

FFWPU Europe and the Middle East: Father And Mother Moon's Anniversary

Knut Holdhus
April 25, 2024



[Mother Moon](#) cutting the cake at the celebration of her [Holy Wedding](#) anniversary 24th April 2024

Holy Wedding anniversary celebrated in style by thousands



[Mother Moon](#) at the celebration 24th April 2024

A grand celebration of [Father](#) and [Mother Moon](#)'s [Holy Wedding](#) anniversary was held on 24th April 2024 at the Hyojeong Cultural Center, a large indoor stadium located in [Gapyeong](#), northeast of the South Korean capital Seoul.

In 2020, [Mother Moon](#), [Hak Ja Han](#), designated this anniversary as the most important Holy Day of the [Family Federation](#). From 2021, two more of the movement's Holy Days have been celebrated together with the anniversary.

The more than two hours long program in Gapyeong attracted an audience of 15,000. They witnessed flowers and gifts being presented to [Mother Moon](#) on her 6th Wedding anniversary. The [Holy Wedding](#) of her and her late husband [Sun Myung Moon](#) took place in 1960.

For members of the [Family Federation](#) and others that event was truly historical and deeply significant.

After [Mother Moon](#) had cut the splendid celebratory cake, she made several important points in her deeply spiritual speech. She reflected on how different [God's providence](#) in the world today would have been if her [Holy Wedding](#) in 1960 had taken place with the support of Christianity, and if Christianity had understood what Jesus really meant when he said he would return.

Instead, [Father](#) and [Mother Moon](#) had to walk a wilderness course for several decades.



The venerable Hong Pa



Archbishop Johannes Ndanga



Dr. Samuel Radebe



Bishop Don Mearns

She pointed out how [God](#) for thousands of years prepared a chosen people to receive not only a new Adam - Jesus - but also a new Eve. None of those specially prepared at the time, understood what [Mother Moon](#) called the essence of Jesus". That's why he had to walk the way of the cross.

However, what God has started, must be completed. So the Creator has to restore the couple He wanted to be an ideal for all humankind, the first man and woman. They should have become humanity's good ancestors.

Jesus came 2,000 years ago as the "Only Begotten Son", but there could be no "[Only Begotten Daughter](#)". When [Jesus called Sun Myung Moon](#) in 1935 to complete what Jesus had started, the young Korean man did not become a new "Only Begotten Son". Jesus holds that position for all eternity.

Instead, [Father Moon](#) became the second coming of the Messiah. And through his [Holy Wedding](#) in 1960, the position of "[Only Begotten Daughter](#)" could finally be restored. Together [Father](#) and [Mother Moon](#) became the [True Parents](#) of humanity and could accomplish the [ideal](#) that Adam and Eve should have realized thousands of years ago.

Two distinguished religious leaders offered congratulatory remarks. First, the venerable Hong Pa, Supreme Leader of Daehan Kwan Um Zen Buddhist Order, spoke. He said,

"Today we celebrate the 64th anniversary of Rev. [Sun Myung Moon](#) and Dr. [Hak Ja Han Moon](#), who is the officiator of today's [Blessing](#).

They have devoted their lives to the practice of [true love](#) and living for the sake of others. As global citizens dedicated to peace, as well as [Parents](#) wiping the tears of humanity, they have established a strong foundation for eternal peace and human happiness, and their actions exemplify the core teaching of Buddhism, which is to become self-aware, bring awareness to others, and live an exemplary life in harmony.

And looking back at the countless conflicts, disputes and antagonism that humanity has perpetrated over the millennia due to selfishness, we can see that [Rev.](#) and [Mrs. Moon](#), in solidarity with righteous visionaries and world leaders, are forging a path of peace and happiness through the [Blessing](#) in particular.

So this extraordinary way of overcoming all barriers, including religion, race, nation and ideology, should be recorded in human history as a remarkable achievement.

So I would like to express my utmost respect and gratitude to all of you who are devoted to leading lives dedicated to achieving world peace and human happiness. I am humbled by the dignity that the brides and grooms receiving the [Blessing](#) today of uphold, and I cannot help but admire the true value of life that you represent. My hope is that you will enjoy a life full of happiness by firmly realizing the ideal of a true family."

