

English Version

True Peace

No.108

TRUE PARENTS' MESSAGE AND NEWS

天—國 11年

天曆 8月

SEPTEMBER 2023

ARTICLE ONE

TRUE PARENTS' MESSAGES

SPECIAL ON TRUE PARENTS

SPECIAL

HJ NEWS

NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

Unification is not something to wait for, but something we should make!

The Essential Truth for Fulfilling Divine Providence

Moon Jeong-Ah's First Birthday Celebration

International Leadership Conference (ILC) Cambodia:

Peace and Democracy Observation of Cambodia's General Election 2023

Song Yong-cheon's FFWPU-International World Tour: Heavenly Continent of Asia

The 2023 Peace Road Unity March: A Global Endeavor for Unity and Peace



Unification is not something to wait for, but something we should make!

Yang Chang-shik, Chairman of UPF International & UPF-Korea



Esteemed leaders from across the globe, beloved blessed family members!
Warm greetings!

True Mother reorganized our movement on May 9, and instructed us to bring all the global foundation of the Universal Peace Federation (UPF), which True Parents have cultivated so far, to Korea and invest it in a movement for the peaceful unification of North and South Korea. We aim to launch a massive unification movement, with goals such as securing one million peace ambassadors, ten million supporters, and training 12,000 unification instructors.

Unification of North and South Korea is our destiny, and the final battle towards the completion of Heaven's providence. It will be a major battle between our ideology of Godism and the Juche ideology, which is the epitome of atheistic materialism that denies the existence of God. The process of unification must be free and peaceful, with the South and the North living together.

In 1991, True Parents visited North Korea and met with President Kim Il Sung. They agreed that we must transcend ideology and system for the South and North to become one. The core contents of their plan were an inviolability pact between South and North, and the peaceful use of North Korean nuclear power.


True Parents proposed to seek a way for the South and North to live together, beyond system and ideology, saying, "Blood is thicker than water." They also agreed that the issue of 10 million separated families was the most important issue, a humanitarian issue that should be urgently resolved unconditionally.

At this point, the South and North must open the window of dialogue unconditionally and start non-political exchanges, such as humanitarian aid projects, cultural exchanges such as tourism and sports, and economic cooperation. When South Korea's economic and technological power combines with North Korea's vast resources and high-quality labor, North Korea could enter the ranks of middle-income countries within 10 years. At the same time, when the South and North are unified, the Korean Peninsula will become a country comparable to Germany, France, or the United Kingdom in terms of land size, economic power, and military power.

The basic unification plan of True Parents is the Unification Theory of True Love. On one hand, it criticizes the fallacies and vulnerabilities of North Korea's Juche ideology and proposes alternatives, while on the other hand, it emphasizes that we need to pour out true love unconditionally to our North Korean brethren with the spirit of 'food is love.'

This is reminiscent of Jacob giving everything he had, unconditionally, to his brother Esau, who intended to kill him. Esau's hardened heart melted, leading to a warm reunion between brothers who were once enemies. The relationship between the South and the North is the same. When the people of South Korea love the people of North Korea more than they love themselves, and the people of North Korea love the people of South Korea more than they love themselves, the true unification of true love will come like an avalanche.

It has been said, '*Jin In Sa Dae Cheon Myung*' (진인사대천명 - 盡人事待天命): If people on earth make their utmost effort, the grand drama of unification according to God's providence will unfold splendidly before us.

Respected worldwide leaders, beloved blessed family members! This moment marks the juncture when we must march forward, forward, forward, pledging to advance towards Vision 2025 for the day desired by True Parents! Let us remember that we are now at the forefront, align ourselves 24 hours a day with the providence of True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind, and become unification warriors who welcome the momentum of unifying the heavenly homeland in our lifetime! Unification is not something to wait for, but something we should make! 

CONTENTS



ARTICLE ONE

- 02 Unification is not something to wait for, but something we should make!

SPECIAL 1

- 12 International Leadership Conference (ILC) Cambodia: Peace and Democracy Observation of Cambodia's General Election 2023
16 Cambodia's Election: A Glimpse into Democracy and Transition

HJ NEWS

- 18 Song Yong-cheon's FFWPU-International World Tour: Heavenly Continent of Asia

SPECIAL 2

- 22 Vision 2025: Towards Peaceful Reunification of the Korean Peninsula

NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

- 28 The 2023 Peace Road Unity March: A Global Endeavor for Unity and Peace
30 2023 Summer Workshop Recap

TRUE PARENTS' MESSAGES

- 04 The Pacific Rim civilization and the Korean peninsula
06 The Essential Truth for Fulfilling Divine Providence

SPECIAL ON TRUE PARENTS

- 08 Moon Jeong-Ah's First Birthday Celebration
10 Taiwanese Trainees' Special 21 Days Workshop

Heavenly America

- 35 Powerful Experiences in Cheon Shim Won USA

Heavenly Latin America

- 39 High Noon's 'Life Without Shadows' International Youth Workshop
41 Eternal Rest in Costa Rica
43 Paraguay's New Beginning: Presidential Inauguration and a United Vision for Peace

Heavenly Africa

- 45 A New Dawn: Celebrating the Journey of Cameroon's 4th Batch of Youth Missionaries

HYOJEONG TESTIMONY

- 46 A Tribute to Our Missionaries of 1975





The Pacific Rim civilization and the Korean peninsula

*Book 10 the Philosophy of Peace, Chapter 3. The Means to Realize World Peace,
Section 4. Korean Unification and World Peace*

Civilizations emerge on peninsulas. Peninsulas provide the venue for an oceanic civilization and a continental civilization to fuse together and develop into a new civilization. This is how civilizations flourished on the Greek, Italian and Iberian peninsulas. Currently, Indochina and Korea are the world's two peninsulas that are raising global issues. In the flow of global fortune, Western and Eastern civilizations are merging and are bound to meet. Where will they clash? Based on the worldwide flow of fortune, they will clash in the sphere of Pacific Rim civilization,

particularly at a central point where an island, a peninsula and a continent meet. The Korean peninsula is the central point defined by these geographical components. It is an undeniable fact of geography.

The trials and tribulations of the Korean people do not just have to do with them as a people; they are also providential. Therefore, God is eager for this people to overcome them. It can be said that all the strands of world history meet on the Korean peninsula. East and West, North and South, spirit and matter, idealism and materialism—the entire inheritance of world history

converges there in a confrontation fraught with confusion and chaos. The maelstrom on this peninsula is like the contractions of a woman in labor; she is carrying a new age in her womb. My view is that the difficulties the Korean people and nation currently face cannot be resolved apart from God's Will and providence. Furthermore, Korea cannot resolve them on its own but only by relating with the world. Hence, the Korean people should awaken to God's Will. They will overcome their hardships if they follow the one whom God has sent, the one with the mission to lead the spiritual spheres of the world.

Global civilization most certainly will come to Asia. The era of the Pacific Rim civilization is approaching. Today eminent scholars, not only in the field of social science but across the scientific disciplines, assert that a Pacific Rim civilization must appear, that it is the trend of history. Yet I have been teaching about the coming era of the Pacific Rim civilization for more than forty years now. These scholars still do not know which nation will take the lead in creating that civilization. To my mind, it is Korea that will have to take the lead.

In a situation in which the United States, Japan, Korea, China and Russia are drawn inexorably onto the battlefield, the countries that are unprepared for this civilization and culture will fall behind. I am the very man who has made preparations. I am standing on the front line. That is why I brought together Japan, the United States, China and Russia. It gives us hope to think that the American people will walk hand in hand with me and we will do great things together, as a condition for the United States and for the world to build a realm of common destiny with the Pacific Rim civilization.

What is our vision as we look toward the twenty-first century? It is a vision of world peace and unity, a vision of one unified world. The world's people are seeking a new, unified and peaceful world. The

Korean people are seeking the unification of North and South Korea. What about each of you? Suppose the world were peaceful and flourishing, but our nation remained divided and under threat of danger. In that case, our nation would have nothing to do with the world's peace. Likewise, suppose North and South Korea were peaceful, but our minds and bodies remained in conflict. In that case, the unified Korea would not be our ideal nation. That is why we have to attain peace on the national level before we talk about world peace; likewise, we have to attain peace on the individual level before we talk about it with regard to our nation.

Once we recover the nation that God is seeking, the restoration of the world will take place rapidly. After restoring one nation we can restore three more nations; this adds up to four nations, which will form a four-position foundation. It will be a wall of global defense facing all four directions, which Satan cannot penetrate. Only then can a world of peace be built, a world with the fertile soil for heaven to finally flourish. Such is the original homeland that the Unification Church is striving to recover. We Unificationists are gathered to invest our passion and youth for this cause. Although the evil forces that are attempting to block us are strong, we will shatter them, dismantle them, and uproot them

completely. Let us resolve to do so, and eradicate them once and for all.

The path of history is stained with blood. Your life as a pioneer on that path may have been sorrowful and miserable. However, if you walk that path not for your own sake but as Heaven's emissary, seeking to liberate people and build peace in the world, you will be remembered for eons. Your achievements will shine brightly as the foundation upon which North-South unification will naturally take place. Then a new sound of freedom will ring out across Asia. From that point will spring a new energy that will bring liberation to the world.

Our task is to unify the homeland. It is our destiny and the great task for which we must devote our entire life. I have dedicated myself to this great task, according to God's Will. For the remainder of my life as well, I shall devote myself entirely and exclusively to accomplishing God's Will. I appeal to you, the seventy million people of North and South Korea who wish for unification, to stop the discord and fighting, and from this time forth to devote yourselves to recovering your identity as one people through harmony and love. Now is the time to melt your guns and swords and turn them into hoes and plowshares, and hasten preparations to welcome the bright new era of the unified homeland. ㄸ





The Essential Truth for Fulfilling Divine Providence

*Special Gathering of Pastors of Large Churches Hosted
by the True Parents of Heaven, Earth, and Humankind
August 12, 2023, Cheon Jeong Gung*

The Creator, our Heavenly Parent, created all things in the divine image, and gave the man and woman who were to become the ancestors of humankind time to grow. This was a period of growth during which they were to perfect their characters. Yet they who were to become our first ancestors failed to keep the heavenly commandment and fell. They were driven out of Eden and multiplied to form today's fallen humanity. In order to achieve without fail, together with humankind, the dream he envisioned according to the Principle of Creation, God had to undertake the work of restoration through indemnity, the providence of salvation.

