

True Peace

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Approaching the Providential Year 2020

By Kathy Rigney



Since that fateful day in September of that fateful year 2012 when our precious, loving and victorious True Father ascended from this physical world to join our Heavenly Parent in heaven, my heart, like that of so many other members, went through so many emotions. Of course, I know we will see our True Father again. Of course, I know how victorious his life on earth was, but my heart was heavy, sad and full of repentance. I knew that sending our True Father to Heaven should have happened from a nation that belonged to our Heavenly Parent! I knew that I should be repenting!

Sometime later, our amazing True Mother spoke to all of us. She, better than any of us, knew God's providence and knew we should have restored at least one nation before True Father departed. Our Mother, out of her love for us, her children, gave us a special grace. She announced that by offering all our heart and devotion, we have a grace period to restore God's

nation before 2020, the year of our True Father's 100th birthday! So began the work toward the realization of Vision 2020.

With the passage of time, my heart grew worried. Which nation will we restore? What plan can we make to bring this important victory? Sometimes, I cannot sleep from thinking about this. During meetings with members and with other leaders, we try to find a formula to succeed. Time is short.

Suddenly, in March, we learned from our International Headquarters in Korea that our True Mother was sending her precious staff to meet with ALL African leaders—regional presidents, national leaders, UPF leaders, special envoys and special emissaries to discuss plans to restore Africa and to be victorious for Vision 2020! We were excited and grateful to have this special time, guided by leaders who live daily with our True Mother, to discuss practical methods of restoring nations! Finally, in Lusaka, Zambia, on March 31, we received at the airport Rev. Cho Sung Il, director general of World Missions, Dr. Yun Young Ho, secretary general of World Missions, Dr. Thomas Walsh, president of UPF and Mr. Hyunook Suh, manager of World Missions Department in Korea. Our hearts were beating with anticipation. When we saw the delegation walking from the airplane toward the airport terminal, it was possible to imagine that True Mother is perhaps just behind them; perhaps, somewhere in the crowd, perhaps if we look carefully, we will find her, because with these important brothers came the spirit and the heart of Cheon Cheong Gung, the spirit and the heart of the only, amazingly precious, daughter of God.

From the opening ceremony, every moment was filled with Heaven's heart. Rev. Cho Sung Il guided us with deep heart, conveying True Mother's directives, her heart of love for each of us and her desperate desire for us to feel the urgency of the providential time we are living in to bring about national restoration.

Dr. Yun Young Ho, with certain clarity, never losing focus on our objectives but with a humble and loving heart, taught us strategies and methods to restore our nations before 2020. He explained the practices that bring results and overcome obstacles. They both listened to each and every report with patience and later carefully showed us the flow of ideas that can help us to find the victory.

Dr. Walsh, who always has UPF's objectives as they pertain to national restoration clear in his mind, also conveyed enormous love for True Mother, the underlying motivation that we all need to achieve our goal.


Hyunook Suh, a child of Africa, came home to the continent he knew as a young boy growing into a man. He was bright and shining and extremely effective in translating and supporting Rev. Cho Sung Il and Dr. Yun Young Ho in innumerable ways. Africa was so proud of him.

Finally, our focus was clear.

1) Focus on all members daily accomplishing as heavenly tribal messiahs, centering on village chiefs, religious and community leaders.

2) Focus on contacting each nation's VVIPs—president, vice-president, prime minister, MPs, government ministers—to witness about True Parents, thus preparing a proper environment for national witnessing. Inaugurate IAPP in each nation.

3) Focus on youth education. By inaugurating Youth and Students for Peace in each nation, we can educate the youth with Pure Love and thus prepare the environment for Cheon Il Guk.

Gratitude can't describe our feelings. With hearts full of love and thankfulness to our True Mother we said goodbye to her delegation. Our African leaders returned to their nations. Our minds are clear and our hearts are determined to continue until we can offer victory to Heaven and Vision 2020 can begin here on this precious continent of Africa prepared by God for this very moment! 

Mrs. Rigney is the Cheon Il Guk special envoy to Africa.

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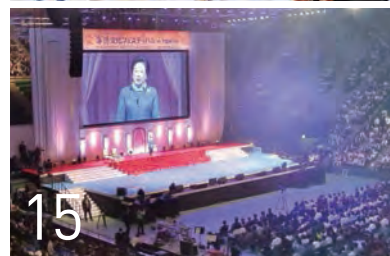
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The New Future of Humankind

*This excerpt is from the April 14, 1975 speech True Father gave on the Day of Hope Tour of Korea.
This is from the April 14 event at Jangchoong Gymnasium in Seoul.
The full speech is in Pyeong Hwa Gyeong, Book 1 Chapter 4.*





True Father delivering this speech in Korea on a nine-city Day of Hope Tour, which would continue in subsequent months in the United States.

We live in a chaotic world. We have passed through an age of theocentric culture, the Christian culture of the Middle Ages, which began to decline at a certain point, and today we live in the era of humanism. Our age is also the era of materialism, a fitting word for the current secular attitudes and world-views. Having passed through such states of confusion, no one has been able to come up with clear answers to our problems; humanity today is at the beginning of a post-ideological era, in which everything is out of control.

Object partners of the absolute God

The problems we currently face do not arise from a shortage of resources, whether human or material. They arise because a clear view of God has yet to appear. Until humankind establishes a view of life or a spiritual interpretation of history based on a definitive view of God, I believe that a new future for humanity cannot appear. In my opinion, when we understand God clearly, we can

resolve the problems that originate from ambiguity in our view of God, which began in the medieval ages, as well as from the trends of materialism and humanism in the present age.

Therefore, the matter of whether or not God exists poses a profound problem. It is important that I make a permanent impression on you this evening.

Throughout the ages and to this day, people have longed eagerly for love, ideals, happiness and peace that are true, eternal and unchanging. Yet people, who are apt to change their attitudes and values, cannot achieve these ideals. The current world situation clearly illustrates this. If there is an absolute, eternal, unique and unchanging God, we need to know the origin of true love, true ideals, true peace and true happiness that derives from a new viewpoint about this God. We can usher in a new world of peace and happiness only when we have clarified our view of God, of life and of the material world from God's perspective.

What is the problem here? It is that, even if God is absolute, it is impossi-

ble for him to achieve love, ideals, happiness or peace by himself. Love, ideals, peace and happiness do not emerge in isolation. They emerge only with an object partner. Therefore, even in the case of the absolute God, unless he has an object partner, he cannot achieve the absolute love, absolute ideals, absolute happiness or absolute peace that he desires so very much.

Based on this viewpoint, what being could appear before that absolute God as his object partner? We can think only of human beings. Until now, we did not know that human beings alone possess the value of the object partner who can achieve God's ideals, the object partner who can realize God's true love and the object partner who can complete God's happiness and peace.

God is the subject partner and human beings are the object partners. We need to understand that we are beings of infinite value, because human beings are the object partners before the God who can be the king of true love, true ideals and true peace.



From Korea, True Father brought his salvific message to the people of the United States. Pak Bo-hi is his translator.

God desires for us to be better than he is

When you were young and you were about to choose your spouse, did you want someone who was inferior to you or someone who was better than you? When asked this question, I think anyone among you would answer that you wanted someone who was better than you.

Furthermore, if there is a couple and their beloved child is about to be born, would any parent wish for their child to be inferior to them? There would not be such a parent anywhere. It is the desire of each person's original human nature that one's spouse or one's child be better than he or she is. Since human beings feel this way, whom do they resemble? We cannot deny that human beings are in all respects resultant beings and not causal beings. If human beings wish for their spouse or their children to be better than they, whom would they take after in this desire? The obvious conclusion is that we have such a desire because we resemble God, who is the causal being.

Today, many people think of themselves as being worthless. Many

people regard themselves as no better than animals, as if to say, I have no special value at all. The one thing I hope you will remember today is that God wishes for you to be better than he is. If you think about this after you return home, I am sure that you will consider this to be an important discovery. I believe that only when we recover our original value as dignified human beings can the path that leads to the world of true love, true ideals, true happiness and true peace appear. On the contrary, most theologians until now have believed that the Creator and the creation cannot stand on equal footing.

We say that God is love and we know him to be an ideal God. However, what could he achieve by being ideal all by himself? Can you be happy by yourselves? Can you have peace and freedom all by yourselves? In this regard, we are in the state we are in because we lost our original value. If we fully possessed our original value, without a doubt, we would have become human beings whom God could elevate. Because we still have this original nature latent in us, through which we can restore our

original value, we desire to become the best possible object partner or subject partner.

Even among fallen human beings, is there anyone who wishes for the object partner of his or her love to exist for a year, or ten, and then disappear or change? Love and love's object partner are meant to be eternal and unchanging. We desire unchanging and absolute love from an absolute and unique higher level. If human beings, who have lost their original value because of the Fall, were to ask for such love, might God, the eternal, unchanging, unique and absolute being, want the object partner of his love to exist for only a little while and then disappear? Certainly not! Since God is eternal, our most obvious and logical conclusion is that he desires for human beings, who are the object partners of his love, to be eternal as well.

Please understand clearly this pivotal conclusion, namely, that our life has to be eternal. Only then can the statement, Humankind is the most precious existence in all of creation, be fulfilled. Our life needs to be eternal, unchanging and absolute. Why do human beings need to be unique beings? You need to understand that because God is the subject partner, human beings, who are the object partners of his love, ideals and happiness, need to be like him.

Now you understand that only when there is a relationship between a subject partner and an object partner is the realization of God's ideal, the world of love and happiness, the world of peace and true freedom, possible. Now you understand with certainty the concept of subject partner and object partner.

The creation of heaven and earth and the cause of the Fall

Until now, we have not considered the significance of the ideal origin of the Creation. What does the word "creation" mean? It implies investing everything. In order to actualize an idea, you need to invest your own energy, which corresponds to that idea. Existence begins from the act of investing.

When God considered how to design the relationship between the subject partner and the object partner, he had only two choices. One was to make the object partner live for the



True Father bringing his message to the West required messianic boldness.

sake of the subject partner, himself, and the other was to create his object partner, human beings, and to live for their sake. This was the point at which God had to establish the foundation and ideal origin of creation.

If God, who is the subject partner, one day said that all beings, who are his object partners, must obey him absolutely and live only for the sake of their subject partner, what would happen? In the case of the relationship between a man and a woman, where the man is the subject partner and the woman the object partner, if the man said to the woman, "Live for the sake of your subject partner," what would happen? Their way to unity would go off course.

However, if God, the king of wisdom, were to say, "Live for the sake of the object partner," every couple would be able to unite. For this reason, we now need to understand that the ideal origin of the creation of the universe cannot be established by telling others to live for your sake; instead, it is established by telling others to live for the sake of their object partners.

