

## Seonghwa Festival Marking the 10th Anniversary of the Holy Ascension of Sun Myung Moon, True Parent of Heaven, Earth, and Humankind

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On August 14 at 9:30 am, the Seonghwa Ceremony Marking the 10th Anniversary of the Holy Ascension of Sun Myung Moon, True Parent of Heaven, Earth, and Humankind, was held at the HJ Global Art Center in the presence of True Parents and with the participation of the members of the True Family, former and current heads of states from across the globe, blessed families, members of the Unification Church, and Ambassadors for Peace, etc. It also saw the online participation of people from 196 nations worldwide.

The Seonghwa Festival which was held under the theme "Sun Myung Moon, Trailblazer for Peace and Unification," was simultaneously interpreted into 9 languages and broadcast live via the internet. With the participation of important personalities, including Hon. Mike Pompeo, the U.S. Secretary of State; Rt.

Hon. Stephen Harper, the 22nd Prime Minister of Canada; Hon. Newt Gingrich, former Speaker of the U.S.



House of Representatives; H.E. Brigi Rafini, former Prime Minister of Niger; 25 youth ministers of Africa; Prophet Radebe; and leaders of IAPD, ACLC, KCLC, WLCL who were taking part in Summit 2022 and Leadership Conference as well as the Think Tank 2022.

Dr. Yun Yong-ho, Director General of FFWPU International Headquarters, acted as the festival's emcee, which was held under the theme "Journey." Through this festival, the participants honored the legacy of True Father, who ascended on September 3, 2012, and promised to carry on his legacy with True Mother. The commemorative performance consisted of five stages expressing True Father's life through dances, songs, plays, musicals, etc.

The prologue was a video entitled "The Great Journey," showing True Father's life story and the providence after his Holy Ascension. Then, a chorus of the Peace Choir consisting of more than 2000 members of the united choir, the youth choir, and the performance by the percussion team pulled back the curtain of the first stage. The participants cherished the memories of True Father and looked back at today's providence of hope led by True Mother.

The title of the first stage was "The Journey of Creation." Heavenly Parent's joy and sorrow and the path until the appearance of True Parents were expressed through dance drama and chorus.

The second stage, entitled "The Journey of Peace and Unification," was a musical expressing True Parents' life course to establish a world of peace. The top cast captured True Father's life course through scenes such as the talks with Soviet President Gorbachev in 1990 and the talks with the North Korean leader Kim Il Sung in 1991. What deserved special note was that Nam Kyung Eup, one of the most distinguished actors in the Korean musical scene, played the role of True Father.



The third stage, "The Journey of Victory," traced the indomitable will and achievement of True Mother, who has guided the FFWPU for the past 10 years after True Father's Holy Ascension and expressed the members' resolution through a large chorus of "Blessing of Glory" by the Peace Choir and the whole audience. Addresses followed this to tribute to the life of True Father by Hon. Suos Yara, Chairman of the Commission of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, Media and Information of the National Assembly of Cambodia (who read Prime Minister Hun Sen's message on his behalf); Hon. Mike Pompeo, former U.S. Secretary of State; and H.E. Brigi Rafini, Executive Secretary of CEN-SAD, and messages and telegrams by world leaders who could not attend the event due to the COVID-19 crisis.



Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen conveyed his message through Hon. Suos Yara. "The core of the 2022 Seoul Resolution adopted and signed during World Summit 2022 held in February this year, 'One Nation, One People, One Culture' shall be further developed and realized," he said. The Prime Minister then emphasized, "Universal Peace Charter was based on the Seoul Resolution and was adopted through the Summit 2022 and Leadership Conference is demonstrating a vision toward a unified world and a common vision for the realization of a lasting world of peace centering on the foundation of interdependence, mutual prosperity, and universal values."

In his tribute address to True Father, Hon. Mike Pompeo said, "Rev. Moon learned the critical flaws of communist ideology, the most fundamental of which is that it denies the existence of God and the value of every human life. Due to his experience with communism, he knew that Japan and Korea were critical to joining with America to stop the expansion of communism in Asia and the World. This remains true today. "On this memorial day, we would like to thank Rev. Sun Myung Moon ("Sun-MYUNG-Moon") and Dr. Hak Ja Han for their work toward peace, and we pray for Dr. Moon's success in bringing North and South Korea together." He also expressed that "Rev. Moon's talks with Kim Il Sung was the beginning of his long journey for the realization of peace.

In his address, H.E. Brigi Rafini said, "On this commemorative day of the 10th anniversary of the ascension to God of Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon, co-founder of the Universal Peace Federation, my thoughts are with him, who thought of all those in the world who are suffering from the horrors of war, various conflicts and other disasters. Through my voice, the Community of Sahel- Saharan States (CEN-SAD) pays a vibrant tribute to Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon, whose life and works have had an unlimited positive impact on the world." He then continued, "During my term of office as Prime Minister of Niger, I invited Rev. Hak Ja Han Moon, the Mother of Peace to the Continental Peace Summit attended by more

than 100 national leaders. In 2019, when I was Prime Minister of Niger, we hosted Mother Moon for the Continental Peace Summit which brought together representatives from over 100 countries. The Nigerian government and its institutions and people were mobilized to receive the great message of peace and the blessings of Mother Moon."

Notably, the commemorating telegraph and wreath was sent by the Chairman of the Korea-Asia Pacific Peace Committee of North Korea to Rev. Hak Ja Han Moon and her family to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of Rev. Moon's Holy Ascension caught peoples' attraction.



This was followed by an epilogue entitled "The Songs True Parents Loved," which started with a video showing True Father and True Mother singing a traditional Korean children's song 'Ommaya Nunaya Kangbyeong Salja (Dearest Mommy, Dearest Sister, Let's Live by the River). The Little Angels, who marked their 60th anniversary, highlighted the end of commemorating performance.

Following the performance was a cake-cutting ceremony by True Parents. Then, True Mother filled little bags written "chukbok (blessing)" on them with pumpkin malt candies; candies True Father enjoyed eating during his lifetime and gifted them to the participants. The ceremony was proceeded to celebrate the day of complete settlement of True Father's entry to heaven on marking the 10th anniversary of Father's Holy Ascension, allowed us to admire the magnificent victory of the settlement of Cheon Il Guk achieved by True Mother throughout the past 10 years.

She then delivered a message guiding us to our path on marking the 10th Anniversary of True Father's Holy Ascension and expressed her hope for us to become true children.



"Father will bless you to work together with Mother and spread to all of humankind the fact that Heavenly Parent's love is with us from Heaven, and bless the entire human race to form beautiful CheonBo families that can fulfill their responsibilities as filial sons and daughters and loyal citizens serving and attending Heavenly Parent. Are you going to make that determination and put it into practice? I believe in you. I love you."

All participants answered Mother's message by singing the Korean song "Saranghae Dangsineul (I Love You)" in chorus with True Parents.

The Seonghwa Festival was concluded successfully with four cheers of Eok Mansei, led by Joo Jin Tae, co-President of Heavenly Korea; Bang Sang Il, Continental Leader of Heavenly Japan; and Yong Chung Sik, Regional Group President of Heavenly North America.