

True Peace

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Cheon Il Guk: Settlement and Life as Citizens

By Pak No-hi



We solemnly offered the third anniversary of True Father's seonghwa on the foundation laid by True Mother's three-year devotion of attending True Father at his side. I imagine many of you have overcome the desolate feeling of having lost a parent in the course of three years and have risen to face our responsibility as True Parents' children, to inherit and advance Father's last wishes. We have now ushered in a new year through which we should invest ourselves completely in making Cheon Il Guk a reality.

On 1.13 on the heavenly calendar in 2013, True Parents proclaimed the ideal of building Cheon Il Guk based on the foundation of True Father's having endured a course of restoration through indemnity as the messiah, savior and True Parent called by our Heavenly Parent. We have entered a period when our responsibility is to make this ideal reality. Most importantly, we observed True Mother carry on honorably over the past three years, despite her tremendous sorrow. She encouraged us to "advance without ceasing" and wrestled with each providential task for firmly establishing Cheon Il Guk. Through her, we were able to see with our own eyes the preparations being made for laying the foundation for Cheon Il Guk.

True Mother spurred efforts to compile a set of holy scriptures enabling the Family Federation to stand firm as the central religious institution in Heaven's providence. Compiling the three great Holy Scriptures and establishing a structure for conveying the truth to future generations is a great accomplishment in itself. Cheon Il Guk should not simply remain a nomenclature for our faith but should be transformed into an actual sovereign nation of Heaven in which we can live together as a heavenly community in which citizens of Cheon Il Guk can live together in one heart, one body and one harmony. The enactment of the Cheon Il Guk Constitution, as a governance system, is another significant achievement in laying the basis for the substantiation of Cheon Il Guk.

Heaven's providence has shifted from the wilderness era led by True Father into the era of the complete settlement of Cheon Il Guk led by True Mother. Thus, she has been guiding the development and support of special educational programs to raise and train the next generation of leaders like Joshua and has been spearheading a new paradigm of instilling accountability and ownership in second-generation members. To this end, she created the Cranes Club to bring together second-generation members with professional insight in a range of fields to lead them back to True Parents' realm of love, so that they can live based on principled values.

A major event on the third anniversary of True Father's seonghwa was the first Sunhak Peace Prize Award Ceremony, which was to honor True Father's teachings and achievements. It is now our responsibility to create Cheon Il Guk in reality based on True Parents' achievements. We might ask ourselves, Where is the Cheon Il Guk that True Parents proclaimed? Nothing has changed in this world, which is still hell with people fighting among themselves. Does not a day go by without news of conflict, war and murder heading toward great destruction?

At such times, let us look inward to see whether we are hoping to live in Cheon Il Guk built by others. True Parents proclaimed Cheon Il Guk to remind us that it starts from "us," from "our families." We should expand the ideals, values and norms of Cheon Il Guk to society and manifest the Cheon Il Guk ideal with our own hands. Cheon Il Guk will not be created by anyone other than us. This is not an apocalyptic confession of our faith with a certain deadline; rather it is our ultimate destiny to manifest and establish Cheon Il Guk in our daily lives and in those of all human beings.

We survived the wilderness age, protected by our absolute, vertical faith in our Heavenly Parent and True Parents. In this era of establishing Cheon Il Guk, let us now embody True Parents' teachings, embody true love by horizontally sharing with others, manifest our identity as True Parents' children and as citizens of Cheon Il Guk and transform the world. In 2016, let us perfect our individuality by leading a life in vertical oneness with True Parents, casting no shadow, perfect the true family ideal in our own families, and create a federation of families that can go out to the world to living others' sake as True Parents have taught us. Let us pledge now to bring the Cheon Il Guk ideal to fruition by being victorious in our mission as heavenly tribal messiahs blessed by True Parents. *✧*

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God's Homeland and the Peace Kingdom

True Father gave this message at Jamshil Indoor Gymnasium, Seoul, Korea, on January 27, 2004, in commemoration of True Parents' births.

would like to convey deep appreciation for your many expressions of congratulations on this occasion of my birthday, which is also my wife's birthday. However, this is not for us; I would like to offer all glory to God, who has protected us until today.

Early in our lives God called us, and we have devoted our entire lives to fulfilling his will. Therefore I cannot accept your congratulations without including God in this celebration. For my address this evening, I would like to talk about God's Homeland and the Peace Kingdom.

God's lost homeland

What kind of world would have been realized if Adam and Eve, the first human ancestors, had not fallen? Adam would have become the patriarch of God's family, the chief of God's tribe and the king of God's nation. From that ideal Adam, the world that would have begun would have been Adam's world, having

Adam's tradition, language, culture and lifestyle. Both God and Adam would have been able to dwell in that world as their homeland.

Unfortunately, human history began with the Fall of the first human ancestors. Our world was reduced to slavery under Satan's dominion. It was a world that had nothing to do with God. Humankind was originally meant to establish and live in a peace kingdom for eternity, with God as their True Parent. Instead, the human race enslaved itself to Satan, the source of evil, and has lived in a world permeated with sin and suffering ever since. This has brought immeasurable and constant anguish to God.

Please think about this in the context of your own lives. Contrary to the Creator's will, your mind and body are in constant struggle and conflict. Has anyone completely unified mind and body? Among the six billion people of the world today, is there anyone who has lived according to the original, ideal mind-body rela-

tionship, where the body is in complete submission to the mind? What about the nations and societies of today's world? From the conflict and selfishness rooted in an individual's mind and body come the barriers that have transformed societies and nations into impregnable fortresses.

Human beings were supposed to live as one family of brothers and sisters, yet we see interracial strife. This is a crucial problem threatening world peace. Each religion began with a mission to revive human spirituality, thereby accomplishing God's will by bringing humankind back to him. However, religions abandoned their original mission; they became mired in the swamps of prejudice and conflict. This escalated to the point where we see religions being misused as tools for bloodshed and war.

Application of human beings' original mind leads to a world of peace. Where does our original mind lead us? In the core of our heart, do we desire to live oppressed within the

walls and boundaries that surround us? Certainly not! The world that we desire is a place where there are no artificial barriers or boundaries. It is a free, peaceful world. All people long for that original homeland. It is the homeland that God has sought to establish for thousands of years. It is the homeland that humankind has longed for throughout history. Of course, when we talk about a homeland, a particular nation may come to mind, yet no nation in today's world compares to the original homeland.

To establish a nation there needs to be sovereignty, people and territory. History records the rise and fall of nations and countless transitions of sovereignties, accompanied by the sacrifice of a great many lives. Among them were countless martyrs who died in the hope that the original homeland would someday appear. The homeland these people longed for does not refer to the United States, or Korea, or any other nation. The original homeland is not a place based on democracy or communism. In it there is no need for any religion. It is a world that does not commit the folly of measuring the value of a person by the color of his or her skin. It does not allow any form of artificial boundary or national border, including the barrier that divides the mind and body within each individual. These barriers bring pain to everyone.

Planet Earth is our home, and the entire globe is the homeland that humanity is longing for. For tens of thousands of years, God has longed for this homeland. Humankind has the responsibility to establish a global nation congruent with God's values, as well as to banish evil from earth by judging Satan, who has been the archenemy of heaven. This is how we will build the heavenly kingdom of peace on earth, on the foundation of goodness. Please remember always that this has been God's desire, Jesus' desire, and the desire of our ancestors who walked the path of martyrdom in the course of God's providence.

Toward the intended world

The ideal world is not created automatically. Nobody can build it by just wishing it into existence. It is impossi-



ble to attain unless we, the offspring of the Fall of the first human ancestors, receive a new lineage through the marriage blessing and practice a life of true love.


What is a life of true love? In essence, it is living for the sake of others. It is living for the sake of others before you even think about the other doing something for yourself, a life of giving to others and dismissing any thought that you ever gave. It is not giving in hopes of receiving something in return. It is a life in which you give and give, so much that you would never regret that you had not given more. Even as you give, you bow your head in humility. Thus, Jesus said, "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends." He also said, "For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted." Even our almighty Creator, God, does not engage in creation and destruction at whim. He abides by the principles of creation that he himself

established.

For this reason, I have been conducting the marriage blessing providence throughout the past several decades. Due to the Fall of the first ancestors, humankind inherited false life, false love and false lineage and had no choice but to live a false life. Therefore, my wife and I began our God-given mission as the True Parents. Throughout our lives, we have been on a lonely path to carry out this heavenly decree to eliminate Satan, the devil, through the marriage blessing providence, and as the True Parents, to bequeath true life, true love and the true lineage to humanity.

We discovered that God by himself could not reverse the false bloodline, because the false parents planted it. Having fulfilled all the necessary indemnity conditions, my wife and I stand victoriously as the True Parents. We have been expanding the true lineage by separating human beings from the lineage of the false olive tree and engrafting them to the true olive tree. A false olive tree will remain a false olive tree, even if a thousand years pass; a person's lineage can

change only when the person is engrafted to the true olive tree.

The bright age of heaven is dawning. Please receive my message with hope. The history of the marriage blessing began with just three couples in 1960 and has now reached 400 million couples around the world. Furthermore, more than 120 billion blessed couples live in the spirit world. The field of the true olive tree has now overwhelmed the field of the wild olive trees. All these blessed families have united in living for the sake of others. The life within these true olive trees, embodying the true lineage, is now quickly spreading throughout the entire world. It will realize God's homeland and peace kingdom, which will be a nation full of joy and happiness, a global nation of freedom and equality without walls or national borders. 

The text has been edited for inclusion in TPmagazine. The full-length original is in book 2, chapter 8 of Pyeong Hwa Gyeong.



참부모님 초청 충효가 특별 오찬회

真の父母様招請 忠孝家 特別午餐会

Our Mission for the Settlement of Cheon Il Guk

True Mother spoke to a group of Japanese members on December 6, at the luncheon held at Cheon Jeong Gung. This was her message that day.

Did you miss me? How much? With longing as large as the whole world? It is good to see you. Mostly women seem to be here. Is that because this is the age of women? Yes it is. When I spoke to the Top Gun trainees the other day, I told them we need to take the path toward settlement of Cheon Il Guk, not merely occupation. The Chinese character “an” [安] in anchak [settlement], is formed from the characters of a woman under the character for “house,” which is the character for “security.”

In the world, a large house was built. Who is the owner of the house? Is it the man? Is it the woman? In Korea, we call the husband bakat-yangban [literally, the outside nobleman] and we call the wife an-bang-manim [literally, the woman of the main room]. The husband is the owner of the male side of a [traditional, divided by sex] house and the

outside. What this means is that in the context of the providential history, the woman's role is important.

When God made the creation, he said that it was beautiful. He said that it looked good. Thus, he created one man and one woman, Adam and Eve, and blessed them. Why? He gave Adam and Eve responsibility. God's wish and Adam and Eve's wish needed to coincide. God wanted to become the parent of humankind. Not just a spiritual parent; he wanted to become the visible parent of the substantial world. Therefore, he created the universe. He gave a growth period to Adam and Eve.

That period, the growth period, was one in which they were to be responsible while in an absolute position with God. Had they reached perfection, God would have blessed Adam and Eve. God carried out the providence so that they would become the first true ancestors, the true

parents of humankind. Yet, what happened? When you look at human history today, we can tell that this does not fulfill the purpose of creation as God had planned. Isn't that right? [Yes] This history of humankind, or the six-thousand-year history in the Bible, is the providential history of restoration through indemnity that God has been searching for to establish human ancestors.

For example, God was conducting the providence to establish good individuals and a good people in the evil, satanic world. At that time, the satanic world had formed many nations. Thus, God prepared the chosen people, the Israelites, until they possessed the standards of a nation. He sent his only begotten son, who could personally carry out God's providence and who could subjugate the satanic world.

The day that the Israelites had hoped for had finally come. Yet, what

happened? They did not support and attend the only begotten son of God, which was their portion of responsibility. They did not fulfill their ultimate responsibility as the chosen people. The Roman Empire was very strong during that era. Rome held so much initiative that they were said to have global influence. However, Mary, who was a central figure, did not even fulfill her responsibility.

Because the Israelites, who had been prepared as an entire people, the central people, for four thousand years, could not fulfill their responsibility, Jesus had nowhere to stand.

In conclusion, he had no alternative but to die on the cross. As he died, he said that he would come again. He even explained what that meant by saying that he would hold the marriage supper of the Lamb. When we look at this, just as God had created the universe and created Adam and Eve, his having sent his only begotten son on the providential course of restoration through indemnity means there should also be an only begotten daughter of God. Do you understand? I should go to see who is sitting in the back.

What is seeing my up close like? Hmm? Ureshi? [Japanese for: Are you happy?] It is good to see you. I love you.

Where did I leave off? There is also a position for God's only begotten daughter. The two-thousand-year Christian providential history was the providence of searching for God's only begotten daughter. That makes sense, doesn't it? However, Christians are unaware of this. This is the Christianity that came about through the history of the Holy Spirit in Mark's upper room. Jesus was unable to say much during the three years of his public ministry. He could not bring Heaven's secrets, the truth, to light. Thus, he retained it in his heart and said, "I will come again." Yet, even though the Christian church, which needed to prepare the foundation, did not know about providential history or about the origin, they still prepared for two thousand years under the Holy Spirit.

World War II, between democracy and communism, made possible the birth of the democratic world and prepared people to welcome the coming of the Lord. America should have



fulfilled her responsibility, but because she did not, Father had to carry out the providence while shedding tears of blood to save the world and to save America during the forty years he lived there. The end of the cold war... You probably heard earlier that an ACLC [American Clergy Leadership Conference] took place in Chicago. To save America and the world, Father extensively educated people on all levels of society, to those of high status through the International Conference for the Unity of the Sciences and the Professors World Peace Academy.

