

## Through Tongil Moo-do we shared with the Martial Arts World our True Parents

J. Giuliano  
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*The writer with his medal; Below, left to right:  
Pres. Pyung-rae Moon and Pres. Joon-ho Seuk of  
the Martial Arts Federation and the writer's father,  
Gustavo*

I am grateful for the experience of participating in this fantastic tournament along with brothers and sisters from around the world. Through Tongil Moo-do we could share with the martial arts world part of our True Parents' great work. As often happens, we do not realize the magnitude of the circumstances until a while after the facts occur.

The same applies to True Father's life; only now are people beginning to discover how great an example of a human being True Father is for humankind. Great also is the work of our faithful and devoted older brothers and sisters who allow this historic providence to continue moving forward. The first thing I feel is a very deep appreciation. Just before the tournament, I participated in the first Global Top Gun Youth workshop in Korea, together with more than a thousand young first-, second- and third-generation members, which was a blessing. We,

the participants at the GTGY workshop, went through a range of activities, such as a pilgrimage to holy grounds around Korea, listening to guidance directly from Sun Jin nim and Yeon Ah nim, receiving internal guidelines, studying True Parents' courses, and taking time for meditation and reflection in Chung Pyung. Especially wonderful was the opportunity to be face to face with True Mother, receiving much love and guidance. Immense gratitude overcame me for all I had received, as a second-generation member, from True Parents, both a spiritual foundation and external blessings.

Why am I getting so much? Why do I receive such an abundance of blessings? I did nothing to deserve these blessings. Gradually, I understood that we must inherit with pride everything amid this history full of achievements by our True Parents (with help from our older brothers and sisters) in order to share this grace with the world.



### My parents and True Parents

Tongil Moo-do is part of True Parents' legacy. I inherited love for martial arts from my father. Since early childhood I admired my parents deeply, both passionate admirers of True Parents. As far back as I can remember, they have always been actively involved with God's providence. I perfectly understand those

young second-generation members who suffered the physical absence of their parents, at some stage of their lives, because their parents had public missions. I had the same experience. I want to tell those members that unless they willingly try to follow a similar course and experience it themselves, they are unlikely to understand that our parents' absence in our lives was the evidence, a token, of their greater love.

### **Tongil Moo-do and I**

Tongil Moo-do has always challenged me. Although I have practiced it since childhood, it is not something for which I have natural talent. In order to apply correctly certain techniques, I need sufficient training time.

Before the competition, all the competitors went to a village where we lived together for four days. As I mentioned, I had participated in the GTGY, so for over a month before the tournament I could not do my usual training, something essential for a competitor. When I became acquainted with the competitors, I could see that many had prepared well. Small but persistent pessimistic thoughts about my performance at the competition began invading me. I was trying to repel those thoughts, trying to be strong and to trust my acquired knowledge, but just a day before the competition four more Tongil Moo-do practitioners from the Republic of Iran showed up. As soon as I saw them, I tried to gauge their height and weight -- essential points to determine whether they were potential adversaries for when the time of combat arrives. After a few minutes, I confirmed that we were in the same category and that I might fight one of them. I must say that they were competitors with great physical and technical preparation. At that moment, all kinds of doubtful thoughts invaded me completely. I felt powerless.

Why should I bother to prepare myself if I am going to be defeated, anyway? I share this thought because for that whole day I did not train. That evening, after dinner, I went to the gymnasium, pushed only by my conscience but without much other motivation. So I sent a messages to my father, telling him my feelings; I felt I was not prepared. My father's only words were "Take it as a challenge."

After reading that, I closed my eyes. In prayer, I received determination to go beyond the situation, to challenge my own character, just as I thought my father would. At that moment, I felt determined to do my best. I was able to remain in the training hall when everyone else had headed to the dormitory. The next day, I competed in individual styles and I won the bronze medal. After the decision I had made, my attitude changed, not only as a participant in the tournament but as a representative of True Parents to the world. Besides that, although I wasn't part of the organizing committee, I felt I was an owner, responsible for the success of the event.

I understood that perhaps I could never match True Parents' achievements nor older members' successes, but I would continue expanding Tongil Moo-do, with the firm conviction that God would do what was beyond my capabilities if I really did my best.