it in my hands. It is no longer a vague concept. It is now a tangible, achievable vision. Why? That is because of the heavenly tribal messiah mission.

So, let us receive great energy here in Cheongpyeong because there is a great mission waiting for us in our nations. True Father said that when he would go to the spiritual world he would be working with us more. He said he would make us work harder than before, even ten times or a hundred times harder without sleeping at night or taking any rest at all. He promised us that when he would go to the spiritual world, he would become fully spiritual and work anywhere and hundreds of thousands of people would be able to be restored at once. Father said this kind of occurrence can only happen when you focus on the tribal messiah mission. That is what I have already experienced in Africa and in Asia. Whenever everyone focuses on the heavenly tribal messiah mission everyone has great experiences of the substantial Holy Spirit. So in these remaining three years before 2020 let's expand and multiply citizens of Cheon Il Guk. I am happy to see our victorious heavenly tribal messiahs. You are true victors. You are true owner of Cheon Il Guk. That is why when we fulfill our goal, when we multiply tribal messiahs everywhere, we can realize God's kingdom of heaven, our Cheon Il Guk, on earth. Let us become sons or daughters of filial piety who take responsibility to fulfill Heavenly Parent's and True Parents' dream. May God bless you, your family and your nation. 

Dr. Yong is the president of our Asia region.

Hyo Jeong Cheon Won

“People often think that politics moves the world, but that is not the case. It is culture and art that move the world. It is emotion, not reason, that strikes people in the innermost part of their hearts.

When hearts change and are able to receive new things, ideologies and social regimes change as a result.”
—As a Peace-Loving Global Citizen

By David Eaton

This quotation of our True Father appears in the chapter from his autobiography in which he recalls the founding of the Sun Hwa Arts School and its resident performing arts troupe, the Little Angels. At that time, there was little understanding among the church membership as to why Father would invest so heavily in a school of this sort at a time (1958) when the church was in its earliest days. Korea was still recovering from the forty-year Japanese occupation and a dreadful war that devastated much of the country. Resources were scant and given the severe economic realities of that time, not many early church members were fully supportive of this initiative.

Still, Rev. Moon pressed on with the establishment of the school, and the rest, as they say, is history. Both the Sun Hwa Arts School and the Little Angels are now the source of immense pride, not only within the unification movement, but also throughout Korea. The Little Angels have become among the finest cultural ambassadors for the vision of our founders, acting as a “secret weapon” that opened the doors for our founders to carry God’s messages of true love and peace to the most recalcitrant of opponents. Indeed, culture and art opened the hearts and minds in ways that politics and even religion could not.

A new stage of development

In April of 2016, True Mother announced the establishment of a new arts initiative under the banner of Hyo Jeong Cheon Won (Garden of Filial Love). Citing the vision of Hyo Jin nim and the idea of using the arts to express the heart of filial love through art and music, True Mother asked me to move to Korea and take responsibility as the chairman of the music committee, with a special emphasis on Holy Songs—old and new. There is also an effort underway to identify and collect songs that were composed for various providential events—blessings, speech events and True Parents’ tours, for instance.

The Hyo Jeong Cultural Committee (HJCC) consists of six departments that will forge a new cultural vision. These departments include Music, Martial Arts, Fine Arts, the Little Angels, Theater and Media. The media aspect will include the development of social media and marketing as a way to promote the art that members of the HJCC and other talented artists in our movement create.

One significant endeavor will be the building of a new cultural center near the Cheongpyeong campus that will feature a concert hall, recording studios, an art gallery, an academy and a museum



Dr. Eaton and Ms. Lee meeting United Nations' Secretary General Ban Ki Moon.

that will highlight Hyo Jin nim's accomplishments. True Mother has also mentioned the idea of establishing an orchestra comprised of international musicians from blessed families. All of this has long-term implications beyond 2020; therefore, this is just the beginning.

Prior to being asked to take on this responsibility, I had several dreams of True Mother, two of which were identical. In those dreams, True Mother requested that my family and two other families who are involved in the arts providence join her at meeting over lunch. True Mother asked us how our music endeavors were progressing but then her attention quickly turned to our children. She asked if our children were being educated in our faith traditions; if they were reading hoondokhae, studying Divine Principle and adhering to church practices. She then reminded us that before we are musicians we are children of God and True Parents and each a parent to our children and that we should remember that music was secondary. I was able to share these dreams with True Mother in a meeting in Korea.

In a meeting with True Mother upon my arrival to begin my new responsibilities, she mentioned how the atmosphere in the area around Cheon Jeong Gung was very conducive to creativity. Being surrounded by nature and being in a high spiritual atmosphere free from external distractions certainly makes it easy to focus on the creative tasks at hand.

A key aspect of this new cultural providence will be education. As mentioned previously a key aspect of the new Hyo Jeong Cultural Center will be an academy where the internal development of young artists will be highly emphasized. To that end, I have started to fashion a Hyo Jeong philosophy of music based on Father's teachings with regard to motivation and intention.

In 2009, I began writing a book on music and spirituality and this book will serve as the basis of a Hyo Jeong philosophy. In my investigation of the cultures of China, Greece, Israel and early Christianity I found that these cultures understood that there was a moral aspect to creativity in general, and music in particular. Traditional philosophy refers to this as axiology—the study of values. As Unificationists we understand that motivation plays a great deal in our pursuit of love and proper relationships. As artists it is important understand that we don't create in a vacuum.

What we create and put before the public has consequences, therefore great care should be taken in our creative activities. In the context of Father's quotation about the power of the arts to influence people, having a principled attitude about creativity is paramount. This will be a point of emphasis of the Hyo Jeong Cultural Academy.



David Eaton conducting the Sofia Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorus in a performance of the cantata for peace, Halelu: Songs of David in Sofia, Bulgaria with vocalists David D'Or and Ms. S. Lee in 2008.

The Three Israels—Meeting David D'Or

Late in the afternoon on September 6, 2004 I received a phone call from Dr. Michael Jenkins, vice-chair of the Middle East Peace Initiative (MEPI). Dr. Jenkins and I go back about forty years and we had been to Israel on several occasions to produce interfaith events for MEPI, so the call wasn't completely out of the blue, and it went something like this: "David, I need you to catch the first flight you can to Israel. We're going to have a big peace concert in Jerusalem a week from Monday and we need you here to produce it. We're inviting a big-name Israeli vocalist as the featured performer. We're here now, so call me when you arrive." OK, see you soon!

I arrived in Israel on Monday, September 8 and after checking into my hotel I headed to the Jerusalem Convention Center where the concert was to take place to meet Dr. Jenkins and several other executive producers. After a brief site survey of the venue I asked the producers, "So, who is this big-name artist who's going to perform for us?" I am told, "We don't have anyone. You have to find someone."

I was astonished!

In a bit of a panic I called Asaf Cohen, a local producer whom I had met in 2003 while producing the Heart to Heart rally in Jerusalem. I asked Asaf to come to my hotel and bring a list of the top ten Israeli artists so we can get an idea of who might be our guest artist. Once Asaf arrives we huddle with Dr. Jenkins and several of the local MEPI VIPs to discuss options. Who is the best option? Are they available on short notice? What is their fee? What are their production requirements?

Dr. Eliezer Glaubach, one of the key MEPI advisors quickly chimed in, "Dah-VEED DEE'Or! He's the one. He sings in Hebrew, Arabic and English. He's the best! We should get him." Asaf tells me he took voice lessons with David D'Or several years ago and knows him personally; so I'm thinking that this is a plus.

As it turns out, David is a major artist in Israel and had just performed a concert with the Israel Philharmonic. Upon calling him to inquire about his availability he told us that if we were willing have an orchestra accompany him on this concert he would do it. The date worked for him and the cost of the orchestra was quite reasonable. Within a day, we had a signed contract and we were in business.



The Heart to Heart Rally, Jerusalem, Israel, December 22, 2003

The concert took place on September 14 and by all accounts was a smashing success. It remains one of the most inspiring concerts I've ever witnessed. David and the Ra'anana Sinfoneietta Orchestra had the packed house on its feet at the conclusion and it was as if we floated out of the concert hall on clouds of celestial music and good will.

Upon my return home my wife and several of our close friends began a twenty-one-day prayer vigil. We had a list of friends and colleagues that we were going to pray for each day and we decided to add David's name to the list. On the twenty-first day of the vigil I received an email from David expressing his gratitude for being part of our concert and a query about the possibility of a musical collaboration. I let him know that this is an inspiring idea and asked him to send some musical ideas that could be the basis of this collaborative effort. This became the impetus for the creation of our cantata, Halelu-Songs of David. After the exchange of numerous emails, sound files and two subsequent meetings with David in New York and Tel Aviv we embarked on the creation of the Halelu music.

