

True Peace

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Dr. HAK JA HAN MOON

WIENER STADTHALLE, APRIL 29th, 2018



Facing the New Age with Mature Faith

By Michael Balcomb



Hyojeong Cheonwon is a truly lovely place to be in spring. Azaleas blossom in beautiful colors of white, pink, purple and red, and everywhere you look, there are signs of new life. Other parts of Gapyeong County have azaleas too, but here at Cheongpyeong it is evident that the glory of nature is also the result of a lot of hard work and planting in years gone by.

In her words to us at the Azalea Festival, True Mother emphasized the importance of planting in the right season, and that season of course is right now. "These are the golden years of your life," she said, "when you are here with me. Everything you do now will be fruits to harvest in the months and years to come. On the other hand, if you don't plant now, the future will not be so bright."

I have been reflecting on these words as a metaphor for the time of preparation that led to the great harvest that we've just experienced in Europe with the victory of the Peace Starts with Me rally in Vienna. The seeds of victory were planted a year ago when True Mother met with the European and Russian leadership and told everyone, "You have to wake up, a time of great blessing is coming and it may pass you by." We seriously took these words to heart and we did our best to prepare the right foundation for the message of life and hope that she delivered so beautifully last April 29.

Of course, there were external challenges, not least of which was filling the Wiener Stadthalle and its ten thousand seats, but the real challenges are always internal. We first had to have the belief that we could do bigger things than we'd ever done before.

We also wanted to make sure that True Mother's visit helped us to move forward with the many other projects that we are entrusted with. The time is long past when we could be satisfied with having a big event and then going back to life as usual.

At breakfast one morning True Mother asked us how we were doing, and the thought came to me spontaneously that by her visit we might've advanced the providence in Europe by ten or twenty years over the period of just one week. The external factors of that week were indeed impressive. We were able to launch Youth and Students for Peace and True Mother approved six young regional presidents of the new organization all in their twenties. They're motivated and passionate and really want to make change.

The IAPD was no less impressive with more than two hundred and fifty top religious scholars coming together and making a real commitment. To meet people who want to be owners of God's providence and not just participants or spectators is so inspiring.

Planning for the future is important, but we were reminded of how important it is to clean up the past. So we went to Mauthausen, the infamous concentration camp, where over a hundred thousand people died, citizens of over forty European nations. The inspiration to conduct a liberation ceremony there came to us after observing the impact of True Mother's liberation prayer on Gorée Island in Senegal. Europe also has ghosts of the past that need to be liberated and free.

As we gathered at the base of the so-called staircase of death at the camp, a sister from Milan had a striking vision. She saw on the stairway thousands of naked men, carrying huge blocks of stone just as it happened during the Nazi era. But as Rev. Lee Gi Seong continued his prayer, she saw those spirits throw off their stones one by one. Descending the stairs, they were suddenly clothed in white robes, and they joined our earthly assembly in prayer.

True Parents have the authority to liberate heaven and earth. The only thing that is holding God's providence back is the degree of our faith, commitment and determination. I think that is why True Mother is always asking us, "Why are you afraid? Keep moving forward!"

Once again, I am reminded that the great accomplishments in God's providence cannot be done by human power alone. The Old Testament prophet Zachariah probably said it best: "Not by might nor by power but by my spirit says the Lord." (Zachariah 4:6) Aju! 

Dr. Balcomb is chairman of the European regional group.

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The Reunification of Korea and World Peace

This is the full speech from Book 8, Speech 12 in Pyeong Hwa Gyeong, which True Father delivered on August 22, 1992 at the Lotte Hotel in Seoul to participants in the Fifth Summit Council for World Peace.





The executive director of the Summit Council, Antonio Betancourt, from Colombia, said that this conference, "brought together some of the best experts and scholars in the area of Korean unification, people who know the economy and the process of unification of both parts of Korea. They are very talented, the best."

Distinguished presidents and prime ministers, former heads of state, government leaders, and eminent leaders from all walks of life gathered here today in Seoul, Korea:

May I offer to the participants in this Opening Ceremony of the Fifth Summit Council for World Peace my sincerest welcome and warmest thanks. This conference, which is a part of the World Culture and Sports Festival, has as its theme, "The Reunification of Korea and World Peace."

The new teaching for the future

The diverse problems of our world are complex and interconnected. Accordingly, under the overall banner of the World Culture and Sports Festival, here in this one location we will be addressing a wide range of issues in the fields of philosophy, politics, academia, religion, the media, science, art and other cultural fields. I believe this will be an epoch-making event, which will help us discover the true way toward

world peace. Moreover, the fact that the Summit Council and the World Sports Festival are convening simultaneously demonstrates the importance of balancing the spiritual and physical sides of human life. Finally, at the heart of the festival is the largest mass wedding in history—30,000 couples, sincere, pure-hearted brides and grooms from 130 nations. As we enter the new historical age of the twenty-first century, I envision this grand festival centered on God as the pathway to realize true world peace.

If you look back at the history of our planet, there has not been a single day or even moment in which true freedom, peace and happiness existed on this earth. Communism, waving the banner of economic equality, proclaimed that it would free human beings from exploitation. However, it is not the solution. It turned out to cause even greater conflict and poverty. We see that democracy, which puts forward the ideology of freedom in contrast to communism, has fallen into self-centered individualism and

moral decay. The guns and fires of war are not receding from the face of the earth, as expected. In fact, intense confrontation and increasing chaos are casting an ominous shadow upon the future of the world.

No one has a right to harbor bitterness over the countless trials and pain that people have suffered. The cause was people's own clinging to human-centered systems of thought that ignore the ideals and goals of God. Even if people did occasionally consider theological thought, because we have neither known nor understood the Will of God or His teachings, we have only a superficial grasp of the ultimate direction of history.

Let it be known that in the background of history, God our Parent has been carrying out His providence for the restoration of humankind. As we prepare to enter the twenty-first century, a new teaching must emerge that clearly examines God's Will and His ideal for humanity. This new teaching should precisely clarify the true relationship be-

tween human beings and their Creator.

True love, universal principle of peace

Originally, a man's mind and body and a woman's mind and body were meant to harmonize together when they became husband and wife centering on God's true love. This type of family was to represent a united body of God's love, and was to have become the original dwelling place of true freedom, happiness and peace.

God's true love wants to give limitlessly to His object partners in the creation. It is similar to the love of parents, whose heart wants their children to become greater than themselves. Parents want only to give and give again to their children. The same is true for a loving husband and wife. Just as the husband wants his wife to be better than him, so also the wife wants her husband to be better than her. With this attitude, they both determine to invest, and invest more in each other.

The special characteristic of true love is the longing to give to an object partner. This is the expression of heart that initiates giving and receiving. God is the Subject of true love. He wants to give to His children in this altruistic manner. That God exists eternally can be traced to the original nature of true love, which is to give and keep giving and, by so doing, maintain a state of reciprocal action.

Human beings are God's eternal object partners of love. It is God's Will and the human ideal that God and human beings become one in heart. The giving and receiving of love enables this relationship to last for eternity. When God and human beings cooperate with the awareness of their joint ownership of the creation in the ideal of true love, then for the first time humanity can come to enjoy true freedom, true happiness and true peace.

This principle is the axiom of peace common to the individual, family, society, nation and world. If human history had gone in this direction in the beginning, then human beings would have embraced the ideal of God's true love and would have become one body with God.

However, the path of human history did not go in God's direction. This is due to the human Fall. There has been no husband or wife in history who became one body participating in the true love of God. Accordingly, the ideal of the True Parents, who are the source of God's true love, was never accomplished.

To the contrary, because selfish love, selfish life and selfish lineage were passed down through marriages built upon self-centered love, human beings had no alternative except to wait and prepare for the Savior who, coming as the True Parents, would restore these historical errors and recover the original love, original life and original lineage of God.

If man and woman had united with God's ideal direction from the start, human history would not have seen the endless division, conflict, exploitation and oppression recorded in our history books. Instead they would have realized true love, and with that a united history of true parents, true families, true societies, the true nation and the true world would have come about.

Unifying the Koreas

The basic principle capable of unifying North and South Korea begins with true individuals who have achieved mind-body unity, and who come together to form true families. Only then can that principle be applied to unifying the Korean Peninsula. When that principle is extended to the world level, it becomes the principle for realizing true freedom, true peace and true happiness. The unification of the Korean Peninsula, therefore, will provide the opportunity to realize a united world and, eventually, even bring about the unity of God and mankind.

Today we are discussing Korean unification and world peace. The Korean Peninsula is the site of history's sharpest ideological conflict. It is here that God-centered Hebraism and human-centered Hellenism, two currents of thought that have diverged throughout history, face each other in the forms of democracy and communism. Overcoming the ideological division of the Korean Penin-

sula, therefore, will provide the direction toward achieving a united world.

It can be said that the Korean War that broke out in 1950 was the concrete starting point of the Cold War, with the countries of the world aligning with either the United States or the Soviet Union. Thus it was a microcosm of the intense global struggle between the democratic world and the communist bloc. As such, the front line of the Korean War was the front line between the forces of God and the forces of Satan, which represented two distinct currents in history.

The Korean War was a holy war, in that forces fighting on behalf of good in the world fought against the forces of evil. Since the Cold War began in this region, the Korean Peninsula, we cannot declare that the Cold War is truly over until the Korean Peninsula has once again been unified.

The Games of the Twenty-fourth Olympiad held here in Seoul in 1988 held great significance. For twelve previous years the Olympics had been stifled, boycotted first by the United States and then by the Soviet Union. In Seoul, the two participated together and the games thus became a starting point for East-West reconciliation. Also, with a record of 160 nations participating, the Olympics became a symbol of reconciliation for the entire globe.

Even as the Seoul Olympics gave us the opportunity to understand that it is vital to consider the physical aspect in order to build a healthy world, it is also important to consider the spiritual and cultural aspects. It was for this reason that, at the close of the 1988 Seoul Olympics, I began preparations for the World Culture and Sports Festival as a festival for all humanity, a unique event to foster the development of both our spiritual and physical aspects.

Time for a great spiritual awakening

The conflict on the Korean Peninsula exhibits characteristics of a conflict between the more developed and less developed countries of the world, as well as characteristics of the conflict between the Eastern and Western cultures. Thus, the unification of the Korean Peninsula is



True Parents and Dr. Pak Bo-hi, president of the Summit Council for World Peace (1987–1997) receiving the conference participants. Visible in the background is the Texan member Larry Moffitt, whose main activity in Seoul at that time was probably the twelfth World Media Conference.

indispensable for the achievement of world peace and will be an important milestone for resolving issues surrounding the idea of a unified world culture.

Today we are in great need of a spiritual revolution. Individuals, nations, and the world as a whole, need a new understanding of God and His existence. We must have a meeting of God and humanity such that we can restore our original inseparable relationship with God and establish it for eternity.

It is for this purpose that I advocate Godism, which is centered on true love. Godism is head-wing philosophy, meaning that it belongs neither to the left wing nor to the right wing. Since I inherited the mission of the True Parents, I have endured all kinds of trials and hardships in order to realize world peace through Godism. We neglected God due to our fascination with materialism, and we pushed Him aside to embrace secular humanism. Godism allows us to find God again. It illuminates for us the point of unity where we can meet God.

United in true love, we have a bright future

In the former Soviet Union, previously the center of state atheism, tens of thousands of politicians, scholars and religious leaders have participated in five days of training to awaken them to Godism. This dynamic spiritual renaissance is rapidly spreading. It is through true love that God and human beings meet and become one. It is in true love that humanity is able to meet God and enjoy eternal life. For this reason, true love is capable of overcoming all the world's problems. Through true love, by which we sacrifice ourselves in order to live for others, we can find the solutions to such problems as interracial conflict, violence, the gap between rich and poor, and many diverse environmental issues. Families whose individual members are united in true love can successfully combat the corruption of morals that has contributed to the downfall of so many of our youth.

In the newness of the twenty-first century we must find the starting point where God and human beings can come into oneness. When the

individual, family, society, nation and world become one in true love, humanity can expect a very bright future.

My dear esteemed world leaders, this modern age has already gone beyond all national boundaries in the fields of politics, economics, culture, and in every other realm of human endeavor. We are thereby entering the “supra-national age.” The age of the nation-state, for which you have been responsible and for which you have given yourselves, is now passing. We are at the beginning of a new stage in which the world has to cooperate as one. In reality, only a few leaders influence and guide the contemporary world. If all of you who are gathered here today will simply unite and step forward to educate all the people, then the future of the world will surely come to rest in your hands.

I hope that your three days of conferencing are fruitful, and that we can achieve a new milestone in the quest for peace. I pray sincerely that God's blessing be upon you, your families and your nations. Thank you very much. ☩

Special Banquet to Celebrate True Parents' Victorious Return

True Mother delivered this speech on April 10, 2018, at Cheon Jeong Gung, in the Small Banquet Room.



welcome you all to this beautiful Heaven. When I opened my window this morning and looked at the training center over there looked like the normal world and over here was Heaven. Viewed from below it was like the on the top of one mountain seen on top up a sea of clouds. There one could see the bright Cheon Jeong Gung. When seeing this in the morning, didn't you feel that down there is the regular world and it is heaven here? After Father's seonghwa, I said I would reveal the truth and spoke of many things. When one speaks, depending on who hears it, it can be food that fills you up. If they eat it and digest it well then they can set off with a healthy life. Isn't that so? Are you happy or not after having eaten a healthy meal and singing to me this morning?

In True Mother's lifetime

I have said we have arrived at the spring of the providence. With methods different from existing methods, we must finish the providence and we must reveal the truth even if it is difficult. That is why it is true that we are taking this difficult course. However because there is heaven, because there is our Heavenly Parent, and because there is all you blessed families who have received the blessing through True Parents, if you fulfill

the responsibilities you have been given and align with me like a sunflower aligns to the sun, Heavenly Parent's dream, the wish of humankind, will absolutely be realized. If we offer this result to Heavenly Parent while I am on earth, then you can become proud people standing before future generations, your descendants and all humankind who come in the future. This time is not a time that will always be here. When considering a human life, this time that you are alive with me, regardless of your age, is their golden age. The golden age! You cannot miss this time.

Becoming Heavenly Parent's child

Our goal, and the road me must take is the same, the road to becoming sons or daughters that can stand proudly in front of Heavenly Parent. You must know that this time, when during your earthly life Heavenly Parent can embrace you saying, "You did well my son, my daughter," is your golden age. While you are living your earthly life if you say, "I have a different wealth than others, I have different knowledge than others" who is this all for? If you do this for yourself, it is not something that will last. If you devote yourself and contribute for the providence, for Heavenly's will, for Heavenly Parent, for

humankind, and you helped the providence, then you will be a pride to your descendants. I am giving you this opportunity. Then, should you be grateful or not? Should you complain?

We have to live our lives in that way each day, we approach Heaven with a grateful heart. The earthly life is not eternal. In facing the eternal world, our earthly lives are the path for us to do our best and establish achievements. Now there is not much time left until 2020. Therefore, especially since I am in Korea, I told eight leaders to offer a special twenty-one-day devotion. I have to realize the conclusion of the ideal world that Heavenly Parent originally created so that Heavenly Parent can say, "Everything is fulfilled. You are my proud and beloved children." There can be no divisions or imperfections in this, in the position of absolute alignment with True Parents! You must become victors who have fulfilled their responsibility from that position. Therefore, with greater diligence, you must be loyal to Heavenly Parent and True Parents. Do you understand? My heart is that I want to do everything for you. However today, you have already received everything. This is because I love you! Isn't that so? ♪

Elder members and active leaders seeking to establish Cheon Il Guk throughout the world are on hand to welcome and receive guidance from True Mother.





Peace Starts with Me Vienna 2018, True Parents' Message

True Mother gave this address to an audience of ten thousand on April 29, 2018, in Wiener Stadthalle in Vienna Austria.



The audience of more than ten thousand who had come to Wiener Stadthalle for Peace starts with me Vienna 2018, an international festival of dance, music and inspiration and to hear True Mother, the founder of the Sunhak Peace Prize, speak. This was April 29, 2018, the day when the history of Heavenly Europe began.