Back then, the way that America received Father at first was quite refreshing. Yet, some communists and Christian people set him up, and they put in Danbury prison in 1985. At that time Father said to declare the "end of communism" through ICUS. Dr. Morton Kaplan, who is still alive today, was the president of the confer-

ence then. His knowledge of Eastern and Western politics was quite extensive; he was a world-renowned scholar. Father called Dr. Kaplan to visit Danbury prison and said, "Tell them now that communism will perish."

When Dr. Kaplan thought about the global reputation he had built up until then, and he feared speaking nonsense. So he said to Father, "I think I would like to say 'maybe.'" He said this about three times, but Father said, "'No.' Say that it will perish."

Do you know where this was declared? It happened at the Intercontinental Hotel in Geneva, Switzerland, near where the Soviet Embassy was. At that place, it was declared that communism would fall. Back then, communism still had great power. However, didn't it collapse a few years later? What happened to communism five years later? What happened? Do you know how your

Parents carried out the providence, which no one knew of? Hmm? That's not all is it?

We traveled around the globe hundreds of times for the providence for forty or fifty years. However, what was Father's last request to us? Hmm? You need to take responsibility for the united world that God and humanity yearn and hope for, the time when Cheon Il Guk can be established.

Originally, a nation should have welcomed the Messiah and he should have been able to carry out the global providence on a national foundation. Heaven had prepared that path, but human beings, Christians and the Christian church, did not fulfill their responsibilities. Due to this situation, True Parents had to re-create an environment that had been lost and make their way up from the bottom. Those were such painful days!

God opened the way for human beings, through a long period, six thousand years, to be in a blessed position in which they are able to participate. He sent True Parents to earth, but because the environment was not ready, True Parents themselves had to pioneer from the bottom. This providential history of restoration through indemnity was heartbreaking. God alone knows about this path. People have been reborn and have blessed families through True Parents, but those people should not stop there. They have the responsibility to restore their tribe, their people and their nation, but they have not fulfilled their responsibilities.

Do you know that Dae-mo nim's work began because such an environment was not made, not even up to the time of Father's ascension? Dae-mo nim. You know her, don't you? Dae-mo nim's task was to carry out God's command. Even though many blessed families are in the human world, they did not make an environment fit for the True Father, the True Parents, the returning Lord, the Savior and the King of Kings. There were only ignorant people who did not understand Father's position, but Dae-mo nim knew the providential history.

As I said before, the two-thousand-year Christian history was the providence of searching for God's only begotten daughter. The only begotten daughter of God needed to be born as God's daughter, separate from the satanic world. I was the one who possessed such a standard. The world did not know, but Satan knew.

Therefore, the moment I was born, Satan said, "Because you were born I am doomed. So I will kill you," and he tried to kill me. However, Dae-mo nim fought and won. Thus, I am here today. Do you understand? Dae-mo nim had a Christian background and understood God's providential history. She lived her whole life in a position similar to that of a nanny who bore God's only begotten daughter. Heavenly Parent knew this. Therefore, what did Dae-mo nim, who was in the spirit world, do for blessed children on earth who were ignorant of the providence even when they had been told? She had to choose right? Thus, the


Cheonpyeong work began.

Dae-mo nim is in the position in which she fulfilled the whole of her responsibility to eternally attend Father as the returning Lord, the King of Kings. That was her role. Now she is busier in the spirit world with her providence. Cheongpyeong is now in the position where it has grown within an established order, and if each individual offers devotion united with True Parents, they can personally experience Dae-mo nim's work. Do you understand? [Yes]

You need to be aware of this. She lived her entire life publically and attended the returning Lord. In the sight of heaven and earth, she was truly loyal. You need to know this. That is why not just anyone can carry out Mother's role. No one but me can. Do you understand?

If you go forward, one in heart, one in body, one in harmony and one ideologically with me, can you be victorious or not? [We can.] You are blessed people. There are seven billion people in the world. How is it that you met me? Blessed families have been made through me. Right?

You should live your lives each day with a grateful hearts and live for the future for as long as you are alive. This is the fatherland of faith. This is the original homeland. I need to create a new culture. Will you cooperate with that, or not? Therefore, I am trying to make Korea the world's holy ground within ten years.

I hope that you will take part in this. Please take care of your health. Let's accomplish this great work together. 





Reveal the Truth in the Last Days

Did you miss me a lot? How much? [Audience member: As much as the sky and the earth] The lights are a bit strong, so I will put these [sunglasses] on.

Even though we experience it in December each year, I am curious about what Americans who have a foundation in Christianity think about Christmas. I will ask you something: Due to the irresponsibility of those around him, Jesus knew that he had no choice but to die on the cross, but he gathered his disciples for the Last Supper. At the Last Supper, what was the main course? You famous pastors, do you know? What was it?

In the fifteenth century, the famous

artist Leonardo Da Vinci painted "The Last Supper." Until then, those who were Christian must not have been able to think broadly. Civilization today, in the twenty first century, is very developed. As has been said before, we are now in an era when we cannot ignore climate issues and the issue of future human survival. However, for some reason Christian culture did not develop.

Da Vinci painted "The Last Supper" in the fifteenth century, but throughout the years, it became badly damaged. Restoring it took twenty years, and when they looked, they saw that the Last Supper's main course was fish. Did you know that?

Christians, who received persecution during the time of the Roman Empire, used fish as their secret symbol. They used fish a lot, symbolically. Fish contributed a lot even in developing a civilization.

In that case, one of Jesus' miracles recorded in the Bible is the miracle of multiplication. I thought about how he could have fed five thousand people with just two fish. Pastors... Bishop Edwards, Archbishop Stallings, what do you think? The Middle East has a long summer. If you do not eat fish right away after catching them from the river or sea they rot. What method did they develop? Salt preservation! The two fish that Jesus used

True Mother's spoke at the twentieth anniversary of the True Family Values Ministry on December 12, 2015 in the International Peace Education Center in the US city of Las Vegas. We are pleased to present this translation of what she said.

were salted fish. In other words, fish preserved with salt. I do not know how the Christian cultural sphere explained this, but it is possible. Right? You can feed many people with just one piece of salted fish. Isn't this so?

Awaken the people

When you think about it, you have a lot of learn from me. It is time to reveal the truth. Those in the Christian cultural sphere have been waiting for the returning Lord, but they were unaware of why he was coming and what he has done.

They simply thought that they could go to heaven if they believed in and followed him. There is a Korean phrase, "licking the outside of a watermelon." Watermelons are beautiful in the sweltering summer season. Yet you cannot know the cool, sweet taste that is on the inside if you only lick the outside. You need to break it open. Those in the Christian cultural sphere need to break open and strive to learn the truth. Yet they have not developed in that way. Until today, how could those who did not fulfill their responsibility stand in the center and deserve respect? Aren't you curious about that?

Do not repeat failures

Through a spiritual process, the Virgin Mary was the one to conceive Jesus. You will know through the Bible that the environment at that time was a very difficult one, in which people could not speak about things plainly. Yet for the thirty-three years of Jesus' life and during his public ministry, did Mary fulfill her responsibility as a mother or not? How is it that Jesus, who came as the Messiah, had to live a difficult life alone until he died at thirty-three? This is a heartbreaking, sad story.

Christmas is not Jesus' actual birthdate. How is it that not one person spoke the truth about that throughout all these years? This is a sad situation. God had a dream; Heaven had a hope... God had gone through a process with tears of blood for four thousand years just to establish a single person. How hard was it that it took four thousand years until he could lead an individual, family, tribe and people? However, those four thousand years disappeared once



again into bubbles in only thirty-three years. How did Heavenly Parent feel in his heart? How did Jesus himself feel? How painful was it for Jesus, who was unable to achieve the position of a filial son to his parent? Ladies and gentlemen, can you imagine that?

The two-thousand-year Christian history displays a superficial faith, unaware of the internal circumstances. The people of today need to be different. You have met the True Parents. You have received the blessing from True Parents. You are no longer wild olive trees but are true olive trees. This means that you are now in a position that is unrelated to the Fall. Is it okay for only you to be in such a position? Heavenly Parent's wish and True Parents' wish is to bless all seven billion people as Heavenly Parent's children.

End catastrophes

If they know of the truth, what will happen to today's people? They will become one. If that happens, the unified world, heaven on earth, will

be achieved automatically. However, to you who have received the blessing, to pastors who have received the calling first, you have a responsibility. True Parents cannot fulfill this responsibility for you. You need to do it. True Parents have shown you, practiced it and prepared a foundation of victory. Thus, you only need to fulfill your responsibility by following us exactly. I am saying that you must not stop because one family is blessed.

Educating people will help overcome natural disasters and all the things that are happening around the world. Whether I am in Korea, Japan or America, I ask members to unite and educate others so that these problems can be resolved. This is fulfilling one's responsibility as a tribal messiah. You need to tell others. There must be no one who does not know, especially since they are living at the same time as True Parents. By doing this you will live freely in the eternal world.

Our life as blessed families is the greatest blessing in all of the six-thou-

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sand-year history of fallen human beings. You must not hold it to yourselves. There is a future for us, and for those in the second and third generations. You must fulfill your responsibility as the ancestors and as parents of the future. Depending on how you expand your environment, your descendants can be freer. Doesn't a parental heart hope that children will live a better life than the parents have? Hence, for the sake of your loving children, you must fulfill your responsibilities before you go to the next world.

Spread the blessing

Someone told me that about twelve hundred people have come here today. If all of you were determined to complete [blessing] four hundred and thirty couples as tribal messiahs, what would happen? What would happen to this nation? Heavenly Parent had a great dream for this nation. However, such devotion has become very scarce over the past two hundred years. In the speech, it said that God would have no choice but to leave this nation

because he can no longer see any hope. However, True Parents have devoted half of their lives here giving everything to reawaken the people in hopes that this nation becomes the one that fulfills its original responsibility, which God blessed it for, and becomes a nation that can embrace the world. Yet this nation has made many mistakes. They are still waiting for the returning Lord on the foundation of Christianity. Even when the returning Lord has come as True Parents and the providence has turned a page, the reality is that today's Christianity is living in the Old Testament Age.

Therefore, we who are living in the twenty-first century need to change at this point. I said this before, but in the Last Days, what is true must be revealed. You must reveal the truth. God's hope and True Parents' hope is the same as the people's hope. Thus, no ignorant religions or people should become obstacles. They need to be educated. Once again, True Parents are stressing and earnestly asking this

of you today. In December, we especially think a lot about Jesus' life. You are in the position to restore through indemnity the responsibility that those in the days of Jesus did not fulfill and to be victorious. Please be aware that the central ministers in ACLC who are leading this nation have this responsibility.

What did I say I would make in Cheongpyeong by 2020 so that Cheongpyeong becomes an eternal holy ground where the people can experience and feel True Parents' love? I will make the Cheonji Sunhak Won [museum]. I am going to make an environment, in which we can show the results of the time when you lived with True Parents to the people of the future. When I think about this, every day I am grateful and happy. Even though my body may be weary, I can make an environment where God's hope and humanity's hope is accomplished. Ladies and gentlemen, will you join me in this? Once again, may your days of hard work and responsibility bring that day nearer. *TP*

Sing Praises to True Parents



True Mother gave this message at a beginning-of-the-year meeting on January 7 at Cheon Jeong Gung.

Before I speak, let's hear the happy birthday song. Singers: Sing praises, sing worship / True Parents' holy birthday / Hallelujah, hallelujah / Heavenly Parent is happy! / He responds to us / heaven and earth and all things / all people around the world / People of five colors, praise and bow with happiness! /

How is it?

After hearing reports from each organization—the Korean headquarters, the Japanese headquarters, UPF, the Women's Federation, Ilhwa, and Yongpyong Resort—and each of your resolve to advance without stopping with hope toward 2020, I feel happy.

Through the Bible, we know that the Israelites overcame many difficulties. Their hope was to go to the land of Canaan that heaven had blessed. In order to manifest this dream, they endured harsh adversity with single-minded devotion. You know this, right? In the end, they entered Canaan led by Joshua and Caleb. Yet did they set down roots in Canaan? In the end, they could not establish a center. Yet heaven still gave another chance to the Israelites by sending God's only begotten son, Jesus Christ. However, they did not fulfil their responsibility, did they? What do the Israelites look like to us today? This is not just a fact in history. It is a problem, and we have to think about seriously.

True Parents have ended the providential history of restoration through indemnity and begun the new era of

Cheon Il Guk, but have we settled? Our path is securely restoring the nations and God's sovereignty. If we do not take responsibility within this age, the history of indemnity that the Israelites had to go through on behalf of the world will happen to us. This means that we can no longer receive forgiveness.

True Parents have personally nurtured and educated you. We prepared everything so that you can be responsible as blessed families and as leaders. You are different from the Israelites of the past.

This means that you are in the center of providential history. You are in such a glorious position, an honored position that is impossible to express. Yet, with that, responsibility follows.

The [Korean] national leader and the president of FFWPU Japan said this already, but True Parents are the True Parents of 7.3 billion people. The 7.3 billion people need to become True Parents' children and True Parents' citizens. God's wish, our Heavenly Parents' wish, True Parents' wish is one human family. In order to achieve this, your resolve and attitude must be clear. Earlier two companies explained the growth process of their organizations, but it is the same for the rest of you too.

Every single day you must develop your status, your achievements and results. Nowadays, in reality, the world is going through a hard time due to temperature warming issues. One very famous scholar said that the

fate, the future of this earth is only fifty years. If we keep going in this state—we have already lost a year, so within forty-nine years—this means there is no hope for the earth. There is no solution to these issues. True Parents are the only way to solve it. Racial problems, religious problems, border problems, who will solve them? Will the UN solve them? They have worked hard up until now, but they cannot. Everyone sings, peace, peace, peace, but on one else knows the way. They do not know how. There is no hope besides us.

