

True Peace

天—國 5年
天曆 9
OCTOBER 2017





True Mother's Grace and Blessings

By Tokuno Eiji



On October 15, True Mother visited Japan to attend an event that attracted ten thousand people hosted by the Kanagawa region, just adjacent to Tokyo. True Mother had told the Japanese leaders that if they were able to prepare an event gathering ten thousand people in any of the forty-seven prefectures and cities in Japan, she would come to speak in person. True Mother kept her word and the Kanagawa event took place successfully as the second ten-thousand-person event following the one held previously in Tokyo.

Since there are around five thousand church members in Kanagawa, in order to hold the event successfully, they gathered five thousand additional people, comprising new guests and returning members; that is, those who had left but whom we had contacted and successfully witnessed to again.

Next month, November, the city of Nagoya in Aichi Prefecture and the city of Osaka in Osaka Prefecture are each planning to hold an event of ten thousand people centering on their region.

During her stay, True Mother cared for the second-generation leaders and devoted her effort directly to training leaders of the next generation. She also held meetings for elderly blessed families at which she emphasized the importance of their mission as the heavenly tribal messiahs and encouraged them to become eternal filial sons or daughters who are able to act in line with True Parents even after they enter the spiritual world.

In the Kanagawa event, three second-generation members representing three-generation international blessed families gave moving speeches. These included Ms. Sasamoto Awako, who received the blessing to a second-generation member in Africa in adherence to the will of her father, Sasamoto Masaki, a member who was blessed among the 1,800-couple blessing group who was martyred in Tanzania, and Mr. Tatsumi, whose father Tatsumi Naoto, blessed among the 6,000-couple blessing group, was martyred in South Africa.

In her speech, True Mother said, "The Atlantic Civilization Era has come to an end and the Pacific Rim Civilization Era has begun. The era of the Pacific Rim Civilization centers on the father nation, Korea, the mother nation, Japan and the eldest son nation, the United States. I hope Japan will realize the dream of Heavenly Parents, True Parents and humankind by approaching the 7.4 billion people of the world and nearly two hundred nations around the world with the heart to give unconditionally and become the mother nation that lives for the sake of the world. Furthermore, you can start anew only when you recognize the historical truth and your wrongdoings. I want the Japanese leaders to know this."

Moreover, she emphasized, "Humankind cannot solve the difficult problems of the world without connecting to God, our Heavenly Parent. Since the Fall began when humankind stepped away from God, they must return to God in order to solve this. Otherwise, there is no future or hope for humankind and the world."

Although True Mother's stay in Japan was brief, it was a period of great blessing. She showed us her love and devotion for Japan and clearly defined the path Japan must take and Japan's mission and responsibility within Asia and the world. I would like to convey my sincere gratitude to True Mother for visiting Japan and gracing the victory of the ten thousand-person event in Kanagawa. 

Rev. Tokuno is president of FFWPU-Japan.

CONTENTS



ARTICLE ONE

- 02** True Mother's Grace and Blessings

PICTORIAL SECTION

- 14** Providential Moments

WFWP

- 20** Creating the Environment with Our Mother-Child Mission

KOREAN AFFAIRS

- 24** A Brighter Day May Come

REGIONAL NEWS

Austria

- 27** Perspectives for Sustainable Peace in Europe

SKETCH OF A NATION

- 30** The History of Unificationism in Taiwan
- 35** Cross every Strait

TRUE PARENTS' MESSAGES

- 04** A Providential View of the Pacific Rim Era in Light of God's Will II
- 08** A Gathering to Welcome True Parents to Japan
- 10** The Blessing of Motherhood
- 12** The Truth of History Seen through Heaven's Providence and Japan's Mission



INTERVIEW

- 36** A Time of Reflection: Michael Balcomb
- 37** A Time of Reflection: Kim Sang-seuk
- 38** A Time of Reflection: Pastor T. L. Barrett
- 40** A Time of Reflection : Bishop Jesse Edwards

TESTIMONY

- 42** Faithful, Successful Young People Unite in a True Love Blessing



A Providential View of the Pacific Rim Era in Light of God's Will II

True Parents gave this speech on March 7, 2012, in the 63 Building on the island of Yeouido, in central Seoul, at the launching of the Strong Korea campaign. The full-length original speech is in Pyeonghwa Gyeong, Book 10, Speech 16.



I am delighted to meet you today. I would like to welcome you on behalf of my family. The rally today is to launch the Strong Korea campaign throughout Korea. Therefore, on this occasion I will explain something of the profound providential plan God has had for the Korean Peninsula throughout history, as well as some aspects of God's providence in relation to the Pacific Rim era.

The era after the coming of heaven

Distinguished guests, at the beginning of the seventh year of Cheon Il Guk, I declared the beginning of a jubilee period in God's providence. God has greatly blessed us since that year. God and human beings have never experienced the likes of this time, this jubilee, in thousands of years of history.

God's heart has been in pain throughout history because Satan has been confining humanity under his dominion. Humanity endured oppression under the sovereignty of evil throughout the era before the coming of heaven. That time has finally ended! The zenith was 2007, at which time it became possible for the gates to the revolutionary era after the coming of heaven to open wide. This opening will usher in the time of a new sovereignty of goodness, in which humanity can serve and attend God as the central being.

Without your awareness, Heaven's providence has been expanding in extraordinary ways. Ambassadors for peace in the tens of thousands, in a hundred eighty-five nations, have received my teachings and have been working day and night in response to a special decree from God.

Today, I would like to convey to you Heaven's message, a declaration of God's dispensation and the direction humankind needs to take. If you carefully examine the progress of history, you will undoubtedly discover God's plan and sense his presence as he worked tirelessly behind the scenes.

During the two thousand years after Jesus' death on the cross, God, in the background of history, traveled down a path of suffering beyond human imagination. Through this course, he prepared the United States of America to serve as the Second Israel. As a Christian nation that

includes Catholicism and Protestantism as well as the Orthodox communions, the mission of the United States is to bring harmony and unity to Christianity as soon as possible; in the twenty-first century, it is to fulfill the responsibility that had been the Roman Empire's, but which was not realized in Jesus' time. On America's shoulders rests the responsibility within God's providence to bring harmony and oneness among the world's seven billion people and to expedite the creation of a peaceful, ideal world. These are not simply my words. This is Heaven's decree to America.

In light of that, how can we unite Christianity? God has already revealed the solution through me, Rev. Moon, the True Parent of humankind. God has given me the supreme command to practice a life of true love, to understand completely the reality of the spirit world to which we go after we die and to establish a model, ideal family, a true family.

True families are the foundation

What kind of love is true love? What kind of family is a true family? The essence of God's absolute true love is not to have others serve you. Rather, it is to be the first to give, to serve, to care for others and to seek the greater good. True love gives, forgets that it has given and continues to give without ceasing. True love gives joyfully. We find it in the joyful and loving heart of a mother who cradles her child in her arms and nurses her child at her breast. True love is sacrificial love, such as that of a devoted son who finds his greatest satisfaction through dedicating himself with all of his body and soul to helping his parents.

When true love binds us together, we can be together forever, continually increasing in the joy of one another's company. The attraction of true love brings all things in the universe to our feet; even God will come to dwell with us. The value of true love is that it has the power to dissolve, permanently, barriers created by fallen people permanently, including national, racial and even religious barriers.

The path is now wide open for everyone to establish a true family. The family is the model by which

people are to live in service to one another. The warm environment of oneness based on love and respect between parents and children, mutual fidelity and love between husband and wife, and trust and mutual reliance among siblings is the manifestation of the model, ideal family. This means that you need to establish a true family wherein the stem of true love emerges from the root of true love and bears the fruit of true love.

Seeking and setting up such families in Cheon Il Guk, comprised of three generations (grandparents, parents and children) a united family that together serves the ever-present God is responsibility of tribal messiahs, the mission of ambassadors for peace and God's desire. You have to form families that God will miss and yearn to return to after he has been away. You are to raise families to which God can come as freely as would a parent visiting his or her children. This is what it means to live in service to God. In such a family, God is the vertical subject partner of each person's conscience. Following God as its vertical subject partner, each family member's mind is in the position of that person's own vertical subject partner. By following the mind, each person needs to bring his or her mind and body into unity.

Such a family perfects the four major types of love—parental love, conjugal love, children's love and siblings' love. Those four types of love form the four great realms of heart. Only such a family enables the upper-lower, right-left, and front-back relationships to link together and the resultant spherical motions to continue. This is how God's everlasting model, ideal families, ideal nations and peaceful ideal kingdom can form. If families with such true character filled the entire world, a world of natural order, in which the heavenly way and heavenly law reign supreme, would emerge. We would not need lawyers, prosecutors or judges.

UPF and the Abel UN's responsibilities

I ask that you closely analyze the current state of affairs in the world. Although the days of communism are gone, even now, powerful nations are constantly on the lookout for



Father, on Geomun Island, watches True Mother giving her speech in Kumamoto, Japan, on March 8, 2012, with members of the True Family, church leaders, staff members and local church members.

opportunities to pursue their own interests aggressively at the expense of the powerless and small island nations. No small island nation by itself can deal with these nations and their economic, political or even military ambitions. They are so powerful that if they wanted to, they could dominate any smaller nation in a single day, without shedding blood.

Only when peace and security settle in the Pacific Rim can we guarantee peace for all humankind. As I have mentioned, the small island nations by themselves cannot contend with the great tsunami of powerful nations moving into the region. The time has come, therefore, for the small island nations in the Pacific Rim sphere to unite and build the homeland of the new godly civilization.

The small island nations dispersed in the northern and southern regions of the Pacific, on either side of the equator, as well as Japan, Taiwan, the Philippines, Indonesia, the Solomon Islands, Australia, New Zealand and

other countries, need to work as one country, forming a union to sustain peace in the Pacific Rim civilization. This will secure peace and stability for all people. You have the responsibility to protect and save the oceanic realm, which is a lifeline upon which humanity's future depends, from the environmental destruction and conflicts that are worsening by the day, and to shield its natural resources for the sake of peace in the future.

For the purpose of resolving these problems, afflicting humankind, on September 12, 2005, I proclaimed throughout all of heaven and earth the establishment of the Universal Peace Federation, which will enable God's providence to flourish. Now it is possible for UPF to serve as an Abel-type counterpart to the United Nations in the era after the coming of heaven. It will renew the Cain-type United Nations and lead the way for millions of ambassadors for peace throughout the world who have taken up the teaching of the Heavenly Parent. That is to say, my teachings

on the principles of true love and the ideal of a true family absolutely will fulfill the heavenly will of creating one family under God.