God chose the people of Israel and, through Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, restored a lineage he could embrace. Heavenly Parent waited for the time to create the right environment in the nation, and finally after four thousand years, brought forth his only begotten Son, Jesus Christ.

According to the Principle of Creation, God's will cannot be achieved through the only begotten Son alone. In order to see the completion of the heavenly providence, the only begotten Daughter who did not appear 2,000 years ago must emerge. The only begotten Daughter could not be born in Israel, however; the people had to pay indemnity for the crucifixion of God's only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Therefore, Heaven sought out and cultivated a chosen people capable of giving birth to the only begotten Daughter. This is the Korean people.

The only begotten Daughter must be born on the foundation of the Christian faith. Korean Christianity was centered in Pyongyang, and the American Presbyterian Church came in and ignited the fire of the Holy Spirit. Over the course of three generations, a Christian environment had been established, which included my maternal

grandmother Cho Won-mo, my mother Hong Sun-ae Daemo-nim, and myself. At that time, under the prayers of a Christian pastor, I came to be born.


God prepared this Christian sphere for True Parents. What will happen if those in the Christian cultural sphere cannot unite with True Parents while they are on earth?

For the fulfillment of God's providence, the truth must be revealed and an environment wherein Heavenly Parent can live together with us must be created.

It is unfortunate, however, that at this time when we are busy with Heaven's providence and when every hour counts, I have found it so hard to speak even in the simplest terms in order to overcome 53 years of ignorance.

Do you believe that I am the only begotten Daughter of God? You could not be here in this place if you had not met the only begotten Daughter. Somehow, we must embrace Christianity and come together to achieve national restoration.

The Family Federation and UPF must tell the truth: Heaven will not wait any longer. This means you must fulfill your responsibility. If, as the chosen people, you fail to fulfill your responsibility, indemnity will follow. None of us wants to see such an outcome. That is why we must witness. Hence, in the Cheon Il Guk era, rather than lecturing on the Divine Principle, you must explain the original essence of the Creator and of Jesus, and give presentations about what you are accomplishing with the only begotten Daughter, True Mother.

As such, what you need to know, and what Christians need to know to realize their final wish and dream, is about the only begotten Daughter. Do you understand? [Yes.] 



MOON JEONG-AH'S FIRST BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Moon Jeong-Ah, the daughter of Moon Shin-Heung and Moon Yume (née Iriyama), marked her first birthday on August 21st. The celebration took place at the Hyo Jeong Yeon within the HJ Heaven and Earth CheonBo Training Center. Distinguished members of the True Family and leaders from Cheon Il Guk graced the event, extending their heartfelt wishes for Moon Jeong-Ah's health and happiness.





TAIWANESE TRAINEES' SPECIAL 21 DAYS WORKSHOP

On August 11th, in the embrace of the True Parents' profound love, a special assembly for Taiwanese trainees was held at the Cheonjeong Palace. That day was marked by the True Mother sharing heartfelt blessings with the trainees—words that would resonate with them forever.



Message from True Mother:

What does the character '대' in '대만' (Taiwan) signify? It's not the '대' representing 'big' (大), but rather the '대' symbolizing 'lighthouse' (臺). Every one of you from Taiwan is akin to 'lighthouses destined to illuminate the path for the world in the Cheon Il Guk era'. Do you agree?

You fondly refer to me as the 'Queen Mother'. Hence, each of you is my cherished child. Inspired by all of you, I am filled with immense hope for what lies ahead. Although Taiwan might be a compact island nation, my wish is for you to view the broader world, stand as pivotal characters in the True Parents' providence, and mature into leaders who brilliantly steer the global course. My gratitude, pride, and love for you are boundless! ㄹ



23 夏季神台灣孝情天寶 21日特別修鍊會
天一國11年天曆6月6日~ 26日(2023年7月23日~ 8月12日)

International Leadership Conference (ILC) Cambodia: Peace and Democracy Observation of Cambodia's General Election 2023



On July 22nd, Cambodia's Sokha Phnom Penh Hotel played host to the International Leadership Conference (ILC) centered around "Peace and Democracy". This prestigious event, co-organized by the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) and the Cambodia Asia Vision Institute, was graced by over 250 international participants, including seven notable heads of state. The Cambodian government-backed opening ceremony was broadcasted in four languages: English, Korean, Spanish, and French.

Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, UPF's co-founder, shared a powerful message: "At 2019's Nagoya conference, we introduced the Asia-Pacific Union vision. I urge Asian nations to join hands, transcend national interests, and collaboratively pursue a peaceful, heavenly world. It's time we lead the dawn of the Asia-Pacific civilization era."

Established in 2005 by Reverend Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, the UPF has been steadfast in its mission to foster global peace. Recognized by the UN's Economic and Social Council, UPF stands out among thousands of NGOs, bearing a distinguished consultative status. Today, with branches across 194 nations, UPF annually convenes the World Summit and ILC, shaping peace-centric global endeavors. Their work also emphasizes interfaith harmony and international collaboration, championing a future of mutual prosperity.

The recent Cambodia ILC, following the tracks of May's "Peace Summit 2023", embraced a promising theme - the "Heavenly Asia-Pacific Civilization Era". It's a step forward in shaping a global peace blueprint, grounded in the core principles of the "Asia-Pacific Union".

SESSION 1

NB: The following are paraphrased highlights, not direct quotations, from the speakers' remarks.

Welcome Remarks



Co-chairs of Organizing Committee Hon. Ek Nath Dhakal, Chair, UPF/IAPP Asia Pacific; Member of Parliament, Federal Parliament of Nepal

Through the Cambodia ILC event, which aims for reconciliation and healing beyond past pains, we are confident in fostering mutual trust, respect, and camaraderie. We anticipate creating a global platform for discussions that can instigate positive changes, reflecting diverse perspectives on peace and democracy.





H.E. Sok Siphana, Chairman, Asian Vision Institute, Senior Advisor of Royal Government of Cambodia

We sincerely thank UPF for taking the lead in endeavors for global peace and for facilitating the involvement of the Asian Vision Institute in supporting peace initiatives. Over recent years, Cambodia has proudly contributed to world peace through hosting international events like the Asia Summit and various international sports events. Under Prime Minister Hun Sen's leadership, Cambodia

has partaken in numerous international events and aims for further global development. What's certain is our commitment to ensuring various activities, including the general elections, proceed peacefully. We express our heartfelt gratitude to everyone participating in this ILC for their contributions to peace beyond Asia.

Opening Remarks



Dr. Charles S. Yang, Chairman, UPF International

Currently, conflicts and civil wars occur in at least 27 places throughout the world, according to the Council on Foreign Relations' Global Conflict Tracker.

Even with UN involvement, these problems cannot be resolved. A prime example is the war between Russia and Ukraine, which the UN has been unable to stop. Almost 10 million people have left their homes and are suffering due to this war. The same can be said for Syria and Venezuela. Globally, as many as 95 million people

have lost their homes and are wandering as refugees. Conflicts between religions, ideologies, and races are the main causes of civil wars and regional conflicts. As UPF Co-Founders Rev. and Dr. Moon teach that conflict and evil started at the very beginning of human history. Our first human ancestors violated the fundamental principle of goodness. Instead of living for the sake of others, they created selfishness within individuals, families, races, and nations. Knowing the Creator, our Heavenly Parent, is the beginning of peace, Father and Mother Moon have advocated three guidelines that educational institutions should establish to nurture future leaders. These are: love God, love humanity, and love your country. First, to "love God" starts with honoring your parents. This creates a heart of filial piety in children and they naturally develop a character of goodness. Second, "love humanity" means to love people by loving your neighbors as your own brothers or sisters. When we all love each other like this, there will be more compassion and less conflict or war. Third, "love your country" means to live for something greater than self-serving material interests. Individuals live for families; families for the well-being of the nation; and nations for global peace. This is the world of goodness we all desire. The Universal Peace Federation advocates believes that the path to a peaceful world in our time is based on the principles of interdependence, mutual prosperity, and universally shared values.

Keynote Address



Hon. Dan Burton, Member of the US Congress (1983-2013); Co-Chair, IAPP International:

Today, the world is faced with conflicts of varying magnitudes. This underscores the importance of our collective efforts towards achieving world peace. Han Hak Ja, co-founder of UPF, spent her life addressing these issues and consistently emphasized the need for a peaceful world. I urge all attendees of the Cambodia ILC to internalize her deep insights and commitment. By aligning with this

noble cause, we can work effectively to resolve conflicts and promote global peace.



H.E. Tep Ngorn, Second Vice-President of the Senate of Cambodia:

Through innovative peace talks and a win-win policy, Prime Minister Hun Sen provided a groundbreaking political solution to end Cambodia's prolonged civil war. While the journey to peace may present challenges, with collaborative effort and steadfast determination, we can achieve it promptly. The ILC is a beacon for global peace initiatives. I fervently hope this conference sets the stage for a future brimming with authentic peace and growth.



**European Delegation:
H.E. Dr. Werner Fasslabend, Former Speaker and
Former Defense Minister, Austria**

The war in Ukraine has profoundly changed the security landscape of Europe, a framework that remained consistent for over three decades. In light of this, UN member countries are now collaboratively assessing and deciding on the continent's strategic and political direction. This model of cooperation holds promise for other global regions, including ASEAN. Cambodia is poised to play a crucial role in ensuring the security, stability, and growth of Southeast Asia, as well as the sovereignty and independence of current and future ASEAN nations. Peace and stability are foundational for global welfare, making our united efforts for peace a universal priority.

