

True Peace

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VISION 2020 勝



Our Youth: the Heroes of Cheon Il Guk

By Robert Kittel



At the inauguration of the International Association of Youth and Students for Peace (IAYSP), held February 23 at the Cheongshim International Youth Center to an audience of over a thousand Japanese and five hundred Korean student leaders, True Mother began by asking them, “Who are you?” She then bestowed on the young leaders the title “the Special Task Force, the warriors, of True Parents.” Later True Mother called them the “Heroes of Cheon Il Guk.” After that, I was appointed international president.

In her address, True Mother began by describing the fall of our first human ancestors as an extremely sad event and then outlined God’s providence of restoration to raise the nation of Israel, which gave birth to Jesus as the only son of God. However, the only son should have married the only daughter and conceived a heavenly lineage and culture.

If this heavenly marriage had been consummated two thousand years ago, Jesus would have fulfilled his mission on earth and there would be no need for a second coming. However, Jesus was crucified. He did not marry and must return. Establishing a heavenly blessed marriage and God-centered lineage, the very purpose of creation, was again delayed and Christians await the second coming.

True Mother explained that the root and expansion of Christianity was primarily the work of the Holy Spirit on earth. If the feminine spirit of God had not descended to earth after Jesus’ ascension to the spiritual world, Christianity would not have even been born. The Holy Spirit (equal to God the Father and the Son in the Christian trinity) is the spirit of rebirth and giving birth to children is what makes a wife, a mother. Over the last two thousand years, the Holy Spirit has been working to prepare for the Second Advent of Christ and she has been giving birth to Christians spiritually. Most essentially, her mission is to prepare for the marriage supper of the Lamb mentioned in Revelations. However, for the marriage of the Lamb to take place, God’s only daughter must be born physically.

In this way, the manifestation of the Holy Spirit and her working throughout Christian history has been to prepare the foundation for the birth of God’s only daughter. The most fundamental mission of the Holy Spirit is to prepare for True Mother’s birth. Naturally, the marriage of True Parents is the culmination of the history of restoration because this was God’s original ideal. The work of the Holy Spirit was multifaceted: it gave birth to Christianity, it revived the faith of Jesus’ disciples, it led the expansion of Christianity worldwide and it laid the foundation for True Mother to be born.

True Mother herself is the substantiation of God’s Holy Spirit. This title—God’s only daughter—defines her being, her history and her mission. Just like the Holy Spirit, True Mother will give birth to Cheon Il Guk, is reviving our members and will establish God’s long-awaited kingdom of heaven on earth during her lifetime. This is the goal of Vision 2020. This heavy responsibility is included in the title, only daughter of God.

To accomplish this global mission, True Mother wants three organizations to work together, the Universal Peace Federation, Women’s Federation for World Peace and International Association of Youth and Students for Peace. The Universal Peace Federation, representing the father, will work with lawmakers and governments to institutionalize laws and advocate government policies that protect the family. The Women’s Federation for World Peace, representing the mother, will nurture a motherly heart that teaches and shares the logic of love in our homes, societies, nations and world. Finally the IAYSP representing children and lineage will inculcate the values of living for the sake of others and pure love in the hearts and minds of our youth. As I understand it, IAYSP is to be an umbrella association bringing together all the youth-based organizations of our global family.

In conclusion, I think it is highly appropriate that True Mother launch the new youth and student organization, the IAYSP, and in her inaugural address emphasize her role and mission as God’s only daughter. After all, the heart of any mother desperately wants to care for and raise her children to be sons and daughters of God, too. When lawmakers, mothers and youth work together, we can create a culture that honors the family and ushers in the age of Cheon Il Guk. *PK*

Dr. Kittel is the international president of the International Association of Youth and Students for Peace.

CONTENTS



ARTICLE ONE

- 02** Our Youth:
the Heroes of
Cheon Il Guk

SPECIAL INTERVIEW

- 14** Behind the
Scenes of the
Musical Productions

YOUTH AND STUDENTS

- 18** Building a Culture of
Hyo Jeong
- 20** Young People,
Save the Country,
Redeem the World

REGIONAL PROVIDENCE

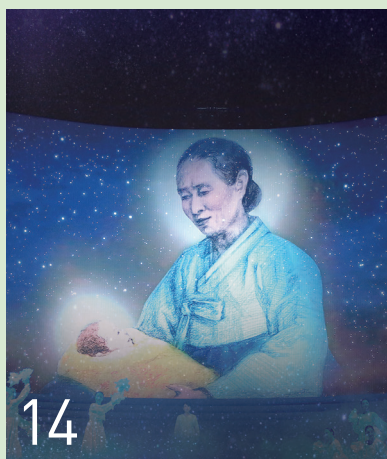
- 23** Seeking National
Restoration in
West Africa

HEAVENLY TRIBAL MESSIAH

- 27** A Portrait of the
Artist as a Tribal Messiah

TRUE PARENTS' MESSAGES

- 04** The Path of Humanity
and the United States
in the Era of the Peace
Kingdom
- 09** Arise,
Heavenly Warriors
- 12** We Will See
Global Restoration
Together



TESTIMONY

- 31** Welcoming God's Gift
- 33** In the Abundance of
Her Steadfast Love

KOREAN REUNIFICATION

- 36** Realizing Peace in
Northeast Asia through
Resolving the North Korean
Nuclear Crisis

WITNESSING

- 39** With the Pride of a
Cheon Il Guk Missionary
- 40** Three Generations Unite to
Guide Spiritual Rebirth
- 41** A Husband Accepts the
Blessing after Three
Decades
- 42** Guiding a Member's Parents
through the Blessing
- 43** Confronting Estrangement:
Visiting Home after
Twenty-One Years

The Path of Humanity and the United States in the Era of the Peace Kingdom

This photograph shows True Parents in the Grand Ballroom of the New Yorker Hotel, in New York City, where True Father delivered this speech on the forty-fourth anniversary of True Parents' Day, on April 19, 2004. True Parents' Day is the anniversary of True Parents' engagement, but its focus is the union of True Parents as the returning Lord. The photograph on the facing page is of the engagement ceremony and the remaining photographs cover their Holy Wedding in 1960. The caption of the first picture is in part from a biography of True Mother produced by the History Compilation Committee in Korea, the other captions are in True Father's own words from the fourth book of the series True Parents' Life Course, (참부모 생애 노정).





In February 1960, at the age of seventeen, Hak Ja Han was confirmed to become Father's bride and the True Mother. A month later, at 4 AM on March 27 (3.1 on the heavenly calendar, which was later designated Parents' Day, and later still True Parents' Day) an engagement ceremony took place at the old headquarters church. This is an excerpt from what True Father said that day: "We have come a long way and suffered much to find the path of our faith, but all our suffering has been for the providence. Now that we are on the way to achieving God's will, no matter what hardships may come our way, we need to face them with grateful hearts and do our best to go beyond the standard set by God. Do you understand? [Yes] You have promised to move forward with gratitude no matter what you are asked to do, and I hope you will keep your promise."

Respected guests from home and abroad, until now, the world has been ruled by those nations that had superior political, economic and military power. However, a nation that does not stand directly aligned with God's providence cannot last forever. The downfall of the resplendent civilizations of Greece and Rome are good examples. The position of the United States, which is soaring high as today's greatest and strongest power, is the same as that of Rome two thousand years ago. Please remember that the decline and fall of the Roman Empire was not the result of external invasions, but was in fact due to the loss of Heaven's fortune. It was a consequence of its immoral culture,

which led to a collapse from within.

Until recently, political regimes based on materialism and the materialistic interpretation of history, which exalted factory laborers and farmers, controlled one-third of the world's population and two-thirds of the earth's land area, centering on the former Soviet Union and China. Of course, they did not last forever, and I tell you that a time will come when religious believers who speak for the will of God will gain influence.

Religious leaders are prophets who ought to proclaim God's will on earth and guide humanity in the direction it needs to follow. However, the conflicts and infighting that continue among religious denominations discredit them completely. These

conflicts are major obstacles blocking the providence of God. That is why for decades I have invested more than half of the Unification Church's budget into interdenominational and interreligious efforts to resolve conflicts between religions. Furthermore, I founded the Inter-Religious Federation for World Peace to bring about peace for humanity through reconciliation and unity among religions. All humanity, transcending race and religious denomination, needs to understand God's providence for the realization of the world of the ideal of creation. We ultimately need to be in accord with God's heart.

God's liberation will open the path of authentic human liberation. We need to recover the original positions



For the Holy Wedding to take place, all the problems from the four thousand years between Adam and Jesus and the two thousand years between Jesus and today's people needed to be indemnified. Indemnity conditions had to be established from 1953 to 1960.... We were at a progress-or-not, live-or-die, restart-or-fail crossroads. Twelve people had signed a complaint against me and I had to undergo interrogation in court.... At the Ministry of Home Affairs, papers were drawn up and I had to fight it out with them on the day before our wedding. Since Jesus died as the result of a court case, I had to come to a court to restore that. This was indemnity. I was attacked in the court until 11 o'clock in the evening on that day, and began my wedding day at 3 o'clock in the morning the following day.
 [In the first phase of their Holy Wedding, True Father wore a white suit and True Mother wore a white hanbok and veil. In the second phase they both wore hanbok.]

of parents and children by restoring our relationship of heart with God, which was lost through the Fall. Hence, the Last Days promised by God are the time when True Parents are manifested. In other words, they are the time of hope when human beings, who lost their True Parents through the Fall, can once again receive their original Parents.

Therefore, the True Parents are the fruit of the hopes, desires and victories of human history. The Unification Church has continued to globalize this tradition through the international mass wedding ceremonies. The coming together of black, white and yellow as brothers and sisters to be joined as husbands and wives, transcending nationality, race and culture, is one of the most important works in

achieving God's will to unite the global population as one family.

As can be seen, the path to true happiness can be opened only when today's people ultimately liberate God, who lost his children and has continued in lamentation over our plight. We can do so by restoring the lost original ties between brothers and sisters, husbands and wives, and parents and children. Until now, democracy has asserted political liberation and human rights. By contrast, we must henceforth assert God's liberation and God's dominion. Once this problem has been taken care of, political liberation and the recovery of human rights will take place automatically.

In various respects, the United States is a nation that has been pre-

pared through the blessings of God. Among the ancestors who founded the United States were the Pilgrims. These people risked their lives to find their way to a land where they could have freedom of faith. In search of true freedom of faith, they bid farewell to their beloved parents, brothers and sisters and hometowns, and crossed the Atlantic at the risk of their lives. They resolved to forsake even their own country. The Mayflower arrived at the shores of New England in November 1620. As they endured their first winter, more than half of the 102 Pilgrims who had arrived there died from the extreme cold weather and starvation. What was incredible about them was that they starved to death rather than consume the seeds to be planted in the coming spring.



Mother had been educated as a central member of an organization preparing to receive the Returning Lord. Thus, when they fled to safety, Mother prepared herself to become the bride and received blessings from the founder of her church, who had prepared her to receive her groom. All those blessings have come true now. Though there was an age difference of twenty-three years between us, I had undergone ordeals for twenty-three years because Heaven had prepared such things on the foundation of True Mother having received those blessings. Historically, everyone in Mother's clan was prepared to serve the new Lord.

The US has lost its founding spirit

No matter what happened to them, the Pilgrims stayed true to their faith in living for God's will. They thanked God for the harvest of the first year and built their homes only after they had first built a church and school. In their pioneering course, whether they were about to start farming or defend their homes, the first thing they did was to pray.

At the time of the American Revolutionary War, as General George Washington was in dire straits at the now-famous Valley Forge, he offered a prayer staking his life for his country. He dedicated the coming battles for the will of God, who stood on the side of the United States and brought it victory.

Great Britain, which was then the

mightiest power in the world, stood with the combined forces of the king and his people, while the United States stood with God and his beloved sons and daughters. That was how the United States, the nation upholding freedom of faith, came to be established. Even now, the United States Congress opens its sessions with a prayer. It is a nation where the president takes the oath of office by placing his or her hand on the Bible and pledging before God, and then a minister offers a prayer.

What is more, it is the only nation that has the words "In God We Trust" printed on its currency. In this way, the United States became the one nation on earth that, basing itself on the Protestant faith, assumed global stature.

However, what is the United States like today? The courts have banned prayer in public schools. School boards force teachers to explain the theory of evolution and leave out the hand of a Creator. Moreover, the divorce rate topping 50 percent is mercilessly destroying the integrity of the family.

Upon hearing the voice of God, who feared for this very reality, I came to the United States in 1971, leaving behind my homeland and my family. I spoke throughout this nation several times, shouting out, "I came as a firefighter to a burning house, and as a doctor who has come to heal the ailing United States."

At that time, I discovered that God had all but left the United States. Even though he needed to be everywhere

in the United States, he had in fact begun to leave the nation. He was leaving the hearts of individuals, families and teachers. When I look back, it seems like only yesterday that I walked along Manhattan's Fifth Avenue and held on to God, begging him with endless tears not to leave the United States. Unfortunately, as I foretold, the United States is sliding down the path of moral decline.