Then what is the Fall? Human

beings are meant to exist for God, and God is meant to exist for human beings. God established this principle by which they exist for the sake of each other. However, the Fall occurred when human beings went against this principle and began to focus on themselves. In other words, they tried to create a position for themselves in which everything would live for their sake, centered on themselves. That is the point where the Fall originated. In short, the application of the principle of the heavenly way began to fall apart.

Existing for others

In spite of that, if human beings had taken after God, if God had been able to educate them and if they had lived for God's sake, the realization of the ideal world would have been possible. Unfortunately, human beings did not do so but centered on themselves, emphasized their identity as separate from God, and then the Fall took place. The Bible clearly describes this.

Therefore, if we were to draw a formal conclusion now, it would be the principle that all ideal created beings exist for the sake of others. The

model is true parents, parents who are born for their children, who live for their children and who would die for their children. Such parents possess true love and true ideals. They possess true happiness and are the subject of true peace for their children. What would true filial children be like? They would appear to have been born for their parents and not for themselves, to live for their parents and not for themselves, and would be willing to give their lives for their parents.

Then what is the purpose behind a man coming into being? It is not for himself. He came into being for a woman. When a woman dresses in nice clothes and puts cosmetics on her face, for whom is she doing that? Does any woman do that for herself? She does it because of a man. The purpose of a woman's birth is a man. They exist for each other, so the moment they think that they were born for themselves, problems arise.

What, then, is an ideal husband like? Would an ideal husband say that his wife must always live for his sake? No. Where can you find a couple? Only when a man knows that he was born for his wife, is living for his wife and is ready to die for his wife, can his wife say, "Oh! He is the ideal husband and the eternal and unchanging subject partner of my love." Only a wife with such a husband can claim, "I am a happy wife." And we truly can say that only such a family can be a family at peace.

On the other hand, we know only too well that if a woman's husband were to say that she has to live for his sake, she would be unhappy. Based on this viewpoint, we have to praise God as the king of wisdom, for instituting this principle of existing for the sake of others as the origin of the creation of the universe.

Here we have reached a conclusion. At this point, we can establish the formula that only where one exists for the sake of others can true love, true ideals, true happiness and true peace begin. If God has established such a formula in the creation of the universe, through this formula alone can the love, the ideals, the happiness and the peace desired by God become possible. Otherwise, obviously we have to conclude that they cannot come about. ☞



희망 대한민국!

Hope for Korea!

True Mother gave this address at the Hope for Korea! National Harmony and Unity Spearhead Rally, on April 30, in Ilsan, Korea, to an audience of ambassadors for peace, political figures and Unificationists.



Let us think about how we can solve all the dark and gloomy problems that are occurring on earth today. The topic I hope to speak about to you today is "Heaven's providence and Korea's mission seen from the history of human civilization."

Originally, God the Creator made all things and then made Adam and Eve, who would become the ancestor of humankind, and he said that it was good. God gave Adam and Eve, who would become the ancestors of humankind responsibility. That responsibility was to go through the growth stages and live a life united with God's absolute position. However, during the growth stage the greed to look towards themselves formed. The greed of thinking "I can be the same as God" formed. Before the time was right, they made a mistake. Through that, the history of humankind ended up becoming the history of the Fall.

Almighty God

The omniscient and omnipotent God could not just stand back and watch fallen humankind. According to the principles underlying the Creation, he is a being in which the beginning and the end are the same. God cannot use the word "failure." That is why God had no choice but to begin the lonely and difficult history of the providence of restoration through indemnity to reach humankind.

Among the numerous fallen human beings, he chose the Israelites whom we could call a good people relative to others. How difficult must it have been that it took four thousand years to reach the standard from individual, family, tribe, race and nation? Then what happened when God sent his only son, Jesus Christ, who could have been the first ancestor that humankind longed for and who could realize God's dream of the purpose of creation? The Israelites, figures in Judaism, even Mary who gave birth to Jesus, and Zachariah's family could not fulfill their responsibilities. To protect Jesus, who came as the only son of God was their responsibility. In order for Jesus to become the True Parent, he had to meet the only daughter of God. Mary should have fulfilled her responsibility to create

that foundation. Mary should not have had [her own] family while Jesus was still living alone. We must make right this errant past.

Jesus left us with a promise

Jesus, who had lost the foundation, had no choice but to go the way of the cross. Therefore, he said he would return. He would return and hold the marriage supper of the Lamb. Jesus promised absolutely to realize the position of True Parent that he had been unable to realize in his lifetime. In order to do that, on the foundation of Christianity, believers had to fulfill the responsibility of giving birth to the only daughter of God. When God works through an individual or nation, he does not reuse a people that did not fulfill its responsibility. This is because the people that did not fulfill their obligations have indemnity they must pass through. Through history, we can see what kind of life the Israelites had lived.

Heaven chose a good people to give birth to the only daughter of God. That people is what is today the Republic of South Korea. In light of that, you all have responsibilities. We cannot repeat the mistake of the Israelites who were unable to fulfill their obligations. This is because your descendants would be left with indemnity. Do you understand?

After Jesus died on the cross, it took around three years for Christian culture finally to be accepted. The Christian culture, which began centered on the Italian Peninsula passed through Europe and arrived at the island nation of Britain, through which the age of the Atlantic Civilization developed. Through that, Britain "spread" to the world centered on the sea. "The sun never sets on the British Empire" was a means of describing Britain's power. However, people of the Christian faith, who did not know Jesus' true nature could not cast aside selfishness, even though they spoke of love. As a result, they had no choice but to retreat.

Jesus' essence

The true nature of Jesus is true love. True love, is love that gives and give, forgets it has given and gives again. Though the European nations that

achieved the realm of the Atlantic Civilization must have given something to the colonies they occupied, they made more effort to take. As a result, an environment developed in which the Atlantic Civilization could no longer be powerful.

It is also true, though, that all the European nations received the world's culture and through the Industrial Revolution were able to live prosperous lives. Yet, that was not a life lived for the sake of others. The mission of Christianity was to listen to Heaven's promise, when Jesus said he would return and hold the marriage supper of the lamb as he died on the cross, and prepare for that.

For those who represent Korean Christianity, obligation to fulfill that responsibility was theirs. However, there is no truth to Christianity. They do not even understand Jesus' true nature or how Heaven's providence is progressing. How can Christianity, which human thinking produced, crucify Jesus, who should have been attended as the True Parents, and leave him on the cross for two thousand years when saying they will be saved? This is disloyal and impious. However, they do not realize this. Now, on earth, the longed for wish of humankind, the only daughter of God and only son of God, the True Parents, have been born.

Under those circumstances, what must you do? There can be no perfection in ignorance. You must be aware of that. True Parents have been teaching you for fifty-some years, since the holy wedding, and have been teaching all the people of the world. At that time in 1960, the world had only around 3 billion people compared to the 7.4 billion now.

We are moving quickly

Do you see hope for the future? On your own, you cannot find hope. When you go forward united with True Parents, you have hope for the future. Do you understand? We proposed the IAPP in 2016! In only around ten months until we had spread throughout the six continents. In the US Senate Kennedy Caucus Room, around three hundred people came, all legislators. Around eighty US legislators participated. There, I said that the way to peace is through



Religious and political figures, core Unificationists, and True Family members, join True Mother onstage for a rally to increase momentum toward achieving Korean unity.

me! I proclaimed that they must unite with the only daughter of God, the True Parents. These are amazing, revolutionary words—the words that Jesus should have said two thousand years ago in the Roman Senate.

I have created this external foundation. Even though this nation had been facing difficulties and the world was in confusion seven hundred legislators came to this nation. Why did they come? I told them the way to peace is for each of them to return to their own nations where I asked them to fulfill their responsibilities as tribal messiahs. I told them to become messiahs. The establishment of IAPP chapters is continuing toward 120 nations. A few days ago, they inaugurated one in India, a nation with 1.3 billion people. Neither Christianity nor all of Buddhism has not been able to gain influence over Hinduism in India. However more than 120 legislators came and held a victorious inauguration.

They do not know how urgent this circumstance is but we can recognize that there are many people looking for the true owner! The True Parents. That is so. The wish of fallen

humankind is to go through the process of rebirth through the True Parents and become children of God, our Heavenly Parent.

Become the light of the East

How difficult of a course of waiting must Heavenly Parent have gone through? The six thousand years in the Bible is a long time, but the history of humankind is even longer. Now those of you here today must rise and teach the citizens of this nation about the advent of True Parents. Do you understand?

Your dream is to see North Korea and South Korea unite and to live in a peaceful world. The achievement of that dream cannot come through the power of politics, religion or a particular ideology. Only True Parents can trod that path.

One hundred years ago, the poet Tagore wrote a beautiful poem about us when we under colonization. It was prophetic: “In the golden age of Asia, Korea was one of its lamp-bearers and that lamp is waiting to be lighted once again for the illumination of the East.” What is light? Light is the true word, the truth. It is through the True Parents that the

truth became true.

That is why I would like to say this: Korea alone cannot resolve the problems in Korea. We have received the blessing of being God's homeland. Thus, all of us must fulfill our responsibilities. We must do it. We must show it through our actions. Then this people, this nation, can stand upright in this world as a nation where the only Heavenly Parent and True Parents can dwell.

The poem says we will become the light of the East, so together with the other nations of Asia, we must open the age of the Pacific Civilization and spread to the world.

If the age of the Atlantic Civilization, two thousand years ago, was a providence that collected and took away, the age of the Pacific Civilization will achieve the world humankind wants and Heavenly Parent wishes for, a world of one human family under God, which living for the sake of others centered on True Parents will achieve. Will you make that resolution and put it into practice? Let us advance and continue to advance until the day when with a heart of hyo jeong, we can give joy and praise to Heavenly Parent. ☯



Freeing Your Ancestors is Grace from True Parents

True Mother delivered this message at the 2017 Purification Azalea Festival at the Hyo Jeong Prayer-Wish Offering Ceremony for Restoration on May 6.





As Sun Jin nim, FFWPU international president; and In Sup nim, FFFWP international vice-president hold crystal bowls of pure water, representative church elders offer water soluble prayer wish papers on behalf of all those that attended Hyo Jeong Prayer-Wish Offering Ceremony for Restoration, during the Purification Azalea Festival.

Beloved blessed families! On your way here, what type of heart did you come with? Did you come with hearts of anticipation and gratitude? You all are joyful people. The course of heaven's providence in seeking fallen humankind has been very difficult. You have learned from the word how difficult was the course—the long period of four thousand years—until sending God's only son, Jesus Christ, was possible. ...

