

WCSF BLESSING HELD IN KOREA



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On July 5, the 2007 Cross Cultural Marriage Blessing was held at the Cheonan Sports Complex, as part of the larger World Culture and Sports Festival. Some 1,634 brides and grooms from many nations had gathered to receive a Blessing of peace upon their unions by the officiating couple, Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon. Simultaneous video and internet feeds allowed thousands of bridal couples around the world to participate in the Blessing in more than 180 nations and cities.

Rev. Moon has held large scale wedding ceremonies since 1960, the date of his own marriage to Hak Ja Han, and is the unquestioned champion not only of numbers of couples he has married, but of initiating

the concept of bringing peace between enemy groups by matching couples whose nations are current or historic enemies, saying "How could anyone harbor antagonism toward, much less point weapons at, a nation which many millions of grandchildren from their own lineage make their home?"

For 32 years, the Blessings increased in number, from 3 couples, 36, 72, 120, 430, 777, 1800, 8000, up to 30,000 couples at a single ceremony. Then, in 1992 Rev. Moon surprised members of his own movement by opening up the Blessing to people of every faith, and to those already married.

Couples commit to four vows, including constant faithfulness to each other, raising children to be pure for their own future spouses, establishing a Godly

see **BLESSING** on page 14



FOUNDER'S DISCOURSE ON UNIFICATIONISM

Founder's Address • WCSF 20

The 'Three Great Subjects' Principle for

by Reverend Sun Myung Moon

This address was given at Cheonan, Korea, July 4, 2007.

Distinguished guests from at home and abroad, athletes participating in the tournament games. Thank you for taking part in the World Culture and Sports Festival 2007, which is solidifying its stature as a genuine peace festival for all humanity.

This festival, held under the theme "Advent of the Era for the Beginning of a New Universal Civilization of Peace," will be an occasion for creating a new paradigm for harmony and peace in bringing the six and a half billion people of the world to become one family under God.

Humankind in the Last Days

Ladies and gentlemen, please look at the world today. Can you find a leader in the world today who is genuinely concerned with the future of humankind and sacrifices himself to bring harmo-

ny and peace to humanity on an inter-religious and international level? Human beings are like orphans who have lost their parents, like misdirected youth without a teacher, like servants who have lost their masters. Human beings have become totally blind, unable to see even an inch in front of them.

There are now some two hundred nations in the world. Yet, aren't these nations engaged in fierce conflicts, directly or indirectly, with each other, as they all are intent on pursuing their own interests? The United Nations too, which was launched under the noble ideal of protecting the welfare and peace of humankind, has reached its limitations. Watching helplessly without a solution to the global crises of war, starvation and disease afflicting the world, isn't it an organization that is coming to exist more in name than in substance?

Positioning ourselves as the "lords of creation," we human beings have been creating our history. We have seen terrible massacres and suffered natu-

ral disasters. Despite this, we have survived and have continued to multiply until this day, seeking a bright and happy world—although with only a vague concept of what that might be. Then why is it that the human race is still unable to escape from this mire of sin and disease?

Three Great Subjects Principle

Ladies and gentlemen, you need to be aware of the fact that at the time of creation God gave humankind the "Three Great Subjects" Principle. The first of these is to become a true parent. God created us as His children. Thus, we were to become true children by perfecting our character as individuals after going through an autonomous period of growth based on the principles God established. We were then to become true couples, have children, and thus attain the position of true parents. In other words, we were to perfect ourselves by practicing and embodying the true love that was bestowed on us with the act of our cre-

ation.

In spite of this, moral values in the world today are deteriorating uncontrollably. The moral laws governing the relationship between parents and children have been thrown to the ground, fidelity between couples is being discarded as an old-fashioned concept of the older generation, and brotherly love between siblings has become a rare commodity buried in the swamp of self-centered individualism. This is why we must first and foremost establish true families based on true love. In other words we must perfect families in which three generations can live together in true love centered on true parents.

The second of the three is to become a true teacher. Although this world is by no means beyond Satan's influence, one way or another during their lifetime people enter relationships where one is a teacher and the other a student. First, they learn from their parents in the family. Your parents are the first and greatest teachers among all teachers. Parents have the primary

AUGUST 2007

Ahn Shi Il • 2nd, 10th, 18th, 26th

- 1 Hee Jin Nim's Ascension (1969)
6th Phase of the Blessing of 400 Million Couples (2005)
Day of Returning to the Home Country (1993)
- 4 Hye Jin Nim's Ascension (1964)
- 7 Unification Theological Institute (1971)
- 16 Il Sung II: Total Victory Day (1985)
- 17 Declaration Day Jeon-ban & Jeon-neung (1999)
- 19 Chil Pal Jeol: Declaration of the Realm of the Cosmic Sabbath for Parents of Heaven and Earth (7/7/97)
- 20 Declaration of the Providential Age of Salvation by Love (1989)
Blessing for Registration in Cheon Il Guk for the Revolution of True Heart and for True Liberation and Complete Freedom (2004)
Father's Release from Danbury (1985)
- 24 Shin Goon Nim's Birthday (7/12/83)
Shin Kwon Nim's Birthday (7/12/89)
- 25 30,000 Couples' Blessing (1992)
360,000 Couples' Blessing (1995)
- 28 Federation for World Peace (1991)
- 30 In Jin Nim's Birthday (7/18/65)
- 31 Pal Jong Shik: Day of the Settlement of 8 Stages (1989)

SEPTEMBER 2007

Ahn Shi Il • 3rd, 11th, 19th, 27th

- 1 Cheon Bu Ju Hwi: Declaration Day of Heavenly Parentism (1989)
- 6 Hyung Jin Nim & Yeon Ah Nim's Blessing (1997)
- 8 Sa Sa Jeol Declaration (1998)
- 9 9.9 Jeol: Heaven and Earth Unification and Liberation Ceremony (1999)
- 10 Shin Ji Nim's Birthday (7/30/94)
3.10 Jeol (1999)
- 12 Shin Joong Nim's Birthday (8/2/93)
Universal Peace Federation Inauguration (2005)
- 14 Interreligious and International Blessing and Rededication Ceremony (2002)
- 15 Hye Shin Nim's Ascension (1971)

- 16 Hyung Jin Nim's Birthday (8/6/79)
- 18 Foundation Day (1976)
Ultimas Noticias Established (1981)
- 25 Chusok – Korean Thanksgiving (8/15)
- 26 Kook Jin Nim & Ji Hye Nim's Blessing (2004)
- 27 Day of Dispensational Transition Point Toward Unification (1988)

OCTOBER 2007

Ahn Shi Il • 5th, 13th, 21st, 29th

- 1 Ocean Church Founded
- 3 Foundation Day for the Nation of the Unified World (1988)
Interreligious and International Peace Council Inauguration (2003)
- 4 Foundation for the Support of HSA-UWC Established (1963)
Day of Victory of Heaven (1976)
- 5 Proclamation of Total Liberation and Unification between the Physical World and the Spiritual World (1998)
- 6 Hwa Yun Nim's Birthday (8/26/77)
- 10 New York City Symphony Orchestra Support Began (1975)
Sang Ship Jeol: Double 10 Day (1999)
- 11 Father's father's Ascension (1954)
National Professors and Students Federation for North-South Reunification Established (1986)
Opening of Cheonsung Palace Training Center (1999)
- 14 Ji Hye Nim's Birthday (9/4/79)
6000 Couples' Blessing (1982)
- 18 Shin Myung Nim's Birthday (9/8/86)
- 21 In Sup Nim's Birthday (9/11/72)
777 Couples' Blessing (1970)
- 23 Declaration Ceremony for the Liberation of the Parents of Heaven and Earth and the Substantial Realm (1999)
- 26 Shin Eh Nim's Birthday (9/16/89)
- 27 Young Jin Nim's Ascension (1999)
- 28 Shin Mi Nim's Birthday (9/18/77)
Shin Ok Nim's Birthday (9/18/89)
Shin Ah Nim's Birthday (9/18/98)
- 30 6500 Couples' Blessing (1988)

Due to the manner in which the lunar calendar corresponds with the solar calendar, Yun Ah Nim's and Un Jin Nim's birthdays are not celebrated in 2006. Contact me if you come across any errors. (c) 1999-2004 Kathryn Coman [KathrynComan@worldnet.att.net]

CALENDAR

FOUNDER'S DISCOURSE ON UNIFICATIONISM

2007 Grand Opening Ceremony

From the Viewpoint of God's Providence

responsibility, in the position of true teachers, in raising true children.

Children who are raised by true parents through a true and good family education are automatically connected to their school education. At school they receive an institutionalized level of education. Yet, within the framework of a school, teachers have the responsibility to raise and educate their students to become true children, with the heart of a parent. By this I mean that horizontal academic education must be carried out on the foundation of vertical character education. Thus, a teacher must first become one who possesses the heart of a true parent.

The third of the three is to become a true owner. God, who created the universe, is inherently the true owner of all things of creation. God's creation is the fruit of His complete investment, carried out on the standard of absolute faith, absolute love, and absolute obedience. From this we can gain the wisdom that enables us to become a true owner. I am referring to the secret of investing true love on the basis of an absolute standard. The prerequisite to becoming a true owner is possessing the heart of a true parent.

Organic Relationship

The "Three Great Subjects" principle embodies an organic relationship that is mutual, absolute, and indivisible. This is because a true parent, true teacher or true owner can stand in the position of either a subject partner or an object partner. In other words, once you attain the position of a true parent, the positions of a true teacher and true owner emerge from there. Once you reach the position of a true teacher, the positions of true parent and true owner are included. Once you attain the position of the true owner, you will immediately become a true parent and true teacher. Human beings were originally born to inherit and embody God's complete Three Great Subjects principle.

If you wish to become a person of character who has perfected the Three Great Subjects principle, you must become like God Himself. You must have a heart such as God has, to love human beings and all things of creation on the basis of an absolute standard, just as God does. In other words, you must attain a state of loving unity with God. At that point, the true parent, the true teacher and the true owner all converge.

The world operates on the basis of the harmony among organizations and relationships of all kinds and all dimensions. In this complex and diverse world the principle of becoming a true owner applies to the relationships between people as well as the relationship between human beings and the creation. The question is what kind of person can be called a true owner. The person who lives for others, caring for others, sacrificing himself in serving others—in other words a person who practices and lives a life of true love—



is a true owner. Someone who treats everything in the creation with true love, protecting and nurturing them, can become a true owner of all things of creation.

As you can see, it is not your position or status that makes you a true owner; that is determined by your character and capacity to love. The president of a company who loves and cares for all his employees with a parental heart is the true owner of that company. Only a nation's president who loves his people in the same way as a parent would caringly raise his or her children, and who shares the sorrows and joys of life with them, can become the true owner of that nation.

The Conscience

Ladies and gentlemen, God's creation is truly mysterious and profound. God created human beings as His children and to be the lords of creation. He gave us the highest and greatest gift—our conscience. This special gift of the conscience is given to us to be our compass in guiding our life in this earthly world. We often say that our life is one hundred years. Regardless of who we are, we cannot escape the influence of

our conscience from the moment of our birth to that of our death.

The most elevated function of the conscience is its role as a true parent, true teacher and true owner. In other words, our conscience acts on behalf of God in the position of a true parent, true teacher and true owner in guiding and educating us from the time we are born. One function of our conscience is the responsibility to guide and keep watch over our every action in every moment.

That is why our conscience knows our every word, action and thought even before our parents, our teachers and God do. This is because God instilled into the conscience the fundamental function of guiding and supervising our lives. Yet the conscience, which was to be clear and transparent like a crystal, was blemished due to the Fall and was unable to fully manifest its original function amid all manner of sin and sickness. Hence, you must become people who can hear the voice of your conscience that is crying out for liberation and complete inner freedom from this evil world that is under Satan's dominion.

However, there is no way for fallen people to return the conscience to its original function. This is because they have not established a direct vertical relationship with God. The six and a half billion people in this world today are all off at a tangent, each living under the illusion that they are genuine and the best in their field. Yet no one will be able to find the path to salvation before an absolute standard is established and a right-angle in relation to God formed, allowing you to measure the shortest distance to Heaven.

Beloved leaders from around the world, there is one person, who is the first and probably the last to hold such a position in history, who has the keys to free humankind from Satan's bondage and to lead them to heaven. I, Rev. Moon, am that person standing before

you today. I never aspired or wished for this position. I was anointed by God and placed in the position of the Savior, Messiah, Lord at his second coming and True Parent of humankind. It is a position that is absolutely beyond, and free from, Satan's sphere of influence. The path of a true parent, true teacher and true owner will allow the people of the world who are going six and a half billion separate ways to be reconnected to God at a ninety degree angle, and Rev. Moon is the one who is setting the example of living a life based on the truth while attending the conscience as the owner.

The absolute, good spirits in the spirit world, who number more than 300 billion, are testifying in unison to this fact. The founders of the great religions, beginning with Jesus, as well as the philosophers and thinkers, even including communists, are shedding tears of gratitude for this amazing reality. Even the people in spirit world have no way to be saved without receiving the grace of the Blessing from the True Parents.

Cross-cultural Marriage Blessing

Ladies and gentlemen, the time has come for humanity to receive the teachings of Rev. Moon, the True Parent, and to fulfill the heavenly decree of creating one family under God through the Cross-cultural Marriage Blessing. What other way is there to create the kingdom of heaven on earth and in heaven than the path to becoming one family under God? What other way is there to create the ideal world envisioned at the time of the Creation, in which all people are united as one beyond the boundaries of their race, culture, religion and nation, and where war and conflict do not exist? Unbeknownst to you all, the True Parents have proclaimed the revolutionary era after the coming of heaven which will allow humanity and even God to be liberated and set completely free in His heart. They are now blazing the trail of this revolution—a revo-

see **THREE SUBJECTS** on page 4



WCSF 2007 • International and Religious Athletes

The 2007 WCSF(World Culture and Sports Festival) started on 10am 4th July. Despite the rain, there was an excellent attendance.

The curtain lifted with the a drum and fife band and the flag. The program progressed after the declaration by Master of ceremonies and Lynne Kim(an interpreter). The invocation by Chung-hwan Kwak (WCSF2007 Executive Committee Chairman) and the main address by Hyun-Jin Moon (WCSF2007 Organizing Committee Chairman) got enthusiastic response from the audience. Founder's

Keynote Address by True Parents also was applauded. After the congratulatory Address, splendid cultural performances was played. They played fusion performances with modern sense, the Korean classical music with graceful traditional dance and Tae Kwon Do which is modified the Hong Gil-dong (Korean classical literature's hero). This performance which was selected as a Cultural Tourism property performs at Kennedy Center in United State in November 2007.

In the end of the program, Three Cheers of Eog-mansei by Rev.Katumi

Ohtsuka(UPF Japan President) and this WCSF opening ceremony was finished successfully with Exit of the teams of athletes representing the world's religions.

The International and Interreligious Peace Sports Festival includes more than 1,240 participants, 67 nations and 10 religions, each with certain dietary laws and daily observances. Held at the spacious Sun Moon University in Asan, South Korea, the IPSF incorporates practical ways to honor the participants' faith teachings, in every aspect of the conference.