The person who loves the United States is its true owner. Ladies and gentlemen, why is Rev. Moon shouting out like this in the United States, while being subjected to opposition and enduring suffering? It is because I know better than anyone the hard work carried out by God with blood, sweat and tears to find his way to the United States today. During the thirty-four years that I have been in the United States, there has not been one day when my heart has felt at ease.

Who is the owner of the United States? It has nothing to do with race. The person who loves the United States as much as God does is its true owner. The United States represents the eldest son position on the world level, the position chosen to establish God's kingdom on earth. Therefore, Jesus is dwelling spiritually mainly in this land. He earnestly hopes that this nation will fulfill his will.

Meanwhile, in accordance with the will of God, I founded in the *Washington Times* in 1982. This newspaper has led public sentiment as a conservative political voice that proposes the true direction for the United States. Also, through the True Family Values movement and the Pure Love movement for teens and young adults, I have continued to support strong movements to save the nation and the world. I have made these investments with a heart hoping for the United States to stand truly in line with God's providence. When I visited Washington, DC, in 1965, I dedicated a holy ground near the White House. Even now there are many people who stay up nights and pray there for this nation, the United States. You need to open the doors of your heart, so that you can hear the earnest desires, shouts and hopes of patriots dating back to the Pilgrims.

Restore families, nations, the world

Most honored guests, the fourth year

of Cheon Il Guk is when the history of God's providence of salvation, which he has pursued for six thousand years, draws to a close and the ideal of creation, lost in Eden, is realized in heaven and on earth. It is the time when liberation will end the lamentations of all created things, which lost their owner through the Fall, the moment when the long-estranged parents and children meet again. The new heaven and earth, where there will be no more tears, are being realized. The new age, wherein the spirit world and the physical world are united as one and God's kingdom is established on earth and in heaven, is finally upon us.

This is the age in which the direct dominion of the living God is manifested through his overall, complete, absolute and omnipotent authority. It is the time when the world based on the understanding of humankind as one great family is realized. East and West will become "one universe under one God," centering on the Parents of Heaven and Earth. This signifies perfection of the Completed Testament Age, when the biblical promises of the Old Testament and the New Testament are fulfilled. Now that moment has come. The time has come for the United States to wake up once again.

The time has come to carry out a movement for the second founding of the nation, dedicated to restoring the true parents, true family, true nation and true world, with God in the central position. By so doing, you need to bring back God, who is leaving. If God, who found his way here after six thousand years of preparation, were to leave the United States, where would he go?

If you attend God correctly, the problems of the family, the problems of morality, the problems of young people, and the problems of racism will automatically be resolved. The United States, which is a melting pot of five races living side by side, could become a model of the kingdom of heaven on earth. From now on, we need to unite and harmonize in order to open the path for humanity to follow. This is the time when the United States, which is the eldest son nation, needs to take the lead in attending the Heavenly Parents. It must fulfill the mission of the leader who can guide other nations of the


world to the presence of God. I ask you to participate together to carry out this historic task successfully.

The era of God's direct dominion

The enthronement of the Peace King as the Cosmic Parent, the Parents of Heaven and Earth, and the Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind was held on March 23 of this year at the United States Capitol building in Washington, DC. It was a major declaration that substantially secured God's kingship on earth. Furthermore, the declaration of the ideal Nation of Cosmic Peace and Unity, made at the Capitol on the same day, is the historic opening of the age of the federation of blessed families of the member states of the United Nations.

It is now the fourth year of Cheon Il Guk, in which the kingdom of heaven on earth and in heaven can be established in reality, based on ideal families that are centered on the Cosmic Parent, the Parents of Heaven and Earth, and the Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind. Thus, during this period in April, declared on this day, the forty-fourth anniversary of True Parents' Day, we have ushered in the day of the liberation and complete freedom of the angelic world, the complete freedom of Cain and Abel and, furthermore, the complete freedom of the Parents.

Going a step further, we are approaching the date May 1, which marks the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity. On that day, we will usher in the day of national liberation. Now that the age of liberation and complete freedom has arrived, henceforth everything will be entrusted to the overall, complete, absolute and omnipotent authority of God, and the era of his direct dominion will arrive, when he can guide us personally.

Once again, I express my deepest gratitude to you for gracing us with your presence. I would like to close by expressing my hope that a new millennial kingdom overflowing with peace, freedom and justice will begin, both on earth and in heaven. May the blessings of God be with your families and your nations. 

This is an excerpt from Pyeong Hwa Gyeong Book 9, Speech 18, pages 1443-1448.



VISION 2020 勝利를 위한

Arise, Heavenly Warriors

True Mother gave the following message at the Assembly and Call to Action of the International Association of Youths and Students for Peace to Support the Victory of Vision 2020 on February 23 at the Cheongshim International Youth Center.

Who are you? You are the Cheon Il Guk Special Forces who must work hard to create the environment to expand Cheon Il Guk throughout the world as you attend True Parents. Brave warriors! I hope that you will go out with that confidence.

Originally, God, the Creator, made all things in the universe and then he created Adam and Eve, who were to become humankind's first ancestors.

God gave Adam and Eve responsibilities. During the growth period, they should have achieved absolute oneness in heart, oneness in body and oneness in harmony with God and lived their lives without ever leaving God. However, during the growth period, Adam and Eve greedily focused on themselves.

Through that, their great mistake occurred, which we call the Fall, as a result of which they had no alternative but to leave God's side. While the

omniscient and omnipotent God had no alternative but to conduct the providence according to the principles he had created, in line with his purpose for having created. Therefore, God had no alternative but to search from within fallen humankind for a person who could fulfill humankind's responsibility through the providence of the restoration by paying indemnity.

This was the four-thousand-year course of restoration through indem-

nity to raise the Israelites, which we know of from the Bible, to create a national foundation beginning from the individual, the tribe and race in order to send Jesus Christ, whom God called “my son.” Jesus had no relationship with Satan. However, Jesus could not lead the providence on his own. The people around Jesus—Mary, Zachariah’s family, Judaic figures, and the Israelites—did not fulfill their responsibilities. If Jesus at that time had been able to fulfill his responsibilities, he would have met the only daughter of God and they’d have become the True Parents.

At that time, the external foundation Heaven had prepared was a vast and powerful empire, the Roman Empire, of which it was said, “all roads lead to Rome.” Jesus and the united Israelites would have been able to absorb Rome’s problems. If that had happened, through the Roman Empire, God would have been able to achieve his dream of one human family under God.

Sending the only daughter

However, human beings made another mistake. Jesus said he would return and died on the cross. What was he to do when he returned, as he clearly stated he would? He said he would hold the marriage supper of the Lamb. After Jesus died on the cross, how did the development of Christianity begin? Christianity developed through the work of the Holy Spirit. However, Christians did not understand the nature of their own religion. The two thousand years of Christian history constituted the providence to find Jesus’ partner, the only daughter of God, when he came back for the marriage supper of the Lamb. Christians are unaware of this. Yet Heaven’s providence had to continue to progress. Heaven could not send the only daughter of God through the Israelites, who had been able to fulfill their responsibilities.

Modern chosen people

Heaven had to select a people who would lead the providence with the highest standard. That people is what is today the Korean people. Then the only daughter of God, who was to be born after two thousand years, must come from a Christian background. Today, True Parents’ dream and



Heavenly Parent’s—the Creator’s dream, as well as fallen humankind’s dream, is to receive True Parents.

Human beings caused all of the problems that are occurring around the world today. It is the same in the backgrounds of religions, what is doable by humans alone has a limit. The problems of religious conflicts, ideological conflicts, and territorial conflicts today all arose from not knowing our parent. Originally, God, the Creator, was our owner and our parent. The world, and the people who do not attend God, our Creator, or attend True Parents—who are working to realize God’s dream—will meet their end.

Becoming a unified nation

God’s principles of creation are eternal. All created beings, which have not fallen, will continue to exist forever. Only fallen human beings have created many problems. What did I say earlier? Cheon Il Guk Special

Forces, warriors... In the Special Forces, if True Parents give you an order, you must follow with absolute obedience. Our own hands will build the kingdom of heaven on earth, in which all people will attend God as their parent. With regard to this and in all areas, you must become the best.

In order to expand our global foundation, in 2016, I proposed the IAPP, comprising those whom the citizens of their respective nations have elected as legislators. What did we do in 2017 during the birthday and Foundation Day? Centered on the thirteen regions, what did True Parents ultimately proclaim at the US Senate in Washington DC? Legislators are people elected by the citizens of their nations.

In the existing UN, one person per nation, a politician or a diplomat, participates and they say they will solve problems. This method has not fully resolved anything. Only once



Through various endeavors True Mother has been teaching skills and imparting knowledge to young people. She brought 1,800 of them together to focus their abilities, their hearts and their idealism on bringing the world to a clear understanding of True Parents by 2020.

since the UN was established has it played a role in helping True Parents, the returning Lord. That was during the Korean War, when sixteen nations agreed to participate in the fighting. Since then, the UN has made effort in many ways but has not been able to find solutions. However, what will happen when all people are enlightened about the True Parents and receive the blessing through the IAPP and through legislators elected by the citizens of each nation? We can become one unified world.

In order for that to happen many things are unfolding throughout the world. Among them, the presidents of UPE, WFWP, and what is being established today... What does it say? [The International Association of Youths and Students for Peace]

I appoint Emissary Robert Kittel as the international president of this organization. Emissary Kittel has been a missionary for more than forty years. He has especially worked hard in Asia

and has educated many people.

Revitalize young people

He will not work only in Asia, but in all the nations around the world in which we have established IAPP, in order for us to realize with certainty national and global restoration by 2020. He will educate and guide the nations where IAPP is established, and the nations selected for the sake of national and global restoration and will guide them on the path of the blessing, so that those nations can assuredly become nations that will achieve Heaven's will. You that have come here today must not be idle in pursuing that responsibility. That is why you should be aware that you are a warrior, among the proud Cheon Il Guk Special Forces who attend True Parents!

The three people I named earlier, I hope you will unite for the sake of the global providence and fully invest yourselves for national and global

restoration. Just as in olden times, during the Korean Shilla Kingdom, when to revive and protect the nation, they established *Hwarang* [a group of elite youths], only through the revitalization of the university movement and the CARP movement is national restoration possible.

That is why especially the central nations of the providence, Korea, Japan, and the United States must further develop CARP and raise many members of the Special Forces who will participate in national and global restoration. If the six thousand years of the providence of restoration through indemnity was like a dark winter, the time now when we are working for national and global restoration is the springtime of the providence.

I pray that you and those in charge of you can sow many healthy seeds, during this spring, so God can harvest people of talent and ability at the time he hoped for. 7



We Will See Global Restoration Together

True Mother delivered this message on February 25, in Cheon Jeong Gung to graduates of the True Parents' HJ Cheonwon Special Workshop: Japan Top Gun College

As I watched your enthusiastic performance, I began to think of 1960. At that time, I was seventeen! I was younger than any of you are. However, because I knew that Heaven had a big dream for me, I said that during my lifetime I would become the only daughter of God, a True Parent, the True Parents whom humankind had hoped for and waited for and achieve Heavenly Parent's dream. I have lived with this unchanging heart for fifty-seven years.

When the three years until 2020—during which we have to fulfill our responsibilities in front of Heaven—have passed, I will have been on this path of embracing Heaven's will with single-hearted devotion for sixty years.

At that time, [1960] the foundation for True Parents was very weak. There were only a few members. This moment that you are at today is on a level that has passed the national foundation and has become the global foundation. If you compare the goal that you have decided to develop toward to when I began in 1960, you today are looking at a global foundation.

When darkness fell

In the beginning, the Creator, God, formed the universe and lastly created Adam and Eve, who would have become the first [good] human ancestors. God gave Adam and Eve responsibilities. In their growth period, they should have absolutely become one with God and have grown healthily and beautifully, to be in the position, ultimately, to receive God's blessing. But they began to greedily look toward themselves—this was the Fall.

The Creation followed the principle of circulation, in which creation can continue eternally. Due to this, God had no choice but to abandon fallen Adam and Eve. Nevertheless, in line with God's purpose for creating, God could not create someone else to become the first ancestor of humankind. Humanity's fall resulted in the difficult path of indemnity.

God had no choice but to begin the lonely and difficult path of restoration through indemnity. How difficult it must have been that it took four thousand years to choose the Israelites and begin fulfilling restoration through indemnity! Because lost human beings must become the center, Heaven

had to go through the difficult course of restoration through indemnity. Alas, the result was that human beings were unable to fulfill their responsibilities. Mary (who gave birth to Jesus) Zachariah's family, figures in Judaism, the Israelites, should all have united with Jesus. Furthermore, Mary should have created the foundation for Jesus to become the True Parent. She did not fulfill her responsibilities but lived with Joseph.

The long road back

The two thousand years of Christian history was the providence to find the only daughter of God, who remained undiscovered in Jesus' time. As Jesus died on the cross, he said he would return. He said he would come back and hold the marriage supper of the Lamb. Christianity of today does not understand what those words meant. Heaven is unable to raise and use the Israelites again, who did not fulfill their responsibilities. The foundation to find the only daughter of God had to be raised anew. That is why Heaven chose and raised people embodying goodness, the Korean people, who could give birth to the only daughter of God.