Christian culture is the providence of seeking God's only daughter, who had gone undiscovered at that time. However, Christians today do not know what is correct or how to overcome indemnity to meet the true owner. Heaven chose the Korean people, who were able to seek the foundation for God's only daughter and who found God's only daughter, born bare of all indemnity conditions and without original sin. ...

Since liberation, this nation has spent sixty-seven years between democracy and communism, unable to unite. No ideology or doctrine can do this. Neither religious nor economic strength can do it. Only through uniting with the True Parents, the true

owner, is unification possible. Today, you all have gathered at a very important place. This place—where you learned through the works of the holy spirit of Dae-mo nim, who gave birth to God's only daughter, instructed you through difficulties, and guided you on the path of becoming devoted children to Heavenly Parent and True Parents—is uniquely under True Parents' authority. That is why those of you who have gathered here today are at a connecting point of three eras. You are in the place where you can become historic central figures and historic ancestors of human beings of the past, present, and future. Your responsibility is to liberate all your ancestors, all those in the spirit world, who throughout history, until now, have been unable to meet True Parents.

I'm referring to ancestor liberation and ancestor blessing. Do you understand? That work cannot be done away from Cheongpyeong. Do not forget that as God's homeland this nation has the responsibility and mission to guide all the world's 7.4 billion people to Heaven's embrace. You must fulfill your responsibilities as tribal messiahs in your families.

Looking toward the future, you have received the opportunity to become ancestors that your descendants can be proud of for a long time.

Only three years remain until 2020. You must be victorious and proudly dedicate to Heavenly Parent this nation, in which God can dwell and reign freely. The owner of this nation is Heavenly Parent. Politicians say they will take responsibility for this nation. If such people exist, they must receive a seal from True Parents. Shouldn't a person who will establish a nation in which Heavenly Parent can spread his grand will freely, take on that responsibility? Therefore, it cannot end here. Christian culture spread to the world through the Atlantic civilization. We, centered on True Parents, together with other Asian nations will open the Pacific civilization, [and achieve] the dream our Creator, Heavenly Parent wishes for, one human family under God, the wish of all of humankind—nations of peace and happiness! I earnestly wish you to become proud, active workers for peace who will bind the world as one to create the kingdom of heaven on earth centered on God. ☩

The Path to Unification

This is an excerpt of True Mother's May 10 address on the thirtieth anniversary of the establishment of the Citizens Federation for the Unification of North and South Korea.




Distinguished leaders of various fields, Citizen's Federation members, ladies and gentlemen! Thank you for all your hard work.

At the time of our liberation, this nation, this people, divided along the lines of democratic and communist thought. The monarchy had ended, and this nation took the first steps toward democracy. Its name was the Republic of Korea, South Korea! Our anthem says, "Long live our nation under God's protection."

At the time of our liberation, northern and southern Korea divided and democratization began causing much confusion. North Korea united under Kim Il Sung's regime and waited to invade the South. In 1950, when it seemed that no choice remained but to become communist, sixteen UN member-nations participated in the war and young men shed blood. Why did that happen? Sixty some years have passed since the Korean War. Those from the sixteen nations that participated in the war must be old now. Before they left this world, we should have expressed ourselves,



"We will not forget you. Thank you." However, when no politicians gave them consideration, Rev. Moon sent the Little Angels to them to give them comfort and encouragement. At that time, they shed endless tears. In the human world, do you know how beautiful it is to be able to say thank you? Will we become a nation, citizens, who do not know to repay a debt?...

The unification of this people is not only Korea's problem. Korea, Japan—all nations in Asia must unite. The culture of heart revolution centered on True Parents and the era of the Pacific Civilization must begin through true love and living for the sake of others. I have prepared everything for that path. Members of the Citizen's Federation, ladies and gentlemen, you must all now reveal historical truths. You must hesitate no longer. I hope you can lead the way in revealing these truths and move toward the day this people will fulfill its responsibilities and you can stand facing the world as a central nation that others will remember forever. 



Lead the Pacific Rim Civilization

True Mother led a toast on May 19, at Cheon Jeong Gung during this victory celebration following True Parents' Special Gathering to Celebrate the Victorious and Hopeful March Forward of Korea, Japan and the United States. This is an excerpt of what she said on that occasion.

The Korean people were the chosen people, from among whom would come the True Parents, who could realize Heavenly Parent's dream, God's dream. When the Korean people divided into north and south and faced difficulties, Heaven once again took on the difficult task. Because of that, you all are under True Parent's realm of victory. With True Parents at the center, a new era will come, the Era of Cheon Il Guk, the era of the Pacific Rim civilization! They said the light would shine in the East. That light signifies truth. It is the word. Through the



word from True Parents, those in the central nations, Korea, Japan and the United States must become one and actualize lives of true love by living for the sake of others. You must pledge to lead the Pacific Rim civilization with hearts eternally expressing hyo jeong toward Heaven. When I say "victory," you say victory three times.

We offer this in front of heaven: We will become the key figures in the Pacific Rim civilization to absolutely achieve God's dream, True Parents' dream and the desire of humankind and achieve victory. [Victory! Victory! Victory!] ㄸ



Be a Mother-Nation to the World

This is an excerpt of the message True Mother delivered at the 2017 Mother's Day Hyo Jeong Peace Festival in Tokyo's Ariake Coliseum on May 14.





True Mother in Ariake Coliseum, in Tokyo standing above thousands of carnations, a gift from loving members on Mother's Day in Japan.

On this Mother's Day, I accept your beautiful hearts with gratitude.


Earlier, many congratulatory messages spoke of this dark and sorry world. There is no owner. Regarding that point, we need to recognize historical truths... The two thousand years of the Christian providence should have developed the foundation for God's only daughter to be born, whom Jesus should have met. Christianity began through the work of the Holy Spirit. After three hundred years, Rome acknowledged Christianity, which spread from the Italian Peninsula across Europe to reach the island of Britain, and the Atlantic Civilization began to blossom. You must listen carefully to the following: Geopolitically, island nations admire peninsulas and continents. Britain, with its Christian foundation, began to spread its domain to surrounding Atlantic nations and the world. However, in the end, they did not understand Christ's true nature and they became a civilization that pillaged. Therefore, the Atlantic Civilization reached its limit.

Due to the history of mistakes caused by individuals, Heaven blessed us with democracy to create an environment in which we could not fail. Heaven also prepared the only daughter of God, promised to Jesus. That took place on the Korean Peninsula, in Korea.

Along with liberation, Korea divided—democratic and communist. Under the Kim Il Sung regime, the North was prepared to attack and the South had not yet found its footing as a democratic nation. In 1950, the Korean War began. At that time, why did Heaven mobilize and send UN Forces from sixteen nations? This was because it was God's dream, humankind's wish, to accomplish his dream through the True Parents, who could become humankind's ancestors. The nation that gave birth to True Parents could not become a communist nation. Therefore, miraculously the UN Forces mobilized. This is the historical truth...

I heard that more than four thousand young people have gathered here today. In the many nations of Asia, I plan to raise ten thousand young people through their partici-

pating in the Top Gun Workshop. They will go out, not only to Asia, but to the world. Will the Japanese Top Guns and other Japanese young members also be a part of this?

You must know True Parents. You must look to True Parents to solve all the problems in the world and in Japan. The Unificationist Church, the Family Federation, is the movement that attends God, who has absolute authority as the Creator, the Heavenly Parent. Therefore, in order to realize the dream of all of the world's people becoming one human family under God, Japan, the Eve nation—all of you—must go as a mother to the world and make the utmost effort to educate and unite all humankind as brothers and sisters. Today on Mother's Day, you must embrace the world with the heart of a mother. In order to do that, I ask those of you who have gathered here today to lead the way and become great, historic key players. Will you do that? I hope that Japan's 130 million citizens will form a mother-nation that will embrace the world through practicing true love and living for the sake of others. 

The World's Greatest Mother

On May 14, at Ariake Coliseum, Tokyo, Sun Jin Moon, the international president of FFWPU introduced True Mother on the occasion of the 2017 Mother's Day Hyo Jeong Culture Festival. This is what she said that day.

By Sun Jin Moon



Dear precious and beloved brothers and sisters of Japan, *Minasan Konnichiwa!* [Hello, everyone!]

What a breathtaking inspiration it is to be here today. It is truly an honor to stand on this stage in the presence of twelve thousand providential champions who absolutely attend our Heavenly Parent and True Parents.

We have gathered here on this glorious Mother's Day to honor our True Parents, to pay tribute to the true filial heart of the Japanese movement and to celebrate the first Mother's Day Hyo Jeong Culture Festival in Tokyo.

It is no coincidence that we celebrate this day in Tokyo, Japan with our eminent True Mother on the official Mother's Day holiday. Our mother nation, Japan, has been our movement's true model of "hyo jeong" attendance, its beloved sons and daughters living for the sake of the world! There is no doubt in my mind that we are here with Heavenly Parent's and True Parents' absolute blessing, admiration, love and grace.

What makes this day so very memorable and inspiring is the fact



- ① True Mother and Sun Jin nim flanked by Song Yong-cheon, chairman of the Federation of Blessed Couple Associations in Japan and Lee Hae-ok, his wife.
- ② True Mother receives a gift of ceramic cranes.
- ③ True Mother's appearance on Japan's Mother's Day attracted an audience of twelve thousand.
- ④ She had come based on FFWPU-Tokyo establishing a 10,000-member foundation.
- ⑤ Tokuno Eiji, president of FFWPU-Japan, gave the welcoming address.
- ⑥ A woman reads a congratulatory poem
- ⑦ Entertainers helped celebrate the event's theme, "A world of peace through happy families and a lively Japan."

that the greatest mother of all time, our one and only beloved True Mother, has come to Japan to be one with our Japanese family. True Mother comes here to share her loving heart and to convey encouragement, absolute faith, confidence, and hope that our mother nation, Japan, shall be victorious in fulfilling Vision 2020. We are truly blessed to be here today in the Mother nation, celebrating this Mother's Day, as one united family under God with our beloved, gorgeous True Mother!

We have learned from our True Parents that God, our Heavenly Parent, has both masculine and feminine characteristics. While we refer to God as Heavenly Parent, to indicate a single, unified entity, we understand that at the very source and origin of our universe is also the heavenly mother's heart. We know that the substantial manifestation or incarnation of the Heavenly Parent cannot be achieved fully through a single masculine or feminine being. Heavenly Parent and the world have been waiting for the victory of True Parents. Without True Parents, there would be no completion of the

four-position foundation. True Children and blessed, central families would be an impossible dream. Without True Parents, there would be no salvation, grace or blessing and we would all still be in darkness.