Cross-cultural marriage blessings

Through the cross-cultural marriage blessings that transcend religious denomination and nationality, the Universal Peace Federation will be the vanguard that carries out the great revolution of restoring the original lineage of humanity, hearing back to Adam before the Fall. Some may laugh and say that this is impossible. Yet, where there is a will there is a way, especially if it is God's will. The international and cross-cultural marriage blessings, conducted according to my teachings, are God's work done on God's behalf. Please think about this: What do you think will happen if people from countries such as the United States and Russia marry across the boundaries of their nations through these marriage blessing ceremonies? The two nations will belong to one family



On March 22, 2012, Father and Mother took turns reading True Parents' speech at the opening of the Peace World Center.

under God, who is the eternal, absolute Lord of Creation. How could anyone aim any weapons, much less nuclear weapons, at a nation that millions of their grandchildren, descendants of their own lineage, call their home? People are enthusiastically carrying out the holy task of building the ideal kingdom of heaven, the sacred reign of peace on earth, by recovering our ideal homeland and hometown in all corners of the world. This is God's hope for engrafting the seven billion people of the world into one lineage as a God-centered tribe.

Please do not miss your chance to ride on the surging currents of heavenly fortune during this important and sacred jubilee. Take the lead in protecting and developing the realm of the oceans, which covers more than seventy percent of Earth's surface. Where else will we access the treasure stores of natural resources by which we can resuscitate the Earth, fulfilling our promise to end pollution and resource depletion?

You have come to a truly significant event today. You need to unite under the Strong Korea banner. The scope of this campaign shall soon go beyond the Republic of Korea to the rest of Asia and become a beacon that shines beyond Asia to the world. The Universal Peace Federation's outlook will engender a strong Korea, because at the root of Strong Korea, we find God's philosophy of peace based on true love. Is there an ideology or philosophy that can surpass this philosophy of peace and the ideal of God's true love? Heaven shall surely be triumphant!

On this meaningful occasion, please engrave this message in your hearts. The families of your good ancestors in heaven are already blessed. Numbering in the billions, they have come to earth today to listen to this message with you. This is because only through you, their descendants, can they perfect themselves and advance to the positions of true parents, true teachers and true lords and owners. You must not

forget the fact that the spiritual and physical worlds live and breathe together in this way and walk hand-in-hand.

The Abel UN's vanguard and pillar

Your families now need to find their place in history by fulfilling their mission as members of the peace kingdom corps and the peace kingdom police force of the Abel UN, which is advancing God's providence in the revolutionary era after the coming of heaven. History will forever remember you for leading a noble life of devotion for the wellbeing of humanity and world peace, as we globally develop the peace kingdom corps and the peace kingdom police force. I pray that you will engrave today's message in your hearts and share it as material for educating your children, your young people and your entire nation. May God's blessings and grace be upon you, your families, the Pacific Rim and the Peace UN, and upon the launch of Strong Korea. 7

A Gathering to Welcome True Parents to Japan

This is what True Mother said to members at an event welcoming her to Japan on October 13 in Chiba Prefecture.



Are you happy to see me? After the fifth anniversary of True Father's seonghwa, I told the top leaders that we cannot waste even a minute or second until 2020. You are responsible for realizing True Parents and Heavenly Parents' dream of one human family! Originally, God established the laws of nature and then created all things in heaven and on earth. Lastly, God created a man and a woman. All things live according to the laws of nature; therefore, their essence has not changed over time. However, God gave people responsibility. They must go through the growth period to receive the blessing from God.

Christian history summarized

Christians had the responsibility to find God's only daughter. Heaven established a new people and a new nation who could give birth to God's only daughter and continue the providence. Heaven's providence centered on the Korean Peninsula. God's only daughter was born on a Christian foundation in 1943. Then, in 1945, Korea's liberation occurred. With liberation, Korea divided—north and south—along the lines of communism and democracy. Communism had already taken Russia and China, which had been Allied Powers. In those circumstances, I was born in northern Korea and my life was in danger. Heaven had to protect me until I could grow and fulfill my

responsibility. Thus, I traveled to southern Korea.

Effects of the Korea War

Even though Korea was unknown to the world, sixteen UN nations mobilized. In that way, the Korean War became a holy war. Good people spilled blood to protect God's only daughter. In the Korean War, while American troops were in Japan, Japan, which ought to have compensated Korea for damages, experienced economic revival. Japan received a blessing, heavenly fortune. From whom? It was because of God's only daughter, True Parents. True Parents embraced Japan with love.

You must become Japanese blessed families and members who work even harder to realize True Parents' wish. Heaven placed you at the center of the providence—the Eve nation! Even in the fallen world, a mother devotes her life to her children, giving boundless love and devotion for their happiness and success. True Parents blessed this nation as the mother nation. Then, can only you, the mother nation, live well? A mother's mission is to elevate all the nations of the world—almost two hundred—as True Parents' children and Heavenly Parents' children. In fulfilling that mission, you must indemnify your history and self-centered historical wrongdoings for this nation to become the central nation of a new era. For this, you should be grateful. All of

you here must give until your last breath. That is the path to liberate your ancestors. You have to take responsibility for the three phases of time—the past, present and future.

Lead the way to settlement

I am speaking about the settlement—"anchak"—of Cheon Il Guk. The character "an" is a roof over the character for "woman." The woman is the center of the universe, of the nation, and of the family—the mother. You must not retreat. You must be in front. Here, living in the present, you are responsible to think of the past, present, and future. The first generation, second generation and third generation have the same goal.

You have met the True Parent, who was born as God's only daughter after six thousand years. You received True Parents' blessing and you formed blessed families. Would it do for only you to receive the blessing before passing away? You must bring your tribe and all the nations to True Parents. Japan must lead the way in that responsibility! Will you commit yourselves to realizing a world in which our second, third and future generations will not have to pay indemnity but will live free, equal, peaceful, happy lives—in a world where all can attend Heavenly Parent and live as one happy human family, spreading that environment to restore all 7.4 billion people of the world? Thank you! ㄹ





The Blessing of Motherhood

*True Mother spoke to senior members of our movement in Japan on October 14 in Chiba Prefecture.
This was her message that day.*

It's nice to see you. Aren't most of you national messiahs? I have been on many world tours. I am sure many national messiahs are here whom I met in the places I toured. I visited Europe when the European movement celebrated its fiftieth anniversary and I spoke of a revolution in the culture of heart. After Jesus took the way of the cross, through resurrection by the Holy Spirit Christianity began. Christianity's two-thousand-year history developed in Europe. Christianity went through harsh persecution for 313 years. Christians waited with earnest faith for Jesus, who had said he would return. They strongly kept their faith even going through incomprehensibly harsh trials until the

Roman Emperor finally recognized Christianity in AD 313.

A covetous, acquisitive culture

Centered on the Italian Peninsula, Heaven then blessed Christianity, which spread through Europe to the island nation of Britain. Britain began the Atlantic Civilization Era and expanded the Christian foundation throughout the Atlantic territory. Britain's territory was so great people said the sun never sets on the British Empire. However, they did not know Christianity's or Jesus' essence. They should have lived with true love for the sake of others, but they created a culture of taking. Today, if you go to the British Museum, you will see many displays of items reflecting

cultural heritages from all around the world. They were taken from those other cultures. This is not Christianity's true nature. Yet, through True Parents, I opened Cheon Il Guk and I spoke of the Pacific Rim Civilization. I said the Pacific Rim Civilization must spread with Korea, Japan and America at its center. The culture of heart revolution!

Since the Fall, human beings have tried to reach Heaven through their original hearts. We can see this if we look at the ancient civilization of Egypt. People then knew that the afterlife in the spiritual world was greater than life on earth. Four thousand five hundred years ago, how could they move such large, heavy stones through the desert and build

pyramids taller than a hundred and forty meters? Have you considered this before? We could say they pursued the future life in the eternal world more ardently than they did life in their physical bodies.

People today are lost

Fallen people today are not the same. In their original hearts, they wish to live good lives but their bodies do not listen. Therefore, Heaven allowed religion, which could save humankind and guide us in the direction of good, to exist. Four great religions exist today. Yet, these religions have continued until now with ideologies established two thousand years ago. They must change. In the new era, we must change to new clothes. We cannot enter a new era, a new age of history, the era of Cheon Il Guk, wearing the same worn rags.

Reminiscences

Seeing your faces, I am remembering many things from the past. I see Mrs. Kuboki and Rev. Sudo here. They are long-time members. Mr. Kuboki had been the Japanese church president, but he has passed away. I have many fun stories about Mr. Kuboki. He loved me very much, and I loved Mr. Kuboki very much too.

Meaning of the mother nation

After Father's seonghwa, I began a new era. I opened all the doors so you can remain citizens of Cheon Il

Guk until the end. You must clearly know the providence. Jesus said he would return and hold the marriage banquet of the Lamb. God's only son was born but God only daughter wasn't there, so Jesus could not hold the banquet. Christianity had to make a foundation of devotion to give birth to God's only daughter. Through God's only daughter, a new providential history developed. I was born in 1943. In 1945, Korea was liberated. Japan had committed many wrongdoings. With liberation, Korea divided into north and south. The Korean War began and Japan, the defeated nation, did not even think to compensate the nations she had damaged due to the war. At the time, Japan went through economic revival because of the American and UN troops. This means Heaven gave them the opportunity to become wealthy. According to God's principle of creation, what should you do with that? You cannot insist it is yours. You must practice a life expressing true love by living for the sake of others. That is Heaven's blessing. The ones who enlightened us about this are the True Parents. Heaven blessed the Eve nation at the center of the providence as the mother nation. This is a tremendous blessing for Japan. The politicians and citizens of this nation, which received this miracle-like blessing, must know this.

A mother gives and continues to

give without holding back for her children. She gives of herself. As mothers, they do not say, Children, bring everything, all the good things, to me. There are parents in this world who are like this, but Japan, which stands at the center of the providence, has responsibilities and must not be negative. You must not think it is difficult. All you senior blessed family members, who are like my old friends, thank you for living well and in good health. I said this yesterday, but you must fulfill your responsibilities until the last day of your life. To fulfill that responsibility, the first thing is the responsibility as tribal messiahs. It makes me happy and grateful that Mr. and Mrs. Kuboki were Japan's first successful heavenly tribal messiahs. This is something to be proud of. Senior blessed families! Those in the twelve-couple blessing group must become the model. You must get rid of "self." You must throw away self-centeredness. A song I like recently goes, "I threw away my greed so happiness now comes to me."

In the past, Adam and Eve fell because of their greed. Your life of faith is also the same. Saying, I worked so hard in the past for the church so I should receive compensation means you want to make it yours. That is greed. If you are thinking like that, throw those thoughts away. I hope you will be beautiful senior blessed families who live successful lives until the end. ㄸ





The Truth of History Seen through Heaven's Providence and Japan's Mission

True Mother delivered this address on October 15 at the Makuhari Messe International Exhibition Hall, in Chiba, Japan, at the HJ Peace-Loving Festival Kanagawa, one of three 10,000-person rallies held on three consecutive days.