SESSION 2

NB: The following are paraphrased highlights, not direct quotations, from the speakers' remarks.

Keynote Address



**African Delegation:
H.E. Goodluck Jonathan, President of Nigeria (2010-2015);
Chair, International Summit Council for Peace-Africa**

The fact that the ILC is being held in Cambodia demonstrates the dedication and passion of Asian leaders and the UPF towards the peaceful resolution of global issues and the advancement of the world. We have gathered here for the ILC, which is a potential turning point and transformative moment for the world. I would like to emphasize the ideals of the International Summit Council for Peace (ISCP), which are mutual prosperity, mutual respect, and justice. Democracy grounded in justice, fairness, and rule of law is the most assured way for a nation to rise peacefully and experience rapid economic growth. The African ISCP, which I chair, will continuously encourage leaders to adopt these concepts and transform them into models for conflict management and resolution within their jurisdictions.



**Latin American Delegation:
H.E. Jimmy Morales, President of Guatemala (2016-2020)**

Peace is not merely the absence of war. It means coexisting harmoniously with others, their beliefs, and their institutions. Additionally, democracy signifies active participation by everyone in shaping and maintaining the society they belong to. Peace and democracy are daily practices that need constant reinforcement. I extend my deepest respect and gratitude to Han Hak Ja, the co-founder of UPF, for paving the way for world peace, democracy, and harmony among nations.



**Pakistani Delegation:
H.E. Yusuf Raza Gillani, Prime Minister of Pakistan (2008-2012)**

Pakistan's recent progress is attributed to the establishment of a democracy-based government. The principles of democracy, security, and freedom, in my opinion, serve as the fundamental pillars for maintaining peace, stability, and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond. I'm genuinely grateful for Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, the co-founder of UPF, for organizing this significant gathering under her esteemed guidance.



**Nepalese Delegation:
H.E. K.P. Sharma Oli, Prime Minister of Nepal (2015-2016; 2018-2021)**

Democracy and peace are deeply connected. As we refine our democratic practices, our institutions grow stronger, fostering overall development. This journey draws us nearer to our goal of comprehensive peace. This growth fuels worldwide hope, dreams, and aspirations for a better future. I thank the organizers and am eager to collaborate with global nations, learning collectively in our quest for democracy and peace.

Special Address



Sri Lankan Delegation: H.E. Maithripala Sirisena, President of Sri Lanka (2015-2019)

To achieve UPF's vision of a peaceful, prosperous society, innovative approaches and strategic changes are essential. A robust nation fosters strong citizens, and the rule of law shapes responsible citizens. Peace and democracy are pivotal in bolstering public trust in governance. While divisions may arise, uniting a nation isn't insurmountable. It's imperative to courageously pursue lasting solutions in peace, democracy, and sustainable development.



South American Delegation: H.E. Andres Pastrana Arango, President of Colombia (1998-2002)

The path to peace, democracy, quality governance, and development continues. While the attainment of peace, democracy, and development challenges us, their value is undeniable. Together, we must tackle the daunting challenges and push for a world defined by peace, democracy, and justice.



FFWPU Delegation: Dr. Song Yong-Cheol, International President, FFWPU


We are confronting unparalleled challenges. Disputes across religions and races, economic disparities, and drastic environmental shifts demand our joint attention. Even scientific advancements, intended for our well-being, now pose new survival threats. The Cambodia ILC, grounded in Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon's teachings, the UPF co-founder, holds great importance. It seeks to nurture global cooperation and appreciation of human diversity through continuous dialogue. I trust the Cambodia ILC to guide us to a peaceful horizon and value the insights from leaders and scholars globally. May today shine as a guiding light, projecting a vision of a peaceful world, echoing humanity's shared aspiration.

SESSION 3

'Peace Initiative Declaration' and 'Presidency Handover Ceremony for the International Parliament for Tolerance and Peace' (IPTP)

The third session began with Dr. Michael Jenkins, Chairman of UPF USA, presenting a 'Peace Initiative.' This led into a series of focused talks by other experts. Dr. Chheang Vannarith, President of the Asia Vision Institute (AVI), spoke about the 'Universal Peace Charter,' while Dr. Cheng Kimlong, Executive Vice-President of AVI, discussed 'Cambodian Peace and Reconciliation.' Other notable speakers included Hon. Ross Robertson, former Deputy Speaker of the Parliament of New Zealand; Hon. Patricia Lalonde, a former Member of the European Parliament from France (2017-2019); and Rev. Masaichi Hori, the Regional President of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU) in the Asia-Pacific region.

The session concluded with the 'Presidency Handover Ceremony' for the International Parliament for Tolerance and Peace (IPTP). This event was chaired by Hon. Khuon Sudary, who is the Chairperson of the Asian Culture Council (ACC) and also serves as the Vice-President of the National Assembly of Cambodia. Ahmed bin Mohamed Al Jarwan, President of the Global Council for Tolerance and Peace (GCTP), stepped down as President of IPTP. He was succeeded by Suos Yara, who is the Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee in the Cambodian Parliament.

The International Leadership Conference (ILC) in Cambodia ended on a positive note. It successfully gathered global leaders to openly discuss various subjects, including the defense of democracy and the advancement of peace. The conference operated under the visionary guidance of Mother Moon, aiming to usher in a new era for Asia-Pacific civilization. It garnered active involvement, strong support, and committed actions from all participants, marking the event as a resounding success. 

Cambodia's Election: A Glimpse into Democracy and Transition



For 38 years, since 1985, Prime Minister Hun Sen of the Cambodian People's Party (CPP) has held his position. On July 23rd, leading up to Cambodia's 7th general election, he called upon the international community to ensure a transparent and fair election process. Responding, the Cambodian government welcomed 423 election observers from 54 nations. Notably, the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) — recognized by the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) — sent 125 members as part of this delegation. The primary aim? To ensure Cambodia's elections maintain democratic integrity, transparency, and bolster Asian peace and collaboration.

Since democracy was reinstated in 1993, Cambodia's general elections have followed a process. They select 125 parliamentary members from 18 parties via a proportional representation system, covering the capital and 25 regional areas.

The 7th Cambodian general election stirred speculation. Many saw it as a shift of power from Hun Sen to his eldest son, casting a shadow of skepticism internationally. But, delving deeper reveals Hun Sen's broader vision. It wasn't about mere power transition. He championed consistent political, economic, and social policies, underlining stable economic growth.




Looking ahead, Cambodia's government is on the brink of an economic revival. Factors like conquering the COVID-19 pandemic and rejuvenating the tourism sector fuel this optimism. Additionally, they plan to progress in areas such as advancing from the Least Developed Countries (LDC) status, economic diversification, embracing the digital shift, and countering climate change.

Early on, True Father said, "The Korean people, as a singular race, have been infringed upon by Westerners and have faced violations from cold-climate civilizations, tropical civilizations, and temperate civilizations. The current Korean situation is at the global focal point. This involves the US, the Soviet Union, and Asia. We must recognize that the civilizations of Asia, the democratic world, and the communist world are all tied to Korea. This means that in Korea, civilizations such as the tropical, Indian, Buddhist, Confucian, temperate, Western, and cold regions are all present."

After True Father's Seonghwa, during True Mother's global tour to establish a foundation for the heavenly world, she emphasized 'her last promise with the Heavenly Parent and True Father.' Despite her profound fatigue, she continues to honor her vow to see things through in her lifetime. Even when her lips crack from exhaustion, her legs swell and refuse to move, she speaks of the truth of Heaven's providence in human civilization, the stature and essence of the only begotten daughter, True Mother, and her responsibilities. She declared the Heavenly Parent's Holy Community and 'God' as the 'Heavenly Parent.' Also, in this era, with humanity, united with the only begotten daughter, True Mother, is inheriting the heart of true filial piety to realize the unification of the Korean peninsula and a heavenly unified world according to the will of the Heavenly Parent.

As we approach the historic transition of establishing a new order centered on the Asia-Pacific region, Cambodia's general elections play an instrumental role.

On the day of the Cambodian general elections, numerous current and former leaders, who traveled long distances for the Cambodia election observer delegation, reflected on the profound meaning of True Mother's genuine peace at the challenging site. They expressed their hopes for the swift realization of the dream of the Heavenly Parent and the True Parents of Heaven, Earth, and Humanity, successfully concluding the mission. 



Song Yong-cheon's FFWPU-International World Tour: Heavenly Continent of Asia

From July 20th to 29th, Song Yong-cheon, the President of FFWPU-International and his global tour team embarked on the FFWPU Heavenly Continent of Asia tour. The tour's highlights included the International Leadership Conference (ILC) in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, and Manila, Philippines, observation of the Cambodian general elections, the Heavenly Asia-Pacific leaders' assembly, the IAYSP assembly, and a special gathering with members.

Heavenly Asia-Pacific Leadership Assembly

After the ILC and election observations in Cambodia, the Heavenly Asia-Pacific Leadership Assembly was convened. The opening ceremony progressed with a welcome speech by Hori Masaichi, the President and Continental Director of Heavenly Asia-Pacific, an opening address by Robert Kittel, the Cheon Eui Won Chair of Heavenly Asia-Pacific, a special message by Yang Chang-sik, the Chairman of UPF International and Hori Moriko, the WFWP Chairwoman, and a special report by Matsuda Koji, the President of IAYSP International. Special messages and reports were also presented by key members of the FFWPU and affiliated organizations.

Session I focused on the status reports and best practices of the major continental organizations, including FFWPU, UPF, WFWP, and IAYSP. It provided insights into major continental organizations' status and practices. The Continental Director reported on the status, challenges, and measures of Heavenly Asia-Pacific FFWPU, emphasizing Heavenly Asia-Pacific's aspirations to collaborate closely with international headquarters, ensuring financial transparency, and enhancing individual religious education and growth through processes and workshops to achieve the results that the True Mother has spoken of.