Respected distinguished guests, religious leaders, and ambassadors for peace from all around the world who came here for this day—especially ambassadors for peace and Family Federation members who made the long trip, traveling thirty hours from Russia to be here today—ladies and gentlemen, religious figures and leaders representing Heavenly Africa who came here to the Heavenly Europe region, thank you.

How can we live in a peaceful and happy world? Today we take great pains to think about what we can do to live in a peaceful and happy world. However, the things occurring around us make us anxious about the future. I see the European region especially as a region that Heaven has prepared. As Jesus Christ went the way of the cross, he prophesized that he would return. Christianity began by the Apostles that resurrected through the works of the Holy Spirit as they waited for the Messiah to return.

Christians received unspeakable persecution in the early days. After

Rome recognized Christianity, it traveled through the European continent, from the Italian Peninsula, crossing to an island nation, Great Britain. Then the nations centered on Britain spread Christian faith out to the world under Christ's name and opened the Atlantic Civilization Era. However, they did not know Christ's essence. Caught up in their own selfishness, they put the benefit of their own nations first. So the result was different from what they had intended. In the end, rather than a movement that gave true love, it ended as a culture that took much away.

Externally, Europe began the industrial revolution. They achieved civilization, and due to scientific developments, people gained convenience. Yet, many problems occurred due to being unable to maintain balance. If humans continue in this way, the future of human life and even the planet we live on cannot be guaranteed. It is true we are at a point when we cannot help but worry. We have reached the limit of what human strength alone can do.

People must know what kind of being the owner of the universe, God, our creator, is. Only through knowing that can all problems be solved.

We must reconnect with God

In the beginning, originally when God created heaven, the Earth and all things, he created based on his form. He created as plus and minus in the mineral world, stamen and pistil in the plant world, and male and female in the animal world. Lastly, he created the human world as man and woman, Adam and Eve, as the Bible calls them. In particular, God gave humankind a growth period. At that time, Adam and Eve should have lived a life of becoming absolutely one with God, the Creator. However, during that time, when they had not fully matured, they developed greed. Due to that, the fallen human beings of today, who have no connection to God, were born.

Heaven could not just throw away fallen humanity. The omniscient and omnipotent God cannot fail. Because God gave human

beings responsibility, unless a person who can accept Heaven's will and become the [good] ancestor emerges from within humankind, God cannot realize his purpose of creation. Thus, Heaven had no choice but to go through the bitter and difficult providence of restoration through indemnity.

Heaven selected the Israelites as the chosen people and wished for them to achieve a foundation at the individual, people, tribal, and national levels. How difficult must that have been that it took four thousand years? After the long period of four thousand years, Heaven sent the Messiah, Jesus Christ. The longed-for messiah had come but Mary, who gave birth to him, figures in Judaism and the Israelites could not fulfill their responsibilities. The central figure who would accept the providence's will and realize God's purpose of creation and whom [God] had sent after the long period of four thousand years had come but a foundation to help him had not been prepared.

God's only daughter

In conclusion, he had no choice but to go the way of the cross. Jesus went the way of the cross and prophesized that he would return. Through him the Christian cultural sphere was born. Christians have a responsibility. They must not just blindly wait for the Messiah to come, riding on the clouds. They must know what the Messiah will do when he comes and prepare for it. The Messiah came as the only son of God and said he would hold the marriage supper of the Lamb when he returns. Then, from the Christian culture sphere, the only daughter of God who can be the Messiah's partner must be born. However, the European region, where Christianity began, was unable to prepare this. Throughout the history of God's providence, he has given people responsibilities. If the individual or people are unable to fulfill their responsibilities, God does not use them again. This is because they have indemnity left that must be paid.

Heaven chose a people who could give birth to the only daughter of God. Thus, in 1943 from the Korean Peninsula in the East, the only

daughter of God was born. This event is the truth of the providence. Korea was liberated [from Japan] in 1945. After Korea's liberation, Korea was divided [based on] democratic and communist thought. At that time, a devout and spiritual Christian group believed the returning Lord would come somewhere near Pyongyang. Therefore, the three generations of my family, who had devout faith, did not consider going to southern Korea. Heaven gave birth to me after six thousand years and knew I needed a period of growth and thus had me head south. Then in 1950, the Korean War arose. At that time, South Korea did not have the strength to face North Korea. Because Heaven needed to give me a time of growth, God mobilized the UN Forces comprised of sixteen nations. That was how the democratic nation of South Korea came to be. We can see how much Heaven wished for the birth of a victorious person who could realize God's purpose of creation. We can see how miserably God waited for the day when humankind's ancestor would give rebirth to fallen humankind through the blessing ceremony and God could embrace them as "My son" and "My daughter." You must know this historical truth.

Find absolute faith

The Old Testament Age is already in the past. The New Testament age is also already in the past. The prophesized Messiah returned in 1960, met the only daughter of God and they rose to the position of True Parents. Christianity should have prepared the environment for this, but Christianity is still unable to understand this foundation. Yet the providence develops. True Parents laid down roots on earth. Therefore, Heaven was able to give birth to many blessed families who could lay down roots. Just in the Europe region, there is a fifty-year history.

In that time, they went through many difficulties due to those in the Christian realm misunderstanding them. Furthermore, there were many difficulties due to Communist Thought, which came out of the Christian realm. In particular, the early European members engaged in missionary work through under-

ground activities in "Mission Butterfly" to liberate the people of countries suffering under Communist regimes. That there were many sacrifices is true. Yet those who knew the providence and knew Heaven's circumstances took a path of unchanging absolute faith.

I would like to say this to you all: The past Christian providence in Europe failed from being in the position of not knowing Jesus' essence. Yet now through True Parents, we know that God, the Creator, is our Heavenly Parent. Heavenly Parent has gone through the bitter, tear-filled and painful six thousand years of searching for his longed-for children. The time has come for you that stand in front of Heavenly Parent as blessed children born through True Parents to fulfill your responsibilities.

The path to world peace

Salvation is not only salvation for yourself. Each of you must save your tribe. That is why I have told blessed families to fulfill their responsibilities as tribal messiahs. They must do their utmost in all places around the world and realize their responsibilities as tribal messiahs. You must go on the path not only as the messiah of your tribe but as the messiah for your nation and for the world so you can become filial children and patriots in Heavenly Parent's presence. True Parents opened the Pacific Rim Civilization Era, during which we share true love. Please be aware that there are blessed families and second- and third generation members who are embracing all humankind through the true love of living for the sake of others under the banner of the Hyo Jeong Culture of Heart Revolution. That is the only path for humankind to live in a world of peace.

How bitter will the 7.5 billion people of the world be if they go to spirit world not knowing True Parents, despite being alive at the same time as True Parents? Your ancestors headed out to the world under Christ's name. Now in the name of True Parents, you will, I hope, become proud people of Europe who fulfill all your responsibilities as tribal messiahs, national messiahs, and messiahs who will save the world. Thank you. 



Find True Parents' Courage inside You

True Mother spoke to young members at the Vienna Hilton Hotel on April 30, the same day as the Victory Celebration. This was her message to them that day.



Are you in the second generation? You should be proud of your parents. You must love True Parents, whom your parents love. I have spoken about many things in Europe but what I want to ask of you relates to those in the first generation, your parents, who in the most difficult environments, followed Heaven's will with absolute faith, absolute love and absolute obedience. They stood on the front line, putting their lives on the line with this heart, working underground during the communist era. Mission Butterfly, I'm sure you have all heard about this. You must continue that tradition so you can fulfill your parents' wish, which going further, is Heavenly Parents' wish and the wish of all humankind, to realize one human family that attends Heavenly Parent.

However, the situation of the world's 7.5 billion people today is that many people do not know of True Parents' manifestation. To live over a

hundred years in your physical body is difficult. Yet after the Fall, even though people did not know the providence, their hearts were still pulled toward goodness and the four great religions emerged. More than attachment to their physical lives, they lived believing that the spiritual life, the life in the eternal world was even more important.

Learn from the past

From history, we can see this in the Egyptian culture in Africa. The pyramids... At that time, four thousand years ago, there was no method to construct them. There was no iron or cement. So, how did they raise the pyramids, which rise higher than fourteen stories?

Their kings, while they lived in their physical bodies were unable to leave behind great palaces like those in Europe. This was because those were made of dirt but the Pyramids, which they built for the future, were made of stone. This means that they

lived with the concept that the spiritual world, the afterlife, was more important.

You must know this: It took the long period of six thousand years until the true parents with the title "True Parents" could emerge. Heavenly Parent went through a sad, difficult, sorrowful six-thousand-year history. Two thousand years ago, Jesus Christ emerged to become the True Parent who could give rebirth to humankind. However, the Israelites, figures in Judaism and Mary, did not fulfill their responsibilities. After the long period of four thousand years, Jesus, God's only son, died on the cross after a short life. We cannot call this salvation. Do you know what he prophesized when he died? He prophesized that he would return. He said he would return to hold the marriage banquet of the Lamb. In light of that, if there are people who sincerely think of Heaven's will, if there are religious leaders, they must pray about what this meant.



① The audience awaiting True Mother's entrance to the meeting with young Unificationists.

② True Mother receiving flowers from a blessed child

③ Half of the membership in Heavenly Europe are second generation members.

④ A concluding photograph from the meeting with young Unificationists in Vienna

Jesus Christ, born as God's only son, went the way of the cross unable to meet God's only daughter. In the two-thousand-year history of Christianity, to give birth to the only daughter of God was Christianity's responsibility.

Heaven does not reuse a nation that does not fulfill its responsibilities. Heaven must find a new nation that can fulfill those responsibilities. Who was born in 1943? [True Mother] That's correct. God's only daughter, True Mother, was born. You who were born and raised within the Christian cultural sphere must now fulfill your responsibilities. You who have received the blessing and have been born into blessed families; you must enlighten those in Europe in the Christian cultural sphere that do not know True Parents have come. The way to educate them is through fulfilling your responsibilities as tribal messiahs.

As you know from the Principle, when Jesus died on the cross, the thief

on the right supported Jesus. Hence, what did Jesus say to that thief on the right? "Today you will be with me in Paradise." Paradise is a waiting room to enter heaven. This means that heaven is a place for families to enter. Therefore, regardless of your age, you must fulfill your heavenly tribal messiah responsibilities. I am saying you must become national messiahs.

What I did at your age

Seeing you today, fifty-eight years ago, I was the same age or even younger than you. At that time, I decided that I must be the one to liberate Heavenly Parent and God. It is I who must do this.

Think about this. How old are you? [Twenty-one years old] If you are twenty, you are older than I was. At that time, if your partner had been a person forty years old, what would you have done? I had to welcome as my partner, a person who was like my father. Only I, after six thousand years, was born as God's

daughter. In light of that, shouldn't I realize God's wish? Even if it was a little difficult for me, I first thought of Heavenly Parent. Therefore, I didn't mind and made the determination that I would do it. Nobody pushed me to do this.

So tomorrow will mark fifty-eight years. Do you love True Parents? If you love True Parents, shouldn't you work to realize their wishes? This cannot be something that you do because you are pushed. You yourselves, [must decide] just like True Mother in the past made the decision and went through many difficulties in order to liberate Heavenly Parent, in order to lay today's foundation of victory. A sunflower, whether the sun is out or not, aligns in the direction of the sun. I ask that you become like the sunflower! Thank you. In coming to Europe, I have a happy heart and a heart full of great expectations that the next time I see you, you will report to me of your victories. I love you. 



We Must Succeed on Earth

True Mother gave this address on May 7 at a special luncheon to celebrate True Parents' Return and the successes of the rally in Heavenly Europe and the Azalea Festival, held at Cheongpeong.

We cannot just speak any longer. The time is now. I told you this was your golden age. It is only the golden age while I am still here. Therefore, you blessed families, especially leaders, during this golden age, as those who carry this responsibility must be victorious. You cannot postpone this any further.

Families who have succeeded as tribal messiahs, you cannot stop there. When going toward the victory of the greater goal of national restoration tribal messiahs must have the goal of becoming national messiahs. If 80 percent of you do this, you have already passed to the higher ground. Passing to the higher ground means you have realized national restoration. Families that have fulfilled their tribal messiah mission, if you are diligent, make the nation your goal and go forward as national messiahs. Furthermore, Korean members, I have said Korea is God's homeland. It is the homeland of all humankind. We have to have complete victory, don't we? In this position, we must proclaim to the world.

We do not have much time to do this. So, as we start this year, especially in the spring, farmers grow very busy. If they do not work busily, in the fall harvest, they will not have good results. It is the same here. The goal of our Family Federation for a Heavenly Korea is national restoration, restoration of the homeland! Should we run towards this goal or go toward it without haste? We are busy. From when you wake up in the morning to when you sleep at night you must attend Heaven. Reflect and repent on whether you fulfilled your responsibilities as a true child to True Parents. You must live a life in which you once again make the determination to without fail produce results leading to your goal. If you do not do this, you will miss this opportunity.

This was why I divided Korea into five sub-regions. Since then, I have heard that centered on Cheongpyeong's president, Lee Ki-seong, has lit a fire. Will that fire come up from the North? Will it come up from Gangwon Province? You must have a competition in good faith. Do you understand? Thus it is good for each district to produce many Tribal Messiah families. I would like to ask those



who have already fulfilled their Tribal Messiah responsibility to head toward the greater goal and to do their best until they pass the high ground of victory in the position of national level tribal messiahs.

Our course and Christianity's

The early years of the beginning of Christianity was truly life or death. From within an environment lacking understanding, Christians waited with a single heart for Jesus Christ who prophesized he would return. They were fed to lions and boiled in pots of hot oil. During the history of the early years of Christianity, Christians experienced the greatest pain to their physical bodies but still unchangingly followed God's will. You here today have been reborn through the victorious True Parents. You are blessed families. If there is persecution around you, is it anything in comparison to the persecution two thousand years ago? It is nothing. In the future when you go to spirit world, when you meet those people you will feel embarrassed. For that not to happen you must fulfill your responsibility. These historical truths!

You must enlighten all people until everyone knows this. You must teach them. That is the only way to liberate those [Christians] who died miserable and horrible deaths. Christianity...

The door to Christianity still has not completely opened to us. Yet they too must know True Parents. They must know the Family Federation. Through knowing the Family Federation, this will ascend back to their ancestors, those people [who suffered]. Shouldn't we liberate them? That is what you must do. To do this, they must know this. They must know the truth of history. You must teach them this truth. Go to the largest Christian church in Korea and in front of their door and proclaim "I will give the Sunday sermon! The Messiah you have been waiting for has come! True Parents' providence centered on the Messiah is unfolding rapidly around the world in this way. If you still cling to the past and do not wake up, you're past will become one of not fulfilling your responsibility. Therefore I have come today to save you! I have come as the Messiah of this church and of Christianity!" Go out and proclaim this. Take the challenge! What are you afraid of? Will you do this or will you not? You must wake up those who are sleeping. You cannot leave them to sleep forever. I am telling you all to become messiahs. Do you understand? You must go out and confidently proclaim, "We attend the substantial Holy Spirit, True Mother! What are you afraid of?" Can you do this? Aju! ㄸ

Sun Jin Moon Speaks to Azalea Festival Participants

The FFWPU international president conducted this question and answer session on May 4 at the Cheongpyeong Heaven and Earth Training Center

Compiled by Julian Gray

Initial Note: Sun Jin nim was inaugurated as the international president of the Family Federation on March 13, 2015. In the past three years, Sun Jin nim, accompanied and supported by her husband In Sup nim, has regularly shared her heart at large gatherings of members. Typically, she will talk with hundreds of young people at a Top Gun workshop or the participants of a Cheongpyeong workshop, but she has also spoken at meetings of Japanese and Filipina wives in Korea and at meetings of young people overseas. At these interactive sessions, Sun Jin nim receives candid questions (tabled in advance) and offers answers based on her personal experience, speaking from her heart.

Through the challenging course she took in her own life of faith in her younger years and her initial self-doubt when called to step into a position of global responsibility in the providence, Sun Jin nim empathizes deeply with the challenges members sometimes face in understanding True Parents and in their daily life as Family Federation members. She usually concludes her sessions with a guided meditation that seeks to reawaken members to the original core of our calling. Together, Sun Jin nim and In Sup nim have created a hopeful ministry of healing that brings us closer to God, to True Parents, and to one another. The following is a summarized account of one such session Sun Jin nim held at the Azalea Purification Festival in Korea on May 4.