Once the music was completed we recorded the Halelu cantata in Tel Aviv in 2006. On that occasion it was mentioned to me that True Father in the 1970s had stated that the new music of heaven would be born from the spirit of the first Israel. I had not heard that before but upon reflection I realized that this made perfect sense. The spirit of Israel was connected to the welcoming and embrace of the coming Messiah. The etymology of the word "Hallelujah" is Hebrew--hallal, an exhortation of praise, and Yah, meaning God. From the perspective articulated by True Father, creating new music for heaven in the current age should also be connected to the welcoming of Lord of the Second Advent.

In a very real way, this unique musical enterprise represented a conjoining of "the Three Israels." In that context I felt strongly that we had succeeded in creating music that testified to the ideals of True Parents. The Halelu project can be viewed as a prototype for future collaborations with other artists who embrace principled attitudes about creativity and art. Through the unique power of music we can reach people by affecting "the innermost parts of their hearts" and fulfill our responsibilities as artist who can create "the new music of heaven." This is the underlying premise of the Hyo Jeong cultural providence. *✍*

Dr. Eaton is the Music Chairman on the Hyo Jeong Cultural Committee.

Alignment with Heavenly Parent in this Era

By Andrew Wilson

In this era after Foundation Day and the victorious conclusion of the providence of restoration, to think about how the providence has changed may be worthwhile. Of course, the most obvious change is that True Mother has begun putting her stamp on the movement. Also, we are coming to know God not just as Heavenly Father but as Heavenly Parent, and some of us are exploring what it means to relate to God not only as Father but also as Mother.

Reading *Chambumo Gyeong*, we see the movement has passed through different eras, from the days of pioneer missionary work to the decades when we confronted communism to the period for developing an interreligious and international family movement for peace. As missions changed, we changed our mindsets to adapt to new realities. So what is new about the reality of this era, the era of True Mother?

First, it is the era of women. We have come to value True Mother as the embodiment of Mother God on earth. She always had that value, but formerly when True Father was carrying the burden of the providence on his broad shoulders, her value was largely hidden. Now that True Mother has stepped up and come into her own, we can discover new facets of

Heavenly Parent—the feminine ones—to treasure and incorporate into our own lives.

For a man like me, this begins with listening to my wife and not moving forward without her agreement. It means valuing women's opinions and listening more. Women should be rising up to lead, but first men, who have been culturally conditioned to believe that leadership is primarily a man's job, need to restrain themselves and give women space in which they can develop and manifest their light. Then True Mother will be able to see her daughters, her second selves, rising up throughout the world.

Second, we need to emphasize the Principle of Creation more in how we lead our lives. The providence of restoration through indemnity, which True Father led, aimed at defeating Satan. What, then, are the implications of Satan having surrendered? Making indemnity conditions had become a way of life, but Father declared, toward the end of his life, that the world is no longer ensnared in anything having to do with the Fall, including indemnity. The rigors of the indemnity course required a masculine approach to defeat an archangel. But with the archangel having been defeated, what now? We can always identify more archangels to



Lectures on Heavenly Parent and True Parents by Dr. Wilson can be found at iPeaceTV.com.

subjugate, but should we stay on that level? Casting judgment on sin and treating the world as an ideological battlefield can only take us so far.

Living by the Principle of Creation is about creating godly families and uniting the world as one great family. The ideal of the Principle of Creation is the world of spherical harmony. True Mother has lifted up the word "*hyo jeong*," "filial heart," because it is the original core virtue of the family, around which spherical motion occurs. Children who are filial to their parents, families filial to their nation, and everyone filial to Heavenly Par-



On April 10, 1992, True Parents proclaimed the “Advent of the Global Era of Women” while launching WFWP. Beforehand True Parents blessed 1,267 couples, among them were ones from nine Middle Eastern countries; that day a barrier came down in the spiritual realm allowing blessings to flow more abundantly.

ent—such is the world of the Principle of Creation.

As True Mother strives to realize the Principle of Creation, we can emulate many points of her leadership. Let me point out a few. First, it goes without saying that she, more than anyone else, honors True Father, treasures his words, and seeks to complete what he began.


Second, when True Mother speaks, there’s deep heart in every word, expressing *hyo jeong*. That is the center that we connect to when we go out to face our missions. We can succeed if we keep that heart at the center and

work together, balancing the masculine virtue of individual initiative with the feminine virtue of collaboration that values each person’s input. Thereby we can manifest spherical harmony.

Third, True Mother is a builder. At Cheongpyeong she is building a beautiful complex of buildings to showcase True Parents’ teachings and accomplishments. It is where the Kingdom of God can be seen and felt as real. It doesn’t matter that the *Hyo Jeong Cheonwon* is only a small place in the wide land of Korea; at least there, people will touch something substantial and get a glimpse of the

heavenly kingdom. Beyond conditions and foundations, that is a substantial result. Likewise, she wants us to bring substantial results so that God’s model of creation can become manifest.

Fourth, True Mother is creative and expresses her own uniqueness. She operates from the divine center within her own self. She has her own style, different from Father’s. For one thing, she doesn’t preach for hours on end or give numerous detailed directions to follow. Her message to us is always short: take responsibility for your tribe and your nation. In this, she also gives us room to be creative and express our own uniqueness in tackling the challenges before us.

True Mother wants to be surprised and delighted with the results we bring. Have you ever thought that even God might like to be an object partner who takes delight in responding to us? The deepest desire of God as Heavenly Mother is to be our Object Partner who delights to behold the fruits of her children’s lives—their love, dignity, and righteous activities for the Will. When our Heavenly Parent rejoices in this way, we complete the circle of giving and receiving that is the Principle of Creation. 

This crowd witnessed a turning point in history through the founding of WFWP at Seoul’s Olympic Stadium.



Dr. Wilson is a professor at the Unification Theological Seminary.

An interview with David and Patricia Earle

David and Patricia, you could bless 430 couples in the city of Birmingham. Your story as successful tribal messiahs started in the early 1990s with an “inner calling.”

David: Patricia and I had been living in the United States for seven years. I had been working for the Ginseng Up and Il Hwa company. We had a nice apartment, a car, a reasonable job and three young daughters. I had applied for a green card [a card granted to foreigners permitted to live and work in the US]. It had just been approved after two years of legal, and somewhat costly, procedures.

Patricia: and I had my home-church area in New Jersey, which I'd invested a lot of time into, meeting many wonderful people.

And then what?

David: Everything changed around July 1, 1991, when Father proclaimed the Day of God's Eternal Blessing as part of the hometown providence and tribal messiahship. Patricia and I talked about it as if Father had directly said to all of us, “If you really want to go to your hometown, you should go.” Yet, something deep stirred inside both our hearts, and we then made several forty-day prayer conditions to discern if going to my hometown was really God's will for



The Earle family

us. There was the green card to think about, and the company was reluctant for us to go back to Europe.

Patricia: We had been thinking about returning at some point, to be closer to our parents, to look after them as they got older, and for our children to get to know them. We had both been disinherited when we joined, and my parents kidnapped me in what was a horrible experience, involving the Catho-

lic Church and ADIF, a deprogramming organization. But we always kept in touch with our parents, and they became a bit more open with the birth of our children and could see that we were happy.

Did you return to your original hometown?

David: Not exactly. I was born in a very small village in Lincolnshire, three hours north of Birmingham. I then got a

Masters degree in Biochemistry in Leeds, and a PhD in nutrition in Agriculture in Aberdeen, Scotland. By that time, my parents had moved to Birmingham to work in a unique federation of Christian colleges, which also had an interfaith dimension. We decided to make Birmingham our landing site, although we would later make a number of trips back to my birthplace, and Patricia's hometown of Brussels, with our children, to visit relatives there.

Patricia: we came back to the UK with almost nothing, no savings, but I had always had a dream in my heart that we could have a house and invite people into our home. I had done a lot of home church in the USA, and when my father visited us there he met many of our friends, who testified to him about the value of our work. A few months after arriving in Birmingham, an amazing thing happened. My father visited us again, and over the course of a weekend decided to buy us a house! This was the beginning of a dream come true, allowing us to combine our family life and settlement with a public life, outreach and eventually reconciliation with our two families.

The launching of the Women's Federation for World Peace in 1992 seems to have played an important role in your early activities.

