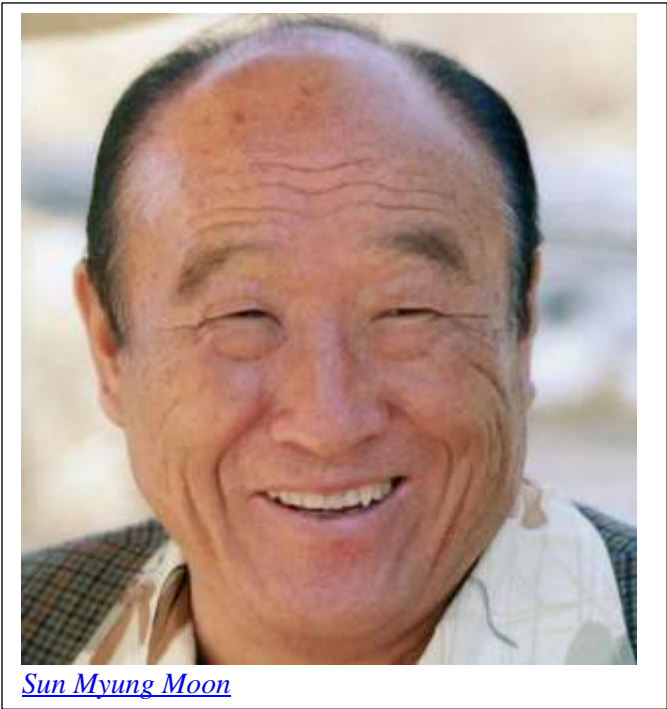


FFWPU Europe and the Middle East: Doo Seung-yeon of 13 Years Since Father Moon's Holy Ascension

Knut Holdhus
September 11, 2025



Rev. Doo Seung-yeon giving his speech September 8, 2025



[Sun Myung Moon](#)

world? [...] I believe it is our [True Father](#). In the spirit world, he is the one whom [God](#) loves the most. And on earth, isn't [Father](#) the one whom [True Mother](#) cherished the most? That is why, whenever I saw [Father](#), I always thought: he is truly the most blessed person in the world.



[Sun Myung Moon](#) July 16, 2012 in [Gapyeong](#)

Speech commemorating 13th anniversary of Father Moon's passing: "Say it loud: 13 years have passed, but Father still lives in our hearts!"

Part 1 of a speech on September 8, 2025 by Doo Seung-yeon (두승연), newly appointed as Director of the World Mission Headquarters of the [Family Federation](#). The message, delivered at a meeting for leaders and members gathered in [Gapyeong](#), South Korea, was in commemoration of [Father Moon](#) on the 13th anniversary of his holy ascension (Seonghwa). Slightly edited unofficial translation of the original Korean.

Because we meet often, I feel truly happy. I'm glad to see you.

Who would be the most blessed person in the world? [...] I believe it is our [True Father](#). In the spirit world, he is the one whom [God](#) loves the most. And on earth, isn't [Father](#) the one whom [True Mother](#) cherished the most? That is why, whenever I saw [Father](#), I always thought: he is truly the most blessed person in the world.

But already, it has been 13 years since his Seonghwa (holy ascension). I cannot forget that day. [...]

It was 2012. It was Las Vegas, in July - it is an extremely hot month - the hottest month in Las Vegas. At that time, because [Father](#) overworked himself, he caught a very severe flu.

[Mother](#), urging him to go to the hospital, even spoke to [Father](#) (in our terms) as if it might lead to his Seonghwa. Even though she spoke of his Seonghwa, [Father](#) felt that even the time it would take to go to the hospital was too precious, so he didn't go. [Editor's note: [Father](#)

considered every moment for the [providence](#) too valuable to 'waste' on medical care.]

So then, who would be the second most blessed persons in the world? It is you. You are the beloved "children" whom [Father](#) cherished so deeply. Therefore, you too are the most blessed ones. Say a loud "Aju!" (Amen). This is not the time to hold back your "Aju" or your applause. [See editor's note below]



From [Father Moon's](#) Seonghwa ceremony in [Gapyeong](#), South Korea September 15, 2025

Even with his weakened body, [Father](#) endured a long flight back to Korea. As soon as he arrived at the Cheon Jeong Temple [in Gapyeong, northeast of Seoul], he immediately went down to Yeosu [on the South coast] to offer his devotion through fishing.

