

5th Rally of Hope Unites World Leaders, Millions of Global Participants

Naokimi Ushiroda
February 27, 2021



Several prominent world leaders joined millions of participants from 150 countries for the live online [broadcast](#) of the 5th Rally of Hope, sponsored by the Universal Peace Federation ([UPF](#)), on Saturday, February 27.

UPF co-founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon shared an inspiring message of hope in her Founder's Address, as speakers focused on key global issues -- like COVID-19, race relations, poverty, and inequality -- under the theme "Building Partnerships for Peace based on Interdependence, Mutual Prosperity, and Universal Values."



"Let us join hands in making a new resolve to advance God's providence today," said Dr. Moon. "If the Korean Peninsula can be reunified and become one people, and if all of the Asia Pacific can be united into a heavenly civilization and connect the entire world, we can become a force for good that will expand to all of the continents and oceans of the world."

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The virtual event, featuring world-class entertainment and an international roster of keynote speakers,

included heads of state, two Nobel Laureates, and a COVID-19 vaccine developer who all addressed the world's most critical challenges and explored new opportunities for peacebuilding in all sectors of society.

Bishop Noel Jones of City of Refuge megachurch in Los Angeles quoted the Beatitudes in his opening prayer and peace message, saying, "Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called children of God." He noted that February 28 marked the birthdays of Dr. Moon and her late husband, Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon, as well as the 30th anniversary of their historic 1991 visit and talks with Kim Il Sung to "encourage the North Korean leader to bring peace" to the Korean Peninsula.



According to The Washington Times, former U.S. Vice President Mike Pence said 'a unified Korean Peninsula would contribute greatly to a more stable, peaceful Pacific region and that goal is within reach.'

"We will stand firm against our common adversaries, even as we work in good faith to turn our adversaries into friends," said Mr. Pence. "In doing that, I believe we can lay a foundation to bring about the peaceful unification of Korea within our lifetime ... A Korea united by the universal values of human dignity, liberty, and economic freedom."

The United Nations World Food Programme ([WFP](#)), the world's largest humanitarian agency working to end global hunger, knows from its work that, "where peace exists, fewer children go to bed hungry," said WFP Executive Director David Beasley. "We exist to serve our brothers and sisters in need. In other words, to love our neighbor wherever they may be." WFP assisted some 114 million people in more than 80 countries last year, earning the 2020 Nobel Peace Prize.

Health care, such as a vaccine for COVID-19, is also aimed at protecting people and saving lives, said Oxford Vaccine co-developer Dr. Sarah Gilbert, whose vaccinology work in the Nuffield Department of Medicine at the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom has garnered world attention. "The vaccine has been shown to be safe and effective, and it is approved for use in almost 60 countries," she said. "This is a vaccine for the world ... to protect each other and ourselves."

Other world leaders outlined the necessities for global peace.