Sun Jin nim: It is Heavenly Parent's dream that we live in joy. Here in Cheongpyeong, True Parents have laid the foundation for Cheon Il Guk; here we all have one nationality—Cheon Il Guk!—so this is a hometown for all of us. I want to welcome all you true sons and daughters home!

We returned with True Mother from Vienna yesterday. There, Mother poured out all her love and light. Previously Mother was in the United States, which is called the New World, and then in Europe, which we some-

times call the Old World. But Mother is creating the Heavenly World! Our Heavenly Parent wants to fulfill the dream of everyone living in true love. True Mother is at Cheon Jeong Palace at this moment. Can we, as one family, pledge our victory for Vision 2020 with three cheers of "victory" to True Mother so that she can hear us from there? *Seung ri! Seung ri! Seung ri!*

I want to begin with what I call "heart to heart." I receive and answer your questions, connecting your heart to mine, and we learn together. These are questions about how Mother is

working, and how to overcome spiritual challenges and the like.

Reiko Tanaka, Japan, twenty-three: Please tell me about the attitude and lifestyle towards Heaven that you have learned from watching True Mother.

Sun Jin nim: Very good question! It was not until after True Father ascended that I came into a closer relationship with Mother. True Parents had been very involved in their mission throughout our lives, and it is



Sun Jin nim gives sincere straightforward responses to sometimes knotty questions from young people dealing with life while growing up in blessed families and interacting with others in mainly secular societies.

really only in the last five years I have been close to Mother.

I have learned from watching True Mother. Mother has lived her life in prayer with Heavenly Parent and True Father, as the true daughter of our Heavenly Parent. Mother's prayer is parental prayer expressing Heavenly Parent's heart. Her prayerful heart is absolute, complete and unchanging; it is prayer based on the culture of *hyojeong*, of her filial heart toward our Heavenly Parent. For fifty-two years, Mother indemnified Eve's position alongside Father with absolute faith, love and obedience. She has accepted absolute responsibility to achieve Heavenly Parent's dream. She is looking to the infinite future. She wants to immortalize True Parents' legacy and works for future generations and all members' legacies as well.

Speaking of True Mother's attitude and lifestyle, I can say she is one with Heavenly Parent. She has digested and completed everything in that oneness with True Father; plus, she gave birth to fourteen children. Think about the millennia over which God has searched for the Messiah. For a long time, we thought of the messianic personage as a man. Now for the first time we have the balanced and

complete view of the Messiah as True Parents. A woman grows a child inside her; only through a mother can a life come into being. Mother wants us to have life, to be liberated; Mother wants to pass down a culture of joy, love, peace and complete liberation. True Mother's heart is to free humankind from further indemnity. This is the life Mother wants to give us. I have learned this from True Parents: we should follow in their footsteps. They are the only perfected example of true love and peace in the world.

My husband prepared a video with some photos. Please see yourselves in this video standing with Mother in my place and please cultivate the heart to attend True Parents in your own heart. [Sun Jin nim shows a series of photographs of Mother, many of which were personal ones of her together with Sun Jin nim, accompanied by the song Celine Dion's song "Every Mother's Prayer"]

That song always make me cry—but tears of joy. Mother's prayer, even Heavenly Parent's prayer, is to bring all 7.6 billion children, the people of the world, back home.

Jeong-joo Moon, Korea, (twenty-four)
When you go through hard times, how do you overcome them? Do you

ask True Mother immediately? I am not sure the answers I receive from Heavenly Parent after offering jeongseong are really from Heavenly Parent. Can't it be just my own thoughts and decisions?

Sun **Jin nim:** I often feel I don't want to burden True Parents. How can I burden them with my struggle? They carry the weight of the universe. I don't want to add to it. So I try to think how that by observing their lives, listening to their words, and following their actions, I can overcome.

Maybe this will help with your second question: When Mother said "I need you to stand in this position" I told her I did not have the ability to serve her; that I had no confidence in my ability. I was broken-hearted over Father's death. I felt I had no love.

But Mother said, "You can do this, Don't worry. True Parents are with you. Have faith; go out and love people." So I took that as my motto. So everyday I just try to go and love people with absolute faith.

I prepared a video accompanied by the song "I'm Your Angel" (also by Celine Dion). When I hear this song, I think of True Mother as True Father's heavenly "angel" on earth. We must



Our international president has often spoken to audiences taking part in the Cheongpyeong Great Works, "seekers" within the unification movement, some of whom travel great distances, driven by a desire for development in their faith life, their family relationships or mission work.

be angels too. Heavenly Parent is present in everything. Trust Heavenly Parent is with you. Heavenly Parent is with you and is present in nature. Mother is offering *jeongseong* every day to connect with Heavenly Parent. When you see nature—the plants, the animals—we can perceive Heavenly Parent and True Father, even Hyo Jin nim through the natural world.

[The photos in the video are joyful ones of Mother with Sun Jin nim and other members, and in many images they are interacting with the beauty of the natural world.]

Masahide Basuil, Philippines (sixteen)
As a young student, how can I help True Parents?

Sun Jin nim: True Mother has just inaugurated Youth and Students for Peace in Vienna. ... At the Aloha workshops for second—한 공간 and third—generation members in Hawaii, Mother said there are two things they need to learn as young people. What do you think is the first thing we want all second and third generation members to inherit is? [One participant: "Gratitude."] Yes please stand up! We should have gratitude. Then there is no moment

when you don't feel loved, when you don't feel Heavenly Parent loving you and caring for you.

The second thing... Does anyone know? True love. Once you receive it, feel it, receive joy, then multiply it to others. So the second is absolute true love. That is how the youths and students can do it—cultivate a heart of true love, and then in gratitude, share that love with others.

So we need to do hoondokhae. Through that, we inherit faith, love and the wisdom of the Word.

Then we take those words and put them into action—tribal messiahship and service. And through that we convey True Parents' love to the world.

Atsuomi Yoshioka, Japan (twenty-two)

Now Mother is standing in the front line of the providence and leading us. Please tell us how she has been recently, and I would also like to hear about how it was after Father's ascension.

Sun Jin nim: Thank you for your question. I will answer with a video called "Goodbye." Mother has experienced may *Seonghwans* in her life. Not just Father, but also her children, my

brothers. Mother is human just like all of us. Mother feels pain, loss and sadness. She misses Father, and she misses those no longer here. We also do. But Mother wastes no time on herself, but every day she offers conditions, goes out to complete the providence, living for the sake of others.

Mother walks; she says, "I need to be healthy in order to fulfill Father's mission." Mother walks and meditates every day. She is at the forefront, leading our movement, guiding us in how to achieve victory in Heavenly Tribal Messiahship and national restoration. She lives each day of her life with *jeongseong* and true love, wanting to leave a lasting legacy of peace and go to the spirit world without regret, without leaving anything undone. She does this so that everyone can go to heaven. Let's all enter her realm of victory.

This is Mother at seventy-five years old. Many are retired by that age or even way before. Mother says she must do everything for her children and must make things right. We should do the same, so let's inherit that heart, walk in True Parents' footsteps, and adopt this great tradition of being filial sons and daughters.

Through this video [accompanied

by the song “Goodbye”) please inherit True Mother’s heart. When we say goodbye we want to say so with no regret. Please put yourself in these pictures [in the video], inherit True Parents’ heart and walk in their footsteps; and become the true filial sons and daughters True Parents can be proud of.

Recently, the day Mother arrived in Hawaii, the white coffee flowers had just bloomed. Mother said she felt True Father’s love and Heavenly Parent’s love through seeing them. The next morning there was a tremendous thunderstorm and so much rain, and it washed away all the flowers!

While True Parents are here, we—like the flowers—have the chance to bring glory to True Parents. But if we miss the chance, that moment and the blessing can be lost. Be aware that Heavenly Parent is blessing you. When you doubt it, it is not that he has withdrawn his blessing. Heaven really wants to love you.

Note: The final questions from four other participants were addressed as a body of questions and not individually, due to the constraints of time.

Sun Jin nim: All these questions ask about the connection with truth, and the unity of mind and body. The answer is that Heavenly Parent is within you, within your mind and body. This is what True Parents have shown us. Please do not doubt this. Please keep yourself healthy. Replace doubt with love and forgiveness.

Hoondokhae is good. I also used yoga. I have been doing yoga for fifteen years. I will lead you in a meditation to strengthen your heart and mind for life’s challenges. I call this the Crown of Glory meditation.

Note: Sun Jin nim leads the congregation in the meditation, which seeks to help all feel free of the stress and tension that weighs them down and leaves them free to feel God’s presence. One aspect of the meditation was to open participants’ hearts to love people we would not normally pay much attention to. “Your love has the power to change the world,” said Sun Jin nim. “You are no longer separate from others. By choosing to love, you bring everyone together.”



The poem by True Father that inspired the title of Sun Jin nim’s meditation:

Crown of Glory

When I doubt people, I feel pain.
 When I judge people, it is unbearable.
 When I hate people, there is no value to my existence.
 Yet if I believe, I am deceived.
 If I love, I am betrayed.
 Suffering and grieving tonight, my head in my hands
 Am I wrong?
 Yes, I am wrong.
 Even though we are deceived, still believe.
 Though we are betrayed, still forgive.
 Love completely even those who hate you.
 Wipe your tears away and welcome with a smile
 Those who know nothing but deceit
 And those who betray without regret.
 Oh Master! The pain of loving!
 Look at my hands.
 Place your hand on my chest.
 My heart is bursting, such agony!
 But when I loved those who acted against me
 I brought victory.
 If you have done the same thing,
 I will give you the crown of glory.

Sun Myung Moon
 Written at age 15

Another aspect of the meditation sought to help participants overcome a feeling of enmity toward another person:

Sun Jin nim: Do not let someone else’s darkness extinguish God’s power in you. Let goodness flow from you heart to this ‘enemy.’ Notice how the image of this person changes as you share deep compassion and divine love. Visualize the change in your heart as you feel able to love your enemy—how when you hug him or her, he or she hugs you back. Feel the healing and forgiveness overcome the darkness, and a golden light of love grow and warm your heart. Notice the difference one’s

heart can make when it chooses love over hate. Notice as you invite God’s light and love into your heart, how you glow with light. Under God, and as one unified family, there is no darkness. You are victorious and we are all one. Aju!

Open your eyes and feel God and True Parents’ love fill you with unlimited love. Share a hug with your neighbor!”

Note: As a final gesture of true love, Sun Jin nim then gave out gifts of earrings or necklaces to six female participants, some of whom had completed lengthy workshops at the Cheongpyeong training center. The session concluded with four very free and enthusiastic cheers of Eok Mansei! ☞

Mauthausen Memorial Liberation Prayer Report to Heaven

*This prayer was given by Lee Ki-seong,
president of FFWPU of a Heavenly Korea*

Dear Heavenly Parent! Beloved True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind!
Today, 3.15 of the sixth year of Cheon Il Guk, April 30, 2018, we would like to offer our sincere gratitude to Heaven for this heavenly liberation ceremony here at the Mauthausen Memorial centering on the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind. We stand here at the infamous Mauthausen concentration camp stained with blood, sweat and tears of thousands of souls, sacrificed under Satan's sovereignty during World War II, who are crying out and holding unto Heavenly Parent with their bloody hands.

Beloved True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind!

Having heard the cries of these tormented souls, True Parents spent countless nights offering dedications for their liberation. Today, finally they have come to proclaim the authority of a true emperor of Cheon Il Guk with holiness and virtue, as the emperor of absolute victory over the whole. (天一國眞聖德皇帝 億兆蒼生萬勝君皇). True Mother has arrived as Heavenly Parent's only daughter, as the True Mother of humanity. The afflicted ancestors buried here! Be comforted by True Mother's holy steps! Give praise and glory with joy! Enter your homeland that leads to the eternal life through rebirth!





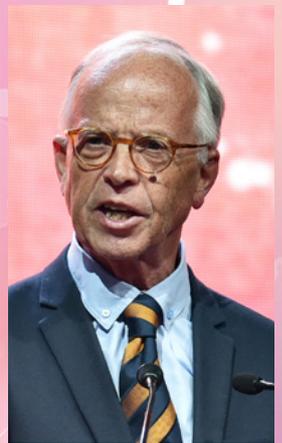
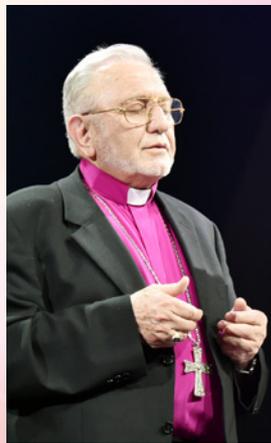
From the scroll True Mother prepared and in the clothing True Mother designed, Rev. Lee Ki-seong proclaims True Parents' prayer at Mauthausen.



Rev. Lee spread Holy Salt, mixed the local earth with earth from True Parents' homeland and created a Holy Ground.

Hyo Jin nim, the loyal son who opens the gates to the garden of the deepest Heaven (深天開放苑 忠孝開門主); Heung Jin nim, the commander-in-chief of the spiritual world (天總官); Dae Mo nim, one loyal in heart who offered her body (忠心奉身); the absolute good spirits and the angels! Honor the Heavenly will of True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind! Connect the Mauthausen Memorial with Jeong Shim Won through the highway of true love. Let this day be a day of eternal liberation that leads to the kingdom of heaven! I pray this in the name of Lee Ki-seong, a member of a blessed central family. Aju. 







- ① In excess of ten thousand people came to the event at Wiener Stadthalle in Central Vienna
- ② Emanuel Adieen, a local parish chorepiscopus of the Syrian Orthodox Church greeted the audience and the Syrian woman beside him then sang a song of prayer in Aramaic, Jesus' native language. Dr. Werner Fasslabend, Austrian Federal Minister of Defense (1990–2000) introduced True Mother in English.
- ③ The ubiquitous volunteers helped keep the audience involved.
- ④ Nevena Božović, Serbian singer who reached the first semi-final in the 2013 Eurovision Song Contest performed.
- ⑤ At the Peace Starts with Me main event, True Mother told the audience, of mostly non-Unificationist, "People must know what kind of being the owner of the universe, God, our creator, is. Only through knowing that can all problems be solved.
- ⑥ Third-generation Unificationists gave flowers to True Mother. The youngest is five years old.
- ⑦ Another view of the action at Peace Starts with Me 2018



Youth and Students for Peace



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- 1 Sun Jin Moon, our international president and True Parents' tenth child inaugurates Youth and Students for Peace-Heavenly Europe
- 2 Sun Jin nim and In Sup nim with newly appointed directors of Youth and Students for Peace-Heavenly Europe
- 3 Dr. Robert Kittel, president of the International Association of Youth and Students for Peace, speaking at the European launch
- 4 Young Europeans help launch YSP-Heavenly Europe: The girls in traditional clothing are the Angels of Peace, an art troupe comprising Russian children
- 5 The launch in Heavenly Europe of Youth and Students for Peace: A participant later stated, "True Mother believes in us in a way that we never before believed in ourselves."



5

Interreligious Association for Peace and Development



- ① During ILC Europe 2018 (April 28–29) the assembled dignitaries launch the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development
- ② From left: Ambassador Shin Dong-ik (Korea, to Vienna), Dr. Felix Unger, president European Academy of Sciences and Arts; Archbishop Ndingga, Ms. Asmaa Kuftaro, Women's Advisory Board, UN Envoy for Peace Building in Syria and the granddaughter of a Grand Mufti of Syria who seemed a dear friend of True Parents.; Dr. William McComish, dean emeritus, Geneva St. Peter's Cathedral, Switzerland and Dr. Marcus Braybrooke, president, World Congress of Faiths, United Kingdom all spoke at the conference and help to launch of IAPD.
- ③ A True Family member and many senior members of the unification movement in the front rows
- ④ These young people were deeply supportive of all the events that took place in and around True Mother's visit to Europe.
- ⑤ Julia HJ Moon, True Parents' daughter-in-law signs the founding declaration

Celebrating True Parents' Success



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- ① True Mother acknowledges the flowers from the European members
- ② Left: Dr. Katsumi Otsuka, president of UPF-Heavenly Europe reported about the ILC and Elizabeth Cook, national leader for Austria and a former underground missionary to Hungary when it was a satellite state of the Soviet Union gave a testimony about her experiences.
- ③ A revitalized European region celebrates their time with True Mother.

