

The Korean Media Covers True Mother's Initiatives

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Media reports on the announcement of the Sun Hak Peace Prize. From left: Monthly JoongAng, Sisa Journal, Weekly JoongAng

Key Korean media outlets reported on the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of European mission work, which started on May 10 in Vienna, Austria.

The June *Monthly JoongAng* reported, “The entrances to the Austria Center in Vienna were bustling with people even an hour before the event. Dozens of tour buses arrived bearing hundreds of people. Long lines formed in front of registration tables... The second floor of the center was abuzz with anticipation. The auditorium had filled completely for the event before the program began. The host organization estimated the total number of participants to be around three thousand, including members, politicians, ex-politicians and ambassadors for peace from thirty-five nations, including Austria, Germany, England, the United States, Japan and African nations.”

They also wrote, “The celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Unification Movement in Europe, held in Germany (May 14) drew a crowd of about eight hundred Family Federation members. At this day’s event, Family Federation International President Sun Jin Moon, who was appointed in March and is currently carrying out a world tour, gave the keynote address.”

This article carried quotations from True Mother’s keynote message and descriptions of the Family Federation in Europe; it also included a notable amount of detail. After observing the International Peace Conference held at the UN Office at Vienna on May 11, journalists who had come from Korea to cover the events interviewed True Mother. The journalists took an interest in True Mother’s successful leadership of the Family Federation since True Father’s ascension and especially focused on True Mother’s comment, “I have lived my life for the sake of others. I can accomplish anything if I live for the sake of the nation and the world.” They also emphasized her intention to visit North Korea. “The time is approaching for a visit. I am waiting for the right time when both the North Korean and South Korean governments are comfortable with it.”

The May 25 *Weekly Chosun* under the title, “Much Care and Investment in the Family Federation for North Korea” with the subtitle “Waiting for the best time to visit North Korea” dealt mainly with the press conference True Mother had given. The following day, the *Dong-A Weekly* ran an article, “Fiftieth Anniversary of Family Federation for World Peace and Unification in Europe,” subtitled, “Austria, Germany, England, held conferences... thousands of members and families gathered in swarms.”

They mentioned the conferences held in Germany and England but focused mainly on the Austrian conference. Moreover, the *Sisa Journal* focused on True Mother’s leadership in successfully guiding the Family Federation after True Father’s ascension and included the interview with True Mother. Daily newspapers such as *JoongAng Ilbo*, *Yeonhap News*, *Newsis* and the *Segye Times* prominently covered the event. The main material from the press conference with True Mother in the *Sisa Journal* was presented as follows:

Question: You have a scholarship foundation, so what kind of social activities are you doing?

Reverend Moon Sun Myung and I are the “True Parents.” I think of the seven billion people of the world as my own children. (The True Parents) are people who open the way for them. I believe that if you can

enhance society, you should; and I will to do many activities from now on. I plan to produce leaders who can guide and lead the whole world into the future. I will hold nothing back and invest into this.

Question: Are the leaders you are trying to produce church leaders, or societal leaders?

If those who are not church members are willing to follow the will, the path will open.

Question: What is the relationship between the True Parents and Jesus?

Jesus is the person who came as the second Adam. However, he was unable to have a family. Thus, in the Book of Revelation, to St. John, Jesus said that he would return and hold the marriage supper of the Lamb.

Here the marriage supper of the Lamb means he would marry. The two thousand years of Christian history was the history to prepare the foundation for the only begotten daughter of God. “True Parents” are the third Adam and Eve. This means completion.

Question: Why do you think that unlike other religions you have many young believers in Europe?

If you receive specific education on the Principle and on unification, you will know the reason. Young students enter our church because they are moved when they learn the Principle.

That many young people are coming means there is hope for the future.

Question: The theme of the UN conference was “resolve tension on the Korean Peninsula and plan for unification.”

We heard that North Korea invited you to visit, when do you plan on going?

Reverend Moon and Kim Il Sung had an extremely close relationship. Kim Jong Il and Kim Jong Un are maintaining that relationship.

Question: Do you intend to meet Kim Jong Un, chairman of the National Defense Commission?

I can accomplish anything if it is for the sake of the nation.... I am waiting for the right time when both the North Korean and South Korean governments are comfortable with it.



Il Shik Hong explaining the method of selection Sunhak Peace Prize during the press conference

Announcement of the first Sunhak Peace Prize

The Sunhak Peace Prize Committee chairman, Il Shik Hong (president of Korea University 1994–1998) announced the first recipients of the Sunhak Peace Prize on June 8 at the National Press Club in Washington D.C., the US capital. The co-recipients were the president of Kiribati, an island in Oceania, Anote Tong (age 63); and Dr. Modadugu Gupta from India (age 76). They will split the prize money. Korean news outlets such as *Monthly JoongAng*, *Yonhap News*, MBC (Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation) YTN (Yonhap Television News) the *Chosun Ilbo* and the *Segye Times* reported this.

The *Chosun Ilbo* explained, “The president of Kiribati, an island in the Pacific Ocean, has been raising awareness of the situation in his country, which is facing a crisis; the island will be overrun by the ocean

by 2050 due to the rising sea level caused by global warming. He is seeking a worldwide solution for climate change. Dr. Gupta has led the “Blue Revolution” with fish aquaculture technology; he has been teaching the poor of Southeast Asia and Africa so that they can support themselves.”

Chairman of the Sunhak Peace Prize, Hong Il Sik said, “As we entered the twenty-first century, many disasters occurred around the world due to climate change and food crises. Before long, we were seeing signs that these will grow into global crises and could threaten our very survival. To our agenda to secure future peace, we have added a determined effort to find those who have the wisdom to save humanity from these crises.”

For the past year, the Sunhak Peace Prize Committee received nominations from around the world of 182 candidates from sixty-six countries who have received top international prizes, famous figures, academic associations with global authority, and NGOs. The committee explained that they selected the first candidates by focusing on the solution to climate change and food issues for sustainable peace and for humanity’s future.

The largest cash prize in Korea, \$1,000,000 will be given every year.

The first awards ceremony will take place on August 28 at Seoul’s Grand Intercontinental Hotel.