It's a bit late, but True Parents' birthday needs to be known to the whole world quickly. That is the hope of humanity. So I wrote a song. Sing praises, sing worship / True Parents' holy birthday / Hallelujah, hallelujah / Heavenly Parent is happy! / He responds to us / heaven and earth and all things / all people around the world / People of five colors, praise and bow with happiness! / I sent this to America to be made, and David Eaton—he is a famous member—made it like this. How is it, do you like it? [Yes] In Korea and Japan, they composed a song with these lyrics. That is not at all bad either. The genre is for choirs, I mean, like an opera, and it is cheerful. Thus, I plan to use it well. Therefore, "Happy Birthday to You," the secular birthday song will be changed to sing praise, sing glory. Let us try harder toward the day when all people give thanks and live with hope as they look forward to celebrating True Parents' birthday. ㄹ



A True Mother and Daughter Speak on True Family Values

Sun Jin Moon, international president of FFWPU, read True Mother's address at the True Family Values Ministry Awards Banquet on December 5. Some of her personal remarks and excerpts from True Mother's speech are included here.



Respected and beloved government and civic leaders—especially the members of the clergy who represent not only the Christian family of faiths but also the wider family of religions—it is my honor to be with you today for this True Family Values Banquet, convened here in Chicago, and celebrating twenty years of the True Family Values Ministry.

I want to acknowledge the members of the American Clergy Leadership Conference who are here today, as well as representatives of FFWPU, UPF and other NGOs.

If you are like me—and I am sure you are—not a day that goes by when you do not wonder where our world is headed. It sometimes seems as if our world is falling apart. On the one hand, we are facing the impact of climate change, which threaten the viability of the planet, including the quality of our air, water and the food chain. In addition, the conflicts in Syria, Iraq, Ukraine and the terror attacks in Europe, here in our homeland and other places are threatening global order and stability. Additionally, in the communities and on the streets of America's cities there are cries for justice as gun violence and shootings darken the headlines.

Sometimes the challenges of life can seem almost too much to bear. However, if we reflect on the power of love, faith, benevolence and goodness, we open up to the light. We begin to appreciate heroes among us who, by

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their examples, their vision and their words, show us the way out of the darkness and lead us to the light. They give us hope. To all of the heroes in this room—men and women and families of faith, love, and goodness who serve a higher purpose and live to create a world of peace and one family under God—today I thank you all for being our American heroes of peace.

Two major people in my life have always inspired me, even in the darkest times. They are my parents, and to the worldwide family our True Parents have lived sincere lives of absolute faith in God, lived with an unwavering will to serve humanity and instill a global consciousness of good, with fearless determination, absolute love and selfless devotion for the sake of humankind and creation. There is no other person on earth who can match my father's life example—may God bless him—since his ascension three years ago. But if ever there was a woman of absolute pure love, devotion, faith and goodness that was his balance, his counterpart, the complete harmony of true love in life—that would be my mother.

She has devoted her life, family, and spent over fifty years in their public mission to serve humankind. She is my light and amazing example of true love. She is my hero.

Despite losing her husband of fifty-two years and the father to their fourteen children; despite being now in this physical world without the

irreplaceable half that makes her whole; and despite losing her one and only true love, my mother, True Mother, never stops to focus on, or complain about, her own difficulties. On the contrary, she always looks to ease the pain of others, giving out love and hope, and calling us all to embrace a victorious future, building one universal family under God, our Heavenly Parent.

My mother, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, asked me to represent her today and to present her message, which she wanted to share with you. She could not be here, but her heart is with us. In addition, my father's heart is our eternal light and he is always with us. He is looking down on us from the spiritual world. I am sure he is smiling and sending loving blessings to you all. Please bear with me now as I do my best to present my mother's message.

TRUE MOTHER'S MESSAGE

The fulfillment of our Heavenly Parent's ideal of creation is rooted in family values. However, we see that those values are rapidly deteriorating. It was in order to firmly establish true family values and fulfill our Heavenly Parents' will to establish one family under God that my late husband, Rev. Sun Myung Moon, and I began our providential work in the United States in 1971. Since that time, we have

devoted ourselves to advocating true family ideals and God's ideals.

Heaven especially prepared and blessed the US, so it could become a pillar of the global providence of restoration. However, my husband and I could see the tragic deterioration of family values in America. Therefore, in 1996, we invited more than five thousand religious leaders from all over America to Washington, D.C. to awaken the nation, teaching them about the absolute centrality of true family values. This educational program was to inspire the religious leaders who had gathered on that occasion to resolve to participate in a great movement that could save America by restoring true family values centered on God, our Heavenly Parent.

I know that many of you seated here today have dedicated yourselves to this great endeavor. It is through your devotion, your efforts through these many years, that the movement has grown and that now we are able to celebrate this meaningful twentieth anniversary. I would like to offer my heartfelt gratitude for your tremendous work. I would also like to congratulate today's award recipients.

We are born in the bosom of the family and we grow within the family. The family is our origin, our school of love. The universal truth and values embedded in the family transcend religion, culture, race and nationality.

With the Fall, our Heavenly Parent's ideal of creation was unfulfilled.

As a result, Heavenly Parent was unable to experience the happiness of true love within an ideal family. Furthermore, throughout the course of fallen history, true family values were trampled on, swept away into oblivion.

If we consider the history of the rise and fall of civilizations, we observe the decline of family contributes to civilization's decline. For example, we can generally agree that Western civilization traces to Hebraism and Hellenism. As great as these traditions are, they tended to emphasize the individual more than the family. They did not find a clear vision for an ideal family, nor a forceful declaration of true family values rooted in Heavenly Parent's ideal of creation. Eventually as Western civilization increasingly raised individualistic ideals and philosophies, a culture centered on individualism emerged. Contrary to God's will, belief that the basic unit of all relationships in society and the nation was the family has all but disappeared. Instead, the basic unit became the individual. All relationships, including that between parent and child, came to be defined as a type of legal, contractual relationship, similar to that which exists between a ruler and citizens.

This was a grave error. Once one views the relationship between parent and child fundamentally in contractual terms, involving personal interests of the parent and child, the relationship separates from heavenly morality and enters the realm of mere human morality. Today, the human family is divided and in the throes of war are on every level. We are fighting every living being and creation, arming ourselves for eco-wars, religious wars, territorial wars, political wars, racial wars and community shootings in our backyard. Our hometown has become a war zone.

Hardened hearts

When we witness these heinous crimes against the human family, we are heartbroken. We struggle to empathize with the devastating pain of God's heart. Anyone can say that the world we live in today is not an ideal world in which we all live in peace and harmony with our global brothers and sisters as one family under God. I believe that the root

cause of these problems lies in the loss of true family values. Our Heavenly Parent blessed the US with the mission of establishing not only one nation under God but one family under God.

Today, this ideal is alive despite the erosion of family values, which is threatening the very foundation of this nation. Divorce rates exceeding 50 percent are directly undermining the sanctity of marriage and family. Unprecedented liberal issues about sex amongst teenagers and free sex among young people are seriously shaking the core of this nation. Aware and concerned of this sad reality, Rev. Moon and I answered heaven's call to come and heal an ailing America. In 1971, Rev. Moon left our homeland to come to America. Throughout his years here, he devoted himself to restoring America's moral and spiritual roots in order to revive this great nation. As he toured the US, from shore to shore, he boldly proclaimed that God had sent him in the role of the doctor, the role of the firefighter. That is why he came to America.

America's rise and decline

Beloved leaders, the Founding Fathers of this nation risked their lives and fought a David versus Goliath battle for independence against Britain with their hope and trust in God. In their hearts and minds, God was everything.

The king and British soldiers united and fought for their empire; however, the Founding Fathers united and fought to advance God's will. Their sincerity and sacrifice moved heaven. As a result, our Heavenly Parent answered the call of his sons and daughters, who were fighting bravely in this great conflict. As a result, the United States of America, the land of religious freedom was born.

America boldly showed the world that despite having people of many different languages and cultures, building one nation under God and eventually one family under our Heavenly Parent is possible. Unfortunately, the holiness that once characterized America had fallen into decline. Influenced by self-centeredness, a materialistic culture was weakening spirituality and morality; thus, America had grown increasingly secular.



This was shaking its core foundation. Rev. Moon could see that God had become distant in the hearts of people. Even in families, in schools and some churches, feeling Heavenly Parent's loving presence had become difficult. God was leaving America.

Looking back, it only seemed like yesterday when, fifty years ago, Rev. Moon and I walked down Manhattan's Fifth Ave with tears in our eyes, and felt that God, our Heavenly Parent, was leaving America. I vividly remember us crying our hearts out when we held onto God in desperation. With that heart, we pledged our absolute determination to lead a spiritual awakening in this nation.

Beloved leaders, what became of America's founding principles, the Christian ideals that had led to the birth of the nation? Two thousand years ago, Jesus was born as the begotten son and Messiah. What were his ideals and what was his mission?

Jesus's mission was to establish the kingdom of God and to build one



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great, global family under our Heavenly Parent. As the only begotten son, he was to meet the only begotten daughter Heaven had prepared, hold the marriage supper of the Lamb, and form a family, tribe, people, nation and world that would lead to the fulfillment of God's original ideal of creation.

Tragically, due to the faithlessness of the people at that time, Jesus faced great resistance and persecution and was unable to meet the only begotten daughter prepared for him. Therefore, he could not hold the marriage supper of the Lamb and could not establish the position of True Parents at that time. Even though Jesus, together with the Holy Spirit, brings spiritual salvation to humanity, the ideal of True Parents, the ideal of the king and queen of peace had yet to be fulfilled.

This is why Jesus had to promise, even as he hung on the cross, that he would come again. Jesus's profound anguish was expressed when he said

in Matthew 23:37, "How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not." These words still resonate deep within my heart.

In 2003, we organized a program in Jerusalem to honor and crown Jesus as the king of peace. We wanted to restore his having been misunderstood and rejected two thousand years ago. Also, since the cross was a sorrowful reminder that he was not received by the people of his time, we also engaged in a global movement to take down crosses in the churches. However, these endeavors alone did not completely free our Heavenly Parent and Jesus from the historical pain and sorrow. In fact, we now understand that two thousand years of Christianity has been the providential course to eventually find the only begotten daughter, fulfill the marriage supper of the Lamb, and establish the long awaited position of True Parents.

The Holy Wedding

In 1960, Rev. Moon and I, standing in the presence of God in the position of the only begotten son and only begotten daughter prepared by Heaven, received the holy marriage blessing as the True Parents. Since the Holy Wedding, our lives have been focused on following goals to liberate our Heavenly Parent, who is the cosmic True Parent, restore his lost position as our parent, and save fallen and lost human beings from the realm of death and suffering. To achieve this ideal, Rev. Moon and I to overcome unspeakable hardships and innumerable difficulties.

Beloved leaders, you have witnessed the kind of life my husband and I have led in order to realize our Heavenly Parent's will. You are aware of the sincere effort we have made to save and revive this nation, which Heaven has blessed. I am certain that your truthful eyes and your truthful ears have helped you understand for whom and for what ideals we dedicated our lives.

Stand together for God

Beloved leaders, let us stand up for our Heavenly Parent, who throughout human history has anxiously searched for his lost children. Let us remember the Pilgrim Fathers, who with their childlike hearts desperately seeking for their Heavenly Parent travelled thousands of miles across treacherous seas and settled in America during the harshest of winters. Let us remember the people who came to this country from all over the world in search of religious freedom. Let us remember how they overcame persecution and suffering, so that America could take root as a land of faith. Let us remember their ardent devotion and sincere faith and their lofty aspirations. God, our Heavenly Parent, abundantly blessed America as a pillar of his providence. Let this beautiful nation once again attend Heavenly Parent. Let us revive and transform America into a nation where ideals of family are alive, a nation where Heavenly Parent can freely move, dance and sing together with us.

If you devote yourselves to fulfilling this goal, Heaven and the unified nation of Cheon Il Guk will certainly remember each and every one of you. ☞

Applying True Parents' Guidance in Our Lives



Professor Yeon Ah Moon, who teaches at Sun Moon University in Korea and who is president of the Women's Federation for World Peace International, visited Tirana, Albania, from November 20 to 22, having come from the Czech Republic, where the annual meeting of the Women Federation for World Peace on the European level took place. She spoke in a hotel where WFWP and UPF hosted a European leadership conference, which focused on peace and development in Europe's Balkan region. This is what she said to an audience of FFWPU members.



When I see your beautiful young faces, I can imagine how much True Mother wants to see them. Whenever True Mother talks about Albania and young members, she sees hope and happiness. Now I can see why True Mother feels all that deep happiness.

Unfortunately, because of the coming Foundation Day, True Mother could not visit you. So I am here on behalf of her to express her love and heart. Only, the strength of my voice is small compared to hers. If you are unable to feel True Mother's love from me it would not be her fault; it would be my fault.

First, I want to start with something that True Father wrote. In 1997 True Father spoke in America. Whenever I listen to this speech, I reflect upon myself. What is at my center? What kind of attitude do I have now? From these words, I always reach the same answer.

This title is a bit long: "Let Us Believe In and Uphold True Parents, Know True Parents, Live with True Parents, Achieve Oneness of Love in the True Family and Live a Heavenly Life Here on Earth." Father even wrote this title on a blackboard and the numbered the different parts, one, two, three, four and five. This title teaches us about our growth in faith.

We will start from the first: Believing in True Parents. Next is Knowing True Parents and then

we have to live with True Parents. Having this life with True Parents, we can achieve oneness through true love. We will then live on earth centering on Heavenly Parent and the heavenly nation and kingdom.

So I think about myself, too, about where I am, within these five expectations. Am I perhaps between believing and knowing? I will read a part of this speech.

