

Yeon Ah (Choi) Moon's visit to the Maori people of New Zealand

Johannes Anae
September 18, 2015



Our brothers and sisters here were so moved and inspired by how honest and humble they found Yeon Ah Moon to be. She embraced everyone, and it felt like she was an older sister at times. She mentioned to our national leader, even before coming, that she wanted to spend some time with the young people here in New Zealand. On her last night we held a farewell dinner. At one point in the evening, she gave a speech and expressed True Mother's and her own love for young Unificationists all around the world. She gave a donation to our youth group here for an upcoming summer workshop, including \$300 in snack money.

I felt so guilty because we had nothing to give back on behalf of our community ... or did we? Earlier that day, Yeon Ah Moon was scheduled to watch a famous tribal war dance commonly performed by New Zealand rugby team the All Blacks, called the Haka. But because of time constraints she missed her opportunity. Instead, some of the young men and I made our way to the stage to do our own version of the dance. At first, we stood there nervously, but soon the rest of the youth joined us on stage, followed by some of the elders.

Then, all generations banded together, and, one in mind and spirit, we gave a loud shout and were hitting our chests. We shook the heavens with a mighty "ROAR!!" In the end Yeon Ah Moon stood up and said, "True Mother doesn't have to worry anymore; you have these brothers!"

Though she missed seeing the dance performed by a professional group, it gave the New Zealand community the opportunity to offer something back to True Parents' family through Yeon Ah Moon.

It was truly an honor, blessing and privilege to represent this nation and offer something to True Parents! I will always cherish this memory.

