

FFWPU UK: Hak Ja Han Calls For A Culture Of Peace Following Itaewon Tragedy

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November 2, 2022



Itaewon, Seoul, South Korea

FFWPU-UK sends our condolences to the families and friends of those who lost their lives in the tragic Halloween Party crush in Itaewon, Seoul.

We are all shocked and saddened by the terrible Halloween Party tragedy in Seoul that has left over 150 young people dead and many more injured. We send our condolences to their families and loved ones and to the entire nation of Korea which is in mourning.

Our FFWPU was founded in Korea by the Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon and during my

many visits to Korea over the years I've been to Itaewon many times, which makes the incident even more personal.



This morning on a conference call with our International Headquarters, we heard how True Mother, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, was at a gathering of FFWPU leaders in Yongpyong, Korea, when she heard the news of the disaster. She quickly called everyone present into prayer for all the young people who died so needlessly, adding "Halloween should be a time when we chase away all the spirits of darkness and determine to build a new culture of peace and love." - Dr. Balcomb

Thousands of young people had descended onto the streets of Itaewon, Seoul, to celebrate Halloween without covid restrictions.

The area is a popular nightlife spot, for both natives and foreigners, with narrow streets, that are filled with restaurants and bars. The neighbourhood is served by the Itaewon metro station which allowed

for easy access to the area.

The crush took place in an especially narrow alleyway where crowds moved in from three directions.

On Monday, South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol, his wife, Kim Keon-hee, and top officials including the prime minister and Seoul mayor joined mourners.

A number of foreigners got caught up in the tragedy, and now authorities are working with together with foreign embassies and families overseas, offering support with funeral arrangements.