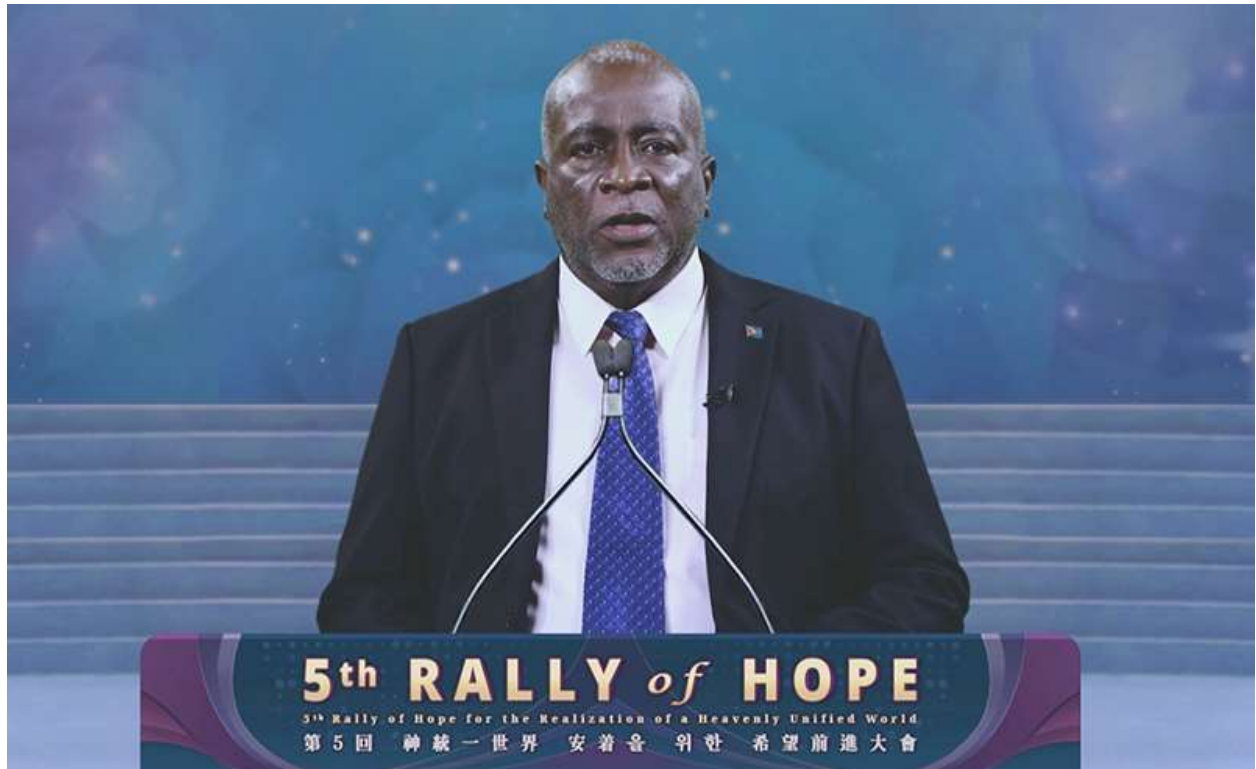
"Thirty-five years ago, the situation that confronted us in South Africa appeared to be hopeless," said His Excellency F.W. de Klerk, former president of South Africa and 1993 Nobel Peace Prize winner with the late South African President Nelson Mandela. The nation was isolated, filled with unrest, protests, lawlessness, and under siege by pro-communist forces before President Mandela was elected in 1994 under the adoption of a democratic constitution. Challenges continued, "but above all, we have learned the importance of never losing hope," said Mr. de Klerk.

Guyana Prime Minister Mark Phillips said the future of peace lies in "world leaders, decision-makers, and even religious leaders joining to collectively plan and develop ways to respond to the requirements of peacebuilding ... and building strong partnerships."

Cape Verde President Jorge Carlos Fonseca added that peace "is achieved through tolerance, solidarity, and respect for people's differences." He said entrepreneurship among youth is becoming "extremely

important," and that "values are also fundamental and ... change must begin now."

Nearly two million people worldwide registered for the 5th Rally of Hope, with viewership reaching 320 million people on more than 400 digital platforms. Dr. Moon called for citizens to cultivate a "sense of reverence" for our God-given blessings and fulfill our responsibilities by creating ideal families. "I encourage each of you to join me in marching forward victoriously," she said.



The Rally of Hope series, launched in August 2020, is dedicated to building a unified world of peace. UPF, which was founded in 2005 by Rev. Moon and Dr. Moon, has chapters and programs worldwide and is an NGO in General Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

You can watch the 5th Rally of Hope event [here](#), and read The Washington Times article [here](#).





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Then and Now: 102 Years Since the Korean Independence Movement



Photo credit FFWPU.

Today marks the 102nd anniversary of the [Korean March 1st Movement](#) in 1919—one of the earliest public displays of Korean resistance during decades of Japanese rule (from 1910 to 1945). The protest movement, inspired by the words of then U.S. [President Woodrow Wilson at the Paris Peace Conference in January 1919](#), was led by Korean students calling for independence from Japan.

The late Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, co-founders of Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU) and natives of North Korea, spoke often of growing up in the embattled nation and staunchly supported the peaceful reunification of the Korean Peninsula after its split in 1945.

“It was the first day of March 1919, the beginning of spring...” writes Dr. Moon in the first chapter of her 2020 best-selling memoir, *Mother of Peace*. Dr. Moon shared how her mother was strapped to her grandmother’s back in a marketplace in Anju, a village in Pyong-an Province. “She left the house with an expectant heart ... and the [Korean] flag in her bosom ... Suddenly, a loud shout burst through the quiet of the market: ‘Korean independence! *Mansei!*’ ... Waving [the flag] vigorously, she joined the crowd, shouting, ‘*Mansei*, victory for 10,000 years!’”

Dr. Moon described the demonstrations, which occurred simultaneously in Seoul and across the nation.