Patricia: And continuously until today. I became the WFWP representative in the UK Midlands region just after we returned to Europe. A pressing issue in 1993 was conflict in Bosnia and the former Yugoslavia, which generated so much violence, especially against women and children. I hosted a meeting in my home as part of a WFWP forty-day prayer throughout Europe. The conflict began to be resolved after those forty days, so I continued the meetings on a monthly basis, initially for Christian women but then gradually becoming interfaith as they brought their friends from other religious backgrounds. At each meeting, we would have a speaker, time to share together, and then a quiet time of prayer and reflection. Most meetings would

also result in some kind of practical action, fundraising, setting up a support group, etc. We have managed to maintain the Women's Peace Meeting for twenty-four years now, as well as developing other activities. We have often had over a hundred women in our home, one time as many as 155, women representing all religions, races, cultures, social status and age—sometimes more than forty different nationalities!

David: As these activities expanded, we had to modify and extend our house to accommodate everyone. We converted a double garage into the main meeting room, later extended it, and also extended our kitchen three times, among other things. All this required money, and Patricia's father helped us a number of times, which is amazing considering what happened when we joined. We've found people like to meet in a home—it's a neutral venue, but more than that it's possible to create a warm, intimate safe environment for sharing together. We've put in a TV monitor so that people can see in a third room, and occasionally some people have to sit in our dining room where they can hear but can't actually see anything!

That inner calling started to make sense.

David: It was beneficial for everyone. There was a healing effect on Patricia and me. We apologized to our parents for the pain of separation, and they felt the healing at a deep level, including through our children. For our children, too, it was very good because they could get to know their grandparents and have many interactions with them—so many wonderful memories to carry with them through life, which would affect the way they treat other people, especially elderly people. Our children have not had an easy time, because of our very public life, but they have benefited a lot from our home becoming a melting pot of all kinds of people. Now that they are all in the caring professions, they have a natural freedom in relating to every kind of person, through this vision, which ultimately came from our

True Parents. Our oldest daughter, Theresa, is about to become a qualified Community Doctor (GP), and our second daughter, Katrina, has worked as a pharmacist for five years in a local hospital trust. Natasha, our third daughter, is a physiotherapist in Birmingham's largest hospital, and our son, Jonathan, is working hard to prepare for his fifth and final-year exams in medicine. The standard joke in our family is that they just need two elderly people to look after! Many of us in the first generation gave up our studies to work with our True Parents, so to see our children studying hard and achieving is so rewarding, although in our case we never pushed them towards the caring professions. It just happened by choice. We hope that all those in our second generation can eventually find their calling in life and genuine happiness in what they choose to do.

How did the initial peace meetings develop a more interfaith dimension?

David: It wasn't planned, or rather it evolved naturally, reflecting the development of the providence during the 1990s, with the coming of the Era of Women and the globalization of the blessing. It has also reflected the situation in the world, where interreligious and multicultural issues have become dominant, especially in a city like Birmingham with its unique demographics.

Patricia: Our Women's Peace Meeting didn't remain Christian, and we began to welcome people of many different backgrounds, often arriving in Birmingham as refugees from nations torn apart by conflict. We encouraged speakers to tell their painful stories, which created empathy, awareness and a sincere desire to do something to help among our group. To hear about peoples' suffering in the media is very different from having a real human being in the same room, sitting next to you and sharing their story. The speakers would prepare their talk, but then the remainder of the meeting would be very spontaneous, including the quiet time of prayer and reflection



towards the end, when God's spirit would come down amongst us and we would feel that presence of love, beyond all our differences. This has been one of the main reasons women return to the meetings, bringing a friend, often from another religious background.

David: Britain, and Belgium, formerly had colonies all over the world, and much of the UK today is so multicultural, especially our larger cities like London and Birmingham. The legacy of the Commonwealth is there too, and all this calls us, as Unificationists, to be role players. We have unique, international families, an incredible global worldview, and all the resources to deal with cultural diversity. Historically, Birmingham is one of the cradles of the Industrial Revolution, labeled "the first manufacturing town in the world" in 1791, but when True Mother came here, in May 2000, she told us we have to be the center of the 'Revolution of Heart'. Modern Birmingham has large Polish and Irish communities and, after World War II, became home to large numbers of people from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and the Caribbean. In recent times, thousands of people have arrived here as refugees and asylum seekers,

from Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran, Somalia, Sudan, Congo DRC, Syria... the whole world is here. 57 percent of primary and 52 percent of secondary school children are now from non-white British families! We are only just over 1 million people but there are 161 mosques, sixteen Hindu temples, three synagogues, twelve Sikh gurudwaras, ten Buddhist viharas, as well as all the many churches. There have been tensions, of course, and the area is not immune to radicalization, but there are so many initiatives for peace and examples of good practice here, from religious leaders all the way down to street level. A short time ago, 150 UK mosques opened their doors to the public. The 'VisitMyMosque' campaign was particularly successful at the mosque which Patricia and I are part of in Birmingham, and the place was jam packed with hundreds of visitors. We are a voice of goodwill, among many others. We have a unique expertise in women's role in interfaith relations, and another in interreligious marriage. Not only have we held the Interfaith Peace Blessing every year since 2008, but I have been asked to intervene twice in marriages where young men and women from Sikh and Christian background wanted to marry each other. In one case there

- ❶ According to the 2011 census, in Birmingham, the Earle's city, 46.1 percent of residents said they are Christian, 21.8 percent Muslim, and 19.3 percent had no religion. According to the city government, "Outside London, Birmingham is the UK's most diverse city."
- ❷ The Earles continually hold events in their own home and interact with people of faith, any faith, as a natural extension of their own outlook on life.
- ❸ Blessing people who had become their friends seems to have come naturally.

were actual death threats, and police protection, and I was asked to speak at the marriage ceremony both times to help the families, and communities, better understand one another.

Our True Parents have insisted that tribal messiahship is the cornerstone of Cheon Il Guk. But some members still feel estranged from their relatives, and from the community. How did you build this culture of community outreach? It now seems to be natural for you...

David: Our parents were role models, which helped a lot. We both come from families where the sense of serving your neighbor, and the wider community, was strong. In the village where I grew up, my father and his brother owned the village shop which sold everything to everyone! They were always going the extra mile to help people. When my parents moved to



Birmingham in 1970, they took a job in a unique federation of Christian colleges, where young people came from all over the world to study. Unofficially, they had a pastoral role to look after many of these wonderful young people, making them feel welcome, inviting them for supper in their home, and generally taking them under their wing.

Patricia: My fathers' role in Brussels was more political and social. He had a position as Deputy Mayor (echevin), responsible for education, sport and music in one of the 12 districts in Brussels, so we always had people coming to our home. My mother was very supportive and it was her joy to help my dad, and welcome people into our house. I have a vivid memory of her treating a very poor, humble lady like a queen, getting out our best china and making her a cup of tea. I felt so happy to see my mum doing that with such joy.

David: One other factor is that we have been doing all our work as a couple. We are very different, and very complementary. I am more 'British', diplomatic, and quieter than Patricia. She is more direct, passionate, and natural in reaching out to people. She just can't

stop meeting more and more people. She has helped me develop different aspects of my character. On the other hand, she lacks confidence and is self-critical, which sounds like a paradox. I am just the opposite, and am completely confident I can do whatever I set out to do, or whatever God asks me to do. Also, we have never really focused on our personal tribal messiahship, but see our efforts in a much bigger context, for our city and nation, even for Europe. Then we feel we are on such an exciting journey together.

Are you doing only grass roots activities?

David: Grass roots activities build natural credibility with people, as well as having their own value. People can see that we are sincere, and practice what we preach. However, our experience is that when you connect those activities to a bigger plan and vision, you are naturally projected up to higher levels, sometimes in the most mysterious ways. One classic example is Patricia supporting a Sikh women's annual fundraising walk, for several years. After 3 or 4 years, through that, we were able to meet Lord Tarsem King, a member of the British government, and he then became not just an Ambassador for Peace but one of

the mainstays of all the amazing work which our colleagues in London have been doing in the UK Parliament since the early 2000s. And he was chosen by True Mother as one of the two people to pay tribute at the time of True Father's seonghwa in 2012. Lord King actually passed away himself shortly after that.

Patricia: It was the same with our work in India which began in 1998. A small, humble humanitarian project for the upliftment of *Dalit* orphaned children at the bottom of society was recognized, 4 years later, on the national level, receiving an award from a former President and former Prime Minister of India. We were even given 'honorary citizenship' of India to get the award, as it is only given to Indian people (NRI's) living in the diaspora.

How did that actually start?