Beloved brothers and sisters, when you hear about God's will, you most likely think about the purpose of history and the completion of purpose of creation. God's will is the completion of the purpose of creation. What then is the completion of purpose of creation? It is the completion of the will, the perfection of four-position foundation. The perfection of the four-position foundation is the perfection of the True Family. What then is the True Family? In order to have a True Family there must be the True Parents. There must be a true man and a true woman. There must be a true couple and there must be true children. What should be at their very center? The purpose of the individual must be True Parents. The purpose of the man and the woman must be True Parents. And the purpose of the babies or the siblings must also be True Parents. The order is to become True Parents and



then to have sons and daughters and form a True Family.

Whenever I read this passage, I am reminded of my husband, Hyo Jin. He also said during his life, "Even though I am a True Family member and I am a son of True Parents, I am not the center."

If I am thinking about the goal of God's creation and of God's providence, I am just covering one of those processing steps. I am just passing by, while eternity is close to Heavenly Parent and True Parents.

True Father, in this speech, mentioned how much the center is important and that the center is True Parents. He did not mean that everything is about True Father and True Mother as human beings; it is about Heavenly Parent as the origin. But we cannot see Heavenly Parent, which is why, as the representatives of Heavenly Parent, we are following True Parents. Just to not be as I am, or to not go in the wrong way, I always remind myself about this part of Father's speech.

Another title I would like to speak about to you is, "Let Us Attend the Conscience as the Teacher and Engage in Battle." True Father delivered this speech in 1962. He gave this speech for members that were young at that time, like all of you are. In those days, continually, our church had a workshop every summer and winter. After finishing the workshops, everybody would go out to all areas, to villages all over the country. Our church elders at that time did a lot of hard work to witness about True Parents.


I know you are doing that too, right? This practice has come to us from our elders. At that time, for forty days, they lived together and they received education together. But after finishing the workshop, everybody had to go out alone. There was no teacher. They had no mentor. Whom they could trust was our Heavenly Parent.

True Father explained the conscience in this speech. The conscience is related to Heavenly Parent and to True Parents. In the speech, "Let Us Attend the Conscience as the Teacher and Engage in Battle," Father said the following:

The wishes, circumstances and heart of God must remain on earth eternally. If all the countless beliefs on earth were to disappear today, if everything related to the systems of civilizations existing on earth were to disappear, if all good institutions that are related to social structures were to disappear completely and if the individuals or indeed all of us were to disappear today, what is it that should remain after everything else has disappeared? The hope God had when he created the cosmos should remain. God's hope must remain. The situation in which God placed all his hope in this universe must remain. In order for God's hope and situation to become a united reality, the only heart that will remain is that of God living happily. You should understand that these three conditions are the only ones that should remain. Therefore,

you should understand that what should remain eternally is God's hope to realize one united world. Centering on this united world, God wishes to share his absolute heart with everyone on earth and in heaven. Furthermore, God does not simply wish to share his heart, his grand principle of creation has been to share his love with humanity.

What is it to remain eternally? Even after we have ascended, what shall we leave behind us? I think everyone knows the answer now. Isn't that right? Yes? The three things are hope, God's circumstances and God's heart. When looking at it from this perspective we must look back and think once more: God, is has your hope been realized? Can we understand your situation? Are you in a position in which your heart is filled with happiness?

The answer to each of these questions is no. Now that we understand God, we have discovered that he is such a being. What is the conscience trying to tell us? What is God trying to tell us? For everybody, the purpose for all human beings is to realize God's long-awaited hopes. That is everything. When God's wishes are realized what will be accomplished? God's situation will be clear to everyone. Everyone will then be able to feel God's heart. That is everything. 

This has been edited for inclusion in TPmagazine.

An Organization that Wins the Trust and Response of the Nation

By Eiji Tokuno

A new year is upon us. I am grateful that we can welcome 2016 with our Heavenly Parent and True Parents.

When we look back on the past year, what is most memorable is the special blessing ceremony for three couples held at the end of July. At that time, True Parents declared, "I shall open the gates of the blessing in Japan." We shall make these words a reality.

On August 26, we officially changed the name of our organization to the Family Federation. The Japanese church was entrusted with overseeing the events of third anniversary of True Father's seonghwa, which was concluded with great success centering on the performance of the musical. On October 12 at the Makuhari Messe in the city of Chiba, more than ten thousand people were at the launching of the Family Federation. Their fervor and hope were tangible throughout the event.

At the end of September, the lawsuit filed by Toru Goto against his kidnappers concluded and in November Mr. Goto received an offer from Netflix to film a one-hour documentary. Netflix is the largest provider of on-demand streaming media in the world with more than 65 million members.

Last year, was truly a time during which we faithfully built our foundation both inside and outside our movement. In 2015, the year of the blue sheep, heaven's blessings truly overflowed. The question now is whether we can continue to walk amid such blessings from Heaven. Can we or can we not? This is the lifeline of our lives of faith. What is most important in order to walk continuously amid heaven's blessings is uniting in heart with True Parents.

To do this it is vital to have a correct, deep and accurate understanding of True Parents' circumstances, their hearts and their wishes. This is no easy task. Fortunately, Yeon-ah Moon, who attends True Parents closely, has frequently visited Japan to testify about True Parents' deep love and their realm of their heart. Our church publications have covered her visits, so I hope that you take the time to read her testimony. I am confident it will be of some help to you.

On this foundation of faith, we should now earnestly engage in heavenly tribal messiah activities. Five thousand couples in Japan have expressed their determination to become tribal messiahs. By Foundation Day in February, we expect to have ten thousand such couples and later our goal is to reach twenty thousand. Our victory through tribal messiah activities is tantamount to inheriting True Parents' realm of victory. Whether or not we are triumphant will determine the fate of the providence. Therefore, carrying out tribal messiah activities is the greatest expression of filial piety to our Heavenly Parent.

On the foundation of these heavenly tribal messiah activities, which are taking root in each region in Japan, we shall carry out a movement to save the nation and the world. We will also launch the True Family campaign as a solution to the issues arising from our low national birth rate and our aging society. I call upon all of you to work together in making the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification an institution that can win the trust and respect of the nation and society. I conclude my new year's address by praying for your health and that each one of you can actively fulfill our Heavenly Parent's will. ㄸ

Rev. Tokuno is the president of FFWPU-Japan.



Repaying True Parents' Love By Fulfilling a Child's Duty

By Koichi Sasaki

A new year has dawned, 2016. I sincerely pray that in the new year, the providence can further advance in each nation of the world centering on the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind. On November 22, last year, at the Sao Paulo headquarters, we celebrated the fortieth anniversary of the founding of the church in Brazil. During their first world tour, True Parents designated a number of holy grounds including the one in Rio de Janeiro in Brazil. This event was to celebrate both the year marking the fiftieth anniversary of the start of the mission in South America and the fortieth year after officially registering the Unification Church in Brazil in 1975. Leaders entrusted with providential missions in South America and Brazil, members from around the nation, foreign leaders and guests took part in the five-day celebration which included (among other events) a rally hosted by the Universal Peace Federation, a special workshop and leaders meeting through many people gave testimonies and addresses.

The program of the main commemorative event was especially filled with grace with Rev. Shin Dong Mo, regional president of South America and Cheon Il Guk Special Envoy to Brazil, delivering True Mother's special message on her behalf. In her message, she asked for members in Brazil to be reborn as heavenly tribal messiah who uphold the values of absolute faith, absolute love and absolute obedience to True Parents and fulfill their mission of restoring the nation, which is Heaven's ultimate goal. The members in Brazil listened intently with serious hearts to this message.


Our Determination and Vision 2020

During this opportunity to look back on our history, we once again recognized that the forty-year history of the Brazilian church was literally a history built on the victories attained through True Parents' blood, sweat and tears. True Parents went to the remote areas of Brazil including Jardim, Nabireki and Salobra to offer many conditions while crossing the boundaries between the physical world and spirit world and between life and death to advance the providence. There, they shared their love and teachings with our members. They asked us inherit True Parents' accomplishments while loving this land, nature, humankind and True Parents.

Among the many providential endeavors that True Parents instituted in Brazil, we can take particular note of the Sao Paulo Proclamation which True Parents made during the thirty-sixth True Parents' Day events, held at our headquarters church in Sao Paolo in 1995. Following this proclamation, True Parents made eight major declarations and proclamations in Jardim to advance the providence. Through the Sao Paulo Proclamation, True Parents proclaimed the start of the second forty-year course and explained that this course pertained to the portion of responsibility of second-generation members and each blessed couple. True Parents emphasized that our responsibility as children did not end with the cosmos but included a nation that we create by connecting victories made as tribal messiahs. They explained that this forty-year period may be reduced to seven years or even four years depending on how each of us implement our faith and carry out our portion of the responsibility. Twenty years have gone by, placing us in the middle of this children's forty-year course.

Let us engrave these words in our hearts and during the next four years, until 2020, make effort to learn how to care for and guide our guests through the hoondok family church (home groups) and make every member a Divine Principle lecturer through one-on-one lecture training. We resolve to guide each person to resemble and live like True Parents through oikos (lifestyle evangelism) and to develop further these programs as part of our training for each blessed couple to become victorious heavenly tribal messiahs.

We shall carry on WFWP, UPF, CARP and YFWP activities and continue to strengthen the education and training of our second-generation members, from which we shall raise future leaders. We shall all unite centering on True Parents and invest everything for the victory of Vision 2020 and the substanti-

ation of Cheon Il Guk. More than three years have gone by since True Father's Seonghwa Ceremony. We are now hardening our resolve to liberate Heavenly Parent and True Parents from their bitter sorrow. We shall fulfill our responsibility and duty as children to repay the love and heart we received from True Parents, who have put their lives on the line and invested everything so that the world's seven billion people can be blessed and return to the bosom of the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind. 

Rev. Sasaki is president of FFWPU-Brazil.

Heavenly Parent's Spirit is Moving

By Soon Teck Lim

Today, we feel the world is filled with conflict and division. We sense that things are not going in the right direction. However, the more the world goes through chaos, the more people will come to recognize the value of True Parents' teachings. Blessed central families need to go back to True Parents' basic teachings. When we are living in this way, God's spirit will lead us to realize our dream.

Formation: 2013–2016

The framework for Cheon Il Guk is being established in this period. Three years have passed since True Father's ascension. True Mother has led us in this devotional period with absolute faith, love and obedience. She declared Foundation Day on January 13, 2013 and initiated Vision 2020 to prepare for the one hundredth year since True Father's birth.

We now have the Cheon Il Guk Constitution and the three Heavenly Scriptures. Youth and leadership programs are now nurturing future leaders. Young missionaries have gone out from Japan and Korea to providential and strategic nations across the globe. Furthermore, True Parents have blessed us with the heavenly tribal messiah mission. We are now True Parents' living representatives. We carry with us their spirit.

We are in the Cheon Il Guk era. God's direct dominion has begun. God's spirit has come down and is moving among us. True Father is working to support our earthly work. He is encouraging us to build Cheon Il Guk. God's spirit is moving with blessed central families who move like the pure water streaming from the high point of the mountain to the valley, searching for lost souls.

Today, people are more open to receive True Parents than ever. Australian people are ready to receive True Parents. The question is, "Are we ready?" Everywhere, God is preparing people to receive True Parents. Everywhere we go in this nation, people are talking about the need for a new mind-set, universal shared values, and the unifying ideology that can overcome current conflicts and divisions. In other words, they are looking for True Parents and their teachings. With blessed central families' efforts, we will see the acceptance of True Parents. We must be bold to testify. It is not the time to stay silent.

The Bible records in Acts 1:8 that Jesus, after descending from the spirit world, said, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Today, we have the substantial Holy Spirit with us. True Mother is living with us and empowering us with her love and spirit.

Growth: 2016–2018

This is when we are to introduce True Parents to society. To do this, the revival of the blessed families is important. We have been working to inspire blessed couples through Couples Retreats, through which we foster strong blessed husband–wife relationships. In order to prepare blessed couples for heavenly tribal messiah activities, we have conducted hoondok school training, which lasts ten weeks. This training helps blessed couples rekindle their spirits and prepares them internally and externally to succeed in creating hoondok home churches.

In addition, we need to overcome barriers that prevent us from reaching our potential. We recognize that we are the fruit of a six-thousand-year fallen history. We need to overcome our evil mind and get rid of our fallen natures in the Cheon Il Guk era. As written in the Divine Principle regarding the Fall, "All people have an original mind which inclines them to reject evil and pursue goodness. Yet, even without our being aware of it, we are driven by evil forces to abandon the goodness that our original mind desires and to perform evil deeds which, in our innermost heart, we do not want to do. For this reason, we need to make good conditions for God and good spirits to work."

As shown in under the topic Restoration Through Indemnity, "Therefore, until people make a condition through which God can claim them as his own, there is no way God can restore them to the heavenly side.... Therefore, a fallen person will go to God's side if he makes good conditions and to Satan's side if he makes evil conditions."



Blessed couples must go back to True Parents' basic teachings. This means living a Cheon Il Guk lifestyle in our daily lives. Furthermore, we are to cooperate as blessed families rather than working separately. Hoondok home church provides an environment for blessed couples to cooperate and grow together. Some blessed couples here have been conducting these weekly gatherings for nearly two years now.

Witnessing efforts at the home church level and at the main church must continue. Home churches and the main church produces synergy as they support one another and create sustainable witnessing growth.

On the other hand, we need to make serious efforts to involve our second generation in Divine Principle and blessing education. Those in our second generation are at different levels in terms of their understanding, sense of identity and relationship with God and with True Parents. We need to create a supportive environment for them. Our educational goal will prepare them with the understanding of who they are, their relationship with God and True Parents, and the value of the blessing.

Inaction leads to stagnation. Several projects are in place to achieve the goal of presenting True Father and Divine Principle to new contacts. One of them is an exhibition of True Father's life course and Divine Principle in the Peace Embassy building in Sydney. The plan is to make True Father and his teachings known to the people. We started this effort with an exhibition in December about Life after Death.