“At most sites, [the protests] included a public reading of the Korean Declaration of Independence,” she wrote. “This public outcry was not futile symbolism; it was an act of peaceful, non-violent protest, an acclamation that the Korean people will cherish for eternity.”



Hak Ja Han as a middle school student with her grandmother Jo Won-mo who joined demonstrations for Korean independence in 1919

Photo credit FFWPU.

However, protesters were met with violent opposition, “assaulted by the sound of whistles and boots ... With batons and rifles, dozens of policemen converged upon the market. They mercilessly struck everyone in their path ... The policemen did not distinguish between man or woman, young or old.”

Dr. Moon’s grandmother, Jo Won-mo, retreated with her daughter, but knew in her heart “a woman would be born with an unprecedented destiny.”

Dr. Moon was born in Anju — “an epicenter of Korean patriotism” — two years before Korea was liberated from Japanese occupation.

Similarly, Rev. Moon detailed his experience under Japanese rule in his 2009 autobiography, *As a Peace-Loving Global Citizen*. He was enrolled in Waseda Koutou Kougakko, a technical engineering school affiliated with Waseda University in Japan, when he was jailed for his involvement in the Korean student underground independence movement.

In 1945, the U.S. defeated Japan in World War II and Korea’s newfound independence gave rise to Rev. Moon’s public ministry. However, Korea then fell victim to the Cold War, subsequently dividing into North and South. For decades, Rev. and Dr. Moon worked tirelessly to bring peace and reunification to the Korean Peninsula, emphasizing the importance of championing God’s desire for unification across political and religious boundaries worldwide and to unite Korea.

“If the Korean Peninsula can be reunified and become one people, and if all of the Asia Pacific can be united into a heavenly civilization and connect the entire world, we can become a force for good that will expand to all of the continents and oceans of the world,” Dr. Moon said recently at the global 5th Rally of Hope on February 27, where she was joined by several international leaders and more than a million global participants in her call for world peace.

You can get your copy of *Mother of Peace* [here](#), and watch the 5th Rally of Hope event [here](#).

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Pence, world leaders call for unity at international Rally of Hope



The rally, organized by the Universal Peace Federation (UPF), drew well over 1 million participants from across the globe, all united in the fight against oppression, poverty and racial discrimination. [more >](#)



Print

By [Ben Wolfgang](#) - The Washington Times - Saturday, February 27, 2021

Former Vice President Mike Pence joined other world leaders Saturday in calling on nations to forge new friendships and break down historic barriers to peace as the globe pulls free from the ravages of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. Pence said that as coronavirus case counts drop and vaccination levels mount, it is now time to look ahead and begin building a better tomorrow.

“Every day we are one day closer to putting the long night of the coronavirus behind us. Rays of sunlight have pierced the horizon and a bright new day is dawning,” Mr. Pence told current and former heads of state and prominent U.S. political figures participating in a digital “Rally of Hope.”

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“Now, as nations undertake the urgent work of restoring lost jobs, reopening shuttered industries, we must remember that our task is not merely to rebuild the world of the past, but to forge a brighter future for all our citizens,” he said.

The rally, organized by the Universal Peace Federation (UPF), drew well over 1 million participants from across the globe, all united in the fight against oppression, poverty and racial discrimination. Saturday’s event was the fifth such rally since August, with the virtual gatherings offering a valuable outlet for optimism and encouragement in what’s been a bleak period amid the coronavirus outbreak.

In addition to Mr. Pence, a host of other prominent officials and world leaders spoke at Saturday’s rally,

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including Cape Verdean President [Jorge Carlos de Almeida Fonseca](#), Guyanese Prime Minister Mark Phillips, former South African President F.W. de Klerk and others.

Rebuilding a more loving world as the coronavirus pandemic fades was a central theme of the event. Sarah Gilbert, a professor of vaccinology in the Nuffield Department of Medicine at the University of Oxford who worked on the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine, said her team embraced the idea of caring for fellow human beings.

“The values that resulted in this vaccine being made available align with those of the Universal Peace Federation. This vaccine was made for all of us, to protect each other and ourselves,” Ms. Gilbert said “We still have more to do, but the work of our international team has paid off, and the vaccine we made is already saving lives.”

In her own remarks Saturday, UPF co-founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon expressed hope that the longstanding dream of a united Korean Peninsula will become a reality.