Distinguished guests from Japan and abroad, all members, globally, watching the broadcast to celebrate this day, and especially Family Federation blessed families from Kanagawa Prefecture, it is nice to see you all. I heard that Kanagawa Prefecture has opened the gate to the beginning of a new Japan. Today, I would like to

speak about this new era. When looking at all the phenomena occurring around the world today, we find no hope. What that means is that people cannot eliminate existing problems. There is no solution to today's problems if we do not know the original Creator, God, the absolute God. God created all things in heaven and on earth and then created a man

and a woman, who would become humankind's first ancestors. Unlike all other beings, God gave people responsibility over their growing period. They should have matured with a heart of absolute faith, absolute love and absolute obedience toward God, the Creator. However, Adam and Eve developed greed during that process. They began to look toward

themselves. This led to today's fallen humankind. The Fall began from self-centeredness, so today the nations of the world, large and small, think first of their own benefit. The conclusion is that they cannot unite. Therefore, today I would like to explain our Creator's dream, our Heavenly Parent's dream.

Tragic history and loss

God wished for Adam and Eve to complete the growth period and become the True Parents of humankind, from whom humankind could begin. However, because people did not fulfill their responsibilities, God had to wait. That was the providence of salvation and restoration through indemnity centered on people. In summary, a couple who can become the perfected True Parents must come from within humankind. Therefore, Heaven, through the Israelites, after the long period of four thousand years, sent the only son, Jesus Christ, whom God could call "My son!" However, Jesus could not be alone. A man alone cannot become a parent. When Jesus took the way of the cross, he said he would return. He said he would return and clearly said he would hold the marriage supper of the Lamb. Thus, the essence of Christianity is to find God's only daughter. However, Christianity began with the earnest wish of waiting for the returning Lord without knowing the essence of the providence. From the Italian Peninsula, Christianity spread across Europe and reached Britain, an island nation. The Atlantic Civilization Era was realized through Britain, and Christianity spread to the world. In other words, Christians did not know Jesus' essence. They did not know what Heaven wished for. Christianity spread throughout the world, but eventually nations began to think only of their own benefit.

An economic revival began. Then, the focus of humankind's ultimate purpose was able to shift from just living and eating well to knowing God and becoming happy in the eternal world. Looking at the ancient Egyptian civilizations or those on the Iberian Peninsula, people then lived for and pursued happiness for future generations. I will say this again: If central figures or nations Heaven has chosen do not fulfill their responsibilities,

Heaven will not use them again. Heaven will elevate a new nation, which can begin a new providence. That new nation is what is today Korea, on the Korean Peninsula. I was born in 1943. Korea was liberated in 1945 and the Korean War began in 1950. A remote cause of that war was Japan. Island nations geopolitically wish to encroach on peninsulas or continents. However it is difficult to select a method of doing this that Heaven can bless. This is because the benefit of one's own nation was the beginning point of it all; it began with self-centered greed.

Confusion, conflict and war

Regardless, Heaven is alive and the providence progressed. After six thousand years, in Korea, Heaven found and elevated God's only daughter and God's only son and through them realized the ideal of True Parents. Conversely, the Korean War was a battle between democracy and communism. Believers in Democracy and in Communism, siblings, began to fight on the Korean Peninsula. Russia and China became communized and supported North Korea.

Democracy in South Korea was unprepared when the war began, but as if it were a miracle, the UN entered the war to help defenseless Korea. This was Heaven's protection and blessing. Think about how much Heaven worked for this moment. Because it was in the midst of this situation, Japan revived economically due to the Korean War. Heaven gave its blessing. If you receive Heaven's blessing there is also responsibility. True Parents blessed Japan as the Eve nation. Thus, the era of the Pacific Rim civilization began centered on Korea, Japan and the US. Unlike the past Atlantic Civilization Era, the Pacific Rim civilization centered on True Parents is to unite humankind with the heart of filial piety toward Heaven. Japan was blessed as the mother nation to be central in fulfilling that responsibility. Even in the world, a mother invests all her devotion for her child's success and happiness. The mother's mission is to give unconditionally to fulfill God's dream, humankind's wish, and True Parents' dream in front of the 74 billion people of the world. When it is in that position, your nation can

receive forgiveness for its past wrongdoings. Sensible people must recognize their wrongdoings. You must recognize them so you can start anew. I wish to say this to the politicians of this nation: You must know the truths of history.

A blessing on the nation

I pray that this nation can be a mother nation to the world with no scratches or dirt and become the Japan that does its best. The peace and happiness you desire will increase the more you give. Just because you alone are happy does not mean that happiness is eternal. For it to grow, you must share it. In the pre-program, blessed families in our second-generation realm gave reports. They know True Parents and know True Parents' teachings. They have testified that they are not just second-generation members living for Japan, but global citizens who love and live for the world. If these second-generation members fill and then overflow this nation and go to the almost two hundred other nations around the world and fill them, without a doubt, the world's 74 billion people can realize the dream of one human family that attends God.

Unite and strive forward

Especially, I hope Kanagawa Prefecture, which has begun a new history, can set off and become the center of the world. We are speaking of family perfection. Japan is the mother nation. Korea is the father nation. The father and mother must unite in love for their children to be happy. Then you can cleanse the troubling past, and a new era, a new history, will begin with the father nation, the mother nation, and representing the rest of the world, the eldest son nation, America. I pray these three nations at the center of the providence can realize the dream of a true human family under God and true world peace. Please know the realization of this dream of achieving this ideal is happening on continents around the world. On that point, I would like to say once again that Japan has an immense role in realizing world peace. I would like to conclude and pray that Heaven's eternal compassion be with Kanagawa Prefecture and this nation. ㄸ

Kanagawa HJ Peace-Loving Festival





④ True Mother at the Kanagawa HJ Peace-Loving Festival

② (Left to right) President Moon introduced True Mother. Rev. Tokuno Eiji gave a welcoming address. Mochida Hiromi played the role of MC, and the leader of women in our church in Nishi Kanagawa, Minaguchi Katsuko, prayed.

③ A culture performance by students and young adults depicted the history of Kanagawa, expressed hope for the future and welcomed True Mother.

④ Kimura Haruna and Chikagai Yoshioki offered flowers.

⑤ True Mother entered with Sun Jin Moon by her side.

⑥ Cheers of Eog Mansei, led by the head of FFWPU-Japan's District 4, Rev. Gyobu, reverberated throughout the hall.

⑦ Everyone in the massive audience gave four cheers of Eog Mansei to conclude the HJ Kanagawa Peace-Loving Festival.



Gathering to Welcome True Parents to Japan, October 13



- ① Mother speaking to heads of providential organizations and other central leaders about Japan's mission.
- ② Kajikuri Masayoshi chairman of UPF-Japan and his wife presented flowers to True Mother.
- ③ (Left to right) Song Yong-cheon, chairman of the Japanese movement gave a welcoming address. Tokuno Eiji reported on developments in Japan. Hori Masaichi district leader of South Tokyo spoke about revival of those in our second generation. Oyamada Hideo toasted the success of the event.
- ④ Everyone joins in cheering Eog Mansei.

- ① A senior couple presents flowers to True Mother
- ② True Mother addressing the Japanese senior elders
- ③ True Mother distributing gifts to the elderly Japanese members
- ④ A photograph to commemorate their meeting



True Parents' Special Gathering for Senior Elders, October 14, Chiba



Victory Celebration and Gathering to Welcome True Parents to Japan October 15, 2017, Chiba Prefecture



Gathering to Celebrate True Parents' Successful Return



- ① True Mother and her daughter, Sun Jin Moon light candles on a cake in Japan.
- ② President Ota and his wife present flowers to True Mother.
- ③ Members of the second generation entertain the large audience.
- ④ True Mother gives presents to select individuals.

- ① True Mother, with Julia HJ Moon looking on, cuts a celebration cake in Korea.
- ② The occasion was joyous after having witnessed the great strides the Japanese movement has made and experiencing True Mother's loving embrace of the mother nation.
- ③ (Left to right) Mrs. Wonju McDevitt read True Mother's Kanagawa speech; Ryu Gyeong-seuk prayed; Yun Young-ho was the master of ceremonies; Song Yong-cheon gave a report about the event; Kim Ki-hoon, chairman, North American Regional Group gave a toast; Kajikuri Masayoshi, secretary-general of UPF Japan gave a report as well.
- ④ True Mother, Julia HJ Moon and various leaders from Korea, Japan and America listen to reports at the celebration in Cheon Jeong Gung.



Creating the Environment with Our Mother-Child Mission

This is an edited transcript of a presentation the author gave at the Special Assembly of Cheon Il Guk Leaders from Europe and the Northeast Region for the Victory of Vision 2020. The assembly took place in June at Cheon Jeon Gung.

By Olga Vakulinskaya



I would like to express my deepest gratitude to our True Parents, our True Mother, because they created such a wonderful organization, the Women's Federation for World Peace. This organization, I feel, can substantially convey God's heart, God's love and how much God cares for people. We, as sisters and as Women's Federation members, want to challenge ourselves to emulate True Mother's heart and True Mother's love. That is our main purpose. That is all we want to do in all our activities, just to become channels of God's love and True Parents' love for people. As we understand True Mother's explanation of Vision 2020, WFWP's responsibility is to create a favorable environment. We focus on three things connected to this—intercultural and international peace-building programs, moral and family education, and charity service projects.

We are grateful to our international president, Yeon-ah nim, for her beautiful example of dedication and filial piety and for her guidance. According to her guidance, my sisters and I focus on three things—one is networking with organizations. In Russia, we conduct all our projects in cooperation with different NGOs and sometimes government institutions. Second is our focus on moral education for young people; we hold programs for young people. I remember that Yeon-ah nim once said it is not enough only to hold conferences. We need to do practical service for society. That is the third thing we are trying to do.

With love, serve one another

In Russia, we started with a service project. We feel this is valuable, because it is a great way to educate young people. We have a program for children even from kindergarten. When our own children were little and went to kindergarten, we inspired the kindergarten teachers to prepare programs and visit elderly people or go to homes for people in need, where the children can share their love.

Actually, when I was their age, even when I was twelve or thirteen years old, I never thought of living for the sake of the society, living for the sake of others, but now our children have the opportunity to have a mission, even when they are young. We want to share this mission with other children in the society. That many schools support this now is encouraging. For example, sometimes schools call me and they ask, Olga, when are you planning to go to an elderly people's home or to visit dis-



Mrs. Vakulinskaya testified that Susan Kone is a great person to work with because she always sends back photographs that show how much Kenyan children at her Sandota Education Center appreciate what they receive from generous donors in Russia.

abled children? Can we also help? Can we also prepare some presents or can we also prepare a program and go with you? This is amazing and we want this increasingly to spread.

We realized that so many people in society just do not know what to do to be useful. The Women's Federation can play a role in helping them. We can coordinate projects and programs. For several years, we have been trying to invite children of different nationalities to join these programs. I feel this is precious, a lesson about peace, because when others go with us to serve society, for example caring for elderly people or children in need, how can they think these people, who come from other nationalities, are bad? They realize that Azerbaijan people, Georgian people, people of other nationalities—good people are everywhere. They young people become friends. We hope they grow to become good leaders and good diplomats. They can take a stand for peace.