Ek Nath Dhakal, Chairman of the Heavenly Asia-Pacific UPF and Vipa Thaveetermsakul from Heavenly Asia-Pacific WFWP conveyed that "UPF and WFWP", as affiliated organizations of FFWPU, will collaborate with relevant institutions to promote the unification of the Korean peninsula as well as world peace, by organizing diverse education programs, workshops, volunteer activities, and seminars." They also shared their will to drive a systematic development plan to fulfill the intentions of the vision of the Heavenly Parent and True Mother for the Heavenly Asia-Pacific.

Mr. Ronnie Sodusta, the President of IAYSP for Heavenly Asia-Pacific proposed a future policy direction, expressing that IAYSP will create materials that inspire and educate young people, emphasizing the importance of their dreams and developing their skills for the future.

Session II, Part 1, covered "Witnessing and Church Growth Strategy". The Continental Director first presented an overarching strategic plan. Subsequent presentations focused on witnessing and church growth strategies in Christian-majority countries like the Philippines, Australia and Oceania,

Malaysia, Indonesia, Pakistan, and Central Asia.

Leo Angelo Halog, the head of FFWPU Philippines, shared his 2023 plans and highlighted the positive impact of the Philippine Cheon Shim Prayer and Cheon Bo Workshop. Meanwhile, the head of IAYSP for Heavenly-Asia Pacific explained that their 'Patriotic Youth Program' has fostered a strong bond with the Philippine government and NGOs, benefiting FFWPU's educational and community programs.

Yutaka Yamada, Sub-Regional Director, FFWPU-Oceania and Australia, spoke about New Hope Academy. This school stands out because it follows the True Parents' values of loving God, humanity, and country. While there are many other schools, New Hope is favored for its clean setting, cohesive culture, and value-based education. This approach has fostered trust within the community. Founded on True Mother's vision, the school was officially recognized in 2019, giving it full control over its operations, curriculum, staff hiring, and finances. This approach aligns with their broader



goal of nation-building.



In the second segment, they discussed outreach strategies in Muslim-majority countries such as Malaysia, Indonesia, Pakistan, and Central Asia. There's growing global attention on the HJ Heaven and Earth CheonBo Training Center. Reena Dass, who currently leads the Pakistan chapter as acting National Leader, talked about the Urdu translation of the Exposition of the Divine Principle. With Pakistan's diplomatic ties to South Korea, the government has encouraged the sharing of peace ideas and has set up programs for young Pakistanis to learn about the culture and teachings of the True Parents.

At the closing ceremony, President Song of FFWPU-International thanked and praised the leaders of the Heavenly Asia-Pacific for their achievements. He reminded everyone to stay focused on their mission of building a world centered around God, our Heavenly Parent, urging everyone to appreciate the dedication of True Parents and to continue progressing with the spirit of Hyojeong.

On the following day, there was a discussion about church growth strategies and success stories from influential countries including China, Hong Kong, India, Thailand, Cambodia, and Nepal. Key leaders like Masatate Kajikuri from the Chinese-speaking region, Krishna Adhikari National Leader of India, FFWPU, Kamol Thananophavarn, National Leader of Thailand, FFWPU, Hajime Saito representing Cambodia, and Santosh Paudel, National Leader of Nepal, FFWPU shared their insights. The day concluded with a ceremony where new national chairpersons were appointed.

During his closing remarks, Hori Masaichi thanked the leaders for their strategic planning focused on True Mother. He emphasized the urgency, saying, "We have limited time. We must promptly show tangible results to True Mother." He then encouraged everyone, "Our path is clear: we must continue to progress with dedication to True Mother. Let's head back with good fortune and give it our all."

The leaders' conference concluded with a closing prayer by Gregory Stone, deputy secretary general of UPF-Asia Pacific, and a cheer by Dr. Tang Kimsrui, the Vice President of IAYSP for the Heavenly Asia-Pacific Region.

IAYSP General Assembly

On July 27, President Song Yong-cheon from FFWPU-International and President Matsuda Koji of IAYSP-International, along with their team, went to Manila, Philippines, for the IAYSP General Assembly. This event was for the Philippines IAYSP to discuss their growth, future plans, strategies, and success from the Patriotic Youth Program.

Mr. Ronnie Sodusta, the regional IAYSP leader, mentioned how during a typhoon in the Philippines, True Mother provided significant support via an online event called the Youth Hope Forward Assembly. This online gathering helped the IAYSP connect with both the government and NGOs. He highlighted that IAYSP is working on many projects for the betterment of the Philippines.






Mr. Koji, the head of IAYSP International, talked about their future plans. They aim to ensure IAYSP's long-term success by nurturing young leaders and collaborating with governments and other groups. He emphasized the importance of educating young individuals who will make positive changes in line with True Mother's vision.

Finally, President Song encouraged the youth to understand the importance of their time and to be active in the mission set by the Heavenly Parent and True Mother.

Special Gathering with Members

During the Asia-Pacific tour's highlight event, the Special Gathering with Members in the evening, Song Yong-cheon, the head of FFWPU-International, made a key point. He said that instead of relying just on one charismatic leader, everyone should come together, combining their collective intelligence and organizational power. If everyone, including pastors and families, unite like the passionate early church communities, they can create loving and happy families and churches. This unity and love will be noticed by everyone, creating a community that everyone trusts and loves. He also highlighted the need for rapid growth in bringing new members and building genuine church communities, aiming for the national revival.

Even with their busy travel schedule across the Asia-Pacific region, President Song Yong-cheon of FFWPU-International, Yang Chang-sik from UPF-International, Matsuda Koji, the President of IAYSP International, and their teams worked tirelessly, visiting places around the world. They all prayed and hoped that the goals of our Heavenly Parent and the aspirations of True Mother, which signal a new era, can come to fruition soon. 



Vision 2025: Towards Peaceful Reunification of the Korean Peninsula

Yang Chang-shik,
Chairman of UPF International & UPF-Korea



The year 2023 holds special significance for Koreans. It marks the 70th anniversary of the signing of the Korean War armistice and the Korea-US Mutual Defense Treaty. The True Parents prophesied early on that communism would not last more than 70 years. In reality, the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917 led to the formation of the first communist state, the Soviet Union, on December 30, 1922. It was dissolved 68 years, 11 months, and 26 days later; on December 26, 1991, President Mikhail Gorbachev declared the dissolution of the federation. After World War II, four countries were divided, including Germany, Vietnam, Yemen and Korea. Later, all but Korea were united. Germany was united under a free democratic system, while Vietnam was united under socialist ideology. The end of World War II brought Korea's liberation from 36 years of Japanese colonial rule. Yet the Korean people, who had been a single ethnic group for 1,300 years, became a sacrificial pawn in the power struggles of the major powers, resulting in the division of the country into North and South.



According to God's providence, the Korean Peninsula is the third Israel, the homeland of faith where the True Parents of Heaven, Earth, and Humankind were born, and the land of the chosen people. Therefore, we need to analyze the background and the course of modern Korean history to gain a deeper understanding of the providential significance of the unification of Heavenly Korea, which is the hope of the members of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification.

The United States had requested the Soviet Union's participation in the war against Japan, to help defeat Japanese forces in the Manchuria region of China and prevent a protracted war. However, the Soviet Union hesitated, citing its defense treaty with Japan. But when the United States dropped its first atomic bomb on Hiroshima on August 6, 1945, the tide of war had clearly turned. The Soviet Union unilaterally declared war on Japan on August 9 and began its invasion of Manchuria the next day. Later that day the United States dropped a second atomic bomb, on Nagasaki. By August 10 the Soviet Union had already entered the Korean Peninsula. The United States was caught by surprise when the Soviet Union occupied all of North Korea, which was defenseless, in just a month. The Soviet Union had always coveted the northern part of the Korean Peninsula, in search of a port that would not freeze in winter.

When Emperor Hirohito of Japan declared unconditional surrender on August 15, 1945, the main forces of the U.S. military were stationed in the Philippines and Okinawa. The United States, alarmed at the sudden entry of the Soviet Union into the Korean Peninsula, immediately began negotiations with the Soviets. They proposed that each would accept Japan's surrender and establish a military presence along the 38th parallel, with the Soviets to the north and the Americans to the south. The Soviets accepted this proposal. They already occupied North Korea at the time, but it was not until September 9 that the United States entered South Korea. From then on, the United States and the Soviet Union each managed a separate part of the Korean Peninsula. The Soviets established a socialist regime in North Korea, installing the young Kim Sung-ju, who had been a communist guerrilla fighter, as the leader under a new name, Kim Il-Sung. In South Korea, Syngman Rhee, who had been leading an independence movement based in the United States, returned to his home country to prepare for the establishment of a new nation.





Eventually, on August 15, 1948, a free democratic country was established south of the 38th parallel with the United States as its ally, and on September 9, 1948, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was established north of the 38th parallel with the support of the Soviet Union and China, solidifying the division. With Japan's defeat, and a new government installed in South Korea, the U.S. military that had been stationed on the Korean Peninsula withdrew in 1949. In January 1950, the United States declared the so-called Acheson Line as its line of defense in the Far East. The defense parameter protected Japan and the Philippines, but excluded the Korean Peninsula. Twenty-one months after the establishment of the Democratic People's Republic, on June 25, 1950, the North Korean army made a surprise invasion of South Korea. They captured Seoul in three days, and occupied the Nakdong River area, in the far south, within a month.

