

Kathy Rigney's Testimony to True Mother's Work at the Africa Summit 2018

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Special Luncheon to Celebrate True Mother's Victory of the Africa Summit 2018



Mrs. Rigney began with a reverent expression of thanks to True Mother. Then she spoke:

When I joined in 1969, I secretly studied Mother. I would look at her pictures, and watched how she walked, talked and handled every situation. Of course I was working under Father's guidance, yet as a woman I needed to have someone I could follow and understand, and that was Mother.

We were happy to hold an African regional summit. We thought of the easy way to make victory – in a developed nation such as South Africa, with one or two heads of state. but Mother asked for us to bring all heads of state, the highest level national leaders possible, from 54 nations, not to South Africa but to Senegal.

I was nervous and afraid, but since Father's ascension in 2012, Mother stood up and said we are not going to stop. For me that was a pivotal and life-changing moment. I was determined to follow Mother, even if that meant dying. I felt that to disappoint Heaven would be worse.

Every day Mother pushed us. Her HQ staff pushed us in firm, loving and kind way, to strive for the Summit's objectives. Their guidance made it possible to do things we would otherwise not have. I have learned so much from Mother.

I learned about courage

When I meet a head of state I think of what to say so that he we can be friends and that he will welcome me back another time. But when Mother met President Macky Sall of Senegal on January 17, after he welcomed Mother to the presidential palace, Mother graciously responded and then asked, "May I speak?"

President Sall replied, "Yes of course."

Then over some 40 minutes Mother explained to the Senegalese president about the providence from beginning to end, about True Parents and about God's only begotten daughter. Mother had come not just to make a friend but to teach this person who was like her son; she treated him with the heart of a True Mother.

After Mother concluded, President Sall said that for peace we need people who believe in God. He thanked Mother for her teachings. His attention and that of his staff (who were taking notes) had been unwaveringly on Mother' face as she spoke.

So the lesson is that we cannot just seek to make friends, we have to explain to people about God's providence.

On January 18 in front of 1,200 of the highest leaders who ever gathered in one meeting in Africa, Mother again proclaimed her position as True Mother. I wondered about the Muslim leaders there and afterwards I went round asking them. They all said, "Mother Moon's speech was so moving." They did not just say it was a good speech. Wherever Mother goes she is not afraid and she does not hesitate to proclaim.



I have to learn about courage from our True Mother.

I also learned about true love.

Since I became a missionary (and before the church I worked with Martin Luther King for black civil rights), I felt, as a white person, I had to repent for the suffering of black Americans and Africans. Why has Africa had to suffer so much?

We never suggested to Mother to go to Gorée Island; this was Mother's idea. "I have to liberate all the people who lost their lives."

I believe Mother when she says that we must find those prepared, righteous people all over the world. Mother herself has found them: at the 2017 world summit, one minister from Senegal saw Mother onstage. The minister asked me, "Who is she, that everyone loves so much?" I explained; he took us to meet Sheikh Mansour Diouf, and through him we could meet the President and overcome the opposition.

I learned about follow up

Mother is not just thinking, "What a great victory"; she is thinking what to do next, how to explain our principles to prominent people, how to inspire those who already understand in what they can do next—and how to keep running faster. That is how Mother is thinking and feeling.

An important figure in another African country is one example of someone who was so inspired he wants to invite Mother there and wants her to have the use of existing foundations that would allow her to receive the goodwill of many people.

I am grateful to have a loving Mother who puts her life on the line to bring glory to Heaven.