When we look at the history of Korea, Heaven blessed this people to give birth to the only daughter of God that had gone undiscovered two thousand years ago. You must understand this. Therefore, throughout their history the Korean people were a chosen people. They hated war and they were cultured people. Despite all this, in 1945, along with Korea's liberation, the [dynastic] sovereignty collapsed, and communism and democracy took dominance over North Korea and South Korea, respectively. The southern territory, which gave birth to a democratic nation, we called Korea. The Republic of Korea!

Looking back, Heaven chose and raised the Han royal family and the Han Empire. Hence, the conclusion is that it became Korea. Just by looking at this, you can see that human power did not do it; Heaven's providence did. Therefore, in 1960, many miraculous things occurred. Many people had revelations saying the mother of the universe, the one who will come as the True Parent will have the Han family name. The foundation for the only daughter of God must come from the Christian foundation. Plenty of

evidence exists. My parent, my biological parent, stood in the center of the divine culture when Christianity came to this nation. That was why, at that time, there were famous divine pastors! These pastors were Lee Yeong-do and Lee Ho-bin. Rev. Lee Ho-bin prayed over my parents, saying they were a beautiful couple and they would become a precious couple through whom Heaven would accomplish great things.

A beloved mother's efforts

After that I was born. Right after I was born, Satan tried to kill me. Satan said, "The world up until now has been under Satan's dominion, but through your birth, I will die. That is why I must kill you." He tried to kill me, but Dae-mo nim fought through the night and won. She is someone who has lived her whole life for the Messiah, for the only daughter of God. She is someone who has invested her entire self to create the environment in which True Parents' will is achievable. That is why this Cheongpyeong providence began. That was something no one else had been able to accomplish. She is someone Heaven recognizes. She is someone who has conducted providential matters you do not know about, that only heaven knows about. That is why she could receive the title "Dae mo." In the year Dae-mo nim turned a hundred, she joined Dae-bu nim. You need to be aware this. Heaven found and gave birth to the only daughter of God after six thousand years. That only daughter of God took the path as a True Parent with unchanging single-hearted devotion. I lived with the heart, even to this day, that I will certainly realize Heavenly Parents' dream, humankind's wish as a True Parent.

One thousand two hundred of you are here. I have walked alone for fifty-seven years, but you number one thousand two hundred. If you unite with me, we can create an explosive power and results. We will assuredly achieve national and global restoration by your hands! I will remember each one of you in my heart. I want to carry the joy of working with all of you with me on the day that I go to spirit world! You will go out with unchanging single-hearted devotion as Cheon Il Guk Special Forces until the day we can raise the flag of victory. Congratulations! 🎉

Behind the Scenes of the Musical Productions

An interview of Yun Young-ho, who among other important responsibilities is director of the Hyo Jeong Cultural Center

Could you talk about how Mother envisions the arts bringing about a revolution in the culture of heart?

True Mother began referring to the revolution in the culture of heart in 2015. She first publicly spoke about it when she went to Europe for the fiftieth anniversary of their mission work. She mentioned this at each opportunity, beginning from the Holy Wedding anniversary.

When I look back, I recall that after the three-year mourning devotion that Mother endured, she began speaking about the key word, "hyo jeong," essentially, the filial heart that children have toward their parents. She has been emphasizing hyo jeong as the basis for firmly establishing Cheon Il Guk, which she believes should be done through culture.

When we reflect on the concept of hyo jeong, a child's filial heart, though loving their children comes naturally to parents, children may struggle to feel a filial heart. True Mother felt this and understood that for children, education was essential in enabling them to appreciate the value of hyo jeong and the depth of their love for their parents.

Mother felt the best way to teach hyo jeong is through culture. Yet when we look at culture, until now Satan has been at its center. Mother is not trying to bring about a new culture but to bring about a revolution to change the center of our present culture from Satan to our True Parents.

We have seen that the True Parents

have been investing effort beginning with the Little Angels in the 1960s. Based on this they established the Hyo Jeong Cultural Center.

In earlier times, we used the ballet and the Little Angels, which we could consider pure forms of art. Mother is now expanding that concept. Within the Hyo Jeong Cultural Center, we have several sub-committees that include the ballet and dances but also a subcommittee under Dr. David Eaton on singing, such as choirs. We cover videos, on topics such as marital arts. We even have electronic games. Mother is trying to touch all areas included within culture as means of establishing the culture of heart. The cultural providence under True Mother is amazing!

The musical is a powerful medium.

What is important is that Mother did the initial planning of this musical, beginning from the title, the theme and the entire musical; the content was co-produced, planned by the Hyo Jeong Cultural Center. The Hyo Jeong Cultural Center building is being erected right now, but the directors of the subcommittees are quite active and we worked together to plan the entire musical under Mrs. Wonju McDevitt.

Mrs. Wonju McDevitt, along with a stage director, an expert in media and I went to Las Vegas as Hyo Jeong Cultural Center subcommittee members to see what kind of technology they use in their performances there.

At the time of the launch of IAPP in Washington DC last December, True Mother was in Washington DC and New York and Las Vegas. When she went to Las Vegas, she instructed us to go to particular shows so we could see what technology they use that we could use in the musical. Preparation had already begun way before that. You could see many new technological innovations in the musical. We used the most recent technology due to True Mother's instructions.

The stage director has been working for the past twenty years at the Korean National Theater and the other person, too, is a recognized expert in the Korean media field. They are all working within the Hyo Jeong Cultural Center.

What process did you go through?

The creative process for the musical began with True Mother first setting the theme. We did not create the plot first. We created the storyline and then based on the storyline we created the plot and the narratives. As you could see, at first an image of Cheon Jeong Gung appeared. We made that the first image because True Parents could be victorious through their Holy Wedding. Through their Holy Wedding, completion of the ideal of True Parents took place.

We tried to explain that concept, too, through the Watergate and Danbury incidents. Father could work even on the outside while he was inside Danbury, because Mother was



As the finale, True Mother and Sun Jin Moon came onstage as Mrs. Wonju McDevitt, chief of staff of Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon's Secretariat, informed the audience, "True Father, God's only son and True Mother, God's only daughter, liberated God and completed the dream Heavenly Parent had held for six thousand years!"

out there. Even though he was in Danbury, Mother was working with him outside.

Particularly, after Father's seonghwa, because we have had H1 and H2 issues, many problems were happening and people had doubts that our church could develop. We could look at them as people doubting, as Peter had doubted Jesus. In the musical, this was Peter's faction.

What we tried to explain began first with Cheon Jeong Gung, which is a place where two people become one, symbolizing that God's dream, or True Parent ideal was realizable. It is not Cain and Abel, but, True Father and True Mother. That's very important. The focus was on God's only son and God's only daughter meeting one another. We tried, through that concept, to retranslate all of history, which Mother has often spoken of in her messages.

What other points did you wish to convey?

Before Father passed away, he prayed and said he had completed everything. That we know the actual significance of what Father meant when he said he had accomplished everything is important, because if we misunderstand that, it can cause different interpretations and problems.

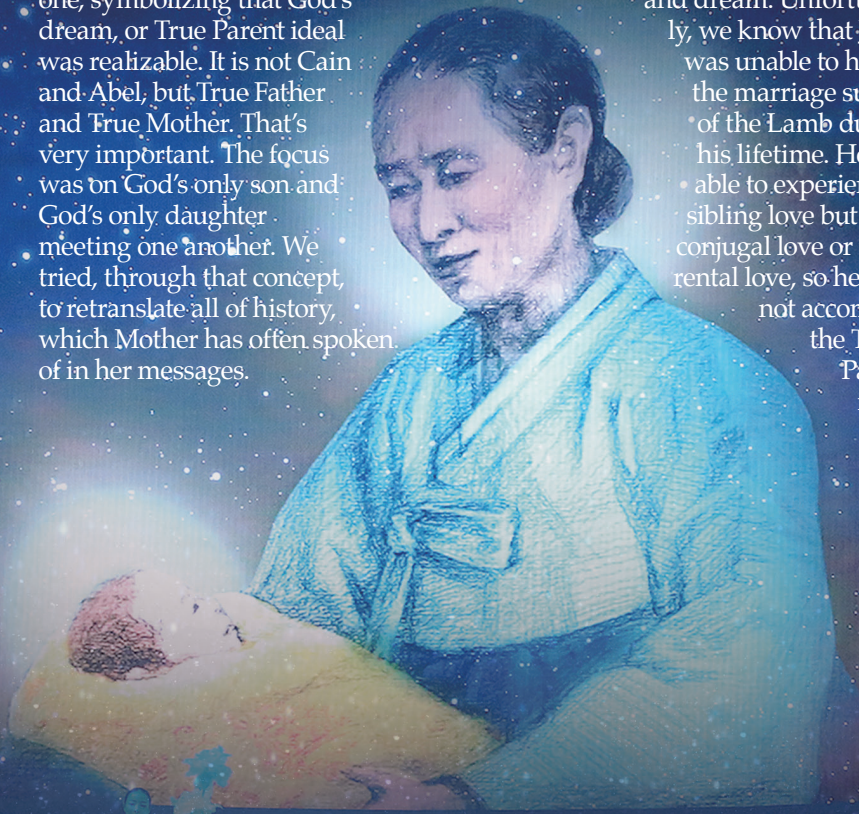
Mother often says that sending Jesus to earth was not Jesus' responsibility but God's responsibility and dream. Unfortunately, we know that Jesus was unable to have the marriage supper of the Lamb during his lifetime. He was unable to experience sibling love but not conjugal love or parental love, so he could not accomplish the True Parents ideal.

We usually call Mother the third Eve, but when we look closely, Mother is actually the second Eve, the only person that came after Eve, not the third Eve. Her responsibility was to be able to meet Father, so they would be able to fulfill the True Parents ideal together. The focus of what the musical conveyed is that when Father said he had achieved everything, he was speaking of having achieved the True Parents ideal. It is important to understand that.

Could you gauge the audience response?

One of the best friends of the president of Senegal was among the audience; he is a government minister named Diop. He was watching the musical and he was so moved that he just stood up in the midst of the musical, and he asked, Who is this? He knew Mother's name, but he didn't know who Mother was exactly or who True Parents were. He wanted to know who True Mother was in essence, who she really was. Senegal is a Muslim country; 99 percent of the population is Muslim. This person is a Muslim leader of seven million people in Senegal. Muslims have their own scripture, the Koran, but it has Bible stories, so they have an understanding of God's providence and the people in the Bible.

When Mother came again and spoke in front of the parliamentarians on February 4, she strongly told everyone they had to become tribal messiahs and national messiahs. That





- ❶ Dir. Yun at a meeting with True Mother and participants in the arts workshop for the musical actors, with the second-generation members Halona Poor (left) from America, who has dreamed of singing in front of True Parents since she was twelve and Hanna Modise from Brazil.
- ❷ The opening scene of the musical, "Aju, Aju, A-ju, Lift up the lamps and welcome them!"
- ❸ True Mother sent a team to learn of the most recent technical innovations that they use to convey the message of the musical most effectively.

moved him so deeply that he said he would do everything he could to change Senegal and to convey that message to Senegal. What we did was just an interpretation, showing history from a providential point of view, but it moved these people's hearts.

This musical can move people from all over the world.

Mother has been hoping, through culture, through the musical, to educate and do mission work. This musical was so successful that Mother directed that it be performed in the Manhattan Center in New York City. We intend to go in early April to make necessary plans to make it work.

What is important in the musical is children. You need to have actors and actresses, dancers, everyone to fill in the musical. This is the most difficult part: to recruit people. This began during Father's seonghwa anniversary last year, when Mother conducted the Hyo Jeong Special Workshop, presided over by True Parents. You remember, 1,200 students gathered from around

the world. That was the first time that Mother showed her concept of hyo jeong through an actual performance.

What was important was that when they gathered, they were all so moved. They were all so excited and they were aligned with True Parents through that. Later, I told Mother that they wanted to open an arts camp. You need to understand True Parents to be able to use culture to convey True Parents' heart. So the Hyo Jeong Cultural Center took the initiative to open an arts camp. The kids that came then were mostly Korean and Japanese; not many came from overseas because of the difference in time and the suddenness of the workshop. About a hundred kids gathered. In the morning they would be learning True Parents' live courses, Divine Principle, etcetera and in the afternoon they would have a full arts training—vocal training, dance training and rehearsals. It was a complete arts camp, plus True Parents life courses—the philosophical side.

Among the hundred students was a Korean student, Pak Eun-jeong. She had throat cancer. The doctors said she needed surgery but if she had surgery she could lose her voice. Her dream was to be a singer, so she thought that if she was going to lose her voice, she would like to use it for True Mother for the last time before having surgery. During the forty-day arts camp, she did well. After the musical, she had surgery, the cancer has been removed, but she did not lose her voice.

The arts workshop was successful because the kids aligned so well and were so excited. At the closing ceremony, True Parents were not present but they cried in front of True Parents' photo for an hour and a half. They cried and they prayed. That's how long it took them to just say good-bye to True Parents and to one another. That's how united they were.

