

FFWPU Europe and Middle East: Holy Mother Han's 10-Minute Court Statement

Knut Holdhus
June 14, 2026



Hak Ja Han, aka. Mother Han, in Gapyeong, South Korea in 2025 improved for higher resolution and sharpness by Grok xAI

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The logo of OhmyNews. In smaller writing, reflecting the citizen journalism policy, it says, "All citizens are reporters"

Court appearance offers rare glimpse of Mother Han's defense as she makes a short court statement including a discussion of religious themes and Family Federation teachings

A [second report](#), by reporter Lee Jin-min (이진민), on the 12th June 2026 court hearing involving [Family Federation](#) leader [Hak](#)

[Ja Han](#) (한학자) - also called [Mother Han](#) - was published the same day by the South Korean online newspaper OhmyNews. Whereas the [previous report](#) published here focused primarily on [Mother Han's](#) refusal to testify and her rejection of allegations involving political donations and gifts, the [OhmyNews account](#) provides a more detailed description of what took place inside the courtroom and sheds additional light on the exchanges between [Hak Ja Han](#), prosecutors, and lawyers representing former [Family Federation](#) executive [Yoon Yeong-ho](#) (윤영호).

According to the [report](#), [Mother Han](#) appeared before the 27th Criminal Division of the Seoul Central District Court not as a defendant but as a witness in the ongoing proceedings involving herself, [Yoon](#), and other former [Family Federation](#) officials. As noted by other media outlets, she arrived in a wheelchair and required assistance during the oath procedure. However, OhmyNews places particular emphasis on what happened immediately after the oath was completed.

Rather than proceeding directly to questioning, [Mother Han](#) reportedly requested permission from the presiding judge to make a statement of her own. The judge allowed her to speak, and she then spent approximately ten minutes delivering what the [article](#) characterizes as a largely uninterrupted personal declaration. During this period, she not only repeated her denial of allegations that she had provided money to conservative politician Kweon Seong-dong (권성동) or gifts to former First Lady Kim Keon-hee (김건희), but also expanded on her view of how the case had arisen.

According to the [report](#), [Mother Han](#) argued that she had come to be involved in the proceedings because of actions taken by [Yoon Yeong-ho](#), a former senior official whom she had previously trusted. She accused him of having created numerous false accounts while acting in the name of both the [Family Federation](#) and its headquarters. In contrast to some other reports that summarized this accusation briefly, [OhmyNews](#) highlights it as a central theme of her statement.

The [report](#) also notes that [Mother Han's](#) statement was not limited to the allegations currently before the court. After addressing the accusations, she reportedly moved into a discussion of religious themes and

[Family Federation](#) teachings. According to [OhmyNews](#), she spoke about her lifelong mission to realize here on earth what she described as the dream of the Heavenly Parent, a theological concept central to [Family Federation](#) doctrine. This portion of her remarks occupied a significant part of the approximately ten-minute statement and distinguished her appearance from a conventional witness examination.



Another aspect emphasized by the [article](#) is the atmosphere inside the courtroom during [Mother Han](#)'s remarks. While she was speaking, [Yoon Yeong-ho](#) was seated behind the witness stand in the defendants' section. The [report](#) describes him as sitting silently and looking straight ahead while [Mother Han](#) attributed responsibility for the controversy to him. The [article](#) does not indicate that [Yoon](#) reacted publicly to her comments during the hearing.

Following her statement, the proceeding moved into questioning by [Yoon](#)'s legal team. It is here that [OhmyNews](#) provides some of its most distinctive details. According to the [report](#), defense lawyers confronted [Mother Han](#) with statements she had allegedly made during earlier interviews conducted by special prosecutors. They reportedly suggested that her previous remarks had included acknowledgements that gifts had been provided to political figures, not only to Kim Keon-hee (김건희) but to others as well. They also questioned her regarding previous comments concerning the authority exercised by [Yoon](#) within the [Family Federation](#) hierarchy.

The defense further raised an issue that received little attention elsewhere. According to the report, [Yoon](#)'s attorneys referred to an alleged written statement from 2025 in which [Yoon](#) had supposedly been asked to affirm that [Mother Han](#) had not directly ordered any wrongdoing and had merely granted approval after the fact. One attorney reportedly stated that he had personally reviewed the document and repeatedly asked [Hak Ja Han](#) whether she had any knowledge of it. She declined to respond, maintaining her refusal to testify.



The [OhmyNews report](#) additionally records several moments in which [Mother Han](#) departed from her otherwise consistent silence. During questioning by the special prosecution team, she briefly answered inquiries concerning political figures in Senegal and Nepal. Asked about her relationship with such individuals, she reportedly replied that they knew her as the "Mother of Peace", a title often associated with her international activities.

Referring specifically to Macky Sall, Senegalese president 2012-2024, she said that she had sought to help Africa and had resolved to do whatever she could for that purpose.

However, when prosecutors attempted to connect these relationships to allegations involving election-related financial support, [Mother Han](#) either denied providing such assistance or returned to her refusal to testify. When asked whether she had ever been informed that supporting election campaigns in Senegal could be illegal, she reportedly answered in the negative and declined further comment. She similarly denied having provided election funds to political leaders in either Senegal or Nepal.