-
- ① Sun Jin nim with True Mother as they cruise the Danube River
 - ② Master Viennese bakers created the cake celebrating the anniversary of True Parents' Holy Wedding.
 - ③ The members actually danced and sang onboard as they cruised downstream.
 - ④ Members of FFWPU for a Heavenly Europe



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Celebration of the 58th Anniversary of the Holy Wedding



2018 Azalea Festival and Cheongpyeong Great Works



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- 1 True Mother speaking at the 2018 Azalea Festival Hyojeong Cheongpyeong Great Works
- 2 The offering of flowers to True Parents
- 3 Sun Jin nim and In Sup nim offer dissolved prayer-wish papers to Heaven.
- 4 Speakers, *left to right*, Dr. Lee Ki-seong, president of the Cheongpyeong Training

- Center and president of the Family Federation for a Heavenly Korea; Dr. Ki-hoon Kim, regional president, North America Region 1 and chairman, North American regional group; Tokuno Eiji, president of FFWPU-Japan,
- 5 True Family members participating in the Chanyang Session
- 6 2018 Azalea Festival Hyojeong Cheongpyeong Great Works



6

Tenth Anniversary of Hyo Jin Moon's Seonghwa



① Moon Shin-chool nim, Moon Shin-yuh nim and Moon Shin-heung nim and Shin Wul-nim singing, at the Hyo Jin Moon 10th Memorial Concert
 ② Moon Shin-chul nim singing
 ③ Prof. Yeon Ah Moon, directly addressed her husband in the spirit world the beginning of a musical honoring him.

④ Secretary-General Yun Young-ho was the master of ceremonies
 ⑤ An aspect of the musical
 ⑥ The Little Angels perform as the Korea Team.
 ⑦ The Kim Kyeong-ho Band performs
 ⑧ The musical honoring the True Family's eternal elder son



Multicultural Festival



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- ① Korean society is becoming increasingly multicultural. Organizations that help families in which one or both of the parents are not Korean are working hard. They came to the Peace World Center's grass plaza, where they set up 56 booths displaying aspects of their native culture, played games and made friends. They also participated in a cultural performance contest and won prizes.
- ② Some young people received scholarships to further their studies.
- ③ Model Unificationist families, in which all members attend services, engage in community service and go out witnessing also won prizes.

- ① Some rain fell but they persevered.
- ② The woman singer of a traditional Korean genre of musical storytelling, *pansori* performed by a drummer and a singer in a sometimes ululating voice
- ③ Son Byung-ho, president, Multicultural Peace Association with contest winners

A Music Contest for Performers from the Cheongpyeong Area



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The Victory Celebration in Korea



- ① True Mother cutting the celebration cake.
- ② True Mother receiving gifts from various leaders
- ③ Secretary General Yun gave a special report; President Lee prayed. Chief of Staff of True Mother's Secretariat Won-Ju McDevitt read hoondokhae.
- ④ A choir performed
- ⑤ Cheers of Og Mansei conclude the celebration.



The Melody of Life in the Age of Hyo Jeong

What follows are extracts of a Sunday sermon that David Eaton gave on October 22 last year in Vienna, Austria, where he had gone to support a concert to aid refugee families from Syria and to lead a Hyo Jeong Workshop.

By David Eaton



How are you? I have a question: How is your seelenzustand? How is the state of your soul? How are you feeling?

True Mother was very enthusiastic about having me come to participate in aiding refugees through the magnificent concert yesterday. So I am grateful to True Parents and to the team here, Peter Staudinger, Mrs. Cook, Renata—all of those who made this possible. Bringing art and culture into the providence is a very significant aspect of that.

Divine messengers

I have a confession to make. I grew up in the Catholic Church; I went to a Catholic elementary school for nine years and started music lessons at that time, but by the time I was in high school, even though I believed in God, I no longer believed that Jesus was the Messiah. I had a real issue with that, and I had a new religion. Music was my religion and Beethoven was the messiah. [Audience laughs] Of course, Bach was the great prophet that preceded Beethoven, like Isaiah, and Beethoven had apostles—Franz Schubert, Robert Schumann, Franz Liszt—and there were tribes. There was the Russian tribe: Tchaikovsky,



David Eaton, front left, with European members in Vienna after his sermon on October 22. He then led a Hyo Jeong Seminar for ninety first- and second-generation members from eight countries.

Borodin. There was the Italian tribe: Puccini, Verdi, Respighi, Gabrieli. There was a French tribe: Charles Gounod, Paul Dukas. There was even an English tribe: Sir Edward Elgar, Ralph Vaughan Williams. There was a Northern European Tribe: Carl Nielsen, Jean Sibelius. There were these amazing musical tribes. In America, there was the Jazz tribe, and in England, there was the Rock and Roll tribe. So I grew up on the Beatles and Beethoven. These were my idols. These were the saints and the sages who spoke to me through music. That's my confession.

In 1974, I met True Parents and I realized, Uh oh, music is important, but there is something else that's more important. My study of the Principle and coming to a point of acceptance that Father and Mother were in fact the True Parents, of course, changed my life, as it changed all our lives. A German sister witnessed to me, Crystal Jonas of the Jonas family—Ruth Ava, Brigitte and Crystal. She also witnessed to Mike Jenkins and Tom Walsh. We are spiritual brothers, the three of us. Dr. Jenkins and I joined at the same workshop that Mr. Sudo was teaching as part of the International One World Crusade that was traveling around

Ohio. Dr. Jenkins and I were students at Ohio State University. I was majoring in Music. He was majoring in Dentistry. He always says I went from saving teeth to saving people.

Europe's contribution

My grandparents on my mother's side were from Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia, so I have strong Eastern European roots. I've always had an affinity for Europe—European music and European culture. It's no secret, to me anyway, why Europe became a place of high culture. It's simple: the Europeans built a culture based on the belief that Jesus was the Messiah and that salvation came through that. They built their culture around that—music, art, architecture, dance, literature, even science—physics, Sir Isaac Newton... Some of the great breakthroughs in all these areas came from Europe. Why? Because the Europeans somehow figured out that Jesus was the Messiah and we had better unite with that, and when they did, the blessing came to Europe. I really believe that.

In 1983, I happened to be in South America at a media conference. We did a short performance for the guests. The next morning, Father invited a few of the artists to break-

fast. He started talking about music. Father was not a musician but he understood creativity. He said to us, Classical music is your foundation. You must get a foundation in classical music because those guys were the masters of harmony and melody and structure. Once you get that foundation, take the Abel type elements of other music, rock or jazz, or gospel, anything, combine that with the classical tradition, and he said that's new age music!

The question is, though, what kind of culture are we creating that can influence the politics or the education or whatever, of any society, to be godlier, more virtuous? This is the big question because art and music, obviously, have an aesthetic aspect, beauty; they also have a reason aspect, truth. More importantly, the thing that I will be sharing more about this afternoon is that art has what we call an axiological—a moral and ethical—aspect. How we use art and culture, our motivation behind creativity, is extremely important. Does our motivation align with God, with God's will and with True Parents?

I want to thank the band today. The tradition of music in the church is hundreds of years old. Music and the



Yasuko Sakada, David Eaton and Motoko Ijichi discuss Holy Song arrangements at the Hyo Jeong Cultural Center in Korea as they sought to standardize the four-part harmonizations of the Holy Songs that are in the Korean, Japanese and American songbooks.

church—Saint Augustine didn't necessarily like that initially, because music in his time was thought to be pagan. The Pagans do music; we don't need music in the church. If you read his book, *The Confessions*, though, in a very interesting section about art and music, he talks about coming to realize that music actually had the power to help people develop a devotional frame of mind and then be more susceptible to God's guidance and that music could change your conscious in a positive way. He had that revelation. Of course, we know that music can also take people to some dark places. So the question becomes What is principled music? What is principled motivation?

Why do we create? God gave us the ability to create. All of us are creators in some way. As parents, you brought children into the world. You're a creator. As artists, we have that ability to create. So the question becomes How do we use the moral and the ethical power of music?

Consecration amidst chaos

As Dr. Balcomb mentioned in his introduction, we were in Israel together. When we were in Israel at the time of the coronation of Jesus, the Second

Intifada was taking place. There was no one else in Israel. There were no tourists. The hotels were empty. We were the only ones there. We hired a local producer to help us with this, Asaf Cohen, a good brother. He took me to a coffee shop right near the American Embassy, which was right by the Jerusalem Independence Park, where we would hold Jesus' Coronation. I was in this coffee shop, it was brand new and beautiful.

This is a new place, I say.
Yeah. They just rebuilt it, because this place was bombed three months ago by terrorists.
I'm thinking, What are we doing here?

He said, Don't worry, they never bomb the same place twice.

That was the scenario in Israel at that time and the Municipality of Jerusalem said, You can have your interfaith peace rally on one condition: You have to hire a hundred and twenty armed security guards to be around the park. In that atmosphere in Israel, we did the coronation of Jesus program. It was very tense; these struggles in Israel and the Holy Land are the result of religious con-

flict. Religion, we know, can be a unifying force but it has also been a polarizing force. Music on the other hand, which is my religion, and I'm sure many of you feel music is part of your religion, has the ability to heal and helps us transcend our current situation and think of higher virtues. That is the power of art and Father spoke about that.

A transcontinental leap of faith

I want to share a personal testimony about how True Mother recently asked me actually to move to Korea. ... I was invited to lunch with a few other people and with True Parents and I shared with True Mother that I had had several dreams of True Mother before I went to Korea. Two of the dreams were identical, maybe three days apart. In the dreams, True Mother had invited my family, two of my friends' families to lunch; we were sitting at a lunch table, and True Mother asks us how the music is going. We gave her our report and then her attention quickly turned to our children. She said, How are your children doing? Are they studying the Divine Principle? Are they doing hoondokhae? Are they being educated in the faith to attend True

Parents? She then said, You have to remember that before you are musicians you are children of your Heavenly Parent, and parent to you children; that's subject. I had that exact dream twice. I think that is when she got the idea that maybe this David Eaton guy is not such a bad guy after all. Maybe we can bring him over here.

A few weeks later I got the call to come to Korea for the 56th Holy Wedding anniversary. Then I got the call inviting me to a meeting with other musicians in Korea, saying True Mother would like you to attend. So I attended a meeting that included Wonju McDevitt, Dr. Yun and Director Cho Sung-il, at which it was announced that True Mother was going to launch a new cultural initiative.

Dr. Yun and Mrs. McDevitt shared True Mother's vision about this. True Mother was referencing Hyo jin nim quite a bit, saying that Hyo jin nim had an idea about using art and culture for witnessing but really doing it well. I worked with Hyo jin nim for several years. He would always say, You know if we create great music, great art and great movies, no one will care that we're Moonies; they'll just go, they'll pay good money to hear our art. That was his thinking. ... Then Dir. Cho said that True Mother had asked David Eaton to be the chairman of the music committee and True Mother also asked David to move to Korea right away. ...

It took me a little time to get there, but once I got there True Mother invited me for tea one day with a few other artists she had invited to move to Korea to develop this new cultural providence under the banner of Hyo Jeong Cheonwon, or Garden of filial love, and she gave us our marching orders. ...

Regarding the motivation and the purpose behind what we do, whether it's music, education or media, the more we can make our work about God and not ourselves, the more spirit world will kick in. Wonju McDevitt was talking about attendance and of course, she has been in a direct mode of attendance to True Parents for many decades. Recently she shared with us that our success (or what we might claim to be our suc-



Recordings of music performed by Korean, Japanese and American musicians by special composers, True Mother, Hyo Jin Moon and Kwon Jin Moon

cess) at attendance is not determined by us. Our parents determine it. If our parents are still not happy about something, we cannot claim that we have attended completely. ...

Go with God

The Principle says that now in the Last Days our faith is justified by attendance to the True Parents. So all of us here as brothers and sisters, regardless of what our profession or mission may be, if we are doing it with intention, out of filial piety, hyo jeong, we can expect that the high spirit world will be with us. I always think that in the beauty, truth and goodness paradigm, beauty represents the feminine aspect of God's nature, aesthetics, beauty.

So True Mother is leading this new hyo jeong cultural providence because as a woman she sees the value of the aesthetic aspect of God's creation to witness, to get our message out there and to use music and culture. It makes perfect sense that a woman is doing that; and certain Japanese women who are representing the Eve nation. I'll give a shout-out to the talented women uniting with True Mother to bring that beauty to the Syrian Orthodox Church or

wherever they go. It can be a transformative event. What we ought to do is align our motivation whether it's art, education, economics, politics—whatever we're doing—with the God-centered perspective. Then we can be assured; that's our belief. Father used to say, Do you believe Divine Principle is true or do you know Divine Principle is true? I know Divine Principle is true. I'm sure you do, too. So let's apply it, apply Unificationism.

Thank you very much. It's been a pleasure to be here and to be in Vienna, which is the seat of high culture in the West, the Christian West. We'll talk more about that in the seminar—the Christian legacy of art and culture, how important it is and how important True Mother thinks it is. I'll discuss that a little later today. I'm grateful to all of you for coming today and for this opportunity to share with you. 

Maestro Eaton is director of the International Hyo Jeong Music Department of the Cheon Jeong Gung International Headquarters. The links to the video of his full sermon and to seminar videos are at <https://vimeo.com/240270497>.

Dealing with a Multi-Faceted Society

A wide-ranging meeting seriously considers life in the Philippines

By Chooli Julia Nuyana



PWPA National Conference Held in Davao City in the Philippines

Converging on the Grand Regal Hotel in Davao City on April 13 were around a hundred educators and government figures from all over the Philippines. The Professor's World Peace Academy's national conference with the theme, "Trailblazing Innovative Pathways to Peace and Nation-Building," brought them there.

The conference also served as an assembly of the different officers in existing and candidate PWPA chapters in different regions in the Philippines. Another purpose of the conference was the launching of PWPA in the Davao region.

The Universal Peace Federation and the Professors World Peace Academy-Philippines with the support of PWPA International and the Davao City government co-organized it. During the Opening Session, the newly installed president of PWPA in the Davao Region (Region XI) Pilar Braga, a city councilor in Davao, gave the welcoming remarks. Dr. Chung Sik Yong, chairman of the Asia Regional Group spoke, challenging the educators and delegates on their responsibilities and roles in nation-building. Dr. Thomas Selover,



The commemorative photograph following the informative conference as PWPA spreads internationally.

president of PWPA International and president of the Sun Hak Peace Graduate School, one of the many educational institutions True Parents have founded, gave an inspiring and insightful address. He discussed the five principles of a peace-loving society: interdependence, mutual prosperity, universally shared values, win-win-win thinking and *hyo jeong* (the feeling of a filial connection). "It is meaningful to me to be here in Davao City. I am excited by the vigor of this city that produced the very vigorous president of the Philippines, President Duterte," he said.

Dealing with crises

The first session of the conference addressed the critical issues of our time with moderator, Dr. Glenn Pajares, dean of the College of Arts and Science of the University of San Jose Recoletos. The first speaker Dr. Robert Kittel, international president of Youth and Students for Peace, talked about the universal principles of peace, which emphasize the value of goodness, which is placing public above private and living for the sake of others.

He also stressed on the principles of love and introduced the four types of love within the family. He spoke of

educational materials that YSP released at the Africa Summit in January. He emphasized fundamentally that we should base peace and development on the loves experienced in the family: children's love, siblings love, conjugal love and parental love. He said that each has its role and unique character and they build on one another. "The foremost obligation is to respect, defend and protect the family. It is essential because the family nurtures the four loves, which we learn and bequeath to the next generation. "This is what we need to teach our children in word and in deed. The four family loves is the framework. Take it and make it yours. Use the Filipino culture inside of it," is how he concluded his speech.

The second speaker, from the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (OPAPP), the director in Davao, Chinot Adao gave a presentation entitled, "Resolving Conflict: The OPAPP Experience," where he discussed government efforts at conflict solution and conflict management. He presented the six-point peace and development agenda issued by the president, which is the OPAPP road map under their mandate to promote peace and development in the country.