Afterward, they wanted to promote this culture camp, so they came again to Cheongpyeong for two days. Based on that, we launched what we called the Hyo Jeong Culture Art Troupe. We have launched it now in Korea and Japan but we also want to launch it in America and different parts of the world. Mother has instructed that in the Manhattan Center the musical performance center on this art troupe. It will be in English. We also plan to launch a global Hyo Jeong Culture Art Troupe. After having the musical in the Manhattan Center we plan to have a culture tour, go to Africa and different continents, parts of the world to convey the musical and the message through culture.

Were the students that came chosen because of their talents?

They were all beginners. They had to train hard. You can imagine how exhausting it would have been.

They really did well. Do you remember the seonghwa performance last year? The stage, which was round, had a three-tiered curtain.



This meant the idea of becoming one. Later you saw Father's photograph coming down, meeting Mother, and then you had a light shining on them. This symbolized the three years of mourning devotion.

After that, Mother offered flowers to True Father. When she turned around, the chandelier came down and she walked down eight steps. Then, she gave her speech on the platform. These eight steps meant a new beginning, restarting again. The theme itself was to make our filial heart for Heaven become light for the world. Based on the three years of mourning devotion, we should now convey to the world, in the form of light, shining hope to the world.

Mother was able to set up a model of culture through performances. I studied Buddhism. Within Buddhism you have a performance called *yeon sang jae*, it's a dance performance that conveys a speech by Buddha. Korea sees this as a

national cultural treasure. It is important that we also see to it that Mother's message within a performance style becomes a national treasure. The key is Mother's entrance.

That is why, when we prepared this performance, we made sure that the stage isn't seen until Mother appears. All of that was arranged to convey the understanding that True Mother and her message is of essential importance.

In this light, I feel that True Mother is awesome, truly great! She is very sensitive to culture. David Eaton mentioned that culture should come through God's feminine side, so it should come through True Mother.

I find Mother's work very inspiring because she is preparing young people for the future, to lead the world.

Mother has been emphasizing raising young talented leaders. We can see she has been conducting many programs including the Wonmo Pyeongae Scholarship program, the UPA program, Top Gun, Crane's Club... This year she has been focusing more on the Sun Hak Hagwon. They surveyed all of our educational institutions around the world and found that we have around forty educational institutions including elementary schools, middle schools, high schools and universities. For that reason, Mother launched the Youth and Student Federation for World Peace; she wanted to bring them together. Through this Sun Hak Hagwon, I think we also want to develop textbooks to educate young people about True Parents and their philosophy. We have always been emphasizing three pillars: witnessing, creating an environment for witnessing and raising young people. For creating an environment, you can consider IAPP, Peace Road, ICUS, UPP, etcetera, as one package. For witnessing, Mother has been emphasizing our fulfilling our tribal messiah mission. In the area of raising young people, Mother is focusing on the Sun Hak Hagwon and the Youth and Student Federation for World Peace. 7



Building a Culture of Hyo Jeong

By Robert Kittel

The International Association of Youth and Students for Peace (IAYSP) will play a key role in building Cheon Il Guk because the root cause of the human fall was a youth problem. Adam and Eve were teenagers when the Fall occurred. Restoration, therefore, will require the vision and energy of youth in order to set a new standard and create a culture of true love. This is primarily the responsibility of young people and is the mission of IAYSP.

We often say the human fall was the misuse of love. However, before Adam and Eve misused love, they lost their vertical alignment with God. They lost hyo jeong, or filial heart. This becomes crystal clear when reading the account of the Fall in the Bible.

God gave the commandment, "Do not eat of the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil..." True Father unlocked the meaning of the symbolism in this story. It means that Adam and Eve should not have had any sexual relationship at this time because they were still growing toward perfection; that is, they were immature and not blessed in marriage by God.

But what was Adam and Eve's response? According to the Bible, God was talking to his children on several occasions. He gave them his blessing to be fruitful, multiply and have dominion (Gen. 1.28). Now after devoting millions of years to the Creation, and after investing everything in his beloved son and daughter so they would be in the image of God, our Heavenly Parent was giving his children a directive for the first time. He was giving them responsibility. This is obviously very important in the timing, content, and especially in the response from Adam and Eve.

The commandment "Do not eat..." contains within it so many significant elements: the very essence of God's love and the purpose of creation, human being's 5 percent portion of responsibility, Adam and Eve's identity and value, their relationship with God, as well as their protection during the growing period. In addition, inside the commandment is the basis and model of true love, which would expand to create ideal families, societies and nations ultimately developing into a world of peace. Just "Do not eat." Just wait a little longer.

Although God gave the commandment, he was more interested in Adam and Eve's response. Our Heavenly Parent was yearning to hear how they would respond. They should say something. They might even have asked a question like, "Why not eat?" Jesus taught we needed to ask, seek and knock because on that foundation it would be given, we could find and doors would open. (Mt. 7.7) But how did Adam and Eve respond? What did they say?

Nothing! There was only silence!

This is the beginning of the Fall. Adam and Eve said nothing. They did not reply. Instead, the next person they are talking to is Lucifer. There is a lot of give-and-take between Lucifer and Eve, but no communication between God and our first human ancestors—just deadly silence.

An essential part of hyo jeong is communication. It is critical. (It is also essential to the relationship between husband and wife.) But in the Fall story, God is speaking and the response from our first human ancestors is silence. This is not a record of any give-and-take action between our Creator and his children. As a result, the filial heart, hyo jeong, between God and his children was lost. This is the root of the human fall. The misuse of love was devastating because with it our lineage changed. But the misuse of love is only the consequence of the loss of vertical alignment, or hyo jeong.



The inaugural assembly of the International Association of Youth and Students for Peace will take place in Thailand, where True Love outreach has been very successful. In one province, to fit all the young people who wanted to make the Pure Love Pledge required a stadium.

True Mother's emphasis on *hyo jeong* is crucial for fulfilling Vision 2020 and building Cheon Il Guk. Therefore, the mission statement of the IAYSP, as I see it, is simple: To create a culture of *hyo jeong* among youth and students of the world today.


Launching on a good foundation

IAYSP is planning its inaugural assembly for Bangkok, Thailand, in a few months. The foundation of Pure Love education in Thailand is one of the best in the world. Government education officers fully support these programs. In Buriram, one province of Thailand, five thousand youth filled half a soccer stadium to take the Pure Love Pledge at the end of last year. The governor, who attended the program, said afterward that they will fill the entire stadium next time because the educational material was the best he ever heard and was so desperately needed today to give proper guidance to precious young people.

Just two days ago in the same province, a one-day Pure Love teachers-training program was conducted. Mr. Jakrin Iamsam-ang, the Pure Love project director for Thailand, gave four powerful presentations. There are sixty-six high schools in this province; fifty-two schools sent representatives to attend the training. The chief district education officer, the deputy director of schools and the student council teacher administrator for the entire province all attended. At the end of the program, the deputy director of schools said, "You are doing much more than just preventing a problem, you are re-creating people. When people are re-created, the nation will be re-created!"

Just a few days ago, the first president of WFWP-Thailand, Mrs. Delia C. Javanasundara, who is a Filipino blessed to a Thai brother, passed into the spiritual world after years of suffering. The regional president and special emissary for Asia, Dr. Yong Chung-sik, called this a national- and regional-level sacrifice. Prof. Yeon Ah Moon sent a letter of recognition. Asian leaders understand this as an internal offering allowing Heaven's blessing to come to Thailand and Asia at this time.

Using the foundation of the Universal Peace Federation and the Women's Federation for World Peace (having special and general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, respectively) we are planning to have the inaugural IAYSP assembly at the office of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. This is the UN's third largest building complex and it is responsible for both the Asia and the Pacific regions.

We are now starting to plan the assembly, for which twelve thousand youth and students will receive Pure Love education and take a public pledge to remain pure until they are married (something that Adam and Eve should have done). There will be a three-day leadership conference for the Asia, Pacific and Greater China regions. Of course, we will invite Korea, Japan and the US along with other nations, too. More specifically, we will extend invitations to government ministers of education from all of these nations. We will also invite student leaders and religious leaders. When this proposal went to True Mother, she upped the ante and said we need to add a cultural program. It will be and it will be centered on *hyo jeong*. 

True Mother recently appointed Dr. Kittel international president of the International Association of Youth and Students for Peace.

Young People, Save the Country, Redeem the World

Two Challenges and Contributions to Society

Mr. Motoyama gave this presentation at the Assembly and Call to Action of the International Association of Youths and Students for Peace to Support the Victory of VISION 2020 on Thursday, February 23, at the Cheongshim International Youth Center, within HJ Cheonwon in Korea.

By Motoyama Katsumitsu

Congratulations on becoming the brave men and women in the Special Forces of Cheon Il Guk. If you hear "Special Forces," you might think, Where should I go now and what should I do? Your face may become serious, your brow become furrowed, but Special Forces of Cheon Il Guk should move forward with excitement and happy minds to build Cheon Il Guk. Usually if you hear "Special Forces," you feel tension.

I would like to introduce youth activities in Japan. I am here as the president of CARP, but I will explain as a representative of 1,200 Japanese Top Gun participants here about activities undertaken by young people, university students and youth including those in the Family Federation and CARP and the Youth Association in Japan.

Service as a lifestyle

In Japan, we can never forget March 11, 2011, the date of the Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami. I think those of you who come from different countries and Korean people still remember this. Right after the earthquake, our Unificationist young people responded by making U Peace [Unification Church Peace Service Volunteer Corps]. During these five or six years, many volunteer teams associated with other groups left, but we continued sending people to help. We did our work for the sole purpose of reviving the stricken area. The people in the disaster area came to trust us through our continuous work. The areas the volunteers work in become blossoming flowers through the residents' many smiling faces and happiness. Won't you do this kind of thing as Special Forces? This culture established itself in our church as every month around five hundred people on average do volunteer work.

University activities

The people here are mostly university students. As CARP members, they have been studying, doing volunteer work and other activities. I want to go a step further. Why? We want to become students who answer True Mother's hot-hearted determination to restore the nation.

Last year, we held a project-drafting contest, in alliance with the government's direction and in consultation with experts, doing research with them and announced ways that we could contribute in many varied areas. Solving those area-specific problems requires more than volunteer work. We developed the project to solve the Tohoku area's problems and put it into action.

This year, we will be more active. We boldly announced our results to the students in the universi-



Mr. Motoyama described a sophisticated level of development among Japanese CARP members who are making consistent investments into their nation with a selfless attitude.

ties. We tried to expand CARP activities to magnify the culture of living for others that True Parents teach. Of course, so many students in all of Japan are doing the same—studying, volunteering and doing projects. That is why by sharing, by feeling happiness and new ideas through activities—wanting to make a better world—we can announce those ideas and create synergy. “Synergy” is “*sojokouka*” in Japanese. Love is exclamatory, which means students’ ideas give the world energy. We started having young people give presentations, optimistic talks with ideas about the future, in Ted-Talk form [see www.ted.com], which causes synergy.

Not only do we have many activities in universities but young people in the unification movement are shouting out in society. The reason is communists remain in Japan and in the world. They have changed to “culture communists.” Communism has gone into the people’s daily lives and young people’s culture—moving toward a Leftist society through trends shared by young people. Our students started shouting as a group called Unite. We began Unite last year. Its members give street speeches and hold demonstrations in many areas. Their activities garnered much media coverage and influenced politicians and experts.

Youth Federation

The Youth Federation’s Forum of Youth Leaders invites experts and young politicians and many professors and young people to study issues together. The sight of young people trying to solve the problems in their communities and thinking of the future of the society and of the country impressed those experts, the people that attended their meetings. So far, they held forums forty-three times, which attracted 1,225 people.

Rise

The Rise program’s focus is on saving the country and redeeming the world. Rise trains young people in communication and lecturing through online lecture study. Unification Thought and Victory over Communism is the basic theory undergirding the lectures. Through studying the lectures, many young Unificationists want to become politicians who take responsibility for the future of the society and nation. The number of these people is increasing. Unite, the Youth Federation’s Forum of Youth Leaders and the Rise Program activities are making an impression on society. Members interact with experts working with IAPP, UPF and WFWP through the Rise program.

The youth and students’ movement to save the country and redeem the world is trying to move the country. We are still young and lack experience but we have passionate hearts. When we speak with that heart, we make an impression even on experts and leaders of our country. “If we move, the nation



A view showing the enormous number of young people on hand and intently listening to True Mother's guidance


moves," is what we tell ourselves as we carry out activities.

Contributions to society

Our work is not limited to activities within the unification movement. We go out to society. Through this cooperation with society, we try to challenge two areas: to make volunteering a lifestyle and make volunteering a personal project, living for others, contributing to society through these activities. Through these activities, we mature to the point of self-affirmation—as we go beyond thinking of our own situation and our very identity begins to include thinking of others. The young people's independence and public mindedness increases. They find their own identity. They have an opportunity to realize they are God's children and brave children of Cheon Il Guk. That is not only volunteer work; if it is your mission, it becomes a personal project.