We have had this program for five years already. When I testify about this program in different venues—in round-table discussions, conferences, even within governmental institutions—people become inspired. Several schools in Russia now take part in this. More and more people want to join.

Our reliable African partners

We have the children collect toys and clothes for African children. We send these through the Women's Federation of Africa, through Susan Kone, to African children. Many teachers and parents have approached me to say, Olga, this is such a precious program because it teaches our children how to become more merciful, more loving people, good people. The recipients in Africa are also very responsible, so I want to inspire other countries to take part in this program, because being very responsible, they always send reports with pictures. They send letters of gratitude to all the principals of schools who took part in this.

Susan Kone testified that for many African children, these toys, sent by Russian children, were the first toys in their lives. They had never seen a toy before. We want to continue this. From one famous social organization in Russia, this project received an award, a certificate, as the best social project in 2015.

We try to teach our children to be conscious that some children are in need. They need our friendship, our care. Together with our children and children from different schools, we go to centers for disabled children or orphanages and we prepare some musical program or other programs for them. For example, we held a program in the main orthodox cathedral in Moscow and received a letter of gratitude from the main priest of the cathedral for this charity project.

We were very happy to do this. We are happy, too, that other countries are now also doing this



WFPW provides opportunities for mothers to involve their children from an early age, which is good for the children's character development and allows the mother to do her parenting work as she, too, does mission work.

type of charity project, such as a children's ensemble in Belarus. Their name is Almighty Kids. They started doing wonderful projects for orphanages and disabled and elderly people. In Latvia, they recently started Women's Federation activities, but they also do wonderful projects in orphanages. You can see the mission of the Women's Federation is unique. You do not need to leave your children behind. We can do everything together with our children. Even when they are little, we can still do social work. Thank you, True Parents, for this wonderful opportunity.

Peacemakers, children of God

We also hold intercultural and international peace-building programs. For Russia, this is important because even Moscow is multicultural. They have people of different nationalities living together whom we encourage to come together to try to understand one another and do good things together. I came to realize that this kind of project is also an amazing way of witnessing, because through these projects, people see our hearts and they can feel True Parents' hearts. They often ask, Who created this? Tell us about your founders.

Sharing about True Parents and sharing True Father's autobiography becomes easy. For example, after we have developed a relationship of trust, couples are willing to go to the blessing.

True Father and True Mother initiated a type of women's UN, which we call the Global Women's Peace Network. We have been trying to initiate this in Russia. In October 2016, we held a successful conference and many people—many new angels—even from government institutions came and testified that they felt an amazing, high spiritual atmosphere. What was happening moved them. We were grateful to have had Dr. Pak No-hi and Dr. Moon Lan-young there, because they conveyed True Parents' hearts and love to people. Our people, too, clearly could sense that it was something special. We had special guests from Italy, Gabriella Mieli and her husband and Mrs. Gavitturo from Austria.

I wanted to testify to a woman who is very famous in Russia in the area of family education and in the area of moral values. I invited her to an event, but I discovered that she had been very negative toward our movement for many years, actually for ten years. She was determined never to cooperate with our movement, but when she came to our event, she completely changed her attitude. She told us, "This deeply moved me and I want to cooperate with you." After that, the vice-president of her college invited me to teach moral education to their students.

Starting young

In Belarus, they have been holding an international conference for four years and it has been very successful. This Intercultural Children's Festival has become an annual program. We invite children from different nationalities and we give awards to children as youth peace ambassador for having set a good example by taking part in charity projects and in peacemaking projects. They deeply value this validation of their effort and gain determination to do more and to cooperate more. An increasing number of partners join this project every year.

Bridge of Peace

An activity most of our members are aware of is the Bridge of Peace project, which gives opportuni-



WFWP and the Angels of Peace perform for children at the the Lobnensky Social and Rehabilitation Center for Minors.

ties to develop heart-to-heart bonds between people. After this program, women often feel we are all real sisters. For example, whenever I visit those in the Azerbaijan diaspora, they introduce me by saying, "This is my real sister and I want to do everything together with her."

That children of different nationalities take part in this kind of project and become real friends is very important and the next step is to go and to do charity work together. We have beautiful cooperation with Europe. We want to continue this cooperation. We are grateful to all the European nations, with whom we could have wonderful and important projects, because in the history shared between our nations is so much pain. Unfortunately, the history of Russia was not easy, involving so much agony. Still much resentment remains in many countries, but they do heal.

We are not just taking pictures; we are not doing this project for the sake of a project. This project heals people's hearts. At this program, for example, in Poland, the whole delegation could stand and we could bow down together. They were not members that came from Russia but eminent figures in society. This was amazing act of witnessing for these important people, because after they come back to Russia, they started testifying about us and specially—It's amazing—even about True Parents. They do not hesitate; they do not have any fear. Often, they testify to one another. They do not actually have much to do. Sometimes at the round table discussions, they take out the autobiography and say, "Now I will quote something important for you," and they quote True Father.

A new avenue

WFWP in the Czech Republic held an amazing, deep, heartistic program. Our ensemble, Angels of Peace, took part in it. The dance troupe was not our idea; it was True Parents' idea. After our children were born, we could not just make them part of Little Angels, which had been our dream. We had to create something to follow the Little Angels' example. We feel that children can move the hearts of people and heal many wounds. After this kind of program, one Austrian man came up to me. He was crying and crying; he said it was because he really wanted to repent.

Just one last point, moral education: What is our strategy now? We started giving master classes on moral education in a famous governmental institution, called the Moscow House of Ventures. Because of this, the Moscow House of Ventures recommended our organization to become part of the Committee of Education in the civil chamber of Russia, which is a very important governmental institution. Based on this, we received a certificate of higher qualification in this field, a more official certificate. I feel that this can be the way to work in many countries, because in some countries, we cannot just start a chapter of the Women's Federation and receive permission to do our programs, but if it becomes professional and qualifies for a governmental certificate, the way is clear and we can do many things. One professional organization outside of our movement made a professional video on Pure Love activities. Many people watched it. That is what we are trying to do, what we are focusing on. I want to testify in front of True Parents that I could keep my purity only because of True Parents, so this is my passion; this is what I want to do. 

Mrs. Vakulinskaya is WFWP's international vice-president for the Northeast Region.

A Brighter Day May Come



Left to right: Rev. Ek Nath Dhakal, then director of UPF-Nepal; Dr. Robert Kittel, then with UPF India; Ambassador Krishna Venkatesh Rajan, India's ambassador to Nepal (1995–2000); Pushapa Kamal Dahal (then known as Comrade Prachandra, leader of the Maoist insurgents) and his second-in-command, Dr. Babura Bhattarai, at a 2007 South Asia Peace Initiative (SAPI) a UPF-Nepal endeavor.

Madhav Kumar Nepal, who served as the prime minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal from May 2009 to February 2011, led a delegation that visited the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) in August. Likely of interest to Unificationists is that the ex-prime minister is a member of IAPP and helped facilitate the launch of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace in Myanmar on July 3. Also of interest, is that among his delegation was Ek Nath Dhakal, the head of Nepal's *Pariwar Dal* (the Nepal Family Party) who was active in Nepal's government beginning in 2008. This may well not be an official Nepalese government endeavor, but they are engaging in discussions. Even before entering government, as FFWPU national leader and head of UPF, Mr. Dhakal served his nation by initiating the South East Asian Peace Initiative (SAPI) that took on extremely complex issues at a time when the country had been flailing from one crisis to the next for years.

SAPI was instrumental in bringing in from the cold the Maoist revolutionary leader, Comrade Prachanda—the Fierce One, which was the *nom-de guerre* of Pushpa Kamal Dahal, who at the age of twenty-seven had joined the underground Communist Party of Nepal, which later added “Maoist” to its name. Prachanda initiated an insurgency that over the course of a decade cost thirteen thousand Nepali lives. Pushpa Kamal Dahal was still an outlaw at the time that he began listening to SAPI presentations. He had been living underground, his true name unknown, for twenty-five years. In a remarkable turn of events, this guerrilla would go on to serve as prime minister of Nepal from August 2008 to May 2009 and again from August 2016 until last June.



This photograph, by Roman Harak, is of the North Korean Parliament Building. According to an article on the Nepalese news site, myrepublica.com, Nepalese ex-prime minister Madhav Kumar Nepal encouraged DPRK leaders to join international forums including UPF and IAPP.

Goings on in Pyongyang

According to an article by a daily newspaper in Nepal (www.myrepublica.com/news/25951), the delegation from Nepal “held talks with government officials, top leaders of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) including prominent leaders of the Supreme People's Assembly, and Workers Party of Korea.” The Supreme People's Assembly is North Korea's unicameral legislative body, which consists of 687 deputies who serve five-year terms in office. Though any person of at least seventeen years of age is eligible to vote and even to run for office in North Korea, only those that have garnered approval from the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland actually become candidates. Voting is mandatory and nearly 100 percent of the eligible voters turn out to cast ballots that contain only one approved name for each political post.

According to a paper by the National Committee on North Korea, which Mercy Corps, “a global humanitarian and development organization” founded, the degree to which North Korea engages with countries outside its borders has changed over time. After it came into being in 1948 as a separate nation from South Korea, the DPRK foreign relations were limited mainly to Eastern European Communist countries. During the 1960s and 1970s, North Korea established ties to poor Asian and African countries emerging from colonialism. Since the end of the cold war, it has developed relations with capitalist countries around the globe. North Korea is no longer an isolated hermit kingdom; a hundred and sixty-four nations currently have relations with the DPRK; twenty-four of them have embassies in Pyongyang. North Korea had embassies in forty-seven countries, Nepal among them.

Being a presence in the country, North Korea has exerted some influence on Nepal. The Nepal's Workers Peasants Party is said to be smitten with North Korea's *Juche* Ideology. More than a half dozen other organizations exist that reflect admiration for the North Korean outlook—Study Forum for Self-Reliance, Nepal Korea Literary Forum for Juche Idea and Nepal-DPRK Centre for the Study of Socialism, to name a few. Under these circumstances, Nepalese may be intermediaries that North Koreans are comfortable with, but how might South Korea see these developments?