We must carry the absolute heart of "hyo jeong," a true filial heart, and live in complete gratitude to True Parents with absolute love, faith and attendance. We must be the proud sons and daughters of our Heavenly Parent and True Parents and bring this world to the light as one family under God.

For ninety-two years, the world was so deeply and profoundly blessed to have our True Father, prepared by Heaven as the only son and called by Jesus, walking the earth, traveling the world, and unceasingly speaking the complete truth of heaven.

And, for the past seventy-four years, the world has been equally and most profoundly blessed by the presence of our True Mother, prepared by heaven as the only daughter, and as the long awaited bride that completes the position of True Parents, standing in the position that had been lost at the time of the Fall.

Humankind has existed from the beginning without its True Mother. We have lived in utter darkness and suffering for millennia. If you reflect on the history of our world, we observe that there has never been a completed, center point that harmonized all life and creation. True Parents—True Father and True Mother—are that absolute and eternal center point.

For fifty-two years on earth, True Mother served as the true wife and the true love partner to her husband. Over a period of twenty years, she gave birth to fourteen beautiful, precious True Children, establishing the True Family here on earth. Together, as one absolute perfected couple, our True Parents have fulfilled and completed everything so that humanity could achieve total liberation.

Since True Father's passing four and a half years ago, we have witnessed the emergence of our True Mother in ways that exceeded all our expectations and dreams. We are truly blessed to have our True Mother with us. From the time of the Holy Wedding in 1960, she worked side by



side with our True Father every single day.

Is there anyone who can claim to know True Father more than True Mother? Can any child fathom the full essence and depth of the parent?

Only True Mother knows the deepest heart and soul, the tears, the longings, the hopes and dreams, of our True Father and our Heavenly Parent. Indeed, it is that absolute complete oneness with Heavenly Parent and True Father, day in and day out, that inspires and guides our True Mother as she leads our movement forward to victory.

On this day, I am sure that True Father is filled with infinite happiness and comfort to see our True Mother here in the Mother Nation, Japan. Although True Parents often pushed our Japanese brothers and sisters time and time again to fulfill incredible goals, True Parents have the greatest love, respect and gratitude for our Japanese members. The mother nation, like our True Mother, has given everything to complete the providence.

By gracing this event today with her presence, True Mother is giving

us the ultimate divine blessing and sacred honor. This day will be recorded eternally as a turning point in the providence centered on Japan, a day of greatest blessing for the mother nation as you move forward to achieve victory in fulfilling Vision 2020 and establishing the nation of Cheon Il Guk.

I am confident that Japan can do it! Are you confident? Can you do it? Brothers and sisters, we have such a precious opportunity on this day, to hear directly from our True Mother. We have come together on this day as one family under God, centered on our beloved True Father in heaven and our beloved True Mother in Japan.

This is the day of glory, the day of cosmic spring, a day of infinite blessing and eternal joy. Now, the moment we have been waiting for is to welcome our beloved True Mother onstage.

We will have a ceremony to offer flowers of appreciation. Let us rise together and let us give our deepest, most powerful and most loving welcome to our beloved True Mother. *Arigatogozaimashita. Happy Mother's Day. Minasan Aishitemasu."* ㊦

Hope for Korea!



- ① True Mother speaking on the theme "Let's open a new era of a unified Korea with real love for Korea" at Kintex II, a huge venue situated in the confluence of several metropolitan areas.
- ② Sun Jin nim signing her name to the declaration
- ③ Ryu Kyeong-seuk, president of FFWPU-Korea was the mc for the event.
- ④ Jo Myeon-jeol, a North Korean professor who came south in 1994., where he served one term as a South Korean legislator, spoke.
- ⑤ Kim Seon-dong a national assemblyman with the Korea Liberty Party, said, "Now is the time to move toward a new Republic of Korea with an embracing spirit, seeking harmony beyond division and confrontation."
- ⑥ Mainly ambassadors for peace and other societal figures attended the event.

- ① True Mother speaking at the 2017 Purification Azalea Festival to thousands of faithful members
- ② Elder members bearing prayer wish papers
- ③ FFWPU International President Moon and her husband Vice-President Park
- ④ Entertainment to further enhance a beautiful experience





Citizens Federation 30th Anniversary



- ① True Mother presided over the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Citizens' Federation for the Unification of North and South Korea on May 10, in the 63 Building, Seoul
- ② Hoon Sook nim, Yeon Ah nim, Sun Jin nim, In Jin nim and In Sup nim join True Mother onstage
- ③ True Mother gave awards to all past chairmen of the Citizens' Federation
- ④ A public pledge by those longing to see their nation returned to unity.
- ⑤ Cheers of Og Mansei filled the hall and resounded even to the far north



Korea, Japan and the United States March Forward



1



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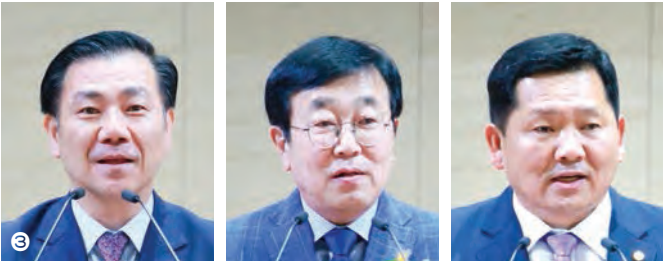
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- 1 True Mother cuts a cake.
- 2 A ceremony for harmony and unity in which earth mixed together was distributed to leaders representing Korean Japan and the United States.
- 3 Cho Sung-il, director general of the FFWPU International Headquarters, prayed.
- 4 Yun Young-ho, deputy chief of staff of True Mother's Secretariat, was the emcee.
- 5 The Little Angels, who have had a great deal of international exposure, warmed the hearts of all.

Dedication of the Busan District Family Church



- ① A beautiful new church dedicated by True Parents
- ② Kim Hyeong-jeong, district pastor for Busan attends True Mother as she holy salts the new building.
- ③ Baek Jong-heon, a City Council member; Seo, Byeong-su, mayor of Busan; and Pastor Kim all spoke during the dedication service.
- ④ True Mother, True Children, Unificationist on the regional, national and local level as well as Busan civic leaders all took part in the consecration of this new church.
- ⑤ A commemorative photograph



Global Efforts to Reach True Parents' Expectations

This is an excerpt of a presentation given on March 29 to the National Pastors Assembly for a Victorious Fifth Year of Cheong Il Guk at the Cheongpyeong Heaven and Earth Training Center.

By Cho Sung-il



I would like to discuss our global activities centered on True Parents and begin by reading some excerpts of True Mother's speeches to share what she has been emphasizing and repeating recently. On September 17, 2015, True Parents said, "From now on, our providence, True Parents' providence, is to search for a nation. With the world as the object, we should meet God with at least seven nations at a restored standard by 2020. The church needs to grow in order to restore the nation. Church growth means that we need more families that are blessed. By doing this, ours can become a good nation, God's homeland. You must teach others about True Parents while awake or asleep."

After last year's commemoration of True Father's seonghwa, during the closing ceremony of the Cheon Il Guk Leaders' Assembly, True Parents said, "The faster you testify to and teach about True Parents, the better. Please invest yourselves wholeheartedly and work quickly. In so doing, you will bring happiness to Heavenly Parent."

After True Father ascended, True Mother's extreme devotion has filled every day of the past four years. Every day she has been on the front line as she expanded the work of the providence. When we go in for our meeting at 6:30 each morning, Mother has already been communicating with Father about many things. In the room Father had used as his study, she has already offered devotions, read hoondokhae and had breakfast. On the foundation of completing all this, she then receives reports from around the world. When Mother gives us new guidelines, when she speaks briefly, it lasts an hour or an hour and a half. At other times, she listens to reports and speaks until lunch, eats lunch at her desk and then continues listening to reports. She spends day after day like that.

For the sake of global and national restoration, True Parents created the overall strategic framework of witnessing, creating an environment for witnessing, and cultivating future talent. We have directed each region and each district to work toward these three strategic themes for national restoration. For the witnessing part, True Mother gave us the keywords "heavenly tribal messiahs" and the "True Family Movement." Providential institutions are in charge of this, so many activities are proceeding. With the focus on issues related to three key terms, "peace," "environment" and



Prof. Gil teaches members the interactive skills needed to persuade people. He guides them to become coaches to help others come to their own conclusions and solve their own problems.

“human rights.” Members throughout the world are working passionately in their heavenly tribal messiah activities. Korea, Japan, and the United States are working hard in their activities, but a few other nations have held not only church activities but also activities in society. I would like to give a few examples of these blessing activities.

The Philippines

First, in the Philippines, the heavenly tribal messiah blessing ceremonies have become a mainstream pan-societal movement; they are currently producing many blessed families. The population of the Philippines exceeds a hundred million. In the future, the influence of the Philippines in Asia will increase. When we look at the nation in its entirety, no one else has been able to solve problems related to purity and in families.

Looking at that aspect, our blessing and Pure Love activities through heavenly tribal messiah efforts are atop a foundation of those responsible for the nation and for local governments having listened to the Divine Principle and having had spiritual experiences; thus, blessings by heavenly tribal messiahs are developing on a large scale. The Philippines will become a nation where activities develop that lead to church growth.

To this point, over the last three years, we have blessed around 130,000 couples, and among those, around thirty thousand couples have gone through witnessing programs and have become members. The 130,000 couples have participated in a two-day Divine Principle workshop and have completed the forty-day separation period and the three-day ceremony. At the national, district and tribal levels, those in positions of responsibility have heard Divine Principle lectures and after receiving the blessing are gathering all their people under them. In the Philippines, our heavenly tribal messiah activities are developing on an organizational level.

Nepal

Recently, after receiving the blessing, many difficulties arose in the next step, that of persuading people to become members. Therefore, Prof. Gil Young Hwan, who had been very active in Korea, is now touring. He’s going directly out to the field to teach members how to create Home Group systems. We are seeing a swift increase in members.

The second country is Nepal, in which True Parents have strong interest. Nepal’s population is around thirty million. Notably, beginning from 2005, True Parents have invested a lot into Nepal. True Parents visited often. In Nepal, because their heavenly tribal messiah blessing ceremonies have developed into a major societal activity, many blessed families are forming. Ek Nath Dhakal, a special envoy, in an attempt to reach all Nepalese, has directly taught Unification Thought and the Divine Principle with an aim of reaching all Nepalese citizens. One thing that surprised me was that no matter whom I met, ambassadors for peace or government officials, an environment existed for speaking naturally about heavenly tribal messiah activities, the Divine Principle, and the blessing. In addition, recently over a television channel called 24-News, our Nepalese church broadcasts its worship service from 11:00 to 12:00 on the last Saturday of every month. We can see that our influence in society there is increasing.