In the capacious dining hall, three different menus are served for each meal: one for the 191 participants who do not eat pork, a vegetarian buffet for the 82 who don't eat meat, and another for the 860 with less stringent dietary rules. "We deliberately chose our catering service because they have a chef specially trained in preparing meals according to the Halal (Muslim) dietary laws,"



explained Sun Moon University's Dr. Han Chul Hee, who is coordinating the extensive preparations and organization at the Asan campus where IPSF is being hosted.

In the daily routine of IPSF, faith is seen as an important component. Each dorm has a room set aside for prayer, which participants can use at any time.

Each day begins with meditation and devotions, led by a different faith leader each morning. In this way, participants can learn about the core principles of each other's faiths and worship traditions.

Athletes and staff wear the traditional head coverings or garments of their faith, even sometimes while playing on the field. The IPSF uniforms being distributed to each participant are

provided in two lengths, to accommodate the desire for modesty among many of the athletes.

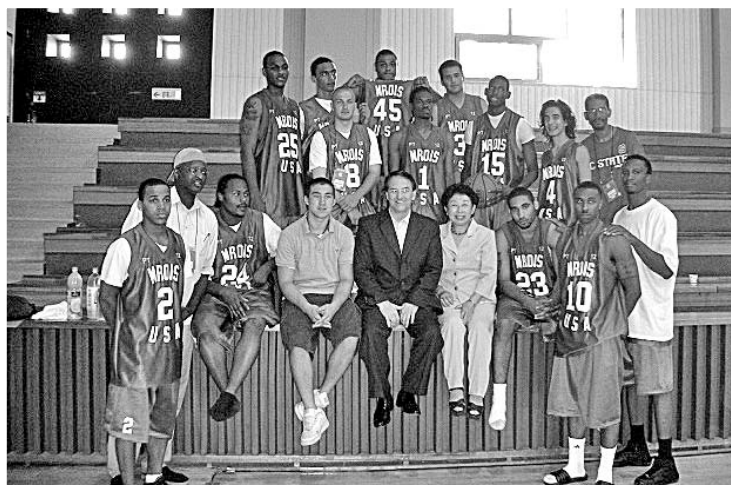
Cultural performances are one of the highlights of the festival. Each evening, participants gather at the gymnasium to enjoy each other's songs, dances and other arts. In 2007, special cultural teams have been sent from Sri Lanka, Taiwan and Thailand to perform at the July 6 International Night of Friendship and Peace, and at other Festival-based events.

Athletic excellence is definitely a central focus of IPSF, and sports can transcend language or cultural issues. IPSF participants are selected based on their achievements, many having earned top honors in national competitions. For many, IPSF offers the chance to enter the international level of competition, and to learn from the skills and methods of others.

"It may seem strange to imagine that religion and sports can lead to peace," said International Director John Gehring, "Many of the athletes are coming from war-torn areas, civil strife or family struggle. This experience let's them taste what peace looks like and feels like. It's something they experience so they know it's real."

"Rather than seek to dilute the passion and fervency of those of each faith, we hope to distill a sense of increased appreciation for spirituality, in all its forms," said Gehring. "By praying-and playing-together, we develop a familial approach to peacemaking. If we come out of this feeling, 'hey, he's really my brother,' then we've done our job."

The IPSF consciously chooses to honor cultural and religious expression, through interfaith exchanges and through cultural performances. Religious leaders, such as the Ven. Balangoda Ananda Chandrakeerthi, bring educational and devotional traditions to the mix. "My responsibility is to introduce information about Buddhism and the practice of Anapanasathi meditation-breathing-based meditation-to the participants. By building interreligious activities between nations we can end mis communication



THREE SUBJECTS from page 3

lution of the truth that we must all become true parents, true teachers and true owners—to all corners of the world.

Ladies and gentlemen, the fundamental spirit of the World Culture and Sports Festival 2007 is to fulfill the great task of making all humankind into one family. Please remember that we, as people of religion, culture and athletic prowess have the mission to come together as one and bring the "Era for the Beginning of a New Universal Civilization of Peace" into bloom. Please keep in mind that religious people, in particular, must become

the vanguard in carrying out this consecrated revolution of true love. I, Rev. Moon, have already completed all the necessary preparations.

With a view to the building of the ideal kingdom of heaven that is God's desire, I am promoting a grand project of building a tunnel under the Bering Strait as a part of the creation of an International Highway of Peace that will connect all the oceans and continents, allowing people to travel around the globe. The United Nations, which began with the lofty ideal of realizing world peace, is now only a shadow of what it was to be. Unable to turn away from this sad reality I am promoting the renewal of the UN. In support of these efforts, I founded an "Abel-

type" UN (The Universal Peace Federation) as a new Peace UN, which is active in 120 nations of the world. Its role is to guide humanity in the era for the beginning of a new and universal civilization of peace, with the belief that we must pour "new wine into new wine skins."

All you have to do now is believe in and follow the True Parents. Follow the compass of your conscience in attaining the status a true parent, true teacher and true owner, and practice a life of true love that will ensure your eternal spiritual life. Heavenly fortune will speed you on your path, and your good ancestors who have been blessed will actively assist you in your activities. Have courage, and actively strive to go forward! ❖

Interreligious Peace Sports Festival Compete for Peace

four cultural teams are joining the 11-day celebration linking athletic prowess, cultural achievement to the process of creating good-

will among all peoples.

Hailing from Taiwan, Sri Lanka, Thailand and the US, young artists will share the traditional and the contemporary culture of their nations as their contribution to peace-building.

The Nareerat Dance Troupe of Phrae, Thailand brings a repertoire of six beautifully costumed and graceful dances. The Museaus College Dance Troupe brings classical and modern Sri Lankan dance to the international stages of the festival. The University of Taiwan's Dance Troupe will perform classical Chinese dance and traditional Kung Fu Martial Arts movement. And the Washington AIDS International Teens (WAIT) brings a mix of American breakdance, hip hop, musical performances and dramatic skits to teach about HIV/AIDS prevention, an issue of crucial importance to all nations represented there.

Dancers will join the International Night of Friendship and Peace performances of top international artists. Noted singer just returned from a friendship tour to North Korea, will perform, as well as the young star of Broadway's "Lion King" musical, Kia Victoria. Maestro David Eaton will conduct classical musicians in a special performance as well.

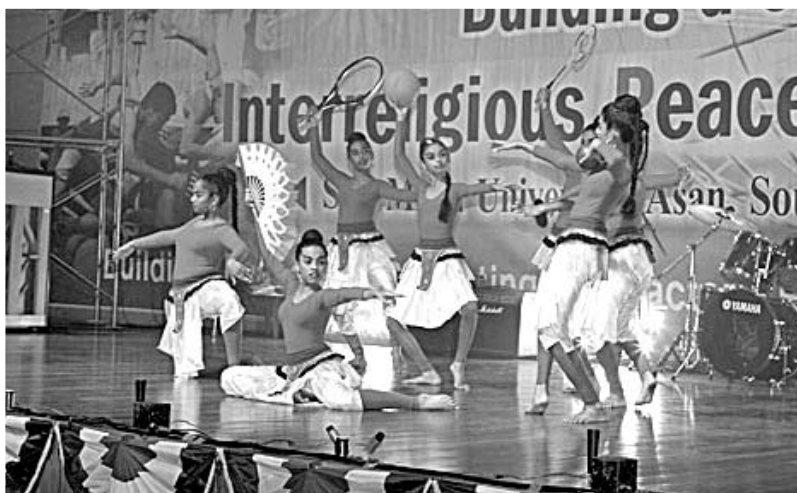
between each other, and guide all to achieve enlightenment of Nirvana-an end to suffering in life, the base of peace and love."

Sri Lanka's Musaeus College Dance Group is performing traditional and modern dance presentations as part of the IPSF, as well as with other events around Korea.

Sri Lankan participants have taken pride in developing a logo worn on their jackets which not only identifies them as IPSF participants, but shows the name of their nation and year of participation. The impact of young people from a small island nation winning fame and honors for their country, while gaining greater understanding of how peace and religious harmony can be built within their regions.

Dancers build Bridges of Peace

In addition to the 225 sports teams attending the Interreligious Peace Sports Festival this week,



As at previous years' IPSF events, athletes themselves will be doing cultural presentations nearly every evening of the festival. After a day which begins with interfaith devotions each morning, followed by intensive athletic competitions by teams which are often national-level champions, the cultural programs provide a time for fun and appreciation of the music, dance and other arts of each of the participating national delegations.

"Many peace conferences focus on discussion," explains International Director John Gehring. "But ours takes a very different approach. By praying together, playing together and singing and dancing together, we create an experience of what it's like to live in constructive-not destructive-ways of being. It's a microcosm of what we hope the whole world will be experiencing one day, sooner rather than later."❖

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Second Generation Matching in Korea

by Reverend Michael Jenkins

Our wonderful second generation came from America and many other countries to receive True Father's matching. As I entered into the education hall at the Paradise Hotel and youth hostel, I once again could feel the excitement of the spirit that blessed couples experienced personally when we were matched and blessed. Of course the nervousness of the couples matched by their parents or just recently matched by True Father was also part of the atmosphere. The nervousness is always there, as with any wedding. However, I could see how serious these young people are deep in their hearts that their marriages are not only for themselves but, more importantly, for Heaven.

These marriages are not simple but are based on an incredible journey of faith and preparation undertaken not only by the individuals and families but also by their ancestors in heaven itself. Rev. Phillip Schanker, Rev. In-guk Seo, Geros Kunkel, and a variety of second-generation Korean educators held seminars to prepare the young people for the internal and deeper meaning of the blessing. Also much was done to help them understand that blessed marriage is never simple.

Nothing was more beautiful to see than the parents gathered together in the dining hall and attending orientation seminars together with the young people. The parents especially understand how central and important the blessing is to God and all of history and that the joy of these young families will be great if they can manifest the faith that God is seeking to instill in them. The course is never easy, but God never refrains from initiating the course for whoever



is ready, willing, and able. There are great challenges to every blessing; the only way to establish it is not in theory but in practice.

God is working to find a way for each and every one of us and that He never stops until He connects in heart with all those who have been called to be

the core families of the kingdom.

Many first generation will be participating from America and throughout the world. Some are reblessings, which are being brought together after earlier marriages could not complete their course. What is so beautiful is to see the joyful tears of these couples who

at one time as individuals felt no hope and no possibility of restoring the family. As I see their tears flowing, I see that there is always hope, always a way. God never stops providing pathway as long as we keep trying and remain faithful on the path.

This is the first blessing after the Grace Ceremony conducted by Daemonim centering on True Parents. This

also is a cause for tears of gratitude, as many whose paths were blocked are being healed, given grace and restored; the path is opened again for them to create second-generation ideal families. The key to all of this is God and True Parents' unconditional love and grace, which flow abundantly. With this grace comes responsibility, and we want all families to know that eventually all of our young people will make it, one way or the other, as long as we never give up.

The second generation of blessed families in every nation have profound depth of conscience and original mind. We should never underestimate their incredible strength which is hidden internally until the hour in which they are called. These young people are the same as the people that God called out of the desert after following Moses. They are the young people chosen by God to create a new history not only for their own families but for all humanity. Tomorrow, July 5th, is a day of destiny in which humanity will take another quantum leap forward. No matter what your situation as a blessed couple, or what the situation of your children is, please be encouraged. God will make a way for each and every one of us if we never give up. God is the king of love; True Parents are the king and queen of love and peace. ❖



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1st Anniversary of Cheon Jeong Gung Museum Opening Ceremony, and the 45th Day Of All True Things

June 13, The '1st Anniversary Of Cheon Jeong Gung Museum Opening Ceremony, And The 45th Day Of All True Things' Was Held Magnificently With True Parents And True Children At Cheon Jeong Gung Museum. Ambassadors Of Peace, Elder Members, National Messiahs, And Pastors Of Around 1,500 Members From Around The World Attended This Special Event. In The Morning, There Was A Pledge Service And A Commemorative Service, Then, In The Afternoon From 1 O'clock, The Commemorative Luncheon Was Held. At The Commemorative Service, In Their Special Address 'Value And Meaning Of The Family Pledge' True Parents Told To Publish This Message As A 'Peace Message'.

Rev. Chung-hwan Kwak, International President Of Ifwpu, Was The Emcee For The Pledge Service. True Parents Came To The Stage At 7:00 A.m. And Lit The Holy Candles. Then There Were The Bows From Representative Families Of Each Levels, Reciting Of The Family Pledge, Representative Prayer Offered By Rev. Kwak And His Wife, And After The Cutting Of The Holy Cake By True Parents There Was The Partaking Of The Holy Food. The Service Ended At 7:40 A.m. With 4 Cheers Of Eokmanse Offered By Rev. Sun-jo Hwang, President Of Ffwpu Korea.

The Commemorative Service Started At 10 A.m. And Rev. Hwang Was The Emcee. Before Starting The Service, The Attendants Watched A Short Movie Of The Opening Ceremony Of Cheon Jeong Gung Museum (June 13, 2006) From Last Year. After That, True Parents Came To The Stage And The Service Began. After The Bow, The Cheon Il Guk Anthem (Holy Song 'The Gloriousness') Was Sang By Everyone And A Representative Prayer Was Offered By Rev. Doun Lim, General President Of Ffwpu-japan.

After The Prayer, Rev. Kwak, In His Commemorative Address, Briefed The Attendants About The 'Day Of All True Things' And The 'Opening Ceremony Of Cheon Jeong Gung Museum' And Then Read The Peace Message 'Cheon Il Guk Is The Ideal Heavenly Kingdom Of Eternal Peace' (June 13, 2006, Special Address From The Opening Ceremony Of Cheon Jeong Gung Museum).

Also, In His Congratulatory Address, Mr. Bong-ho Kim, Former Vice Chairman Of Korean Parliament, Said That True Parents Have Dedicated Their Life For World Peace And Expressed His Strong Determination That He Will Do His Best To Help True Parents' Wish.

After The Congratulatory Song By La Strada Ensemble And The Presentation Of Flowers To True Parents, There Was The Presentation Of Universal Peace Federation Flags. These Universal Peace



Federation Flags Were Presented By True Parents To The Representatives Of 12 Regions (Korea, Japan, North America 1st Region, North America 2nd Region, Asia, Oceania, South America, Africa, Middle East, Europe 1st Region, Europe 2nd Region, And East North Continent) That Represent Over 200 Countries.

After Presenting The Universal Peace Federation Flags, True Parents Gave His Speech. True Parents Said, "To Establish The True God's Family, It Is

Essential To Go Through 8 Stages. To Interpret The Content Of The Family Pledge Is More Precious Than Anything Else So I Would Like To Explain It Now." After Reading The First Part Of The Special Address Of 'Value And Meaning Of The Family Pledge', True Parents Told Rev. Hyo-yul Kim (Peter Kim) To Read Rest Of The Address. After The Hoon-dok Of The Special Address, True Father Emphasized To Read This Special Address Continuously And To Publish It As A 'Peace Message'.

After His Speech, True Father Told True Mother To Sing, And With Her Beautiful Voice, True Mother Sang 'My Motherland' And 'Want To Visit'. After True Mother's Beautiful Singing, Rev. Chang-shik Yang, North American Regional President, Gave The 4 Cheers Of Manse And Ended The Commemorative Service.