One of the highlights of the PWPA national conference were the plenary talks that addressed critical issues and challenges of the modern society in respect to local government, media and the family. The editor-in-chief of the Mindanao Times, Ms. Amalia B. Cabusao, as the moderator, laid out timely and relevant issues that resource speakers and which everyone then discussed.

Peace promotion

Mr. Aljo R. Bendijo, a PTV Channel 4 (government television) broadcast journalist, who spoke of the role of a responsible and reliable media moved in a peaceful direction, that the media and press be utilized righteously and be used as a means to open people's minds to peaceful advocacy is important. Mrs. Maria Luisa Fatima Nebrida, a movie director-scriptwriter-producer, on the other hand, expressed the importance of using arts and film in advocating peaceful causes. After showing a trailer of one of the movies she produced, she stressed that films that carry peaceful messages play a huge role in influencing people. "Film happens to be a very powerful medium because film moves people to change. More than any other medi-

um, it projects light on the issue, moves people to meditate, conveys a story and chronicles history.”

Attorney Wencelito Andanar, former undersecretary of the Department of Interior and Local Government, as he spoke about local government units (LGUs) said, “Our comparative advantage is what other countries do not have. It is the responsibility of local government executives to look for that unique feature in their provinces, cities and municipalities. Ask, what do I have? Exploit that. Develop it.”

In his very passionate remarks, he encouraged officials from the LGU sectors to lead righteously while bearing in mind their responsibility of service to their community and need for vigilance to make your LGU better and more prosperous for the people in it. He applauded Sultan Pax Mangudadatu, the governor of Sultan Kudarat, for exceptionally good government.

Finally, the chairman of UPF and PWPA-Philippines, Dr. Julius B. Malicdem, the last speaker of the session, delivered an insightful message. He emphasized tackling the alarming issue of rampant family breakdown in the Philippines. He stressed the importance of building families as schools of love and centering them on God in order to build a nation and secure the lives of those in future generations.

In his presentation, he stressed that if a person is not exposed to the four

types of love in his familial upbringing, he can have defects as he grows and these can be reflected in his character and attitude towards society. He then spoke about the Peace Marriage Blessings that took place all over the Philippines, which aim to renew marriages and rebuild families. He added how the government should support such a peaceful cause. The session ended with remarks from the reactor, Dr. Felicitas V. Sicam, one of the PWPA Board Members. An open forum followed.

Culture and Martial Arts

Another session focused on Initiatives of Civil Societies which was facilitated by Mr. Jose Marie Flores of PWPA Davao. The presentations included the following; Mindanao Peace Initiative presented by Pax S. Mangudadatu, governor of the Province of Sultan Kudarat in Mindanao; Dr. Antonio Delos Reyes, who spoke on “Federalism and Its Impact in Nation-Building”. Another presentation was about the Zero to Hero Project presented by Dr. Venus Agustin, president of International Peace Leadership College (IPLC) in Rizal Province and the president of the World Tongil Moo Do Federation in Asia (TIMD). He introduced the Zero to Hero Project initiated by PWPA, IPLC and WTMF. The concept of this project is to educate out-of-school youth, unemployed individuals, drop-outs, young people with different backgrounds and those who have lost their vision in life.

The aim is to raise their dignity to become productive youth based on developing their potentials through education of the heart and Tong Il Moo Do training. The goal of the program is to raise ten thousand 120-Day TIMD graduates and three thousand TIMD instructors within four years through a series of 120-Day TIMD Instructor Training Programs and Peace Studies, which were officially endorsed without expiration by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) in the Philippines on November 29, 2016.

The conference ended with the Closing Session facilitated by Dr. Irma Balulot, with the appointment of ambassadors for peace, who were mostly from the education sector. Then representative delegates gave their impression of the conference. The conference formally ended with the installation of the president PWPA’s Davao chapter, Pilar Braga, who gave her inaugural message. It was her birthday. Dr. Thomas Selover of PWPA International gave concluding remarks.

The day after the conference, all the PWPA national officers as well as PWPA chapters who were still present had a special organizational meeting to draw out their plans for the year and discussed future programs. *TP*

Christine Obligar and Yuri Nsaako also contributed to writing this article.



Commissioning ambassadors for peace

Mountain Tribespeople Feel True Parents' Love

By Kamol Thananopavarn



The Chiangmai CARP center held a heavenly tribal messiah Blessing in the village of Santidham, Papae Sub-District, Mae Sa Rieng District, Mae Hong Son Province in the mountain area in northern Thailand. Chiangmai is the capital of the province of the same name. It is 690 kilometers (430 miles) from Bangkok. It is the largest city in the northern part of Thailand.

There were three hundred and fifty participated, even though it was a blessing ceremony at the village level only. Most of participants are Karen and Lua mountain tribespeople. This is the hometown of Mrs. Kanya Sunantapisit, the Chiangrai center leader. She had witnessed to her parents, her older brother's family and the family of many other relatives in the village of Santidham and persuaded them to take part in the blessing ceremony and to complete the three-day ritual. She has witnessed to many young people and has guided them to become CARP center members.

In the Papae mountain Sub-District are twelve villages, but most of them know one another well. Kanya has many relatives who are working in Sub-District administration, are village leaders or work in other areas



The mountain tribespeople exhibited such tender feelings and closeness of heart as they began the portion of the lives together as couples blessed by True Parents.

of government. In this heavenly tribal messiah blessing ceremony, Kanya's mother and older brother served as the core of the mobilization. Most mountain people in this area believe in Shamanism as a base, but 70 percent practice Buddhist Shamanism and 30 percent practice Protestant or Catholic Shamanism.

Divine Principle lectures and the blessing ceremony have transformed the mountain people of Papae as a life-changing experience. They never heard of any other organization coming to their remote mountain area to teach about family values, the value of marriage and of importance of the sexual organs and of fidelity in marriage. These concepts are absolutely consistent with the Karen tribe's and Lua tribe's Shamanistic understanding that if anyone has a sexual relationship before marriage or commits adultery, a Shaman spirit will be angry and punish the individuals or family severely. They express feelings of deep gratitude to have many high-level people, including FFWPU foundation leaders and religious leaders, come to their sub-district. This is one of the most auspicious events in this far away sub-district in

its history. At the end of ceremony, all the participants took part in the indemnity stick ritual with grateful hearts and happiness. The Papae Sub-District director and chairman of the Papae Sub-District administrative office requested that FFWPU come back again and organize Blessing Ceremonies in the twelve villages of Papae. They also want to receive more education in the near future. This heavenly tribal messiah blessing ceremony in the Papae Sub-District has established gives hope over the long term to expand the heavenly tribal messiah movement in the north of Thailand building on the momentum of earlier heavenly tribal messiah successes in Thailand's northeast region.

A young leader and her family

Kanya connected to CARP in 2010 and she joined the church in 2012, in the third year of her university studies. In 2015, she became a Chiangrai CARP center leader. Chiangrai is the northernmost city in Thailand. Her father and mother as well as her older brother and his wife received the blessing in December 2012. For the last three years, her older brother has

been offering a tithe every month and practicing blessed family traditions regularly. Now her brother has one child born before his blessing and one born after his blessing.

Since that time, when her family members received the blessing, Kanya has been able to persuade many young people from her mountain village to join CARP in Chaingmai and in the city of Chiangrai. She also witness to a few other families, whom we are now teaching. They received the Four Great Holy Items and the new Cheon Il Guk holy wine in December 2016.

Kanya received the blessing with a Thai member in 2017. They started their family at the beginning of April. Before I gave permission, at the end of March, for them to start their family, I pushed her to organize the first heavenly tribal messiah blessing in her hometown on April 15, because in Thailand that is when we celebrate New Year's Day. All families will stop all their hard work on the farm or other job, and many people will have the free time necessary to take part in a blessing ceremony. Her mother has a great deal of influence among her Lua tribe. Many of her relatives are



Mrs. Kanya Sunantapisit, the Chiangrai center leader, and her husband

influential in the community. The chairman of the Papae Sub-District administrative office is her mother's close relatives. Furthermore, many village leaders and community leaders are familiar with her mother and respect her. Normally, mountain tribe people know one another well. They live in villages that are difficult for others to reach by any sort of transportation and they hold ceremonies and develop heart-to-heart connections in the isolated area among the members of their tribe.

This time Kanya, her older brother and her mother spent a short time doing mobilization but it was good because all her relatives that are either government or community leaders became excited and wanted to participate in this event during the New Year celebration. It is good to spend a short time mobilizing because people will make up their minds and immediately promise to come. Now, our blessing ceremony and True Parents' teachings are becoming very widely accepted and we have experienced sincere gratitude from all these village people. Kanya plans to organize a blessing ceremony in each of the villages of the Papae Sub-District,

conducting one every three months.

She had her traditional wedding ceremony recently, in March. They held a Lua tribal ceremony. The other members are extremely happy because they have gained confidence from seeing this example that they can bring their parents and relatives to join, too.

Mountain people face modern problems

This area is a very high mountain area in northwest Thailand near the Myanmar border, where many tribes-people live. They are all members of a great variety of mountain ethnic groups. The people that live in these mountains are hearty. Here, one can find Thailand's three highest peaks, Doi Inthanon (2,565 meters) Doi Pha Hom Pok (2,285) and Doi Chiang Dao (2,175). This area is the absolute last place in Thailand that development is reaching due to very high mountains and the mountain people themselves are another factor keeping development at bay. As believers in Shamanism, they have not taken a liking to materialism.

Traditionally, people in this area have been pure and good-hearted.



The Thai national leader and his wife (below right) sharing food (above) and love (below).

The divorce rate and incidents of adultery in this region are the lowest in Thailand, but increasingly the village is confronting the free-sex culture. They are beginning to discover many problems among those in the younger generation. The older generation had firmly maintained belief in Shamanism and belief in ghosts that would punish anyone who had sexual intercourse outside of marriage, but times have changed. The local government and all the village leaders feel overwhelmed. This is where their gratitude toward True Parents comes from. True Parents' teachings and the blessing ceremony have come to their villages.

Mrs. Kanya Sunantapisit is a successful young CARP leader. She has more than thirty-five center members and more than fifty regular members come regularly to meetings at her CARP center. I am proud of her as a leader among the young generation, who is very successful in mission, in witnessing and in heavenly tribal messiah work. 

Rev. Thananopavarn is the national leader of FFWPU-Thailand.

Blessing a Wounded Nation

By Laurent Ladouce



Above: Heng Monychenda, director of the NGO Buddhism and Development, addresses the newly Blessed couples. Below: A Buddhist monk, a Muslim leader and a Christian Minister offer their Blessings.



Despite his intense schedule, Rev. Hajime Saito traveled from Battambang to Phnom Penh to pick me up. At 8 PM, we left the airport and took Road Number Five to Battambang, Cambodia's second largest city. In four and a half hours, we covered three hundred kilometers on the busy international road connecting Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam to Bangkok, Thailand.

On arrival in Battambang, the size of the FFWPU center struck me. "Welcome to the Battambang regional headquarters," Rev. Saito said. The building is much bigger than the national headquarters in Phnom Penh. Sunday service and public meetings take place in a clean, spacious hall. After sleeping three hours, I awoke to the sound of holy songs. Vibrant young people were in the hall starting the day with 5 am hoondokhae. "We have sixty young people in Battambang," Rev. Saito explained. "When people attend Blessing Ceremonies, we do follow up with the parents and their children. Almost every new member in Battambang joined our church after the parents received the blessing. They study the Divine Principle and attend two-day, seven-day and twenty-one-



Heng Monychenda asks questions of people who had experienced forced marriages under ruthless domination of the Khmer Rouge in the 1970s.

day workshops. Many are students in Battambang University, three hundred meters from here."

We had breakfast with Hen Hut, the local FFWPU leader, who joined our movement in 2007. He and his wife have two children. He teaches English at the university. He has blessed 486 couples; 430 have completed the three-day ceremony. "Hen Hut is an expert at guiding VIPs to become regular members," Rev. Saito comments. "He is gifted at convincing them to attend our services and to tithe. Today and tomorrow, he will be our MC."

Already, members in Battambang Province have held over forty 430-couple Blessing Ceremonies. Around fifty percent of the couples have completed the forty-day separation and the three-day ceremony. These couples attend home-group events and worship services bi-weekly worship services in public places. They do some form of tithing.

They view the blessing ceremony as the core activity to restore the nation, along with establishing the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace and the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development. "We teach parliamentarians to receive the blessing," said

Rev. Saito. "The blessing campaign is the best way to know their constituents; religious leaders know how the virtues taught by religions are empty without stable families."

Battambang, a model being studied

Various stakeholders—Cambodian Unificationists, Japanese and Korean Unificationists who attain their tribal messiahship in Cambodia because the follow-up is serious, a network of local political and NGO leaders who have attended Asian Leadership Conferences, have received the blessing and see the blessing as vital for local and national development—treat the work in Battambang as a pilot project.

After a quick lunch with the Japanese couple who will officiate the blessing ceremony in the Moug Ruessei District on a property owned by the Cambodian People's Party, we go there. The banner has "Interfaith Peace Blessing Festival" in Khmer and in English and bears the UPF and FFWPU logos. Under a colorful tent our members erected overnight, couples are patiently waiting. Many women wear their traditional *khmer sampot*; some husbands are in their best attire. In the pre-program, a dynamic speaker relaxes and instills

confidence in the couples. Suddenly, everybody stands respectfully as three Buddhist monks enter near the stage. The program starts with a lecture about the three blessings, the Fall and True Parents' restorative role. The ceremony took almost two hours, combining our Unificationist rituals, prayers by a Buddhist monk, a Muslim imam and a Christian pastor, speeches, and other moments.

With the playing of the Cambodian national anthem, the gathering of these humble rural people suddenly becomes noble, solemn. True Parents urged us to see the blessing ceremony not as a church event but as a national one and as registration in Cheon Il Guk. We enter the kingdom of God as families, but it should be at the national level. This point is even clearer in light of Cambodia's national motto, "nation, religion, king." Khmers see the nation as a common spiritual legacy symbolized by their parental figure, the king. They might see True Parents as the parents and monarchs of humankind.

Fast sex versus sex fasting

After all couples have drunk the holy wine, Chong Pet, the vice-minister of rural development speaks. He often travels from Phnom Penh



This couple had come from Japan to officiate the Blessing of their four hundred and thirty couples.

to Battambang to address the couples. He is the tribal leader of 681 couples. Among them, 432 have completed the three-day ceremony. His speech reminds the couples that right after the ceremony the forty-day separation period starts. The translation I hear for a Khmer expression he uses "sex fasting," for sexual abstinence. Whereas foreigners often go to Cambodia for casual, fast sex, this commitment to "sex fasting" is interesting. Some people respond to Chong Pet's exhortation by laughter or shouting.

Before the holy water sprinkling and recitation of vows start, a special session takes place, which can be seen only in Cambodia. Heng Monychenda, the director of Buddhism and Development, is well known here. This former Buddhist monk (1980-97) holds Harvard University master's degree in public administration. After paying his respect to True Parents, Heng Monychenda asks which couples had the Khmer Rouge married by force. A few couples raised their hands and came onstage.

How did you meet your wife?

Heng asked a husband.
I was forced to marry her, he answered.
What if you had refused?
I would not be here to answer you.
It was "love" or death?

Forced marriages are one more tragedy of the Khmer Rouge period (1975-1979). Heng Monychenda has studied these couples' circumstances and offers "group therapy" during our Blessing Ceremonies. They speak in public and express their feelings. This accomplished scholar helps simple people speak and laugh in public. Each man and woman would say something. One can feel a profound humanity and dignity emanating from them. Though many forced marriages ended tragically, these couple tell us something profound about human relationships.

I love my wife; she is everything to me, says an old man.
Well, you drink a lot; don't tell a lie, says his beloved.
I used to drink; that's true, but less now, because I am getting old.
Even when I drank, I could not stop loving you.

Another man, his face wrinkled, missing many teeth, speaks. Suddenly, tears come to his eyes and he shouts in a passionate voice:

You young couples here, you received a nice blessing today. My wife and I never had a wedding party. We lived like animals for years; even animals live better. But let me tell you something: My wife and I are still together. Though Cambodian couples look smart nowadays, how long do they last? Can you tell me?