Congratulatory remarks were also given by Johannes Ndanga, Archbishop and President of Apostolic Church Council of Zimbabwe. He said,

"Although I lead the African Christian Council International, I am also from a family that received the [Blessing](#) from the [True Parents](#). My wife and I are also a victorious [blessed](#) couple.

I would like to confess that Dr. [Hak Ja Han Moon](#) is my spiritual mother and I also want to confess if we look at the many fruits - as the Bible teaches - that you shall know the righteous by their fruits. If you are righteous, you see the righteousness through the fruits that she produces and by such fruits, I want to confirm also that Dr. [Hak Ja Han Moon](#) is the [Only Begotten Daughter](#) of our Heavenly Parent.



Paula White-Cain



Goodluck Jonathan



Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo



Mi-ya Park

[Mother Moon](#) came to Africa, the land of tears, to transform it, for it to become a heavenly Africa, an Africa of peace, Africa of prosperity and Africa of happiness, transcending all barriers of religion, national borders, race and ideology.

With only Heavenly Parent's [true love](#), I was deeply touched to learn about [Mother Moon](#)'s noble and sacrificial journey.

I also came to realize the maternal aspect of [God](#) through [Mother Moon](#), the [Only Begotten Daughter](#). This is indeed a great blessing and amazing grace, not only for me, but for all religious people who believe in [God](#)."

Video messages from a dozen religious and political leaders were shown on large screens in the indoor stadium. Dr. Samuel Radebe, Founder of The Revelation Spiritual Home, South Africa, said,

"Beloved [True Mother](#), Mother of Peace, I am truly honoured and privileged to wish [Mother Moon](#) a happy Heavenly Parent's Day, happy True Parents' Day and happy [Holy Wedding](#) anniversary."

Bishop Don Meares from the megachurch Evangel Cathedral in Maryland, USA, said,

"[Father](#) and [Mother Moon](#) affirmed the call of Jesus to become [True Parents](#), and we want to encourage you now to become parents in your family, pledging your faithfulness to God, your fidelity to one another, and love for all of mankind.

[Mother Moon](#), we thank you so sincerely for calling the unity of the body of Christ and praying as Jesus did, that we might all be one."

Paula White-Cain, American televangelist and advisor to Donald Trump during his presidency, said,

"We celebrate this special occasion of lifelong love and deep commitment.

We are so very grateful for you, dear [Mother Moon](#), for your love, for your suffering, for righteousness, and for your encouragement around the globe that America and the world can only be revived and return to [God](#) by repentance and turning to him."

Goodluck Jonathan, President of Nigeria 2010-2015, said,

"The True Parents' [Holy Wedding](#) anniversary serves as a beacon of hope and inspiration, reminding us of the importance of love, unity and family bonds in fostering a more peaceful world."

Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, President of the Philippines 2001-2010,

"May all the attendees of these joint events always keep in mind what the founders of this peace movement advocated, that world peace and prosperity are achieved through religious harmony, the embrace of diverse cultures and traditions of countries throughout the world, and good and strong family ties."

The largest part of the program was a dramatization of [Father](#) and [Mother Moon](#)'s life, expressed through narration, dance, song and music, accompanied by a gigantic video display on a large screen behind the stage, showing highlights from their life.

It was narrated by famous Korean singer Aeri Park and entertainer Myeong-gon Kim. Well-known

singers like soprano Mi-ja Park, tenor Jae-hyung Kim, soprano Yi-ji Choi, tenor Moon-ho Park performed



Yi-ji Choi



Moon-ho Park

A large choir accompanied by a symphony orchestra performed some of the holy songs of the [Family Federation](#). The keen observer would notice that the lyrics of one of the songs written more than 60 years ago, had been changed.

" Oh, the Lord has come; oh, the Lord has come" became "Oh, the Lord has come; our Lady now is come".

"He has come to the mountainous land" was changed into "They have come to the mountainous land".

"He is our Saviour and King" became "They are our King and our Queen".

Such a change is fully in line with [Mother Moon](#) emphasizing that [God](#) is both our [Father and Mother](#) and the Messianic mission requiring a man and a woman.

The anniversary celebrations were followed by a [large wedding for 2,100 couples](#).

Text: Knut Holdhus, written based on live transmission via PeaceTV.

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Large wedding held as part of celebration of Father and Mother Moon's own Holy Wedding in 1960

A large wedding for 2100 couples took place 24th April 2024, with the main event in Hyojeong Cultural Center in **Gapyeong**, northeast of the South Korean capital Seoul. The large ceremony was officiated by **Mother Moon** on the same day as her and her late husband **Father Moon's** 64th **Holy Wedding** anniversary was celebrated.



