

The Elder's Roundtable Conference at Peace Summit 2023

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The Elders' Roundtable Conference took place at the Lotte Hotel in Jamsil on May 3rd 2023. Around 100 esteemed individuals from various fields, including politics, economy, religion, academia, and media, attended the conference. True Parents, the co-founders of the Universal Peace Federation, delivered a special speech to the elders present, including top-level leaders appointed to the Elders' Roundtable. They urged the attendees to utilize their experiences and wisdom gained from their prominent positions in their respective countries and fields to actively contribute to the realization of a peaceful world. The inaugural ceremony of the Elders' Roundtable World Council, launched in February, witnessed the participation of renowned council members, such as Alfred Moisiu, former President of Albania; Jimmy Morales, former President of Guatemala; Newt Gingrich, former Speaker of the United States House of Representatives; and Secretary General of the Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD).



Speeches:

Kim Ho-il, President of the Korea Elderly Association Central Council, expressed his thoughts: Leaders from around the world attended the Peace Summit with a shared desire to pursue global peace. They hope for a world where conflicts and disputes can be overcome, and where peace prevails, fostering a spirit of

mutual love and appreciation.

Alfred Moisiu, former President of Albania, emphasized the importance of passing down wisdom from one generation to the next. He stated that the wisdom of elders, rooted in their experiences and achievements, plays a crucial role in shaping the future. It is essential to guide the next generation in addressing challenges based on the guidance of esteemed elders.

Peace Testimonies:

Maithripala Sirisena, former President of Sri Lanka, highlighted the potential of the elders' teachings in resolving global challenges. He stressed the significance of building peace through mutual respect.

Newt Gingrich, the 50th Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, shared his perspective on the wisdom of elders. He believes that their wisdom is the result of a lifetime of accumulated experiences. Even organizing important events like The Elders' Roundtable can pass on valuable wisdom to the younger generation.

Thomas Yayi Boni, former President of Benin, emphasized the importance of unity among world leaders and elders. He stated that governing the world should be guided by the will of Heaven, with each successive generation joining hands to move forward.

Lee Sang-hoon, Standing Chairman of the National Elders Council and a veteran of the Korean War who served as the former Minister of Defense, expressed his personal understanding of the destructive nature of war and made a heartfelt request for The Elders' Roundtable to contribute to ending wars and fostering global peace.

Anote Tong, former President of Kiribati, spoke about the significance of respect. Without respect, collaboration is impossible, and without reverence, we cause harm to one another. By respecting and valuing one another, we can bring greater peace to our world.