The Congratulatory Luncheon Was Then Held From 1 P.m., With True Parents And True Children. ❖

30th Middle East

by Reverend Michael Jenkins

The MEPI was in Israel June 22-27. The civil war in Gaza and the takeover by one faction has completely changed the environment in the Middle East. There is a great deal of uncertainty and apprehension on all sides. Israel, Egypt, Jordan and the Palestinian Authority met in an emergency meeting in Sharm Al Sheikh in Egypt. There couldn't be a more important time for the Middle East Peace Initiative to be present here.

The momentum that was achieved through MEPI especially since the April conference with Hyun Jin Nim has been maintained. The central core of the MEPI foundation is our guiding principles that God must be in the equation for peace to be realized. That the core issue is faith and family and how to bring reconciliation between brothers and sisters. Our theme is "The Family of Abraham: One Family Under God."

Very high-level delegates from Europe and the United States who have long years of experience on Capi-

tol Hill and the Parliaments of many nations expressed a great deal of appreciation for the unique approach and contribution MEPI makes at this critical time. The role of people of faith and people of conscience will determine the outcome of the Middle East

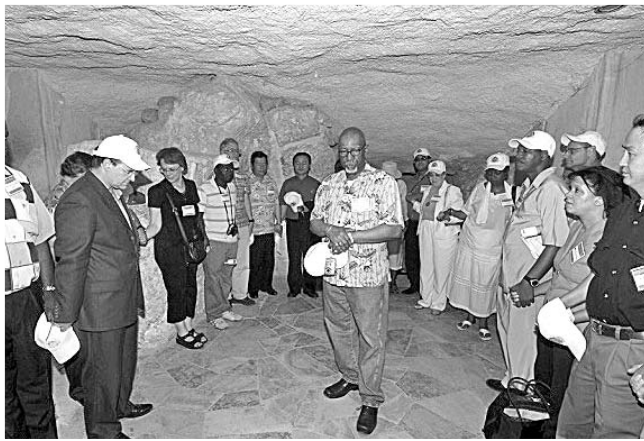
struggle.

Always throughout history it can be seen that the response of the people that God chose to work through and how they fulfilled their "calling" from God would determine whether nations would rise or fall. MEPI is working to

seek out those people of conscience who have strong ethical / moral principles for family, patriotism and desire for world peace. Some are elected officials, some are educators, women leaders, media professionals, legal and business professionals as well as religious leaders.

Through interaction with our Ambassadors for Peace from America and Europe and based on the excellent work of our Ambassadors for Peace from the Holy Land, new people come in and are refreshed and given hope. Much of the hope comes from the consistency and frequency of the MEPI programs and the fact that important leaders who come from many nations strengthen the local Ambassadors for Peace by bringing concern and affirmation that as we unite together beyond boundaries and share the struggle to bring peace together. Hope is felt and experienced.

Dr. Antonio Betancourt, UPF Director of International Relations together with UPF Secretary General Hod Ben Zvi, Mr. Bill Selig and

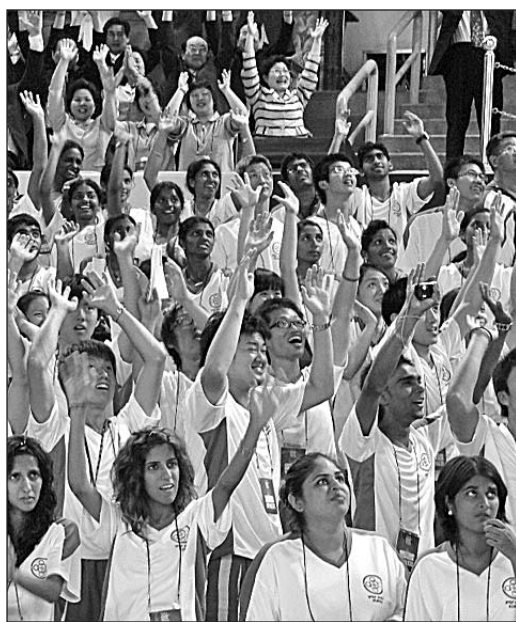


The Interreligious Peace Sports Festival (IPSF) held in Asan, Korea has brought together what the 21st Century would consider an unlikely friendship amongst the participating athletes. Yakir Sasson, a musician from Israel along with the rising stars of the Israeli track and field team, Avava Ayelin and Dessalon Kasa with their coach Abebe Gessesse tentatively seated themselves next to Abdul Qadir Ghanizada a Muslim from Afghanistan and Mohamed Abdul Rauf Bin Mohamed Yusope, Muhammad Fadzli Bin Abdul Majid and Mohamed Farish Bin Mohamed who are Muslims from Singapore during dinner at the Sun Moon University's cafeteria on 5 July 2007.

It is Abebe's third time participating at the IPSF and he came armed with Avava and Dessalon whom he has been training from an early age. "I have started training Avava at the age of 9 while Dessalon at the age of 10." Avava who is now at the tender age of 15 is proudly representing Israel in the Women's 5000m and 10000m at the IPSF while Dessalon, age 17 is in the Men's 5,000m and 10,000m.

Avava and Dessalon are of the Jewish faith and originally from Ethiopia but have sought asylum status in Israel 5 years ago. Abebe, a Christian, is also an Ethiopian refugee and has lived in Israel for the past 10 years. With their similar backgrounds Avava shyly concedes that "We are friends but we are

also like family." I asked how this family felt when being surrounded with athletes of different faiths especially the Muslim athletes present at the IPSF. A b e b e launched into an in depth discussion of this unique sporting event whereby he feels honoured to bring his athletes here to not only compete in a top international competition but also for his athletes to learn above and beyond the art of competition – that is the art of getting along. IPSF provides a safe atmosphere whereby youths from different nations and religions are able to get to know each other in order to promote understanding and peace. This is particularly important for the small Israeli team amongst the bigger group of Muslims from Singapore, Sri Lanka, Iraq, Afghanistan and India.



asked by Rauf, Fadzli and Farish who are representing Singapore in soccer. I also managed to catch words such as "AK-47" and "frisks searches" being quietly exchanged between Qadir and Yakir. The eldest of 12 children, Qadir was explaining to Yakir of his family's need to own a gun in order to protect his family back home in Afghanistan. Stories of security and civil unrest are not new to Yakir who lives in Jerusalem. He explained to Qadir that for security reasons all bags need to be checked

when entering into a public place, say a mall or library on a regular basis. This is in stark contrast to Korea where Yakir may wander from shopping malls and train stations without the need for the constant bag checks and frisk searches.

Similarly, Qadir has also had to adapt to this new found sense of safety. The first step was being able to talk to women athletes that are not members of his family or are not his closest friends, an act which is considered dangerous back in Afghanistan.

Qadir is proudly representing his country in the 4 by 400m Mens' Relay while the musically talented Yakir performs Jazz songs on his saxophone to spread the word of peace. Each of these two athletes have different ways of promoting peace, be it through sport or music; but the message is still the same. It is only through understanding one another's religious background and day to day living that we are able to be one step closer towards attaining universal peace.

There is a general consensus of the need for peace and understanding amongst these athletes. It is through the platform of the IPSF that the idea of interreligious peace may grow. They also expressed the hope that other international sporting events such as the Youth Olympics that is planned to be held in the year 2010 will eventually become valuable venues in which the important mission of promoting interreligious peace and understanding may carry on well into the future. ❖

Peace Talks

Peace Initiative

Mr. Robin Marsh, did an excellent job in developing panelists for our conference under the guidance of Dr. Yang, Dr. Walsh, Mr. Taj Hamad and myself together with local and international Ambassadors for Peace.

Our conference went to Tel Aviv this time and had a conference in one of the most beautiful settings imaginable - on the Mediterranean Sea at the Renaissance Hotel. Our conference room and dining areas had giant panoramic picture windows that allowed you to look out of the beautiful beaches and deep blue waters of the Mediterranean. It was refreshing. Our panels concentrated very specifically on understanding the Israeli perspective on the current situation. We had a number of very qualified and prestigious presenters -- a former Israeli general who was in command over Gaza and an Israeli Ambassador and a noted journalist. Representatives who had backgrounds with high-ranking positions in the foreign ministry and other posts gave their perspective as well as a well known media personality. Their presentations were solid and hard hitting. Many expressed a great deal of apprehension over the current situation. All were pretty much in agreement that the situation is one of the most complicated and fragile on earth. To call it a tinder box is an understatement. The crosscurrents of the three Abrahamic faiths intersect in Jerusalem and the rise of radicalism is very alarming not only to Israel but to its neighbors in Jordan, Egypt and Palestine. One former Israeli ambassador is leading the way for dialogue between Israel and other Arab neighbors who have been seen as enemies. He said without dialogue there will be more war. He called for America to open up to the idea that we must engage our enemies through dialogue.

The second session was focused more on the spiritual and cultural perspectives on peace. The session began with a presentation by Mr. David Eaton on the development of special peace performances that were done with the renowned vocalist and classical performing artist David D'or. In addition to per-

forming and recording the "Cantata for Peace" with Ms. [redacted] and the Ra'anana Orchestra in Tel Aviv, David D'or, David Eaton and [redacted] recently performed in Belgrade to an overflow audience before ambassadors from 40 nations, which was attended by members of the Royal family. David D'or opened our session on faith and peace with a beautiful rendition of "Amazing Grace" and "Summertime". The MEPI movement is expanding to many areas of the work for peace. David Eaton demonstrated that the efforts to build bridges of peace is greatly enhanced through performing arts, for music is

a universal language that all can understand and relate to. He received applause as the audience broke into laughter when he said our motto is "Less Talk and more Music!"

The panel on faith included key religious leaders who presented how the nonviolence movement changed the world. Rev. Walter Fauntroy gave a historic presentation on the work that was done in America to reconcile races and end the violence. He noted that there were over 60 unsolved bombings in Alabama at one time. The same tension was there. However it took leadership, especially spiritual leadership, to touch the conscience of all people and move them to join in the peace efforts. He noted that many rabbis came to the south and greatly enhanced the

movement for equality and justice. He spoke about the all-night session that he and Wyatt Tee Walker and others spent with Dr. King to work on the "I Have A Dream" speech so that it could be reduced to the 8 minute slot that Dr. King was asked to hold to.

Following Reverend Fauntroy was Rabbi Yitzak Bar Dea, the chief Rabbi of Ramat Gan. He stirred the audience deeply. He stated that much of the problem comes from the fact that elected officials do not follow the fundamental principles of their own faiths when they try to govern. They try to achieve peace without faith and without God and adherence to core principles of faith and love. Because of that, God cannot bless their efforts, and peace is not achieved. He cited what

he believed was even a more serious problem -- that the religious leaders often do not have the courage to speak out to political leaders concerning what is right and wrong because they might lose some privileges.

The session ended with a most important presentation on the central role of education in bringing peace. It was a review of the Mar Elias school in the north of Israel that has Christian, Muslim and Jewish students. It offers grades K - 12 and a college with a Bachelor's degree. The director of the school, Dr. Moena, did an excellent presentation on the documented work of the school creating an environment where children grow up as "One Family Under God". His powerpoint presentation was very moving. It also showed that Archbishop Elias Chacour, who is the bishop over the Melkite Greek Catholic Church, has received high marks from the Vatican and from the United States. Particularly Sen. Richard Lugar of Indiana has been a great supporter of the school and helped it establish an extension in which the students study in America (in Indiana) as part of their experience with Mar Elias.

This day of MEPI bore great fruit, and we are deeply grateful to God for the amazing developments going on within the communities of Israel. ❖





**UPKMF
Convention 2007
UN Peace Forces of the
Korean War Memorial Federation
July 24, 2007
Seoul, Korea**



by Rev. Michael Jenkins

America Wins WCSF Gold

America did well in the Interreligious Peace Sports Festival. Our teams were organized by Rev. Greg Carter, who fielded competitors from across the country in Track, Soccer, Badminton, Tennis and Basketball.

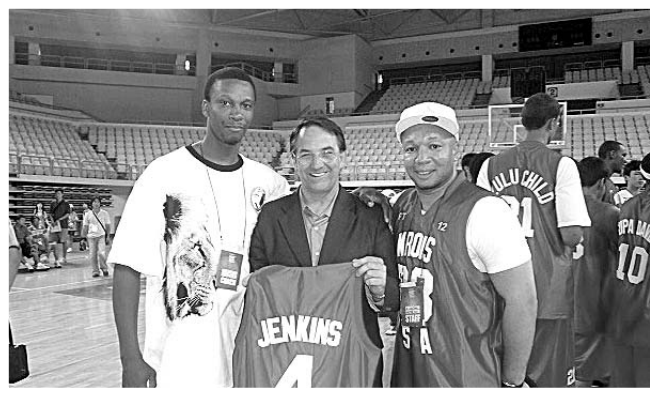
The sports competition is becoming world class. The Iraqi team that competed in IPSF will be featured on ESPN, as they also will be joining the Peace King Cup tournament, which opens on the 12th of July.

We are very proud of our athletes. Rev. Lowery, who emerged during the World Peace Tour of 120 Religious leaders, came forward to coach the team. He did a great job. Lithuania was very, very tough in the competition and was strongly favored to win the Gold again as they won it last year. However, in an upset, Taiwan beat them to compete with America for the Gold.

The Taiwanese women's and men's teams were fierce athletes. They had very precise three-point shooters. The Taiwanese team was not small -- they had one player at 6' 10"! The Women's game with Canada in the finals was a seesaw battle, and Taiwan won in the end. Canada proudly brings home the Silver medal, won by a team who never played together until they got to Korea as Rev. Gray and assistant coach Sandra were recruiting from college teams across the nation. The Taiwan team was great -- they did have a serious advantage as they have been ranked as the top college women's team of Taiwan and have played together extensively.

Canada is rising and the Gold will soon come for them. Congratulations, Rev. Gray and all the team on bringing home a medal for Canada.

The Basketball final was played the Cheonan Sports Stadium in the Yoon Kwan Soon indoor stadium. This is the same location that the blessing was held on July 5, 2007. Cheonan is a significant city of over 500,000 people. It is close to Asan,



where Sun Moon University is located, and Onyang, where the nation's most famous "hot springs" are renowned. The drive from Seoul is a grueling 2 and 1/2 hours through bumper-to-bumper traffic. However, the region has been greatly served by the fact that the high-speed train called the KTX now stops in Cheonan / Asan. That means you can make it to Seoul in 26 minutes! This also created a boom in growth for the region and for Sun Moon University (that many predicted would not survive in the backwoods rural area where it was first built. Now SMU is a respected university that is strong in engineering and boasts 10,000 students).

The American - Taiwan battle for the gold in Men's Basketball was exciting and fierce. Taiwan is a dangerous competitor -- beating all other competitors by lagging behind until the final 10 minutes and then surging ahead, based on stamina and accuracy, to win. They could never be underestimated. The American team was composed of some players from the original Gold medal team formed from Washington, D.C., inner-city youth in 2003. The prominent ACLC Pastor Rev. Thomas assem-

bled the young people and turned their lives around through sports. Most of the players were new and from across the country. Detective Delaney of the New Jersey Police was also a coach for the team. Detective Delaney is on the Youth Task Force for the New Jersey State Police and helped recruit some fine athletes. For many, this was the first trip outside of their city. The mentors in support were ACLC National Executive Committee member Rev. Carl Rawls, Rev. Adruma Victoria and David Harvey. Rev. Carter took care of all the athletes there in all sports. Many times taking care meant coaching, helping team spirit, and encouraging unity. One key thing that would boost morale was when Rev. Rawls would go to the KFC and get fried chicken! This would get a huge response as the Korean dishes, though delicious, were a little on the hot side, as one player said. Rev. Rawls became very popular!