They have cultivated many young people as mid-level leaders and dispatched them to each district. Last year, four hundred young people met our movement, went to a twenty-one-day workshop and then went out to seventy centers. In those centers, they persuaded couples who had received the



Youth Leadership seminars are a means of introducing young people to our movement and to the Divine Principle.



A view inside a Cambodian center: Members there have been actively holding blessing ceremonies and Pure Love activities.

blessing from heavenly tribal messiahs to join the church. We can see that the role of these mid-level leaders is broadening in the centers. By focusing on these youth leaders, large-scale Pure Love campaigns, which can save the nation, are increasing. Nepal has around fifty thousand schools, from preschools to universities. Among them, they are developing a youth Pure Love movement in 434 universities and high schools. We have Pure Love Pledge events, through which as a means of witnessing we connect good students to Divine Principle workshops.

In Nepal, the ambassador for peace foundation is large. We already have appointed five thousand people who collectively have the power to move the nation.

Southeast Asia

Thailand is a Buddhist nation under a military-backed government. Yet local governments signed Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with us, a religious organization, based on our activities, such as those by heavenly tribal messiahs, or the Pure Love movement; thus, many activities ensued. After winning a twenty-one-year legal fight, we have carried out many activities as the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification. Among those involved, the one who worked hardest, Dr. Lek, was also the first to accomplish the heavenly tribal messiah mission. Based on his success, many other families have accomplished the mission of blessing 430 couples. They have been doing the amazing work of even guiding couples who have received the blessing to become members.

Thailand has seventy-seven provinces, the governors of which are responsible for the overall care of the citizens. Among those provinces, fifty-three have signed MOUs with us. With these MOUs, two types of activities have developed. The first is two-day workshops that government officials are participating in. They proceed in this way: First, provincial government officials go through a two-day Divine Principle workshop followed by the blessing ceremony. Then, those officials bring the people under them to Divine Principle workshops and a blessing ceremony. This is the current state of blessing activities. They hold many other church activities, too.

The first official to hear the Divine Principle was a district governor in Kalasin Province, named Ronnachit Phutthala. It moved him and he went on to receive the blessing. After receiving the blessing, the governor and his wife finished the forty-day separation period and the three-day ceremony; on the last night, they both had the same dream. The governor dreamed of True Parents, as did his wife. True Parents appeared to them in this spiritual way. When they discussed their dreams, they genuinely felt that the blessing was significant. After that, Governor Ronnachit began a campaign to bless all three hundred thousand people in his district. To date around 15,000 people from his district have received the blessing.

In addition, through Governor Ronnachit, the district government signed an MOU with FFWPU. Thai public officials are learning the Divine Principle. This makes me think of the 1970s and the Victory Over Communism campaigns, when we taught our Victory Over Communism ideology to Korean regional government leaders.

Thai society has many problems, such as people losing their purity at a young age. Adulterous and lewd activities abound but no one has been able to find a solution. Since we were continuously active, the government's Ministry of Education wanted to meet us and signed an MOU with us. Currently, we are organizing many Pure Love activities with the Ministry of Education and local governments.

Members go for two days and teach students about purity, not only purity but also character education, to show them how they can save their nation. They are teaching Divine Principle to the



Mr. Ronnachit Phutthala, head of the Kalasin District in Thailand and his wife receive a gift from True Mother at Cheon Jeong Gung.



Mr. Ronnachit Phutthala, head of the Kalasin District in Thailand and his wife receive a gift from True Mother at Cheon Jeong Gung.

leaders they meet while doing this work and witnessing to the young people. In Buriram Province, with the cooperation of the governor and his officials, 5,300 people took part in a one-day Pure Love campaign.

Next, I will speak about Cambodia, which is next to Thailand. Cambodia is infamous for their “Killing fields.” Massacres took the lives of around three million people at that time. Recently, though, the government has accepted the FFWPU and UPF ideologies. The Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Youth have given their enthusiastic support, and we have conducted large-scale Pure Love activities. Some eighteen families have already fulfilled the blessing goal and the heavenly tribal messiah mission. Battambang is the second-most important city, similar to Busan in Korea. There, members focus on blessing activities. They have been holding blessing ceremonies in government buildings. They have been holding them on a large scale.

In the African regions, activities are extremely intense. I think that Africa is doing well for two reasons: One is that an aspect of the culture in Africa focuses on tribal chiefs. When we restore the head of a tribe, he becomes like a heavenly tribal messiah. By focusing on that tribal chief, all the people under him learn the Divine Principle and receive the blessing. Then the entire village can achieve restoration. We are conducting these types of activities. In Zambia, which has fifteen million people, they have 235 tribes. The larger tribes have up to three hundred thousand people. To date, more than twenty tribal chiefs have received the blessing.

We are currently progressing in this way, blessing the tribal chiefs, and then through those tribal chiefs, we are restoring entire tribes. One very inspirational incident happened during the last International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP) inauguration, in East Africa. At that time, Zambia’s political situation was extremely unstable. We wanted to hold the inauguration at the National Assembly, but the government told us it would be too dangerous. Based on that assessment, we would not have been able to use their National Assembly, but then seventy tribal chiefs, who collectively lead the nation and had participated in four-day Divine Principle workshops, arose to say they would take responsibility. Thus, we were able to hold the inauguration at the National Assembly and proclaim True Parents’ providence.

Africa

In Kenya, we see a different approach. In the African regions, Kenya especially has many Christian churches; unlike Korea, depending on the pastor, policies differ greatly between churches. However, many of those pastors, archbishops and bishops have gone through four-day workshops and have received the blessing. In Africa, many members of the clergy are married. We focus on those people, blessing them first. Then working with those leaders, pastors and bishops, we are witnessing and blessing people as entire groups. This is how blessings are happening on a large scale in Kenya.

The Democratic Republic of Congo is the country where churches have the most influence. DR Congo’s population is around eighty million. In the midst of that, we have around seventy churches and around twelve thousand central members. At the end of last year, we were able to connect with another religious group. Already the head of that religious group has come to HJ Cheonwon. True Parents received him, and he studied True Parents’ ideology and promised to work with us.

Church of God, a religious group in the Republic of South Africa, has around eight million members. The leader of the group came to the last World Summit. He saw True Parents’ foundation and



Couples settle in before a blessing ceremony in the Democratic Republic of Congo.



Following a blessing ceremony in Zambia, the couples came out into the sunshine for a group photograph.

said their teachings would save South Africa. We are doing this work to restore the entire Church of God religious group.

Other than this, we are doing many activities in places such as Europe and the US. Last year, we held an event in the Kennedy Caucus Room in the United States Congress. True Parents went to America, working for the providence. At the ACLC conference, True Parents said that ACLC members must all receive the blessing. True Mother testified about the True Parents. After that, all the top leaders of ACLC held a meeting with our US FFWPU Family Department. Then, last week, for the first time, 440 couples, the entire congregation of one church, received the blessing all at once and could make a fresh start as blessed families. Amazing accomplishments are occurring in the United States. Please give a round of applause.

In 1979, True Parents said the following:

A theology professor in America said, "If Rev. Moon dies, the Unification Church will fail." However, this is not so. If I die, spiritual works will multiply by ten, by a hundred. I will work night and day without sleeping. I will work without rest. When I can work as I wish in the land of freedom, I will be able to restore, ten million, tens of millions of people.

Recently, throughout the world, in places where our members work for national restoration and do heavenly tribal messiah work with fervent hearts, True Father has appeared and worked with them. Amazing occurrences are happening around the world. Let us give a round of applause to encourage all blessed families who are working hard around the world.

Next, I will speak about cultivating future talent globally. The next five years may be the last opportunity for blessing and Divine Principle education for our second-generation members. Regarding that, every year, looking at just Japan and Korea, each year four thousand to five thousand second-generation members are students in each year of middle and high school.

The future success or failure of the unification movement truly depends on how well we teach them about the blessing and what standard we set. After True Father's seonghwa, True Mother showed strong leadership through her many activities. Right now, we have 970 students from Sunhak UPA, 1,200 students from Global Top Gun and almost six hundred Cheon Il Guk youth missionaries. Through the Wonmo Pyeongae Scholarship programs, we have helped around six thousand students. Other than these, through special HJ Cheonwon workshops and other workshops, True Parents have been directly involved in educating more than fourteen thousand second- and third-generation members over the past four years. Isn't this amazing? Let us give a round of applause to True Mother for cultivating future leaders from among our second-generation.

True Parents have truly created a thorough strategy for us to work toward national and global restoration through witnessing, creating a witnessing atmosphere and cultivating future talent. Over the last two years, we've laid a thorough global foundation in the field; in two more years, through the Sunhak Peace Prize and the World Summit, the global foundation will return to Korea. I would like to end my report by saying that if the 1,200 leaders and spouses here set off with determination, I am confident we can absolutely restore Korea. Thank you very much. 

Mr. Cho is the director-general of the FFWPU International Headquarters.

What is Good for the Region is Good for the Nation

Paraguay, which was the birthplace of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace for our Central America and the Caribbean region launched IAPP on the Paraguayan level in April.

Left to right: Cynthia Elizabeth Tarrago Díaz is president of the recently launched national chapter of IAPP in Paraguay; Héctor Lucio Lesme is vice-president. Both are legislators. Evaristo Fernández, president of UPF-Paraguay



On April 25, UPF inaugurated the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace—Paraguay chapter, at the Bourbon Convention Hotel in Asuncion, the nation’s capital. Intense rain that had fallen for hours that day had subsided before the event began. Taking part in this important and historic event were 122 people, a number of them legislators in the nation’s bicameral National Congress—from the Chamber of Senators and the Chamber of Deputies. Some ex-senators and deputies were also on hand.

All of them expressed a commitment to accomplishing universal peace. The event drew politicians, members of the diplomatic corps, figures from universities, media, various foundations and members of the three branches of the Paraguayan government. Several mayors of municipalities, including those in major cities in the central departments

[states or provinces], which surround “Greater Asuncion,” felt drawn to the national-level founding of IAPP.

The national organization

On this occasion, appointments took place of the IAPP president, vice-president and secretary-general. Deputy Cynthia Elizabeth Tarrago Díaz, who was noticeably supportive and active at the regional-level inauguration, is president. Deputy Héctor Lucio Lesme is vice-president and Dr. Michelle Byun is the secretary-general. Dr. Yang Chang-shik, Rev. Shin Dongmo, and Special Envoy Seo Sung-jong came to the opening night of the IAPP.