South Korea's equilibrium

President Moon Jae-in of the Republic of Korea has demonstrated empathy toward North Korea. For him, as for many other South Koreans, the rending of their nation is a family affair. In 2004, he accompanied his mother, Kang Hang-ok, to the Mt. Keumgang Resort for the tenth round of reunions for families that the Korean War had separated. There he met his aunt, his mother's youngest sister. His mother was seventy-seven at the time. She had grown up in Hungnam, near the east coast, but she had already joined her husband, Moon Yong-hyeong, when war began. She and her husband fled south on a three-day sea voyage with other refugees on the deck of a US ship. Her five siblings remained behind. At the time of the reunion, her son explained, “Since the Roh Tae-woo administration (1988–1993), my mother has repeatedly applied to take part in the reunions of separated families, but because priority was given to separated parents and children, she never got the chance to participate in them. The reunion materialized this time when my aunt in North Korea applied.” Pres. Moon



In 2007: Ek Nath Dhakal (civilian on the left), and the late Mrs. Julia Kim, then co-regional president of UPF Asia. On the right is Binod Dangi, national leader of our movement in Nepal. They're among police officers and soldiers who attended presentations on UPF's peace philosophy.

had been influential in the Roh Moo-hyun administration, when the two Koreas held approximately fifty high-level joint dialogues. Nevertheless, against recent DPRK existential threats to the nation, the South Korean government has taken a strong stance.

South Korea–Nepal

Nepal and the Republic of Korea established diplomatic relations in 1974 and are on good terms. Park Young-sik, the South Korean ambassador to Nepal, in a presentation in July of this year stated that "both countries have built firm bilateral relations on all fronts, including people-to-people exchanges, development assistance and economic cooperation."

President Moon served as the senior presidential secretary during the raucous days of the Roh Moo-hyun administration (2003–2008). President Roh, who had never gone to university but studied hard on his own and earned a law degree had focused his legal practice on human rights advocacy. His clients were often Leftist student protesters or labor union organizers. From the time that Roh entered politics, South Korean conservatives dogged his every move.

Moon Jae-in was also an attorney and loved the work. He apparently derived so much satisfaction from legal work that it no longer seemed like a job. He was uncomfortable in his role in President Roh's administration. He did not seem to fit in but knew he'd feel bad if he simply went back to enjoying his life as an attorney. In that state of mind, torn by contrary forces—Should I stay or should I go?—he quit his job and did what 35,000 South Koreans do every year: He went with his wife to trek through the Himalayas in Nepal and Tibet. He returned a month later to resume assisting the president at a particularly difficult time.

In June 2016, shortly before being elected president, he once again traveled to Nepal and spent four weeks hiking in the mountains and participating in earthquake relief efforts. This was only fourteen months after the Gorkha Earthquake struck killing more than nine thousand people and causing billions of dollars in damage.

Time for prayer

Perhaps in years past, Unificationists or friends of our movement had made efforts to engage North Korea toward some good end, but these were behind the scenes and we were unaware. This time, it seems, some sincere effort is underway. The myrepublica article does say they are engaged in discussion with people of merit. If we reflect upon the changes Heaven has wrought in Nepal and perhaps in our own nations, we might dare believe that the momentum is building and that a brighter day may come. 

A True Peace magazine staff member contributed this article.

Perspectives for Sustainable Peace in Europe

The UN Vision, the Role of Parliamentarians and Civil Society

The conference described in this article occurred at the United Nations Building in Vienna, Austria, on September 15.

By Peter Haider



On September 15, 2017, on the occasion of the International Day of Peace, UPF organized a conference at the Vienna international Center (United Nations Building) on the theme: “Perspectives for sustainable Peace in Europe—The UN Vision, the Role of Parliamentarians and Civil Society.” The meeting was also the occasion to launch the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP) in Austria.

Co-sponsoring organizations included the United Nations Correspondents Association Vienna, The Best of the World Network, the Women’s Federation for World Peace, and the International Institute for Middle-East and Balkans studies. In a hall with a full capacity of two hundred people, representatives from the whole political spectrum of the Austrian Parliament, members of the diplomatic corps, and NGO representatives attended the meeting. Three parliamentarians had come from Italy, the Ukraine and the Czech Republic.

At the opening, as president of UPF Austria, I explained the two purposes



The author and secretary-general of UPF Austria is just to the left of the podium; to his right is Dr. Katsumi Otsuka, president of UPF-Europe.

of the meeting. First, we were there to commemorate the UN International Day of Peace, with its theme on “Together for Peace.” The theme for this comes from the message of UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres and from the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goal 16, which is “Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.”

Our second purpose was the launching of IAPP, a UPF initiative providing a forum for parliamentarians from all nations and political parties to search for solutions to local, national and global problems in a spirit of dialogue and cooperation. A regional launch of IAPP took place on every continent in 2016, including a conference at the British Parliament in September 2016 for Europe, Eurasia and the Middle East. After the Global Assembly of Parliamentarians held in Seoul, Korea, in February 2017, we are launching national chapters throughout the world.

Europe’s refugee dilemma

Mrs. Heather Wokusch, from ACUNS Vienna (Academic Council on the United Nations System) moderated

the first session, on the theme, “Migration, Refugee Crisis, European Identity—Perspectives for the Twenty-First Century.” Mr. Ismail Balla, director of the Vienna UN Office for Disarmament Affairs, began with a report on the United Nations’ efforts to control the arms trade. Austrian parliamentarian Nikolaus Berlakovich, a former minister of agriculture, then spoke about the issue of peace in the Western Balkans. Padre Alejandro Solalinde, a Catholic priest and human rights activist from Mexico, shared about the need to embrace refugees with humanity and respect for our human diversity. Dr. Katsumi Otsuka, president of UPF Europe and Eurasia, provided insight into the UPF founders’ philosophy of peace and described some practical projects they have launched for peace and reconciliation, such as the Korea–Japan undersea tunnel. The final speaker was Mrs. Nina Novakova, a member of the Czech Parliament, who described the challenge Europe is going through regarding values and identity.

Sharing insights

The second session, on the theme, “The Role of Parliamentarians for Sustainable Peace in Europe,” began

with a video presentation of Secretary General Guterres’ Day of Peace message. The panel featured four members of the Austrian Parliament representing different political parties—Mrs. Karin Doppelbauer, from the Liberal Party; Mrs. Petra Bayr, from the Social Democratic Party; Mrs. Barbara Neuroth, from the Green Party; and Dr. Andreas Karlsböck, from the Freedom Party. Each of them express their view and their party’s perspective on the need for intra-national and international communication, beyond party lines. They described their contribution to sustainable peace through projects in various areas, such as climate change, ocean protection, aid and trade, or co-development. Mr. Roberto Rampi, from the Italian Parliament, spoke about the problem of refugees and the need to adapt to the changing nature of our identity in a multicultural society.

Launching IAPP

In conclusion, Mr. Jacques Marion, vice-president of UPF Europe and moderator of the session, read the main points of the resolution to launch IAPP in Austria, and called for all parliamentarians to appear in a commemorative photograph and to



A view of the audience on September 15; Construction funding of the United Nations Vienna International Center (the Vic) situated on the left bank of the Danube, was shared by the government of Austria and the city of Vienna. They symbolically rent it to the UN for one (now obsolete) Austrian schilling a year, about 1/8 of a US cent.

sign the resolution that had we had placed on a large easel on the stage.

A territorial dispute

Dr. Dieter Schmidt, vice-president of UPF Germany, moderated the final session on the theme, "Europe-Eurasia and the Balkans: Building Trust and Securing Cooperation." Mrs. Christine Muttonen, member of the Austrian Parliament and president of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), spoke about her Assembly's efforts to deal with conflicts in Europe, such as Nagorno-Karabakh, which as Wikipedia explains is "a landlocked region in the South Caucasus, lying between Lower Karabakh and Zangezur and covering the southeastern range of the Lesser Caucasus Mountains. The region is mostly mountainous and forested. Nagorno-Karabakh is a disputed territory, internationally recognized as part of Azerbaijan, but most of the region is governed by the Republic of Artsakh (formerly named Nagorno-Karabakh Republic), a de facto independent state with an Armenian ethnic majority established on the basis of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast of the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic. Azerbaijan

has not exercised political authority over the region since the advent of the Karabakh movement in 1988. Since the end of the Nagorno-Karabakh War in 1994, representatives of the governments of Armenia and Azerbaijan have been holding peace talks mediated by the OSCE Minsk Group on the region's disputed status." In her description of the conflict, Mrs. Muttonen pointed to art and culture as important tools for conflict resolution.

A time of general crises

Alena Kupchyna, ambassador of the Republic of Belarus to Austria, spoke about her country's European identity and about its commitment to play a mediating role in conflicts in the region, through a "New Helsinki Process." Ambassador Peter Schatzer, a member of the Parliamentary Assembly for the Mediterranean, gave his views on various crises in Europe, from refugees to cooperation in the Balkans. Mr. Viktor Ielenskyi, a parliamentarian from Ukraine, gave a detailed account of the aggression his country has suffered from Russia and about Ukrainians' efforts at resistance. The final speaker, Mrs. Marijana Grandits, from the University of Vienna's Human Rights Research

Center, described her experience in promoting human rights in the Balkans and insisted that sustainable peace could only appear on the foundation of restorative justice.

The atmosphere and motivation

The prestigious décor of the UN, the expertise of the speakers, the challenging but relevant theme of sustainable peace contributed to the success of the conference and to an auspicious launch of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace on the UN International Day of Peace.

The Universal Peace Federation has launched the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace as a global association of parliamentarians that provides a forum to bring their experience and wisdom to bear on the search for solutions to our world's problems. Parliamentarians from around the world have offered their remarks on the importance of this work and the value of increased cooperation and collaboration in the search for innovative solutions to some of the critical issues that we face on the local, national, regional and global levels, from climate change to the rise of extremist ideologies to humanitarian disasters and conflict. 

The History of Unificationism in Taiwan

The author, an erstwhile national leader of France, has visited and interacted with our national churches in various countries over the years. Here, he presents an overview of an active church in one of our strategic nations.

By Laurent Ladouce

This is a suitable time in the history of Unificationism to focus on our movement's development in Taiwan on several accounts: the mission in Taiwan started in 1967, fifty years ago. Taiwan was the third missionized nation in Asia, directly after Korea, the father nation and Japan, the mother nation. In 1998, True Parents promoted Taiwan as one of the three elder daughter nations (together with the Philippines and Canada). Additionally, Taiwan is one of our thirteen strategic nations, where members are intent on achieving national restoration.

Learn from one another

The Taiwan way of development has good practices to offer. After years of persecution, our movement there was a forerunner in gaining official recognition at the highest level of the state. In the view of Prof. Thomas Hwang, the regional director of Greater China, Heaven has a special providence for the Chinese people themselves, who represent about 20 percent of the global population. God has equipped the Chinese civilization with many assets in preparation for the establishment of Cheon Il Guk. We are all



Jeong In-suk, who took the Chinese name Chang Ren-sue, was the pioneer missionary of Taiwan.



True Mother boldly proclaiming the advent of True Parents and the Completed Testament Age in Taiwan.

aware that Christianity remains the mainstream foundation for the returning Lord, but the Chinese civilization offers a legacy of family values and ethics that can help humankind accept the notions of True Parents and of true love. Recently, an organization, the International Association of Overseas Chinese, came into being with this in mind.

