ONE FAMILY UNDER GOD

THE LIFE OF SUN MYUNG MOON

UNIVERSAL PEACE FEDERATION







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The life of Sun Myung Moon



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The Universal Peace Federation (UPF) is a global alliance of individuals and organizations dedicated to building a world of peace in which we live in freedom, harmony, cooperation and co-prosperity for all. The UPF is guided by a vision of humanity as one global family of God, living in accordance with universal principles.

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This book is dedicated to Reverend Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon on the occasion of the celebration of their Birthdays,

February 12th 2008



True Parents, Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon

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PREFACE

Dr. Thomas G. Walsh

Secretary General, Universal Peace Federation

Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon's life work has been dedicated to building a world of lasting peace, a world in which all people live together in harmony as one, unified global family. It has been a labor of love. Together with his wife, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, and their fourteen children and numerous grandchildren, Rev. Moon has inspired and worked together with a remarkable number of people from every walk of life.

The Universal Peace Federation, founded in 2005, is enjoying a period of rapid growth as its ranks swell with the growing numbers of Ambassadors for Peace—men and women of all faiths, and of none, who have dedicated their lives to public service. Through the UPF's popular International Leadership Conference series, held monthly throughout 2007, Ambassadors for Peace have been invited to consider some of the key tenets of Rev. Moon's teachings and his vision for peace.

In response to the conference graduates who have asked for more information about Rev. Moon's life and work, this slim volume is offered as an insight into the earlier and lesser known times of his life, starting from his birth in a remote North Korean farming village almost ninety years ago, and looking forward to his vision of a world of peace by 2013.

Facing obstacles that would have defeated less determined men, Rev. Sun Myung Moon is moving forward with the vision of building "One Family under God." All of us are invited to join that task.

INTRODUCTION

Rev. Chung Hwan Kwak

Chairman, Universal Peace Federation

I have known Rev. Moon personally for more than fifty years. I can say without reservation that God is alive at the center of his life. He has built his life around fulfilling God's will, which is building the world of peace, the original ideal of creation. He is a man of sincerity and prayer. His habit is to begin each day with several hours of prayer and meditation. I have witnessed the intensity of his communication with God and the spiritual power that results from it.

For Rev. Moon, God is real and personal. He is the source of true love; and thus, He was compelled to create. That is because the ideal of true love cannot be fulfilled by God, the subject partner, on His own but only through an object partner. Humankind was created as the highest and most noble of all beings amid God's creation. We are God's children. God is the Creator and Parent of human beings.

Yet ever since the disobedience of the human ancestors, God's heart has been filled with the unspeakable pain of a parent who has been rejected by his wayward children. Ever since this realization came to him decades ago, Rev. Moon has never been able to pray without tears. The image of the man that is most deeply engraved on my heart is that of him kneeling in prayer, with tears streaming down his face. I know he weeps for the alleviation of the suffering of God and the suffering of the world.

From his youth, Rev. Moon spent years meditating and praying in the mountains of Korea, searching out the origin of the universe and the secrets of history. How can human beings restore their true relationship with God? How can people remove the thick black clouds of sin that bind them to selfish attitudes and destructive acts, causing continual misery? How can they find their original selves immersed in love and harmony and create the kingdom of heaven on earth?

Through years of searching, Rev. Moon uncovered the fundamental truths about life, the universe, history and the spirit world. He unraveled the intricate knots tied by humankind's past mistakes in history. Overcoming numerous trials, he confronted satanic power head on. Thus he uncovered the universal law that could lead humanity out of the present darkness and into a brighter world.

The principle he uncovered told him that the way to establish goodness on earth was through suffering on the course of restoration through indemnity, and through sacrificial love and living for the sake of others. In order to realize his sublime vision of a unified world, he would have to take upon himself the burden of reconciliation, breaking down the many walls of division that have been hardened by a history of mistreatment and resentment. He would have to walk the way of a lonely pioneer.

Following this path, Rev. Moon suffered imprisonment and torture. In all, he was jailed six times, though he was innocent, in Japan, North Korea, South Korea and the United States. Yet, knowing that the work of restoration could not but come at a high price, he never wavered or recoiled from his suffering. Instead, he regarded it as the will of Heaven and submitted to it with absolute but humble faith, love and obedience.

In all my years with the man, I have never seen him depart from his intense commitment. He does not just live for the moment. In his mind is a profound sense of mission providential awareness and historical purpose.

Rev. Moon believes that the present materialistic age must yield to a new age of spirituality, one that is based on unselfish service to others. He

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recognizes that this transformation cannot be effected by religious revival alone or by mere political and economic reforms. Rather, all fields of endeavor must join together to provide the spiritual, moral and intellectual leadership that is required in this age.

For this reason, Rev. Moon's achievements are not confined to religion but span every field: education, philosophy, science, religion, media, the arts, international affairs, technology, charitable work, the environment, families, women's rights and youth. The titles of the organizations that he has founded repeatedly include such words as "world peace," "international" and "unification," reflecting his underlying motivation to establish God's ideal. Each organization contributes in some way towards realizing the ideal of a unified, peaceful world centered on the one God.

Many people think it incredible that Rev. Moon should start so many works and achieve such solid results. The results grow out of his sublime vision. His thinking goes far beyond ordinary thinking; even looking to the fruits his actions might bear a hundred years or a thousand years into the future. His accomplishments are even more miraculous given the persecution under which he had to work.

Presented on True Parents' Birthday, 2008

Reverend Chung Hwan Kwak Chairman, Universal Peace Federation

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Rev. Moon's call for peace though religion is something of great nuance and profundity. We are deeply fortunate for the chance to hear him and observe his life-long struggle for world peace.

> H.E. Abdurrahman Wahid President, Indonesia (1999-2001)

In spite of deprivation and the heavy burdens placed on their shoulders, Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon have come to stand as the foremost example for couples and families the world over.

> H.E. Stanislaw Shushkevich Chairman, Supreme Soviet, Republic of Belarus (1991-94)

Their message about family values, true love and three generations living in harmony touched me very much. One of the most important things I learned is the parent-child relationship between the Creator God and human beings.

> Dr. Ruta Pels Chairwoman, People to People, Estonia



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