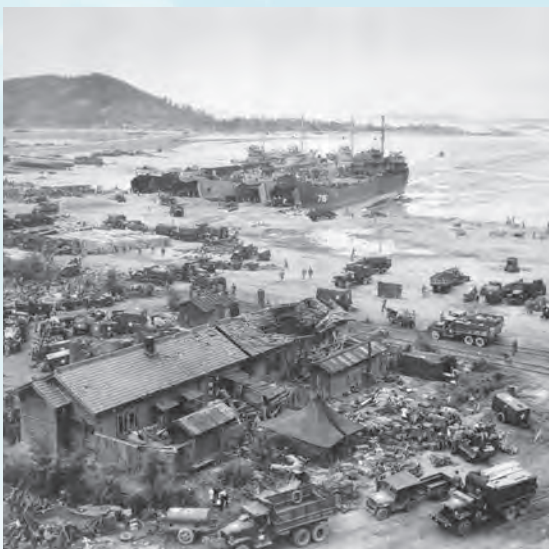
The United Nations immediately convened a Security Council meeting and decided to dispatch U.N. forces to South Korea. Under the order of U.S. President Harry Truman, General Douglas MacArthur, the commander of the Far East Army, was instructed to defend South Korea, and U.S. forces arrived on July 1, one week after the start of the war. This was the first decision to dispatch U.N. forces since the formation of the United Nations in 1948. It was a unanimous decision, as the Soviet Union, one of the five permanent members, did not attend the meeting. There is a theory that the reason for the Soviet Union's absence was a high-level calculation to secure a strategic advantage over Europe by inducing U.S. participation in the Korean War. However, we know that this was an astonishing providence to save free democratic Korea according to God's will. In fact, a behind-the-scenes story has recently been revealed, that Billy Graham, a strong Christian leader in the United States, directly called Truman immediately after the outbreak of the war and requested immediate deployment to save Korea, which had many Christians and practiced democracy.





General MacArthur was 70 years old, and a veteran of many battles. He conceived the Incheon Landing Operation, which involved attacking behind enemy lines and striking at the core of the North Korean forces. It was a historic operation on a grand scale, mobilizing 75,000 troops on 262 war ships. The odds of success were said to be one in 5,000. The sea near Incheon was shallow and littered with rocks, and the difference in tides made it impossible to land directly from the ship, so small boats had to be used. If the North Korean forces had known their plans in advance, the entire force could have been drowned in the sea without a chance to retreat. In utmost secrecy, some South Korean soldiers were deployed as an intelligence unit to secure the landing point in advance. After exchanging signals, they succeeded in the landing operation, as fast as lightning, and marched straight to Seoul, reclaiming the city in just 13 days. The day was September 28, 1950. Seoul was reclaimed three months after it was taken. General MacArthur continued to advance northward to annihilate the communist forces in the second phase, marching all the way to the Yalu River.

Meanwhile, U.N. forces under the command of Army Lieutenant Alexander Haig were also deployed in the Hungnam Operation, evacuating military forces along with tens of thousands of North Korean civilians. At that time, True Father, who was in the Communist-controlled Hungnam Prison, was miraculously liberated on October 14, 1950. Later, Haig retired as an Army General and became U.S. Secretary of State. When he passed away, the True Parents gave him the blessing of holding a special Seonghwa ceremony. As the continental chairman at the time, I attended the ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery with representatives of the True Family and The Washington Times.





Within a month of the Incheon Landing Operation, General MacArthur had control over almost of North Korea. However, with the arrival of one million Chinese troops to support the North Koreans, the U.N. forces had to retreat. In the fierce battles that continued for three years and one month, approximately four million people from both sides were killed, injured, or went missing before a ceasefire was agreed upon on July 27, 1953. Around 2.1 million foreign soldiers fought with the U.N. forces during the war; 1.8 million were American soldiers. There were 41,000 casualties among the U.N. forces; 37,000 of them were American. Sixteen countries sent troops to the U.N. forces, six countries provided medical support, and 41 countries provided material, for a total of 63 countries that helped South Korea. Most of the logistical support in this process was from Japan.

On the other hand, North Korea received various weapons from the Soviet Union at the beginning of the war, and China later sent one million troops to help North Korea with human wave tactics.

Among the Korean people, ten million families were separated by the division into North and South. Most of the first generation are dying of old age, with an unfulfilled longing to see their family members.

Thus, the Korean War was another World War that cannot be forgotten. At that time, True Mother became a refugee with Grandmother Hong, and crossed the Han River to safety with the help of the U.N. forces. U.N. troops were essential to protect the True Parents. When viewed providentially, the Korean War was the final battle where the conflict between Cain and Abel that started in the Garden of Eden played out as God's side and Satan's side. It was a fight between good and evil, a fight between theism and atheism, and a confrontation between democracy and communism.






Therefore, this Korean Peninsula is the final battleground in God's providence.

When we focus on Vision 2025 for the Korean Peninsula, it has to be the pivotal point when the divided North and South embark on the path of unification. The year 2025 marks the 80th anniversary of Korean liberation. Many prophets say that the clouds of unification will be full over the Korean Peninsula in 2025.

The problem is the process and method of unification.

Right now, the South and North are in a state of high tension, facing off against each other. North Korea is pouring all its energy into developing long-range missiles and nuclear weapons, even as its people starve to death, while South Korea's economy ranks among the top 10 in the world, and its trade volume is ranked sixth. In 2019, South Korea became only the seventh country to join the OECD's 30-50 Club (countries with per capita income of US\$30,000 and a population over 50 million).

The personal income difference between South and North Korea is 30:1, and the difference in gross domestic product (GDP) is 59:1. In the midst of this, North Korea is spending 26.4% of its national budget on its military, and South Korea is pouring 2.7% of its GDP into defense. There are studies suggesting that if both sides were to ease tensions and convert their military expenditures into production and infrastructure, approximately 2,000 trillion won could be saved by 2050, which would solve problems such as North Korea's food shortages and the need to advance its industrialization. 



The 2023 Peace Road Unity March: A Global Endeavor for Unity and Peace

Marking the 70th anniversary of the Armistice Agreement, the 'Peace Road Unity March' was initiated to commemorate the valorous sacrifices of soldiers from 22 nations. Emblematic of aspirations for both the reunification of the Korean Peninsula and worldwide peace, this monumental event simultaneously unfolded across 160 countries, engaging around 400,000 global participants.


In Iceland, under the banner of 'Efforts to Address Climate Crisis', a poignant 15 km march toward a volcano was staged on July 21st. This assembly not only facilitated dialogues among diverse groups but also amplified the shared anxieties and despair induced by climate change, kindling a renewed consciousness about the burgeoning environmental crisis.

Shifting to Asunción, Paraguay, a 'Walking for Peace' campaign was done on the 12th of June. Esteemed members from institutions like the Universal Peace Federation (UPF), Women's Federation for World Peace (WFWP), Collegiate Association for the Research of Principles (CARP), and International Association of Youth and Students for Peace (IAYSP) graced the occasion. The spotlight was on the ideals championed by Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, envisioning a heavenly unified Korea and a harmonized world. Participants exuded optimism, fervently wishing for an everlasting commitment to global peace and a sustained drive towards achieving it.





Meanwhile, in Mexico City, the atmosphere was electrifying as the 9th edition of the Peace Road event took center stage on June 13th, this time at the iconic Azteca Stadium. This bicycle-led peace expedition, themed 'Lead the Way to Peace', drew over 300 enthusiasts, including delegates from Mexico City's UPF, FFWPU, WFWP, and the IAYSP. Guided by the poignant mantra, 'Peace Begins With Me', and backed by the unwavering support of local law enforcement and administrative agencies, the event unfolded seamlessly.

The 2023 Peace Road Unity March, spanning Iceland, Paraguay, and Mexico City, culminated as a resounding success. Navigating environmental and geographical adversities, participants wholeheartedly embraced the ethos of the Peace Road, victoriously culminating the journey with a united spirit across regions. 



2023 Summer Workshop Recap

This summer, the Universal Peace Federation hosted its '2023 Summer Workshop' with outstanding participation across the globe. Here's a summary of the events that transpired.

Heavenly Korea

Organized by the Youth and Student Department of Heavenly Korea Headquarters, multiple sessions were held at the HJ Heaven and Earth CheonBo Training Center. The sessions included:

Youth Training:

- 1st Session: June 26 - July 3 (211 attendees)
- 2nd Session: July 8 - 15 (132 attendees)

Workshops:

- 1st Session: July 22 - 28 (330 attendees)
- 2nd Session: August 5 - 11 (313 attendees)

Attendees ranged from potential witnessing guests and inactive family members to members and young public officials. The focus was on aligning with the teachings of True Parents, understanding the Principle of Unification, the lifelong endeavors of the True Parents, and education on absolute values.



Heavenly North America

NORTH AMERICA

The National Ocean Challenge, organized by the Heavenly America Headquarters, was hosted in Kodiak, Alaska from July 3 to 25. This summer training saw 26 attendees from countries like the USA, Korea, Japan, and Andorra. The program delved into the maritime providence and Pan-Pacific providence carried out by True Parents during the 1970s and 1980s.



CANADA

In Montreal, YSP organized the 2nd Generation Youth Summer Camp from July 16 to 23 under the theme 'Our Life of Faith'. With 70 young attendees and YSP officials, the camp included activities like hiking and camping, fostering camaraderie and instilling the values of living for others.





Heavenly Europe

RUSSIA

Summer training was conducted from July 23 to 30, catering to a broad age range from elementary school to college students, and spanning both 1st and 2nd generations. More than ten diverse programs were offered, merging teachings from the Divine Principle with ecological projects and athletic activities.

ALBANIA

A 15-day summer training session ran from July 10 to 25. Centered around 'The Divine Principle and the Life and Achievements of the True Parents', participants delved into deepening their bond with the Heavenly Parent and True Parents and each other.

LITHUANIA

From July 23 to 28, Lithuania welcomed 2nd generation Blessed Children for a unique summer camp. Set against a natural backdrop, the camp emphasized open communication across family units, church circles, and broader society. Participants bonded, shared ideas, and explored different Heavenly cultures, aiming for positive change.