Dr. Luis Federico Franco Gómez (president of the Republic of Paraguay 2012–2013) said, near the end of the program, “I thank, first of all, the founders of the Universal Peace Federation, Father and Mother Moon, for their long service and dedication in favor of peace. I encourage our

compatriots, legislators, to dedicate themselves with love for the environment, in the protection of indigenous peoples and to ensure human rights without discrimination. You cannot disillusion the people, who have deposited their confidence in you; you are obliged to maintain loyalty and fidelity to those people who expect much of each of you. Finally, I want to tell Dr. Yang that Paraguay and Korea are two sister nations, and that Paraguay always opens its doors to the noble Korean people.”

Deputy Cynthia Elizabeth Tarrago Díaz said the following:

As president of the Network of Parliamentarians of Latin America, it is a genuine honor to offer you the most cordial welcome to this gala dinner that gives a starting point to the IAPP. First, I would like to thank the International Association of Parlia-



Below: Dr. Luis Federico Franco Gómez, president of Paraguay 2012-2013; Above: The banquet that followed the inaugural event.



mentarians for Peace, from the groups of which hundreds of parliamentarians from different Latin American countries have chosen a woman and Paraguayan representative to lead this [initiative in Latin America]. It is a position that honors me and deepens my commitment. We, as parliamentarians, have a high commitment toward the fight for the defense of elementary human rights, the environment and the fight against poverty as tools for the installation of peace at the global level. During the World Summit of Parliamentarians held last February in Seoul, Korea, more than a hundred and fifty congressional representatives from forty-one countries formed this association. I am convinced that by organizing ourselves in this globalized world and by adding noble objectives such as those FFWPU proposed,

we can greatly alleviate humanity's global problems. Finally, I want to reiterate my commitment to the fight for peace at all levels of society, because peace emerges from our homes, our institutions and governments. From the heart of South America, I launch my call for world peace and my prayers for a world of tolerance and equality. Thank you very much.

Deputy Héctor Lucio Lesme, the newly installed vice-president of IAPP-Paraguay, said, "It is an honor for me to share this important moment in the history of Paraguay, to be founding the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace in our country. Although we have moved forward in technology, we have problems relating to one another. This should not be the case, we must engage in dialogue and develop understanding and solidarity in a Christian and multi-party democracy. The IAPP will become a "legal tool" for humanity's welfare, and as an organization we are inaugurating, we must move forward with strong steps to advocate for world peace."

Among the Paraguayan parliamentarians at the inauguration were thirteen members of the National Republican Association (the Colorado

Party)—the ANR; six members of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party—the PLRA; and one independent parliamentarian. Also on hand was one member of PARLASUR, the legislative body of MERCOSUR, a trade and political bloc comprising Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay, and normally Venezuela (the bloc suspended Venezuela's membership in December 2016). Among diplomats attending the event were Federico José Perazza Scapino, the Uruguayan ambassador to Paraguay; Víctor Cuevas, ambassador of Paraguay to Mexico; Federico González Franco, the ambassador of Paraguay to Argentina; and representatives from the embassies of Spain and Peru. Also attending the event were highly situated administrative officials, such as the governor of the Central Department Blas Antonio Lanzoni ("department" equates with "state" or "prefecture"); intendant (which equates with "mayor") of the city of Ñemby, Lucas Lanzoni; intendant of the city of San Antonio, Raul Mendoza; intendant of the city of Mariano Roque Alonzo, Carolina Aranda; intendant of the city of Capitá, Luis González; and Daniel Báez, intendant of the city of Julián Augusto Saldívar. *TP*

A TPmagazine staff member wrote this article.

Solomon Islands CARP Reenergized

On Friday, April 21, Rev. Jong-deuk Yoo, regional director of Oceania, arrived at Honiara International Airport in the Solomon Islands. All the blessed families and other members in the nation felt God’s grace and renewed hope through his visit.

Background on the nation

The Solomon Islands is a nation covering (cumulatively) 29,000 sq. km. (11,000 mi.), much of it rugged mountains. Albania, Burundi, Haiti and Belgium are similar in size. A quarter of the population of 600,000 lives in urban areas. The capital city, Honiara, is home to 74,000 people. In the Solomon Islands, owing to the primarily mountainous terrain, only about 4 percent of the land is dedicated for agriculture. Many Solomon Islanders are involved in the fishing and forestry industries.

The first settlers arrived in the Solomon Islands 32,000 years ago. The ancestors of most of the people living in the island group today arrived around 3,300 years ago. Six major islands and nine hundred small islands make up the Solomon Islands. The people are mainly Melanesian, 3 percent of the population is Polynesian and a bit over 1 percent is Micronesian. Several thousand Chinese people also live in the Solomon Islands.

Honiara is on the island Guadalcanal. The first major battle between Japan and the United States, a horrific confrontation from August 1942 to February 1943 took place mainly on islands of Guadalcanal, Tulaga and Florida in the southern Solomon Islands. The Battle of Guadalcanal cost

at least 23,000 lives, Solomon Islanders and Australians among them.

CARP members come together

On Saturday, a two-day CARP gathering began. The question the assembled Unificationists sought to answer over those two days was, Why is it important to educate young people to have good character? The meeting began with opening remarks by Rev. Yoo. He encouraged the young people and others that attended the CARP event to understand the value of a human life. He then asked them, “What makes a man different from a woman? Is it his hair or his beard? No, it is our sexual organs. The key to your sexual organ is your future spouse, so you should keep your sexual organ carefully and keep it

protected.” Everyone’s eyes opened wide. It was the first time we had heard such a thing. It reminded all the old CARP members who were there at event of True Father’s spirit when he would talk to CARP members in the earliest days of W-CARP.

A lecture contest

In order to hone their witnessing and public speaking skills, CARP held a lecture contest. Abel Kotali, from the Solomon Islands National University (SINU); Joyceline Ben, from the University of the South Pacific; Doris D Pauku, from St. Nicholas College and Linda Puia, also from SINU were the judges.

The third-place winner highlighted our movement as one of the most outstanding organizations for provid-



Solomon Island leaders meet with their regional president.



A unified family, working hard to bring Heavenly Parent's grace and blessings to the Solomon Islands.

ing character education for young people, because we provide young people Divine Principle, core-value and character education lectures, which she herself has attended. She also observed the value of this education through her younger sister who is also a CARP member.

The second-place winner is active in the church as well as in CARP. She highlighted the character education material well all throughout her presentation. The ultimate winner gave more examples in a Solomon Islands context. She contextualized her speech by referring to the Solomon Islands' current situation and gave very valid reasons why it is important to educate the character of the young people of the Solomon Islands.

The judges gave supportive feedback. The chief judge said, "There has never been any speech contest held for university students. This is the first one we have ever held and the topic was fitting." She is in fact one of our country's senior judges. She told us that the cooperation, bravery and the high quality leadership skills displayed by the CARP students moved her. Judge Doris D Pauku said she would tell her children to join the CARP activities because they were at the CARP members' age.

CARP members then entertained

the audience with music and a Tong-Il Mudo demonstration that showcased CARP's fighting spirit. Everyone then enjoyed lunch together.

Our CARP Sunday service

The following day, Rev. Yoo gave a sermon titled Let's Unite. His main points were that Heavenly Parent takes responsibility and chooses us from this evil world to work for his providence in a similar manner to his calling Abraham. As people working for God's will, we can see miracles happen when we unite. We need to change our lifestyle from one that is centered on ourselves to one that is centered on God. In pursuit of that, we might even change our names, as True Parents have sometimes done for leaders. Beyond our names, we need

to change our innermost hearts and go from being self-centered to God centered.

Our regional director's visit to the Solomon Islands is a great blessing for Solomon Islands providence. All blessed families, second-generation members, young members and CARP students here in the Solomon Islands felt so much hope for the advancement of Heavenly Parent and True Parents' providence in our nation. We appreciate Rev. Jong Deug Yoo for giving us such deep blessings and renewed optimism during the days he spent with us. Our CARP team is moving forward toward victory in Vision 2020. 

CARP-Solomon Islands submitted all but the background information for this article.



A service project: Cleaning up a local neighborhood

A Peace Campaign to Restore the Nation

Recent developments in Benin



An assemblage of Cheon Il Guk leaders from throughout the West Africa region at the Peace Embassy in Benin

Benin is a nation of about eleven million people on the southern coast of West Africa. Benin's shape resembles a key. It has a 121-kilometer-long coast on the Gulf of Guinea on the underside of the West African "bulge." Benin's eastern and western borderlines rise from the coast straight north from there, roughly parallel, 120-some kilometers apart, like the shaft of the key, for about 190 miles (305 km) and then the territory broadens out in a shape that is roughly reminiscent of the head of the key. It is similar in size to Honduras, Bulgaria and Cuba.

Benin had once been Dahomey, a kingdom that arose in the 1600s and was a regional power when France began gradually asserting her mili-

tary power in West Africa. By the late 1880s, Benin came under French control. France incorporated Benin into French West Africa in 1904. French Dahomey achieved independence in 1960; it changed its name to the Republic of Benin in 1975. In that year, it became one of our original 1975 mission countries. The official language of Benin is French. The most common native languages in the south, where the vast majority of the population resides, are Fon and Yoruba and at least six other vernacular languages are common in the north.

Benin uses a three-tier geographic organization. The nation has twelve departments, which are like prefectures, provinces or states; seventy-seven communes—smaller units within

departments and 545 arrondissements within the communes, which may contain rural villages or urban districts or neighborhoods. Her capital is Porto-Novo and the seat of government is Cotonou.

Our movement in Benin

Benin has about two thousand members. Members are active in the main cities of the country from north to south. They have a huge church center in Cotonou, covering about three thousand square meters. As early as 2006, Benin was one of the first nations in the world to have appointed thirty times more ambassadors for peace (2,490), than they had parliamentarians (83), a goal True Father had given to each nation at that time.



▲ One of the first missionaries to Benin; still going strong, Kathy Rigney

▼ Speaking to members of the community in Benin; people-to-people contact opens hearts.





Concerned for Benin, *Left to right*: Tatsuo Sasaki, special envoy to Benin; Paterne Zinsou, sub-regional director to West Africa; Patrice Talon, president of the Republic of Benin 2016–) Kathy Rigney, special emissary to West Africa, Evelyne Winter, missionary to West Africa; Emmanuel Allognon, our national leader to Benin; and his wife.

A French member familiar with the movement in Benin describes it as “highly organized with clear departments and good interaction between the leaders and their members.”

