

2-week Mission to Bolivia, the country of mission as a Japanese missionary in 1996-7

Practice DP and substantialize the mission of Tribal Messiah

Geneva, Switzerland, 17. June – 2. July 2013

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On June 18th, at 5 am, my 21-year old daughter Nathalie and I arrived in La Paz, Bolivia, at 4000 m height, with a feeling of coming back home. 16 years before, True Father sent me there as part of the 4200 Japanese missionaries to the Americas, 120 per country, leaving behind husband and children.

Diana and Carlos were at the airport, waiting for us. They brought us to their home situated in a suburb 40 minutes away and a few hundred meters lower. On that same first day, we met 4 of the people who had come to know our movement in 1996-7 through our activities and had kept in contact with me.



With Carlos & Diana Cusicanqui and Susy - Introducing UPF in a health shop - Sharing DP for a member's Tribal Messiah activities

UPF and Arts Presentations

From the beginning, our spiritual children organized opportunities to present UPF's universal principles for peace at various places, like a health shop or a friend's house. We participated in many different formal and informal gatherings at which people came to know UPF and our TP.

Nathalie supported each time by inspiring people through arts. She can open people's hearts through her songs and dances and represents a model for the youth.

Family Federation centre

We met the national leader, Nely Almanza, who is managing the house that had been bought 16 years before for our mission. Their family with 2 and 4-year old daughters and another blessed couple family share the house with a dozen intern youths who spend their time between raising funds, giving testimony and helping in various activities. It was like going back not 16 but 30 years, when so many of us were going through this same course. Some of them were blessed but hadn't started family yet. Others had been sent out to pioneer more cities. It was like watching True Mother's dream come true.



At the Youth Federation witnessing center. - Teaching music and movement to children at a dance school - Teaching music and movement to pre-school children

Reaching out activities

The Youth Federation office is just in front of the University. Every day, the office is attended from morning to evening and the witnessing team brings guests to the office to give them an introduction, read DP with them or show them a DVD. Nathalie gave a few music and movement classes to young children as part of her bachelor's thesis. It was simultaneously a great opportunity to meet teachers, exchange knowledge on pedagogy and leave behind e-mail addresses as well as invitations to different events.



Visiting an Ambassador for Peace woman judge. - Having an event at a member's house - Meeting and sharing

We visited some Ambassadors for Peace in order to invite them to come to the different activities taking place around the organizations registered in Bolivia. We also created events at a Tribal Messiah's home and, thanks to new participants who showed interest and wanted us to be part of their events, the activities multiplied during our stay. Great synergy was generated on all sides.

Internal struggle

One problem we observed was the difficulty of older membership to align with the new leadership and the youth. The very strong feelings of not being listened to and appreciated led some members to separate and do their own activities and to look for support and understanding in different countries, even as far as asking the US blessed family department to arrange a blessing the Bolivian leadership didn't approve of. We felt sorry for not being able to contribute to the harmonization of that situation. Of course, we know this situation exists throughout the world, at all levels, and requires restoration of fallen nature on all sides.



Looking over lake Titicaca - With the famous Illimani mountain, always capped with snow - Crossing over the lake at the most narrow place with Diana and Carlos.

Tourism with the Cusicanqui couple

Making a one-day break in our activities, we were blessed with the opportunity to go to Lake Titicaca and cross over by boat. The couple at whose house we stayed had come and visited Switzerland 4 years ago along with their daughter living in Germany. They helped us do our activities, joined in some of them and took care of us in a wonderful way.



The newly formed board of WFWP representatives at the inauguration ceremony - National leader's couple, Nely and David - Presentation at a Shalom's event

Events

The inaugural event of the WFWP in Bolivia took place during our stay, so we could jump in for a dance and Principle presentation. A few participants of a previous event at a member's house came. One of them, a member of "Centro Shalom", organized an event around the Universal Principles, one more opportunity to give out beauty, goodness and truth. At the 2 Sunday services, I was able to share about the mission of the Japanese missionaries. A few of the people who had joined in 1996-7 were present. We felt so much gratitude. I could see that the year spent there by the 120 had not been in vain and had indeed brought some substantial fruit for the Providence.



After a Sunday Service, with leadership from Cochabamba and Santa Cruz - With the son's family - After the last goodbye dinner at the Federation center

Conclusion

Doing the foreign mission in Bolivia in 96-7 was TP' request to advance the Providence in the Americas and Japan. Going through it at that time was very hard but we had faith that our efforts would bring many fruits. Looking at the result 16 years later made me feel sorry because so many of the great people we had met had gone and at the same time happy because a few had remained and devoted their lives to build CIG in their country. Also, as it had allowed our family to sacrifice and practice living for the sake of others, God could bless us abundantly as a result without giving Satan a basis for accusation.

This time, we received much more recognition and support than we had dreamt of. Our 2 ½-week stay allowed us to meet our spiritual children, take care of them in some way, and accumulate an amazing amount of vitality elements to continue our Tribal Messiah mission in our own country, Switzerland.

This kind of "vacation" doing foreign mission is like filling both the country you visit and yourself with the most precious holy spirit energy. You find yourself in different situations and, dealing with them centered on God and TP, you pray that it contributes to the Providence.

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