Heavenly Central South America

BRAZIL

YSP Brazil presented a 12-day immersive workshop from July 12-23. It offered participants a choice to specialize in areas like arts, culture, business, character education, or media. This initiative was not just a project experience but a journey to identify personal skills, deepen connections with the Heavenly Parent and True Parents, and embrace divine values.



NICARAGUA

July 28 to 30 marked Nicaragua's Divine Principle summer training, hosted by the YSP. Tailored for Blessed students, the program encompassed Divine Principle lectures, purity teachings, and guidance on leading a faith-driven life, ensuring personal spiritual growth.



ARGENTINA

Argentina hosted a series of summer workshops tailored for its 2nd generation members. These were:

- A 3-day workshop on July 19
- An extended 7-day workshop from July 16-22
- A special program for young children from July 26-28

Activities ranged from HDH meetings and Divine principle lectures to readings of autobiography and sports events, all focused on molding the cultural policy for the up-and-coming generation.



Heavenly Africa

MOZAMBIQUE

In preparation for the summer break, a comprehensive 21-day Divine Principle training was organized from July 3-23 for Blessed candidates. Attendees delved deep into teachings about the Divine Principle and the exemplary life of True Parents, emerging with a fortified sense of identity and purpose, and a vision for a Heavenly-centered family.


BENIN

Benin witnessed an engaging 21-day workshop and outreach session from July 24 to August 11. Attendees focused on understanding the Divine Principle and imbibing teachings about True Parents' life, refining their faith, lifestyle, and vision for the future.

CAMEROON

Cameroon's summer comprised two workshops: a 21-day session from July 2-23 and a condensed 7-day session from July 17-23. Participants immersed themselves in the Divine Principle, Unification Thought, and character education, carving out paths for individual growth.

CÔTE D'IVOIRE

The Youth Student Department of Côte d'Ivoire proudly introduced its inaugural TOP CAMP from July 16-23 for participants aged 9 to 17. These young minds connected deeply with teachings on the Divine Principle, True Parents' journey, and core church traditions. Through their faith affirmations, they revitalized sibling and family bonds, inheriting the deep-rooted heart of hyojeong and devotion True Parents harbor for the Heavenly Parent. 




Powerful Experiences in Cheon Shim Won USA

On November 12-13, over 540 Unificationists, American Clergy Leadership Conference (ACLC) pastors, Korean Clergy Leadership Conference (KCLC) pastors, and members of the Youth Clergy Leadership Conference (YCLC) gathered at the International Peace Education Center (IPEC) in Las Vegas for the opening of the Cheon Shim Won and for a Hyojeong CheonBo Special Event. Over 30 Christian Pastors nationwide attended, making an effort to invite KCLC pastors from all 5 regions of Heavenly Korea. Together, American and Korean pastors joined Unificationists in Ansu and Chanyang, ancestor liberation, and the ancestor Blessing ceremony. KCLC were attentive and sincere in their first experience learning about True Parent's CheonBo providence and went home smiling and with new friendships with ACLC members. Dr. Ki Hoon Kim, Cheon Shim Won, USA president and his team organized the special weekend events.

YCLC took the opportunity of so many gathered Christian and Unificationist pastors to hold their first national leader's retreat. They learned directly from the subregional directors and American clergy how to be transformational pastoral leaders who are able to revive America and become the next generation of pastors for Heavenly America and Family Federation USA. YCLC prayed at the Cheon Shim Won during that opening week developing their heartistic connection with our Heavenly Parent.

Since then, Cheon Shim Won prayer halls have opened in states across the United States including Belvedere Training Center in Tarrytown, New York; Clifton, New Jersey; Dallas, Texas; inside the Washington Times building in Washington, D.C.; Baltimore, Maryland; Triangle city and Durham city in North Carolina; Atlanta, Georgia; Miami, Florida; Chicago, Illinois; and in Los Angeles. Hundreds of members have attended 21-day all-night prayer vigils at their local prayer hall and hundreds more are currently participating in three 40-day Cheon Shim Won prayer vigils at prayer halls across America.

As prayer halls opened across America, Cheon Shim Won Heavenly USA hosted an HJ CheonBo Special Event at the Belvedere Estate in Tarrytown, New York on June 24. Unificationists numbered 824 parents and children from all over America. They gathered under a large outdoor tent to liberate and bless their ancestors and to hold a HJ Offering Ceremony. Members were filled with hope and experienced a spiritual revival and renewal. On June 25, following the Cheonbo event, members gathered at the Belvedere Training Center for a national level Sunday Service. Several members shared revival experiences they had during the Cheonbo event and others shared spiritual experiences they had praying at the Cheon Shim Won at Belvedere. 



Testimonies about spiritual experiences at various local Cheon Shim Won's in America

ATLANTA, GEORGIA:

— DIANE AND ILYA HACK, SECOND GENERATION COUPLE AND CO-PASTORS, ATLANTA FAMILY CHURCH

On Sunday, June 18, As we finished our Morning Devotion, we stayed in the Cheon Shim Won and continued to sincerely pray before Sunday service begins. As we were praying, we had an inspiration from heaven to ask everyone to come pray in the Cheon Shim Won. When we received this inspiration, we hesitated as we thought that maybe people may not be ready to receive the power of the Cheon Shim Won; However, something kept telling us to ask everyone to go to the Cheon Shim Won and pray for 7 minutes after service; so with that mind-set, we accepted this inspiration and asked all of our members, including our guests and all second generation who were in the room, to go to the Cheon Shim Won after Service. We then all gathered in the Cheon Shim Won after service (There were about 60 members. This number includes 3 distant second generation and 4 consistent guests), and explained what the CSW is and its power. We ended up praying for more than 7 minutes all together. The most incredible experience happened after this prayer. Suddenly, 4 guests who joined us began to weep. One guest who came with his 12-year-old daughter held on to her as they wept together. All our members then gathered around and wept with them; including distant second generation who rarely come to church. The amazing testimony is that when we asked our guests how they felt in the Cheon Shim Won; here are a few things they said:

One guest said: "This is the deepest experience I have ever had. Being in that room, I felt something I have never felt before. Now I understand why your church is so different. I want to come to this room with my daughter and pray every single day. Can I do that?" (This is an amazing testimony because this guest has not even finished studying the Divine Principle but he had the deepest experience; even more so than some of our members). Another guest said: "My heart feels different and now something is telling me that I should learn more about the Blessing. Can I know more about the matching process? I feel it in my heart..." she then continued and said: "I would also like to be more involved in your church activities. if you need any help, let me know."

As a result of this prayer in the CSW, 2 of our guests are now witnessing together with our members weekly. One mentioned that he wants to spread the Divine Principle to his friends so they experience the spiritual environment he felt. We wanted to share this story because we now see that NOTHING is IMPOSSIBLE in the Cheon Shim Won. Although we feared having our guests pray in the Cheon Shim Won, God was already preparing an atmosphere that we were not aware of. These experiences and testimonies have shown us that once we unite with the inspiration, heart, and spirit of the CSW, our communities will have an incredible physical and spiritual rebirth.



DALLAS, TEXAS: —JOHN MONESTERE

Dear True Mother, thank you for the Cheon Shim Won in Dallas. Honestly, I did not intend to attend the grand opening as I was unprepared to offer prayer papers and had other concerns which make leaving my wife and disabled child alone difficult to justify. However, once I decided to go, although I still struggled about it, I resolved to offer prayer papers to resolve the most important issues for our family. As I brought the prayer papers into the room I felt overwhelmed and already tears came as I bowed and presented the papers into the box. When we began to pray in unison my tears flowed as I found myself unable to focus only on my own prayer requests. I also prayed for the brothers and sisters there that their prayer requests would be fulfilled and I realized that I would have to change so I prayed more to be a better husband and father than anything else. I filled my handkerchief with tears as I repented and prayed together with brothers and sisters. I expect to have more testimony as these prayer requests will/must be realized but there is one thing I feel strongly I can now have Cheon Shim Won with me when I sincerely pray at home or anywhere. This morning, after my wife and I prayed, I felt and said to her: “I feel as if I brought the Cheon Shim Won home with me!” Now, I cannot help but pray in tears with the feeling of seeing from Heavenly Parent’s point of view and not from my own limitations! The children of God who I am most responsible for should/must all be Blessed and for that to happen I must change to be united in heart with my wife, my children, and my Abel. All must be saved by the grace of God, Jesus, and True parents. Thank you again True Mother.

WASHINGTON, D.C.: —ARLENE CANDELAESI

I just want to say the opening ceremony of the Cheon Shim Won in Washington, D.C. yesterday was miraculous. When the candles were lit and prayers said, the Holy Spirit filled the room and I could feel the high spirit of the good spirit world so close here and I still do. It reminds me of the time in Jardin when one could ask Heavenly Parent questions in prayer and the specific answer would come, often immediately. Later, on the day of the opening ceremony, I returned to the CSW with a friend to pray. As we prayed I felt the spirit was not the same as it had been. I didn’t feel the closeness of Heavenly Parent. I mentioned this to my friend and she agreed. We looked around and noticed the candles were not all burning. We lit them and immediately we could feel the atmosphere of the room change. I am sure that by praying at the CSW, brothers and sisters will find the ways to reach out to people and change America with love, to solve their own troubled situations, and to overcome our own fears and doubts. Thank you sincerely. Love and smiles.