The game was fast from the start. The American team had nicknames on the back of their jerseys. Names like "Bruiser", "Super Dave", "Stretch", "D-Eraser", "Zulu Child". It was tremendous. Taiwan launched hard and fast and immediately took the lead.

America, however, fought hard and got the upper hand. Taiwan came back and America surged forward. America was tough on the rebounds; this made a huge difference. Some of our players were totally outstanding in pressing into the inside for the layup. All in all, it was a most exciting game. The Taiwan team is to be commended; they are tough. Knowing that Taiwan has a reputation for surging back at the end (like they did against Lithuania) Coach Lowery decided to keep maximum pressure on and never lost the lead after the first half. At the end, Taiwan lost its edge and America was strong: the final score was 82 - 68. A little misleading because 8 of those points were right at the end. Taiwan was within range 64 - 66 with about 4 minutes left. America got the Gold. It was a solid, earned victory. It was beautiful to see Dr. Bong Tae Kim, President of Sun Moon University, giving the Gold medals to the winners.

Three second generation were on the team, Gideon Raucci, (New York), Joshua Mwamlima (Norfolk) and Ben.

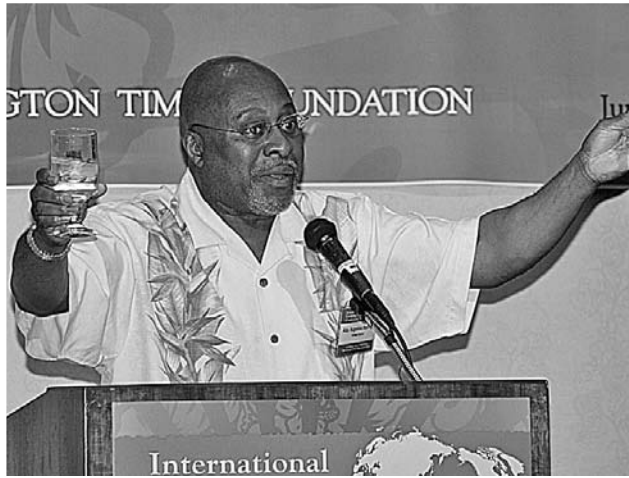
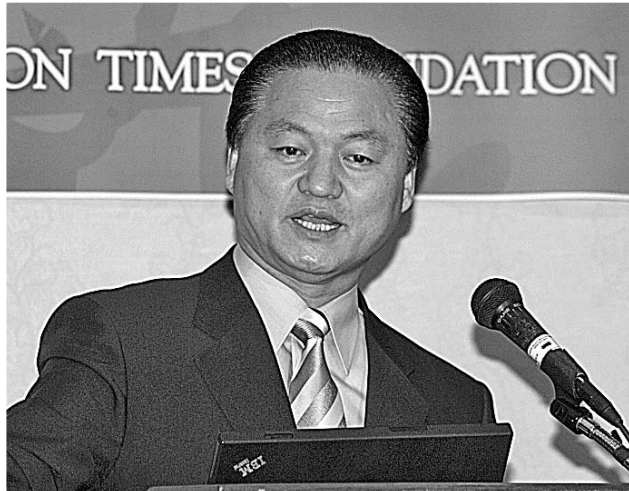
David Raucci won two Gold medals in track; and his brother Joe won a Bronze in track!! Also Kiah gave support through her music and Eric Walters assisted the team

Since this is an Interreligious Sports Festival, Muslims, Christians, Jews and other faiths all are represented. The players are people of faith, playing side by side with players of other faiths. That's why America's jerseys had on the front "MROIS," meaning, Multi Religious One In Spirit.

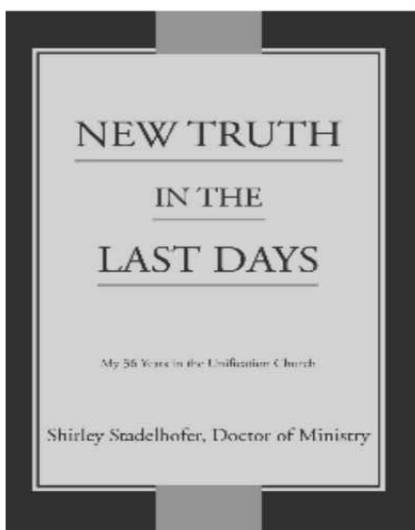
The victory is sweet, and it is a victory for all faiths with respect for all nations. America has not seen the Gold for several years now. It has come back to America -- thanks to Dr. Yang for his unchanging support for the IPSF. Thanks to all Americans who supported these teams. ♦



**International
Leadership
Conference**
Honolulu, Hawaii
June 17-21, 2007



New Truth in the Last Days
My 36 Years in the Unification Church
Shirley Stadelhofer, Doctor of Ministry



“A ‘couldn’t put it down’ kind of a book. So simple and beautiful, like Shirley herself.” According to Rev. Kevin Thompson. “Dr Shirley as she was affectionately known by most people, poured the last days of her life into this book which is part testimonial of her 36 years as a follower of Rev. Sun Myung Moon, and part explanation of the teachings of Rev Moon.”

As one of the foremost presenters of the Divine Principle to Christian ministers, Shirley Stadelhofer’s presentation style is uniquely simple, concise, straight forward, and passionate. This book would be a great gift or loan to anyone interested in what Rev. Moon teaches. An e-book version is available.

Call 1-800-AUTHORS to order, or visit www.iUniverse.com

Interreligious Peace Sports Festival's International Night of Friendship and Peace

by David Eaton

On July 6, 2007, the Interreligious Peace and Sports Festival (IPSF) presented a concert in the recently completed cultural center at Sun Moon University. The International Night of Friendship and Peace featured vocalists S

Kiah Victoria, the Meong Gyung Chamber Orchestra of Seoul, conducted by David Eaton, and dance ensembles from Taiwan, Thailand and Sri Lanka.

Four-hundred guests attended the program, including VIPs from the Cheon An area. Dr. Chul Hee Han, who served as executive producer, was thrilled with the result



saying, "We built our arts center for exactly this purpose, music and art for peace!" IPSF director John Gerhing commented, "It was a taste of the Kingdom of Heaven."

Broadway stage star, Kiah Victo-

ria, representing the youth aspect of the festival, sang "Can You Feel The Love Tonight" from the hit Broadway musical "The Lion King," the play in which she appeared on Broadway in the role of Nala. Soprano S then sang arias representing various musical traditions including Korea, Japan, South America, Europe, America

and an excerpt from the peace cantata, "Halelu" composed by David Eaton and Israeli vocalist, David D'Or.

Two videos were presented highlighting the activities of IPSF and the cultural initiatives of Miss Lee and Mr. Eaton in North Korea and Israel (through MEPI) with a special emphasis on building bridges through music and art.

After intermission dance troupes from Sri Lanka, Thailand and Taiwan presented colorful and exciting international dances to standing ovations! The ensemble from Sri Lanka created a piece, entitled "Sports Dance" especially to honor the IPSF.

Several international IPSF delegates who attended the program requested that similar concerts be presented in their countries centered on the ideals of the Universal Peace Federation and IPSF. ❖



Unificationist College Student Residence in Berkeley, California

The recently remodeled Hearst Center has rooms available for Unificationist college-age students.

The Hearst Center is adjacent to UC Berkeley and close to BART. Student residents are attending UCB and other local schools.

For more information, please contact:

Richard Eisenman
Hearst House Manager
richardeisenman@yahoo.com
(510)785-8965

Hyung Jin Nim Speaks to Priests at Cheongshim Graduate School of Theology

The 'International Symposium on Catholicism Today' was held at Cheongshim Graduate School of Theology, International Congress Room, from June 16 to 18, sponsored by the Cheongshim Graduate School of Theology and 'Married Priests Now'.

Eight priests from the United States, Italy, and Mexico came to attend this Symposium. Hyung Jin Nim came to the Symposium on the first day and gave a special lecture.

At this International Symposium, held for the very first time in Cheongshim Graduate School of Theology, President Gil-ja Sa, President Chan-gyun Kim, President Gun-sik Song, President Nan-yeong Moon, professors of Sun Moon University and professors and students of Cheongshim Graduate School of Theology, totaling around 80 people attended this Symposium.

The Opening Ceremony started from 9 a.m., June 16, on the first day of the Symposium, and there was a congratulatory address by Archbishop Emmanuel Milingo and President Jin-chun Kim of Cheongshim Graduate School of Theology. Then the Symposium began, firstly, with presentations from 2 fathers and a female Italian journalist, Raffaella Rosa.

Hyung Jin Nim came to the event at 3 p.m. and gave a special lecture. In his speech, he emphasized the importance of a family life while introducing himself as a still learning father and husband. He said, through a relationship between the family, one is trained to understand the other person and that it is the path to perfect our personality of true love and establish a family where God can reside.

After his 1 hour lecture, the priests gave a huge applause thanking Hyung Jin Nim for his magnificent speech. There was time to take a commemorative photo around the Hoesim-ji (pond), which was named by True Father, and also had a time to have a conversation with Hyung Jin Nim. After that, Bishop Ferrabolli Dairo Vicente gave a presentation.

On the 2nd day, June 17, the priests went to Cheon Jeong Gung Museum and attended the morning Hoondokhae centering on True Parents. After having breakfast there they came back to the Cheongshim Graduate School of Theology.

There were presentations from Archbishop Milingo, Bishop Hilario Ceneros (Mexico), and 2 other fathers in the morn-

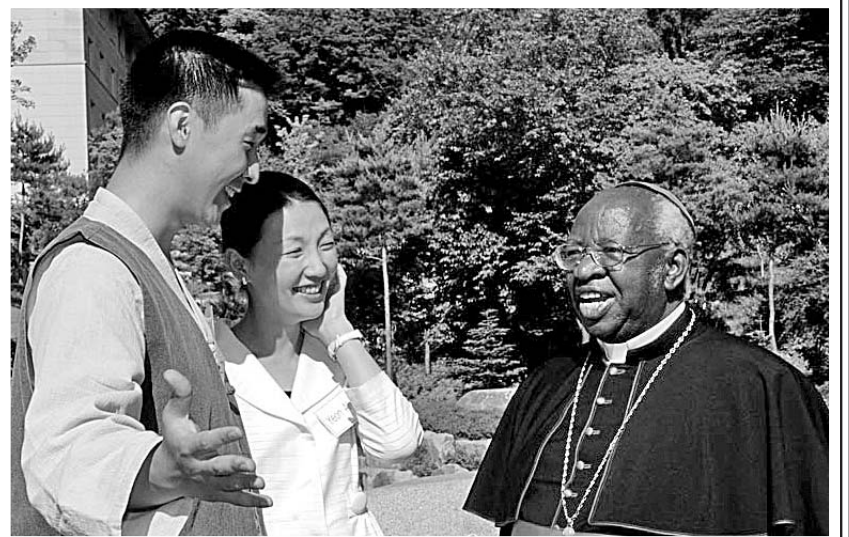
ing. After the presentations from Dr. David A. Carlson and President Jin-chun Kim, an open discussion time was held. In these discussions, the priests were able to once again realize the preciousness of marriage.

In the evening, a mass was held centering on Archbishop Milingo and 4 other

priests where professors and students of Cheongshim Graduate School of Theology had a chance to attend. They were able to experience God's love transcending the boundaries of religions.

After the morning mass that took place on the 3rd day, a special meeting was held centering on Archbishop Milingo and

President Jin-chun Kim, summing up the discussions and opinions that were exchanged in the past 2 days. After that, some priests departed and others visited Cheongpyeong Heaven and Earth Training Center, Cheongshim International Hospital, and Cheongshim Village (Senior Apartment). ❖



True Parents Can Visit Europe

by Mark Brann

I am happy to be able to report that, as of July 28, at long last True Parents are free to come to Europe, wherever and whenever they wish and that all Schengen listings against them have been removed.

You will have heard about the great victory of Germany's removal of True Parents from the list on June 4th. At that time we thought that that was an end to the whole Schengen matter. However, we were very surprised to discover that for some reason True Mother was still down as listed on the system by France. Consequently, in spite of Germany's victory, if True Parents had tried to come to any Schengen nation, True Mother would have been refused entry.

We had some inside information that perhaps this was not really a full and separate listing by France but merely an indication of support for Germany's listing that might be removed more or less automatically when Germany's own listing was removed.

However, we had no option but to assume that it was a full listing by France and to campaign vigorously for its removal. The U.S. State Department offered their

help. So too did various prominent Korean politicians. About fifteen former Heads of State and Government and current parliamentarians from Schengen nations sent letters of protest to Nicholas Sarkozy, the New French President. Our french brothers and sisters under the determined leadership of Jean-Francois Moulinet worked very hard to resolve the matter in France itself, made many extra "cheongsong" conditions and were especially serious to fulfill True Parents' direction to send 100 french people to Korea for the July ILS realising that this would make a good base for solving the Schengen problem.

Although it has proved impossible to get written confirmation from France that it has removed its listing, one senior official did give us a very clear assurance a few days ago that whatever was blocking True Mother either had been, or would soon be, removed from the system.

We could manage without written confirmation from France because, one by one, other countries' immigration departments told us that there was now no adverse entry against True Mother's name. One of them even did so in writing. So we are now a hundred percent sure that the way is clear for True Parents to come and

after more than 12 years of intense struggle, we can be confident that they will indeed come soon.

We all owe a great debt of gratitude to Rev. and Mrs Song for taking such strong ownership of this issue and putting it at the heart of our spiritual focus over the passed few years. They have truly born the brunt of the burden of it since they came here almost four years ago. But this final victory could not have happened without the tremendous contributions of you all - through your prayer and other "cheongsong" offerings, including not least your generous financial donations. I want to thank you all from the bottom of my heart for all that you have done. It has really been a great collective effort!

Let us rejoice and give thanks to Heaven at being liberated and released from this struggle and let us prepare our foundation to receive them, beginning with a big welcome for Hyun Jin Nim for the peace rallies from 6 - 11 September. Let us also savour and celebrate this victory together as we contemplate the end of the 30 year era of government persecution of our movement here in Europe and the era of governmental cooperation and support for our efforts to build a world of lasting peace that is now upon us. ❖



THE TRUE FAMILY • TRUE PARENTS' BIRTH

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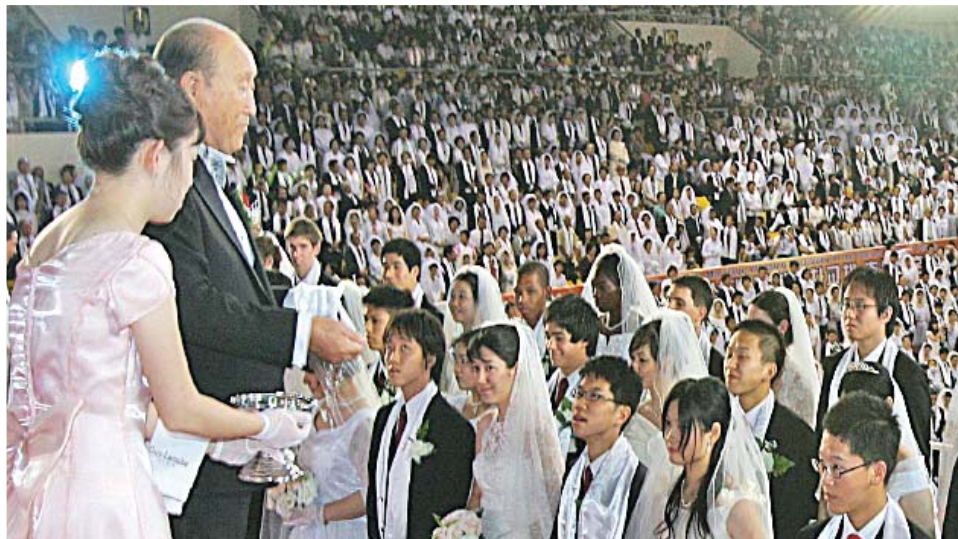
family life, and working for the goodness of the larger society.