We have vision—one family under God; that is our dream. Yet, this cannot be only a dream. What can we do to become companions realizing Heavenly Parent's dream, which True Parents are trying to realize? We should consider this. That is why volunteer work clarifies our mission. For example, if an area has a problem, we ask how we can solve it. If we want to add value to something, we have to conduct a program that creates value. If we move ahead with that mind-set, some young people in society might agree with that. If someone has the same dream, he or she will agree with our movement. That is why our movement is not acting solely to convert others and it not just members contained within a system.

That activity affects education. It is a win-win situation. It is not just for ourselves, it affects others. The idea of win-win involves planning and design, marketing and human resource management and a sense of agency. This sense of agency is not others asking you; you want to make a better nation and society with a "subject" mind. I am sure that project requires you to become a leader of Cheon Il Guk, brave men and women, special forces of Cheon Il Guk. You also need teamwork and ability to communicate well with others. Through that activity, you grow, your personality changes, and you mature as leaders.

Today, 1,200 people are here from the Japan Top Gun College who will carry to Japan a sense of agency and subjective thinking. How can they contribute to their field of work and how can they affect their university? With that sense of agency in Japan especially, and in the world, we are optimistic about achieving True Parents' dream. Uniting with Korea, Japan and the world to achieve True Parents' dream, especially while True Mother is on earth, we seek filial piety most ardently. Japan can become the hope of the world. 

Mr. Motoyama is the president of CARP Japan.

Seeking National Restoration in West Africa

This is an edited transcript of a presentation from the Cheon Il Guk Leaders Assembly

By Cho Dong-ho

Today I would like to present the activities of the West Africa region. I would like to share West Africa's status, our strategies, our activities from 2015 to 2016 and their results. I would like to explain, too, what we plan to do from 2017 to 2020; that is, how we are going to achieve national restoration. In particular, True Mother has designated Cote d'Ivoire and the Democratic Republic of Congo special strategic nations. In light of that, how can we actually realize a nation of Cheon Il Guk?

First, West Africa church region comprises twenty-five nations. At the end of 2014, 11,782 members participated in Sunday service; in 2015, 14,556 did and by the end of 2016, the number was about 19,000. These numbers do not show much of an increase, but the number of churches has changed greatly. When I first came in 2014, the region had 235 churches, but after a Cheongpyeong forty-day workshop for all national leaders of Africa and their spouses, that number doubled to 486. We currently have 965. Donations have also increased. What we received in donations from all twenty-five nations in our region in 2014 increased by 48 percent in 2015 and that amount increased by 35 percent the following year. Up until now, many other nations have supported Africa. Africa has many resources, including diamonds, oil and gold. My goal is for Africa to become self-sustaining. In order to become self-sustaining, I have been emphasizing the importance of donations more than I had in other regions, so that we can show the world that we can live well on our own resources.

My first goal upon arriving in West Africa was leadership training. I focused on teaching leaders so we can create a witnessing environment and expand it. Next, I focused on how we can become a self-sustaining church. I calculated that we need a thousand members to become autonomous. We can achieve that if a thousand members give donations. If each person gave \$10, we would have enough money to sustain a church. In Africa, at least, that is sufficient.

Attracting new members

My next focus was how to achieve national restoration in a special strategic nation. To do that, we need people power. With this in mind, I have been teaching African members that we can achieve national restoration with ten thousand families.

In 2015, between March and April, True Parents gave the great grace to all national leader couples



Rev. Cho, the leader of the West Africa region, who gave this presentation on February 6.



People from twenty-four of President Cho's region's twenty-five of nations participated in this UPF 2016 Regional International Leadership Conference in Burkina Faso, which attracted around four hundred people.

in Africa of going through a forty-day workshop in Cheongpyeong, Korea together. This workshop brought about great change. For forty years, Africa has been growing, but not once have we brought all the national leader couples to Korea for a workshop. This workshop made a deep impression on them. Around fifty people came from West Africa's twenty-five nations, during which we received deep love and grace.

On that foundation, for five days, April 3–8, 2016, we held a West Africa Regional Leadership Assembly, in which national leaders, heads of witnessing departments, family departments, youth departments, WFWP and UPF all came together. The leaders came from their countries by car through many different countries and met for five days.

Much grace pervaded the workshop. I have participated in many meetings with national leaders; but having all the executives of different departments at meetings was special. We were able to bring about great change through this meeting. Around 120 people from twenty-three nations produced noticeable results. We plan to have a leadership assembly in West Africa and Central Africa again. When West Africa did this, leaders experienced some difficulties driving for days and crossing many borders, having meetings for a few days and then driving back to their countries. This year we plan to have a West African Leadership Assembly with around a hundred people from seventeen nations and a separate Central African Leadership Assembly for eighty people from eight nations.

We set the seven-day Divine Principle workshop as the basic standard for educating and enlightening people about True Parents in West Africa. We are responsible to guide members to attend a seven-day workshop. Getting the African people to experience a seven-day workshop is our responsibility. They have to listen to the entire Divine Principle from the beginning to the end. If afterward they do not attend our church, that is their own responsibility, but those seven days are our responsibility. If they work or otherwise cannot attend a workshop, they have to listen to forty Divine Principle lectures. We have around seventy lectures, but we compressed them into forty. I created a standard three-hundred-slide presentation and a booklet, a hundred and fifty pages long, from that. Any nation can use it in the field. We are also creating a standard seven-day workshop curriculum.

In West Africa, each family must donate \$10 a month. This is very important. I tell members, If you keep receiving financial support, you are living as a servant. Don't you want to be an owner? True Parents have said we must become true owners. To become an owner you have to donate.

Our reputation

Our witnessing environment for heavenly tribal messiah activities is very good. No negative impressions about our church or negative groups exist. When we introduce our church and True Parents, people accept the information well. If any member makes just a little effort, he or she can recruit twelve families within a year. This is a good point about Africa.

On the foundation of these twelve families, members strive to reach thirty-six. They then teach those thirty-six to reach twelve couples each. When they have that, the number recruited becomes four hundred and thirty two. Through this process, the members naturally become heavenly tribal messiahs. We are creating an environment for them to continuously witness. At this time, we have not had many couples who have completed their Heavenly tribal messiah mission, but from next year we expect many will complete their mission.



Hard working members were awarded with clothes that True Family members had worn.

Our witnessing success level

What is the standard of the twenty-five West African nations today? In some nations, Cape Verde and Gambia, we still have not spread True Parents' teachings. We send missionaries to those nations but the environment has been difficult and they keep coming back. From this year, we hope to have at least fifty members in these nations.

Next, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Mauritania, Gulf of Guinea and Sao Tome, have a bit fewer than a hundred members each. Our goal is to increase this to four hundred. Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Ghana, Mali, Togo, Niger, Chad, the Central African Republic and Gabon have about four hundred members. We are considering how we can help the churches in these nations grow to become self-sustaining churches of five hundred to a thousand people.

In some nations, we have close to a thousand members. Nigeria, Cameroon, Congo and Burkina Faso have around five hundred members each. We hope to increase that number to more than a thousand people this year. Once they reach around five thousand members, we hope to develop nations as West African strategic nations. True Parents selected the Democratic Republic of Congo and Cote d'Ivoire as special strategic nations.

Angola has more than a thousand members. Benin has more than a thousand five hundred members; our goal is to exceed five thousand. Burkina Faso and Nigeria have almost a thousand members so our goal is exceed a thousand. Last year, we surpassed a thousand members in Angola, so in 2017 we are aiming for five thousand members. Cameroon and Congo Brazzaville have around six hundred members. Our goal there is a thousand members and for the churches to self-sustainability.

Improvement year-by-year

Even though West Africa has many members, we could not call any place there a church building, a place where True Parents picture is and where members can meet for Sunday services. On my tour of the nations and churches in West Africa, I emphasized to the members that they have to build churches. I gave them a goal: No matter what nation or what church you are from, if you have more than five hundred members, let's work to build a church.

They are working hard. For example, in Benin, they erected a building ten years ago, but only the chapel is sturdy. Everywhere else, rain leaks in. Members cannot receive beneficence there, but through True Parents' grace, we are now fixing the building. It has become almost like a hotel after improvements throughout the building. Now, a hundred and fifty or more people could sleep there.

In Cote d'Ivoire, there is this church building. European second-generation members desired to help West Africa, pooled their resources and donated \$8,000 as seed money to build a church, but it was uncompleted a decade later. We repaired the building this year. During a second-generation workshop, we repaired and painted a rundown building. We are creating a nice, clean environment.

In Senegal, national messiahs sent many donations resulting in the first floor of a church building. Through True Mother's grace, we were able to finish the building. In Congo Brazzaville, we are building a church. We planned to make a three-story building, but a lack of funds meant it is just two stories.

We have a good education system, but lack buildings. It's a big problem. We have to build



President Cho explained the need in his region for well built churches. Pictured here is the national headquarters church in Senegal.

churches in Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Nigeria, Mali, Cameroon, DR Congo and Angola. We must absolutely build these churches.

In Cote d'Ivoire in 2014 there were around 1,500 people but last year around three thousand members went to Sunday service. Donations also increased from \$54,000 in 2014 to around \$200,000 in 2016. The number of churches in Cote d'Ivoire increased from ten to forty-three in two years. Change has been occurring.

In DR Congo, we went from 7,710 people to twelve thousand people. Donations increased almost doubled from \$62,000 to \$123,000. We went from a hundred churches to 143. The nation is large. Kinshasa alone has twenty-five churches.

In Burkina Faso, UPF launched IAPP and people from twenty-four of our nations participated. The one nation that did not had their national elections that month. Four hundred people attended the launch.

True Mother bequeathed gifts of the clothes she had worn, so each year we give award the most successful witnessing members. Every three months, the church with the most new members received a computer, projector, and in the case of DR Congo, a generator. We are working to develop and cause change in the churches.

National restoration

I think often of what it would take to bring about national restoration. In order to restore a nation we must have legislators who know True Parents. At least half of the legislators must know True Parents in order to achieve national restoration. Hence, our members must become legislators. Honestly, we had no one would could seek office as legislators and no funds. Nevertheless, some older members felt inspired to campaign and two won elections. In some places, our members supported people they knew to have integrity, people they did not see in a political light.

In Democratic Republic of Congo, we are working hard to establish Cheon Il Guk. Around seven million people are members of Kimbanguism, new religious movement professed by the Church of Jesus Christ on earth by his special envoy Simon Kimbangu. DR Congo has a branch that separated from them called the Nktwala Church. The head of that church came to New York, bowed to True Father, and participated in a forty-day workshop. He has around three hundred thousand followers. I visited their church on my church tour. Just like us, they bowed to True Parents and recited the Family Pledge in Korean from beginning to end. They sing our holy songs. We have to educate them so we can register them as members. To do this, we must create a place to educate them. We are in the process of remodeling a training center in DR Congo. So now we can have a continuous education system. We will continuously have seven-day and twenty-one-day workshops and once a year hold forty-day workshops so we can restore two nations in West Africa. *TP*

Rev. Cho is the regional president of West Africa.

A Portrait of the Artist as a Tribal Messiah

Representing Christ in art and in real life

Mr. Joseph Willett is a painter and the director of the Kentucky Academy of Fine Art. On Foundation Day, True Mother recognized the Willetts and others for having completed the blessing of four hundred and thirty couples as heavenly tribal messiahs. Whereas Mr. Willett has portrayed dozens of people in his artwork, we are happy to offer a portrait of him as a tribal messiah, together with his wife.

Joe Willett, you have painted many portraits, simple people as well as celebrities. What is your main concern when you portray people?

The likeness is my first concern, since I am a realistic artist. The portrait should reflect the model, but not just externally. If the artist feels the personality, that will come out. A painter may reveal something about people that they were unaware of. In a special moment, you may catch and enhance the character and destiny of the person. Painting a person is painting the most beautiful of God's creations. You catch this essence by quieting your brain and what you think you know and paying attention to shapes and colors. More than intuition, I would call it a "visual mind." We should not remain analytical; we should liberate ourselves from the dominant learning centers of the brain. I sometimes feel that this visual mind prompted Mother Teresa just to serve people.

The Principle tells us that we have to love and see others from God's point of view. An artist with this visual mind may bring out more beauty from a wrinkled old lady than from a fresh model in her twenties. Artists should seek the



True Mother acknowledging that the Willetts had fulfilled the necessary requirements to be successful tribal messiahs.



original beauty; you may call that the ethics of the artist.

Christ is a person often represented in art. You had the unique opportunity to portray the living Christ, True Father. How did Father react?

Joe : After hearing the Principle, I had given up on art for years in order to serve the True Parents directly. I was on the security team at East Garden. Mrs. Won Pok Choi asked me, "Joe, why don't you do Father's portrait?" I was hesitant. I knew Father did not like most of the portraits done of him because no one had really understood the essence of Father's features. One time someone placed a sculpture of him in the East Garden dining room. After a few days, I learned that Father had taken it out to the back porch and destroyed it. Father may be very sensitive about what happened to Jesus—people made engravings and images of Jesus and worshiped his image rather than following what he taught.