WASHINGTON D.C.: —LIBBY JO HENKIN

Yesterday was a very special blessing, to receive our Cheon Shim Won in Washington, D.C. I was looking forward to it with great yearning, because I long to be one with God, to experience God, more directly than ever, to even see the Face of God. This has been my longing my whole life. So, when I heard we would get our own Cheon Shim Won here, I prayed deeply every day to meet God there. And during our 21-day prayer condition, I prayed desperately. I wanted to go to the prayer room early yesterday to sit there and prepare to receive God and meet God. When I came, Rev. Randy Francis asked me to come upstairs and unexpectedly took me into the leaders’ luncheon with Dr. Ki Hoon Kim on the third floor. I was the only non-leader so I felt a little out of place, but accepted this gift. I felt that because I prepared my heart and arrived early, I was able to be in the prayer room when it was “settled” as our Cheon Shim Won. During unison prayer, I thought, “These are loud words. When will I feel that these words are reaching God?” Soon my loud words hit a zone where I felt there was power going through these words to God, but there was not, I thought, something miraculous in that. Toward the end of the prayer, suddenly a gold cylinder came down from heaven and encased me, alive and shimmering and separating me in my place from everyone else. With my eyes closed, I looked up and saw the gold passing from heaven to me and back and forth. My eyes welled up with tears, in ecstasy. I was a little surprised, because the feeling was not of power that can move mountains but of pervasive love that radiated out and spread throughout

the room and throughout the world. Pervasive, simple love that embraces absolutely everyone and everything, and I knew that is True Parents' love and what moves mountains. It was an experience of God I never knew before. I am so grateful to True Mother for the conditions she made and for her love to give us the Cheon Shim Won right here in D.C. I know it is a gift, so that we can begin again, and now fulfill our responsibility. These accomplishments will be my future prayers at our Cheon Shim Won.

LAS VEGAS (IPEC): —DR. ACHILLE ACOLATSE, SOUTHEAST SUBREGION SENIOR PASTORS

I would like to sincerely thank Heavenly Parent and True Parents for opening Cheon Shim Won in America. Praying in the Cheon Shim Won is truly special. We have been praying and offering devotion in the Cheon Shim Won in Las Vegas during the rebirth workshops with Dr. Ki Hoon Kim and President Demian Dunkley. In one of our prayer sessions, I felt a strong presence of the Holy Spirit. I felt my spirit was rising up. I felt as if we were in the Upper room as the disciples of Christ on the day of Pentecost. The feeling was overwhelming and it was the conclusion of 5 days of President Dunkley sharing True Mother's deepest heart with us. During this prayer, I felt we were all united with True Mother as the substantial Holy Spirit and we were all ready to go out in the world and testify to True Mother as the Only Begotten Daughter of God. When I returned to Washington D.C. after the rebirth workshop in Las Vegas, while joining online the Cheongpyeong Cheon Shim Won prayer vigil on a Friday, I had another profound experience with the Holy Spirit. While a sister was praying in the Cheon Shim Won in Korea, all of the sudden I felt an electricity flowing through my body from my head to my toes. I also felt someone touching my head although there was no one actually touching me. Then I could not stop my tears; I started to cry uncontrollably. The experience was so powerful and I felt I should do whatever it takes to comfort True Mother's heart. I can testify there is a special spiritual atmosphere in the Cheon Shim Won. When I pray in the Cheon Shim Won, I feel I can do anything. I can feel Heavenly Parent's presence and that Heavenly Parent is receiving my prayer. My confidence is boosted and I feel so encouraged and determined to do God's will and fulfill my responsibility as True Mother is asking now to do. Cheon Shim Won is the key to our victory in this new era. Aju!

LAS VEGAS (IPEC): "I HAD A DREAM" —JIM BOOTHBY, CAPITOL FAMILY CHURCH, STATE LEADER, WEST VIRGINIA

Upon the plane trip to Las Vegas to hear Rev. Dunkley deliver Mother's most recent message, I prayed to meet a uniquely good persona and on that flight, I met and extensively reviewed lecture content with the best, young, most eager "prospect" for Divine Principle I'd ever encountered. I thought, hmmm... wow, and realized something "new" seems afoot. In Las Vegas, upon sitting down in the Cheon Shim Won, quietly praying in True Parent's house, I was surprised and completely overcome with emotion, even shedding tears as I prayed and contemplated True Parent's situation. The atmosphere and mood in the CSW held a trove of purified spirit. In the last of 3 days, there was time to offer Wish Papers. Despite my normal mode of asking only "public-purpose-minded questions," this time, in addition to mission questions, I offered a \$100 wish paper asking a personal question about some urgent Boothby family financial concerns. Then I ran off to the airport.


Three days later back in Maryland, I awoke with a start on Monday morning from a powerful, ultra-clear dream. In the dream, I was hiking alone on a mountain trail. Out of nowhere, 3 clear plastic refrigerator-type gallon food bags, half buried in the mountain trail appeared. Inside the bags were funds, documents, plans—the exact answers to the finance questions I had asked. The contents were rather stunning. Next, the dream shifted to a large office with my old friend and long-time boss and central figure, Tom McDewitt, sitting at a desk (representing, perhaps the "Word" from above, and the "authority figure"?). A similar set of bags and contents sat on his desk and further explanation and guidance was offered by Tom. I have to say, I was quite heartened. My astonishment at this remarkable once-in-a-lifetime type of dream answer is still lingering 3 weeks later. I've never experienced such a dream. Seemingly this is going to be typical of the real-life, real-time CSW answers to prayers we can access through Mother's "merit of the age gift to all" of the CSW.

High Noon's 'Life Without Shadows' International Youth Workshop

High Noon is an international organization dedicated to nurturing empowered individuals, thriving couples, and flourishing families. Across the globe, High Noon has brought its impactful youth workshop, most recently with an enlightening tour of Latin America. With its roots in the unification principles advocated by True Parents, this organization, founded in the United States, is committed to spreading its mission of 'Living a Life at High Noon,' 'Life Without Shadows,' and 'Life of Absolute Sex' to every corner of the world.

At the core of High Noon's philosophy lie values such as honesty, forgiveness, courage, integrity, and accountability. Through a variety of programs, it aims to assist families in embracing and embodying virtues like purity and absoluteness in their daily lives. This approach offers practical pathways for fostering healthy growth, strong family bonds, and effective parenting.

In line with its mission, the High Noon international youth workshop recently took place over the span of one night and two days, from June 17th to 18th, in the tranquil setting of Pica Armonía, Monseñor Nouel Province, Dominican Republic. This empowering event brought together 42 young individuals, providing them with invaluable opportunities to explore solutions to challenges, shape ambitious aspirations, understand sexual values and take part in personal healing programs. This collaborative endeavor nurtures personal growth and lays the foundation for creating joyful families, harmonious societies, and a better world.

Continuing its transformative journey, the High Noon international youth workshop convened once again in Costa Rica, this time from June 23rd to 24th. This immersive experience spanned one night and two days, attracting a diverse group of 52 youths from Central and South America. Additionally, 20 participants from Peru, Argentina, Brazil, Guatemala, Nicaragua, and Mexico joined the workshop. During this weekend event, meaningful discussions took place, exploring practical solutions for instilling healthy and safe sexual values in the next generation. The workshop also tackled challenges like pornography and masturbation, all while emphasizing the rekindling and revitalization of marital bonds. 



Here are a few anonymous testimonials from the event

Over the course of this two-day seminar I realized and found the difficulties that arise in life. This week made me think again about what was in my life, the danger of vices and the magic of the Blessing. It is certainly one of the best seminars I have been to, if not the best, and I have a big thank you to the CARP and High Noon team. I really do feel more enlightened and clearer about my future as a Blessed couple.

It has not been the first time that I have received content about sexuality, but it is the first time that I have received it touching on so many topics related to it and I want to thank you. Because of it, it has inspired me again and has given me a guide to what are the steps I have to take to move forward in my life, I am going through a problem with addiction and I have been trying to fight against it for a long time and I think it is because I knew it was bad, but I did not have a clear purpose of why to quit, but I feel like this time I have a clear purpose and support to achieve it. There were also many topics that I was curious about that were answered in this seminar. Thank you very much for your effort!

I was able to recognize certain problems and bad habits that I have had for a long time and I liked the part in which through a circle we could analyze which actions lead to our vices. I also wanted to highlight that I loved being able to share with my group.

In this seminar I have felt free and relieved to be able to calmly reflect on the bad things I have done in the past and how I can overcome it. Being in the reflection groups I have realized many things that before I knew existed, but I did not give it the necessary importance. This seminar has helped me a lot and I know that what I have learned in these 2 days will serve me for the rest of my life.

This seminar appeared at the right time in my life. Last year I was dealing with emptiness problems in my life, I came across a lot of pornographic content. It was the first time I felt something strange in my body and curiosity caused me to keep watching it. I wanted to know what was causing me to go to pornography, being so common among young people, more than anything in school. It can make you question if you are bad. Thanks to the teachings that I had in the church, when I felt God's sadness. I left him and realized that it was not pleasant, but these talks that we received really made me understand why. I thought that just leaving it was enough, but thanks to you I was able to highlight my vices and the pain behind them, knowing that it is necessary to fill those gaps with new habits. Thank you very much for helping the community!

I really liked the seminar. At first I didn't think much about why I came, but I'm very happy that I did. On the way I began to think about some reason or goal that I wanted to have for the seminar and I realized that it would help me a lot to understand my husband on his path of recovery from addiction to pornography. It was very difficult for me to be empathetic to his situation and why he did something like that to me. I was concentrating a lot on how he could do this to me? Is this something I can forgive? Listening to these talks have helped me understand his point of view a little more, as well as being aware of the pain that caused him to get to that point. We still have a long way to go but we are working together. Thank you for this opportunity that has helped me to recognize the shadows in which I have to work in order to improve as a person, as a wife, and as a daughter.

It really was a lovely experience. Despite the short duration of the seminar, the program was enriching. The content of the experiences imparted is more than gold. I consider it an ideal content, since it helps us understand the problem, its origin, how it works, how to identify it and above all how to deal with it. The explanations are quite grounded, so applying them to practical everyday life was really easy for me. Another point to highlight is the environment that the High Noon team creates. It feels like a safe, friendly environment, where you allow yourself the opportunity to feel fear and begin to heal in a committed way. Thank you very much High Noon for everything.