Completion: 2018–2020

With the momentum built from the formation and growth stages, True Parents' teachings can become mainstream in Australia by 2020. The nation can recognize them. Blessed families are the main driving force to make this happen. This involves cooperation among blessed families as well as partnerships with the ambassadors for peace and woman leaders. Furthermore, we will create an environment for second-generation members in our communities to step up, and give young members responsibility for the nation. We can move the spirit world together. True Parents have trained us and we have what it takes.

2013 FORMATION 2016	2016 GROWTH 2018	2018 COMPLETION 2020
Revive blessed couples	Go back to basic teachings	Be model blessed families
Settle home churches	Cooperate among blessed couples	Vibrant tribal messiah activities
Establish the witnessing and education processes	Youth go through the blessing process; membership growth	Give young couples take responsibility
Create an environment for our younger generation	Develop next generation leaders via education and training	Give second-generation members take responsibilities
Emphasize the role of women	Work via state-level woman leaders	Connect to national woman leaders
Strengthen UPF outreach work	Ambassador for Peace expansion	Bring True Parents to national level

Conclusion

Let us have confidence. God's spirit is moving among us. We need to set good conditions to facilitate this happening. We need to flow as pure water from the top of the mountain, build momentum and desire to go to every corner of the valley, to love lost souls. This will fulfill True Father's prophecy, written in Australia, that the unified world will begin in Oceania. In New Zealand, he expressed in calligraphy that through personal initiative, springing from devotion and unwavering effort, that prophecy will be realized. ㄸ



2015 Provisional General Assembly of the Committee of Elder Pastors

The Committee Adopts the Resolution for heavenly tribal messiah Activity for Vision 2020

The 2015 Provisional General Assembly of the Committee of Elder Pastors took place on November 25 and 26 inside the FFWPU Central Training Center in the city of Guri. Three hundred pastors participated, and the special love and grace of True Parents permeated the assembly.

After the provisional general assembly, True Mother invited the pastors to Cheon Jeong Gung Palace where she told them, "Our old soldiers are still upright and alive. I ask for your commitment to achieving victory in Vision 2020." After giving them a small amount of money to show her support for their future activities, she posed with them for a photograph. During the general

assembly, the committee members unanimously adopted a Resolution for heavenly tribal messiah Activity for Vision 2020.

A common vision

In an encouraging speech, Korean church president, Ryu Kyeong-seuk, conveyed True Mother's message to them by saying, "You have all followed this providential course for a long time. I ask you to continue to pursue the course together until the end. This will ensure that the results of this assembly will create a fertile ground from which the age of substantial Cheon Il Guk, the ultimate goal of the providence, can begin to grow."

"Through the recent National Assembly of Pastors," president Ryu

added, "we younger pastors in Korea were able to have a firm belief that heaven will aid us if we devote ourselves completely to God's will while uniting with True Parents in heart." He then shared his vision for the providence with the elder pastors by saying, "We named the four-year period until the 2020, 'Four Years Filled with Hope, a Course for National Restoration,' and we are marching forward under this banner."

President Ryu continued, "Our movement needs your deep wisdom and years of expertise. Your passion and tradition of faith, which you displayed while serving True Parents and upholding God's WILL, without a doubt are the unification family's most precious assets. With your help,



FFWPU Korea will be able to welcome a bright future."

Through his opening speech, the Committee of Elder Pastors chairman, Yang Jun-su, said that this general assembly took place due to the True Parents of Heaven, Earth, and Humankind's special grace. He emphasized the significance and value of the general assembly, and after wishing that the committee continues and grows, he thanked FFWPU Korea, the Tongil Foundation, and other organizations for their support. President Yang emphasized the absolute standard of faith, with True Parents at the center. He said, "What is demanded now is a clearly defined understanding of the providence and a determination to fulfill the holy mission of Vision 2020 through overcoming the current crises that plague us both inside and outside, through actively engaging in the heavenly tribal messiah activities that will continuously improve our church."

After offering a bow at True Father's gravesite, they adopted the Resolution to Fulfill the Mission of heavenly tribal messiahs during the opening ceremony on the first day. Then the vice-president of the Committee of Elder Pastors, In-gyu Lee, led the opening declaration, the bowing, the singing of the Cheon Il Guk national anthem, and the


recitation of Family Pledge. Vice-President Myeong-dae Kim offered a prayer, president Yang gave the opening speech, and the President Ryu gave his speech and a benediction. The event ended with a closing declaration.

In his prayer Vice-President Kim asked God, "Please guide us because we, the elder pastors, who learned of God's will before many others did, are now trying to lead the blessed family members, so that they are able to fulfill the mission of national restoration and heavenly tribal messiahs, the holy, righteous missions that God and True Parents asked us to complete!"

After the opening ceremony, part one of the general assembly ensued. Here, Mrs. Deok-rye Kang, pastor Wu-seok Yang, and vice-president Kim gave presentations on heavenly tribal messiah activities. They told success stories of people who completed their 430-family blessings. President Lee Gi-seong then reported to the participants on the current situation of the Cheongpyeong Heaven and Earth Training Center. During part two, regional breakout sessions took place on two topics: the opening of permanent Divine Principle lecture centers and supporting various activities such as those mobile witnessing teams, comprising members who have time and freedom to fulfill this

role, the activities of heavenly tribal messiahs and activities to bless four hundred and thirty couples.

On the second day, during the closing ceremony after the day's hoondokhae, the elders collectively adopted a resolution. Passages in the resolution called on the elders to "uphold the True Parents command to complete Cheon Il Guk, fulfill a central role in the church, and engage in heavenly tribal messiah activities through uniting with members in mind and body." It also stated that they would "invest their remaining time on earth helping the church to grow and become proud victors in front of True Parents through doing everything to complete the mission of heavenly tribal messiah."

After the closing ceremony, all of the participants moved to Cheon Jeong Gung, offered a bow to True Father at his gravesite and made a solemn determination to fulfill the mission of heavenly tribal messiah. Afterward, the pastors visited the Cheon Jeong Gung Museum, the helicopter crash site, the International Youth Academy, and Cheongshim Peace World Center. 

The Planning Department in the Korean church headquarters contributed this article.

2015 Provisional General Assembly of the Committee of Elder Pastors

The Committee Adopts the Resolution for heavenly tribal messiah Activity for Vision 2020



한일 국교 정상화 50주년 기념사업의 일환으로 리틀엔젤스예술단이 7년만에 방일하여 '한일 우호관계의 가교'로서 도쿄, 고베, 히로시마, 그리고 후쿠오카 등 4대 도시에서 순회공연을 가졌다. 현재 리틀엔젤스예술단은 9세부터 15세까지의 소녀들 130여 명이 등록돼 있는데, 이번의 공연팀은 총 32명으로 구성됐다.

도쿄 공연



Blessings across the Nation

To deliver her speech in America on December 12 at the International Peace Education Center (IPEC), in the city of Las Vegas, True Mother traveled to the United States, arriving at IPEC on December 10. There, FFWPU regional presidents, various other members including perhaps a dozen Costa Rican CARP members—about a hundred people altogether—seemed to assemble spontaneously. The Costa Ricans (some of whom are new members) had been doing a pilgrimage of holy grounds when coincidentally True Mother came. At the meeting, one topic of discussion with True Mother was the possibility of making it easier for foreign members to visit Cheon Jeong Gung and other holy grounds in Korea. True Mother spoke to the assembled members for about five minutes and then she listened to many reports. The following day, True Mother went to Red Rock Canyon and led many members in exercising to the song “Bounce,” which someone has rewritten as “Cheon Il Guk Bounce.”

The Chicago event

This year, Sun Jin nim had delivered True Mother’s speech at the True Family Values Awards Banquet on

December 5. The awards banquet took place in Chicago, as it has annually since 1996, as a project of the True Family Values Ministry, which had begun the year before. The awards honor individuals and families for their selfless service to society as a testament to living for the sake of others. True Parents—both Father and Mother—have spoken at this awards banquet over the years. In 1999, the organizers of the banquet learned two months in advance that True Mother would speak. At that event, overflowing with grace, she spoke to an audience of three thousand about “Blessed Marriage and Eternal Life.” The following year, the ministers took the initiative and invited True Father to speak at the banquet. So inspired was Father by the experience of speaking to thousands of religious leaders in the largest ballroom in the city, that immediately afterward he instructed senior members to organize a fifty-state US speaking tour. From the ministers that traveled with Father or welcomed him to their states during that tour, the American Clergy Leadership Conference emerged.

The New York event

In honor of the twentieth anniversary of the True Family Values Ministry,

the FFWPU international president also delivered True Mother’s speech in New York on December 7. Early one morning at 3:30 AM, Dr. Ki-hoon Kim, the regional president of North America, had gotten a telephone from True Mother, “Rev. Kim,” she said. “I’m not going to send my message personally but I am sending my beloved daughter.”

Before delivering Mother’s speech, President Moon told the audience of religious leaders that New York was her hometown though she had been away for a long time. She also assured them, “More than anyone, True Mother wanted to be here,” and “She sends her love, prayers and blessing with this message.”

True Mother speaks at IPEC

In the event on December 12 in Las Vegas, the celebration built up gradually until True Mother addressed the audience from her heart. Rev. Balcomb, the US church president was the master of ceremonies. Archbishop Stallings began with a prayer.

Much of Regional President Kim’s long years of investment in America before becoming regional president were spent in Chicago. So, as he welcomed the audience and he reflected on the history of the organiza-



SOME RESPONSES IN NEW YORK

We are delighted to be here, especially at this 20th anniversary celebrating True Family Values ministry. It is because of this ministry that we feel that the world is going to reach a new direction and change and help to bring salvation to everyone. So, we are glad to be here. The message was clear and sound, and we are on board to work with those who are headed in the direction that God would have us go. Thank you.

—Dr. Luonne Rouse, a United Methodist pastor

The highlight for me was the message itself. As I mentioned to Rev. Broadner, it reaches home. The message of love, the message of reaching for others is a universal principle that we need to keep on living. The songs that were presented to us by the band and the thought of the True Mother sending the band, seven of them, spending money just to sing five or six songs to us is truly evidence of her love toward other people. For that, I am very grateful. I am very thankful that we are part of this evening's event.

—Bishop Rene Ballenas, Team United Maharlika Foundation

I am from the Elizabeth Family Church and I am also representing an Association of Christian Evangelists of New Jersey. This amazing event is actually a culmination of the year for me, because I have been working with other religions, other faiths in the Christian community centering on the Association of Christian Evangelists. Coming together, praising God and learning from True Mothers' words today was for me the essence of the year. I had a great time especially since she sent this Apple Heaven band. Seeing members of the clergy, ministers I have been working with in past years... To see them today was truly an amazing experience.

One thing she said that struck me was when she said that it is time to give love, benevolence, and to stand for peace and true love, because everybody knows that right now in America, there is so much hatred, so many crises—religious extremism, the loss of family values. This message that she gave today is really very appropriate—love, peace, benevolence and forgiveness as well.

—Emiljun Rapada

This is my first time attending the True Family ministry and I was touched by the message of bringing all races into unity. Thank you.

— Kay Moran

tion, which had had its beginnings in that city.


Two speakers from the FFWPU-International Headquarters were able to give to the American religious leaders a glimpse of the depth and global scope of True Parents' salvific mission. Director-General of the FFWPU-International Headquarters, Sung-il Cho, spoke to the audience about True Mother's strenuous efforts and about Vision 2020. Dr. Young Ho Yun then spoke about ongoing activities in India and Nepal.

Prof. Yeon Ah Moon, the president

of WFWP International, and True Mother's daughter-in-law, then read the message from True Mother that Sun Jin nim had read at the earlier events.

True Mother then took the stage to deliver her keynote address to over seven hundred people, including members residing in the United States, FFWPU district pastors from Korea and Japan, religious leaders from the American Clergy Leadership Conference and Universal Peace Federation members including ambassadors for peace. As a segue to explaining about fish in broader

terms, True Mother spoke to the assembled guests about Jesus' tragic end and the significance of fish among earlier Christians. When she spoke of Jesus and of Heavenly Parent's heart, it was indeed heartfelt. Seemingly on the verge of tears, she asked the assembled men and women, whose lives, too, have been dedicated to religious aims, "Can you imagine how painful it was for Jesus to not be able to be a filial son to his parent?" She also caused them to see Jesus' foreshortened life from Heavenly Parents' perspective. She reminded them that with the loss of the foundation Jesus had made in thirty-three years God would have seen the loss of the four-thousand-year foundation of tears and effort that had made Jesus' life possible.

As she had elsewhere, True Mother also had a musical ensemble, Apple Heaven, composed of Cheon Jeong Gung staff members sing English songs, which seemed to linger on the air as had the heavenly grace True Mother had brought to Las Vegas. 

A TPmagazine staff member compiled this article from a variety of sources.



Taking up the Challenges of Sustainable Peace and Development

On December 12, 2015, at the Accueil Barouillere Hall in Paris, the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) France held its annual conference on the theme “Taking up the challenges of sustainable peace and development: Vision, values and partnerships.” The event was the annual assembly of peace ambassadors, gathering about a hundred participants, including guests.

The conference took place a month after the terrorist attacks in Paris, in which 130 people died, closing a year that had begun with bloodshed in Paris in January. Yet other significant milestones marked 2015: the United Nations announcement of their 2030 Global Sustainable Development Agenda, the inaugural Sunhak Peace Prize, a project related to UPF, which selected laureates for their achievements in environmental areas; and the Conference on Climate, attracting leaders from various nations in the world to Paris, which would end on the same day as our conference.

Thus, we organized the conference in three sessions representing a broader vision for peace and development:

interreligious dialogue as the conscience of society; the rise of a global, multicultural society; and the challenges of renewable energy for sustainable development.