For the July 5 event, more than 200 couples were in attendance, and many more by internet, representing the second generation of Blessing for their families. These youth were born and raised by parents who were themselves Blessed, and who are committing their lives to the same values of creating world peace, starting in the family. More than half of these couples had been matched by Rev. Moon. Following the tradition of their faith, most of these have offered a 7-day fast, and will not consummate their marriages for 40 days, as a way of consecrating their hearts first to God.

Former president of the Republic of Belarus, Stanislav Shushkevich, recounted how his own nation's initial euphoria with freedom from the totalitarian grip of communism 15 years ago has faded as the difficulties of creating a truly peaceful society have become clear. "At that time we were so happy because of our new-found freedoms. But looking back now, fifteen years later, I can say that freedom alone is not enough: we must have strong families and a strong moral structure if our nations are to prosper." ❖



WEDDING DAY, CJG PALACE, FEBRUARY 23, 2007
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IN MEMORIAM

Deborah Vazquez

Deborah (Debbie) Vazquez ascended July 9, 2007 at 3:30 pm in Las Vegas Nevada. Her husband Francisco Ralph Vazquez was with her when she passed. Debbie had suffered from complications from diabetes and heart failure for some time.

Debbie and Ralph were blessed in 2075 couples Blessing in 1982. Debbie joined the Unification Movement in 1975 and participated in the Yankee stadium campaign. She was staff in the Dining Room at Unification Theological Seminary in the late 70's and then joined the IOWC in England along with the seminarians. In the 80's Debbie was on Mrs Doris Orme's IOWC team and assisted Mrs Orme with VIP outreach.

Following IOWC, Debbie was a leader for ICC clergy outreach in Los Angeles. She was the Nevada State Leader who hosted True Mother's tour in Las Vegas in the early 90's. Debbie organized ACLC programs in March and April this year and brought many clergy guests to the 50-State Tour on May 23, 2007 in Las Vegas Nevada.

Donations to help with the Debbie Vazquez Seung Hwa and Won Jeon Fund may be sent to HSAUWC, 1740 North Leonard Lane, Las Vegas NV 89108

Bill Starr ❖

**For your information
Bridgeport
International
Academy**

We will be moving our entire high school to a beautiful, new facility on Friday, August 17, 2007.

Our new mailing address will be 285 Lafayette Street, Suite 200, Bridgeport, CT 06604. Please send any mail to our new address.

Our phone and fax numbers will not change. They will remain (203) 334-3434 and (203) 334-8651, respectively.

IN MEMORIAM

Derek Gertz

Our deep regards go out to the entire Gertz family at the unfortunate and early passing of Derek into the spiritual world. May Heavenly Father's & True Parent's Love be with them all!

The morning of July 27, 2007 at 2:00 am the son of William (Bill) and Debra Gertz passed unexpectedly into the spirit world. He went skateboarding that night around 7 pm and fell, injuring his head severely.

Doctors were not able to save his life.

Prayer vigils were held at the Gertz' home in Bowie from 10pm to 12am for the following three days. Please pray for Derek and the Gertz family.

We join with the Gertz family in their deep sorrow over their son's passing.

The Gertz family is loved and respected

in our commu-

nity and

God is surely with them. In their pain they com-

forted God's heart in prayer that evening and

offered their son to heaven.

Our community in District One remembers

Derek as a young man of passionate and coura-

geous spirit, much like that of his father. He

passed over doing what he loved most, challeng-

ing the limits and seeking to be the best at skate-

boarding.

We pray for a smooth and peaceful transition

and strength and consolation for the Gertz fam-

ily at this difficult moment in their lives.

Derek, we love you!

Randy & Kumiko Francis

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NextGen Academy (NGA) celebrates its' first anniversary this June. Internship applications are now available for the 2007-2008 program.

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Hoon Sook Nim Gives Ballet Lecture at Cheongshim Youth Center

May 17, 5 p.m., 'Hoon Sook Moon's Ballet Lecture' was held at the International Convention Hall of Cheongshim Youth Center (Cheong-a Camp) and around 200 people from Cheongshim Organizations and from 114th Cheongpyeong 40-Day Workshop and 34th Special 40-Day Workshop for Blessed Wives attended this fantastic lecture.

The 'Cheongshim Thursday Academy' invites well-known persons of each fields and listen to their lecture every once a month. For the first lecture, Hoon Sook Nim, great leader of the Universal Ballet, came to Cheongshim Youth Center and gave a lecture on Ballet.

After coming on to the stage, Hoon Sook Nim said, 'It's my first time to give a lecture to members. I am happy to do this for the first time here at Cheongpyeong, the hometown of heart.' Then she continued on with her lecture, 'Ballet following the time', and explained the fundamental knowledge of ballet as well as the history and how to appreciate ballet.

All the attendants learnt what the silent moves in ballet meant and also got to learn some moves. Hoon Sook Nim said, 'Through ballet we can feel liberation and freedom by moving one's body'. At the end, 'Don't think difficult of ballet but connect with it as if you are connecting with your friend.'



Through the lecture, the attendants were able to see the passion and love that Hoon Sook Nim gives to ballet and also deepened their own understanding towards ballet. ❖



JOB OPENINGS AT NEW HOPE ACADEMY

New Hope Academy is a private Prek-3 - 12th grade with 285 students in Landover Hills, MD, just outside of Washington D.C. Founded by Unificationist families in 1990, New Hope is a God-centered, non-sectarian, multi-faith school with an excellent academic program and a focus on character education. Stanford Test scores place NHA in the top 10% of school in the nation.

Pioneering a new system of education called Shimjeung Education, New Hope endeavors to create an optimum environment in which to work and grow, both for students and for staff. Administration is committed to helping each teacher become a master teacher. Staff development focuses on professional, personal and spiritual growth. With families and staff from over 25 different countries and over 30 different faith backgrounds, New Hope is committed to the creed that "the belief in the Parenthood of God, brings about the brotherhood of humanity." It's an amazing place to teach and a unique opportunity to be a member of a team devoted to developing a new system of education for the 21st century. Classes are small, usually 21 students or less with time allotted for planning.

New Hope currently has opening for the following positions. Start date August 20, 2007.

ENGLISH TEACHER Grades 8-12 • Full Time, B.A. required. MA and teaching experience preferred. Salary range from \$25,000-\$35,000. Full benefits.

PRESCHOOL TEACHER (3 year old class) (may be able to start in summer) • Full time. B.A. required. Preference given to those with early childhood education degree or experience with children. Salary range from \$23,000-\$27,000. Start immediately or in August.

KOREAN FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSISTANT & MATH ASSISTANT TEACHER • Part time. (20-25 hours) B.A. preferred and Korean fluency required. Must be able to teach through High School Korean II level. Teaching experience preferred. \$17.50 per hour.

MUSIC TEACHER • Part time (15-20 hours per week, flexible hours available. B.A. and teaching experience preferred.

Benefits for Fulltime Staff:

- either a childcare tuition credit, which is equivalent to approx. 85% of one dependent child's tuition at New Hope Academy,
- or an individual insurance plan with Optimum Choice. (family plan available with increased co-pay, or self pay available if child tuition credit is taken)
- all additional staff children automatically receive very significant tuition discounts,
- free "before and after school care", if needed for staff children.
- 4 paid sick days per school year
- 2 paid personal days per school year
- paid vacation days over Thanksgiving(3), Christmas Break(7-10) and Spring Break(5)
- Paid National Holidays
- In addition, optional work is available in summer, if desired.

CONTACT

Please contact the office with a resume and a letter of interest if you would like to apply, or pass this information onto qualified family and friends. You may also wish to post this notice at your local church.

Principal Joy Morrow • New Hope Academy
7009 Varnum Street, Landover Hills, MD 20784
Phone: 301 459-7311, Fax: 301 459-2813
Check out our web site at www.newhopeacademy.org

Fundamentals of Interfaith Leadership Taught at UTS

The relationships that we have created are the most important result," said Jana Robicheau, a Buddhist from Vermont, at the conclusion of a four-day UTS certificate course "Fundamentals of Interfaith Leadership" held at UTS in May. "I have a Muslim sheik from Lebanon who is my friend and a Catholic priest from Jordan who is my friend. UTS is creating this environment, which is invaluable for interfaith."

Mrs. Robicheau, Director of the YangsiKaluRinpocheMeditationCenter, was one of twenty-five students in the UTS intensive program that ran from May 19 to May 24. The youngest participant was a twenty-year-old college student from the University of Maryland, who is leading an interfaith group on her campus; the oldest was an eighty two year old bishop from the United Methodist Church, who felt "empowered" through the course to go back to his country, Zimbabwe, "with the knowledge of what to do, how to do it, and with whom to do it with."

Participants were not only diverse in age and experience but also in nationality and religion. In all, fifteen countries were represented and five major religions: Judaism, Islam, Christianity, Hinduism, and Buddhism. Twelve of the students were Ambassadors for Peace with the Universal Peace Federation. About half of the participants were enrolled in a UTS degree program. The mix of young students and experienced religious leaders, together with the array of nationalities and religions represented, strengthened the program for all participants.

While some students, like Jana, found the relationships they made the most valuable part of the course, others found the practical skills to "drive interfaith dialogue and bring peace" the most meaningful. Adama Doumbia, from Cote D'Ivoire, for example, called the course an "oasis of resources for the field." Rev. Doumbia gained "incredibly valuable" training that he intends to utilize in order to address conflicts between Christian and Muslim communities in Africa.

Another one of the strengths of the course, identified by many participants in a course evaluation, was the balance of theoretical and experiential education. Each day started with lectures by Frank Kaufmann, who drew upon his thirty years' experience leading interfaith programs around the world, and concluded with site visits. Students also learned from each other as they discussed lectures and site visits in small groups during meals, traveling, and in the dedicated time for reflections at the start of each day.

Religious leaders at each of the sites welcomed the class from UTS with warm hospitality, and many of them learned from us as we learned from them. Dick Hathaway, from the Quaker Friends Meeting House, commented, "I was very impressed with your group. A big 'wow' for them. It was evident that we have much to share in the Spirit."

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True Love Cruise in Washington DC for the 25th Anniversary

by Rev. Michael and Mrs. Reiko Jenkins

The 2075 Blessing anniversary celebration in Washington was a cruise of true love and celebration. The "Spirit of Washington" dinner cruise ship was absolutely beautiful. Mr. Larry Moffit was the MC, bringing his masterful touch of wisdom, wit and humor. Larry's wife Taeko is now in Japan so his beautiful daughter Theresa stood in for her mother. We prayed, had din-

ner, cut the wedding cake and danced the night away.

Over 50 couples joined for the occasion on July 1st. Rev. and Mrs. Randy Francis, Washington D.C., District Director and Rev. Hiroshi and Mrs. Goto and Rev. Angelica Selle and her husband coordinated. It was really a wonderful time. Such memories!

The boat left the dock and cruised up the historic Potomac River. It was a beautiful experience -- most of all, it was so beautiful for all the couples to be together. Some of us know each other well, some not so well, but we have an incredible bond - that of the MSG blessing. The dinner was superb. Afterward the MSG film on the Blessing was shown. What a memory. Often the whole crowd would gasp as we saw someone we knew or someone who was on the cruise. Seeing the young couples crossing the threshold into Madison Square Garden over a bridge covered in bright red carpet, it was hard to imagine Father and Mother standing there sprinkling the Holy Water on every couple. That was amazing - it took a long time, if I remember right. Mr. Neil Salonen was the MC and the occasion was glorious. True Parents read the blessing vows and then prayed. It was done with such dignity. A sea of couples. At that time it shattered all records for our church

and the world in terms of the largest wedding in history.

Everyone was moved by the film and the memory. Then we affirmed our vows, and I was asked to give brief congratulatory remarks. True love is precious, and the center of true love on earth revolves around these families who established beautiful international and interracial families for 25 years. Father is proud of the blessed central families, and so many of the American movement's families were blessed at MSG.

Father also never gives up on blessing everyone -- it was mentioned that though it was not easy to bless the grandchildren, Father never gave up and now the third generation has been established in blessing. We also go through many trials trying to bring the next generation forward to inherit the faith of the first generation. However, many are now going to the blessing at this time. Many were just matched by Father. It is a small number compared to all that are eligible but if we remain like True Parents and never give up, eventually they will come forward. This is our belief and hope. It can be achieved only with patience, prayer, and unconditional love. This is what made the blessed families from MSG so special -- they pioneered God's ideal family through several generations for 25 years

now. Twenty-five historic and glorious years of walking the way with our True Parents.

The evening then unfolded with dance music and almost every couple danced. Some, like Rex Butler and his wife Emiko and Peter and Mary Holden were outstanding and smooth as could be. Dr. Antonio Betancourt and Kyoko were also pros. Bill and Donna Selig were classy and obviously madly in love. Rex and Emiko were giving some ballroom dancing lessons on the side (Rex and his wife are professionals). Nathan and Debbie Lowe were dancing with true love. Rev. Randy and Kumiko Francis were dancing with joy. Mr. and Mrs. Tim Elder were hot and well versed on the dance floor. A lot of us did our best -- we were all excited. Some never left the dance floor for two hours.

Father always said when blessed couples reach the realm of true love, there is no passion on earth that can compare. We saw that last night! Fortunately the ship pulled into dock just before the blessed couples set the place on fire with true love.

It was fun; it warmed the heart. The blessed couples and their families are the greatest joy that God has ever had. They are His family and His lineage. Their love is growing and will deepen and expand forever. ❖

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8000 Couple's 25th Anniversary Celebration

by Jonathan Gullery

Steve and Louise Honey sang "Do you love me?" from Fiddler on the Roof at our 25th Anniversary Celebration in New York, and completely brought the house down! We all laughed so hard we cried, and it was almost impossible for them to finish the song!

On July 1st some 200 people gathered at the Grand Ballroom of the New Yorker Hotel to reflect, rededicate, celebrate and party. Organizers had put together a full program that kept everyone busy, included many surprises, and truly guaranteed an evening attendees would never forget. A big thank you to all who organized our silver anniversary celebration! It certainly exceeded our expectations and you gave us an experience we will cherish forever. What a great way to celebrate 25 years of marriage with such a tremendous group of people.

MCs Hugh and Nora Spurgin were beyond perfect as hosts for the evening. They'd worked behind the scenes in 1982 and had stories we'd never heard. "Before 1982, there were less than 200 blessed couples in America, so you people here are really the bedrock of the American movement. It is your hard work that Father has counted on throughout these last 25 years," Hugh began.