Eternal Rest in Costa Rica

On the 3rd anniversary of Mrs. Kim Mae-ja's passing (July 29, 2020), a heartfelt commemoration took place in Costa Rica. Mrs. Mae-ja, the wife of Mr. Kim Jung-soo, the National Messiah of Costa Rica, chose this land—her missionary home—for her eternal rest.

Adding depth to this tribute, she lies beneath a tree personally planted by the couple in 2003.


In Korea, Mr. Kim Jung-soo held a prominent public role until his appointment as the National Messiah of Costa Rica on May 13, 1996. Answering this call, he and Mrs. Kim Mae-ja journeyed to Costa Rica, a then-unfamiliar land. Together, they dedicated over 25 years to their mission, enduring hardships and challenges in their quest to fulfill a divine purpose.





Despite facing poverty and countless challenges, their spirits were uplifted by the growing community of members in their adopted land. Their shared vision was the realization of the Heavenly Parent's ideal world and the teachings of the True Parents.

As he bid his final farewell, Chairman Kim Jung-soo, from his remote missionary base, conveyed deep emotions to his lifelong partner. Mrs. Kim Mae-ja for her sacrifices, characterized by resilience and selflessness, sharing how it resonated deeply with him.

Attendees at the commemoration, including members from Costa Rica, expressed their warm condolences and admiration for Mrs. Kim Mae-ja. She had wholeheartedly devoted her life to the grand design of Heaven and the Providence of the True Parents. 



Paraguay's New Beginning: Presidential Inauguration and a United Vision for Peace

On August 15, 2023, the illustrious "Palacio de los López," Paraguay's seat of governance, hosted the inauguration of its newly-elected President, Mr. Santiago Peña Palacios.

This significant event, a culmination of April's general elections, marked Mr. Peña Palacios's ascent to the nation's highest office.

Our attendance, a gesture of the invitation from Senator Silvio Ovelar, the President of the National Congress, was further enriched by the presence of dignitaries like Mr. Evaristo Fernández, President of UPF Paraguay, and Félix Coronel Fariña, its General Secretary. Their attendance, a testament to the diligent efforts of the Association of Parliamentarians for Peace, echoed the spirit of unity.

An array of Ambassadors for Peace also graced the occasion, each a beacon of Paraguay's vibrant tapestry of leadership and commitment. Their collective endeavors, spanning various spheres, shine a light on the nation's potential and their shared vision for its prosperous future.

The Universal Peace Federation (UPF) was prominently represented, with key members from ISCP, IAPP, IAPD, IAAP, IAED, and IAACP in attendance. A special nod to Dr. Federico Franco, the former President






under whose leadership Santiago Peña Palacios became the President of the Central Bank of Paraguay. Also noteworthy were contributions from National Deputy Luis Federico Franco Alfaro, and former deputies Del Pilar Eva Medina and Esmérita Sánchez, who have championed UPF's mission both nationally and internationally. Other esteemed guests included Pastor Simeón Velázquez, business visionary Luz Schembori, and TV personality Jun Carlos Amoroso, all united as Ambassadors for Peace, enhancing the ceremony's gravitas.

Global representatives further highlighted the event, emphasizing Paraguay's burgeoning international prominence.

The enduring efforts of UPF leaders and members in espousing the Divine Principle and the teachings of the True Parents have played a significant role in molding ambassadors dedicated to national advancement.

Adding to the accolades, the Chamber of Deputies of the Republic of Paraguay, in their Declaration No. 1010 from July 6, 2022, acknowledged UPF's monumental contributions: "Recognition to The Universal Peace Federation for Its Contributions in Favor of a More Peaceful World."

With unwavering commitment, we from Paraguay's Heavenly Parent's Holy Community, reaffirm our dedication to the guiding principles and vision of the True Parents. 



A New Dawn: Celebrating the Journey of Cameroon's 4th Batch of Youth Missionaries


On July 30th, 2023, Cameroon marked the conclusion of its fourth batch of missionaries' year-long journey. The mission had embarked on August 1, 2022, with an intensive 40-day workshop tailored to equip the missionaries for the tasks ahead.

The training focused on several core components. They learned how to teach the Divine Principle (DP), handle various workshops, impart character education in schools, witness, and fundraise. These elements became the backbone of their year-long mission. Notably, each missionary set personal objectives, including reading True Mother's memoir and True Father's autobiography three times each and the Divine Principle seven times. Furthermore, by the end of their mission, they aimed to have three spiritual children each.

During the mission, they diligently executed all these activities. They taught character education in schools that had entered a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with YSP. They also took on roles as coordinators and educators for a series of workshops, ranging from 1day workshop, 2 day, 7 days and 21 days' workshop.

The national leader welcomed esteemed guests to the closing ceremony: Sub-regional Director Rev Jean Pierre Kadima, the Regional YSP Secretary-General, Special Youth Envoy Sosheloba Houngbedji, and various youth leaders from the sub-region center. The Secretary-General emphasized that although the missionaries had completed their 365-day mission, their true challenge lay ahead; he urged them to strengthen their faith, especially as they step into university life, which will test their resolve and identity.

Expressing pride and admiration, the regional president lauded Cameroon's steadfast commitment to missionary training; and he shared that True Mother's dream was always for the second generation to take up the mantle of responsibility and fulfill her vision flawlessly.

The event was a joyous occasion for Cameroon. Families from near and far joined the celebration, connecting both virtually via Zoom and in person. The day's festivities culminated in a group photograph, symbolizing unity, commitment, and the shared hope for the future, with a turnout of 100 participants both online and on-site. 



A Tribute to Our Missionaries of 1975

by Christel Werner

This historic day in February 1975 is forever engraved in our hearts and minds, as it was the time, we received instructions from our True Parents to send missionaries from Germany to 120 nations¹ within six weeks. The given number of 120 is symbolic, as explained in detail in the Divine Principle. All missionaries were supposed to be in their respective countries on 1st May 1975, which seemed totally impossible, given each nation's different situations and legal requirements. But the word 'impossible' did not exist for our True Father.

One missionary from each of the former enemy nations of Japan, the United States and Germany, were to form a trinity and work together as a team. Since True Parents were living in the United States at that time, True Father addressed the American missionaries. His words were meant for the Japanese and German missionaries as well: "As I send you to many nations, our message and our way of life will be spread to every corner of the earth. You are to serve the people of your nation. What has been done for others will remain and always be remembered by future generations." He urged them: "If you succeed to unite as Japanese, American and Germans, your work will be blessed by God and crowned with success. If the three of you are totally united, God will absolutely help you, and your nation will develop. If you don't, you will never make progress." These young missionaries were the representatives of True Parents.



Their focus was on the principle of true love and service, thus achieving the unification of all people as children of God, regardless of skin colour, nationality and religion. True Father emphasized: "God wishes to visit every corner of the world He created. He especially wants to visit those places where His children are sincerely preparing the foundation of loyalty. As God's children, therefore, you must pioneer the end of the world and invite Him." At that time, my husband Paul and I were stationed in Pasadena, California, supporting the IOWC2 activities in the United States.

Completely unexpected, we received the call from our True Parents, entrusting us with this historic undertaking to send German missionaries to all corners of the world. My immediate reaction was a sense of concern and a tremendous responsibility for the lives of these brothers and sisters. They lacked life experience, were so young in age and young in our movement. As we have worked in different nations around the world ourselves, we knew what was awaiting them and wanted to prepare them as much as possible. However, this was God's call through our True Parents, and prayed that He would grant our precious brothers and sisters the protection they so desperately needed and only He could provide.

When Paul and I arrived at our seminar centre, Neumühle, our young missionaries to be were already assembled, and my feelings for each of them were overwhelming. We spent these few days with unforgettable meetings as a group and personally with brothers and sisters.

We are deeply grateful to Rita and her team, who reliably and tirelessly took care of all necessary preparations, a monumental effort in all respects.

To the missionaries, we stressed the importance of immediately communicating their arrival, staying in regular contact with us, never exposing themselves to dangerous situations alone, and turning to the respective German Embassy for help, if necessary.

Father's instructions for the missionaries to arrive in their countries by 1st May 1975 were taken very seriously by Paul – as always. Therefore, we are grateful that all German missionaries were on their way by the end of April and were the first to arrive in their mission countries.

For them to feel connected with True Parents and our worldwide activities, we sent monthly letters and photos by airmail. Our prayers and love have always accompanied each one of them. Unfortunately, it was not possible for Paul and myself to personally send off the missionaries, as we were entrusted with another important responsibility in the United States and had to leave earlier. The last gathering in our training centre was a moving farewell. Many tears were shed. While singing the song we knew so well, it took on a much deeper meaning for all of us.

*"The heart of my country beckons to me
To fill its emptiness.
My Father long has spoken to me
His desire this land to bless.
He sends me on to life unknown
To work in a far-off place.
He loves that land before I come,
And through me, He'll give it grace..."*

Once in their countries, the missionaries persevered bravely despite many hardships and dangers, embraced the different cultures and languages and laid a solid foundation for their country's future. We could only



accompany them with innumerable, tearful prayers.

Their guardian angels have certainly had to work overtime to protect their lives. After their Marriage Blessing in 1982, either in Madison Square Garden, New York or Korea, the missionaries returned to their mission countries and eventually started their family life.

They gave birth to children, sometimes under challenging conditions, be it in Africa, the Middle East, Central and South America, or Asia. Our courageous missionaries are and always will be dear to our hearts. We tried to keep in touch with them, even when we were officially no longer responsible for them.

Paul and I are eternally grateful to our brave missionaries for answering the call of our Heavenly Parent and our True Parents for their tireless commitment, their deep faith, devotion, sacrifice, and their life of selfless love in service to God's children worldwide.

We especially thank our Heavenly Parent for all His protection and blessings. To this day, we pray for the missionaries and their families. May their unique examples of service and dedication inspire future generations to participate in building a peaceful world. ㄸ