Stages of development

Our mission in Taiwan has gone through three periods: a period of planting roots and surviving in a hostile environment (1967–1989), a period of booming as a fast growing church (1990–1997) and a period of maturation, during which the government recognized it for contributing to the society's welfare (1998–2017). In the first period, our mission in Taiwan was in a symbiosis with Korea and Japan and had a providential role to preserve the security in Northeast Asia against the communist threat. Sadly, the church was banned beginning in 1975, and its growth was limited. In the second period, the church grew rapidly and welcomed our True Parents at the highest level. The movement had strong ties with their counterparts in the Philippines and other Southeast Asian nations. In

the third period, the mission has mostly relied on the expertise of its local leaders. Its main regional role is as the headquarters of the Greater China region, in relation to our missions in Mainland China, Hong Kong and Macao.

Christian roots, ties to parent countries

True Parents have designated thirteen nations strategic. Among them, Taiwan has had the longest ongoing Unificationist mission. Geographically and culturally, it is also closest to Korea and Japan, the parent nations.

The first missionary to Taiwan arrived in 1967. Miss Jeong In-suk was a Korean, born and raised in Japan. She joined the Unification Church in Japan, under the name Nobuko Fukuda. She was sent to Taiwan and took the Chinese name Cheng Ren-sue.

Unificationist roots

The inception of the mission in Taiwan is the fruit of the cooperation between Korea, the Adam nation, and Japan, the Eve nation. The last chapter of the Divine Principle examines which nation in the Far East is the chosen nation for the Second Coming.

Since ancient times, the nations in

the East have traditionally been considered to be the three nations of Korea, Japan and China. Among them,... Japan entered the period of the Second Advent as a fascist nation and severely persecuted Korean Christianity. China at the time of the Second Advent was a hotbed of communism and would become a communist nation. Thus, both nations belonged to Satan's side. Korea, then, is the nation in the East where Christ will return.

Nevertheless, in order for the Pacific Rim civilization to appear, Korea's mission has to reach Japan and China, the two powerfully influential countries in Northeast Asia. Since Mainland China had become communist, Taiwan was the only nation of Chinese culture where the providence coming from Korea and Japan could take root.

Having no official status, Cheng Ren-sue often had to leave Taiwan, going back and forth to Japan. She decided to focus on Taiwanese that had a Christian background and could speak Japanese. As it had Korea, Japan annexed Taiwan and ruled the country 1895–1945, but it was a less bitter experience for the Taiwanese than for the Koreans. Today,



Secretary-General Ching Jang Chen of the Taichung City Council presents a plaque on to Mother December 22, 1993, following her speech to the Taiwan Legislative Yuan during a fifty-three day tour.

Christians represent about 4 percent of Taiwan's population. Mr. Chen Tuo-huan, president of UPF-Taiwan, said, "Christians are generally seen as more 'blessed' than the average citizen, having a better education, better manners and a higher income." Sun Yat-sen, whose political philosophy greatly influenced Taiwan, and Chiang Kai-shek, the first president of the Republic of China, both had embraced Christianity, with the strong conviction that the Christian way was the best to promote development and prosperity and to bring blessings to a nation.

Cheng Ren-sue introduced the Divine Principle to the wife and mother-in-law of Dr. Jing-ching Chang. The three were all attending the same Baptist church. Dr. Chang, a university professor of physics, accepted the Divine Principle around the age of forty, translated it from Japanese to Chinese, and was the main lecturer in Taiwan for many years.

A first-hand witness

Mr. Chen, the UPF president, remembers this period very well. "I joined the church in 1973, as did my future wife, Lily Lin. I came from a Buddhist and Taoist background, like many

Taiwanese, but I had embraced Christianity by joining the Salvation Army. My wife's family had been Christian for four generations. Lily has strong heavenly fortune; she has found more than thirty spiritual children. Part of this blessing comes from the Christian background, I believe."

Many other early Taiwanese church members had been Christians. A figure like Dr. Chang was impressive. At that time, not many Taiwanese could enter university. The fact that the main Divine Principle lecturer at workshops was a university professor was an asset. Professor Chang was not charismatic, but his presentations were logical and intellectually powerful. The students respected his knowledge and excellent manners.

Regarding deep, internal dimensions, early members had strong experiences with the missionary, Cheng Ren-sue. When hearing her soulful internal guidance during morning services, the young members yearned desperately for Heavenly Parent's heart. Moreover, during those days, Korean elders, particularly Lee Yo-han, who nurtured their faith, often visited the Taiwanese members. True Father had visited Taiwan in 1965 during his first world

tour and established a holy ground in Taipei. The True Parents visited Taiwan in April 1972. The young movement kept slowly growing, regularly gaining members.

Banished

Progress halted however in February 1975, at the time of the 1,800-couple blessing in Korea. First, bad rumors against our True Parents from the United States and Europe reached Taiwan. The international media bashed the Unification Church and the Taiwanese media followed suit. Second, twelve students volunteered to drop out of their universities to become missionaries, which led to the ban of the Taiwan church with the accusation of "offending our traditional values," prescribed by law at the time.

The ban against the Unification Church combined with the long-standing state of martial law (1949–1987) forced the Taiwanese members to go underground for the next fifteen years, even though the situation improved gradually during the 1980s. The church retained a bad reputation and Taiwanese society ostracized our members. Perhaps ten couples received the blessing in 1982. In 1984, Lee Yo-han launched a new pioneer-



The then vice-president of Taiwan, Annette Lu Hsiu-lien greeting True Parents in Taipei on November 30, 2005. A strong person (Lu survived an assassination attempt in which she was shot twice in March of the year before this visit by True Parents.) Lu later had some interaction with the Global Women's Peace Network.

ing campaign in big cities. How did the movement in Taiwan survive the 1975 ban? Mr. Chen presented several reasons:

We had received much internal guidance from our first missionary. We had held onto deep memories of meeting the Korean elders. We had lived together in centers and had experienced God's unbreakable, eternal love. Remember that most of us had a Christian background; if you have a chance to meet the returning Christ, can you leave the Lord? Beside the internal reasons were external reasons. Father had established two international organizations that continued connecting Korea, Japan and Taiwan together. One was a supra-denominational organization, the ancestor of our interreligious organizations. The other was an organization that brought together parliamentarians of Korea, Japan and Taiwan. Now, we have the IAPP; at that time, we had this association.

The 1990s: Rapid growth

The government officially lifted the ban against the Unification Church in March 1990. Reverend Kim Byung-

wooh and his wife (Christopher also known as Byung-hwa, and Julia Kim) were then the regional leaders of Asia at the time. Their focus was the growth of our young churches in Southeast Asia, but they also perceived the new potential offered in Taiwan. The Taiwanese church revived in a country blessed with an emergent maturing democracy and steady economic growth.

The Kims insisted that the primary targets of witnessing were students in good universities. Japan had established a model of video centers, and the Taiwan movement successfully adapted that method of outreach. Hundreds of members joined. Mr. Chen and his wife Lily received a posting to Taichung, Taiwan's second largest city, where the church opened four video-centers. According to Mr. Chen, the main reason for their success was Reverend and Mrs. Kim's strong and wise leadership. They had brought Japan's good fortune to Taiwan and had invested all their heart and inspiration. "I remember how Mrs. Kim was personally involved. She was both strict and caring, loving and concerned. She would always give the right guidance to see the next step. We were able to attract many students and to take care of

them. We had many couples blessed in 1992 and 1995. Today, they are the backbone of the movement."

Meanwhile, the church, following the long ban, was gaining acceptance. During her world tour in 1993, True Mother spoke on "Family Ethics and World Peace" at Taiwan's Legislative Yuan on December 22 and met the president of the country (1988–2000), Lee Teng-hui. Two years later, Father gave the speech "True Family and I" in Taipei. Our True Parents were then pushing for the globalization of the blessing and expected our members to turn the blessing into a large-scale social movement.

The mission in Taiwan was a pioneer in working closely with local governments to prepare for the huge blessings of 1995 and 1997. While Taiwan was definitely becoming a model of democracy and of economic prosperity, the society was facing new challenges with the rise of individualism. Local elites in Taiwan, often raised with conservative ethics, saw that our movement was providing a strong ideology and practice to keep the traditional Chinese values and adapt them to the modern world. The unification movement had been able to educate many students about successful marriage and strong,



Blessed couples who have completed a forty-day separation and are now looking forward to their three-day "honeymoon."

patriotic families. These values and good examples met with great empathy in Taiwan.

A creative minority (1998–2017)

In its third stage of development, the movement in Taiwan has trained to become a respected religious group trusted by the state and by the population through grass-root social programs. With eleven Unificationist NGOs registered, the movement can secure strong influence in politics, economy, society and culture. The best case study of its national impact is its central role in the 300,000-person historical demonstration held in front of the Presidential Office Building on November 30, 2013, to oppose the legislation of same-sex marriage.

In 2013, some activist groups tried to legalize same-sex marriage in Taiwan. The silent majority of the population opposes this kind of law, but the media push its adoption. As we have seen earlier, Christians are powerful in Taiwan but represent only 4 percent of the population. Most Christians opposed same-sex marriage and wanted to attract the support of people from different faiths to stop its legalization. Having understood that the Unification Church in Taiwan had a strong and longstanding tradition of interreligious dialogue, Christian leaders took the initiative to reach out to Unification-

ists in conjunction with Buddhist, Taoist, Confucian, Islamic and other religious organizations to form the Taiwan Inter-religious Confederation for Cherishing Family (TICCF). They proposed that Mr. Chen, the UPF president, be the convener of the confederation and that Dr. Chang Chuan-fong, vice-president of FFW-PU, be the spokesperson.

In some ways, this amazing story illustrates Arnold Toynbee's theory of a creative minority. The British historian (1889–1975) contended that civilizations progress mostly through the driving force of their creative minorities. Reversely, civilizations perish when their creative minorities do not shed their light anymore and do not resist trends toward decadence. Christians have long been the creative minority of modern Taiwan, and the same-sex marriage bill was a test of their influence. They understood that in order for them to be successful, they had to rely on the very small creative minority that God had prepared to save the country, and that is the unification movement. As Dr. Robert Kittel noticed at the time, "This historic event represents Christianity, as Cain, cooperating with the Unification Church, as Abel, and of their own volition asking the Unification Church to take the lead in TICCF."

The Unification Community in

Taiwan did not only reach out to the elites of the country, but mobilized blessed members, who sought signatures. Christians and other religious groups mobilized as well and worked with our members. Signatures from 550,000 people had been obtained by November 30, the day of the main demonstration, which attracted 300,000 people in front of the Presidential Office Building. A key point of the success was to change the focus from the negative "opposing same-sex marriage" to the positive, "Stand up for the happiness of our next generation." TICCF religious representatives, some legislators, mayors, lawyers, students and entertainers spoke out to advocate healthy sex education, to maintain marriage between a man and a woman, to leave light and warmth for our next generation.