Nora asked (and this became a recurring theme throughout the evening), "Where were you standing when Father matched you?" Right then it was apparent why we were celebrating at the New Yorker Hotel. This was the room where we first met; this was the place where we had our Holy Wine Ceremony. It was here that we'd gathered to hear Father speak so many times. This room was filled with so many memories. It seemed that we were not just there celebrating for ourselves but as representatives of all our blessed couples around the world who would have loved to have been there in New York with us.

Ken Owens had carefully kept the painted backdrop against which couples had had their official blessing photograph taken in 1982. We used this same backdrop again, for our photographer to pose our "After 25 years" couples against. It was such a hit – and was also so moving. Couples stood in line to do this. A display of memorabilia from 1982 was prepared. Original photos, press clippings, memos from PR meetings, budgets(!), an original wedding dress, pieces of the red and white carpet – there was lots there to keep people interested.

Throughout dinner we enjoyed an incredible slide show of the earliest days of church activity in America up to now. Slide after slide of our campaigns, fundraising, and extremely young-looking versions of ourselves went by.

Testimonies followed – with the audience laughing and crying again! Next up was our entertainment. Some dozen members of the original New Hope Singers were in attendance, and we asked them to prepare one of the songs



they'd sung at the MSG entertainment program on the evening of July 1, 1982. They sang (of course) Song of the Banquet. There really wasn't a dry eye in the room as they immediately joined in the most beautiful harmony. Could it be that they hadn't sung together like this in all these years? Several other entertainers followed, but the hit was that song from Fiddler on the Roof. Steve Honey is really a professional singer, and Louise (to be fair) is not, but she is a great entertainer, and bravely shouldering the task she performed in public for the very first time, and there really could not have been a more appropriate song for the evening!

We followed with group photos, and then... dancing. We'd

carefully selected our DJ and lighting for the evening – but no one got up! By the second song, however, the dance floor began to fill and from then there was hardly anyone still sitting. One of our younger volunteers remarked, "None of you guys can dance at all, but nobody cares, and you sure know how to party and have a good time!"

Each couple received a gift bag at the end of the evening. There was

a book with Father's speech to the couples at MSG's Felt Forum and the prayer from the Korean Blessing, a DVD of the MSG blessing itself, a photo frame, a letter from Dr. Yang and Michael

Jenkins, and another letter from the management of Madison Square Garden.

There had been some requests and discussion about doing something at Madison Square Garden itself, which proved to be logistically impossible, but MSG did send that letter, which said:

Dear Anniversary Couples,

Since it first opened its doors in 1879, Madison Square Garden has embraced generations of people who come to express their pride and passion for teams, athletes, performers, and statesmen. As one of America's most famous landmarks, the Garden has also hosted many unique and festive events, one of which you (2,075 couples in all!) had the great joy to be a part of on July 1, 1982.

That day, you were united in marriage by Reverend and Mrs. Moon and

twenty-five years later, you join in celebrations around the world to commemorate 25 years of marriage.

Congratulations to you as you mark your silver wedding anniversary and with all best wishes for continued happiness and many more anniversary celebrations! ♦



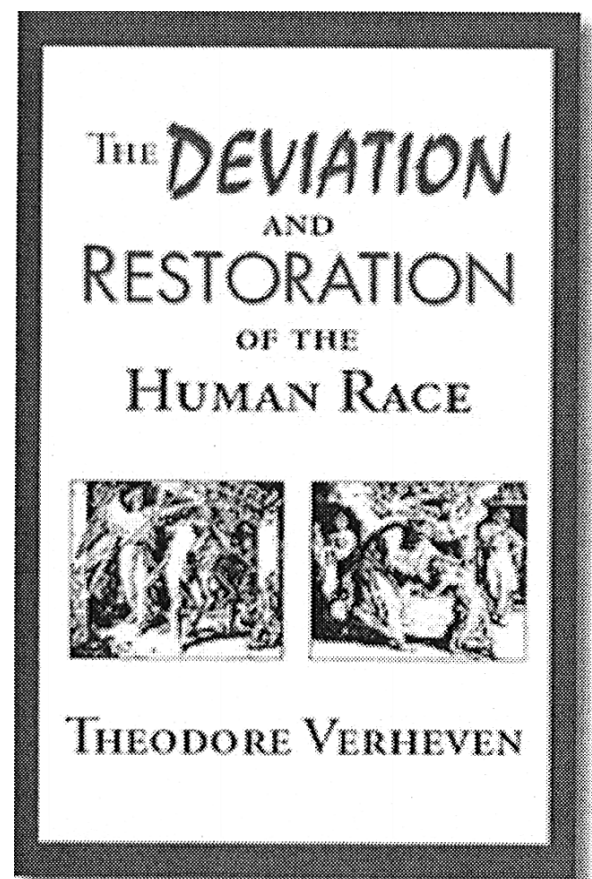
The Deviation and Restoration of the Human Race

by Theodore Verheven

Teddy Verheven was sent as a lone missionary in 1965 from Los Angeles to Holland (his country of birth), by the leader of the Unified Family, Reverend Sun Myung Moon.

This writing not only explains the purification and development of the inner personality (moral and intellectual), but also the unfoldment of the innermost spark, by awakening and feeding the growing soul with the Love and Truth of God.

For more detail, go to: "The Deviation and Restoration of the Human Race" on AtlasBooks.com - "Category" Biblical Studies or Body, Mind, Spirit. See Summary and Testimony and click on "excerpt" for Foreward and 10 pages of Table of Contents.



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THE NEW VOICES OF OUR GENERATION



Interview With Naokimi Ushiroda, 2nd Gen. Dept Directors



by Yen Chang

Naokimi Ushiroda was matched & Blessed in 2000 by True Father to Shukuko Yono, and currently has one son, Taeshin Ushiroda who is 2 and half years old. He graduated from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania in May of 2004 with an undergraduate degree in Economics concentrating in Real Estate & Entrepreneurship. He then joined W-CARP USA as a full-time worker for 2 and a half years until Feb 13, 2007 when He was appointed as the director of 2nd Gen Department in the US.

YC: Can you speak a little on the Second Generation Department's short term goals?

NU: As for short term goals, there are three main things that I wanted to do. First is having the 2nd Gen Dept national tour. Second, is to coordinate what I call the "Unified Summer 2007 Workshop Schedule". And third, is directing a local Jr. STF Candidates Workshop later this summer.

I actually just got back from our national 24 city tour. We traveled over 40 days, city to city to find out about the current situation of 2nd Generation in the local communities. We also had the chance to explain about the new direction for the second Gen department, and the plans for national workshops throughout the summer.

Now, about the Unified Summer 2007 Workshop Schedule. For the past five years or so, the summer has been the most confusing and stressful time, because there were 4 different groups dealing with 2nd Gen education, and each group had a different summer schedule. However, this time we are making a unified plan among the different departments so that we can create a win - win situation among all stakeholders of 2nd Gen education by planning out both national and local workshops so that they don't conflict with each other. In essence, STF, CARP, Family Federation, and Second Gen. Department are working on this together.

This is very significant for this year, because in the

past we made the distinctions 'oh you're STF', 'oh you're CARP', 'oh you're youth ministry', and even among Second Generation there has been a lot of divide and judgment. Our new plan has the heart behind it of bringing everyone together. We're all on the same team, same family, and by having every person also work on investing in their local groups, local communities, everyone benefits.

Another very significant point of the unified summer plan is that we're having the national college age leadership training at the beginning of the summer, so that they can prepare themselves to

help staff at all the local High School and middle school workshops happening throughout the country. For teenagers, their number one influence is their peers and elder role models. So, by investing in raising a strong committed group of college-age BC's, they can naturally be a positive influence on their younger brothers and sisters.

There are still a lot of kinks to work out. This is the first time we are trying this but I hope that this will become a pattern year in and year out.

YC: This is really good to share this with the parents because people rarely feel as if progress is taking place on a community level. Progress is never explained so it is not seen. Let's go back to Hyun Jin Nim. How has Hyun Jin Nim said he wants to be involved where your department is concerned?

NU: Okay, case in point: on June 9th, there was the victory celebration for the 50 state tour, and afterwards we had a special address from Hyun Jin Nim to all the youth in our movement, college age and up. We've been planning it for a long time and it all came together nicely at the very last moment. It was not actually spontaneous, though it appeared that way. We had more people than we expected there - 260 people - I don't think there has ever been this capacity of college aged BC's gathered at the same time in the same place. I thought that this was really significant. Hyun Jin Nim really spoke to everyone and really moved each of us. Almost half of them were already connected to the workshops this summer, and half of them were not. Hyun Jin Nim really encouraged them all to get involved.

YC: What incentive did he give them to participate?

NU: Well, he said he would give them an opportunity to join the upcoming 21 day leadership workshop. Not many responded to that one, but because he real-

ly wanted to connect them somehow, he said "okay how about 7 days?" He was kind of negotiating. He wanted somehow to provide education for everyone in this age group. He then turned to Mito San and asked "Mito San, can you make a 7 day for these guys?" and Mito San was like "Yes Sir!" The following day we put together a 7 day workshop to fit within the 21 day for people to attend.

YC: but there is no set plan for how Hyun Jin Nim would like to be involved?

NU: He told everyone at East Garden at the victory celebration on June 9th, that if he had time, he really wants to go around and visit each community. He's responsible for so many other things world-wide, but I feel like recently he's been very much involved with the leadership of Family Federation and all the different organizations here in America. He explained to me that in the past several years, he has been investing in Korea and Japan because the BC's are older there, and now he wants to invest in America.

YC: What can you tell me about Second Generation Departments plan (in cooperation with other departments) for creating educational resources in America for American UC members?

NU: When it comes to books or manuals, and even curricula, I feel that this is more in the near future rather than right now, because I believe we first have to establish a common educational standard for BC's in America. I'm still in the process of discussing this with many educators. However, I hope to have something ready to share by the end of 2007, and we can develop materials to spread this nation-wide in the year of 2008.

YC: On an issue that has always been a side issue, is there any plan to teach Korean in America rather than having the options limited to going to GOP in Korea or to SunMoon University?

NU: We do have the Korean language educational CD's that the Second Gen. Department made available for us as a resource. Besides that, I don't know right now.

YC: You are working with Takamitsu Sakuwa and In Guk Seo. I heard Taka was leaving Second Gen. Department.

NU: He said that at the end of the summer he was going to transfer to the international Second Gen Department. JinSoo Kim is the director. Their office is in Ossining. It's not a new department but it may be a recent development. They coordinate between each of the Second Gen Departments worldwide.



THE NEW VOICES OF OUR GENERATION

2nd Gen. Dept. from page 20

YC: So it will just be you and In Guk Seo then?

NU: Well, yeah. Hopefully, we can gain a few more staff.

YC: Any thoughts on bringing on sisters to the department or is that not possible because they all have families?

NU: It's possible if they live locally. As for human resources, it really depends on my connections with CARP. Actually, many people are asking me why I am still so much involved with CARP activities. I wanted to clarify that it's all part of a cooperative strategy to be able to effectively reach out to as many BCs as possible. Right now, the best organized network that exists for Second Gen is CARP. There are 14 CARP district representatives that were recently appointed to become counterparts to Family Federation District Directors in each district. Through these reps, we've been able to connect many of the college aged students that are in each of the local areas. CARP is currently the best educational source for college-aged second generation. Naturally, the best pool to look for and appoint local 2nd Gen representatives would be through CARP. I've already discussed this with Rev. Mito. Of course this may change in the future based on developing a stronger foundation in the 2nd Gen Dept.

YC: How will you address the issue within your department, of having a staff member whom Blessed Children can relate to and want to speak to for guidance and advice. Here I'm referring mainly to BC's who have issues they are facing that do not fall within the UC lifestyle.

NU: I think it's about building a stronger core base and expanding broader. What I mean by that is, with-

out a central group to work with, it's really hard to connect everyone else. That's what we are working on right now. This summer is the first time we offered a 12 day general workshop on a national level, that was open to broader participation. Most of the participants were already connected with the church but as we go forward, we want to reach a broader audience. The main point though is we need to start with a strong faith base. Because in the end, who's going to pull them



Naokimi Ushiroda with his wife Shukuko Yono

in? It has to be someone who already has a strong faith base. We need to raise enough people who are mature enough and will have enough love to be able to reach out to them.

YC: What about the issue of life experience? People with a strong faith base don't necessarily have the life experiences that some BC's have had and so there is no foundation on which to relate, to empathize and understand. BC's who are not really connected with the church would rather reach out to their non-UC friends for guidance. Honestly, if you said to those BC's out there what you said to me about faith base and love-love-love, they would walk away. So how would your plan work?

NU: There are many people I know who have been out in the world and have recently come to appreciate

and recognize the value of their own faith. On the other hand, there are those who have always been faithful, who I feel need more experience out in society. We need a balance of both because ultimately it's not even about just helping Second Generation gain their own faith, but it's about reaching out to the world.

The kind of education and leadership that we want to build is not one that is isolated or naïve, but one that understands what is really necessary to influence the world. I believe we need to cultivate both faith and ability. And the foundation of all education for 2nd generation is really about understanding our identity. What does it really mean to be a Blessed Child? I think that's the question that needs to be addressed. Up till now, it's been pretty vague, more like a feeling of fitting in, or an ideological concept of being God's children who have no original sin. But what does it really mean to be a Blessed Child? I intend to make it as clear as possible.

YC: There is word that the Second Gen. Department will change its name to become the SungHwa Department?

NU: Yes. It's already changed for the 2nd Gen departments in Japan and Korea. As for America, we have until September 2007 to decide on the name change. SungHwa is the original term that Father used for the youth of our movement. Hwa means harmony and Sung means accomplishment. I think together it means something like, "individual perfection of maturity". One of the main reasons for this change is to include all the youth of our movement, 2nd Gen, 3rd Gen, as well as young 1st generation.

I feel a lot of hope working in this new era, especially in this year of 2007. For whatever reason this is - maybe it's due to this being the Jubilee year, maybe it's many different things, whatever it is, I just feel that from this year on, we will be growing and moving at a much faster pace than before. I feel hope for the future and as we work together more and more we will be able to provide the best education for our youth and prepare them well to reach out to this nation and the world. ❖

Curriculum Mini-Grant Program

The **Center for Education** at UTS is announcing the Curriculum Mini-Grant Program. The mini-grants program offers grants between \$500 - \$1,000 for the creation of professional curricula and teaching tools for the diverse age groups within the Unification movement. The Center for Education at UTS wishes to encourage the development and publication of effective and creative curricula or teaching tools that can be used throughout the country.

There is a tremendous need for effective curricula in each of the target age groups. Currently, some centers are using the national curriculum while others have simply done their best to teach Divine Principle or the Bible or a combination of the two. Then there are other church centers that are not doing any kind of educational program because they don't have any type of curriculum or outline from which to work. Therefore, we wish to encourage those with the desire, experience or means to develop curricula that can be used in: K-6 Sunday Schools, Youth Ministries, Young Adult Ministries and even Adult Ministries.

In addition, there is a need to create effective teaching tools such as games, activities, specialized felt board teaching tools, dramas and similar creative tools for use in each of these ministries. Have you designed a game or teaching tool that you have found to be effective? Why not professionalize it or expand it so that others can use it?

