

FFWPU EUME: FFWPU Co-Founder Dr. Hak Ja Han, 82, Grilled for 9 Hours by hostile Korean Government

Knut Holdhus
September 17, 2025



Dr. [Hak Ja Han](#), the [True Mother](#), departing for the prosecutor's office on September 17, 2025



Summoned [Dr. Hak Ja Han](#) for questioning: Special Prosecutor Min Jung-ki. Image generated by Chat GPT

Prosecutor's treatment of Co-Founder Hak Ja Han sparks outcry at home and abroad as she in spite of heart condition is kept for daylong questioning

On 17th September, [Hak Ja Han](#) (82), Co-Founder and President of the [Family Federation](#), appeared for questioning at the special prosecutor's office in Seoul, South Korea. The national media reported extensively on it, as the aging religious leader, currently recovering from hospital treatment for a serious heart condition, was questioned throughout the day, for nine and a half hours.

In July, the special prosecutor arrested a former executive of the [Family Federation](#) on suspicion of giving gifts such as necklaces to Kim Keon-hee (김건희), wife of former President Yoon Suk-yeol (윤석열), in exchange for favors. The prosecutor [See editor's note below] appears to believe that [President Han](#) was involved in this

matter. The investigation has also been looking into allegations that the [Federation](#) provided illicit funds to National Assembly member Kweon Seong-dong (권성동).

There have been strong reactions to what many see as a treatment disproportionately severe and lacking in basic respect for an octogenarian recovering from major surgery, raising questions about sensitivity and fairness in the investigative process.

"Is the South Korean Government trying to kill [Mother Moon](#)? The new leftwing South Korean government is attacking many religions, but they seem insanely intent on destroying [Mother Moon](#). She is 83 years old, a world leader with supporters in over 150 countries. She works for peace and religious freedom. She has been in the hospital with a serious heart condition and the persecutors (not prosecutors) of the leftwing government want to interrogate her at the risk of killing her. It is inhumane and should be stopped immediately."



Newt Gingrich, 50th speaker of the United States House of Representatives from 1995 to 1999, wrote on his X (formerly Twitter) account 17th September 17



Rev. Demian Dunkley, President of the [Family Federation](#) in USA, here speaking 20th July 2025

The Family Federation of the USA issued on September 17, a press release:

"President Demian Dunkley: **'We stand with the Mother of Peace, Dr. Hak Ja Han, the Holy Mother Han'**

The [Family Federation for World Peace and Unification](#) International strongly denounces today's summons of the Mother of Peace, Dr. [Hak Ja Han](#) by South Korea's Special Prosecutor.

'This is not a neutral investigation. This is persecution,' said President Demian Dunkley. 'We stand with the Mother of Peace, Dr. [Hak Ja Han](#), the [Holy Mother Han](#). Her integrity and lifelong sacrifice for humanity shine brighter than any accusation.'

[Dr. Han](#), now in her eighties, is one of the foremost female religious leaders in the world. For decades she has worked to uplift families, reconcile nations, and advance peace across continents. Millions regard her as a spiritual mother. To see her treated as a suspect is, in Dunkley's words, 'an offense to decency, democracy, and the very principle of freedom of religion.'

The prosecution's case relies heavily on the word of a disgraced former member who was expelled from the movement for misconduct. 'How can Korea, a democratic nation, base its accusations on such tainted testimony?' Dunkley asked. 'This is not justice. This is the weaponization of law against faith.'

The [Family Federation](#) calls on faith leaders, elected officials, and people of conscience around the world not merely to pray but to act - to speak out, write to representatives, rally communities, and demand that Korea uphold the universal right of religious freedom.

'The eyes of the world are watching Korea today,' Dunkley emphasized. 'History will remember who stood silently - and who stood up.'

Rev. Demian Dunkley, President [Family Federation](#) USA is available for interviews upon request."



Dr. Song Yong-cheon delivering his message in [Gapyeong](#), South Korea September 17, 2025

Dr. Song Yong-cheon, the President of the [Family Federation](#) in South Korea, said at a large prayer vigil in [Gapyeong](#) 17th September,

"When [Mother](#) arrived at the prosecutors' office, with the whole nation watching, I stood behind the reporters and witnessed everything. Many people whispered that she would appear in a wheelchair, looking frail. But instead, though supported by her lawyer, she stood firmly on her own two feet, showing the nation and the world her upright and resolute stance for the truth. Before that holy dignity, I felt a mix of shame and deep respect, unable to lift my head.

Even as the flashes of cameras poured down and arrows of rude questions rained upon her, her first words were to the reporters: 'You've worked hard. You'll hear about it later.'

This was her heart - not mere sympathy, but the same anguished love with which Jesus prayed, 'Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do,' toward the very crowd that crucified him. It was also the tearful heart of [True Father](#), who endured endless misunderstanding and persecution, even six imprisonments, yet prayed through the night to embrace even his enemies who cast stones at him.

That same great heart of love was revealed through [Mother](#) that day - concern for others even amid a storm of accusations and criticism. It was not seeing her attackers as enemies, but as Heaven's lost children; not despairing in suffering but radiating the dignity of Heaven that assures ultimate victory." (Translated from Korean)

Text: Compiled from various sources, introduction by Knut Holdhus, editor.