The [OhmyNews account](#) complements [earlier reporting](#) by offering a fuller picture of [Mother Han](#)'s conduct and statements during the 12th June hearing itself. Rather than focusing primarily on the underlying allegations, the [article](#) highlights her attempt to frame the controversy as the result of actions by a former associate, her willingness to discuss religious and international activities, and her continued refusal to engage substantively with many of the specific questions posed by both prosecutors and defense attorneys.

The next hearing in the case is scheduled for Friday 19th June.

Text: Knut Holdhus, editor

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From the grand inauguration ceremony of the Cheon Jeong Temple (천정궁) on 13th June 2006. Screenshot from video by [FFWPU](#).

It is today, 13th June 2026, exactly 20 years since the grand inauguration ceremony of the Cheon Jeong Temple (천정궁 – Cheon Jeong Goong), one of the sacred sites of the [Family Federation for World Peace and Unification](#) – in Korea often simply called [Unificationism](#). The 2006 event has since been called a foundational milestone for the [movement](#) and was a massive, highly orchestrated, spectacular ceremony concluding a week of festivities.

The structure, located in [Gapyeong](#), northeast of the capital Seoul, was designed as a monumental palace-museum commemorating the life and accomplishments of [Sun Myung Moon](#) and [Hak Ja Han](#), also called [Father Moon](#) and [Mother Han](#). Its architecture intentionally combined traditional Korean, classical Western, and symbolic religious elements. The movement described the building as an eternal memorial to the providential work of the [True Parents](#) and the central temple for [God's](#) sovereignty and for the [Kingdom of Heaven](#) – [Cheonil-guk](#) (천일국) in [Unificationist](#) terminology.

About 5,000 dignitaries, “Ambassadors for Peace”, political leaders, parliamentarians, and church leaders attended the main ceremony. Another 25,000 participants watched through large-screen broadcasts at nearby venues.

The temple was presented not merely as a museum or headquarters but as the first permanent dwelling place for [God](#) here in the physical world, based on the foundation established by the [True Parents](#). The building was understood as a symbolic and [providential](#) center uniting heaven and earth, East and West, and the spiritual and physical worlds.



The [True Parents](#) in stately robes at the entrance ceremony of the Cheon Jeong Temple (천정궁) on 13th June 2006. Screenshot from video by [FFWPU](#).

Later that day, a special entrance ceremony was held led by [Sun Myung Moon](#) and [Hak Ja Han](#), where they processed into the temple in ornate and stately robes. Representatives from all continents and diverse religious backgrounds presented custom-designed crowns and robes to the couple, formally installing them as the King and Queen of Peace for the new era. A banquet was attended by international religious, political, and civic leaders. Cultural performances from various nations celebrated the opening.

In his major address, “[Cheonil-guk](#) Is the Ideal [Heavenly Kingdom](#) of Eternal Peace”, [Sun Myung Moon](#) presented the opening of the [Cheon Jeong Temple](#) as the beginning of a new age in [providential](#) history. He argued that [God's original ideal](#) had been frustrated by the Fall of humanity, resulting in a long history of restoration. According to [Father Moon](#), the mission of the [True Parents](#) was to complete that restoration and establish a world centered on [God's](#) true lineage, [true love](#), and true family.

The inauguration of the Cheon Jeong Temple signified, in his view, that sufficient foundations had finally been laid for [God's](#) direct sovereignty to be manifested on earth. He called on humanity to become citizens of the [Kingdom of Heaven](#) by living lives of moral purity, family fidelity, service, and interreligious harmony.

[Father Moon](#) outlined three strict, unalterable laws governing the citizens of this new [heavenly kingdom](#):

1. Maintain lineage purity by completely avoiding illicit sexual relationships.
2. Uphold universal human rights, forbidding arbitrary discrimination or personal abuse of authority.
3. Protect public assets, banning any theft, embezzlement, or personal exploitation of public funds.



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From the grand inauguration ceremony of the Cheon Jeong Temple (천정궁) on 13th June 2006. Photo: [FFWPU](#).

[Sun Myung Moon](#) emphasized that peace could not be achieved merely through politics or economics but through the transformation of families and the reconciliation of religions, races, and nations under [God](#). He portrayed the new era as one in which the barriers between the spiritual and physical worlds would diminish, humanity would recognize a common Heavenly Parent, and the ideal of one global family under [God](#) could gradually become a reality.

According to [Father Moon](#), the completion of this sanctuary symbolically reversed the historical failures of the Garden of Eden, transitioning humanity into the “Age after the Coming of Heaven”, which had been declared in May 2005. The opening ceremony also represented liberating [God](#)’s heart from all the [sorrow](#) the Creator had suffered throughout the long course of humanity’s history.

[Father Moon](#) also emphasized the spiritual dimension of the ceremony on 13th June 2006, claiming that great multitudes of spirits also descended to witness the event.



[Father Moon](#) giving the holy scripture [Cheon Seong Gyeong](#) to a Korean clan leader on 13th June 2006. Photo: [FFWPU](#)

Following the keynote speech, the [True Parents](#) bestowed newly minted holy scriptures and sacred items to representatives from Korea and each continent.

Text: [Knut Holdhus](#), editor

Featured image above: One of the sacred sites of the [Family Federation](#) – the Cheon Jeong Temple in [Gyeongju](#), South Korea. The building houses a museum in honor of the life of the [True Parents](#). Photo: [FFWPU](#)

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The [True Parents](#) with special robes and crowns at the inauguration ceremony of the Cheon Jeong Temple (천정궁) on 13th June 2006. Screenshot from video by [FFWPU](#).

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