Patricia: In 1996, we volunteered to go from the UK to attend the national messiah workshop in Cheongpyeong. However, we were asked if we would stay in Birmingham to develop the foundation there. We volunteered twice more, when there were not enough candidates, but were again requested to stay in Birmingham,



The Earles collaborated with members in other parts of the movement in the UK in establishing the Interfaith Children's Home for orphans in Hyderabad, India.


and finally we decided to remain, feeling that that was where God wanted us to be. Shortly afterwards, we met a Christian Minister from south India, and he invited us to help him develop interfaith work in Andhra Pradesh. The Interfaith Children's Home was born out of our visit there in January 1998. The Women's Peace Group in Birmingham raised all the initial funds to begin building work, with money coming from mosques, temples, churches, synagogues and gurdwaras, really a holy endeavor. David organized an RYS project to dig the foundations of the Home in December 1998. The project has allowed us to really integrate into the Indian and wider Asian community in Birmingham, and beyond.

Finally, on the foundation of all these years of tribal messiahship, you have been able to bless so many people.

David: It has been so challenging to hold the Blessing consistently since around 2008, and it has had to come from a deep

place. Of course it is also very joyful, but the feeling is one of constantly pioneering something, really being on the front line, and requiring a lot of spiritual energy. We genuinely feel this sense, which also comes frequently from True Mother's words, that we have to bless the whole world. And, in a way, we have the whole world here, certainly in many of our west European cities. We've found that when we consistently invest in people, building genuine friendship and trust, then the Blessing is one of the natural consequences. We always try to prepare people well, and give as much education as we can, but the investment of heart is the bottom line. We take responsibility for each couple in front of God, and our commitment to them is long-term, even eternal, so the Blessing is not simply a one-off event. Of course it is, in the sense of the grace received on the foundation of True Parents sacrifice, but after the Blessing we want to continue to bring people into a deeper understanding of the Principle, and to find more joy and

happiness in their relationship with God, and in family life.

Patricia: The most recent Blessing in February this year was absolutely amazing. It was as if the floodgates were opening, with the number of people who came, and with leaders of different communities coming and bringing people with them. Somali, Indian, Kashmiri, Bangladeshi, Congolese, Iranian, Polish, Pakistani, Syrian. It was an incredible, joyful experience for our whole FFWPU community, and for our city. The challenge now is to take care of so many wonderful people, and to help them discover the Principle more deeply, learn more about True Parents life and example, feel the depth of meaning behind the Blessing, and then work together to create a more harmonious, peaceful society. In a way, it's just the beginning of a journey and we have so much more to do, so much further to go. We can't really extend our house any more, but there's always more room for our hearts to grow. 

Marriage as our Spiritual Practice

*Debby Gullery has written a book on marriage enrichment, *Small Steps to Bigger Love, A Practical Guide to Marriage as a Spiritual Practice*, which is an easy-to-use guide to improving your marriage relationship. Each chapter includes a spiritual practice or activity that couples can do together or individually and the book includes a *Small Group Study Guide* to facilitate couples studying together in group settings. The book is available on Amazon. You can hire Debby to speak at your event, teach a marriage seminar or for personal relationship coaching. You can reach her at coachgullery@gmail.com.*

By Debby Gullery

When I was blessed in marriage in 1982, Father told us that our spouses would become our second messiahs and our children would become our third messiahs. I'm not sure that we understood what Father was trying to convey to us at the time, but my thirty-four years of marriage and my training as a marriage educator and relationship coach have helped me to uncover the true meaning of his words. I believe that Father was trying to tell us that our most important spiritual and emotional growth would take place in our spousal and parenting relationships.

Family, the school of love: We have heard this so many times, but most of us understood it to mean that as parents, we needed to create a heavenly environment to enable our children to learn to love. What many of us missed, however, is that family continues to be the school of love for all of us, no matter our age or what stage we are in.

The New Age author Shakti Gawain said, "Relationship is probably the most powerful spiritual path that

exists in the world today. It's the greatest tool that we have." It makes sense, then, that in our marriages is where we find the best opportunities to develop our capacity to love.

Spiritual growth is hard. We would all prefer to see ourselves as loving people, who care about the providence and the suffering heart of God. We can even convince ourselves that we are very spiritual because we pray and study regularly, but the truth is that we only see where we are really at through our most important relationships.

Loving the world is so much easier to do than loving a husband who is snoring on the couch or a wife who is nagging about the dishes. But it is precisely with these people, at these moments, that we can clearly see just how loving, how forgiving, how kind and how accepting we really are. This is why it's not while in the prayer room or on the yoga mat that we see ourselves most honestly. It is instead when another person confronts us with expectations or needs that require our investment and effort to meet. It is in a thousand big and little



In the early days, the writer was the New York regional chairwoman for WFWP.

choices we make all day long. In this sense, our spouses are like mirrors, reflecting back to us the best and the worst in ourselves. With our spouses, we have many opportunities each day to see how willing and capable we are in terms of loving and respecting each other.

Marriage as a spiritual discipline

What would it be like if we saw our marriages (and families) as the actual path to our wholeness? What might happen if we saw marriage and parenting as transformative practices? If we looked at these relationships as central to our spiritual growth, we



might be inclined to pay more attention to our own actions and attitudes. We might actually treat our partners and children with more care and loving kindness.

So how do we begin this process of recognizing and treating our marriages and families as our spiritual practice? Well, first we need to become intentional about our growth in general. Spiritual growth doesn't happen automatically—we have to invest in it and work at it.

On the most basic level, spiritual practice is about changing our bad habits, overcoming our laziness, keeping ourselves motivated, and choosing awareness and intentionality. To become good at anything, we have to practice it. In terms of relationships, this means we have to practice giving, even when we don't feel like giving.

Most of us know what we should do in any given moment. The challenge, of course, is to do the right thing. The biggest challenge is that the things we want the most, like connection and intimacy, require huge amounts of honesty and courage. To truly live life well and to build

a marriage and family with our core values at the center, requires tremendous vulnerability and courage!

Growing within the relationship

Marriage is an excellent place for us to develop our capacity for loving, because a good marriage requires commitment to constant personal change. We do not have to be stuck in the dysfunctional behavior we may have learned as children. We always have the ability to change patterns that are detrimental to our marriage. As a matter of fact, this is an essential part of our commitment to each other.

When we approach our marriages in this way, we find ourselves becoming true spiritual partners. As spiritual partners, we want to choose daily to look out for the well-being of our spouses and to find ways to enrich and enhance their lives. This requires real investment of time and energy.

In this way, our capacity for loving well becomes the true measure of our spirituality. We are meant to learn the basics for building loving relationships within our families of origin. On this foundation, we mature (some-what) and commit ourselves to another

person. It is in this unique and committed relationship that the next wave of our most significant internal growth takes place, precisely because our spouses are always there to reflect our strengths and weaknesses back to us. Doesn't this make sense? God wants us to be his channel for expressing love to our spouses. It's part of our job description!

This is why our spirituality cannot—and does not—exist separately from our marriages. They deeply intertwine, whether we recognize it or not. As spiritual beings who are married, we want to strive for intentionality, restraint and appreciation of each other's perspectives and to work actively at providing support, validation and love to our spouses and children. In this very practical and concrete way, consciously investing into the improvement of our marriages and families naturally becomes part of our daily spiritual practice and helps us to move closer toward the spiritual people we're striving to become. *TP*

Ms. Gullery is an author and a relationship coach.

One Couples' Long Journey toward Love

From an Interview of Nnode George Epwene

In December 1994, Nnode George Epwene met the church in Yaoundé, Cameroon, where he was a student enrolled at the State University of Yaoundé. The following February, he did a seven-day workshop, at the end of which the participants learned they should prepare for a Blessing Ceremony that same year.

In the time before the blessing, George focused on getting all his necessary documents together. Once he had them, the church would provide the funds for him to pay for blood tests at the hospital. George mentioned this to a cousin, a military policeman. "It became a source of persecution for me," he said, "He asked me questions about why we had to give blood to make documents, suggesting this was some kind of arrangement between our church and the hospital. He said that in our church we used to drink blood. He advised me to withdraw my documents, but I stood my ground."

Having forged ahead despite his cousin's false statements and opposition, on August 25, 1995, holding a photograph of a woman he had not yet met, Charlotte Mowenga Katunda, from the Democratic Republic of Congo, George went through the 360,000-Couple Blessing Ceremony. All this took place, however, without

his parents' knowledge. "My parents were back home, all of my family, so nobody was aware of this. There was no communication, at that time, like we have now," George explained. "I went back home during vacation, and when I informed them, it was in fact terrible. In the end, my father concluded that I was in university; I had already reached the age of majority, so I could decide my own future, but I should not ask him for any involvement. If we needed money or anything, it was my concern."