Mrs. Choi encouraged me. She brought a photograph of Father and asked me to make a drawing in her office on the second floor. She guided me to understand some of Father's physical features and spiritual dimensions from a Korean view-

point. I had denied art for many years and here I was, denying my style and following her wise guidance. Then Father entered the room accidentally. Mrs. Choi, who was smiling, showed my portrait. I wanted to hide. Father looked at it and grumbled, "hmmm... Yeah!" The portrait was accepted.

Sun : After the portrait was completed, I asked God to show me whether Father really liked it. That night, I had a dream that clearly showed that Father loved it. When I woke up, the feeling was not dreamlike but real.

Father was a living icon. In most members' home is a photograph that represents True Parents. However, they urged all of us to become their living representatives as tribal messiahs. How did you allow God to transform the Willetts into tribal messiahs?

Sun : I communicate with God daily and I receive many inspirations and dreams. I strongly felt that if we are united with Father, we shall achieve a higher position than Jesus Christ by becoming tribal messiahs. To represent our True Parents means to be victorious, successful, because True Parents are the victorious Messiahs. When God sees us, he wants to

penetrate us and he wants to transform the unworthy person into a successful Messiah. True Father wants us to represent him not in name but in substance. True Father wants us to be his disciples and his elite students. He wants to be proud of us in front of Satan. To accept that God can transform your life, you have to make many conditions, repeatedly. We did those conditions for years.

From having blessed many people, you are significant in the lives of some of your friends. Among their words of appreciation, what was most meaningful for you?

Sun : I shall limit myself to a testimony of a certain Reverend Wayne, who wrote:

I had been at my job for about thirteen years, when I met Sun. She knows the name of everybody in the building. I don't know how she does that. The love of the Lord is in this woman. She and Joe are a match made in heaven and you can feel that when you are around them. She has witnessed to me several times and we witnessed to each other, back and forth. I'm a minister, but she is helping me on my way. What an appro-



appropriate name! She not only has the sun above us but she has the son within her. We did the marriage re-dedication with her, at work. Karen was there by picture; she is with me in spirit because I am half her and she is half me. What a wonderful blessing to rededicate our marriage! This lady puts everything into everything that she believes. Even if you've been around her a couple of minutes you know she has God in her heart.

What a witness it is that just one lady and her husband can touch all these people here. Very few ministries can do that. Sun and Joe have a ministry. Look around you and see all the peoples here that she's touched in the name of Jesus. That is why we are gathered today to celebrate what God has put together.

What an impressive tribute! Many members are still apprehensive about the duties of the tribal messiah. What do you think is the main factor to overcome apprehension?

Sun: You don't need to focus on the number of couples, 430. Tribal messiahship is not about reaching numbers but about affecting people with God's love. This starts with a change in your

life. We all would like to live for the sake of others. Joe and I tried to do just that. We sometimes went to dark places and tried to love people unconditionally. That is how the fear vanishes. People were attracted to me, because I was genuine. If you do things with all your sincerity, the spirit world will help you.

Let us go more deeply into your portrait, into your social background. What are both your occupations and what are your social lives like?

Joe: For many years, I was lonely. I felt that I did not really belong to the world, and socializing was not easy for me. But I have been teaching art and have enjoyed coaching people. I should also pay tribute to my parents, who were devout Catholics. My father, especially, was a man who could exhaust himself supporting the local community. More than a special social background, I have some model of what a man should do for his fellow men.

Sun: I come from Korea. I considered working at the Toyota factory in Georgetown, Kentucky, like many of my friends, but I failed the test, so I could never work in the automobile sector. I heard that other members had opened flower shops, and I did just

- ❶ Joe and Sun Willett officiated a Valentine's Day Blessing Ceremony for many of their friends and those they had witnessed to.
- ❷ Couples prepare to share the Holy Wine in this truly romantic ceremony.
- ❸ The Willetts pray for a representative couple. In the background can be seen Chicago Family Church Pastor Rev. David Rendel, who was the master of ceremonies for the event.

that. This flower business has been much more than a source of income. It was a gateway to tribal messiahship. But since this interview is to draw our "portrait," we represent more than our social background. We live in the secular world and we are not of it. We represent our True Parents in Satan's dungeons. We socialize with people in this dungeon in order to save them and bring them to Cheon Il Guk with us. True Mother sends us to save our brothers and sisters and bring them God's love and blessing.

On a more personal level, we would like to know your character better. In some families, one spouse does tribal messiahship work, but you worked as a couple. How was God able to work through you?

Sun: "True Parents" means "one heart." Working together gives us more energy. We prayed together and did much



A group photograph: As seems clear from this interview, the Willetts' sincere faith and genuine love for others were factors in their attracting so many people to share the blessing that has been such a force in the Willetts' lives.

hoondokhae as a couple. We drove together many miles to reach out to my contacts.

Joe : Back in the 1990s, we already had our rehearsal, when we had to bless 180 couples by going door-to-door. Our teamwork started then. If you want to know if we are similar or different, I would say we are complementary. After I was matched with Sun, Dr. Bo Hi Pak commented that I would be living with a Korean Army sergeant. He was wrong. Sun is now my general. [Laughter]

Sun : I am a motherly general. Don't worry. Sometimes, I sleep only two hours at night, but I put the list of my guests' names over my heart, very tenderly. A general sometimes has to kill, but I am here to give life to people, together with my husband.

Joe : we have been each other's anchor. This is a mission only the two of us can do.

Receiving this award, and looking back on your whole life, what feelings came to your heart?

Joe : After receiving the award from True Mother, we had no time to look back where

we came from. We can only think of moving forward and of the next steps. The award was not our grand finale but our debut.

Your original motivation with the flower business was to make money for the total living offering. Can you tell us more about this?

Sun : It is something unique about our couple. We needed to make money to pay the Total Living Offering. Since I could not work at Toyota, I started to sell flowers. In one year, the money needed for the Total Living Offering was there. Moreover, this business allowed me to give advice to my customers. I became a channel of God's love and guidance for them and the relationships went on and on, so that now my husband and I have been able to bless hundreds of my customers.

True Mother told the tribal messiahs to keep educating the couples. What will be the next steps for your tribal messiahship?

Sun : We push them to make conditions, such as reading Father's words and Father's autobiography and studying the Divine Principle. People should

follow several steps, including taking the holy wine, receiving the holy water, going through the indemnity stick ceremony, completing the forty-day separation and the three-day ceremony. Without providing education, you cannot ask people to do these things.

Joe, throughout your church life, you have often sacrificed art for spirituality and witnessing. Yet, you have become an accomplished artist and a successful tribal messiah. How can art and culture help us in tribal messiahship?

Tribal Messiahship will bring about the world of Cheon Il Guk, the world of the original culture, where all forms of art will blossom. Our True Parents, while taking the course of indemnity, developed the arts and culture. We are not just a church. We must influence the world. You do this through culture. If we want to expand our heavenly tribe, we have to create attractive cultural forms that will bring people to our side. Not only our ideas and beliefs but our lifestyle, our traditions, our celebrations, our joys, should appear as the best. ♪

Welcoming God's Gift

With these words, Archbishop George Augustus Stallings, Jr introduced True Mother to the American Clergy Leadership Conference at the True Family Values Awards Luncheon on December 3, 2016, in Brooklyn, one of New York City's five boroughs.



Archbishop Stallings, a former Catholic priest and the founder and archbishop of the African-American Catholic Congregation and its Imani Temples, introduces True Mother at the American Clergy Leadership Conference's awards luncheon on December 3.



True Mother addressing the diverse group of religious leaders, some of whom have become Divine Principle lecturers and all of whom share deep respect for True Parents and a sincere understanding of True Parents' salvific efforts.

It is my distinct honor and privilege to present to some and to introduce to others the True Mother of Heaven, Earth and Humankind. I say to “present” to some because many of us have had the opportunity to either experience True Mother’s presence or to have personally engaged her in conversation; and I say “introduce” to others because many in this room may never have laid eyes on the keynote speaker. But there is something very extraordinary about the one who will bring God’s word to us today.

She is a woman who really had no choice in selecting the path that God chose for her—before the foundations of the earth were even laid. God prepared her in the womb of her beloved mother Dae-mo nim to come forth upon the earth to stand in a central position of uniting with her beloved husband, True Father, Dr. Sun Myung Moon, in an eternal marriage that would change the course of not only human events but of the human family itself. She was chosen, even at a very early age, to be blessed in holy matrimony in the year 1960, before she could even know another man or even be spoiled by humanity, so that she might truly come forth as God’s only daughter, to stand in that central position of restor-

ing humankind back to God’s true life, true love and true lineage. Her life has been completely and totally and unreservedly committed to humankind.

She has not for one infinitesimal moment lived one second of life for herself. But she has lived it, along with her beloved husband, for the sake of others. She stands in that central position of being God’s servant woman because she, like her husband, deeply felt the scar that was stretched upon the face of humanity through that human fall. She, like her husband, knew that everything that God desired for us was lost and had to be indemnified and restored. Her whole life has been about restoration; it has been about healing; it has been about returning man and woman back to their original greatness.

I had the privilege, a few days ago, of leading True Mother on a tour of the National Museum of African-American History and Culture in Washington, D.C., a monument that initially started planning back in 1915; a site was approved in 2003 by a Republican president, George W. Bush, son of George Herbert Walker Bush, and completed in September of this year (2016) and inaugurated by the first African-American president

of the United States, Barack Hussein Obama. True Mother wanted to visit that museum, and that was the only event on her schedule—on her private schedule—outside of the public events of the Universal Peace Federation—the International Leadership Conference and the Inauguration for the International Association of Parliamentarians for peace—that was the only event. That was the only thing that she committed herself to. She wanted to see the struggle of her children under the yoke of slavery so that she might reclaim them and redeem them as God’s children; and show that America is for all people, especially those who paid the price of slavery. She embraced that museum; she raised the consciousness of a people and said all America belongs to all people, especially those who paid the price of slavery. She is the mother of not just simply fourteen children; she is the mother of 7.3 billion humans on the face of the earth. She is the mother of heaven, earth and humankind; she is, with her husband, the True Parents!

Stand to your feet and welcome God’s only daughter! Welcome the True Mother, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon. Put your hands together, make some noise, welcome God’s gift to humankind. ☯

In the Abundance of Her Steadfast Love

Religious leaders receive True Mother's message

By George Augustus Stallings, Jr



The large crowd of diverse religious leaders listening intently to True Mother's message



Archbishop Stallings has long been a stalwart supporter of True Parents.

In the spring of 2000, True Parents invited a hundred and twenty Christian clergy members from the United States of America to visit the fatherland, Korea, to engage with them in committing to the providential work of uniting world Christianity. That historic gathering led to the establishment of the American Clergy Leadership Conference (ACLC) in September 2000, as an interreligious and interracial coalition of Christian pastors and ministers dedicated to the work of “rebuilding the family, restoring the community and renewing the nation and the world.”

ACLC has always viewed and portrayed its role as uniting and assisting the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind in the work of restoration by returning man and woman back to God's original ideal in the central position of all creation. Blessed marriages centered on True Family Values are the foundation for establishing Cheon Il Guk, the kingdom of God on earth. As marriage and families go, so goes the construct for establishing a just and peaceful society.

One of the major components of ACLC's activity has been the teaching and dissemination of True Family Values as espoused and conveyed by True Parents. So, it came as no sur-

prise that the organization felt privileged and extremely honored to host the twenty-first annual Celebration of the True Family Values Awards Luncheon Program that featured True Mother, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, as its keynote speaker.

The luncheon event took place on Saturday, December 3, 2016, at the Brooklyn Marriott Hotel in New York City. Initially, only four hundred tickets were available. Yet, many more religious leaders wanted to attend to demonstrate their love and devotion for True Parents. When True Mother was told about the situation, she smiled and told Dr. Ki Hoon Kim, the FFWPU regional chairman of North America and ACLC national co-chairman to have the hotel expand the room so that another one hundred people could be accommodated. She wanted all of her spiritual children to have access to the gathering. After all, isn't that what a True Mother would do for all of her children, not just for some?

During the ACLC National Convocation that preceded the awards program, Dr. Ki Hoon Kim shared the latest news about Mother Moon's activities and the recent events that had taken place in Washington, DC at the International Leadership Confer-

ence (ILC) in these words:

All of you who are here, you are not my guests, you are my friends. Your home is my home and my house is your house. We are that kind of friends, but more than that, we are family members—one family under God. This is the unchanging idea of True Parents, from the beginning of their ministry until now... In their eyes, it is very strange that people, whether they are looking up, looking down, or looking around, are discriminating against one another. That is not God's idea. That is not God's teaching.

In *Chambumo Gyeong* (True Parents' Scripture) Book One, Chapter One, Section number 46, we read:

It is True Mother's work to reach the world level; then the work must be expanded horizontally. That is why Mother is traveling and being proclaimed throughout the world. It is because every human being must return to True Mother's womb and become one with True Father, like the joining of ovum and sperm, and be reborn.”