After this, the ceremony reaches its climax. People receive the holy water, and hear the sound of Father's prayer in Korean, sometimes covered by the Khmer translation. Father's blessing prayer makes many couples; this ceremony may be a turning point in their lives.

The three couples who demonstrated taking the holy wine come back onstage to perform the indemnity stick ceremony, and then all the other couples perform it. A group photographs followed, and then a professional catering team served a delicious banquet.



Senior blessed couples oversee the holy wine ceremony. The man in the middle, facing the audience is the president of the local Rotary Club.

The next day, they will hold a similar ceremony, with about the same number of people. Cambodian members guide everything in both ceremonies. Rev. Saito is present, but discrete. He speaks only a few minutes, relating an anecdote of Father's life. At the end of the second ceremony, I see him starting a Khmer dance with young members. Later on, he explains to me, "Our human responsibility is to give the blessing, but the core of the blessing is the three-day ceremony. This is when God directly works and starts to guide people. If we never try, it never happens. If it starts to happen, the providence enters a new stage."

Following the second ceremony, we went by road to Phnom Penh where I met Peter and Matsumi Schmitat at the national headquarters. (see Cambodia's Winning Team) The next day, Rev. Saito and Sophal Chamroeun, the national leader, bring me to the National Parliament Building in Phnom Penh, where we meet Ouk Damry (Blessed in 2009 at Sun Moon University) and Pen Panha. I also discover the city of Phnom Penh. I enjoy the well-preserved old colonial town and its

large avenues with many trees in full blossom. When we arrive at the island of Ko Pich, I ask the driver to slow down. In front of me, I see a modern replica of some areas of Paris' eighth arrondissement, the most expensive quarter of the French capital, near Champs-Élysées. Suddenly, I see it! Phnom Penh's Arc de Triomphe, almost completed. Thinking of the blessing ceremony in the rural area the day before, I see that while we conduct the internal movement to restore the nation, some areas of the country seem to thrive externally.

This impression of external excellence is confirmed when we meet Ly Chheng and his staff in his office. Ly Chheng is a construction industry magnate. The Beltei Group, which he founded, now has four branches—Beltei Construction, Beltei Education, Beltei Tour and Travel and Beltei Charity. Ly Chheng discovered our movement when True Mother spoke in Bangkok in 2017. "Your capacity to bring together political leaders, religious leaders, scholars and many young people is like a dream come true. We need that here," he said. His son, the group's vice-chairman,

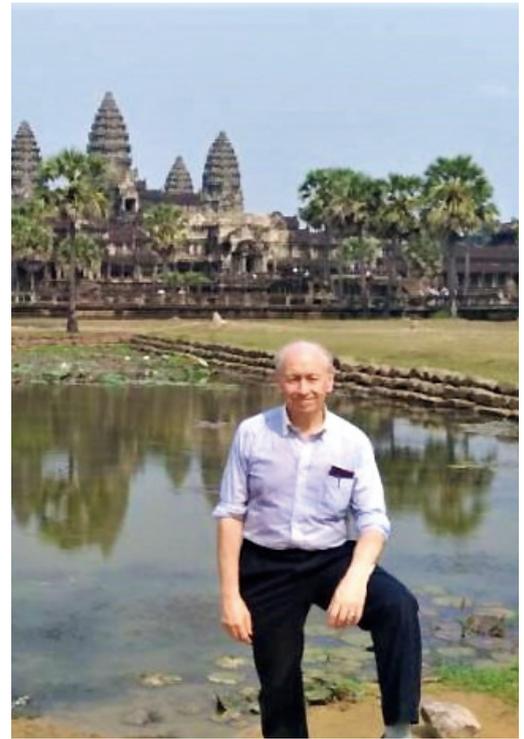
attended UPF's International Leadership Conference, last February in Seoul. The father and the son seem to be among the righteous, prepared people in Cambodia.

Having reached the top in construction, Ly Chheng knew that something was missing in his life. He felt a calling to invest in education and built twenty-one schools in Phnom Penh, from elementary schools to high schools. His passion for education finally led him to build Beltei International University, a beautiful building equipped with state of the art technology. With six faculties, it has become a source of national pride. Ly Chheng' priorities have changed, from building towers to building people of character and vision. The man looks busy and yet serene. True Parents tell us about the roles of teacher, parent and owner. Ly Chheng is living his life as a teacher with vision, a parent with righteousness and a creator with a strong sense of national responsibility. 卍

Mr. Ladouce is the French-language news presenter at ipeacetv.com.

The Life-Giving Fields

By Laurent Ladouce



God's powerful vision of national restoration seems to inspire our Unificationist leaders and members in Cambodia. A momentum is now visible in critical areas—the pilot project for achieving tribal messiahship in Battambang is successful and many young people are joining our church and receiving a comprehensive education. Moreover, some legislators, scholars and NGO leaders are active in promoting our ideas.

Visiting Cambodia (March 25–28) to see some of these breakthroughs was a privilege. This experience in a mission field was refreshing and life giving. Our Cambodian members do not talk much about restoring their nation. They are just doing it, working together, consistently, with joy and a clear focus. Indeed, our movement in Cambodia is still young; it has not yet reached critical mass, but I could see what makes this country promising as a strategic nation.

Released in 1984, film director Roland Joffé's *Killing Fields* showed the atrocities committed by the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia. The movie illustrated how in a short time a group of dedicated fanatics can commit the worst crimes on a national scale. Pol Pot, the mastermind of this tragedy, did even worse than

Mao Zedong in China or Kim Il Sung in North Korea. Research conducted by Yale University has established that the Khmer Rouge killed 1.7 million people, around 20 percent of the population (April 1975–January 1979). The brutality was unprecedented, and the ideological motivation for the genocide was a radicalization of Marxism-Leninism that had never reached this intensity before.

In light of the savagery perpetuated forty years ago, the current breakthrough of our movement in Cambodia is surprising. Why Cambodia? Why not in one of the neighboring countries, Vietnam, Laos or Myanmar? The answer is complex. God has certainly prepared and commissioned the right people to do the right things in the right places at the right time. During a long period, God's work in Cambodia was latent, but suddenly a few people opened a path and the path now is now much broader and clear.

In the progress of existence and three dimensions

Let us start talking a bit about the right place and the right time. Modern Cambodia is 180,000 square kilometers in size, with a population of 15 million people. The majority of the population is Khmer but there are

also Chinese, Vietnamese and other minorities. The country's motto is "Nation, Religion, King," exactly the same as Thailand's unofficial motto. Cambodia's current king is Norodom Sihamoni, son of late King Norodom Sihanouk (1922–2012). Prime Minister Hun Sen, who has been in power for thirty years, holds the political power. Hun Sen was in the Khmer Rouge clique in the beginning, but then fled to Vietnam in 1977. He played a critical role in the fall of the Khmer regime and in the slow transition (sometimes described as enlightened despotism or guided democracy) to the current regime.

This makes Cambodia unique. Despite the chaos of the Communist episode, the monarchy is still there, the same dynasty still symbolizes the essence of the nation. Moreover, Cambodia has maintained a stable state.

Now, let us put Cambodia in the bigger picture. Located on the Indochinese Peninsula, Cambodia belongs to Southeast Asia. Since 1999, it has been a member of the ASEAN, a regional union that comprises over 600 million people. It belongs to a region that mediates between the Indian and the Chinese cultural spheres.

Within the Unificationist frame-



work, Cambodia is under the regional group leadership of Dr. Yong Chung-sik and is part of a huge region consisting of Oceania, Central Asia, Greater China, and South Asia. In this region, our movement has selected five strategic nations—Taiwan is in Greater China. Nepal is a nation where Hinduism is the main religion. The Philippines is the most Christian Asian nation (over 90 percent of the population is either Catholic or Protestant). Thailand and Cambodia share the same Theravada legacy (small-vehicle Buddhism). Our Unification missions in Thailand and the Philippines started in 1975 and we now have a strong presence in both countries. Our missions in Nepal and then in Cambodia developed much later (in the late 1990s and early 2000s). We can say that the unification movement in Cambodia is the youngest among the thirteen strategic nations.

At present, Cambodia comprises twenty-five provinces (including Phnom Penh, the capital city), and 171 districts. Our movement has communities in the capital city and in three provinces, but tries to maintain activities in the whole country.

As of the beginning of 2017, 350 people had registered as members of the FFWPU. In Phnom Penh, they meet for Sunday service and occa-

sional hoondokhae in the headquarters church. A large number of members are students living in the three CARP centers in the capital.

Preparing a bright future

In Battambang, the nation's second city, the Family Federation is renting a huge center for both Sunday services and offices for various providential organizations and has one CARP center (see *Blessing a Wounded Nation*). Two others will open soon. They use Battambang mostly heavenly tribal messiahship pilot project, which the special envoy to Cambodia, Reverend Saito, supervises in conjunction with the regional group leader and the FFWPU International Headquarters' HTM Academy. They hold Blessing Ceremonies almost every week, in close cooperation with our community, local governments and some advisers. The goal is to turn the newly blessed couples into regular FFWPU members who attend gatherings and offer tithing. Moreover, FFWPU is running a center in Banteay Meanchey Province (on the border with Thailand), and another in Kampot Province, in Southern Cambodia, near Vietnam.

In 2017, the Cambodian movement had a wonderful occasion to show its capacity to mobilize people. When

True Mother inaugurated YSP in Thailand, eight hundred people came from Cambodia to see True Mother and listen to her speech. In May 2018, the Cambodian movement will inaugurate its new 950-square-meter (10,225-square-foot) headquarters, in Phnom Penh. They will use the nice hall on the ground floor Sunday services and other meetings, and the three floors above will host offices (FFWPU, UPF, FFWP, YSP) and dormitories. They will be able to host workshops there as well.

Momentum exists in Cambodia now. The nation is famous for two records: it once offered to Heaven the largest known religious site on the globe, Angkor Wat, the splendor of which attracts tourists from around the world. It has also offered to Satan one of the worst mass slaughters, which the Khmer Rouge perpetrated forty years ago. In Angkor Wat, sculptures show the terrible fight between good and evil forces in Cambodia's creation. This may be the time for Heaven to claim this country, whose people have suffered in the midway position perhaps to a greater extreme than has the rest of humankind. ☩

Mr. Ladouce is the French-language news presenter at ipeacetv.com.

An Auspicious Beginning

A Peace Center Is Rising in Mozambique

By Paluku Mulekya



Everyone spontaneously sensed that flocks of birds undulating overhead as those below dedicate a building augurs well for the success of the mission that building will serve.

We received deep blessings from Heavenly Parent and True Parents recently. We held a special ceremony to lay the first stone of the HJ Peace Center to begin construction. This attracted about two hundred people, including all levels of district and community authorities. Church leaders and traditional chiefs came. A national assemblyman, Edmundo Galiza Matos Jr., delivered a speech on peace, stating, "Peace

must reside in people's hearts. When we have peace in our schools, our children not fighting among themselves, having no conflicts and fights in our homes, couples not fighting among themselves, no fights among our children but playing like the birds we are seeing singing around here." He then invited every participant to welcome the HJ Peace Center. "The HJ Peace Center," he said, "will be the place of harmony peace and development for all Mozambique. The Mo-

zambique national messiahs (Rev. Lee Hwabum and Mrs. Seo Sunja), the district's top representative and the national assemblyman, jointly officiated the ceremony. Three traditional chiefs conducted a traditional ritual to ask blessings from the spirit world. This was a moving ceremony through which everyone could feel our Heavenly Parent's true love of and our True Parents' love.

Rev. Lee introduced True Parents' peace vision to the audience. He described his heart, jeongseong and dedication since 1996, when True Parents sent him to Mozambique. He is grateful to True Parents, who made the long-awaited dream of a peace center in Mozambique substantial.

The ceremony began at 9:30. The sun was shining at the time. Suddenly the sky became cloudy, protecting everyone from the burning sun. The atmosphere was at its best to conduct the ceremony under an open sky. Our national messiahs had blessed us by bringing football jerseys for our young football players who wore them for the ceremony.

Signs from heaven

At the moment of placing the first stone, another sign came from the sky. Five flocks of about fifty birds each

hovered just above where the ceremony was taking place. The birds with synchronicity and harmony moved slowly without leaving the sky above the participants as if they were dancing in a certain choreography as participants sang. They amazed every participant; no one had seen anything similar before.

"God is revealing to us that this HJ Peace Center is truly blessed by God," commented one participant after seeing those wonders. "This is a sign from God to show that God is here!" another participant commented.

Everyone was energetically singing looking at the birds. When participants were moving back to their seats, after the placing of the first stone, the birds slowly moved to another corner of the plot and

invited them for a lunch on April 22. They specifically wanted to have lunch with our national messiahs as "payback" for their having filled the MPs and his entourage with good food while they were in Korea. Three MPs attended the meeting (Ana Rita, Edmundo Galiza Matos and Antonio Niquice) with our national messiahs, national leader and two other members.

At lunch, there were discussions about launching IAPP. The MPs recommitted to launching IAPP in the Assembly of the Republic and advised us on the steps we need to take to legally register IAPP and work as an autonomous body within the Assembly. Ana Rita (an Assembly member for twenty-five years) is a member of the Standing Committee.



A symphony in motion: Migratory birds attuned to the direction of Earth's magnetic field wend thier way toward a new territory. These are the birds that flew above the group laying the first stone of a new peace center.

hovered there for about twenty minutes. After the launching people sang and danced! Participants, including the dignitaries were dancing as others were singing. Everyone was delighted!

Our gracious national messiahs

After learning that Rev. Lee Hwa and Mrs. Seo were in Mozambique, the representative of the delegation with the MP, who has attended UPF events in Korea and Senegal, immediately

She set up a small committee as a task force composed of the other two Assembly members and us to quickly move with IAPP registration.

The Assembly members showed interest in knowing more about UPF's and WFWP's visions and activities. Ana Rita mentioned that she intends to visit the WFWP school in Mozambique. Antonio Niquice has set up a visit to the UPF national headquarters to learn more about UPF's vision.



Virgilio Muando

I was in charge of the Logistics Department for the ceremony. I am also Youth Leader in Mozambique. We started by drafting the event flow and the needs for transport thereafter. As much as I would want to take the credit for almost flawless logistics due to preparation work that took place for three weeks before the event, ultimately on the day of the event I felt that some items I had lost control of, but things were falling into place by themselves. I recognized the hands of God and True Parents at work.

There was no way I could run that department for the first time and have everything go smooth. The brothers who drove, the event attendees coming on time with everything synchronized was breathtaking for me as I expected many headaches during the event. While the national messiah was delivering his speech in Korean, I was reading out his translated speech in Portuguese. Halfway through, a slight rain started. It was intense enough for people to notice it was raining but not enough for the attendees to get wet. It was just enough. From the MP that attended, he said that the slight rain is understood as blessing among Mozambicans.

Rabeca Pedro Lumbela

I am Rabeca Pedro Lumbela. In the April 21 event, I was responsible for receiving the guests from the Maputo-city side, to make due registration and buy the tickets for the crossing to Katembe.

I confess that at a certain moment in the preparations for the event I was demoralized, because everyday I called to confirm the presence of the guests and the number was reducing every day. A time came when I was afraid to call. I learned a lot through this event. In the first phase, all members had



These young men were thrilled to receive football uniforms from the Abel-nation national messiahs to Mozambique.

the responsibility to invite people to the event using the invitations, so our mission was to use the mouth and the voice that God gave us for that. Here, I realized that God does not work without foundation. Although people tended to respond negatively to the invitation, in the last instance they were at the event. This shows that God works when the human being fulfills the portion of responsibility, so God finds a basis to act.

The presence of the guests, who at first answered negatively, was proof that God and True Parents are working for the advancement of the providence and we need to quickly awaken and fulfill our responsibilities to give victory to God and True Parents.

Alves Mucauque

I was responsible for the protocol and ornamentation. In the protocol area, we did not have many difficulties; we worked together and with a harmonious coordination.

The small difficulties that we had were technical ones, regarding the hierarchy in the table of honor of the government representatives. But it was possible to overcome this issue with the collaboration of all FFWP members, where it was

possible to feel and see that nothing is impossible for God and True Parents when we work as a team.