Official separation ends

Three years passed. George was still in university when those in his blessing group learned they were now free to be together with their spouses. "In that generation, many CARP members were blessed in different countries," George explained. Yet, among ten blessed Cameroonian CARP members, only George chose to suspend his studies to travel to the Democratic Republic of Congo (hereafter, D. R. Congo) to bring his wife back with him. (He later completed his degree, in History.)

George, however, did not have enough money, so he did a forty-day condition and went to ask his father for it. "The day I arrived, I told my father, I have only three days to be at home and I asked him to provide me



Nnode George Epwene told his story with directness and attention to detail.

with \$US 600." His father replied, "Earlier I informed you I am not concerned with this. So, please do what you can yourself." George is not sure what caused it, but his father's heart changed. "The next day, my father left home to meet one of his friends. He came back in the evening and told me, 'OK, tomorrow we are going. This is your third day here. We will leave the house. We will meet one of my friends; you will get the money and then you can return to Yaoundé.'" Unexpectedly, however, George's stepmother became seriously sick. "God be so kind," George commented, "he decided to handle the two issues at the same time. He took my stepmother to the hospital

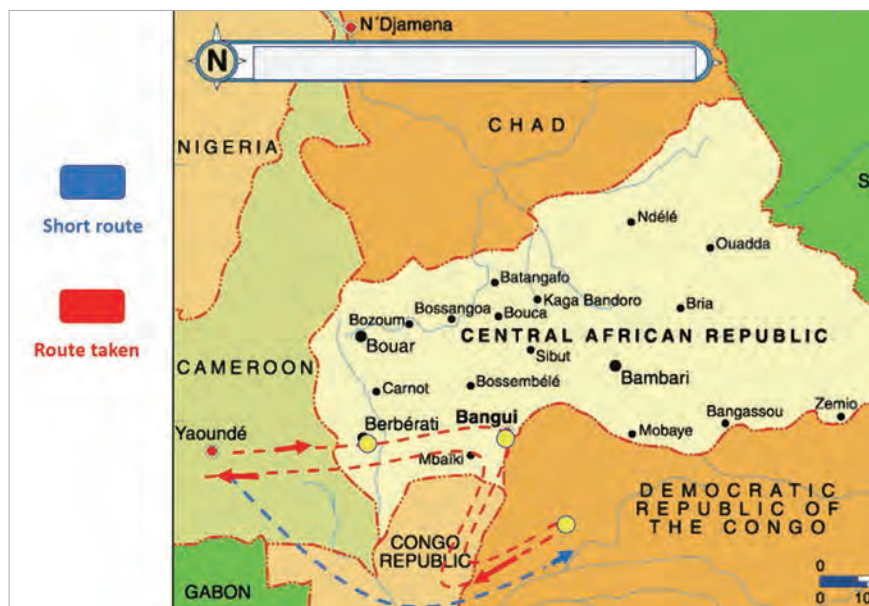
the same day and went to get money for me, but at an interest rate of 100 percent. He had to pay back \$1,200." Because George had to leave Cameroon two days later, even under those circumstances, he asked his father if he could get the money that same day. He received the money that evening. "From those incidents," George said, "I already felt that God was with me."

The journey begins

About this point in his story, George said, "One thing you should note is that from Cameroon to D. R. Congo, the shortest route is to go from Cameroon straight through the Republic of Congo (hereafter, Congo Brazzaville). Only the River Congo separates Congo Brazzaville from D. R. Congo. By that route, the journey takes about six days, but Congo Brazzaville and D. R. Congo were both in civil war." Another neighbor, the Central African Republic (hereafter, the C.A.R.) had been dealing with a long running insurgency, but the border was open.

The day after receiving money from his father, George set off to meet Charlotte and bring her back with him to Cameroon. He would be traveling with another man whose wife was likewise in D. R. Congo. "We slept in a town at the border. The next day we entered the first town inside the C.A.R., Gamboula." They had expected to go through a military checkpoint in Gamboula; in fact, they spent the five hours between 9:00 AM and 2:00 PM in the one town, going from checkpoint to checkpoint. "They were afraid of men, thinking that men were coming in as mercenaries.... Fortunately, before we left Cameroon, an American national messiah, Michael Lamson, gave us official papers, church papers and missionary papers—everything. Whenever they looked at this, they could trust that, OK. These are religious people."

They had traveled by car over the four hundred kilometers (250 mi.) from Yaoundé to the border of the C.A.R., but from there, they had to try to get rides with others. They caught a ride on a lorry (truck) that carried goods from Cameroon to Central Africa. "You have to climb on top of the goods," he said. "This was not a



In more peaceful times, George would have taken a direct course and returned to his country with Charlotte in about six days.

car; there was no place for passengers."

Becoming comedians

As they traveled, they met a Central African who befriended them. "He told us," said George, "that for six years he had been in Cameroon, where he had worked with a comedy theater group. In the C.A.R., he created his own group—well known, very popular." The man explained to them that the experience they had had in Gamboula would happen to them repeatedly before they reached Bangui, the capital and the largest city in the C.A.R. "I can assure you that all your money will all be gone," the man predicted. "I am going to help you by listing you as my theatre members. We are going to perform in Bangui." George and his companion felt that this would make it easier for them. The theater group head would have to pay some money at the checkpoints, so they would have to pay some portion of it. They agreed on an amount.

The next day the man went to a police station, where he obtained a permit to perform in Bangui. The names he put down for George and his companion he had changed into Central African names. "In the C.A.R., they have a common dialect, they call *Sango*. They can easily know if you are not one of them if you are not convincing when talking to them," George explained. "Also, in order for us to appear to be in his theatre group, he had to dress us up.

He gave me an old Army uniform, which I wore with an army bar and a cap, on which they wrote 'Commander.' The man wore his own uniform, on which they had written 'General.' He gave my Cameroon brother a mask of an old person to wear."

When asked if it wasn't dangerous to go through a country in civil war wearing military uniforms, George responded with verve, "That's what I am saying! This was madness! And the language barrier was there."

Fortunately, their newfound friend knew what he was doing. "We didn't feel any sense of danger. They did not ask anything. We were just accepted. God be so kind!" They had to pass individually through each checkpoint but the theater company manager simply showed the guards a paper listing who was with him. At each checkpoint, one of the comedians would get out in a mask and people would come with their children. They entertained people all along the way and had no trouble from checkpoint officials.

Reaching Bangui

The city of Bangui is just on the border of D. R. Congo. Traveling there took them three days and four nights. "When we reached Bangui we paid the person that accompanied us the amount we had agreed on," George explained. "We reached the church center, where the national leader received us." The following day, they went to the river port in Bangui to ask

when they might board a boat headed to Brazzaville. This was in the month of January. They learned it was the dry season; the river was low, making navigation difficult, so it was the slow time of the year for river traffic. High tide would not come until March. "They advised us to return to Cameroon and come back later," George said. "We said there is no point to returning to Cameroon. We are going to wait." Each day they returned to the port, asking the same question. The port personnel were becoming irritated. "What is so pressing that you are so eager to go?" they asked.

Finally, they learned that businessmen from the Republic of Chad were eager to transport a thousand head of cattle to Brazzaville. Port personnel told them to return the next day and bring their own food and water for what they said was to be an eight-day journey.

As it happened, the food and water they brought with them lasted only three days. George and his companion took this in their stride. After all, they were church members and their journey would end in three or four days; they could fast. They went without food for the fourth and fifth days of their journey, while everyone around them was eating lots of food. It was a cargo boat, so everyone remained on deck, eating in the open air. Rather than allow a cow to die onboard, whenever a cow appeared weak, the Chadians would give it to their fellow passengers to kill in exchange for a bit of money. They had not contributed money and had no pot to cook the meat in. His fellow Cameroonian pressed George to ask for food. "I told him to wait three days," George said. "After three days, maybe God would intervene, and he accepted that."

On the seventh day of their journey, after three days of fasting, a woman approached his companion. Having seen them read *hoondokhae* in the morning and evening, she took them to be religious. She said to him, "You pastors don't eat." As George recalls, "My brother answered, 'Because we don't have food on this the fourth day now. That is why we are not eating.'" Going four days without food is not a common occurrence. The woman was astonished and told her



Their boys are now fourteen and fifteen. Of Charlotte, George said, "My wife is very sharp in languages. Wherever she lives, the language spoken there, in one month she can already understand and start speaking. She is also very good in creating relationships."

younger sister to cook for the pastors. "Thank God," thought George, "God sent these two sisters to give us food."

