Hak Ja Han

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This is a Korean name; the family name is Han.

Hak Ja Han (한학자; Hanja: 韩鶴子; born January 6, 1943, lunar calendar) is a Korean religious leader. She was born to the Unification Church (UC). Han and Moon were married in April 1960 and have 10 living children and over 30 grandchildren. In 1992, she established the Women's Federation for World Peace, and traveled the world speaking on its behalf. She is the leader of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification, in which she is called "True Mother" and is regarded as the perfect woman.

Children

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Born</th>
<th>Age</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Son Dan</td>
<td>1954</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daughter Dan</td>
<td>1956</td>
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<tr>
<td>Son Dan</td>
<td>1957</td>
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<tr>
<td>Son Dan</td>
<td>1958</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daughter Dan</td>
<td>1959</td>
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<tr>
<td>Son Dan</td>
<td>1960</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daughter Dan</td>
<td>1961</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Son Dan</td>
<td>1962</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daughter Dan</td>
<td>1963</td>
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<tr>
<td>Son Dan</td>
<td>1964</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daughter Dan</td>
<td>1965</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Son Dan</td>
<td>1966</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daughter Dan</td>
<td>1967</td>
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</tbody>
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Personal life and family

Han, whose mother later became a follower of Sun Myung Moon, was born on January 6, 1943 (lunar calendar). Han attended an all-girls high school in Korea but did not go on to college. She speaks Japanese and English as well as Korean. In 1960, at the age of 17, Han, by then a member of the Unification movement (which was officially founded in 1954), married Moon who was then 40 years old. Han has 14 children, 10 of whom are still living, and as of 1993 had 20 grandchildren and 38 as of 2011. The children are: daughter Ye Jin Moon (1960-); sons Hyo Jin Moon (1962-2008); Hae Jin Moon (1964-1996); daughter In Jin Moon (1965-); sons Heung Jin Moon (1966-1984); daughter Un Jin Moon (1967-); sons Hye Jin Moon (1968-); Kook Jin Moon (1970-); Kwon Jin Moon (1970-); daughter Sun Jin Moon (1976-1999); Hyung Jin Moon (1979-); daughters Yeon Jin Moon (1981-); and Jeung Jin Moon (1982-). In Korean culture, as well as other East Asian cultures, a married woman keeps her original family name, with the children taking their father's.

On July 19, 2008, Han along with her husband and 14 others, including several of their children and grandchildren, were slightly injured when a Sikorsky S-92 helicopter owned by the movement crashed during an emergency landing and burst into flames in Gapyeong.

Role in the Unification movement

Unification members believe that Han and Moon's wedding established a "holy marriage" which Jesus had failed to establish, and also consider it to be a holiday, called True Parents Day, as well as what members refer to as the "True Family." It is believed by them to be the beginning of a new Completed Testament Age and to have fulfilled the prophesied Marriage of the Lamb in the Revelation of John.

Han and Moon are together believed to be the new messiahs by Unification members. The Moons are regarded by members to be the "True Parents" of humanity and are addressed by its followers as the True Father and True Mother. Members have also referred to Han as "the Bride of Christ" and the perfect woman. She is seen within the movement as the Mother of humankind, the final chosen of God. Han and Moon are also seen as the exemplars of the God-centered existence by members. In Unification services, members bow down in respect for Moon and Han, when they are present, and to representative pictures of them when they are not.

In 1962, Moon and Han founded the Little Angels Children's Folk Ballet of Korea, a girls Korean folk ballet company meant to promote a positive perception of South Korea.

In 1984, Han spoke at a Unification movement sponsored academic conference in Washington, D.C. to a crowd of 240 which included professors from Harvard, Princeton, Stanford, University of Michigan and the Sorbonne in Paris.

In 1993, U.S. Senator Orrin Hatch introduced Han to a crowd at Capitol Hill; she stated at the event that she and Moon are the first True Parents. Moon was in the audience watching her speech, along with members of the United States Senate and United States House of Representatives.