Kathy Rigney arrived in Benin on May 1, 1975 as one of the original missionaries and is still active as the Cheon Il Guk special envoy to Africa. The special envoy for Benin, Rev. Sasaki Tatsuo, who likewise has spent four decades in Africa, has also been instrumental. Some of the dedicated Beninese leaders (per a late 2016 report) are Rev. Emmanuel Allognon, president of FFWPU; Rev. Yvon Oke Godonou, vice-president of FFWPU; Mr. and Mrs. Pascal Degby, head of the Blessed Family Department; Mr. Honore Anagonou, secretary general of UPF; Mr. Ange Dannon, president of CARP; and Mr. Gaetan Dandjesso, president of YFWP.

Beninese national efforts

Nationwide, Beninese members are undertaking a peace campaign, which we call the National Campaign for the Renewal of Families, the Reconstruction of the Nation and the Creation of a Society of Interdependence, Shared Prosperity and Universal Values. This campaign has three main pillars. Promotion of good family values, promotion of good health practices—including healthy social interaction and relationships—and promotion of other activities that aid sustainable devel-

opment, which we do in cooperation with concerned citizens, private organizations or official agencies.

The central event is the Family Festival for Peace, which we hold in cooperation with government officers who make official announcements about our campaigns. We inculcate family values through Family Festivals and the education of couples. We include youth education in our family values outreach. We promote good health and other projects to help individuals, families and communities.

Although we address a wide range of issues, the core foundation remains the family. Everything starts with the family and everything must also have the family at the center and then extend to communities, villages, and the society at higher levels.

The cooperation of the authorities at various levels is an important factor of success. Nevertheless, the key factor remains the involvement of each our couples and each family. The major challenge was to follow-up with the couples. The actors guiding the campaign need to maintain a good and deep motivation, determination and perseverance to surmount all difficulties while keeping a clear vision and a high sense of altruism. Our leaders at each level had to develop the qualities of persevering with commitment until the end. Their efforts have borne fruit that people can proudly welcome.

My health, my responsibility

Civil authorities at various levels are involved in improving public health. We need everyone to be responsible to maintain good personal and family health. Indeed, you manage your bank account yourself. Health is a much more valuable asset than money. We have reached out to couples regarding self-help health, through our My Health in My Hands Project. We promote good practices for optimal health (controlling one's inner state, cultivating a sense of forgiveness and love, healthy eating, a healthy environment, walking, avoiding a sedentary life and proper use of water. The family provides the best environment to maintain good health.

We encourage eating foods and plants of high nutritive value, for example, using various extracts from moringa trees, which are common in tropical and subtropical areas, as well as therapeutic food such as lemon, garlic, ginger and small kola nuts. We teach couples about conjugal relations and sexual health. We teach good health practices to men, women and children.

Our broader vision

We are introducing health based socio-economic activities, which entails establishing production and processing units as well as developing a simple, cheap and efficient distribution system for health products. We are opening health food

stores and natural health and wellness centers.

We are encouraging the establishment of moringa orchards and farms producing medicinal plants. We have also developed a Happy Health approach involving education and use of the Happy Health machines. In each village, we are promoting reflexology, a means of treating pain, nerve problems and some diseases by therapeutic massage of the reflex zones on the soles of the feet.

We have also developed various training programs through which members of the community can receive professional training and obtain a certificate of completion or a diploma. We seek expertise at the international, national and local levels to support these initiatives. Indeed, our project leaders themselves have the proper knowledge and skills.

Aiding sustainable development

In addition to the planting of moringa orchards, which we are preparing to take up in a rural area family cooperative, we spread “moringa culture,” helping as many people as possible to see the health advantages of this natural remedy. We also encourage the use of organic fertilizers and insecticides, which do not harm human health or the natural environment. We are working to help fifty impoverished farmers through the Zogbodomey City Hall and Domè Arrondissement to establish a partnership with promoters of these organic fertilizers and insecticides.

A study is underway and we are seeking financing for the installation of solar panels. We support solar energy use in arrondissement offices in lighting and secretarial areas. We also have a project to install devices and facilitate families' access to solar energy: Small lighting equipment with a mobile phone charging system, solar panels, etc., through the Family Cooperative for Peace and Development for groupings of thirteen families. Another possibility is using solar energy in irrigation systems for agriculture in cooperatives and moringa orchards.

We wish to establish youth and family centers in cooperation with arrondissements, with a possibility of evening classes for students in the

rural areas. Students who have to pass exams will have priority. These centers will serve as arrondissement-level headquarters for FFWPU and as a base for coordinating natural health and well-being shops in villages.

Microcredit

We have contacted Microfinance Institutions or NGOs to facilitate the access to microcredits for groups of families. Maintaining an ongoing relationship with the borrowers reduces the risk on the borrowers defaulting on the loans. So much of what we learn in the unification movement revolves around loving relationships in which we care for one another as family.

This program will reach a substantial scale in 2017. Already, a group received a loan of 900,000 FCFA (FCFA, a currency guaranteed by the French treasury; this amount is equivalent to US\$1,500) from the Hunger Project Microcredit Program based in Avlami. We contact at least three financial institutions. The groups choose the institutions that they consider more relevant for their situation and their income-generating activities.

Through the Family Cooperative for Peace and Development, we will mobilize a substantial fund for the creation of a saving bank, managed by professionals and according to the regulations in force in the Republic of Benin.

Our 2017 master plan

One: Hold Family Intercultural Festivals for Peace—small meetings with couples in villages twice a month based on themes related to family reinforcement. Conform to the law of giving and receiving, exemplify the ideal of the family as the school of love and peace. Identify causes and resolve conflicts. Live in the service of peace; be a model to follow.

Two: Launch of the Education and Youth Development Program, which entails conducting consciousness raising campaigns on various themes in schools and in villages. Hold meetings on the theme: Love your hometown. Love your homeland, and foster their development. Conduct sports and recreation activities and

activities and foster entrepreneurship. Create a Youth Volunteer Service, by building a network of committed young volunteers.

Three: Conduct community activities such as cleaning and improving public areas and improving rural trails. Provide training in agriculture and the rearing of livestock. Promote moringa culture. Do charitable works. Conduct a variety of peace initiatives (interreligious dialogue, Peace Road 2017, activities related to the celebration of the UN commemorative days, sports events and Arts for Peace. Launch economic Initiatives.

Four: Provide education as a means of serving others; make financial and material contributions. Foster a spirit of volunteering. Encourage others to make voluntary contributions for works of peace and development. Conduct activities that result in solidarity and express generosity.

Five: Teach health care using natural methods to prevent illness. Encourage hygienic practice and teach others how to care for the environment.

Six: Develop the Family Cooperative for Peace and Development.


Seven: Facilitate access to microcredit for groups as a means of alleviating poverty, promoting self-initiation and development.

Eight: Hold at least one community project per semester, 2017–2020, in accord with intervention priority areas.

Nine: Approach others about becoming partners for the development of the community.

Ten: Substantiate the Zogbodomey Showcase Project (Write its history. Produce written and audio-visual materials lauding the Zogbodomey advantages and potential. Create a Zogbodomey shopping center.)

Eleven: Support City Halls and develop arrondissement projects in education. Advance the culture of peace, human welfare and development.

Twelve: Collaborate with decentralized structures, NGOs and associations involved in Zogbodomey to help the population. 

FFWPU-Benin submitted the bulk of the material (in French) that was the basis for this article.

CARP LAS VEGAS A PASSIONATE LIFE

BY JINIL FLEISCHMAN



Out in the open air, enjoying one another's company during a CARP retreat



In Las Vegas, a youth movement is on the rise. Young people are learning the Divine Principle, building a relationship with God and gradually maturing into global leaders. The work of our True Parents, who have established the Collegiate Association for the Research of Principles (CARP) as an organization to educate and train college students in the Principle and in True Parents' traditions has made all this possible. For the past three years, CARP has been active in Las Vegas on the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) campus, where True Parents' love and vision of peace has touched countless students.

Second-generation members from around the world who want to live a passionate life of faith for True Parents during their years in college, while being trained as future leaders.

Continual witnessing

CARP members witness to other students every day. Once a week, they hold a program called Tribe Talk, where guests can read True Parents' words and excerpts from *Exposition of Divine Principle* and *World Scriptures*, and discuss their relevance to the students' personal lives. Once a month, CARP holds a weekend Divine Principle retreat, where young people can experience God's heart

in the community led to the property manager cutting the rent in half for the CARP Learning Center, and to the UNLV student government funding CARP for \$5,800 in 2015 and \$7,200 in 2017. Our vision is to raise global leaders who can contribute to creating God's kingdom of heaven on earth.

True Mother energized us

On April 13, CARP Las Vegas held its Grand Opening for its College of Southern Nevada (CSN) chapter, eight CSN professors and faculty members attended. True Mother's recent message, when she told all CARP members to restore their entire campus, touched CARP members. To respond



A CARP weekend retreat where young people hear the Divine Principle and have an opportunity to find their spiritual paths.



Tribe Talk: Discussions of scriptural texts and opportunities to bond

CARP Las Vegas began in April 2014, when True Mother personally appointed Mr. Akira Watanabe and his wife Mrs. Makiko Watanabe as directors of the new CARP chapter. CARP activities officially began in August 2014. While CARP Las Vegas began with a humble team of four members, it has been steadily growing year by year, expanding its foundation and impact over the past three years. True Parents have envisioned CARP as an organization that can raise global leaders, and that is our vision for CARP Las Vegas as well. CARP Las Vegas has attracted many students from UNLV who want to contribute to peace and we have given them a place to fulfill that desire by connecting to True Parents and becoming a member of the unification movement. In addition, CARP Las Vegas has attracted many sec-

through hearing the overview of the Principle and can begin a relationship with God. At the end of every semester, CARP holds a week-long Divine Principle retreat, where students can break through in their relationship with God and True Parents. For many, the seven-day retreat is where they discover the significance of True Parents and the time that we are living in.

In addition to educating young people in the Principle, CARP Las Vegas trains college students to be global leaders through service activities, such as collaborating with a club called Shine City Project in trash pickups. They have also mentored behavior school students and led an anti-bullying campaign to support the public school system, which has one of the worst dropout rates in the United States. CARP's inspiring work

to True Mother's direction, they have been reaching out to professors for several weeks. They placed faith in Mother's words, let go of their fears and past concepts and ended up having a great experience. They were proud to be able to share True Parents' vision for CARP and for America at the opening ceremony.

Chungbom Katayama, the new president of the CSN CARP chapter, testified that True Parents are the ones who understand the root of problems facing society and are determined to resolve them. Two CARP members, Ryota Naito and Angelica Moraes, testified to how their hearts have grown through being a part of CARP and how True Parents' vision to create a culture of heart in America, which God has prepared, inspired them. Mr. Akira Watanabe and Mrs. Makiko Watanabe gave concluding remarks



An attentive audience of college students and faculty members

and encouraged the entire CSN faculty to become involved in teaching youth to fight against self-centered culture in order to create a culture of heart.