Mother Moon, Hak Ja Han, sprinkling holy water on couples 24th April 2024. Photo: Screenshot from live transmission by PeaceTV.

Mother Moon, Hak Ja Han, opened this latest **mass wedding** ceremony she and her husband are so famous for, by sprinkling holy water on representative brides and grooms on the stage. The 13 couples on stage were standing arm in arm with the bride holding a flower bouquet in her right hand. Attendants sprinkled the water on the other couples in the hall.

The master of ceremony pointed out,

"The holy water ceremony is an important ritual through which you cleanse your past life and are reborn anew. [...] It is the **True Parents'** hope that you all grow to become [...] treasured families of our Heavenly Parent."

The 2100 couples who received the **marriage blessing** came from 16 countries. 500 couples took part in the ceremony in Gapyeong, the other 1600 couples participated in smaller ceremonies around the world.

Everyone was then asked to affirm the **Blessing** vows read out by **Mother Moon**. All the couples shouted a loud yes after she had finished reading,

"As a family with the responsibility to fulfill the perfected families envisioned by our Heavenly Parent in the beginning, do you promise to become couples for eternity, continue the traditions established by the **True Parents** and form ideal families that seek the realization of **God's kingdom**."



One of the couples 24th April 2024 exchanging rings. Photo: Screenshot from live transmission by PeaceTV.

representative couples come up on stage. **Mother Moon** and two assistants presented the rings to those couples.

All the brides and grooms both on stage and in the hall faced each other. The groom placed the ring on the ring-finger of the bride, before she placed the groom's ring on his finger. The rings symbolize the eternal and the couple's eternal love.

Mother Moon then proclaimed,

"I proclaim in front of heaven and earth that the holy

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It was
then time
for the
couples to
exchange
their
blessing
rings.
Again, 13

marriage of the couples participating in this cosmic blessing ceremony officiated by the **True Parents** of heaven, earth and humankind, have been established through the grace of the Heavenly Parent and the **True Parents** of heaven, earth and humankind."

Then followed the blessing prayer by **Mother Moon**.



From the large Marriage Blessing in Hyojeong Cultural Center in Gapyeong, South Korea 24th April 2024. Photo: Screenshot from live transmission by PeaceTV.

She prayed that all the 2100 couples taking part throughout the world would be like pure water and become the precious and ideal men and women that our Heavenly Parent had envisioned at the beginning of the creation. She asked that such "pure water" would continue to grow and spread throughout the world, across the oceans and all continents.

She prayed that the couples would praise and glorify our Heavenly Parent based on the victorious foundation laid by the **True Parents**.

"All the blessed couples who received the **blessing** today are the ones who are realizing Heavenly Parent's dream," she said. "May they give birth to many pure children."

She asked also **God** that all the people around the globe would hear about this great **Blessing** and news and join in.

She prayed that all the difficult things – all the chaos that is happening across the globe, all the conflicts that have been caused by the ignorance of the fallen humankind, and that give such pain to our precious earth and create environmental problems, and also all the natural disasters as well as diseases – would no longer threaten the life of the **blessed** families.

And with such a protective **blessing**, she asked **God** that the blessed families would work towards restoring the earth to its original healthy state and work to create an ideal world and happy families that would give joy to our Heavenly Parent and realize **God's** dream here on the earth.

After the prayer, flowers and gifts were offered to **Mother Moon** by representative couples.



Aeri Park and Poppin Hyunjoon singing and dancing 24th April 2024 in Gapyeong. Photo: Screenshot from live transmission by PeaceTV.

The ceremonial part of the program was followed by a special performance by a couple who themselves 14 years ago had participated in one of the [marriage blessing](#) ceremonies of the [Family Federation](#) – Korean singer Aeri Park and her husband and hip-hop dancer and singer Poppin Hyunjoon.

Text: Knut Holdhus, written based on live transmission via PeaceTV. The words of [Mother Moon](#) referred to and quoted are an unofficial version based on the simultaneous translation into English.

Featured image above: [Mother Moon, Hak Ja Han](#), sprinkling holy water on couples 24th April 2024. Photo: Screenshot from live transmission by PeaceTV.

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