

Kyeong-Seuk Lu's Korean Religions Association (KRA) hosts Religious Peace and Culture Festival

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[Newsis] Rev. Sun Myung Moon Planted the Seeds of Religious Peace through Culture and the Arts...Korean Religious Association Holds the Religious Peace Culture Festival

Religions came together in cohesive harmony for a culture and arts festival, held both in commemoration of Rev. Sun Myung Moon's 2nd Seonghwa Anniversary, and in the spirit of the fulfillment of a peaceful world.

The Religious Peace and Culture Festival was hosted by the Korean Religions Association (KRA: President Kyeong-Seuk Lu) on the afternoon of the 7th at the Baengnyeonsa Temple (Korean Buddhist Taeyo Order) at Hongeun 2-Dong in Seodaemun-gu, Seoul.

Rev. Moon loved the arts, and often used them as a vessel to further his efforts for world peace. It was his love for the arts which drew the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification, the Korean Buddhist Taeyo Order, Kumkangdaedo and Yonggamudo together for this year's festival.



KRA Secretary General In-Jin Kwon acted as the master of ceremonies for the festival. KRA President

Kyeong-Seuk Lu's opening remarks were followed by words of encouragement given by Korean Buddhist Taegyo Order Executive Chief Dosan. A congratulatory speech was then given by Korean Islam Foundation Director Man-Jong Shin, followed by a song by the Baeknyeonsa Bulum Choir. Performances were held after welcoming remarks by the Baeknyeonsa Temple Chief Priest Dongheo.

"The Religious Peace and Culture Festival is held upon the foundation of spirituality and divine nature. In this moment, let us leave the secular world and open the doors of our hearts and bodies and listen closely to the sounds of our spiritual bodies. Let us return to the world of our original homeland. Let us cross the bridge to the world of purity where we recognize each others' values, said FFWPU and KRA President Lu.



"This festival will provide an opportunity for us to understand one another, and to lay the foundation for peace between religions, through the diverse languages and movements of each of our religions," said Korean Buddhist Taegyo Order Executive Chief Dosan. "Let us forget the worries of the secular world, and see through the eyes of children once again. Let us become friends and open the doors to our original minds and bodies. Let us listen to the voices of other religions."

"The Korean Religions Association has held countless events and religious seminars over the last 49 years to promote harmony among religions," said Korean Islam Foundation Director Man-Jong Shin. "This festival will be a great help in solving the conflicts of our multicultural, interreligious society."



"It is through this festival that different religions can overcome the walls of prejudice and understand one

another. I feel that the harmony our society seeks can be found here," said National Assembly Member Doo-Eon Jeong in his congratulatory speech.

The various cultural performances ignited the spirit of the festival.



The Korean Buddhist Taegyo Order gave a demonstration of one of Korea's intangible cultural assets, the 'Yeongsanjae.' They also demonstrated Yeonggamudo, in which the performer becomes one with the energy of heaven and dances and sings. Other notable performances included a song by the Sun Hak Children's Choir, made up of multicultural children from Japan, Taiwan, France and Australia, as well as a demonstration of Kumkangdaedo's 'Gaehwamu.'

The unique colors of Native America were displayed in a special performance of traditional music by Indian Cuzco, a group of four Ecuadorian brothers from Maldonado. They are currently working in Korea....

[Segye Times] Transcending Religions through Dance, Becoming One through Song: The Korean Religious Peace and Culture Festival

'Peace between religions was achieved through this cultural festival.'



The Korean Religions Association (President Kyeong-Seuk Lu) held the 'Religious Peace and Culture Festival' in commemoration of Rev. Sun Myung Moon's 2nd Seonghwa Anniversary on the 7th at the Baengnyeonsa Temple at Hongeun 2-Dong in Seodaemun-gu, Seoul. The event was attended by about

300 people, who came together in one heart, including leaders from the Family Federation, the Korean Buddhist Taegyo Order, the Korean Islamic Church, Kumkangdaedo and Yeonggamudo, cultural performers and devotees.

KRA Secretary General In-Jin Kwon acted as the master of ceremonies for the festival. KRA President Kyeung-Seuk Lu's opening remarks were followed by words of encouragement given by Korean Buddhist Taegyo Order Executive Chief Dosan. A congratulatory speech was then given by Korean Islam Foundation Director Man-Jong Shin, followed by a song by the Baeknyeonsa Bulum Choir. After welcoming remarks by the Baeknyeonsa Temple Chief Priest Dongheo, performances were well received, followed by dinner. The unique colors of Native America were displayed in a special performance of traditional music by Indian Cuzco, a group of four Ecuadorian brothers from Maldonado. The first performance of Yeongsanjae combined the senses with music and instruments, showing off Korea's excellent traditional culture. Yeongsanjae was registered as Korea's 50th intangible cultural asset by UNESCO in 2009.

In Yeonggamudo, the performer becomes one with the energy of heaven and dances and sings. It was developed in the Gojoseon era and passed down in part by Teacher Hang Kim about 150 years ago. This performance was followed by a song and dance routine by the multicultural Sun Hak Children's Choir, which was warmly received by the audience.

Gaehwamu was developed by Kumkangdaedo 2nd generation leader Master Cheong-Hak Lee under the philosophy of 'Honggadodeoka (Rising Ethics).' Kumkangdaedo was founded by To-Am Lee in 1894, and is approaching its 141st anniversary this year.

Indian Cuzco is a group of four Ecuadorian brothers from Maldonado. The group, who lived for most of their lives in the Americas, expresses their faith and emotions through their dynamic musical performances.

Previously, in the opening ceremony, President Lu said that, 'It is through understanding each other's religions that we can look back on the preciousness of our own devotion and reinvigorate ourselves for tomorrow.'

'This festival will provide an opportunity for us to understand one another, and to lay the foundation for peace between religions through the diverse languages and movements of each of our religions,' said Korean Buddhist Taegyo Order Executive Chief Dosan.