Estimated time of arrival

The distance from Bangui to Kinshasa is roughly 1,030 kilometers (640 mi.). When they set off, they expected the trip to take eight days. After eight days, they had not even reached the halfway point. The temperature during the day was 28°–33° C (82.4°–91.4° F). The boat did not go to shore at night, so they were sleeping in the open air on a steel deck. It was very cold and they had not brought sleeping bags.

Even on the river, they had to go through checkpoints. Every time they went through a checkpoint, some official would stamp their passports. George described one incident, "My Cameroonian brother got angry and told them, 'Very soon, our passports will be full. Why do you do all this?' He spoke in a harsh tone. When we

left, I told him that talking to military people like that was not good. He said, 'No this is my right. I have to explain this to them.' I said, 'No. We are in a very tense period. If you speak in a harsh way, they may become brutal.' He answered, 'No. You are just a younger brother in the church and you do not know many things. Let me explain it to you: This is what we are supposed to do because we are in the subject position.' I felt, OK, if you say so."

At the next checkpoint, George's Cameroonian companion spoke in the same tone he'd used earlier. The officers told the boatmen that they had better all go to their office to check there. As soon as they arrived, among the two hundred passengers on the boat, the singled out George's companion and locked him in a cell. They told George to get more money because they were about to increase the fee they had already paid. George paid the extra fee and they freed his

companion. "When we returned to the boat," George said, "he had to confess to me. He said, 'OK. From now on, you are my leader. I'm going to listen to you now.' He had been the one keeping all our money, but he took the money and he gave it to me."

In Brazzaville

They finally reached Brazzaville and disembarked. They had spent nineteen days on the water. They called the church center but could not get through. The church leader in Bangui gave them the name of a member who lived in Brazzaville, just the name. They spoke to some of the men from the boat and surprisingly one knew the brother and knew where he lived. That brother took them to a Cameroonian sister who took them to the church center. They were supposed to cross into D. R. Congo the next day, but every dollar of the \$600 he brought from Cameroon was gone. He sold some gifts he had bought for his father-in-law to get the \$12 needed to cross to the Kinshasa side of the river.

Confrontation at the port

When they crossed the river, during a check at the river port, a police officer told them he knew our church and knew they did not believe in Jesus. He called them "fake pastors" and said they should prove him wrong by showing their Bibles. They did not have a Bible. "You see...! I know you people." He was going to send them back across the river. Then one of his bosses came out. The man wanted his boss to see the "fake Cameroonian pastors." When his boss looked at each of the documents he asked in disbelief, "How is this fake?" When he saw their church papers, he said, "I know this church. No! They are very good people. Why do you keep them here? No. No. No. Don't do this." The man then escorted them out of the port area passing four points at which they would have had to pay fees with money they did not have.

A security officer stops them

The leader in Brazzaville had given them the address of a nearby center where a member could drive them to the main center. Walking there, a security official in plain clothes,

walked up to them and spoke in Lingala, which is lingua franca in D. R. Congo. They did not understand. He switched to French, asking for their passports. He saw they were fine and asked where they were going. Looking at the address, he said it was too far to walk. When they said they had no bus money, he saw them aboard a bus, paid their fare and told the driver where to drop them off. That day, it had been thirty-five days since they left Cameroon.

The road back to Cameroon

After arriving at the main church, they were sent to yet another center, where they lodged. Various church leaders were at a meeting. When his wife's pastor returned to his center, he would inform his wife that her husband had arrived. Without his knowing, though, a sister told his wife and she came. Someone told him to go to pray but he did not know why. "While I was praying," George said, "my wife came in quietly and knelt down beside me, also praying. When I stood up and opened my eyes... Seeing my spouse in front of me was simply amazing! We embraced and all the sisters and brothers came in—more than twenty. They started singing. It was touching. After that, she went home to inform her parents. They suggested that I stay with them, but since I didn't have money, I declined. I met her older sister, with whom she was living."


Charlotte's story

While separated from her husband, Charlotte had gone through heart-wrenching experiences. When war arrived in Kinshasa, they fled their home, which was near the airport, now a dangerous place. She ended up with a group of people stranded and with little food. Older people pressured the women to make money from the soldiers, but she refused. She insisted that in her church, women do not do that and she is married. When they pressured her further, she had to flee again. She returned home. She was alone when a neighbor, who was in the army, saw her and suggested she stay with his family. She did, but one day, he brought home an army friend and tried to persuade her to be that man's

wife. She refused. She told the man that she was married. He told her he knew her husband was in Cameroon. She insisted she would not sleep with other men. He raged that she was rejecting him for a husband that he knew she had never met. He then threatened to kill her husband if he ever came to DR Congo. Charlotte cried. If she had some way of telling her husband not to come, she would have. On the night of the day that George arrived in Brazzaville, that soldier died in fighting and the army transferred her neighbor to another location.

Return to Cameroon

They needed to earn money for the return trip and this took time—five months. Just before they were to go, the spouse of the Cameroonian that George had traveled with changed her mind and said she would follow him later. In the time that George had raised money for himself and his wife, this brother had raised none. George could have left him behind but opted to take him. Four other Congolese women, blessed to Cameroonians, joined them. He thought he had enough money to get to Bangui, but it ran out, so he borrowed from one of the other wives. In Bangui, George wired Cameroon and asked for money. Three weeks later, it arrived. They had calculated exactly the amount needed and no more, but when the sister George had borrowed from learned that her husband had not contributed to the fund, she turned back for D. R. Congo. Having returned the borrowed money, George had to make the painful decision of leaving his wife behind, even temporarily, in the C.A.R. after all they had gone through to be together.

Charlotte and George finally reunited in September. Today, they are raising their two sons together. Perhaps we can learn from the effort they invested just to be with each other. Let us value one another deeply. Let us be kind to others not knowing what course their lives have taken and what they endured to answer the call from Heaven or to continue to strive forward in their lives of faith. 

A TPmagazine staff member contributed this article.

First “African Union Summit” of Leaders in Zambia

By Fabrice Djimadoum

Clockwise from top left: Cho Sung-il, director-general of the International Headquarters; Dr. Yun Young-ho, secretary-general of the International Headquarters; Mrs. Kathy Rigney, Cheon Il Guk special envoy to Africa; Rev. Cho Dong-ho, president, West Africa region; Futila di Mayeko sub-regional leader of Central Africa; George Ogurie, national leader of Nigeria; Dr. Thomas Walsh, president of UPF; all contributed to the success of the assembly.

The Extraordinary Africa Assembly took place April 1–3 at Intercontinental Hotel in Lusaka, Zambia under the theme: “African Leaders for the Victory of Vision 2020 and the Realization of Cheon IL Guk.” More than a hundred and fifty participants attended. The summit was the first of its kind for all the leaders in Africa, who now used the opportunity to discuss how best to restore each nation. They shared success stories and ideas about how to work effectively toward the realization of vision 2020.

The summit was graced by the special delegation from FFWPU International Headquarters who came to Zambia on behalf of True Mother. On the first day and in the opening ceremony of the summit on April 1 and through the duration of the gathering youth missionaries performed songs, danced, recited poetry and otherwise provided entertainment. The youth missionaries’ unique dancing and musical talent surprised the participants. Afterwards, participants sang in unison the Cheon Il Guk Anthem followed by their recitation of the Family



Pledge and a tearful invocation given by Mrs. Kathy Rigney.

Rev. Moriba Kone, secretary-general of the East Africa region and his wife Susan Kone offered flowers.

Rev. Cho Sung-il, director general of the FFWPU International Headquarters shared True Mother’s words and reminded the participants of the need to align with True Parents’ teachings.

Thomas G. Walsh, president of UPF spoke about the necessity to collaborate with other organizations in order to establish the nation of Cheon Il Guk.

Dr. Yun Young-ho, secretary general of the FFWPU International Headquarters gave an extensive explanation of strategies we need to follow in order to build Cheon Il Guk. He also stressed the need to implement efficiently these strategies in order to establish a substantial nation of Cheon Il Guk. At the end of the opening ceremony, Rev. Cho Dong-ho, regional president for West Africa offered the closing remarks. Rev. Sasaki Tatsuo, special envoy for Benin, led three cheers of mansei.

In the afternoon, Rev. Cho Dong-ho presented his region’s activity reports and the strategies



- ① African members, missionaries and leaders met all together, through True Mother's grace and indeed it was extraordinary.
- ② Each nation gave a detailed report about how they can achieve national restoration.
- ③ Awarding hard work: At left is Dr. Yun Young-ho, deputy chief of staff of Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon's Secretariat and at far right, Director-General Cho Sung-il of the FFWPU International Headquarters
- ④ One day this may be as famous as hand-signed national constitutions are today.
- ⑤ Time for recreation! A lively football match allowed these leaders and other members to renew their energy as they set out to realized Vision 2020 throughout Africa.



to restore the nations by 2020. This was followed by presentations from nations in West Africa region: Congo Kinshasa, Cote d'Ivoire, Angola, Congo Brazzaville, Cameroon, Benin and Nigeria.