Those who wish to apply need to review the grant requirements and submit an application. go to www.centerforeducation.net for more Grant Information and details.

CENTER FOR
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THE NEW VOICES OF OUR GENERATION



A Message from the Assistant Editor

The New Voices of Our Generation has now been running successfully for over a year and the editors at UNEWS would like to thank all those who have contributed an article to this section.

Spread the word, communicate, and link yourself to the rest of America by subscribing to the paper and submitting your voice at newvog@gmail.com for this section. We are looking to fill this section of the paper with the following submissions: **articles written by our first and second generation focusing on second generation – that includes ALL second gen's!**

Be as *subjective* as you please, but keep in mind, that as this is a public paper, be respectful in your opinions.

If you have an idea for submissions to this section, please let us know at newvog@gmail.com and send something in. keep in mind, everything will appear in UNEWS in b&w. All articles must include name, contact info, relevant dates, etc. If you wish to remain anonymous, please include that in your email. Please send all submissions for this section via email to: newvog@gmail.com.

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Rev. Dong Woo Kim on 2nd Gen. Education

by Yen Chang

The following article was first printed in the May 2007 issue of Unification News

I first met Rev. Dong Woo Kim over ten years ago in Toronto. He had just been transferred from Korea. His timing couldn't have been any better. I remember many of the Korean and Canadian members not getting along, feeling misunderstood and overlooked by their brethren and all of them wanting someone to simply sit and listen to their hurt. All I remember thinking was, great, another Korean dude who won't be able to relate. He doesn't know what he was getting into. Just two weeks later I was proven wrong.

Rev. Dong Woo Kim is a likable guy; you can't help but like him. He came to Toronto, that huge smile on his face, that pleasing demeanor and all around charismatic personality and in two weeks, he had the brothers and sisters in Toronto feeling loved and understood. His secret? He did exactly what they wanted; he sat down with them one-by-one and listened.

When Rev. Kim was made regional director of New Jersey - what is now proudly referred to as The New Jerusalem - he worked his magic there and to everyone's great surprise and happiness, Rev. Kim is now the overseer of education for the American Unification movement.

On Wednesday, April 18th, 2007, I was fortunate enough to get an hour of his time for a short interview where I asked him various questions about the education of second generation in America and Hyun Jin Nim vision for second gen. Following is Rev. Kim's responses, edited only for its format and grammar.

I'm basically in charge of the education of 2nd generation right now. I'm not in a certain position of responsibility within that umbrella, but I act as an overall advisor to those within that umbrella. I am also in charge of the education of first generation overall. So I don't make decisions. We already have department directors or responsible persons, so my position is one of building up and integrating a system bridging 1st and 2nd gen. that existing departments under the umbrella of education in the American Movement can incorporate themselves into. That is the kind of mission that I have.

Do you know what the ideal education for 2nd gen is?

From my experience talking with many 1st gen.'s, I've come to really understand why 1st gen. will never be able to know what the ideal education for 2nd gen. is because they have different roots.

My understanding of my present position is as an advisor. I can give advice and share my life experiences with 2nd gen. to help them find their own, true way of doing things but though I've been put in charge of overseeing the education of our members in the American movement, I don't have any answers or a vision or way for the creation of the best educational system for

2nd gen because only 2nd gen who are leaders in their own right can create the ideal educational system for their younger brother's and sisters. But I want to be very clear about this concept and my statement. My main point in saying this is how can 2nd gen. reach a point in their understanding where they come to have the right means to create that ideal educational system?

I identify that the responsibility to build the foundation of faith is the mission of 1st gen. and the mission of the 2nd gen. is to achieve the foundation of substance. I can accept that idea and that understanding but as we see in the bible, the parents, in order to achieve the whole restoration, the parents' generation must fulfill the foundation of faith, and of course the children must go the way of the foundation of substance in order to fulfill restoration, however, they must together do this under one condition: there must be some internal condition or internal way of inheriting the foundation of faith. So whether you are 1st gen. or 2nd gen., you must discover what that condition is whereupon everyone can agree, "Oh this is the condition whereupon everyone can inherit the foundation of faith from the 1st gen. to 2nd gen." When we discover how to pass on this faith inheritance in such a way that 2nd gen. will fully come to realize their position in the restorative process, then 1st gen. will accept everything 2nd gen. does from that point on and will support them in whatever way they go because they have inherited the foundation of faith.

1st gen.'s mentality - or what we have tried to do to in this world - is to apply the principle of restoration. But the 2nd gen. aren't supposed to live in THAT world. Originally, the 2nd gen. is supposed to live in the original world of the principle of creation. That is a difference between 1st and 2nd gen. that I've come to is a big difference. But again, without some kind of 1st gen.'s influence, 2nd gen. cannot build up the ideal. So if I say, "Only 2nd gen. can create the ideal..." I don't mean without 1st gen. No. We should do this together. But the perspectives of 1st gen., their experiences, may have certain limits in creating the best and ideal education for 2nd gen. That's my main point.

2nd gen. can say, "We have to build up our own system," but this cannot come from character or personality. In what sense can 2nd gen. inherit and build up that inheritance of the foundation of faith? If we can know this, then 2nd gen.'s foundation of substance - the many things our 2nd gen. are doing - can directly connect with 1st gen. and the results of their whole life and their whole vertical tradition. Upon this foundation, 2nd gen. can build and create their path.

I had a very strong experience when I was CARP leader in Korea. I was CARP leader the same year the first time 2nd gen. became college students - children from the 36 couples, 72, and 124 couples. The age gap between myself and them was actually less than 5 or 6



years. We were almost the same generation on campus. I was so interested in them because I was beginning to realize my future - how my children could come to have true families. I became so anxious. I questioned them internally: who are they? What is the difference between them and myself? I was really thirsty to know what the difference is between 1st gen. and 2nd gen. before God. I couldn't see any difference in the general areas of life, like during witnessing and church activities, but what I discovered was, that once 2nd gen. comes to discover who they are - by that I mean when they find God within them, they start to build up this mutual relationship with God and it wow's me! Their growth, their heartistic expression, their understanding or spiritual growth, totally takes leaps and bounds. over and over! They are lifted so much! I never imagined that kind of level of living. That's why I was wowed.

As an educator, I try to build things up but my results are less compared to even a single 2nd gen.'s results who is really aligned with God's heart, with God's spirit. That was my conclusion from my experience as CARP leader in Korea. That is why I'm saying now that only second gen can create an ideal educational system or way for their brothers and sisters.

Of course our role as 1st gen. is very clear. We can support our children and we can see whether they develop in a peaceful way or not. That's all. Until they can discover and take the right way, based upon the foundation of faith. then their results, or what they do, will not be much higher or better than what we can do as 1st gen.

Perception is thinking what I'm thinking. Perspective is very different. It comes from cultural background and from what is studied. It comes from an internal base. So when we look at a certain situation, there is always two aspects: one is perspective and the other one is perception. When it comes to how we think about the Unification traditions, we can say perception is the Divine Principle facts. But when Korean Unification church system and Japanese Unification church system and American Unification church system try to implement those Divine Principle facts according to their cultural backgrounds and many different situations, the implementa-

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tion may not be totally the same among those three countries. That's why the key to implementing the Divine Principle facts and create a successful foundation or result anywhere is to build up a certain perspective from the perception.

Hyun Jin Nim recently and has, ever since he concerned himself with 2nd generation more directly, in the past as well really wanted to build up an educational pipeline. I don't know if that's the right term to use or not. Maybe it's better to say 'educational track'. Education for our 2nd gen., especially elementary, middle and highschool students is not what happens in the camps. At the camps there are many programs to create friendships and have inter-relationship with other blessed children. There is an identity educational component to the camps - a "who am I?" - and then, on top of that, there is the desire to incorporate value education and Divine Principle fact into camp experiences. I don't think these three components put together in one week or ten days will bring lasting results. I don't think it works.

Hyun Jin Nim has said that we need to evaluate how our present educational systems is composed for 2nd gen. - what kind of elements should education incorporate? What aspects? In order to fulfill hyun jin nim's ideal, we really need to figure out, how many aspects, how many components are being taught in our second generation department and then see how these aspects and components connect, react, and develop. So we really need to implement an educational perspective to analyse what we have and then we need to build up a different concept and provide a new, overall educational track.

So we need to decide, for example, on summer camp: what constitutes elementary, middle and junior highschool camp and college student programs? They are all different, but at present, we only use different age groups to decide this difference. There is no clear step-by-step constitution of each level of education. So we are challenged now to figure out how to divide the levels for camp and other educational programs and give reason for that division, and provide what is being taught at those levels. This needs to be figured out and set as the pipeline from which all the departments will build from.

This is my basic understanding of Hyun Jin Nim's explanation of the educational pipeline. STF education and the second year formula course is also included within this whole educational pipeline. Educational leaders in America a particularly focusing on building up one track. So from elementary school, Junior highschool, senior highschool, college with CARP and how this 2nd gen. course includes STF is 2nd gen. education right now. But the most important point is family education. Without making sure what family education is - and here i don't mean teaching verbally or giving lectures to children in the family - just showing, what we are doing as educators with these programs means nothing. Education within the family and Family Education is a more important, fundamental fact in the education of our second gen. In other words, if there is no such spiritual, heartistic, Divine Principle educational component within the family, then second gen, no matter what kind of amazing education track we have, cannot follow or fit within this education. So the most important question we have at this moment is what is family tradition? How should blessed central families live? What kind of family life do they have and should they have? This is very serious. The educators' meeting goals is to build up all these components of education from the first level to - well on ward.

It is our aim to build up a long-term educational track to include 1st and 2nd gen. On the other hand we have been developing each department in the educational area on a short-term goal as well. We are basically developing a strong college education centering on CARP. Centering on Naokimi Ushiroda, the new director of 2nd Gen. Department, for junior and senior highschool, we are focusing on bulding up junior STF program, which is a 'lack of faith' oriented program and leadership program.

Many 2nd gen. look at 2nd gen. blessed couples and they wonder because they cannot figure out what is the model of a 2nd gen. blessed family? When they look at college 2nd gen., they ask who here is the model? Middle and high schoolers look at their older brothers and sisters and they often see what is the wrong model. That's why in short-term goals in each area among the staff is to create the right model in each age level. These models will be incorporated into the long-term vision - the educational pipeline.

When we look at any organization or system on the whole, they all have certain problems they try to fix short-term. From an external point of view, we have the same problems. We, like them, try our best to try to con-

tain these problems but we have a lot of limitations in terms of what we can do, what can be done, especially where 2nd gen. are concerned. I don't really want to deal with the short-term situation because there is no short-term answer. The only answer I have for solving problems we face is we really need to give vision to 2nd gen. We need to build a real vision. And if we successfully instill ownership in them, by taking ownership OF them in terms of giving them a vision, then I think in a short time, 2nd gen. will really change. But this kind of result depends actually on leadership commitment.

1st gen. like to say, "Okay, now 2nd gen. can take leadership." But almost next to none of them have real vision. That's why 1st gen. has to work together with our youth to build up a vision. Once we discover that vision, all 1st gen. should give everything to 2nd gen. - all organizations, all power, and everything to 2nd gen. so that they become real owners. I am very clear on this point in my mind.

Hyun Jin Nim does not think that he is solely a leader of 2nd gen. right now. He is concerned with the bigger picture, really thinking about our entire movement, including 1st and 2nd gen. in his thoughts. This is what I've come to understand from talking with and listening to him. I really listen to what he's talking about, try to understand where he is heading. For the future, I believe Hyun Jin Nim really wants to build up a strong internal foundation for 2nd gen. so they can take ownership for the future providence. On the other hand, Hyun Jin Nim doesn't want to ignore 1st gen. He realizes now how much 1st gen. has done. Because of their sacrifices, Father was able to build up this foundation and based on this foundation, Hyun Jin Nim can work now. So what I received from him is, no matter what kind of idea, or theory, or values he spoke of before, now he is very clear about wanting to see unity between 1st and 2nd gen. That is his main point that I have been able to gather from listening to him.

A couple of years ago, Hyun Jin Nim's perspective was very clear - only 2nd gen. That was my honest feeling! That was everybody's feeling. but now, he has totally changed. He really wants to embrace 1st gen. and walk with them together. 1st gen. can now be moved by HJN. He has a changed perspective. ❖

2nd Gen. Preserve U.S Church History

On June 30, Orange County, New York Second Generation volunteers, lead by Emily Zochol, performed a Service for Peace project in reclaiming historical articles, clothing, props, and performing arts instruments from a storage trailer.

The contents of the Manhattan Center stage trailer, parked at New Hope Farms in Port Jervis, New York, contained invaluable memorabilia from True Father's American campaigns of the 1970s, including Madison Square Garden, Yankee Stadium, and Washington Monument. Costumes, props, and musical instruments from the Korean Folk Ballet, New Hope Singers International, GoWorld Brass Band and the rock band Sunburst, were removed and stored in a dry, airy location at New Hope Farms. The most treasured item was Father's podium, the pulpit from which he and Dr. Bo Hi Pak stood and delivered the famous New Future of Christianity speeches to the American people.

The goal is to catalogue, clean and preserve these precious items of the American Unification Church movement. The Second Generation wishes to save these and other historical things for their children and future generations to come. Aju. ❖



THE NEW VOICES OF OUR GENERATION



Camp Agape Middle School Summer Workshop

Jason Tobkin

I just want to say thank you to all those of you who helped with putting together this workshop and those who could help with staff, whether it was cooking, group leading, assistant group leading, lecturing, and so forth.

This was our foundation workshop for the rest of our summer along with all workshops that are to come in the future years. There were many high expectation of Garrun, Kayo and me as to preparing. I'm not sure if we were able to meet all those expectation, but with the time we had to focus on it, this middle school workshop was a great success.

We had three states outside of Ohio come to join us for our four-day retreat at Camp Agape. Those included Kentucky, Indiana, Tennessee, and Illinois. It was so amazing to see so many new faces and get to become friends and family by the time the workshop was finished. I'm sure it was very difficult at times for kids 11-14 years old to sit through three lectures a day, but to my surprise I found that they were very attentive and interacted with the lectures very well. Our theme for the workshop was "What's Love Got to Do with It?", with each lecture touching on the subjects of the Four Great Realms of Heart and living for the sake of others.

Our lecturers included in chronological order: Garrun Abrahams (What is Love? Along with Children's Love,) myself (Brother/Sister Love,) Rev. Schrattecker (Parental Love,) Rev. Lamson (Conjugal Love,) Craig Smith (Living For the Sake of Others,) Paul Tobkin (God's Love,) and Annette Yamakawa (Overview of all Types of Love.) Each did a phenomenal job giving the opportunity for all the children to learn what was needed to learn.

Many thanks are given to each group leader and assistant for keeping the groups focused and on task. We had many enthusiastic and well equipped group leaders who could relate with the children well and keep a heavenly atmosphere throughout the camp. Special thanks are given to Trimon Lamson for preparing a relay race and scavenger hunt, which the kids enjoyed a lot with many fun and challenging activities incorporating good team work and determination. Also a special thanks to Rev. Lamson and Uncle Alexei for bring any and all things that weren't brought in the beginning and were needed to make the camp a memorable one, including t-shirts to be decorated, candy for prizes, etc.