In introducing True Mother to the

audience, as an ACLC national co-chairman, I related to the attendees that a very extraordinary woman was about to come forth and address them. A woman who, unlike us, had no choice or decision in what course her life would take, but prepared by God, our Heavenly Parent, before the foundations of the earth, to stand as the only daughter, united in eternal matrimony with her beloved husband, the Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon, to become the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind. He boldly proclaimed that she was not only the mother of fourteen biological children but the mother of 7.3 billion people on the face of the earth.

As True Mother approached the podium to speak in the Grand Ballroom of the Brooklyn Marriott Hotel, the overflowing crowd rushed to its feet and erupted in thunderous applause. Surely, the members of the clergy on hand knew her heart and felt a special and close affinity towards her. The energy in the room was electric and the atmosphere filled with praise. ACLC stood ready for a challenge and ready to receive its marching orders from True Mother.

As True Mother opened up her heart and shared with the attentive audience a profound message, spiritually rooted in her divine calling and anointing given by God to the True Parents for this messianic age, one could readily sense that she appeared to be carrying the weight of a fractured world, disconnected with God's original plan and will. She spoke eloquently in gently measured tones while, at the same time, forcefully imparting God and True Parents' message for these troubled times.

True Mother's message

"Beloved members of the American Clergy Leadership Conference, I am happy to see you today.

"God is our Parent. When God created the world, He began with a purpose. God has been waiting for the human ancestors, the True Parents, who will fulfill their responsibilities according to this purpose. This messianic concept has been prevalent throughout fallen human history.

"Regarding the central figure whom Heaven appoints, there must be complete unity. We cannot allow self-centeredness, greed or jealousy to

invade that standard, because that is how we lay the foundation to return to Heaven. Today, however, America is rife with issues, isn't it? Meanwhile, wars and unfathomable conflicts are happening all over the world. How can we create a unified world of peace?

"Today, especially the clergy must teach [the people] properly about God. To enlighten people properly about God, we must know that the central figures of this providence of restoration through indemnity are the Savior, the Messiah and the True Parents. Hence, when it comes to teaching and sharing the good news with the members of your congregation, please align and unite with True Parents. You ought to teach your congregation from that aligned position.

"What is Cheon Il Guk? It is an era in which two become one. It is an era in which couples unite. To become citizens who live in the Cheon Il Guk era, we must go beyond the realm of paying indemnity. This means that we need to receive the [marriage] blessing from True Parents. Do you agree?

"Receiving the blessing entails responsibility. The more you share happiness, the greater that happiness becomes. Happiness is not selfish. Happiness is not self-centered. Happiness engenders altruism, sharing that happiness with all 7.3 billion people. The day that all 7.3 billion people are happy is when we all receive the blessing. I hope that you all work hard to achieve this ideal. All races are beautiful in God's eyes.

"Yet for America to become a nation, a people that repays grace with grace and fulfills its responsibilities towards Heaven's providence with gratitude, I believe the American people need to enlighten all of them. That is the only way this nation can become a nation that fulfills its obligations. Please remember this. I hope that you can have this attitude in revealing the truth and be bold, be proud, be strong; march forward courageously."

A heartfelt response


The room fell silent as it hung on every word that gushed forth from True Mother's mouth. For we were not hearing mere pious platitudes but being given a charge and responsibility from Heaven to unite with True

Parents in this providential age. As True Mother brought her messianic message to a climactic end, the participants showed their profound love, appreciation and respect by giving her a sustained round of applause.

True Mother had already set the stage for her address to the clergy at an earlier gathering in Washington, DC. Reflecting on True Mother's address on Capitol Hill on November 30, 2016, to members of the US Congress, world leaders in other political spheres, clergy and ambassadors for peace, Dr. Michael Balcomb, the US president of FFWPU shared these words:

Mother Moon felt America has not yet fully met God's expectations. Think about what God's expectation for this country is. It's not just to be a nation of great freedom and wealth. Father Moon said America has to be the champion, the nation that brings the Kingdom of God on earth. Those are dramatic words. Father Moon said that when America builds the kingdom of God here in this land, other nations will follow suit, whether or not they are Christian, Muslim, Jewish or Buddhist. If one country can stand up to build the kingdom of God, other nations can follow. Mother Moon asked: "Do you believe that? Do you really believe that God can build his kingdom in this world or not?"

Yes, True Mother, we do believe! We as the American Clergy Leadership Conference are eternally grateful to you and have grafted ourselves to the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind. We believe firmly as you do with all of our mind and hearts that all things are possible! As Christian standard-bearers of the True Parents, we are committed to becoming Tribal Messiahs by extending the blessing of marriage to 430 couples as one of our ACLC national co-presidents, Pastor Mark Abernathy, has already accomplished in his Christian faith community.

So, America, centering on True Parents, please come and join with us in establishing one family under God through the blessing of marriage as we work to usher in the era of Cheon Il Guk, the kingdom of God on earth. 

Realizing Peace in Northeast Asia through Resolving the North Korean Nuclear Crisis

This article, which appeared in the Korean language in the February 8 issue of Weekly Dong-A, a mainstream Korean weekly magazine, is one of many articles covering the True Parents' birthday and Foundation Day 2017.



A group including Unificationists and legislators from various nations poses together onstage at the Korean National Assembly with (center) Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea Chung Sye-kyun.

International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace Adopts the “Seoul Declaration”

FFWPU Hosts a Variety of Events Until February 9.

The Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU) will co-sponsor a series of commemorative events with the Universal Peace Federation, Sunhak Peace Prize Committee and the Hyo Jeong World Peace Foundation under the slogan of “Shining Rays of Hope around the World with a Filial Heart for Heaven” until February 9.

At the Second Sunhak Peace Prize Award Ceremony, Italian surgeon Dr. Gino Strada, 69, and Afghan educator Dr. Sakena Yacoobi, 67, will be awarded and recognized for their contribution toward resolving the refugee crisis. Approximately thirty

thousand people, including a thousand leaders and parliamentarians from the United States, the United Kingdom, Brazil, the Philippines, Nepal, Europe, Asia, South America and Africa will attend the awards ceremony.

The main events will include Rev. Sun Myung Moon’s and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon’s joint birthday celebration, the second Sunhak Peace Prize Award Ceremony, the Hyo Jeong World Peace Foundation Scholarship Ceremony— awarding ₩10,000,000,000 [US\$ 8,940,000] in scholarships—the 2017 World Summit, the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP) National Assembly event, the International Conference on the Unity of Sciences (ICUS) and the fourth Anniversary of Foundation Day.

True Parents' Birthday and international parliamentarians

The late Rev. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, founders of FFWPU, were born on (by the lunar calendar) 1.6, 1920 and 1.6, 1943, respectively. The FFWPU celebrates the founders’ joint birthday on 1.6 each year. This year, the birthday celebration took place on February 2 at the Cheong Shim Peace World Center in Gapyeong County, Gyeonggi Province with thirty thousand people, including FFWPU leaders from around the world. A thousand people, including parliamentarians and former parliamentarians, politicians, religious leaders, diplomats, educators and NGO representatives from all over the world attended the birthday celebration.

The International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP) International Leadership Conference was also held at the National Assembly Hall in Seoul’s Yeongdeungpo Borough, on the same day at 3:00 PM. Four hundred and fifty parliamentarians from 113 nations attended the event. The event included presentations from parliamentarians from each continent on the topic of “The Vision and Role of IAPP in Overcoming the Northeast Asian Crisis and Establishing Peace and Unity on the Korean Peninsula.” During the event, the “Seoul Declaration,”— which states, “North Korea’s nuclear arms race is not only South’s Korea’s problem; it is a serious issue that is threatening peace in Northeast Asia and the rest of the world. We will work together to realize peace in Northeast Asia through resolving the North Korean nuclear crisis”—was adopted.

IAPP was inaugurated in Korea on February 15 of last year, in order to resolve the issues of territorial conflict, terrorism, climate change, famine and poverty and the expansion of nuclear weapons,



as well as religious and racial conflicts. The IAPP chapters were inaugurated on each continent, concluding with the inauguration of the North American IAPP chapter on Capitol Hill in December, involving US congressional representatives.

Second Sunhak Peace Prize Award

The Sunhak Peace Prize Committee hosted the second Sunhak Peace Prize Award Ceremony, beginning at 10:00 AM on February 3 in the Crystal Ballroom of the Lotte World Hotel in Jamsil, Seoul. Recipients of the Sunhak Peace Prize, Dr. Gino Strada and Dr. Sakena Yacoobi, each received a medal and a million US dollars (approximately twelve million Korean won).

Dr. Strada was honored for expressing a love for humankind that transcends national borders. He has provided emergency medical relief to those in the epicenter of conflict throughout the Middle East and Africa for twenty-eight years, saving eight million lives. In 1994, he founded EMERGENCY, an international NGO that provides emergency medical treatment and currently manages over sixty emergency treatment facilities in sixteen nations. In 2008, he began to receive signatures from the governments of twelve African nations, including the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Rwanda, etc., promising to provide medical welfare to their citizens. In 2013, a documentary entitled "Open Heart," which highlighted Dr. Strada's work with medical relief, was nominated for an Academy Award.

Dr. Yacoobi was honored and awarded for developing an innovative solution to the refugee resettlement crisis through education. She worked especially in Afghan refugee camps. She

founded the Afghan Institute of Learning in 1995, providing education and job training for thirteen million refugees. She was recognized especially for her management of eighty secret schools under the Taliban regime, which provided education for three thousand young girls who have also contributed to the fight for the rights of Muslim women. She has actively worked to resolve the refugee crisis, and was even nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2005.

The Sunhak Peace Prize was established based on the peace vision of "one human family." In 2015, the Sunhak Peace Prize was awarded to individuals for their contributions toward resolving climate change and the food crisis. This year, the agenda was solving the refugee crisis, as well as the advancement of humankind toward a peaceful future.

Scholarship Award Ceremony and Science Event


The Hyo Jeong World Peace Foundation will present scholarships totaling up to ten billion won to two thousand global students, including five hundred from Korea (three hundred to those either bi-cultural or North Korean defector families) and one thousand five hundred from seventy different countries, beginning at 2:00 PM on February 5 at the Cheong Shim International Youth Training Center in Gapyeong County. A hundred of the two thousand students are members of ten different religious groups, as well. In addition to receiving a scholarship, these representatives will have the opportunity to participate in an interreligious camp and learn about the significance of a movement for religious harmony. The Hyo Jeong World Peace Foundation was established as the Wonmo Pyeongae Foundation in February 2013,

prior to changing its name in October of last year. Since 2013, the Foundation has selected two thousand global students each year to receive scholarships totaling up to 10 billion won, and has expanded the movement of cultural arts, academics and world peace.

Meanwhile, ICUS, which was launched in 1972 as a stage for scientists to discuss the realization of happiness for humankind, was revived after seventeen years for an event held from February 4–5 at the Lotte World Hotel in Jamsil, Seoul, under the theme, "The Global Climate Crisis and the Role of Science." Sixty scientists, including a recipient of the Nobel Prize in the category Physiology or Medicine, Luc Montagnier, shared their opinions at the event.

Fourth anniversary of Foundation Day

The grand finale will be the celebration of the fourth Anniversary of Foundation Day on February 9. According to FFWPU, the Bible alludes to Foundation Day as the day marking the end of the six-thousand-year history of sin and the start of a new era. It is the day when the providence for the settlement of God's nation, the Nation of Cosmic Peace and Unity (Cheon Il Guk) begins on earth. This will take place on 1.13 (by the lunar calendar) as one of FFWPU's main holy ceremonies.

The president of FFWPU-Korea, Ryu Kyeong-seuk, stated, "FFWPU will work to establish God's nation and realize his ideal and dream of a peaceful world. This event is an opportunity for us to embody a filial heart (hyo jeong) for heaven, to practice true love for humankind and to open a new chapter for the establishment of a peaceful ideal world as one human family." 

With the Pride of a Cheon Il Guk Missionary

A testimony from the Tokushima church district on Shikoku, one of Japan's four main islands

By Nishi Seika

The five articles in this section originally appeared in Japanese in the January issue of World Family, a publication of FFWPU-Japan. We are grateful for their permission to provide these to our readers.

As a part of the third group of Cheon Il Guk missionaries, I went to Nepal for a year. Having returned to Japan, I am now dedicated to church work in the Tokushima Family Church. Since coming back, I have set off with the same determination as I had as a Cheon Il Guk missionary. True Mother initiated the Cheon Il Guk missionaries, so I was determined to support her from my heart and to also love and bring victory to my mission area, Tokushima, as one of True Mother's representatives. Through the forty-day witnessing course in Tokushima, I was able to guide two people to study the Divine Principle.

The first day I went out to witness, I met my first guest, the fifty-nine-year-old Mr. Abe. When I visited his house, I introduced the "Happiness Seminar" that we are holding at the church. He easily said he wanted to attend the workshop, since it was on a day he was off work. In this unexpected situation, all I could do was pray, asking God, Why did you give me this person when I am lacking in conditions and not filled with enough love?

