

## Third Rally of Hope Welcoming Address: Those Who Know War Appreciate Peace

George Manneh Weah  
November 22, 2020  
President of Liberia



I extend warm greetings on behalf of the government and people of the republic of Liberia, and in my own name, to the people of Korea and to viewers in nations around the world who have joined this Rally of Hope, dedicated to the peaceful reunification of Korea. It is an honor for me to have been invited to share a few words with you today on this important occasion. Korea has been a divided nation since the beginning of the Korean War many years ago. My own country Liberia, and several other countries in the west African region, have known the suffering, the destruction, and the devastation caused by war and division. And that is why we cherish peace and pray that all peoples of the world will be able to live peacefully together and enjoy the promise and prosperity of peace. It is my fervent hope and prayer that soon there will be a reunification of

Korea.

Many lives were lost during the Korean War, including those of soldiers from throughout the world. For their sake, we should all strive for peace and unification, so that their ultimate sacrifice will not be in vain. I now salute the Universal Peace Federation, which is a leading force for peace in today's world. It has taken initiatives through conferences and summits dedicated to peace.

I can recall, with gratitude, that the Universal Peace Federation worked in Liberia after our civil war, by taking part in post-conflict peace-building efforts with the Liberian legislature, in which I was then a senator from Montserrado County. On a more personal note, I have been invited to some of these programs in Korea, Senegal and Niger, but have not been able to take advantage of the opportunity, before now, to participate in your deliberations and add my voice to your advocacy for global peace. It is therefore with great pleasure that I find myself today in the position to participate in the current Rally of Hope.

### **Let us work together for peace**

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen allow me to express my gratitude to the creator of the Universal Peace Federation, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, who is a courageous champion for peace through interdependence, mutual prosperity, and universal values. I believe the Universal Peace Federation stands in a central position to help resolve the crisis on the Korean Peninsula.

Among other things, I know that the Universal Peace Federation understands the importance of inter-religious dialogue and has been a strong supporter and partner in supporting the work of the United Nations, the African Union and ECOWAS. I welcome the involvement of the Universal Peace Federation in my country. The partnership between government and civil society is extremely important as we work to address problems of poverty, food security, economic development, education, and strengthening the family.

I want to emphasize, once again, the importance of peace. We are living through challenging times. If we work together, we can make a difference, and we can achieve the great hope for peace that the people of the world long for and deserve. I thank you for your kind attention..