The people all wore face masks, symbolizing the "silent majority," as opponents to the same-sex issue among the Taiwanese public and the media. The impression had been that only Christians opposed the change of the law. The huge crowd encouraged opponents not to be silent any longer. Our Taiwan mission sends us a universal message, to remove our mask and speak out bravely. 

Mr. Ladouce is a member of the True Peace magazine staff and a PeaceTV presenter.

Cross every Strait

Love Made in China

By Laurent Ladouce



In the televised musical, *The Sound of Music*, actors portray Maria Rainer singing “Climb Every Mountain” with the Mother Abbess, when Maria decides to leave the monastery and marry captain Von Trapp with whom she will escape Nazism by crossing the Alps. Climb every mountain / Search high and low / Follow every byway / Every path you know...

Sometimes, love has to cross mountains. In China, it may have to cross a strait. Between Mainland China and the island of Taiwan, the Taiwan Strait can be seen as a metaphor of the straits that we all have to cross in order to arrive at true love. The man is Ko Cheng-hong, from Taiwan and his beautiful wife, Zheng Lina, is from mainland China. “My husband is not handsome, but it was never an issue; he has brought so much to me,” says the lively Lina. “In our marriage, we almost never quarrel,” replies the placid Cheng-hong.

Their story is so Chinese, and so Unificationist. Lina was the third child of a couple living in countryside in the People's Republic of China. After a second child, her mother had an operation but still conceived Lina. “My birth was not declared, and I grew up with my grandparents in Beijing, far away from my parents in the countryside. I was raised as a city girl.” When she went back to her

parents, she felt like a foreigner there. Even in China, in the same family, there can be many straits.

Finally, unlike her two siblings, Lina could enter university, and returned to Beijing to study international trade. There, she became interested in spirituality and Christianity. “I knew there was something higher in life.” One of her classmates brought her to the Unificationist center in 2004. She accepted the Divine Principle but because the police often investigated the center, she had to hide her faith.

Cheng Hong is eight years older than Lina. He has been a Unificationist since 1993. His faith background is Ikuan Tao, an important religion in Taiwan. He had gone through the blessing in 1997 but his bride never accepted him. After several years, the blessing broke, leaving him with deep scars. Without ever losing his faith, he lost confidence that he would ever enjoy a happy conjugal life.

In 2006, Lina attended a workshop. The schedule was strict and she could barely follow the hoondokhae at 5 AM. One day, she heard a strong voice from the spirit world telling her that God and the spirit world actually exist. Though hiding her faith from everyone, she kept her faith that God would guide her. Shortly before her region organized a matching by picture, she had dream of a big man with a flower. When she received the picture of

Cheng-hong, it was the same man. She felt attracted by the goodness that she had felt in her dream.

Cheng-hong went through the Blessing Ceremony in Seoul with a picture of Lina. Until the day they finally met, they often communicated by Skype. Upon seeing the sadness that had been in his heart for many years, Lina took his hand and comforted him. His long ordeal to find love was over; he would build his home.

She quickly came to Taiwan, where she opened a small shop and became involved in Pure Love outreach. Her passion to live in a new country without recognizing any barrier impressed her husband. Both believe it is possible to become an “ideal couple.” She sees herself as a strong woman, but a bit stubborn and sometimes influenced by bad dreams. “My husband is peaceful and tolerant. Whenever I am harassed by evil spirits, he tells me to embrace them and love the enemy rather than hate them.” Cheng Hong feels proud of Lina, who has embraced him and the country. “I believe that problems can be solved. If my wife cannot do something, I should try to do it. Moreover, if a problem emerges in the couple, it is useless to ponder who is right or wrong. What matters is to find the solution.” To date, they have two children, a girl and a boy. ㄅ

A Time of Reflection: Michael Balcomb

Rev. Balcomb recently received the responsibility of chairman for the Europe Regional Group. He had been the unification movement's national leader in the United States since 2013.



Do you have a favorite memory of True Father to share with our readers?

This morning, I went up again to the *Bonhyangwon* to say good-bye to Father. I have been staying up at the HJ Gung, and I was not sure if I would get another chance to greet him. Each year when I come back here at the seonghwa time, I feel closer to True Father than ever before.

One memory comes to mind: it was about ten years ago and we were fishing with Father on the Hudson River. The fishing was successful but on the way home, it started to rain very hard and the wind was blowing the rain against Father. He seemed not even to notice it. So, I took initiative and I sat right next to Father with my whole body touching him. I was getting wet, but because of me, Father was not get-

ting wet any more. I felt, Well, if I do not do anything else on earth, at least, on this day, I helped to save True Father from the rain.

But as I went home, I thought, But this is what True Parents have been doing for us throughout their lives. They have been standing in front of us, sheltering us not from the rain but from all the attacks of Satan, all the things that might happen. They themselves took the blows and the burden, but because they did that, we could get as far as we have today. So, I always feel Father is my father and if one time I could do what he did for me every day, that would be a small thing. We miss True Father so much. Sometimes, it feels like fifty years already have passed and sometimes like just fifty days.

What has been your experience with True Mother at the helm?

T rue Mother called me to Korea just two weeks after Father's seonghwa and asked me to take responsibility in America. For the last five years, I have been doing my best, first as vice-president and then as president. And just after Madison Square Garden, forty days ago, she asked me to take a new responsibility in Europe. Two weeks ago, I had a chance to come back here to Korea

and meet with True Mother and she told me with so much love and kindness, "I believe in you. I trust you. I think you will do well."

Of course, she explained what she wanted to see in Europe, which is very simple: proclaiming True Parents, blessing the population, having confidence that tribal messiahship can work. One side note: while I was here three weeks ago, none of the buildings that have just opened looked as if they could possibly be ready. But I told True Mother at the opening of the Magnolia, You're a miracle worker because out of the chaos and the mud, you put forth these beautiful facilities in a way like God put forth the creation out of chaos, out of nothingness.

I think Mother really knows how to get people to give their best. She is quick to praise. She is not afraid to point out when we need to correct ourselves, but she has such faith in us. She believes we can do it. I think with that kind of support from true Mother, if we unite, miracles are possible. I think our movement's best days are ahead of us and we will fulfill all the goals and dreams that True Parents have. 

Rev. Balcomb is chairman of the Europe Regional Group.

A Time of Reflection: Kim Sang-seuk

Rev. Kim Sang-seuk had been the regional president for our Central American region until he recently received an appointment as the chairman of the Latin American Regional Group, which incorporates our Central American movement, including Mexico, and all of South America. This interview took place during the Cheon Il Guk Leaders Meeting at the time of the anniversary of True Father's seonghwa.



Nineteen years ago, when I was a missionary in South America, I went on True Parents' boat with them. At that time, True Father spoke to me, just a missionary, for forty minutes about the South American and North American providence. He said South America has a Catholic culture, that of the eldest brother, and North America, the younger sibling, has the culture of the Abel-type realm and if they do not unite, world peace will be difficult.

I did not think so deeply about this at the time, but now, after almost 20 years, I am once again in the position of being responsible for South America. That time, in many ways, remains in my memory. So the

unity of North America and South America that True Father spoke about is the unification of Protestantism and Catholicism—integration. I believe it is an absolutely important thing for world unification.

True Mother is praying for and offering devotions for the global mission field. What is important right now is that we have the responsibility to establish the substantial Cheon Il Guk through national restoration. With that mission, True Mother has provided all our leaders in the world the foundation of her devotions. As to the completion of the substantial Cheon Il Guk, we must go to each nation, and if all blessed families with the mission as heavenly tribal messiahs fulfill their

responsibilities, we will be able to realize our overall mission which realizing the completion of the substantial Cheon Il Guk through the substantial national restoration.

True Mother, for the first time, has split the regions into seven regional groups and I became the regional group chair of South America. What is important is that we are united with True Mother and that all the leaders in each region can unite. Then we can do what is most important, which is to go forward to fulfill the responsibility we have received. What is most important is for us to work in harmony, in love and in unity.

Our Central America region has twenty-one nations and the South America one has twelve, so that is thirty-three nations. Among those thirty-three nations, thirteen are island nations in the Caribbean. They have many different languages. That is the South American region. The main religion of most of the countries is Catholicism and their main language is mostly Spanish.

Three years remain until 2020. Now, all our blessed families throughout the world, will fulfill our mission as heavenly tribal messiahs in order to create a foundation for national restoration! 

A Time of Reflection: Pastor T. L. Barrett

Thomas Lee Barrett, who answered the call of the Lord at the age of nineteen is pastor of the Life Center Church of God in Christ in Chicago, in the US State of Illinois. He is a man with heart and with a story to tell.



We are on the site of the 2017 Interreligious and International Clergy Conference for World Peace, during the time when we commemorate True Father's seonghwa. On this occasion, do you have a favorite experience with True Father that you could share with our readers?

My favorite experience was... I was like Peter Cottontail, hopping down the bunny trail going happily, happily on my merry way, traveling with True Father on the fifty-state, We Will Stand Tour. My job was to open the program, but not the program but I was to speak before Father, sort of warm the audience up. I think I did a pretty good job, and one night we were in... I think we were in Dallas Texas and after the program was over, I was in my hotel room and I got a call that Father wanted me to come to his suite. When I went up there, he came into the conference area and said to me, You know you are going along with me on this tour for the restoration of families and the building of marriages and all, but you're not married. Because my wife and I were divorced. She divorced me after twenty-five years of marriage.

So, he said, I would like to match you. And we have chosen several ones for you to choose from. Normally, Father just chooses someone, but he gave me the royal opportunity to choose someone. But I told him, No. I will not choose a bride because I was still married to my children's mother. We had seven children and I told him that I meant it when I said, "Until death do us part" and she's not dead. That was shocker, because nobody refuses Father Moon.

He put his head down. He did turn red. Everybody thought I had angered him but actually, the spirit of prophecy had overcome him because when he raised up he said, It will happen soon. I thought, he's not a true man of God because I didn't tell him that she had remarried and was living in another state and we had no communication.

But one week later, she walked in our church while I was preaching. After services were over, I went downstairs and there all of her luggage was in my office.

I said, What is going on? She said, It just didn't work out and I'm back. We've been living in the Land of Happily Ever After ever since. And that's because of True Father's prediction. Amen!

Your wife is Cleopatra.

That's right. Cleopatra, Queen of the Nile!

What has your experience been here at this year's conference?

Oh, this has been a wonderful gathering. I've attended all of the sessions and everyone one of them were on fire. It was just marvelous. Everybody seems to be consumed with the mission of peace, which is what Mother is propagating, that we all work in the cause of peace. Her words are "Peace begins with me," so that's what everyone is talking about. It has just been a wonderful sharing.

Has it been particularly poignant because of the circumstances with Korea at this time?