Yeosu, where the river meets the sea - how strong the wind is there! Even though it was summer, [Father's](#) flu grew worse. His body could not endure it, and [Father](#) collapsed. Thankfully, we were then able to take him to the hospital. Until that time, he absolutely refused to go, because he felt time was too precious.



Holy Mother Han, [Hak Ja Han](#), bowing in front of the coffin of [Father Moon](#) and a large portrait of him during the Seonghwa ceremony on Sep. 15, 2012

In the hospital, he received treatment at first, but while there he longed to leave, saying:

"How can I afford to waste time lying in a hospital bed? There is so much to be done."

He left, but his condition worsened, and he had to be hospitalized again. At that time, he lost consciousness. He spent one month at St. Mary's Hospital, unconscious.

I witnessed something there. I saw how deeply [Mother](#) cherished and loved [Father](#). No one loved and cared for him as much as [Mother](#). That moment will never leave me.

At St. Mary's Hospital, [Father](#) could do nothing with his body. Later, he was moved to the 8th floor of Chung Pyung's HJ International Hospital.



From [Father Moon](#)'s Seonghwa ceremony in Gapyeong, South Korea September 15, 2025

At his final moments, [True Mother](#) and all their children were there at his bedside. Though [Father](#) could not move at all, when [Mother](#) and the children sang songs of love to him, his finger trembled ever so slightly. It was almost nothing - but seeing it, I thought:

"With that faint movement, [Father](#) was saying, '[Mother](#), I love you. Thank you for all your devotion!'"

And then, he left us. Even then, I did not feel as if [Father](#) had departed to the spirit world. Even now, though 13 years have passed since his Seonghwa, I cannot truly feel it - because [Father](#) is still alive in our hearts.

Isn't that so? [Father](#) still lives in your hearts, doesn't he? He is still working now, isn't he?

I have already spoken for some time, but I have summarized into five points the meaning of what [Father](#) accomplished. I would like to share them with you.

Today is a meaningful day: the 13th Anniversary of the Cosmic Seonghwa (holy ascension) of the [True Parent](#) of Heaven, Earth, and Humankind - [True Father](#).

In the world, death brings sorrow. But in our [Family Federation](#), death in this earthly world means a new birth into the heavenly world. It is said that it should be celebrated even more than a bride's wedding day. Therefore, I think that my speaking to you today about the meaning of [True Father](#)'s Seonghwa (holy ascension) is by no means something unfamiliar.

As we mark the 13th anniversary of [True Father](#)'s Seonghwa, before those who long for [Father](#), feel sorrow over his Cosmic Seonghwa, and grieve, I - in speaking such words - might appear to be an unfilial son.

[Father](#)'s Cosmic Seonghwa is regarded not only by our [blessed](#) families but also by Heavenly Parent as a

natural phenomenon in accordance with [God's](#) principles of creation. So, let us reflect briefly on its meaning:

First, [True Father](#), the Returning Messiah, together with the [Only Begotten Daughter](#), the [True Mother](#), became [True Parents](#) through their [Holy Marriage](#).

Second, through the [Blessing](#), he returns all humanity to the original Garden of Eden.

Third, he broke down the boundary between the spirit world and the physical world, uniting them as one.

Fourth, he proclaimed the [Cheonil-guk](#) era, where our Heavenly Parent and humankind live together as one family.

Fifth, he established the foundation for the age of Heavenly Parent's direct dominion to actually begin.

To be continued. Part 2 coming soon.

Translated from the transcription of the original speech in Korean.

[**Editor's note:** "Aju" (아주!) is mainly a new prayer conclusion. It is used instead of "Amen". The expression was coined by Rev. [Sun Myung Moon](#) and Dr. [Hak Ja Han](#) in 2006. "Aju" replaced the traditional "Amen" to signify not just affirmation of [God's](#) power, but a pledge to fulfill [God's](#) will through one's own responsibility - a move away from simply asking [God](#) to act, toward actively committing oneself to act.]

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Over 30,000 Attend Memorial For Sun Myung Moon

- September 7, 2025
- Knut Holdhus

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13 years on, Sun Myung Moon's followers gather at large memorial event to pray for a new era of peace

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Participants singing praises at the large rally in Gapyeong, South Korea, September 7, 2025. Photo by Sun Myung Moon

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Various media outlets in South Korea reported on 6th September on a large rally in Gapyeong, South Korea. The **Family Federation for World Peace and Unification**, often referred to as the **Unification Church**, marked a solemn and significant event on 5th September with the commemoration of the 13th anniversary of the "Cosmic Seonghwa" (funeral) of its co-founder, Reverend **Sun Myung Moon**.

