

Update on True Mother's Current Condition and Trial Proceedings

This is an AI translation of an update that appears on the FFWPU Korea Website and is being forwarded to all members via the EUME Office

Beloved members,

As reports expressing concern about True Mother's health and the progress of the trial continue, many members have been worried. We therefore share a summary of the points you are most eager to know.

Update on True Mother's Request for Bail

On January 30 and February 4, the 9th and 10th trial hearings were held respectively in Courtroom 509 of the West Building of the Seoul Central District Court. True Mother, enduring significant pain, attended the morning session of the January 30 hearing, but was unable to attend the February 4 hearing. This was because her pain had worsened due to consecutive fall accidents, making it impossible for her to appear in court.

Prior to the February 4 hearing, before the examination of witnesses began, the court reviewed the written explanation for True Mother's absence and stated, in substance, that "the defense counsel should assess her condition and consider filing an application for suspension of the execution of detention."

Until now, the court had emphasized that "the examination of evidence must be completed" and had stated that True Mother's health could only be assessed based on "objective materials." Although the same premise was maintained on that day, the explicit mention of a "suspension of detention" led the defense team to submit a supplemental opinion in support of a bail application, requesting that "at minimum, her right to health and right to defense be guaranteed," and they are also proceeding with an application for suspension of detention.

However, it is difficult to predict whether bail or suspension of detention will be granted. According to the *Judicial Yearbook*, over the past five years (2019–2023), bail has been granted in only about 30% of cases, and suspension of detention is permitted only in extremely exceptional circumstances, such as life-threatening serious illnesses. In particular, in cases that attract significant public attention, courts tend to apply even stricter standards due to concerns such as fairness and public controversy. Nevertheless, the defense team is making its utmost efforts.

Status of True Mother's Trial

Before the start of the 9th hearing on January 30, the defense team presented a separate oral argument regarding the first-instance judgment in the single-defendant case of former Director Yoon, which was handed down on January 28. The defense emphasized that the phrase "approval of the top leader of the Unification Church" appearing in that judgment must be

viewed critically, stating that “findings of fact must be based solely on evidence that has emerged in the course of the trial of this case, and the results of deliberations in another case must not be directly imported into the judgment of this case.” The defense also clearly expressed its firm belief to the court that the truth would be definitively established in this trial.

Subsequently, three witnesses appeared and presented numerous testimonies based on their direct experiences. In particular, one witness testified regarding the prosecution’s allegations by the special counsel that distorted the social activities of the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) as political intervention, stating that “the President’s succession initiatives were undertaken as True Parents, out of concern and care for all humanity, and were devoted to world peace and inter-Korean reunification, having nothing to do with secular expansion of religious influence or the expansion of political power.” Testimony was also given that instructions to donate to a specific political party were abnormal in nature and therefore not followed.

At the 10th hearing on February 4, four witnesses appeared, and questioning continued for an extended period until 7:30 p.m., much later than usual. The main issues in the trial focused on how leaders understood True Mother’s words and whether there was organized support for a specific political party. Further testimony revealed the work structure that made it possible for former Finance Director Lee to receive double reimbursement and reimbursement for personal use.

Mother’s Health

Beloved members,

As mentioned above, True Mother has recently suffered falls within the court and the detention center, resulting in pain in her lower back, knees, and elbows, and she is currently receiving necessary treatment within the detention center. Despite being in a condition that makes it difficult for her to attend court, during visitation she shows no sign of her suffering at all. Instead, she encourages the leaders and strives to convey the will of Heavenly Parent.

Even during the short visitation periods, True Mother sets aside concern for her own well-being and devotes her heart and energy to offering guidance and encouragement to each individual leader, illuminating the path of providence. Her 모습 (the way she lives) once again allows us to deeply realize what a life of “settlement at noon” truly means.

Holding close to our hearts the words, “The truth will surely be revealed,” we ask that members continue to gather in prayer and devotion for True Mother, who is quietly enduring this long and difficult time. When the sincere devotion of members—who continue to practice love and service toward their neighbors in their respective places—comes together, we believe that beyond this winter, the spring of providence will surely arrive.