Wedding ceremonies

Han and Moon together presided over the mass wedding ceremonies for which the Unification movement is noted. (See: Blessing ceremony of the Unification Church.) In 1997, they donned crowns and gold-trimmed robes to lead a mass wedding and marriage reeducation ceremony in Washington, D.C. for 20,000 couples, 2,500 of them Unification members whose marriages had been arranged by Moon. Ministers of other religions acted as "co-officiators." In 1997, Han presided with her husband over a marriage affirmation ceremony for 28,000 couples, some married and some newly engaged, in New York City. During the ceremony Han and Moon sprinkled holy water on the couples.

Women's Federation for World Peace

In 1992, Han established the Women's Federation for World Peace (WFWP) with the support of many Unification members, and traveled the world speaking at conventions on its behalf. The WFPW is purposed to encourage women to work more actively in promoting peace in their communities and greater society, and it includes 143 member countries. Han organized a conference in Tokyo in 1993, which was the first anniversary of the WFPW. The keynote speaker was former Vice President of the United States Dan Quayle's wife Marilyn Tucker Quayle, and in a speech at the event Han spoke positively of Mrs. Quayle's humanitarian work.

In 1993, Han traveled to 20 cities in the United States promoting WFPW as well as to 12 countries. At a stop in Salt Lake City, Utah she told attendants: "If a family is not centered on God's ideal of love, there will be conflict among the members of that family. Without God's love as an absolute center, such a family will ultimately break down. A nation of such families will also decline."

Han's closing address, called the "Founder's Address", was the climax of the proceedings.

Family Federation for World Peace

In 1996, Han went on a world tour, speaking on behalf of the Family Federation for World Peace. Her speeches were given in cities across the United States, as well as countries including Korea, Japan, Italy, and 16 other countries in South America and Central America. In July 1996 she spoke at the Family Federation for World Peace's Inaugural World Convention at the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C. Han's closing address, called the "Founder's Address", was the climax of the proceedings.

Coronation ceremony

On March 23, 2008, Moon and Han were honored at an Ambassadors for Peace awards banquet hosted by the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace (which is sponsored by the Unification movement) in a United States federal office building in Washington. D.C. It was called a "Crowns of Peace" ceremony. At the event Moon stated that he was the Messiah. Over 12 United States lawmakers were in attendance. The event was criticized by some as a possible violation of the principle of separation of church and state in the United States.
In 2006, Han spoke in New Zealand on behalf of the Universal Peace Federation and called for traditional families, religious and cross-cultural tolerance, and a “peace tunnel” across the Bering Strait (Bering Strait crossing) connecting Russia and the United States.[24]

Increasing influence [edit]

In 1992, Moon increased Han’s position of authority within the Unification movement and announced “True Mother was elevated to True Father’s level horizontally.”[25] Hak Ja Han has been Moon’s successor designate as leader of the movement since 1992.[26] Maximino Intriurge of the Center for Studies on New Religions writes in The Unification Church (2000):

“The issue of succession is now of fundamental importance. The Reverend Moon will be eighty years old (by Korean age calculations, he turned eighty in 1999) in 2000. The issue of succession is now of fundamental importance. The Reverend Moon will be eighty years old (by Korean age calculations, he turned eighty in 1999) in 2000. The issue of succession is now of fundamental importance. The Reverend Moon will be eighty years old (by Korean age calculations, he turned eighty in 1999) in 2000. The issue of succession is now of fundamental importance. The Reverend Moon will be eighty years old (by Korean age calculations, he turned eighty in 1999) in 2000.

George D. Chryssides writes in Exploring New Religions (2001) that Han’s importance with the movement continues to grow. Chryssides predicted that she would lead it and preside over blessing ceremonies after Moon’s death, since she would then be “the remaining True Parent.”[27]

In 2003, over 8,000 Unification members attended a ceremony in South Korea in which Han and Moon were remarried. This was said to be the fulfillment of the Marriage Supper of the Lamb written about in the Apocalypse of John.[28] In 2010 National Public Radio reported that Unification Church services in the United States invoked the name of Han along with that of Rev. Moon.

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Mrs. Hak Ja Han Moon

Biography portal
Religion portal

Speeches of Mrs. Hak Ja Han Moon, at www.unification.net
Biography of Mrs. Hak Ja Han Moon, at www.reverendsunmyungmoon.org

Categories: South Korean Unificationists | 1943 births | Living people | South Korean religious leaders

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