As for suggestions, we need in the future to have a general coordinator responsible for all departments. From this moment it would be better to create a solid hierarchical structure, where the members responsible for certain areas, such as logistics, public relations, protocol, ornamentation and food can be trained and adapted in these matters and we beware of the situations of improvisation in the last hour.

The Public Relations Department must remain active. In addition to having to go through all religious congregations to thank them for the presence of religious leaders and their members, it must maintain a continuous connection with these congregations and all guests to develop these relationships.

Suzana Filipiao Paque

I am a blessed member and Education Department leader for Mozambique Unification Church. On April 21 I was responsible for alimentation. Knowing clearly how to do the job, whether to buy or cook the food for the three hundred participants that were initially supposed to have come and attend the ceremony.

However, with the help of our Heavenly Parents, True Parents, the absolute good spirit world the national leader and other members during the meetings that we had, we bought the food instead of cooking it. The ceremony went well; everyone that came had their share of food. For the honorable guests, we made a restaurant reservation for their lunch. However they couldn't go to eat there and instead decided to eat with all the people that had come for the ceremony.

Benny Isac Jimu

I am a blessed member of the Mozambique Unification Church. For the ceremony for the construction of Hyo Jeong Peace Center, I was on the Protocol team, helping in the organization of the place and to receive guests. The event was deeply inspirational and spirit moving. To see people from different denominations and of different societal levels, high and low—parliamentarians, chiefs, church leaders, students, local people, etcetera, humbling themselves to come together and attend the event. It made me to believe that with the help of Heavenly Parent, True Parents and the effort of the members, bringing all people from all different sectors of life and realize the ideal of Creation is possible.



A commemorative photograph: In the center are the national messiahs, Rev. Lee Hwabum and Mrs. Seo Sunja. To Mrs. Seo's right is the national assemblyman, Edmundo Galiza Matos Jr.,

The heavenly sign that took place just after laying the first stone, the appearance of the migrating birds in five different groups all gathering in one place, exactly where the ceremony was taking place confirmed this.

Cristina Americo Dimande

I am responsible for the church's Finance Department. During the preparation of the inauguration of Hyo Jeong Peace Center, I was in charge of finance and collaborated with the cleaning and food focal points.

The ceremony was an amazing experience. I thank to Heavenly Parent and True Parents for guiding and inspiring us in this activity.

Four days before the event, Tuesday 17, was the day to do almost all payments related to the event, but due to miscommunication I missed meeting another sister in church center located in Maputo City to get her signature. I needed to follow her to her job, located in another province, Maputo Province. Going and coming back to the church center including the time at the bank took me almost four hours. The payments allowed us to proceed with organization of the event. The same evening, we crossed the bay and brought painting material for use

before the ceremony. Thanks to God's strength, I was able to make it. I strongly believe that the center will be a place to educate leaders, for people to build true families and to contribute to a peaceful society.

Feliciano Luis Torres Posso

May the blessing of Heavenly Parents and the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and all Humankind be with us. During the preparation, I was in charge of the cleaning and ornamentation and I supported the public relations.

After a long time of dreaming, it seems that now the dream will become a reality. The construction of the Peace Center in Mozambique is a project that has long been in the hearts of Mozambicans.

The announcement for the laying of the first stone was a joy and at the same times a very big challenge. First, to ensure the participation of people in the event (the place is on the opposite bank of the bay). Second, because we planned to receive and people of different levels including MPs. Thanks to our organization and teamwork, it was possible to overcome all barriers and hold the event. This increased our

strength and the foundation to continue serving more.

One challenges was finding a tent for the guest of honor's table. After deep meditation, I requested the tent from the National Institute for Disaster Management, my former workplace. I had already witnessed to almost all the directors of that government institution.

Luis Gomes Saimone Nzaia (Family Department)

One of my responsibility was transportation of three traditional leaders. First, we went to pick up the senior of them, His holiness Luis Filipe Tembe. When we arrived at his home, he had changed his mind. For him it was a small ceremony and one of his subordinate leaders could lead the traditional ceremony. The local leader explained the work of our True Parents for world peace including his experience in Senegal when True Mother was there. He decided to join us. He attended all ceremonies from the beginning to the end and later said he is ready to attend any of our ceremonies even outside of Mozambique. 

Rev. Paluku Mulekya is the FFWPU national leader of Mozambique.

Interview of Michael Balcomb

This is an excerpt of an interview Julian Gray conducted of Michael Balcomb, chairman, Europe Regional Group, in Korea on May 7.



When the programs in Korea ended in early March, you had Mother coming to Europe in less than two months, yet you had confidence to fill a large stadium. What were your thought processes and feelings at that point?

Well, the story for me with big stadiums started with the Madison Square Garden a year ago [July 15, 2017]. In America, we had the opportunity to see True Mother quite often and we had held with True Parents many similar events over the years, with five hundred or a thousand, maybe fifteen hundred people. As far as we knew, that was sufficient. When the IPEC opened in Las Vegas, we held other events there. Two years ago, we held the fortieth anniversary of the Yankee Stadium rally at Belvedere. It was dramatic because Mother came and it was outdoors and it rained just as it had at Yankee Stadium, but not until the very second Mother had finished her speech. Members were tremendously excited to have True Parents back at Belvedere, just like in the old days and to have Mother speaking on that auspicious anniversary.

We had made it a real festival. We realized Mother would like us to have fun, not frivolous fun, but she'd like us to enjoy what we do and to be creative. So, we held a festival. We had many different types of food, and displays about all kinds of projects.

It was great but at the end of the day, we still brought only three thousand people. A year later, when we were wondered what to do, we realized that Korea and Japan had set the bar quite high by having rallies with ten thousand people and Dr. Kim intuitively felt we should invite Mother to come to speak at Madison Square Garden. It turned out it was the right offering; she was immediately enthusiastic. She didn't think it would be a problem to fill the arena.

Then of course came the challenge of finding a place that was willing to do it in Europe. I had a few candidate cities, such as Prague, Milan, Düsseldorf in Germany, London, perhaps Paris. Fumiko and

I visited all these cities and talked to members to try to get a sense of whether they believed it was possible. I'll be honest with you: the only place that responded well, with confidence, was Vienna. One reason was that Mother had come to Europe last time in 2015 and they had held a pretty big and successful event in Vienna.

Mother came to East Garden a couple of days later extolling the praises of the European movement and the second generation. So, Vienna put their hand up and said, We can do it.

But Europe is a different ballgame from the United States, isn't it? In the US, you have the ACLC and Christian churches that can presumably mobilize congregations. Europe has nothing comparable.

This was one of the things Mother wanted to know, through the international headquarters. You are aiming to bring ten thousand people. If you do, are they all going to be members? I said, No. At most, half will be members, because that's all we have. So the other half will have to be people we witness to or friends or relatives.

That was what True Mother wanted to hear. Obviously, she wanted to hear that we would attempt to find new people.

We had a simple strategy. Because I had been centrally involved in Madison Square Garden, I thought we'd duplicate that effort. Many things fell into place. For example, we quickly found out that there was a major gospel choir in Vienna, the Longfield Gospel Choir, and they were very open to performing in the Vienna Stadthalle, because it was actually their biggest concert ever. Like all choirs, they want to perform before an enthusiastic audience.

We met the director of the choir, explained who we are and what was going to happen. Seeing the photos of Madison Square Garden and of the World Cup Stadium event [November 11, 2017] here in Korea, they quickly realized that these people aren't fooling around. They can fill stadiums. We took the view that this was in a series of events that had

happened in America and Japan and Thailand. It had a momentum of its own. It couldn't be stopped, in a way. They became our core anchor group. The choir was five hundred people, keen to come to perform and participate. This gave members confidence that people would be interested in coming.

The second thing was we made a clear goal. We have six regions, so we made a chart and gave the regions goals that added up to twelve thousand people. We had a meeting in Vienna in February before coming to Korea. They responded well.

I noticed from the numbers-chart that it was a good response, considering the distances people had to travel and the commitment of time and money.

For example, the Russians, as everyone now knows, had to come two thousand miles or whatever it is from Moscow to Vienna, by bus. But they were smart about it; they made it a package destination. Let's go from Moscow to Vienna! It's a very attractive city. In a way, we shamelessly told people, Come and have a great weekend in Vienna. We tried to organize many other activities they would enjoy, such as the cruises on the Danube River or sight-seeing in Vienna.

Was it all smooth sailing?

The truth is that we didn't get serious about the mobilization perhaps until forty days before the event. We had several kick-off ceremonies. Forty days, in our movement, seems to be the amount of time that people can focus on a project before another project comes up.

We felt a great deal of support from True Mother. My relationship with True Mother has developed over the last five years. I have to be honest: At least until recently, I didn't see Mother often. For a while, I allowed this to be kind of an obstacle. I was passive about it. I thought, Well, if I go to a meeting and Mother calls me to give a report, and she often would, that's when I'll communicate. But I learned from Dr.



Dr. Balcomb speaking during a cruise down the Danube River with Dieter Schmidt, FFWPU national leader of Germany, beside him and Sun Jin nim and In Sup nim in the background

Ki-hoon Kim, that it is much better to be constantly updating Mother with good news or news of tragedies overcome involving the members. Mother does care about members' lives. She is interested in how God is working in people's lives. She wants to hear about it.

When Fumiko and I came to Europe, we felt, one thing we can do, that perhaps European members are not familiar with, is to encourage members to have the freedom to interact with True Mother. The international headquarters has been helpful with this, because people like Mr. Hyunook Seo and others have made sure that, on a fairly regular basis, reports are translated, though sometimes refined or shortened, and presented to True Mother. Gradually, I encouraged them, starting with the regional presidents, church leaders and all members to feel free to write a short message to True Mother to tell her what's going on in their lives. If something good has happened, or if she said something in a speech that has touched your heart, don't keep it to yourself; share it. In the beginning, people were reluctant, but as we got into the habit, it became second nature. We have a WhatsApp group with about seventy-five leaders on it, and now every day we are sharing testimonies about how God is working, and it is tremendously inspiring. There are many

good testimonies. It gives you snapshot, and if you want to find out more, you can go there.

We also instituted a weekly prayer call; every Wednesday night, at 7 o'clock, for any member who wants to join the "muezzin call." We pray together for one or two things as a whole that we are focusing on. With eleven time zones, it is a bit challenging, but it does mean that anyone who wants to can be in "face-to-face" contact with other members of like mind.

When Mother was in Vienna, besides the public speeches that she gave, did she say anything else you might share?

We had breakfast with Mother every morning. This was an opportunity to both report to Mother about what had happened the day before and in that context, Mother felt free to make suggestions and give directions. Her suggestions are always directions but expressed in a loving way, so that you feel that you would like to do that because Mother suggested it. She suggested that we follow up with the people who came but also with the people who did not come, who said they would but something happened. [Mother said] You can go to see these people and share with them what I said; show them pictures of people having a great time. You never know.

Those people may even be more responsive. They wanted to come but then they didn't. What you mustn't do is just move on. The seeds have been planted but they need to be watered; they need to be tended in some way.

Another piece of advice is that you have to dream big, have a big dream for Europe. Ten thousand came today, but what if these ten thousand brought another ten thousand? Mother is very confident that we are on the verge of some dramatic breakthrough. The time is right and if we plant seeds now, a big harvest is coming. We tried to believe that fully. One thing we told the members in Europe was, If you participate in this event, bring your friends and contacts, you won't lose. More likely, it will advance your work by years if you do it well. I said to Mother at one breakfast, I think your coming moves the providence forward twenty years.

It allowed us, for example, to start the IAPD, to start YSP, to have a youth assembly with a thousand young people. Each of which, if had done them sequentially, might have taken a year. With the momentum of True Mother's visit, we could do them all in two days. There was a tremendous synergy. 

Mr. Gray is a staff member of the FFWPU International Headquarters.

On Building a New World

This interview took place in the Lotte Hotel in Jamshil, Seoul on February 20.

We are here at ILC 2018. Would you please state your name and describe your activities?

I am Jacques Kabangu, a Roman Catholic priest from the Diocese of Ottawa. In the Diocese of Ottawa, I am the ecumenical and interfaith officer for the diocese. It was in that capacity that I had the opportunity to participate in this encounter.

And may I ask, are you a Canadian native?

No. That's a good question, because I was born in Congo in the city of Lubumbashi. I've been in Ottawa for twenty-eight years. I've been involved there.

Could you tell us something about the interfaith makeup of Ottawa?

In Ottawa, we're very involved in interfaith activities. Actually, we have a forum; it is called CRIC, Capital Region Interfaith Council. We gather once a month. We come from various faiths. Usually, when we gather, on the second Sunday of the month, we discuss around a topic we have chosen. Each faith group shares from their faith's perspective on the topic.

What type of topics do you cover?

Recently, for example, we spoke about suicides and how those in each faith group react to a suicide; what their teachings say about that and how people respond to it. That was our last, recent topic.

What has your experience been, here in Korea?

It is my first time coming here, and first of all, what I find amazing is the number of





people who have come here from various backgrounds. People came from around the world and I have noticed that everyone here is preoccupied with peace in the world. Everybody wants to find a way to build peace all together.

I am impressed that they want the collaboration of religious leaders. This is important to me, too. We are here in the world to serve humanity. If we are called to build peace, I think churches, religions, have an important role. Some scholars, looking from a Christian perspective, say that if you are looking for peace in the world, look first for peace between religions. Religions have to come together first, reach a mutual understanding, find mutual support. From that point, we can educate our people to do the same thing—to come together and find mutual appreciation. That is the way I see it.

What did you think about this particular session where they spoke about Peace Road and had various speakers talk about their

local activities?

Personally, I liked it very much, because I remember, I recalled for me that there are so many similar activities that are happening around the world. What UPF is doing, really, is to confirm that all those around the world should keep going in that way of doing things. On a social level to come together to help people to build a new world and not to consider the origin of the people, or the race of the people, just come together to start to build a new world, where everybody has a space, a role to play.

It's very important to see that on a local level, there are problems, all over. And the local people are fighting to find a way toward peace, a peaceful world, so it is enriching to see that these things are happening around the world and there are people who are deeply involved, who are challenging to find a way to build a peaceful world in their local region. That struck me.

Are you new to UPF in Canada, or have you been involved with them

for some time?

Well, in Canada, I have been in interfaith activities for ten years; so when I started my work with CRIC in Ottawa, there, I met people from UPF.

Have you been to UPF events?

Yes, once I was invited and I received a certificate as a Peace Ambassador. That was three years ago.

What do you think of the peace ambassador program?

What I think is that if you are recognized as a peace ambassador, you have to begin to play a role of starting to build peace in your heart—that's for sure—and in your surroundings with people you work with. First of all, it is a local thing. Where you are, you are called to build peace and to witness to peace. This is because if you are trying to talk with your congregation or other people who know you and if you want to set in motion an international program, you need to show the way of peace—how people can come to reconcile, find a way to come back together and to be the new world.

I think this is local and international, in your thinking and in sharing your life. It seems to me.

So, in a sense, does being an ambassador for peace put pressure on you or does it confirm the fact in you?

It confirms. Because from my faith perspective, not only am I called to build peace, but if I have to follow my vocation as Jesus' disciple, actually, I am called to build that peace with my people in my organization and also around them, outside of my congregation. If from outside, I receive that call, it's just a confirmation and it tells the person, You have to be serious in what you are doing and bring peace among us.

Actually, as has been said, real peace starts in the mind and in the heart. When you are a peaceful man, you can share that peace with the people surrounding you. It seems to me. 

God's Answer to My Prayer was "Pantanal Spirit"

This article, translated from Japanese, originally appeared in the January 2018 issue of World Family, an FFWPU–Japan publication.

"Pantanal" is the name of the mosquito-infested, bog-like wetland (the world's largest) where True Father used to fish under the blazing sun for hours on end. Note that the surname Arai used here is a pseudonym.

By Mrs. Seon-im Bae





Mrs. Bae's home is officially recognized as a Home Church



The woman on the left is the mother of a Japanese woman whom the writer matched to a Korean man

Around 1985, my older sister, who used to attend the Full Gospel Church, started saying, I'm praying desperately in the name of Christ but I cannot sleep. After she had suffered from insomnia for about six months, she met an older member of the Unification Church (blessed among the 777 couples) and attended a Friday evening service. Ever since, she has been sleeping well. Through this, she started attending Unification Church services.