The event began with a moving interreligious ceremony in honor of the 130 victims from the November 13 attacks—130 rainbow colored origami were displayed, symbolizing the victims’ souls moving toward heaven. In front, five large candles were lit one by one from one central candle by representatives of major religions, while an excerpt of each religious scripture was read by the moderator Mrs. Myriam Trachez. Mr. Emmanuel Chouraqui, son of famed French scholar Andre Chouraqui, a translator of the Bible and the Koran and a cofounder of the Fraternity of Abraham, then gave a brief testimony about his father’s work. A beautiful musical piece on piano and flute played by two young UPF volunteers, Ye-Bonne Maldonado and Takeyuki Koyama, opened and closed the ceremony.

Patrick Jouan, the vice president of UPF France, moderated the first session, on the theme, “Religion and

Politics, Cooperating for Lasting Peace.” It began with an introduction to the values underlying the conference theme by Mr. Jacques Marion, UPF France president. Sheikh Abdelkader Achour, the imam of the Omar Mosque in Paris’ eleventh district—the district most effected by the November attacks—gave a talk on “The value of human beings in Islam.” A long-time disciple of a former Grand Mufti of Syria, Ahmed Kuftaro, Sheikh Achour is widely respected by his coreligionists and other district religious leaders for his wisdom and spirit of tolerance.

He was followed by Mrs. Sabine Le Blanc, a professor of religion, who spoke on the impact and interconnectedness of spiritual experiences, beyond religious affiliation, and their potential contribution to peace.

The next speaker, Dr. Ali Rastbeen, president of the Academy of Geopolitics of Paris, proposed a geopolitical appraisal of conflicts in the Middle East and gave a broad review of groups throughout the world using religious justification for their terrorist activities. The last panelist was Dr. Jean-Luc Berlet, a professor of philos-





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ophy, who offered reflections on universal values conducive to lasting peace, emphasizing the three blessings as a framework for a meaningful life and a peaceful world.

The debate that followed, intense but respectful, focused on the connection between terrorism and religion and the role of Islam in current political developments.

Mr. Jacques Marion moderated the second session on the theme, "One global society, one human community." He began by reviewing UPF Peace Initiatives throughout the world, notably those related to the Korean Peninsula, Southeast Asia and the Middle East. He reported about the recent conference celebrating ten years of the Balkan Peace Initiative in Tirana, Albania, and raised prospects of the UPF work in the Balkans.


That served to introduce the first panelist, Dr. Nano Ruzin, a dean of political science at FON University in Skopje, Macedonia, who had been Macedonia's ambassador to NATO. Speaking in French, Dr. Ruzin reviewed the recent history of the Balkans since the dismemberment of Yugoslavia, the ethnic conflicts that

ensued, and the gradual development toward a multi-ethnic democracy in his country, Macedonia.

The next speaker was Mr. Doudou Diene, a former UNESCO high official and United Nations special rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination and intolerance. He described current societal transformations and the irreversible rise of multicultural societies, emphasizing the key role of interreligious dialogue. Such dialogue, he said, should move from a theological to an ethical base and be grounded on human rights criteria. The final speaker was Mr. Jean-Claude Felix-Tchikaya, a sociologist and researcher at the Institute of Prospective and Security in Europe (IPSE). Mentioning his family roots in the Congo, he spoke of the challenges of the process of integration into French society, about his work with radicalized youth, yet he concluded with optimism about the prospects of multicultural society in France.

Mr. Alexandre Huard, Youth UPF coordinator moderated the third and last session on "Issues and challenges of energy for sustainable develop-

ment." The speakers were a husband and wife team, Mr. Thierry Maldonado, an engineer in new technologies for the environment and Mrs. Ye-Bonne Maldonado, a doctoral student in fluid mechanics, both of whom are UPF volunteers. Giving a thorough description of the energy issues at stake regarding sustainable development and climate change and responding to questions from the floor, they stimulated the audience with a lively presentation of the key questions discussed by world leaders at the COP 21 Conference, which was coming to an end, almost simultaneously, a few miles away. Thierry Maldonado concluded with a presentation on the challenges and hopes of a drinkable water implantation project in Madagascan villages, where he has been investing his effort in recent years.

The conference ended with the award of certificates to two new peace ambassadors, Mrs. Sobrino, an insurance agency director and Dr. Koue, a criminologist originally from the Central African Republic, who was moved to tears as he spoke of his war-torn country. 



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Multiplying Owners of True Parent's Vision among Young People

By Dr. Julius Malicdem

The third International Youth Assembly (IYA) was held last November 27–29, in Rizal Province in the Philippines, with the theme, “Principled Youth: Lead, Act and Multiply!” The three-day assembly, co-organized by the Youth Federation for World Peace, W-CARP and UPF, brought together foreign and local students and youth delegates from eight nations in our Asia region and from Korea, Japan, the US and the Philippines. This is the third time we have conducted IYA, which we based on guidance from Dr. Chung Sik Yong, regional chairman of UPF Asia. Its focus is raising young leaders.

Five hundred and twenty people—delegates and young volunteer staff members—were at the three-day assembly. The main event on November 29 attracted about two thousand six hundred young people.

International Peace Leadership College (IPLC) hosted the IYA this year. This was the first time since its

inception that we have conducted IYA on a campus, but our plan is to institutionalize IYA by associating it with universities and colleges. This IYA had various programs and activities that helped the delegates remain upbeat and motivated, including the International Youth Forum, Friendship Night, the drafting of IYA resolutions, sports competitions, induction and awards ceremonies, mountain trekking, tree planting and the main assembly.

The mayor of Tanay, Rafael Tan-juatco, gave the welcome address during the opening program in the IPLC gymnasium. The government of Tanay—including the provincial government of Rizal Province and the Armed Forces of the Philippines, 2nd Infantry Division—was a major partner of the event. Dr. Venus Agustin, president of IPLC, delivered an opening message. As the chairman of the Philippines chapters of W-CARP and of YFWP as well as the president of FFWPU in the Philippines, I deliv-

ered the keynote address.

During the first activity, the International Youth Forum, resourceful speakers presented several topics. UPF's Prof. Celestino Jose Navalta, Jr., gave a presentation on the Principles of Peace. Mr. Kenny Chia from Singapore presented “Effects of Twenty-First Century Technology on Youth.” Mrs. Constance Gabb (IPLC) presented a lecture entitled “Straight Talk.” Ms. Baibon Sangid, from the National Youth Commission, gave an exciting presentation about “What Makes a Modern Hero?” A young student leader from Mindanao, Mr. Datu Pax Ali Mangudadatu, spoke about “Leadership, Politics and Social Change: Youth and National Development” and Mr. Inhyuk Chang from Korea, a Cheon Il Guk Special Youth Envoy to the Philippines, spoke on the topic, “Global Networks: Increasing Effectiveness through Exchange Programs.” During a Friendship Night, aside from the cultural performances and entertainment, the dele-

gates also had a chance to present their talent in teams and to develop bonds of friendship. The young participants from forty-eight universities, colleges and civic organizations seem to fill with excitement as the various activities unfolded.

The second day

On November 28, Dr. Felicitas Sicam from IPLC and the PWPA conducted a workshop about writing resolutions and proposals. The outcome was deeply encouraging. The students, divided into seven teams, engaged in exciting interaction, emerging with a seven-point resolution, which we plan to submit to the Philippine Congress and the National Youth Commission.

We provided more opportunities for all the delegates to develop camaraderie through several team-building games and sports, which we dubbed the "TYAlympics." The second day concluded with an induction ceremony into various CARP chapters and the awards ceremony for the competitions. General Roberto Santiago, a retired army general and the president of the Asian Peace and Unity Corps (APUC), delivered a congratulatory message. Many of the delegates were in high spirits and many of them firmly determined to succeed in CARP on their own universities. Others, who still do not have a CARP chapter on their campus, plan to organize one.

The final day

A flurry of activities brought the assembly to its conclusion. From early in the morning, all the delegates, plus hundreds of additional volunteers from universities and colleges, participated in planting trees. In spite of rain showers, the delegates met at a community school in Tanay. The provincial vice-governor, Frisco San Juan, Jr., delivered a message to inspire the volunteers. A provincial board member and the man in charge of the Tanay Environmental Protection team were also present. The volunteers planted around 1,500 tree seedlings that day. Though they had to travel for about an hour, there and back, over slippery, muddy mountain paths, the young people appeared happy to have contributed to the preservation of Mother Earth and to help mitigate the ill effects of climate




change and global warming.

We ended the assembly in the IPLC gymnasium. The dynamic spirit of the young people was evident as they continuously cheered as the program unfolded. The celebration started with entertainment and performances from a hip-hop dance group, Tanay Hyperbeat, followed by an action-packed martial arts performance by IPLC students. Students from Sun Hwa International Academy performed a dance. The assembly participants appeared thoughtful and engaged through a lecture on Pure Love by Mr. Richell Jalipa, at the end of which everyone recited the Pure Love Pledge. The main event then started with praising the Lord and the singing of Lupang Hinirang, the Philippine national anthem, led by the University of Rizal System choir.

Rizal board member, Armando Villamayor, made some welcoming remarks. I read Dr. Yong's message, in which he emphatically called on youth to become owners in solving the problems of modern society, to take positive action and to become part of the solution instead of exacerbating the problems. A famous TV host and youth leader from the government TV channel, PTV 4, Mr. Jules Guiang, delivered a special message. Major General Romeo Gan gave a special message. Before the provincial vice-governor read the keynote address on behalf of Rebecca Ynares, governor of Rizal, the lovely pupils of Sun Hwa International Academy performed a Korean fan dance.

A highlight of the main assembly was the awarding of Youth Ambassadors for Peace (YAP) and Collegiate Ambassadors for Peace (CAP) to some exemplary student and youth leaders.

We conducted a moment prayer for peace for humanity, during which the singing group Koro Choreo rendered a moving musical number.

The president of WCARP Philippines, Mr. Rene Lansangan, concluded the third International Youth Assembly by leading loud cheers of mabuhay, a cheer in Tagalog somewhat akin to the Korean, mansei. The sound reverberated through the gymnasium, showing the unified voice of young people willing to take responsibility for building a better future. 

Transformation of One's Environment

Mr. Minoru Nakata, director of the Leda Project, visited Los Angeles and San Francisco on October 26 and 27, where he gave his testimony entitled, "The Leda Project: Changing Hell into Heaven."

"I really did not want to go to South America, especially not to the Pantanal," he recounted to the audience of his very first visit there. He spoke of the unbearable heat, of the treacherous terrain and of sharing the land with all kinds of snakes, mosquitoes and poisonous insects. It was an immense task. As he described, "We went to the Pantanal with shovels and carts. There was nothing there—no drinking water, no electricity, no buildings. There was one communication tower, which stopped working after a month. Therefore, we were totally isolated without any communication system. We did not know what was going on in the world. I could not communicate with my wife, who did not know where I was."

The harsh conditions were not just physical, however. Some of the most difficult parts, he said, were dealing with relationships. It was easy to become short-tempered or to have a negative attitude in the midst of so much suffering and hard work. This, said Mr. Nakata, was the greatness of True Father. "I really thought about True Father's greatness in this environment," he said. "In North Korea great tribulation awaited him. He knew he might die in North Korea. He went to prison at Hungnam, but he always lived for the sake of others. Do you think ordinary people could survive in that kind of situation? If you could do that, it would be the ultimate practice of the Divine Principle."




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Despite the seeming impossibility of the task, the ultimate mission of the Leda Project was to turn the barren land into a usable space. Though the place is still remote, it now plays an important role in the region's environmental and sustainable future. "Everything is connected to humankind," said Mr. Nakata, "including solving the food shortage problem and protecting the environment." He recounted how several NGOs and Christian organizations once came to the Pantanal with hope but all left defeated. "Our greatest achievement was that we developed agriculture on the barren land. This has had a huge impact, and people are quite impressed. Leda had been completely forgotten by the people and the government, but Rev. Moon was able to revive this forgotten region!"

Through much trial and error, and a deep faith in God, the group successfully raised and hatched fish eggs. This was a big deal for the country and garnered national attention. The

group held a Releasing Ceremony to release the juvenile fish into the river as a way to help the local people. The president of Paraguay, the minister of the environment and the minister of agriculture all attended and thanked the group. On the importance of taking care of the environment, and persevering through struggle, he noted, "If we love all things of creation, they will return beauty to us. Love is the key. We can sometimes fool people, but we cannot deceive the creation."

In closing, Mr. Nakata spoke of the importance of the United States as a central nation in the world, and the unique relationship between North America and South America. He encouraged his American audience, "Let us awaken and become active again, maybe even more active than before. I am going to do my very best based on all my experiences. Let us begin anew and let us work hard together to lay the cornerstone of the substantial kingdom of God on earth." 

Searching for Traces of True Parents Part 3

By Heo Yang

DAY 3

Today we went to Yeosu. We met the president of the Ambassadors for Peace Council, the UPF district leader in Yeosu, and the Yeosu church leader at a restaurant for lunch and exchanged small talk. Afterward, we set off to Nagan Village in the city of Suncheon, which Father chose as a holy ground. When True Parents were beginning the ocean providence in Yeosu centering on Blue Sea Garden, they offered prayers at ten surrounding locations (Odong Island, Jinnam Guesthouse, the Fisheries Science Museum, Hyangil Temple, Seonam Temple, Suncheon Bay Ecological Park, Naganeupseong Folk Village,

Geomun Island, Dolsan stationary net fishing, and Blue Sea Garden) where they said our members should visit. During our tour, we were only able to visit Geomun Island, Blue Sea Garden, and Naganeupseong Folk Village.

According to literature, the Naganeupseong Folk Village, which is located in Nagan Village, in the city of Suncheon, was a stone fortress built on a large plain to protect our people from foreign invasion. It was built in 1397 (the sixth year of King Taejo's reign) and according to the Sejong Chronicles, they began expanding it in 1424. The fortress wall is rectangular, 1,385 km around, 4 meters high, and 3-4 meters thick. The entire

fortress is 223,108 m². In 1983 it was designated a Korean Historical Site.