[Editor's note: Min Jung-ki (also written Min Joong-ki, Korean: 민중기) is the special prosecutor appointed under President Lee Jae-myung (이재명) for the Kim Keon-hee (김건희) case. He is a former judge - specifically, he served as Chief Judge of the Seoul Central District Court (2018-2021) among other high-ranking judicial posts.

He leads the special investigation into multiple allegations against former First Lady Kim Keon-hee, wife of former President Yoon Suk-yeol (윤석열). The probe involves serious charges, including possible corruption, bribery, stock manipulation, influence peddling, etc.

His special prosecutor team is quite large: they have requested dispatch of 40 prosecutors to the Kim Keon-hee probe. He has also appointed several deputy special prosecutors / assistants, chosen for their experience in elite criminal investigations.]

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Korean Faith Crackdown: USA Urged To Confront It

• August 21, 2025
• Knut Holdhus

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As South Korean President Lee Jae-myung is about to visit President Trump, Gingrich urges USA to take action on current faith crackdown by Lee administration

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for the Washington Times, headlined “Preserving freedom in South Korea”, former U.S. Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich offers a strong warning about the precarious state of religious freedom in South Korea.



President Lee Jae-myung, here at the 51st G7 Summit 17th June 2025. Photo: © European Union, 1998 – 2025 / Wikimedia Commons

He frames his argument in historical, geopolitical, and moral terms, urging Americans – and especially President Donald Trump’s administration – to treat this issue with the gravity it deserves during South Korean President Lee Jae-myung’s visit to Washington. Gingrich’s piece is not just a defense of religious liberty; it is also an affirmation of the enduring partnership between the United States and South Korea, forged through shared sacrifice and mutual commitment to freedom.

The central thesis of Gingrich’s **article** is that South Korea’s new government has undertaken **alarming actions against faith leaders** and institutions, particularly conservative Christian voices, in ways that

violate democratic norms and infringe upon a fundamental human right.



Yoido Full Gospel Church, 4th Dec. 2016. Photo: Striker9498 / Wikimedia Commons. **Public domain** image

He points to large-scale raids involving thousands of police officers and prosecutors, targeting well-known figures such as Rev. Young-hoon Lee of Yoido Full Gospel Church, Kim Jang-hwan of Far East Broadcasting, and Dr. **Hak Ja Han** of the **Family Federation for World Peace and Unification**.

Gingrich argues that these actions are not isolated but part of a broader global trend of left-wing hostility toward religion, one that has manifested in nations as diverse as Japan, France, Canada, and even the United States during the pandemic.

A central strength of Gingrich’s **commentary** is how he situates the Korean case within the wider context of U.S.-Korea relations. By recalling the **Korean War** and his own father’s service there, Gingrich reminds readers that America’s investment in South Korea’s survival and prosperity has been immense and long-lasting.

This historical framing underscores his claim that Americans have a legitimate stake in South Korea’s present trajectory. With over 28,000 U.S. troops still stationed there, the American people continue to guarantee South Korea’s security, which, in Gingrich’s view, makes attacks on basic freedoms within the country doubly concerning. His message is clear: allies who have long benefited from U.S. protection must also uphold the democratic values that justify that protection.

Gingrich also places Dr. **Hak Ja Han**’s peace work in sharp contrast to the South Korean government’s treatment of her. While she convenes international conferences to promote dialogue on security threats from North Korea, China, and the Taiwan Strait, the government undermines her credibility by targeting her **organization**. Gingrich treats this as



Two days after her residence being raided: Holy Mother Han on 20th July 2025 in Gyeongju, South Korea. Screenshot from video recording by **FFWPU**

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Gingrich treats this as emblematic of the contradiction in the administration's approach: weakening its own civil society leaders even as external threats loom large. By elevating [Hak Ja Han's](#) work, Gingrich not only defends religious freedom but also acknowledges the constructive role that faith-based actors can play in international peacebuilding.

Another notable aspect of the commentary is its comparison between South Korea's actions and earlier restrictions on religious practice in the United States. Gingrich draws attention to COVID-era rules in Minnesota and New York, where churches were capped at drastically smaller numbers than bars or restaurants.

These examples serve a dual purpose. First, they highlight the universality of the struggle for religious freedom, showing that even advanced democracies can fall into patterns of overreach. Second, they reinforce his ideological point that left-leaning governments tend to exhibit greater skepticism – or outright hostility – toward religious institutions. In this framing, the Trump administration emerges as a corrective force, one that has halted “the left’s assault on religion” and restored protections both domestically and abroad.

Ultimately, Gingrich's argument carries a strong prescriptive element: the defense of religious freedom should be central to U.S. foreign policy. As President Lee meets with President Trump, Gingrich insists that Washington must press Seoul on this issue, making clear that America's military and diplomatic support cannot be divorced from expectations of democratic accountability.

In sum, Gingrich's [commentary](#) serves as both a warning and a rallying cry. It warns Americans not to ignore troubling developments in a key ally's domestic politics, and it rallies believers in the universal value of religious liberty to stand firm against encroachments. Supportive readers will find his piece a powerful reminder that the U.S.-Korea alliance is rooted not only in shared security interests but also in shared commitments to freedom – including the freedom to worship. Gingrich's insistence that these commitments remain central to policy underscores his lifelong theme: liberty, once eroded, is never easily regained.

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Text: Knut Holdhus, editor

Featured image above: Newt Gingrich, Speaker of the House of Representatives in US Congress 1995-1999, here Feb. 5, 2025. Screenshot.

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