The memorial service, held at the *Cheongshim Peace World Center* in Gapyeong, Gyeonggi Province, drew more than 30,000 participants from across the globe – members from Korea, Japan, the United States, Europe, Asia, and beyond gathered to honor the legacy of the man they revere as the **True Parent of Heaven, Earth, and Humankind**. This level of international participation not only highlighted the continuing spiritual influence of **Reverend Moon** but also reflected the enduring global reach of the **Family Federation's** vision.

The event was themed "Prayer Meeting for the Beginning of a New Era and New History Centered on Harmony and Peace", underscoring the **organization's** dual commitment to personal faith and broader societal transformation. Through songs of praise, sermons, united prayers for reconciliation, and a special vigil devotional prayer for Korea's prosperity, participants were invited to reflect on their spiritual responsibilities while seeking renewed strength to contribute to peace in families, communities, and nations.



Doo Seung-yeon, Director of the World Mission Headquarters, **Family Federation**, speaking 5th Sep. 2025. Photo: FFWPU

Several speeches captured the spiritual and reformist tone of the gathering. **Doo Seung-yeon**, Director of the *World Mission Headquarters*, emphasized the cumulative impact of small, faithful actions:

"When each of our small acts of practice come together to create a history of harmony and peace in families, churches, workplaces, and society, only then can we achieve the true goal. Let us forgive one another and dedicate ourselves to peace."

His words point to the **Family Federation's** belief that global change begins with the cultivation of peace within the individual and family, a principle that has long been central to the movement's teachings.



Song Yong-cheon, President of the **Family Federation** in South Korea, speaking on 5th Sep. 2025. Photo: FFWPU

Song Yong-Cheon, President of the **Family Federation** in South Korea, framed the moment as one of spiritual renewal, declaring:

"Heaven is calling us to be reborn as a pure community of faith."

By urging a return to the essence, **Song** highlighted the importance of internal renewal while also pledging to strengthen the transparency and fairness of the **Federation's** organizational systems:

"We will begin concrete institutional reforms for transparent operations and strengthen a fair and rational personnel system."

Such commitments demonstrate an awareness that credibility and integrity are inseparable from spiritual authority.

Importantly, the **Federation** did not shy away from addressing

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contemporary challenges. A representative openly acknowledged recent investigations and social concerns:

"We deeply recognize our moral responsibility [...]. We are taking this as an opportunity for deep reflection and renewal, with the aim of fulfilling the essential role of religion before society, the nation, and the world."



A youth choir performing on 5th Sep. 2025 in Gapyeong, South Korea. Screenshot from live transmission by FFWPU

This frank admission illustrates a willingness to transform criticism into an occasion for growth and reform, aligning with the [organization's](#) emphasis on moral responsibility and accountability.

A spokesperson for the [Family Federation](#) also situated its mission within a wider geopolitical and spiritual context,

"Amid growing nationalism and global conflicts, we are also dedicating special prayers so that Korea can overcome trials and crises, achieve greater prosperity and development, and fully play its divinely appointed role as the center of peace on the Korean peninsula and in the world."

Here, the [Federation](#) connected its faith practices to Korea's destiny, reinforcing its conviction that Korea has a [providential](#) role in advancing global peace.

This year also marks the 71st anniversary of the movement's [founding](#). With the grand [opening of the Cheonwon Temple](#) in April and a new organizational structure centered on mission, administration, and education, the [Federation](#) is signaling its readiness to advance its guiding vision: "One Human Family under [God](#)". Through its programs for healthy families, Korean reunification, and international peace, the [movement](#) continues to extend its founders' legacy into the future.

In sum, the large event on 5th September can be said to be not just a memorial but a moment of renewal. It reveals a faith community embracing both reflection and reform, committed to peace in the family, society, and world.

See also [13 Years Since Father Moon's Holy Ascension](#)

Text: Knut Holdhus, editor, written based on the English translation of South Korean media reports from [Segye Ilbo](#), [Taegyeong Ilbo](#), [Jeonguk Maeil Shinmun](#), and [Local Segye](#).

Featured image above: From the large rally on 5th September 2025 in Gapyeong, South Korea. Photo: [FFWPU](#)

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