In the first part on the second day of the summit, Rev. Bakary Camara, the regional president for East Africa, introduced the activities and strategies to restore the nations in the East Africa region, by 2020. This was followed by presentations of activities and strategies of the East African nations—Zambia, Kenya, South Africa, Uganda, Rwanda, and Mozambique.

In the afternoon of the second day, Mrs. Rigney and Dr. Walsh respectively gave presentations of activities


of UPF in Africa and vision of UPF International. Afterwards, Dr. Walsh answered some questions posed by the participants.

Mr. Tatsuo Hiroki and Mr. Park Gwan-wook, West Africa and East Africa regional youth directors respectively, gave presentations on how to raise future leaders and reported on their activities and their strategies in their respective regions. This was followed by a moving testimony of a Korean second-generation member living in South Africa.

Finally, West African and East Africa leaders split into groups to discuss the goals for vision 2020 for their regions.

On the third day, Rev. Camara started the day with the Cheon Il Guk

anthem that was sung in unison followed by the Family Pledge; Rev. Park Shang-seong, special envoy to Nigeria, prayed. Rev. Abdoulaye Wone, the director of East Africa's Regional Blessing Department and his wife then offered of flowers. Following this, the regional presidents for East Africa and West Africa presented the goals and vision of their respective regions.

Rev. Cho Sung-II and Dr. Yun Young-ho closed the African Leadership Assembly with encouraging and hopeful remarks regarding the firm settlement of Cheon IL Guk in Africa. 

Mr. Fabrice Djimadoum is with FFWPU in West Africa.

IAPP Launched in the Republic of India

By Krishna Adhikari



The speakers table in the main committee room in the Parliament House Annex. The man at the podium is Krishna Adhikari, secretary-general of UPF India.



Bhubaneswar Kalita, a member of India's Parliament and chairman of the Northeast MP Forum, for MPs from northeastern India becomes an ambassador for peace.

From April 6 to 8, the UPF in collaboration with the North-East MPs Forum, Parliament of India organized a special peace conference to inaugurate the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace in India. On April 7, a special session of this inaugural conference was held in the Main Committee Room of Parliament House Annex at the Parliament of India. Prof. P. J. Kurian, deputy chairman of the Rajya Sabha (Council of States) the upper house of India's bicameral legislature delivered the inaugural address on behalf of Indian Vice-President Ansari who is also the chairman of the Rajya Sabha. Prof. Yeon Ah Moon, president of WFWP-International delivered the founders' address on True Mother's behalf.

In the program, the welcoming address was delivered by chairman of UPF-India K. V. Rajan, the IAPP introduction was delivered by UPF-International President Dr. Thomas G. Walsh. Special introductory speech to the founder of IAPP was delivered by chairman of UPF-

Asia, Dr. Yong Chung-sik. Among the other speakers, Dr. Jitendra Singh, Minister of Prime Minister's Office was represented by R. Ramakrishna, Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) from the ruling party of India and similarly IAPP-International Co-Chair and Five Times Speaker of the House of Representatives of Philippines. Jose de Venecia, Jr., Shiv Raj Patil, Former Speaker, Union Minister and Governor of India, Ek Nath Dhakal, Former Minister of Nepal and IAPP-Asia Co-Chair spoke during the inaugural session. During the inaugural conference IAPP India Board Members were conferred the Certificate of Appointment by the UPF International President and IAPP-International co-chair. At the end of inaugural session Bhubaneswar Kalita as the chairman of IAPP-India delivered the closing remarks and Vijay Holly, Ex-Assembly Member of Delhi delivered the vote of thanks and Mr. Krishna Adhikari, Secretary General of UPF India served as the Master of the Ceremony of the inaugural conference.

Following the inaugural session as a special session was held on the theme of the conference "Addressing the Critical Challenges of our Time: The Role of Governments, Civil Society, and Faith-Based Organizations". This special session was moderated by Mrs. Ursula McLackland, secretary general of UPF-Asia and speakers were Dr. Robert S. Kittel, president, International Association of Youth and Students for Peace, Jayant Chand, Member of Parliament, India, Dr. Mohd Hatta Bin Md Ramli, Member of Parliament, Malaysia, Leopoldo Nalupa Bataoil, congressman, House of Representatives, Philippines, Farouk Muhammad, vice-chairman, Regional Representatives Council, Indonesian, Sanjay Jaiswal, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) Geetha Kothapali, Member of Parliament Lok Sabha).

Executive Summary

We reported, at an April 8 victory celebration the numbers of prominent societal figures attending the various programs. These are the figures:

MPs from Asia: twenty, from



Key players in our organizations and in the Indian legislature pose following separate sessions.

eighteen nations

MPs from India attending the Opening Banquet (April 6) more than forty

MPs from India attending the IAPP inauguration at the Parliament House Annex, more than seventy Ex-MPs from India attending the IAPP inauguration, seven Foreign Missions (Diplomatic Missions) attending, twenty (including the Democratic People's Republic of Korea)

Many diplomats and state legislators did not have proper identification and were barred from entering.

MPs from India attending the closing banquet, fourteen

The highlight of the inaugural conference of IAPP India was a courtesy call by invitation from Indian President Mukherjee at the Presidential Palace, where we held a special session with the IAPP India delegation.

After the successful inauguration, IAPP-India a special Review Meeting was held at the residence of

Bhubaneswar Kalita, MP and chairman of IAPP-India. All present in the meeting shared their experiences at the conference. Kalita said that in his thirty years in Parliament he had no experiences of such event taking place in the parliament of India through the effort of an NGO. The chief guest, deputy chairman of the Upper House agreed in his speech at the meeting where he represented Vice-President Ansari to inaugurate the IAPP-India.

All the five Members of Parliament of India as the IAPP-India Board Member, UPF-Chairman, FFWPU-India National Leader and Organizers unanimously applauded and deeply appreciated the great support from Mother Moon, Founder of UPF & IAPP for giving us this great vision of the establishment of IAPP and for her unconditional support to organize the IAPP-India Inaugural Conference. Meeting also jointly thanked Dr. Walsh, Dr. Yong and all Asia Staffs for their whole-hearted support to organize this conference in India. At last, meeting resolved the followings:

1. UPF will design a special page of IAPP in the website of UPF India (but unfortunately I don't have UPF-India webpage itself and hope we will be able to have one soon.)
2. IAPP-India will drive the campaign for enrolling the membership of only most interested MPs to become the IAPP Member and will be educated about their responsibilities for fulfilling the vision of IAPP.
3. Meeting also decided not plan big and do just a little instead it is agreed that we plan small and achieve big. So, as the continuation of the IAPP activities in India, MPs decided that they will engage in planning and organizing at least one peace program every month or in every two month. Programs such as: interaction program, seminars or workshop type educational program to promote awareness for world peace. ☞

Mr. Adhikari is the secretary-general of UPF-India.

Renewing Faith in the Old and Young at Leda

On February 27, at 3:00 PM, twenty-two young people—Generation Peace Academy members and staff members—along with three Paraguayan church members arrived at Leda in five boats. Because of the long trip (around five hours under a scorching sun) they were exhausted. Nevertheless, the Leda facilities in the midst of such a wild environment made a strong impression on them. Since they had left Vallemi Port by boat, they had seen only nature, nature and more nature for five hours. They may never have imagined that in Leda they would find clean, air-conditioned bedrooms, a vast conference hall, a spacious dining hall and a twenty-five meter swimming pool filled with transparent water.

We welcomed them with a dinner made using products harvested from the farm—meat, pork, pacu (a name covering several similar species of fish) vegetables and fruit. In the morning, we presented to them, via DVD and PowerPoint, the history of the Il Yang Won providence, the beauty of the Pantanal, all our projects (those we have completed and those we now doing) including the aid we provide to neighboring communities and villages. Additionally, we put on a conference that



▲ Bringing young people into the wilds of nature

▼ Young people with GPA on the river





Some of the infrastructure build over the years in what was complete wilderness when Japanese missionaries arrived to pioneer Leda.

covered True Parents' South American providence and how they have invested in it.