Nagan was originally a planned city during the Joseon Dynasty (1392-1897) with Hanyang, the capital city as a model. The Chinese characters for Nagan (樂安) mean "ten thousand citizens living peacefully in an abundant land." Government offices, numbering more than a hundred, and straw houses are each surrounded by stone walls or twig gates respectively. These are beautifully preserved. They say when Walking through Nagan enriches one's mind.

I remember Father walking there. It is truly peaceful. Father would always send the Japanese ocean trainees there to cultivating a spirit of sacrifice for



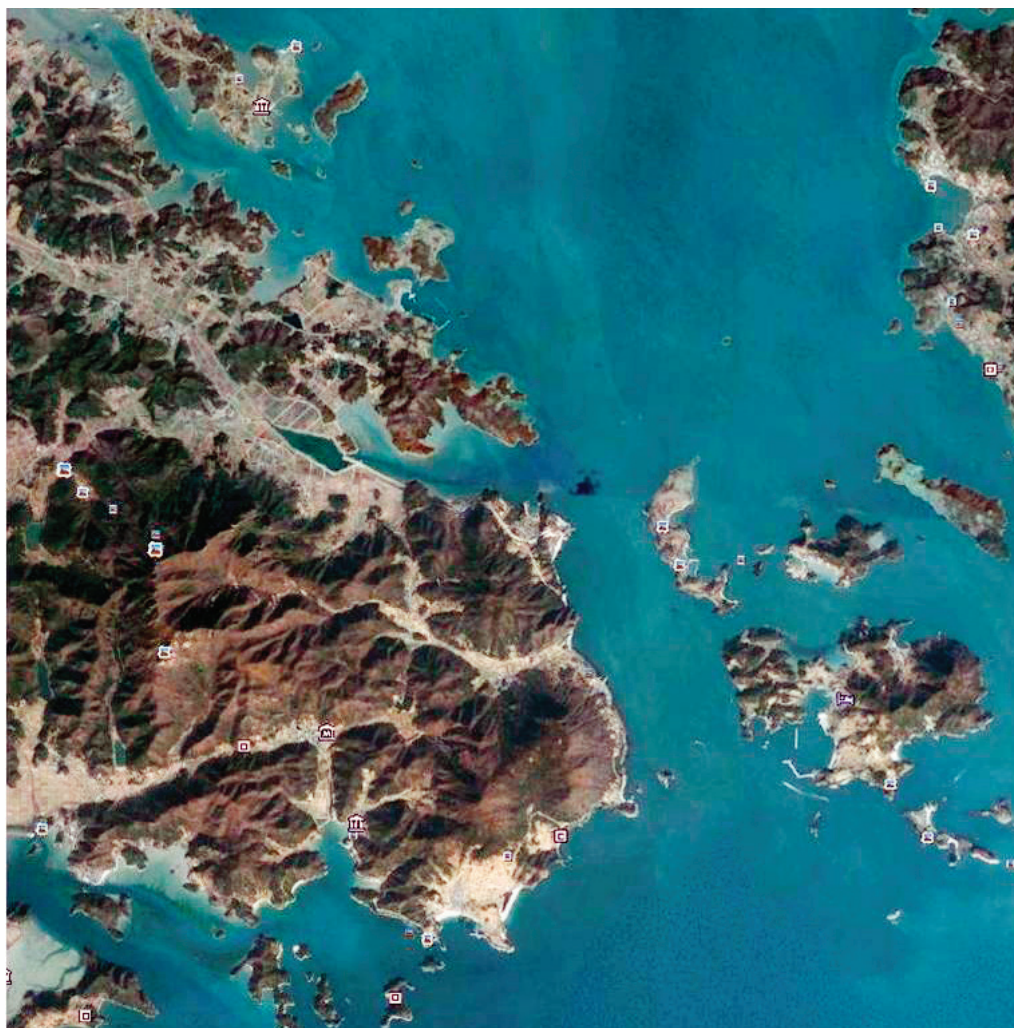
the public good, of putting public obligations before private affairs and of patriotism. Father gave a speech there about the need for breaking down walls—between mind and body, husband and wife, siblings, tribes, people, cultures, races and religions. I feel that he spoke this way because of his aspiration for one world wherever he went. He would also buy a lot of Korean taffy when he visited. He passed it out to the trainees during morning hoondokhae.

On our way back, we stopped in the city of Suncheon to visit a blessed couple, Park Jong Ik and Kim Yeong Sun. They are my spiritual children, who received the blessing when I was a pastor in the 1980s. President Kim Young Hwi asked about this couple in detail. He believes offering devotion to save even a single life through witnessing is valuable, so he let us visit them. He prayed for the couple and their family and posed for photo with them. The couple was grateful to President Kim did not feel worthy. That they had installed a new sofa the day before, I felt was not a coincidence. I had had a dream of a grave on which was a new sprout. I was confused by the dream but it seems as if True Father was grateful that the couples was engrafted, bringing True Parents' love and God's blessings to this humble household in the country.

This family is the Suncheon church's central family. To complete their mission as tribal messiahs, they established a "Room of Love" remodeling the interior and organizing it so that the townspeople can receive grace. A photograph of True Parents, a holy candle and Cheon Seong Gyeong create a holy atmosphere. Hoondokhae and prayers will resound from here to righteous and conscientious townspeople until the day the entire town is known as a Unificationist town that has received True Parents. We departed from their home firmly believing this. We had planned to go to Suncheon Bay Ecological Park but it was too late and we returned to the Ocean Resort in Yeosu.

DAY 4

Today we traveled to Seoul by KTX (bullet train). I felt a desire to change our schedule. After visiting Blue Sea Garden, where True



Parents stayed, we had planned to ride the marine cable car from Dolsan Park to Jasan Park, have lunch, and then return to Seoul. However, I felt a sudden impulse to go fishing again.

When I was doing public work in Yeosu, I would sometimes think of True Parents finishing their devotions and going out fishing. Captain Choi Jong Ho would catch many fish, so if I had to go north for business reasons, I would take the fresh fish to Cheon Jeong Gung. As I thought about these things, I felt a strong desire to go fishing, to catch fish.

I discussed this first with President Kim Byung Ho got his agreement and then could ask President Kim Young Hwi, who readily agreed. I called Captain Choi, explained that we were on a tour and asked if he would take us ocean fishing off the coast near Blue Sea Garden. Luckily, he said he was free.

Captain Choi was one of the leading fishermen in Yeosu because he

knew the best locations for catching fish. When Father was offering fishing devotions, Captain Choi was one of the Korean members who cared for him most. The captain would prepare documents containing his own fishing locations to show Father. After examining the documents, Father complimented Captain Choi saying that they were made perfectly. Father said not to call it a source book, but the Yeosu Area Boat Fishing Encyclopedia and signed it.

First, we traveled half an hour by car from the ocean condos to Sepo Mooring. Here boats are bought and sold, repaired, and stored. A hoist, with a nearly fifty-ton capacity lifts boats in and out of the water. Italian built, it is the only leisure hoist in the country. Here the Cheon Jeong Ho, which is the boat True Father used, has been well maintained under Captain Choi's supervision. After hearing the explanation of Cheon Jeong Ho I wished I could meet Fa-



ther. Unable to do so, we boarded the boat. I could smell Father's body odor all over the boat my whole body resonated with it.

After looking around Sepo Mooring, we headed out to the ocean with Captain Choi. When we neared Tohdo, Captain Choi said that here was where Mother caught eight big gray mullets, all about sixty-five centimeters long on June 11, 2004. Since then, True Mother began to join Father in his fishing devotion more often when they came to Blue Sea Garden. We listened to more of his stories for over an hour, and it was as if Father was with us.

The boat soon arrived at its destination and we prepared to fish. Captain Choi was a real professional. He catches fish scientifically. He already knew what kind of fish he would catch at different depths. I kept an ear open to what Captain Choi said. "Bass will bite as soon as you put down the bait. If they don't, pull it up right away." He said to let the hook

fall six meters down. I did, but I came up empty. I put a shrimp on the hook and lowered it again to six meters.

The moment it reached that depth, my rod swayed. It was a very big fish. The boat shook from its fight. With the help of the captain we carefully pulled, eased up and finally brought it up. On the boat, we celebrated our victory and cheered. It was a spotted sea bass eighty-seven centimeters long, forty-eight centimeters around, weighing six kilograms. Though I had attended True Parents fishing many times, that was the first time I had ever caught such a large fish. I was so excited. I felt as if I could fly. It was such an unexpected catch and the following thoughts went through my mind: First, Father in heaven gave us this fish. Second, everything that Mother is planning will go well. Third, we caught it due to President Kim's good fortune. Fourth, it is a phenomenon of good fortune for me and my family.

What kind of person is President Kim? As you may know, he is one of the first members, blessed in the three-couple blessing, one of Father's best disciples. He obeys Mother's words absolutely and is the one Mother consults when making important decisions. Sometimes he fills Father's absence as our eldest brother; members respect him. He greatly loves and cherishes True Parents. I believe that Father gave us this fish because of my humble act of piety to attend President Kim, who has such good fortune. It was such a dramatic scene.

Once we arrived back at the docks, we packed the spotted bass with ice to offer it at Cheon Jeong Gung and prepared to head north. We did not have time to stop at the Blue Sea Garden hoondok room, so we offered a bow facing toward it instead. With lunchboxes in hand, we got on the 1:00 train. We ate on the train and organized our four dreamlike days.


Blue Sea Garden

What Kind of Place is Blue Sea Garden? In short, it can only be a holy place embedded with True Parents' breath and true love. More broadly, all of Yeosu is a holy area, but because Blue Sea Garden and Geomun Island are the two pillars built by True Par-

ents as the center of the ocean providence, it has greater significance. Since I used to live there, I believe that the main building, especially True Parents private rooms, living room and hoondok room on the fourth floor symbolize the sanctuary where the Ark of the Covenant is enshrined. Broadly, the Ark of the Covenant is heaven and earth and specifically it is the tabernacle. The Ark of the Covenant sanctuary symbolized intangible substance.

Therefore, as the place where God is present, we can define it as the place where the substantiation of Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and the True Parents of Heaven, Earth, and Humankind manifest. The main reason for this is that True Parents marked it in providential history as they went back and forth from there for ten long years. When a group attended Father as he hiked up Mt. Bonghwa on January 8, 2003, he offered an earnest prayer that established Yeosu as the base for the Age after the Coming of Heaven.

The same year, on December 4, he named it Blue Sea Garden (Cheong Hae Garden) and on May 5, 2004, he declared Ssang Hap Shib Seung II and An Shi II to end the Age Before the Coming of Heaven, which was stained by the Fall and to open the Age After the Coming of Heaven. When Father was eighty-five, to set a condition of restoration through indemnity, without missing a day he offered a fishing condition on the ocean during the daytime for eighty-five days, while at night he would go to Okjeok Reservoir until dawn for freshwater fishing. In this way, for eighty-five days we went back and forth between land and sea offering extreme devotion.

Moreover, he revised and supplemented one of the Eight Great Textbooks, Pyeong Hwa Shin Gyeong, by reading it a thousand times to make it a guidebook to save the souls and lives of earth's seven billion people. He also sent out seven thousand two hundred ocean leaders as central figures of the ocean providence. Additionally, he also offered devotion there by staying up all night and not moving for twenty-three and a half hours while reading the word, speaking and listening to members' reports, testimonies and songs. 

Building Principled Families: The Nuts and Bolts

The following are edited excerpts from a book in progress by the father in a blessed family about the inculcation of heavenly behavior and ethics in daily life, on many specific topics such as TV use, hygiene and cleanliness, humor across cultures, and house chores.

By Frans Baatenburg de Jong

The main structure of heavenly ethics exists, however, there are many “open ends,” so to speak, which sometimes leads to much hurt and even misunderstandings. These feelings were growing over the years, especially during our years in Korea, a land of many unique traditions and special cultural aspects. Thus, I felt the desire growing in my heart to contribute to good developments in that field. In Yeosu, I took interest in writing and reading in my spare time, and I came to write about international ethics.

Even though many words have been spoken about all aspects of life, there may be a need to compile a guidebook or “handbook” on international heavenly ethics for all aspects of day-to-day life, which can contribute to fewer misunderstandings, less friction and more harmony, happiness, cooperation and unity.

It became clear that the traditions of Christianity and Confucianism, with their many rules and commandments, and Buddhism and Islam with their emphases, respectively, on obedience and compassion, are not so very different from

each other in their traditional forms; all brought together centered on unification and international exchange.

There is talk about unity between East and West, North and South, but how does that materialize practically? How can much greater unity come about in our various communities, in our day-to-day lives—this is the question. I think that we want to increase our federation of families and make everything more beautiful.

Over the last several years that we have been in Korea, my wife and I have witnessed to and contacted people quite a lot. We have had many experiences and have gathered many contacts—young and old, male and female, rich and poor, clerics and laymen. We hope these efforts made an impression on many people’s lives, however, I am wondering if we shouldn’t do more on unity building on the community level, by constituting some worldwide unified ground rules (of course centered on heart) in day-to-day affairs.

I know that our Holy Scriptures and many other books have touched the main principled areas of lives. Nevertheless, there are still

areas to cover. I am under the impression that families must work this out individually, nationally, continentally. The cultural and character differences between nations and individuals are still quite large, which leads to age-old undesired disharmony and conflicts.

Family background

I grew up where working—even doing homework as a youngster—on Sundays was considered a sin, but in South Korean communities (and in the East generally) it is a widely accepted practice in families for children to focus on studying at the cost of celebrating Sunday. People give priority to work in Korea in contrast to keeping at least one day for the family, and for that matter, for some rest.