The program and the vision of the CARP students moved CSN faculty members. One professor had to hold back her tears; the values that CARP stands for moved her so. Another faculty member expressed that he is very inspired by the CARP students and believes they can accomplish great things. He said, "The testimonies given can bring hope to other students. Because you guys were able to go through the experience, you guys can give hope to others who may be going through the same thing." The spirit of the CARP members so inspired him that he has volunteered to serve as a mentor to them on a weekly basis. A third professor, who teaches public speaking at CSN, said that the speeches given by the students moved him. He commented that they have an amazing quality in their speeches, which he called "the CARP factor." One professor who has a CARP student in his class encouraged all of his students to skip part of his class in order to attend the opening ceremony.

Many professors expressed eagerness to attend the next CARP event at CSN and to see how we can collaborate even more.

True Las Vegas

CSN CARP stands on a strong spiritual foundation. When True Parents lived in Las Vegas starting in 2008, they gave a direction to deliver 120,000 copies of True Father's autobiography to people all over Las Vegas. Members led a campaign on the CSN campus, where they distributed autobiographies to crowds of students and held lectures on the Divine Principle and True Parents' life courses. Members also gave a copy of the autobiography to each professor on campus. One of the faculty members who supported the CSN Grand Opening this time had a copy of the autobiography from that time. He remembers that when he received the copy, he resonated strongly with the values that True Parents stand for. We are so grateful to stand on the foundation that True Parents and members have laid in Las Vegas. We feel that now is the time to harvest all of that investment. CARP members have met many Abel-type professors

and faculty members, and have received great support from them. For example, one professor brought her entire class of students to attend a portion of the opening. They skipped part of the class to be there. We are excited to harvest True Parents' investment into Las Vegas, and achieve national restoration, as True Mother has told us.

Since the beginning of 2017, CARP students have been witnessing on the CSN campus. With sincere devotion, they were successful in their campaign to recruit enough students and find faculty advisors in order to establish CARP as an official club at CSN. CARP Las Vegas will continue its activities this summer with a forty-day trip across America, raising young leaders through fundraising training, a pilgrimage to historic sites of True Parents' history in America, and sharing testimonies with other young Unificationists all over the country. We are excited for how we can continue to share True Parents' vision with the youth in Las Vegas and this nation! 

Jinil Fleischman is the president of CARP University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

A Year of Praying for Progress in the Dominican Republic

At the moment, sixty-four people from the fourth class of Cheon Il Guk missionaries are working in fifteen nations. In this issue, we would like to introduce the testimony of Tate Akiko, part of the second class of youth missionaries and her activities in the Dominican Republic.

By Tate Akiko

I began a full-time job as soon as I graduated high school. After working for seven years, I began to feel the limits of my situation, which prevented me from doing as many church activities as I had hoped to do. While I was praying, the idea of doing missionary work came to me.

That was before the Cheon Il Guk youth missionary providence began, and I thought that no program existed. I then heard they were accepting applicants for the first class of Cheon Il Guk youth missionaries. The youth leaders and older church sisters suggested I go. After consulting with our church pastor, I made the decision to quit work and start to prepare for the second class of missionaries, so I would have a smooth transition. When the time came, for a year, from June 2014 to June 2015, I was in the Dominican Republic, a Caribbean nation in our Central America region, with four other missionaries.

Learning about True Father when circumstances prevented me from witnessing

While in the Dominican Republic, I lived with a local family from the headquarters church, in the district of

Gazcue, in the capital, Santo Domingo. At that time, one-on-one witnessing to friends and acquaintances was the norm in the Dominican Republic. Members did not witness on the street or on campuses.

The only Spanish the Japanese missionaries could speak were simple greetings; therefore, we could not do one-on-one witnessing, which requires lots of communication. Even though we wanted to witness, it did not seem as if they would send us out. I believe that the Dominican members were also a bit flustered, over what to do with these newly created Cheon Il Guk missionaries.

Since I came with the goal of spreading the truth about True Parents, I struggled deeply with myself over not being able to witness or do anything. Gradually, I came to struggle with the local Abel-figure. On many days, I could not stop crying.

During that time, as I read hoondokhae the words “absolute faith, absolute love and absolute obedience” came up. Heavenly Parent had been guiding me with absolute love, but until that moment I had not been able to understand that. I thought of True Father, who in the

position of a servant of servants, had lived for the sake of others better than anyone else had done, and I made the firm decision to live for the sake of others to the utmost.

I began to clean the headquarters church, prepare food, do laundry, help in the WFWP origami classes, give performances at events, and do anything that would help the local leader’s faith in me grow. After two months, I heard about Global Youth Festival 2014, which the Japanese church organized. It involved members in any nation conducting a service project and then uploading photographs from it to the festival’s Facebook page. It was a competition to see which project received the most “likes.”

We proposed installing trashcans at a nearby school as a service project for the festival. We had been cleaning the road every day, so we saw the need for trashcans. Many areas on campus had none. As we continued picking up the trash on the roads, we began to attract the interest of the community; garbage trucks even began to pick up the trash we’d collected. Hearing this piqued the local members’ interest.



Dominican members and Japanese missionaries seeking unity. (Ms. Tate is in the first row, second from the left.)

We even had an opportunity to participate in the monthly church leaders' meeting to give a presentation on the Facebook project. We received strong support from members. We were able to install trashcans in a local middle school and a high school. We had gained strength from the support of the entire church when on September 23, through a live video broadcast of the 2014 Global Youth Festival, we learned that our project received the most "likes."

The Dominican members were very happy to win first place, and I felt that the result of our working together with the local members was the most precious result. Directly after that, a special envoy sent from Korea suggested the Cheon Il Guk youth missionaries do street witnessing.

Hitting many walls

Now, that we were able to begin witnessing, we went to the *Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo* (Autonomous University of Santo Domingo, UASD) campus, located around forty minutes away from the headquarters church and began witnessing using a survey.

Dominicans are kindhearted. Almost everyone we asked took the survey, promised to come to the center, and left their contact information. However, few actually came. Even if a student visited, most were only interested in Japanese animation or Japanese comics and came because they wanted to talk to someone Japanese.

What was most difficult was that even if we brought a guest, we had not synchronized it so that someone was always at the church who could give a Divine Principle lecture. We even began showing the guests videos prepared for two-day workshops. Having practiced reading the Divine Principle in Spanish during the time we had not been witnessing, we tried to convey the Principle somehow in a one-on-one manner. Nevertheless, getting a guest to listen to the Divine Principle all the way to the end was difficult.

In November, we received the mission of getting CARP certified at the university. Dominican Republic CARP did not then have many witnessing activities, so the special envoy had given us that mission, which we were happy to receive. If the universi-

ty certified CARP, establishing a campus center and teaching students there would be possible. We thought it could become a driving force for developing youth witnessing.

At that time, in order for CARP to receive certification require 9,100 signatures from UASD students. [In 2014, UASD enrollment exceeded 400,000.] Four of us set off determined to succeed and gather those signatures in forty days on a form prepared by the national leader and special envoy

The struggle to reach 9,100

In the beginning, we would stop students walking around campus and get their signatures. However, we realized, though, that gathering so many signatures in little more than a month would be impossible in this way, so we changed our methods. We had learned that teachers tended to be late to class, so we seized on the opportunity of asking for students' signatures while they were in their classroom waiting for their teacher to arrive. The students would show interest when a Japanese person would all of a sudden walk into the classroom saying "Hola!"



Origami classes, which WFWP used as a means of witnessing to people in the Dominican Republic.



Tate Akiko showing a video lecture, part of the two-day workshop material, to a guest

We would read aloud a script written in Spanish introducing CARP. After we finished, we would pass around the signature form and receive signatures from the students. We split into teams of two and visited classes shortly before or after class. Using this method, we could introduce CARP to thirty to forty students at a time and get their signatures.

At first, we needed courage, but as we went to each classroom with pounding hearts and asked for signatures, getting them proved easier than we had thought. We were able to gain confidence through that. I think another factor was that we had gained courage from living in the Dominican Republic for six months. We worked very hard because we thought with seriousness that if we did not establish CARP here, assignments of Cheon Il Guk youth missionaries to the Dominican Republic might cease and no one from the third class of missionaries would come to the country. Sometimes teachers would see us and scold us but we were so enthusiastic that once we thought the teacher was gone we would go back.

After some time, the local second-generation students, the national leader, and the special envoy began helping us in our signature campaign. Up until that time, we had not worked together in witnessing or with the signature campaign. For the first time, I felt we had united centered on God's will. As a result, we were able to get the required number of signatures in forty days. This would not have been possible with only the strength of the missionaries. We were able to succeed because Heavenly Parent, True Parents and the local members were with us. Just as True Mother says, "We are one."

The guest God gave us

On the foundation of the signature campaign, we began to hold CARP events on campus; though we did not yet have a center. At an event in February, we were able to exceed our goal of mobilizing a hundred students.


After that, we changed the way we witnessed. We would approach students in pairs. We would introduce the Divine Principle and testify about True Parents. Using this method, we were able to meet guests interested in

True Parents and the Divine Principle rather than students who liked Japanese people.

We also had a lecturer available to explain Divine Principle when we brought guests at the promised time. Through this method, the local members began to acknowledge us. Even now, if a missionary brings a guest a system is in place for a local member to give a Divine Principle lecture.

Being the leader, some days I could not go out to witness, but I set many conditions—a forty-day morning fast, a forty-day, forty-bow condition; and hoondokhae of the entire *Cheon Seong Gyeong* in forty days. In May, a month before I returned to Japan, I met a person who was very interested in the Divine Principle. On campus, I saw one of my contacts in the hallway and called out to her. Next to her was this male student who showed interest and asked many questions. When I explained the Divine Principle, he said, "This truth is amazing; I need to study it more!" and asked to listen to lectures. He was such a devout Christian that he always carried the Bible with him, and he studied the Divine Principle enthusiastically. For us he was special, the only person who studied the entire two-day content.

After I returned to Japan, the third class of Cheon Il Guk youth missionaries established CARP at UASD and the missionaries gained many spiritual children. When I heard that one of the spiritual children of a youth missionary from the Dominican Republic had participated in the Global Top Gun Youth Workshop I was surprised.

Now, I am actively working in the North Aichi District, Meijo Family Church, my hometown church, as a special trainee. I made the decision to live a public life because of that year of missionary work. I am truly grateful to Heavenly Parent, True Parents, and the local members who worked together with us missionaries. True Mother loves us with true love twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year, which is why I will continue to work hard to become a filial child and be True Mother's light. 

This article originally appeared in the December 2016 issue of the FFWPU-Japan magazine, World Family.