According to phone calls received by Rev. Lamson from the parents of the participants, their children had an amazing experience. This in turn inspired other children in the church community to look forward to next year's summer camp so that they may participate in it as well. Although many things could have gone much better, as our featured film stated in the end, "With God, all things are possible," and this middle school workshop could become a great success. I want to thank God and everyone once again for staffing and thank the participants for coming. Without everyone's support and involvement, none of this would have been possible.

For the middle school workshop we were fortunate to have a beautiful weekend, and we were also able to gather our region's largest group yet, counting about 60 in total, with 50 as participants and the remaining as staff. It primarily consisted of members from Ohio. However, we were also lucky to have a group drive all the way from Kentucky and participants from Indiana as well. The first night was awesome as we all joined together for the workshop. Many of the participants were already friends and were glad to see each other again. The rest of the workshop was also filled with song, worship, team activities, and sports competitions. It was a perfect chance to worship together, have a good time, and enjoy the presence of one another. In addition, many

that this workshop was a great step in the right direction for the Ohio youth ministry in inspiring our youth to take a bigger role in their own lives of faith and in guiding their younger brothers and sisters in making that very first leap of faith towards God. Overall the workshop was an incredible growing experience for everyone, as well as another wonderful opportunity for many of the BC's in our region to meet and create friendships with other BC's.

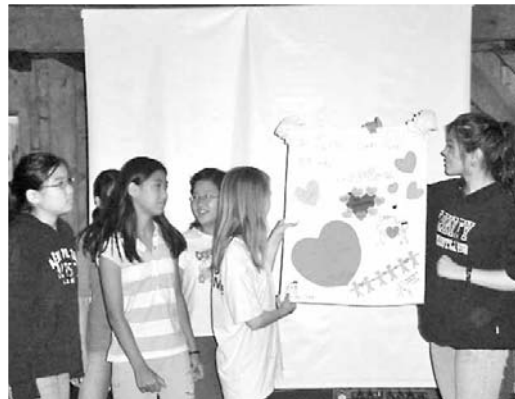
It is so great to watch everyone grow, and I as well as the other older second generation really want to be there to help the second generation find happiness in their lives. While there are always things to improve, we all acknowledge that we are involved in a

"I really enjoyed this workshop. I appreciated how all of the counselors took their time to help and have fun with us. I liked how I got to meet new people who treated me like one of their siblings."

— Joshua Davis

"Camp Agape was really great. I LOVED it so much. We learned that you have to start from children's love, the sibling's, conjugal love, and parental love. I really had fun at this camp. I met so many people from different places and had fun playing with new people and I'm glad we learned about True Love. Now I understand what real love is. I also hear that Agape means Love, True Love. Camp True Love."

— Yuka Nagata



"Thus was my first time at Agape and it turned out to be the best week ever. I had so much fun here and made so many new friends. Usually when I listen to lectures my eyes get droopy and I feel like I'm about to go to sleep. None of that happened to any of the lectures here. I actually enjoyed all of the lectures and learned many new things. I feel like I want to come back next year. When I first came here I was really nervous. I was thinking about strict counselors, boring lectures, and so many other things. None of that happened here. This workshop filled my teeny, tiny brain with many things that I haven't learned and it feels like I kind of got stronger and less shy."

"Again, I enjoyed this camp very much. The people are always so loving and live for someone else's sake. And I really wanted to come to this camp because I really wanted to learn more about God and His heart so I can be like Him. And that is exactly what this workshop did... Thank you for making me a better person."

— Jenni Presley

"The first thing I want to mention is I had fun. I don't think I would change anything for the workshop. The food was great. I liked the games. I learned a lot of things about love."

— Yoshi Akutsu

"I loved Camp Agape (true love). It was the best camp experience ever! I learned a lot of things from the lectures that I never learned before. I made great friends, including staff and counselors. I was very happy we got to play together inside and outside, eat together, and do skits. I will never forget this wonderful experience."

— Aika Callahan

"I had a lot of fun here. This was my first time! And yet I know so many people that I think of as my family. I like that we had a lot of laughs and learned a lot. Everyone is so happy! I have learned to treat my brothers better. I also know that I should live for the sake of others! I like how we all get together and sing songs and get pumped and excited! I can't wait to come back next year!"

— Michelle Davis

"I think this camp is really great. After this day, I'm going to think back on all the fun things I did with my group and friends. Thanks for everything!"

— Yurika Yamada ❖

different activities were creatively designed to demonstrate the theme. We had an art activity, skits, and sports.

One thing we all agreed on before beginning the workshop was the importance of creating strong relationships with those who share the same beliefs. It helps to create a support group to guide us through the challenges of life. Many times these bonds become the encouragement and protection for the youth in the outside world. We also felt that it is in these workshops that we are able to give some older youth this same opportunity to lead and build relationships with the younger kids, so several high school youth were team leaders for the first time.

At the end of the workshop, it was sad to see everyone leave. However, it seemed

growing process here in Ohio. However, there is excitement because the workshops keep getting better and better. We've created a great foundation and I hope that we can continue to grow here as a youth ministry in Ohio. Garrun Abrahams

Reflections

"This camp was really great. I enjoyed all of the activities and lectures. The lectures opened my eyes to all the different things that I have never even thought of before. All the counselors were so loving. I felt like I could be myself here with all of these crazy BC's. I would like to say that I enjoyed this workshop. It was a great opportunity to build some strong relationships that will last forever."

— Katherine Williams

THE NEW VOICES OF OUR GENERATION

Back to Reality; adjusting to the life that is there after you come home from STF

by Chris Breland

Well, you've done it! After a long and difficult journey, you're finally ready to come back to the place you always called home. But you're a different person now. Although on the outside you look like same guy or girl you always were, on the inside something has changed forever. You no longer see the world in the way you did before. Your myriad experiences on your STF journey have come to a close... but the lessons you've learned will be with you forever. How are things going to be different once your home? How will you be able to adjust to the circumstances you'll be facing the coming days, weeks, and months in your life? Now is a great time of adjustment, and although you're leaving the front line it doesn't mean you have to lose the spirit and commitment you've had for the past year or more. You might also be feeling really burnt out. Whatever your situation, coming home is a big step and it's important to know what's ahead if you want to reach the goals you made on STF.

To be honest, coming home is one of the most challenging parts of your STF journey. I've been there before myself, and many of my friends have shared in the same experience. For every person, it's a totally different set of challenges compared to what you were facing before. On STF, the challenge was always a direct and clear goal. "Get up on time!" "Meet 5 people who I can talk to about God!" "Make \$300 by lunchtime!" Everything was crystal clear, from the moment you woke to the moment you went

to bed, and everything was laid out in a very easy-to-follow manner.

But now you're home. You don't have anyone telling you what to do anymore. No central figures are breathing down your back; no one is telling you that you have to reach such and such a goal. You're free, in a sense. But are you ready to cope with that freedom? Many people feel that they haven't learned anything on STF, because when they get home everything is the same as they were before. The family situation hasn't changed, the neighborhood hasn't improved from what you can see, and the same old habits that were hindering you before are still there, strong as ever. How are you supposed to cope with all this? I often like to think of STF as the mere training grounds, similar to the basic training every army soldier receives before he's put into combat. Your training is complete. But now you're on the battlefield. The leading officer's voice is only faintly heard in the background. So it's all up to you to start making some decisions. What are YOU going to do?

In adjusting to life at home there are a few things you have to realize. Firstly, you're not alone. Although you've left the comfortable atmosphere of what seemed to be the only place you could spiritually grow, that network of friends and support is still there after you leave! Keep in touch with close friends from STF and share with them whatever struggles or difficulties you are facing now that you're home. Remember the time you shared in fundraising vans and witnessing centers. Those experi-

ences are still there, and will always be there, as an eternal testament to the life you've shared with your STF buddies. And you'll see that in years to come, those bonds will keep you close to those people forever.

Secondly, realize that your new-found wisdom and experience from STF isn't going to change reality... immediately. When you come home from STF, you may find that your parents are still the same as they ever were. You may find that your friend is still on drugs. Or that your own Blessing is still on the rocks. STF can't change all those problems for you. However, you do have the benefit of being better equipped to deal with those challenges. Whereas before you may have just hid and ran away from your problems, now you know that the only way to be free is to try your best to resolve them head-on. If were any best time for you to face the demons and hindrances that have been holding you back your whole life, now is that time. Your spiritual stamina is very high right now. You can still feel the rush that you felt when you were breaking through on the front line. It won't be there forever. So try to enact the things you want to see change in your life NOW, before you lose the inspiration. Just remember that if you make a commitment now, it's going to get harder as time goes on to keep that commitment. But at least now, your resolve is strong. Keep that memory with you as you make goals for the coming weeks and months in your new life at home.

Lastly, don't be afraid to let go a little. Many STFers feel that their desire to serve

God must never diminish when they return home. This is unrealistic. You have to realize that you're not a full time missionary anymore, so your lifestyle will be different. You may not be waking up at 5am anymore, but you can still keep time for prayer, HDH and reflection. You may not be hitting the streets every day, but you can always find other ways to serve God. At the same time, don't completely lose your will to fight once you get home. Though you may be feeling tired and burnt out in some ways, don't use that as an excuse to spend all day on the couch. Go out and renew yourself with careful thought and reflection at a quiet spot in nature. Enjoy the company of good friends and family within the church. Remember that although the STF experience had its ups and downs, overall you learned a lot and you can be grateful for that lesson.

It's incredibly important never to forget how you met God through STF. Even if it was just for one moment over the course of the year, you need to treasure that moment. Remind yourself by reading any reflections you've kept from the year. Use these memories as an access point to God in your times of struggle. Take to heart the advice from your central figures when you left. God will be with you as long as you keep the words of your leaders and the personal experiences you had close to your heart. And remember that although you may not feel it as strongly, God is still there to guide you on your new journey, at home, in your life.



The 5th International STF Assembly

by Adonia Bratti

In the early evening of July 4th, 75 STF USA members arrived at Incheon airport in South Korea. Earlier that day, about 220 other STF members from around the world also had arrived. What was this special occasion? The 5th International STF Assembly! Once a year STF members from each chapter in the world gather together to share reports and experiences from the past year, engage in activities together, and unite with the same heart under one vision.

The theme of this year's assembly was "One Family Under God, Aju! The Hope of All Humanity is North and South Korea Unification." This theme would permeate throughout all of our activities in the next week, becoming our battle cry in the sports competition, our chant as we marched through the streets of Seoul, and the topic of Hyun Jin Nim's speeches. Most importantly, though, it became ingrained in our hearts.

On the 5th, each STF chapter presented its reports of the last year, using videos, speakers, and songs. That first day was an introduction for all of us, but the second day we began to really experience our

theme in real life. Early in the morning, STF members gathered in international teams, loaded onto buses, and started driving north, to the 38th parallel. STF had received special permission to enter

a restricted area and visit a General Outpost at the DMZ.

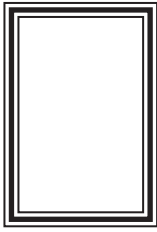
As we peered over the barbed patrol fences, we could see birds flying freely across the ImJin River and into North

Korea. Because we were prohibited from even taking pictures, it wasn't difficult to feel God's sorrowful heart at seeing his children so divided. After seeing this, everyone was ready for the service projects in the afternoon. Going into the surrounding area, STF members worked on the ginseng plantations, painted murals, visited nursing homes, serving with a desire to bring North/South unity.

The next day was an event that each nation had been preparing for - a sports competition! Each STF chapter chose its best athletes to compete in dodge ball, basketball, soccer, and a relay race. The role of everyone else was just as important - to support through cheering and singing and they did that all day long, going

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Article removed from the Internet edition of the Unification News before being posted online.



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beyond their own national boundaries. By the end of the day, USA won overall. Though the competition was tough and the weather muggy, it was evident that every person gave everything in sports or chanting, and although it was a competition, the spirit created actually brought everyone together as one big family!

The last two days of the assembly STF was blessed to see Hyun Jin Nim and hear him speak. On the 8th, Hyun Jin Nim came to the Cheong-A Camp and spoke to the STF Assembly participants, as well as Junior STF, MTF (Missionary

Task Force) and W CARP leaders, encouraging everyone to find and fulfill God's expectation for them. The next day, after a Peace Rally and a march by STF members in the busy college area of Seoul, Hyun Jin Nim spoke to the World University Students Assembly (formerly called World CARP Convention). Through both rallies, the theme was the same – "One Family Under God, Aju!" Hyun Jin Nim explained how this had been God's dream ever since the beginning of creation, and



all of history has been the search for this family. Now is the time for all of us to take ownership of God's dream, break down the barriers in our own lives, and

create one family under God. Afterwards, many people testified that their experience during the assembly had been a substantiation of this very dream and made new determinations to respond to Hyun Jin Nim's call to action.

That evening was the official end to the International STF Assembly, but there was one more special event waiting for STF members. On the morning of the 10th, 120 STFers were invited to HDH at the Cheon Jeong Goong with True Parents. For many members, this was the first time to be there, and they felt it was not only a blessing for them, but for their ancestors and future descendants as well. ❖

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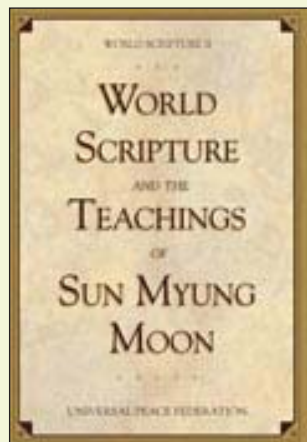
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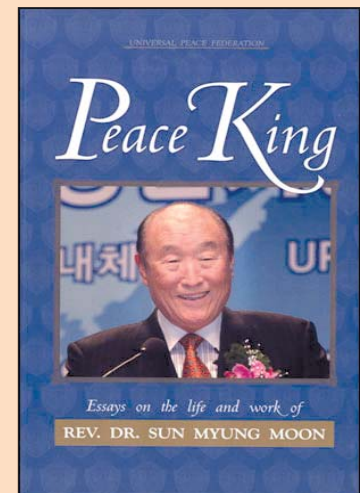
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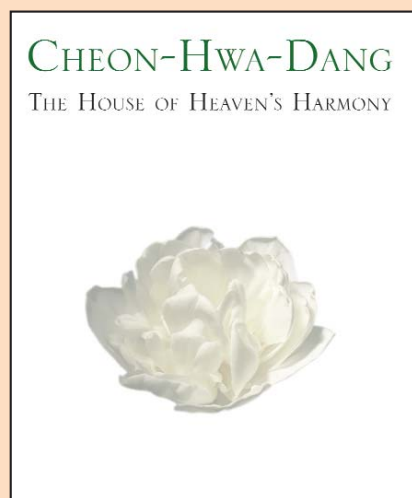
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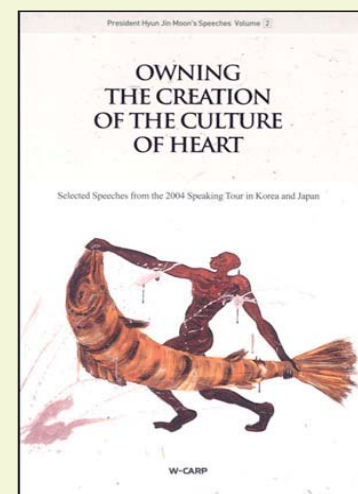
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