I was born into a rather big family; I was the eighth of ten children. Our father and mother were good parents and good Christians. My Father worked hard. I remember that he was an “evening person,” which meant he got up after the children left for school, but often worked until late at night. He loved to rest a bit after lunch.



On Sundays, we went to church both in the morning and in the late afternoon. Sometimes our mother organized singing on Sunday or family games on Saturday evenings. In our puberty years, our father sometimes brought breakfast in bed on Sunday mornings to my younger brother and me in order to encourage us to go to church. When I was about eighteen, my Mother put a book on my bookshelf, *Your body, God's Temple*. It was a good book, teaching about purity and obedience. The fact that I never opened the book until many years later when I started my present spiritual life is clear evidence of fallen nature present in human beings, blocking them from following the good path. As a result of that, we see the need for to be born into a new, pure lineage.

Yet, how do we deal with the way we address one another or with the stress put on the educational areas our children pursue? How do we resolve the sometimes strong conflicts that arise? Unity between one's mind and body is the only solution, but after reaching that state, will wisdom and consideration for others come automati-

cally? Surely, but then, who has achieved it? What does it actually mean to do what is right and good at any given moment?

Focus on the family

Actually, it is best that we teach good ethics and sound values within a family. Parents can educate their children in an atmosphere of true love, trust harmony and cooperation. Religious families always had the challenge of not only being grateful for the grace they felt had come to their families but also to bring actual holiness into their families, through spiritual activities, songs, service and cooperation. Even when the growing children do not see their parents as "stylish" or wealthy, if the children, at least, are convinced about their parents' and siblings' sincerity with regard to a true spiritual and good life, they will be fine, and will follow the good way in their own life courses.

One area where children can be experienced this is around the dinner table. When a family shares daily regular meals, with both parents and everyone else present, good, healthy home cooked food, and pleasant conversation in a "royal" and friendly atmosphere,

heaven is near. Going to faraway places to find happiness is unnecessary. We realize that it is not where you "go" but what you "sow" that creates a sense of happiness and fulfillment.

For instance, when I was young I remember we did certain games to "overcome Satan" by wild shaking movements, and in the family of a friend they were taught to add the words "by God's grace" every time they spoke about doing something in the future.

In Africa, there is the system of the extended family, everyone living together—grandparents, parents, uncles, aunts, nephews and nieces. Once a child can walk, all the other family members raise the child in a natural way.

Because of the natural love that parents feel for their children and the pure openness of the child's mind, as well as its trust toward the parents, things naturally flow in harmony. It goes without saying therefore that young people and the adults surrounding them desire and prepare for the young people to have such a family themselves. *✠*

Frans and Elizabeth are among the 6,000-couple blessing group.

Life and Faith in Korea

Chiara Sakuwa

When opportunity knocked for my husband to work in Korea, he opened the proverbial door and we all walked through it. We welcomed the adventure, but knew better than to expect it to be easy. While waiting at the airport for our flight from Charlotte, North Carolina (US) to Seoul, I remember making small talk with a rather chipper elderly lady, mentioning our upcoming trip to Korea. “How nice! What a lovely adventure for the kiddos,” she said, “But don’t make them miss too much school, now.” But when I mentioned that we were moving there for good, she recoiled like a rattler and asked, “And are you happy about that? Uprooting your kids and all? What do you think that will do to them?” I did not know what to say to that, honestly. I simply nodded, thanked her for her concern and answered the boarding call for our flight as she prayed the Rosary.

I, too, had been wrestling with the same concerns about how our family would cope with being so abruptly and severely uprooted. Our children had all started elementary school; but how would they handle going to school one week in their American classroom, and then the next in a class where they did not speak the language or know

anyone? Did we really have a right to do this to them? I thought of the “Karate Kid” remake starring Jaden Smith, and how when his character moved to China with his mother, he endured relentless bullying for being different. What would I do if this happened to my children, who, unlike “Dre” would not be going to an international school, but rather to a salt-of-the-earth Korean public school? I also felt a great deal of shame and self-loathing at the fact that perhaps if I had “made it” (i.e. six figure salaried career) as opposed to working freelance from home, we would not be transplanting ourselves into a society I felt we would never belong in. And because I had not “made it” despite having a master’s degree, I had no choice but to follow my husband, which, as an American, I felt was a sign of concession, rather than a sound decision. Yet, a flicker of faith deep down assured me it was the right decision, despite my apprehensions. To assuage my misgivings, I devised myself a master plan. I figured that we would all have a great adventure for perhaps a couple of years, tops, pick up a new language, and then go back to where we belong, given the right opportunities.

Four years later, however, we remain, and throughout that

time, life in Korea has, for the most part, defied the grim expectations I had had at the airport that day. Since then, my children have picked up Korean, which now far exceeds my own. I am happy to report that they have been warmly welcomed in their Korean school, with hardly any incidents of bullying. In fact, their “Americanisms” have made them an “item,” with parents encouraging their classmates to befriend my sons to practice English and learn about America, according to their teachers, with whom I have learned to communicate with in steadily improving “Konglish.” As my sons have adapted more seamlessly than we had expected, however, they still identify as Americans and expressed their wishes to return to their old school, even long after language was no longer an issue. I also missed helping them with their homework and projects, which were now all in Korean—an area where my children quickly surpassed me in skill. I also now shouldered the added task of teaching and working with them to keep up their English literacy—one area I could still be of help to them. At the same time, I wished I did not have to do this; because, as American kids, they should be learning English literacy in school. Instead, they were learning along with Korean



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children and essentially preparing for life more geared toward Korean citizens.

My own adaptation to Korea, however, had been far less smooth. As a seasoned wife, mother, writer and Marine veteran already in her mid-thirties, I was set in my ways, determined not to let my residence in this geographic location change who I was as a die-hard, red-blooded American. I was so determined not to change and assimilate, I refused to study Korean, at first, or consider working outside the home, for fear of becoming “too attached.” I was determined not to let anything get in the way of moving back to the US at the earliest opportunity. After all, most Americans and Westerners just came and went, right? In other words, I developed a sort of “cultural resistance” toward assimilating in Korea. I figured that since I already knew where I

belonged and spoke the language of where I belonged, there was no point in changing who I was. So I just went through the motions of caring for my family, writing my novels and taking in any English editing work that came my way. I played it safe by only associating with English-speaking people, and brushing up only on “survival” Korean—enough to shop, bargain, ask directions and give taxi drivers directions, with a little small talk thrown in for good measure.

But the longer we lived here, the more Korean life started to grow on me—the way it embraced my children, and tried to embrace me, despite my resistance of it. As I got to know several Westerners, including our landlord, who have stayed for the duration in Korea, I came to welcome the idea of staying on, and my resistance began to peel. I began to think that per-

haps, grasping the Korean language and culture could make me a better American. I began to consider many positives about Korean life that I had overlooked in my staunch resistance, one of which is the safe environment that allows me to walk around alone at night without ever worrying about my safety. My children can also develop their independence by freely going places without fear of being kidnapped or of their parents being arrested for “child endangerment.” Most positive of all is the overall climate of respect for elders and for authority, which enables parents and teachers alike to raise and educate caring and conscientious citizens.

All in all, I can say that our journey here in Korea has definitely been one of faith, and I am convinced that it is our faith that has given us, especially me, the ability to overcome adversities and grow as world citizens. 

Writing with God

By Maarten Meijer



I was born in the Netherlands, stereotypically known as the land of windmills, tulips, bicycles and cheese. Among intellectual types, the Netherlands is also known as the land of Rembrandt and Van Gogh, of Erasmus and Spinoza. In modern popular culture, people are mostly familiar with Dutch corporate giants Phillips and ING, and football prodigies Johan Cruyff and Marco van Basten. In my youth, I was not interested in the economy and ignorant about football, and I would not have believed it if a fortuneteller had told me that I eventually would become the author of sports biographies that would sell tens of thousands of copies worldwide.

I did read Spinoza, and also the darker works of his German and French colleagues Nietzsche and Camus, in the languages they origi-

nally were written in. They inspired in me a dislike of religion; one of my favorite pastimes was trying to prove believers in God wrong using my understanding of existentialist philosophy and evolutionary biology. Frankly speaking, I was getting quite good at it. Of course, this is not something that I take pride in today, but back then I could not understand how people could so easily be taken in by beliefs that were as irrational and illogically formulated as the Christian gospel. I concluded that belief in God was absurd. That was, until I encountered the Divine Principle.

As so many people in their restless younger years, I went on a spiritual search. I read and traveled voraciously. After joining a crew of four, sailing a yacht across the Atlantic Ocean, I went on a whirlwind tour of the

Americas. I vividly remember hearing the Principle for the first time, in California, in 1980. I was stunned, overwhelmed, and finally moved to tears as I understood the Purpose of Creation, the Fall of Man and the Mission of the Messiah. That was the beginning of a “missionary career” that now spans thirty-five years and three continents. Myra and I were matched and blessed by True Parents in 1982 in New York City, my wife’s hometown. After stints as state leader in Oregon and Montana, I graduated from the Unification Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity degree. I volunteered to work in the former East Bloc and arrived only days after the dissolution of the Soviet Union. I spent nine years in Russia, first as the Moscow Region church leader, then as a doctoral student at Moscow State University.

Around the turn of the millennium, Myra and I felt God was calling us to work in Korea. We came to our spiritual homeland in the summer of 2000, just months after I graduated from my PhD studies, and just weeks before True Father made the announcement that non-Korean Unification Church members should move to Korea. Then, after a difficult start, trying to once again get settled in a completely new national environment, and this time with three children, the 2002 FIFA World Cup happened.

Like so many in Korea, I remember that sweltering, amazing summer as if it were only yesterday. It was an emotional joyride of unprecedented proportions. Then, when I was watching the Korea–USA match, it hit me like a lightning bolt: The Korean national team had a coach

who was, like me, a Dutchman! I should write a book about him! I discussed this sudden inspiration with Myra, who was then eight months pregnant with our fourth child. Within days I was on an airplane to my home country, and I watched the remaining World Cup games in coach Guus Hiddink's hometown, sitting next to his parents and his older brother Hans, in a café with Dutch, German, and Korean media crews swirling around us.

Upon my return to Korea, I met Hiddink in his hotel, the Seoul Grand Hyatt, and I wrote "히딩크 평전" (released in English as Guus Hiddink: Going Dutch) in a mad rush to the finish line. The book was published only weeks after the conclusion of the World Cup. My last child, our third son, and my first book were born at the same time, almost like in a relay race.... That was the beginning of an amazing writing career. I wrote book after book, which by now have been published in ten different countries around the world, in nine different languages.

I have written books about football, about Korean culture, and about education. The most recent book on education was a comparison between Finland and Korea, two education overachievers, which was coauthored by my then twenty-six-year-old daughter Renée, who did on-location research in Helsinki. There was a dawning awareness in me that I was not just writing for myself or some random audience, but that I was writing for God's children in Korea and around the world; that I was not just writing by myself, but that I was writing with God. I started to pray to God to use me as his instrument: "Make me Your voice; make me the pen in Your hand."

Then one day in 2011, the opportunity came to write a book about our church, the seventh book I would be writing. Actually, this was not just going to be a book about the Unification Church, but about everything that is nearest and dearest to me: God, True Parents, Divine Principle, the blessing and our worldwide community of blessed brothers and sisters. It was a dream come true.

I could never have guessed that this would be the beginning of a

four-and-a-half year battle of writing and rewriting; of collecting stories about blessed family love and life, about faith and adventure from church members all over the world; of revising and editing; and of rewriting some more. Nothing I had ever written even came close to making the same mental, emotional and physical demands of me, including my PhD dissertation. I had never cried over a book before, but now I



found myself spending countless hours in tearful prayer.

The understanding and patience of my translator, In Sung Moon, and of my publisher were severely tested, but to their credit they endured the trials with me. In fact, the publisher, Kyung Hee Lee, was clearly guided by God. Not only was it quite astounding that she, who is not a Unification Church member, would be inspired by the idea of publishing a book about our church, but even more so that she remained a believer in this book throughout the entire long and challenging course of its production.

On the night of the day that "통일교를 선택한 사람들" (People Who Choose the Unification Church) was printed, Mrs. Lee received an intensely vivid spiritual dream. She saw a small, oil-fueled lamp, the type that

True Father used to write the Divine Principle by. Gradually, the lamplight brightened, with the fire inside burning stronger and stronger, until it completely engulfed the lamp. The blaze became so intense that she thought it might explode into a conflagration. She awoke at 3:00 AM and made drawings of her vision, which she photographed and stored in her cell phone. A few days later, she drove the distance from Seoul to Cheongpyeong, with one hundred copies of the book in the back of her Mercedes Benz, to personally offer the result of our joint hard labors to me, which is a very unusual thing for the president of a publishing company to do.

This book is not just mine—it is an offering, a testimony of many to the great love and wisdom of God and True Parents. Forty-six colorful real-life stories from Unification Church members and ambassadors for peace enliven the narrative—people from Argentina, Belarus, Brazil, Czech Republic, England, France, Germany, Guyana, Iran, Italy, Japan, Korea, Nepal, Nigeria, the United States, and Zambia. Twelve full-page, full-color illustrations, one for each chapter, were especially created for the book by a group of Russian artists and graphic designers.

The book is very direct: All the essential aspects of Divine Principle and Father's teaching are openly displayed and clearly explained—from the sexual crime of the Fall to the intended marriage of Jesus; from the change of the bloodline through True Parents' marriage blessing to absolute sex. This book is a wonderful way to dispel the misinformation and half-truths that have been circulated by detractors of the church, or of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification, as it is called today, and to share the power and beauty of True Parents' vision for a world of true love and peace.

This is an invitation to the people of Korea and of the world to welcome the Second Coming and receive the blessing. May the light and warmth of God's and True Parents' truth and love quickly fill the earth, and may this book be kindling to help this benevolent fire burn all the brighter! ㄸ