In talking with Mr. Abe, I learned


that his mother had died when he was young and he had never been able to experience a mother's love. I felt that God wanted to save Mr. Abe through me, but Mr. Abe was so different from me in age and life experience that I worried over how I might understand and liberate Mr. Abe's pain. As I was praying, I felt that even if you love someone, you cannot find something that is not inside yourself; yet investing everything that you do have is important, as is giving as much love as you are able to.

Afterward, witnessing did not go well at times and difficult times arose for other reasons, but during those days, I was also able to meet a nineteen-year-old university freshman, Mr. Tanaka. Like Mr. Abe, when I introduced the church to him, Mr. Tanaka said right away, "I want to go." Once he started summer vacation, he began to go to the church two or three times a week. We would study Divine Principle and talk. As we talked, I felt there were many things about which we had similar thoughts and that we had experienced some of the same pains of the heart. I felt that God had prepared him to meet me. I realized I had gone through those difficulties in the past so I could understand Mr. Tanaka's heart at this time. I was grateful for those difficulties, and through this experience, I felt I too had received salvation.



Ms. Nishi Seika (center) with two young women she witnesses with.

Through meeting these two guests, I was able to feel God's great love and learn many things. Everything I had gone through had been necessary and this forty-day period was a precious treasure through which I walked with tears and laughter together with God. I strongly felt that God prepares the people we meet and the path we take. God, the parent of all humanity, wishes for each person's happiness. He wishes all to be happy.

I also felt that the time when True Mother is here on earth will not come again in the future. As people who know God and True Parents, to take the path of God's will and work to enlighten the world about the True Parents as quickly as possible is our responsibility and mission. I want to continue to bring joy to True Father and True Mother with every step I take. 

Ms. Nishi is active in our Tokushima church district.

Three Generations Unite to Guide Spiritual Rebirth

A testimony from the Sakai Family Church in the South Osaka District, on the island of Honshu

By Igawa Masami

I have three children and they have all received the blessing and have children of their own. Thanks to my children, I now have ten second-generation grandchildren. My wife witnessed to our family, so I had not done anything. During the first Foundation Day, in 2013, when I drank the holy wine I strongly felt, "If I do not take action in front of Heavenly Parent and True Parents I will feel very sorry." As the church strongly emphasized victory as heavenly tribal messiahs, I decided for the first time to witness.

First, my wife and I began by passing out *As a Peace-Loving Global Citizen* to acquaintances, friends and neighbors whom we trusted. As we began witnessing in this way, we met twenty-eight-year-old Ms. Yamada.

For a long time, in front of our house, I have been doing morning radio exercises, in which people in communities gather to exercise in time with an exercise program broadcast over the radio. Ms. Yamada has been riding through the area on her bike to her job for the past few years. She would always greet us with a bright smile as she rode past. I felt that I would like to witness to her, so my wife and I began speaking to her and gave her a present of a new bike.

One evening, as I was going on a walk, I ran into Ms. Yamada by chance on her way back from work. For the first time, I invited her into



2016 New Year's Day family photo: (Front row, from right), Ms. Yamada, Igawa Hisako and Igawa Masami with their two sons, their daughter and their grandchildren

our home for tea, and she gladly accepted. As Ms. Yamada drank tea with my wife and I, my son's and daughter's families dropped by to visit with a cake. I had not realized until then that it was my birthday. Our grandchildren, who have become used to sibling-like relationships from their church activities, called Ms. Yamada "sister," and they became close instantly. As I saw this, I felt that God had called my family over so that not only this old couple, but all three generations of our family, could witness to Ms. Yamada.

Later, Ms. Yamada reciprocated, inviting my wife and I to her house, and as the three of us ate dinner we talked about many things. She even opened her heart and talked about some difficulties she had at work with her colleagues. On that basis, we made up our minds to invite her to a Divine Principle lecture. She was very happy that we asked and accepted. We reported these developments to

our church leader and then held a two-day workshop in our house at which the witnessing education director lectured. After the seminar, Ms. Yamada began to stop by our house after work and talk about her future dreams as we ate dinner together. Our grandchildren would also come to play and to eat at our house when Ms. Yamada was there. Ms. Yamada became like a member of our family. After a year passed like this, the company Ms. Yamada works for moved to a location closer to the church, and she began to go to the Education Center and learn more of the Divine Principle. She is now actively working with the Youth Department and is preparing for the blessing. We hope to work hard so the three generations of our family will continue to unite and be victorious as heavenly tribal messiahs. *TP*

Mr. Igawa is seventy-four; he received the blessing among the 30,000 couples.

A Husband Accepts the Blessing after Three Decades

A testimony from the city of Isa, in our Mie District on the island of Honshu

By Katayama Makoto

Last August 28, the Mie District Church held a blessing ceremony, which Mrs. Tate (sixty-one), a member for thirty years, attended with her husband. Mrs. Tate first encountered the Divine Principle in 1986. Not long after joining the church, her husband found out and objected to her going to the church. They have been arguing about her attending the church since then. Every time Mrs. Tate saw other church wives receiving the blessing she would think, "I don't think I will be able to receive the blessing but I would like to receive a spiritual blessing [after she and her husband ascend]."

As she was thinking this, last year, Mrs. Tate received the Cheon Il Guk Holy Scripture, *Cham Bumo Gyeong*, from her church leader who encouraged her by saying, "Miracles will happen soon, smile brightly!" What he had said would not leave Mrs. Tate's mind. Six months later, she received advice from her district group leader who told her, "Our happiness is greater if we receive the blessing while we are still on earth because our contributions and actions for the sake of realizing God's wish will be brought to light." The group leader added that a district blessing was coming up. Mrs. Tate remembered what her church leader had said and thought, "Something good may happen. I will definitely attend

this blessing ceremony." She felt greater determination than she had ever before.

Mrs. Tate wrote the following in a letter to her husband: "Thank you for living as my husband until now without considering divorce even though I am like this. I am grateful to you for always taking care of the three healthy children we received from God and our healthy grandchild. For thirty years, since I met the Family Federation, I have been listening to God's word. After hearing the word, I realized how insufficient my love is and repented. I want to become even closer as husband and wife than we are now and after we die, I wish for us to remain husband and wife eternally. I would like to ask a favor of you. I would like it if you would attend the blessing ceremony conducted by the Family Federation for World Peace. This blessing is a sacred wedding ceremony through which a couple forgives each other for past misunderstandings brought on by arguments and once again, through God, connects as husband and wife. It is a blessing ceremony filled with grace, which opens a path for us to live happily as a couple eternally when we go to the spirit world. Please attend this blessing ceremony with me so that we can start this second phase of our life as a couple.

Mrs. Tate said that she gave her husband the letter in a natural and



Last year, long after she joined the movement, Mrs. Tate convinced her husband to attend the blessing ceremony with her on August 28.

joyful atmosphere but was worried as she waited for her husband to reply. Her husband said, "I was moved by your letter, I will attend with you," and thereby willingly accepted.

The actual blessing ceremony stirred Mr. Tate's emotions. On the way home he said, "I was able to make a fresh start thanks to the other church members!" From the photograph we took today, I want to make a key chain, which I will cherish." After Mr. and Mrs. Tate finished their forty-day separation, they learned about the three-day ceremony at their church, received a prayer from their church leader, Rev. Yu Gil-jung, and completed their three-day ceremony. Through Mrs. Tate's experience, I truly felt that God and True Parents have not forgotten the members who have struggled for a long time and continue to guide them. *✠*

Ms. Katayama is the witnessing and education director in the Ise Family Church.

Guiding a Member's Parents through the Blessing

A testimony from the Miyaki District, Sendai Family Church, about 300 km (190 mi) north of Tokyo

By Oomiya Kiyomi

I accepted my assignment to a witnessing post seven minutes away by car from my home ten years ago and have witnessed there continually since that time. I found time in my daily life to witness. At times, I would go out for about one or two hours and other days I would visit up to thirty or forty houses. I believed that “witnessing is the path to respond to the providence.” Nevertheless, even if I went to a house a few times, most often I would meet rejection and could not bring good results.

However, from around three years ago, our church began “shosha” witnessing [in which the contact finds a quotation from True Parents’ speeches and writes it out by hand]. After I took that up, I felt, “I want to make people happy through shosha.”

Soon after that, last March, while going house-to-house inviting people to participate in shosha, I met a woman in her seventies. She gave a very clear response when I invited her to do shosha. I told her I was from the Family Federation and surprisingly she said, “That’s the same church as my daughter’s.” She told me her daughter had received the blessing and lives in Korea with her husband.

I also learned that the old woman’s husband was sick and receiving medical care. As the woman prayed for her husband’s health, we did shosha at her house and I gave her a

sample shosha set and left. I wondered if I could do anything for her since her daughter seemed unable to visit often from Korea, but when I returned one week later, she apologized to me and returned the shosha paper. I asked her if anything had happened, but she only said she was sorry. I felt she was on her guard around me. She seemed concerned about her husband. I felt disappointment but said, “Please allow me to visit again” and left the house.

I became busy and was unable to visit her for a few months. During one meeting, I was remembering that my zone leader’s instructions about the district blessing in September. I was racking my brain for married couples I could invite when that woman came to mind. As it happened, I discovered that one sister on my witnessing team knew the woman’s daughter, so she and I went to visit that house together.


We learned her husband’s health had worsened. The woman was unsure if he would live out the year. I immediately contacted the daughter in Korea. She told me, “My father opposed the church and does not know True Parents’ teachings but my mother studied all the way up to “lecture training.” She also called her parents and directly urged them to receive the blessing. When we reemphasized the importance and meaning of the blessing, both her parents

Oomiya Kiyomi, second from the left, with a couple doing “shosha,” writing out by hand a quotation from True Parents that the person chose



agreed. I quickly told my church leader, who decided to hold a blessing ceremony two days later at their house. I felt that once you make a foundation, those in the spirit world can provide great cooperation.

On the day of the blessing, it was difficult to believe the husband had ever opposed the church. He greeted us very calmly. He said, “My daughter asked me to participate; I could not say no” and happily drank the holy wine and received a prayer. During the indemnity stick ceremony, he even said, “Mother, I am sorry” and asked for forgiveness. In the end he said, “With this, I will be able to go to heaven with mother; I had thought I would have to go to hell alone.” This concluded a warm-hearted ceremony.

When I saw that the parents and daughter were both sincerely happy, I felt this happiness is God’s happiness. I hope to love my witnessing area even more in the future. 

Ms. Oomiya received the blessing among the 6,500-couple group.

Confronting Estrangement: Visiting Home after Twenty-One Years

A testimony from the Sapporo Teine Family Church in our North Hokkaido District

By Motooka Naoki

Mr. Motooka (pronounced Moh-toh-oh-ka) his wife Miho and their two daughters



In the summer of 2015, I visited my family home in Hyogyo Prefecture. A leader in our church had said, “We have the goal of achieving success as heavenly tribal messiahs, so remaining dormant is not good.” At first, I kept thinking that I could not do it, but increasingly the thought arose that this may be the “right time,” and thus decided to visit my home and my entire family.

My uncle, who had been a communist and strongly opposed our church, had strongly influenced my parents. My uncle even sent me a good-bye letter explaining that my parents had decided to cut our relationship completely. In 1994, I tried to visit the house and tell them my wife would be going out as a missionary but they kicked us out even before we entered the house. I never visited after that and if I called, they would hang up even before I could finish saying hello.

My mother had been living alone. When my family suddenly visited, my mother was surprised but said, “Since you are here, I have no choice,” and let us into the house. The first thing I did was bow at the ancestral shrine and report that I had returned home after twenty-one years. After seeing how old my mother was, I felt

regret that I had been unable to be a pious son but I forgot all that had happened until then and just spoke to my mother about the current state of our family. Though it had only been a few hours, it had been a large first step.

Afterward, that same leader said, “The blessing comes next.” In my heart, I felt it would still not be possible. I did not even know when I would be able to visit my home again. However, I found out that a training session for a qualification certificate I had finished a few years ago would take place in Osaka in August 2016, so another opportunity came to visit home. Yet, considering past years, I still could not be certain my family would allow me back into the house. Therefore, I decided to set the condition of fulfilling the donation to liberate my ancestors from the first to the seventh generation no matter what.

The day before going to Osaka I received the Cheon Il Guk Holy Wine and then organized my heart and set off. When the training session ended earlier than scheduled, I thought there must be some reason for this and decided to change my schedule and visit home that day instead of waiting for the next day. I arrived a little before 7:00 PM. I rang

the doorbell. When my mother saw it was I, she asked why I had come and opened the door to let me in. Not long after, I brought up the blessing and she drank the holy wine even though she had a flushed look on her face. I called District leader Kim Won-bin right away and was able to have him pray over my mother.

Then my mother said, “Originally I would have liked for you to sleep here but your sister is coming tomorrow so it would be best for you to leave. Though my mother had given me a cold response, I learned that she was stuck within the opposition of my sister and other family members—a difficult position to be in.

Through all of this, I realized I was deciding on my own who was good and who was bad, and reflected on this. I learned all I had to do was unite and believe in God and True Parents and act accordingly. *✠*

Mr. Motooka received the blessing among the 30,000-couple group.



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