Very much so. So many people said, Don't go to Korea at this time because of that crazy man in North Korea. So, I told them, first of all, we cannot perceive a child of God as crazy. I said that people tend to be what you see. You have to realize that we have power just by your perception so we can't talk about his misguidedness. We should talk about the fact that there is still God and God is still in control and God is depending on us to respond in kind but to respond kindly. If you respond to people in kind it means you have to come down to their level, which is a low level but if you respond kindly, you stay in God's stratosphere and that is how God works through us. It is not through the fervent praying that we do but it is the fervent lifting of conscious-



ness that we determine to pay the dues of discipline to live by that makes God and enables God to work through us.

I said, This is the right time to go, to send peaceful vibrations and loving vibrations to him. By us being here, doing what we're doing as Jesus never stopped doing what he was supposed to do, even on the cross. So that after he gave up the ghost and died those very ones who said, Crucify him and did crucify him—they said, Surely, this was the son of God. So when we leave here, Don't be surprised if Kim Jong-un says, Surely, those were people of God. We're going to mend our ways.

Father was such a strong presence and now Mother is the one giving speeches and leading things. What's your perception of that?

Well, just as a Elisha told Elijah, I don't want you to lead me, but if you have to leave me, leave me a double portion of your spirit. I think that is the secret pact. I wasn't there but I have a suspicion that Mother and Father agreed that when he left this plane of existence, he would give her a double portion of his spirit. That's why she's indefatigable and she's on a mission that cannot miss. 7

A Time of Reflection : Bishop Jesse Edwards

Bishop Jesse Edwards, the director of ACLC in New York, is an evangelist who served the city of Philadelphia, in the US State of Pennsylvania, for many years. He, too, is a veteran of Father's fifty-day, fifty-state, We Will Stand Tour.



Every time with True Father is cherished. I remember when I first met Father. We had breakfast together and I had heard his speech. He asked me what I thought of his speech. I said, Well, Father, they introduced you as the Messiah. As a Christian that kind of shocked me. I thought, Oh... How could he be called the Messiah?

Father answered my question. He said, Rev. Edwards, listen: Are you called to come to Philadelphia? I said, Father Moon, if you are not called to come to Philadelphia, it's a very big job. He said, Are you anointed by the Holy Spirit to minister in Philadelphia? I said, If you are anointed of God, there is no way you'll last very long in this city of Philadelphia. He asked, Do you believe God has called you to the people of Philadelphia?

Absolutely!

He said, You are the Messiah to Philadelphia.

All of a sudden, I took a whole new perspective on the word "Messiah." I know it takes an anointing. The word "Messiah" means "the anointed one." I think we think that only one person, like Jesus, could use that anointing, but so many men in the Word of the Lord were anointed. I learned that. That will stick with me forever, because I learned that I should be the Messiah of the calling that God has put on my life.

What is your sense of True Mother's transformation in leading the movement?

There couldn't be a better combination than Father working with us in the spirit realm and Mother working here, down on earth. Like in the atom, you have the proton and the neutron and they work together. I think we need that connection. Father did a great work while he was here on earth, but I think he was limited in a physical body. But now, there are no limits in the spirit realm. I think that with the oneness that Father and Mother have together as True Parents, now we can get the full dimension of the real anointing from Heaven. There are no limits to Father's powers and to what he can do now working



with True Mother. I believe they are in unison. I believe they are one. That unity is so powerful and so strong, I believe we get revelation and I think we get understanding and empowerment by the spirit even more than when Father was alive.

ACLC has changed over the years. In the beginning, Unificationists were teaching the Divine Principle to minister, now ministers are teaching and preaching the Principle.

The Principle has not changed. The word is the same, yesterday, today and forever. The foundation of truth never changes; our understanding of truth may change. I like how father opened up the Principle: I bring you a new truth. The truth hasn't changed. It is how we see it [that makes it new]. I can see you clearly but if I want to read the pages of a book, I have to put reading glasses on, because that focuses in on the word. The word never changes; what changes is how I see it. Every minister that knows the word of God would fall in love with the Principle, because Father got the Principle from the word of God. And if you understand the word of God, it opens up things in the Principle like the Fall, the life of Jesus, the crucifixion—things that we took for granted. We really didn't have a deep understanding of a lot

of these issues. The Principle opens up between the lines and explodes the understanding of what happened or what could have happened if man had been obedient.

For Unificationists who tried to approach those in traditional Christian denominations, Pentecostals have a tough reputation.

They always have! Still today, some do—but this has nothing to do with the word "Pentecost." Pentecost is not a denomination. It's not a religion. Pentecost is a movement of God. In Acts 2:2 it says, "There came a sound from heaven like the rushing of a mighty wind."

Pentecost was the movement of God. Father said many times in his word that the Unification Church would have a Pentecost. I think some of them thought it would change our religion and become a new church. No, no, no... It means the spirit of God is going to move like it never had before.

My personal self, as far as Principle, True Parents... I learned as a very young child to seek God. What I don't know, what is unfamiliar for me, instead of rejecting and pushing it aside, I want to find out what it is. Do you know how I learned that from True Father? He would always say two things—study and pray.

When you study the word of God and then you pray, study gives you the knowledge of the word and prayer gives the revelation from God, who reveals truth to you. So, I had no problem with True Parents. My natural self would have trouble with the definition of words, vocabulary that was used, it was not that I didn't like it. I was unfamiliar with what I heard. I would go home, study and pray and God would show me, right there.

The first thing I had trouble with was "True Parents." Who does Father think he is calling himself a true father and Mother a true mother? I went home and prayed. Do you know what I felt God tell me? "Jesse, I have been trying to tell you that you need to be a true parent and a true father and mother." When you study and talk to God—Principle, True Parents, their word—become right in line with God's word. 

Faithful, Successful Young People Unite in a True Love Blessing

Unificationists worldwide hope to establish a pattern of successful families, where our heavenly traditions will empower our children to lead fulfilling lives. First-generation members often gave up their dreams, went through a course of indemnity and sometimes could not taste real happiness. They tend to find satisfaction if at least their children can inherit this model, but live more happily and more victoriously.

Sarah Kambwala, twenty-three, is an elegant young woman from the Democratic Republic of Congo. She focused on church life and her studies until 2017. She has earned a degree in agronomy and created her own small business in farming. What other successes has she enjoyed?

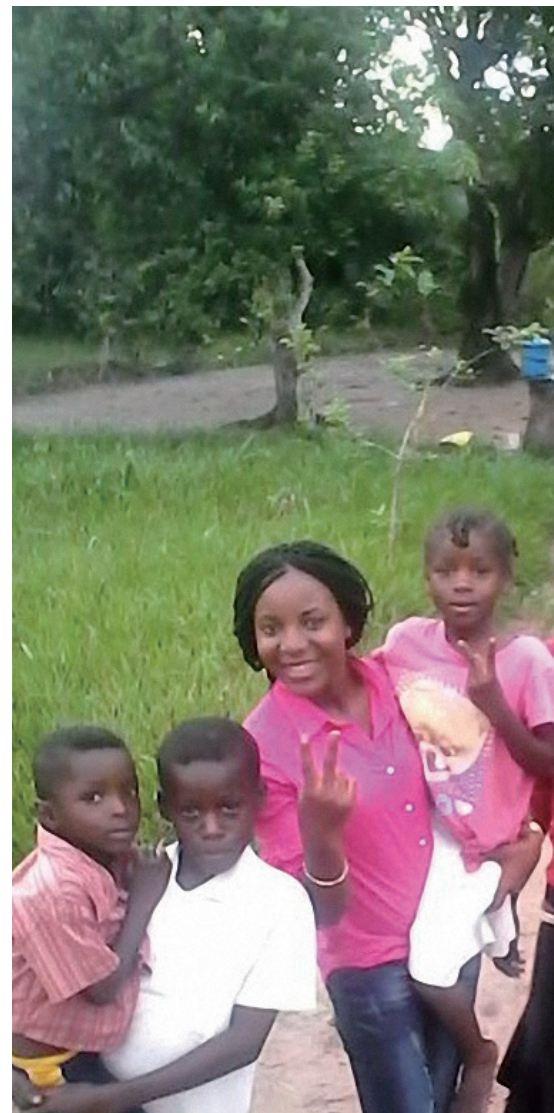
"Frank and I understand the purpose of life, the three blessings," she said, looking lovingly at Frank Mbo Nzola Meso, twenty-nine. "After our parents met and agreed, reported to their respective pastors and finally to our national leader, we were officially engaged. The vertical tradition matters for us, and God's word is the center of our lives. After the official and vertical approval, this project became our project, which both of us have to make successful, through good and regular horizontal communication."

Frank puts his arm on her shoulder. "My elder brother is behind this. He told my parents that I should be blessed with Sarah. At first, my parents worried, since she is six years younger than I am, but we decided to try. After our matching, I wanted to see her often, but she was always busy. We would sit down to talk a bit, but she had to go, and I would walk with her to the university. She is not just a student. She has her business."

Building a personal foundation

As a matter of fact, Sarah is growing amaranth and *ndembi* (chives). She also bought four pigs, thus creating a small business. When asked if he minded that his wife likes pigs, he replied, "I am proud of her, and I understand. My father was a farmer and at the age of ten or eleven, I was helping him. Sarah can have pigs, and yet be my lady."

Until the time of their matching, Frank and Sarah had of course thought about the blessing, but both were very involved with church activities and were motivated to succeed in their studies, in order to serve their nation. "I am an engineer in the field of electricity," said Frank. On paper, Congo has so much water; it could be a giant in producing electricity for all its citizens and for the agricultural sector. In practice, a



person with many degrees, like me, has to fight to get a job. I was even planning to keep studying but maybe it was also time to meet my ideal bride."

When asked how she felt after officially being engaged to Frank, Sarah said, "I had to master my emotions. I felt joy, but did not want the feeling to take control. We have learned about mind-body unity, and even after meeting Frank and starting to communicate, I wanted to be in control. It is also because I had to complete my studies, look after my pigs and deal with many situations."

A more mature process

Until now, the regional president had done all the matchings for those in our second generation. This is the first

year in DR Congo in which parents matched their own children. "This had a healing effect on the community. Parents had to make effort to communicate more deeply with one another and with their children. In both our cases, we can talk quite freely with our parents, but for some families, it was more challenging. We need to develop good practices," Sarah said.

Finally, twenty matchings took place, and a few couples were able to travel to Korea to attend the main ceremony. "We have spent almost fifty days in Korea. We attended the Global Top Gun Youth workshop together and met our True Mother several times. We stayed until the 2017 Cosmic Blessing. We saw many things here. This is dreamlike. In

Korea, we feel so much harmony and organization. They believe in people. We had to work very hard. They push you here much more than in Africa, because they want to bring out the best of you," said Frank.

"When asked about her wedding dress, Sarah smiled. "I found it on the internet, and my Mom liked it. I also showed it to my best friend, and she said it looks good. But of course, it was the best kept secret. Frank knew nothing, though he was so curious." "When I finally saw Sarah in her wedding dress..." Frank said, "Oh my God! What a pure vision of my wife! This happens only once in your life." 

A True Peace magazine staff member contributed this article.



