

First World Martial Arts Mastership Tournament in Cheongju, Korea

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The first World Martial Arts Mastership took place recently in the city of Cheongju, in North Chungcheong Province, in the Republic of Korea, September 2–8. The 2,487 participants from eighty-seven nations, practitioners of seventeen styles of martial arts came together under the motto, Martial Arts for One World, One World for Martial Arts. Representatives from Tongil Moo-do, Taekwondo, Judo, Hapkido and Karate were among those that invited to join the Organizing Committee.



Being together, we felt that we had reached "the peak" of the martial arts world. The city had been investing for decades to promote martial arts, creating healthy communication between athletes using different styles, upholding the values of dignity and harmony, peace, coexistence, asceticism and caring among all the martial arts fighters worldwide. This first World Martial Arts Mastership was a global festival, in which not only were friendship and fellowship promoted but nationalities, races, religions and ideologies were transcended. Surely, this reflects the great work that our True Parents have been doing throughout much of the twentieth century and into the twenty-first century. I feel I must deeply thank Grand Master Seuk, who along with some key masters have been making a foundation for this since 1979.

Characteristics of the event

With the goal, harmony among the world's martial arts, the styles taking part were Taekkyeon, Taekwondo, Wushu, Kickboxing, Muay Thai, Judo, Jujitsu, Kurash, Kendo, Hapkido, Yongmudo, Sambo, Tongil Moo-do, Belt Wrestling and Horseback Archery. The event logo represents the site where all the world martial arts come together, the city of Cheongju, in the heart of the Republic of Korea. The mascots' names were Mudori and Yesuri, derived from the Chinese characters, "mu" and "ye" which mean "martial arts." The entire organization came together with great attention to detail and with dedication, in the pure style of the Olympic Games. The city government, the provincial government, the

national Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism; the Korean Olympic Committee and UNESCO supported the event.



Tongil Moo-do had athletes from fourteen different nations: Korea, Japan, Argentina, Brazil, Thailand, Cambodia, Nepal, India, Iran, Kenya, Ethiopia, Congo, Taiwan, the United States and the Philippines.

In addition, FFWPU regional and national leaders joined the Organizing Committee as jury members, referees and judges. The organization paid for all their air tickets and bought tailored suits for everybody.

Follow these links for more on this magnificent event:

www.2016martial-arts.kr/home_eng/sub.php?menukey=711

www.facebook.com/martialartsmasterships/

www.tongilmoodo.com



Help for the aged

Following the tournament, we went to Chung Pyung, specifically to Cheong-A Camp, for a two-day Il Won Do workshop. This new martial arts form, created by Grand Master Seuk Joonho, aims primarily to help people who cannot perform aggressive exercises due to age or poor health. It consists of breathing exercises and yoga-like, soft, relaxed circular techniques, to help prevent disease. It encourages a healthy diet with meditational exercises. Additionally, Master Moon Pyung-rae, president of the Martial Arts Federation, taught us the exercises that True Father did while in prison.

Primarily, this martial art should help elderly people and women but also every young person

who does not have competitive inclinations. Soon we will put together a description of what each movement symbolizes as well as a video library to follow the different movements.



On the second day after lunch, all the martial arts athletes participating in the workshop walked from Cheon A Camp to Cheon Jeong Gung under the heat of a summer sun, which was a challenging experience. Later we learned that our True Mother had talked to Dr. Seuk asking him to further support Vision 2020, since the martial arts federation is also a providential organization. All Tongil Moo-do athletes in the world are excited about this recognition. Our deepest desire is to create a world of wonhwa, a world of harmony.