“The people of Korea have been chosen by heaven. Nonetheless, the sad reality is the Korean Peninsula remains divided,” Mrs. Moon said. “And we dream of a heavenly unified Korea. That dream will come true. If the Korean Peninsula, if the people of Korea can become one people and if the Asia Pacific can be united into heavenly civilization, and connect the entire world, we can become a force for good that will expand to all of the continents and oceans of the world.”

Other speakers said that COVID-19 should serve as a reminder of how fragile life can be, and of the need to work past even the most entrenched divisions.

“I am optimistic that this unprecedented crisis is also our chance to put aside our differences, to show we are prepared to love our neighbor as ourselves and work as one to create the better and more peaceful world we all want to see,” said David Beasley, former Republican governor of South Carolina who now serves as executive director of the United Nations World Food Programme.

“Every single one of us can contribute and help to build a brighter future for the children of Korea and beyond. If we work together in partnership, I truly believe we will one day achieve our dream of a world free from hunger and conflict,” Mr. Beasley said. “I also know for sure that when people come together to pray together, break bread together, miracles begin to happen. So, let us pray together for peace and healing on the Korean Peninsula.”

‘Within our lifetime’

In his address, Mr. Pence underscored the unshakable U.S. commitment to its ally South Korea, and he stressed that Washington will stand hand in hand with Japan and other Pacific allies in the face of China’s rise as an economic and military power.

A unified Korean Peninsula would contribute greatly to a more stable, peaceful Pacific region — and Mr. Pence said that goal is within reach.


“We will stand firm against our common adversaries, even as we work in good faith to turn our adversaries into friends. In so doing, I believe we can lay a foundation to bring about the peaceful unification of Korea within our lifetime,” Mr. Pence said. “That vision of freedom, peace, and prosperity is the same vision the people of the United States and the Republic of Korea have shared for nearly 70 years: A Korea united by the universal values of human dignity, liberty, and economic freedom.”

Mrs. Moon, the leader of the Unification Church, and her late husband, Rev. Sun Myung Moon, devoted their lives to the reunification of the Korean Peninsula and to the promotion of world peace. They founded The Washington Times.

“Conflict among humans is a concept as old as time, and peace, as a result, has evaded us on this earth for centuries,” said Mark Phillips, the prime minister of Guyana. “But every new day, we have a chance to start anew and fix the errors of the past while forging a new path forward; a path to resolving conflict and uniting as a global unit.”

The need for countries to come together as one has never been more important. Officials said that it will be crucial to lend a hand — economically, spiritually, and in other ways — to less fortunate nations that face the toughest climb back from the pandemic.

“The COVID-19 pandemic has had repercussions not only of a biomedical and epidemiological nature on a global scale, but also social, economic, political, cultural and historical impacts unprecedented in the recent history of epidemics,” said Cape Verde President [Jorge Carlos de Almeida Fonseca](#). “This crisis



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- ☐ NO
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is global and multifaceted. It is a health crisis, but it is also, without doubt, also an economic, financial, social, environmental and often political crisis — shaping the development of almost the entire planet, and with negative consequences in the least developed countries.”

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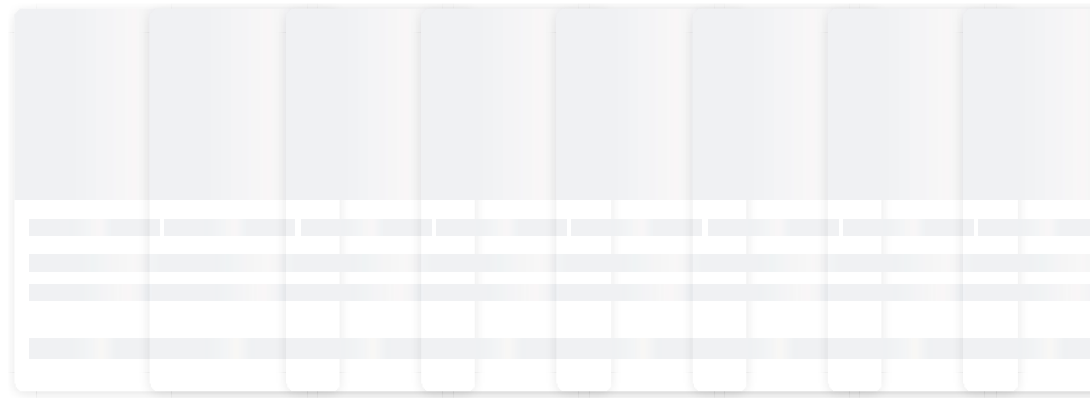
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