Developments at Leda

In the afternoon, we showed them around all the facilities we have created here—various types of buildings, a water treatment plant, a generator room, a workshop for repairing engines and motors, a laboratory for pacu incubation, a room for processing fish and meat, and a coast guard office. Then we showed the farmland (producing potatoes, etc.), fish ponds (over twenty) and fields where we keep capybara and pigs. They expressed astonishment that we own all these facilities, have developed many projects and are making use of our creativity in a most disadvantaged place, although not one of us is familiar with all these areas.

That night, Mr. Minoru Nakata explained how we had made this foundation out of nothing. The members appeared deeply moved by the missionaries' faith, perseverance and attitude of obedience toward True Parents.

In the morning, we had a program of pioneer experiences. All the pioneers, such as the Pilgrim Fathers in the United States or immigrants in South America, had first to clear the land. That was our experience in the

beginning, too. So we asked all those in our younger generations to have the same experience, if only symbolically, to inherit the spirit of pioneers. They discovered that clearing land, felling trees with axes and machetes under the blazing sun is not easy. Nonetheless, they exerted their maximum effort, defying their limitations, as blisters arose on their palms. As the trees crashed to the ground, they felt happy excitement.

In the afternoon, we asked each of them to wade into a pond to harvest fish with a net. Going into the pond, in the middle of which the water reached their chins and especially seeing hundreds of large fish collected in the net exhilarated them. We brought the fish to the processing room to gut them and store them in the freezer.

All the experiences that they had that day were new for them and demanded a lot from them, but they seemed inspired and energized. We felt that they had fortitude, and they gave us hope.

That night Mr. Yasuhiro Toyomura (blessed among the 777-couples), who had worked primarily in the business side of our church, spoke to them, mainly about Father's heart. His insight, derived from his many experiences with Father, appeared to touch the audience deeply.

Connecting with aboriginal people

One day, we visited an indigenous community, Diana, which is sixty kilometers (37 mi.) upstream from Leda. Diana is at the northern end of Paraguay, where few people ever visit. Yet since we began to settle in Leda, we have sent Japanese volunteer groups and any visitors to this village to help their school in any way we can. We even built a school with three classrooms. So when we decided to send the GPA group to this community, they were so happy.

The trip took around three hours by boat. Diana residents welcomed us whole-heartedly. Having no class that day, all the local children concentrated on receiving the group. We stayed from 10:00 to 3:00. GPA members played with local children, who seemed to absorb joy and happiness through this interaction. Seeing the children's joy satisfied their teachers. Several female teachers took charge of cooking lunch. They made local dishes with alligator and capybara meat, which the GPA members evidently enjoyed tasting for the first time in their young lives.

We donated a kitchen cupboard to the school, which the students varnished. The GPA members cared for plants that a Japanese volunteer group planted last year.

For the members and local children



What started as the Leda Project is now Il Yang Won, Garden of Sunshine. A pioneer mentors young people with Generation Peace Academy.

to separate seemed difficult. All the children and their teachers came to the riverside to see us off. Everyone left the indigenous village richer in experience. GPA members expressed unanimous admiration at the simplicity and the purity of the indigenous children.

An early missionary

That night Mrs. Takahashi spoke. She received the blessing in the 1,800-couple group and was one of the first Japanese missionaries to the United States. She described the rich, personal experiences she'd had with Father. Members exhibited keen interest. I think her testimony left a deep impression on them, as they had never had such an experience with him.

The last day we took them fishing in the morning. Father had devoted a portion of his life to fishing. Whenever he had to make some condition, he went fishing. In Olimpo, several times he called Korean and Japanese national messiahs for forty-day workshops, which meant hoondokhae morning and night and fishing all day long. Fishing is not recreation or amusement for us; it is an aspect of training in dominating the natural world.

They caught many fish. We felt that God's blessing was upon them. After lunch, we took them horseback riding, which they enjoyed. They had to catch a public boat to Asuncion at around 5:00. Before leaving, they met with us to express gratitude for all their experiences, to sing beautiful songs to us and to dance with their whole heart.

Through this visit, we felt hope seeing the second-generation members growing straight toward God. We observed their purity, their love toward True Parents and their enthusiasm for absorbing True Parents' traditions.

They all expressed in some manner that their visit to Leda, Paraguay, uplifted them. We wish that they now carry stronger hope in our movement after seeing models of faith and devotion from first-generation members and what evidence they might have seen that we are moving toward the ideal world on earth.

In the card they gave to us before leaving, they thanked us for the abundant love and care they received and expressed that they felt it necessary to learn from and inherit faith and traditions from those in the first generation.

Some historical background

In 1999, True Parents held a forty-day workshop for Japanese national messiahs in Fuerte Olimpo, which is the capital of Alto Paraguay, a department (province, or state) in northern Paraguay. Being located right at the border between Paraguay and Brazil with the Paraguay River flowing by, Olimpo was well known as a hideout for criminals and as a dangerous place.

Near the end of the forty-day workshop, Father told a number of Eve-nation national messiahs, "You do not have to return to Japan. I have prepared some land; go and pioneer there. I am sending you to hell for the liberation of hell." They followed True Father's instructions and on October 1, 1999, thirteen national messiahs arrived in Leda, thirty-seven kilometers away from Fuerte Olimpo. Leda lies in the department (province) of Alto Paraguay in Paraguay and in the midst of the Pantanal—14,000 square miles of swamps, lakes and floodplain. It was to this area, which Father had called the most difficult place in the Pantanal, an area that in those days had no electricity, no running water, no roads and no means of access other than boats or small airplanes.



They are likely clearing the land to use for farming some crop. The implements on the ground in the upper photograph suggest this. The axes will fell the trees, but Leda personnel cannot use the land for farming some young, energetic person has extirpated the roots.

▲ Implements for felling trees are on the ground as the Generation Peace Academy members steel their minds for what is certain to be hard work under a hot sun. Feral pigs are visible in the background. The pioneers did extensive research on means to make money in this no-mans-land. The most expensive pork in the world comes from pigs that are partially wild but still under the control of their owner.



When the pioneering group arrived, they washed their faces in the river, washed their dishes there and drank river water after boiling it. The people in the surrounding area had been doing the same. This has led to problems of hygiene and especially sickness among children. After a period of research, the national messiahs built a water purification system.

They had to cobble together a habitable community in an environment that had become a den of poisonous spiders and snakes. Then, they started their pioneering work. Being inexperienced in the construction of a base, they had to learn everything and work from scratch. They labored in sweltering heat of over 40° C (104° F) while chasing away swarms of mosquitoes with smoke from bonfires. As for potable water, initially, they used a simple purifier to filter water from the Paraguay River.

One of their first projects was erecting a wharf for boats to land at and better living quarters. The former owner had only used the land for grazing animals; everything had been left in disrepair. The Eve national messiahs threw themselves into building a wharf that soon featured a boathouse large enough to accommo-

date eight motor boats and lodging for themselves as well as the local workers—a total of a hundred men building an ideal city in what had been desolate prairie.

Raising livestock


The raising of pigs and other farm animals is an important business that is taking place at Farm Leda. They started swine husbandry in 2011 with just ten pigs; by 2014 they had a drove of a thousand pigs. Those in charge are making plans to develop a pig brand that is second to Spanish Iberico by 2020. Spanish Iberico pigs have earned a reputation as the best pigs in the world. Ham from Iberico pigs sells for US\$220 per kilogram. Iberico pigs feed on acorns and freely roam when put out to pasture. Leda's pigs graze on a vast "Pig Land," a nearby pasture. They graze freely, eating grass, clams from the river and coconuts.

To prevent them from returning to a wild state, Leda personnel feed them once a day. They trained the pigs from a young age to respond to the sound of a bell at mealtime; when the pigpen bell rings, pigs come from all directions. Some pigs even swim across the river to eat. It's a spectacular sight to see, when the bell tolls,

calling the pigs in to where they are fed corn and other pig feed. The pigs, which roam in a scattered fashion throughout a vast field, all rush in at the same time to feed. Seeing some swimming across the river is a scene certainly worth watching.

A sampling of GPA comments

Thank you so much for this past week. I am so grateful for all of your love and deep devotion for God and True Parents. Every day was filled with so much love; I was so moved by the purity in your hearts. Thank you for serving us so warmly and for seeing us as family. Thank you for your kindness and giving to us through the work we did and testimonies as well. Leda will always hold a special place in my heart. Thank you for keeping True Parents' legacy alive. —Yukimi

We can't forget this amazing Leda, holiest of Holy Grounds. Because of your incredible foundation, Leda's providence is so dear to God, our True Parents and for the future of humankind. May Heavenly Parent always be on your side. —Most sincerely, Francis Maurel 

The writer was one of the Leda elders