My sister's husband did not want her to join the Unification Church, so he asked me to persuade her not to go. After getting advice from a minister of the Full Gospel Church, which I attended back then, I tried to dissuade her. In response, my sister said, I will follow whatever decision you make after you attend a seven-day Divine Principle workshop. I accepted this condition.

The Jongam church in Seoul's Seongbuk Borough held the seven-day workshop. Only eighteen people attended it, but most of them had a Christian family background and asked many pointed questions during the lectures. Because so many questions arose that the lecturer could not continue the presentation, the lecturer made an agreement with the participants not to leave the hall, make phone calls or ask any more questions for three days. I, too, was a Christian, but because I was a young member and my family's background was Buddhist, I listened quietly.

In one lecture, the lecturer said, Christians tell you to believe in God, who is invisible; but can you be filial to the invisible God or believe in him when you cannot be filial to your visible parents? This moved me.

Furthermore, I did not understand why people get married. Although I wanted to get married, it was merely a self-centered idea. So, when I first heard the teaching of the Unification Church about getting married or "blessed" for the sake of your spouse, that shocked me. I found the purpose of life through that workshop; moreover, I learned that the returning Lord had come. This caused me to decide to serve the Lord in his second advent for the remainder of my life. I was twenty-two years old back then.

Sick for a year and a half

In 1988, I received the blessing with my Japanese husband, Norihiro Hagino, among the 6,500-couple group and I came to Japan in April 1992. My husband and I started our family in Kanagawa Prefecture. In 1994, we moved to his hometown, the city of Iwaki in Fukushima Prefecture. We have lived here for twenty-four years.

Life has not been easy, but I took as much time as possible for church activities. However, I gradually fell ill. My body had swollen up all over. I lost the strength to stand up, but doctors could not find the cause of my illness. I lost all the confidence to live in Japan that I'd had. For the next year and a half, I prayed to God in desperate tears everyday, saying, True Par-

ents did not send me to Japan to become sick and die. They sent me to build a family that could represent True Parents' wishes to the world. I must fulfill this purpose. So, please make me healthy!

I don't know how much I wanted to go back to Korea during this period, but God finally answered my prayer. I regained strength gradually and became healthy again. Moreover, God gave my family financial blessings so we could tithe three times as much as previously. Through this experience, I reconfirmed the power of prayer and felt myself attached to God by an invisible thread.

In 2003, I stood on the witnessing front line out of gratitude for God's grace. After about seven years, my life in Japan transformed into one of gratitude. I feel that witnessing helps me cast off my fallen nature and grow.

Every day, I remind myself to say aloud, I'm grateful, thousands or millions of times. In this way, God can guide me to see the good aspects of my witnessing contacts and to hear and to use only good words. This is how I have guided more than fifty people to the Divine Principle course in the past ten years. Among them, thirteen people have received the blessing as married couples or as spirit-world-physical-world couples.

Reactions do not affect me

I have guided three of my contacts to the blessing between 2015 and last year. Mrs. Arai (in her seventies) whom I met in 2014, started to learn the Divine Principle because she



Her spiritual son, Mr. Yamanobe, and his bride.

wanted her daughter (then forty-three) to find a good husband. The daughter had faith in a certain religion out of a thirty-year desire to build an ideal family. However, things did not work out for her and she even quit her job at the large company she had worked at for twenty-one years.

I asked Mrs. Arai to introduce me to her daughter a couple of times, but she did not listen to me. In fact, Mrs. Arai did not know how to relate to her daughter or what she should do as a mother to make her happy. Since her daughter was born after seven years of marriage, her mother cherished her, but she did not know how to express love to her daughter. One day, before visiting Mrs. Arai's house, I offered a passionate prayer to God, saying, Please connect me to Mrs. Arai's daughter!

She was at her mother's house when I got there. I talked with her about faith and marriage. I told her, I want you to know the meaning of marriage and learn the truth with your mother.

After the daughter had started to come to the church, I told her mother about the spirit world-physical world blessing. A few days later, Mrs. Arai came to the church with a donation of gratitude required for the blessing and placed it in front of her daughter who had come along. She was surprised, but did not oppose it. She later told me that this rather cleared up her misunderstanding of her mother. Thus, Mrs. Arai was able to receive the single blessing and then the spirit



Mrs. Seon-im Bae's oldest son, Futofumi, Futofumi's wife Tomomi Kosuge at the 2017 Hyojeong International Marriage Blessing Ceremony

world-physical world blessing in 2015.

On the other hand, the director of the education center told the daughter to write wish papers and she did not like this. She researched FFWPU on the internet and only bad information caught her attention. She called me and asked, Why do religions always ask for money?

There was to be a full moon that night. So I told her, I understand what you mean, but there is a reason for that. Don't worry too much. You are only exhausting yourself. You can see the full moon tonight. Look up at the moon and sleep well. Please come to the church on the promised date. You can decide if you are going to quit or continue and tell your decision to the director.

She then said, I cannot go. It's too scary. I said, It's not as if there's a ghost there. Don't worry. I'll go with you.

She came on the promised date. After telling me all her complaints, she said, I will write twenty-one wish papers. Actually, I want to receive the blessing.

She told me that she had wanted to receive the blessing from the moment she saw her mother make the blessing donation. Last year, a minister introduced her to a Korean man and they had a marriage interview in Seoul. Although they decided to meet occasionally, the experience often shook her heart. Each time, though, we figured out the cause and solved it together. Finally, she and her husband participated in the September 7, 2017

Hyojeong International Marriage Blessing Ceremony.

She is now forty-seven years old. She guided a new member to the church while she was at a twenty-one-day workshop in Yeosu. I am telling her to promote ancestor liberation and the blessing of at least seven generations of eight family lines.

Complicated relationships

When I visited a temple in 2013, I met Mr. Yamanobe (sixty-one), who was there also as a visitor. While we were there, the priest said to me, My family line has experienced many divorces and remarriages, so I am worried that my wife may someday bring up breaking up. What should I do to cut off such evil connections?

I answered, Since you are a priest, I believe you know how difficult it is to cut off evil influences. You must learn the Divine Principle and know the Messiah. Then, Mr. Yamanobe put a word in. Actually, I'm interested in it, too.

I told him, This is not a game; it's not something you should see or hear from mere interest. Please call me if you are serious. Then, he gave me his name card.

Mr. Yamanobe and I decided to meet a few days later. As I listened to him, I learned that he had been through a divorce and was feeling sorry for his son because of that. He decided to learn the Divine Principle because he wanted to know what an original ideal family is like. Back then, when I suggested that he receive the blessing, he said, Because of my son



Mrs. Hisako Miyamoto (spirit world–physical world blessing) who, died at eighty-four in the tsunami caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake on March 11, 2011.

I'm not getting remarried. However, in 2015, when I told him, Your son has his own life; you cannot stay alone for the rest of your life, he started to show interest in the blessing. Last year, he met a woman (in her sixties) in Tokyo and was able to participate in the Hyojeong International Marriage Blessing Ceremony.

On that occasion, I found out that one of the Iwaki Family Church Cheon Il Guk members had witnessed to Mr. Yamanobe's younger sister, who was taking refuge in the City of Iwaki after the Great East Japan Earthquake. She called Mr. Yamanobe for advice about the donation of gratitude. Mr. Yamanobe told her to do her best, and she offered the donation.

Tribal Messiah activities

In parallel with door-to-door witnessing, I invest effort in tribal messiah activities. In 2012, my husband and I invited around thirty members of his immediate family and relatives for a tribal meeting. We gave them *As a Peace-Loving Global Citizen* and held a holy blessing ceremony. Then, we were able to bless my husband's parents.

Financially speaking, we are not a rich family, but my husband served as a director of the Second Generation Department at the church for fifteen years while working for a company. He enjoys excellent relations with my two sons, whom even I adore. I am always grateful for

being a part of this family.

My oldest son is in his sixth year in a pharmacy college. Last year, he accepted a match with a daughter of the head of the Women's Association in the Hanamaki Family Church of Iwate (Mrs. Hui-eun Yoon, 6,500-couple blessing group) and participated in the Hyojeong International Marriage Blessing Ceremony. This family has seven children. What a blessed family they are!

My oldest son is sincere and he has never missed hoondokhae ever since he attended a twenty-one-day workshop when he was a senior in high school. I am impressed. No matter how late he comes home, he has never failed to do hoondokhae. My younger son is now in his junior year at Sun Moon University and is studying social psychology.

God's unreserved love

Looking back at my thirty-year life of faith, I have come to realize that God has always listened to my prayers and tried to grant them unconditionally. When I joined the church or when I faced difficulties in the blessing, God has given me trials that I can overcome in some way or other and has trained me so that I can cast off my fallen nature.

Predominantly, for the past fourteen years of my witnessing life, I have asked God to tell me what I could do for him and what my responsibilities are. Then, one day, I heard an answer in True Father's

voice saying, "Pantanal Spirit." I felt God's wish for me to become a person who could swallow and digest not only the things I like but everything—good or evil.

It was around that time that I offered a desperate prayer to True Parents to let me resign as a foundation leader and to give me a position where I could devote myself to witnessing. Then, in October 2015, although I am deficient in many ways, I was assigned head of our Women's Association, replacing a sister who had served in the position for thirteen years. I truly felt God's desire for me to become a person who could swallow and digest everything.

Lastly, I would like to share a story about a spiritual daughter I can never forget. She is Mrs. Hisako Miyamoto (spirit world–physical world blessing, died at eighty-four) who lost her life in the tsunami of the Great East Japan Earthquake on March 11, 2011. The chairman of FFWPU-Japan Rev. Yeong-seop Song (at that time), presented her a handwritten title, "Heroine of Cheon Il Guk," and entrusted her with the mission of leading the twenty-thousand victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake to Heavenly Parent.

A year later, I found out that three daughters of Mrs. Miyamoto's oldest son have joined the church. The sisters introduced themselves at an Iwaki Family Church Sunday service when they came from Tokyo to get their father blessed. I had the feeling that they might be Mrs. Miyamoto's granddaughters, and when I asked them, they said yes.

Later, with the help of his daughters, Mrs. Miyamoto's oldest son was able to receive the spirit world–physical world blessing with his wife who had died in the tsunami with Mrs. Miyamoto. The presence of my spiritual daughter in the spirit world entrusted with such great mission is encouraging to me.

I meet many people and they say various things, but I would like to testify confidently with solid conviction that nobody can build a happy family without knowing the Messiah. 

Mrs. Bae received the Witnessing Award on the 58th anniversary of the founding of FFWPU-Japan.

Background on Mauthausen

“The five great saints and many other leaders in the spirit world, including even Communist leaders such as Marx, Lenin and Stalin, central to all manner of barbarism and murder on earth, and dictators such as Hitler, have found strength in my teachings, mended their ways and been reborn as new persons.

—Pyeong Hwa Gyeong, Book I, Speech 15.

In 1938, a few months after the annexation of Austria by Nazi Germany, to build the Mauthausen Concentration Camp, laborers began mining a granite quarry on the property where they would erect the camp. *Deutsche Erd und Steinwerke GmbH* (DEST) the “German Earth and Stone-works Company,” under the Schutzstaffel (SS)—“Protective Shield”—a corps of ruthless soldiers who initially served as bodyguards for Adolf Hitler and high-ranking Nazis and who later saw combat, undertook this project. The laborers’ first “job” was to build the camp itself.

Over the course of the camp’s first year, 1,100 prisoners came from Dachau, another major concentration camp, and did the work. Those in the first group were mainly from Germany and Austria, actual criminals with some political prisoners, people “unqualified” to live in German society; near year’s end, Czechs and Bohemians came from the Nazi occupied Sudetenland. The SS first used these prisoners to mine the quarry for the construction of the exterior walls, the watchtowers and the main gate.

DEST operated three other quarries nearby using prisoners from the subsidiary (though larger) Concentration Camp Gusen. “Mauthausen-Gusen,” denotes the main camp and a complex of fifty-six camps that the Nazis constructed in connection with and near the Mauthausen camp, which was on the Danube River, twenty kilometers (twelve miles) east of Linz, the capital of Upper Austria, and five kilometers (three miles) from the town of Mauthausen.

Even in the beginning, before the Nazi blitzkrieg (lightning war) struck other nations, the inmates came from many different groups. On their uniforms they wore a identification patch to show if the prisoner was as a political enemy of the National Socialist Party (Nazis), a recidivist criminal, an immigrant, a homosexual, a Bible researcher (some type of unorthodox Christian), a Jew, a Roma or a Sinti. The final two are branches of traditionally itinerant, long-ago immigrants from India.

Numbers

By the end of 1939, minus whatever deaths occurred, Mauthausen held 2,666 souls. In 1940, 11,000 inmates came and the first satellite Gusen camp came to be. 1941:18,000 arrivals; 1942: inmates came from seven countries and the Soviet Union, total number unknown; 1943: 21,028 came with 8,000 deaths in Mauthausen-Gusen; 1944: new sub-camps built; 65,000 recorded arrivals; population peaked at 114,524; Jews came from Auschwitz. Of Jews alone—3,000 deaths; 1945: almost 25,000 new prisoners. “Altogether, 199,404 prisoners passed through Mauthausen. Approximately 119,000 of them, including 38,120 Jews, were killed or died from the harsh conditions.”

From 1940 on, foreign prisoners from the battlefield countries, outside the expanded Nazi Reich

came to Mauthausen. In 1940 alone, the camp imprisoned 448 Poles, four thousand Czechs and two thousand Dutch Jews. The first children came that year: thirteen to eighteen-year-olds. The country from which the most prisoners came to Mauthausen was Poland, including many Catholic priests; 780 priests died of exhaustion there.

From historic enmity or in response to the Soviet battlefield successes against Nazis, the SS hierarchy singled out Soviet Prisoners of War for cruel treatment. It was not that individual guards decided this. Orders came that at the smallest act of disobedience from a Soviet POW, "especially in the case of Bolshevik fanatics," punishment would fall on the SS guards if they did not respond with "bayonets, rifle butts or firearms." The high number of deaths among Soviet POWs seemed intentional.

At a conference in a suburb of Berlin on the Final Solution to the Jewish Question, a euphemism for "how to kill all Jews," the first step was "evacuate all Jews to the East," another euphemistic phrase for "send them to the camps in Austria and Poland."

The bullet decree

Mauthausen served some special functions. After recapturing Prisoners of War (other than British or Americans) who had escaped from any concentration camp, those capturing them had to turn them over to the Gestapo Control Station. The Gestapo were to transport them under special protocol and upon delivery, inform the Mauthausen Camp commandant that the prisoners were under a "*Kugel Erlass*," a "Bullet Decree," so named because that is what the prisoners received, a bullet. At first, it came by firing squad, but eventually they built a stadiometer, a device to measure height. A prisoner would stand against a vertical bar marked in centimeters. When a flat bar came down to the top of his head, it set off a gun that put a bullet through his neck.

Near the end of the war, under the Bullet Decree, prisoners could lose their POW status (violating the third Geneva Convention) and be killed if they committed a crime, had escaped and been recaptured, refused to work, encouraged others not to work, were guilty of sabotage or Task Forces of the Security Police or Security Service simply singled them out. In these cases, no one filled out paperwork; they left behind no evidence of these executions. Regarding the Bullet Decree, "Prisoners of war sent to Mauthausen concentration camp under it were regarded as dead to the outside world and were executed."

The quarry

At Mauthausen, prisoners carried rocks weighing up to fifty kilograms (110 pounds) and walked up a hilly distance before climbing 186 steps from the quarry to the concentration camp. Guards sometimes forced them to run or added extra weight. This fit a pattern that applied to all the camps. Inmates mainly died from the combination of inhumane treatment, hard labor, poor food and no access to ethical medical treatment, so "the rate of mortality (alleged to be from natural causes) attained enormous proportions." The quarry was in operation throughout the time the camp was in use.

The granite would give solid form to the designs of architects that Hitler favored, such as Albert Speer, who was also the Reich Minister of Armaments and War Production during most of World War II. Among other buildings, Speer was one of the architects of the Berlin Olympic Stadium, used in the 1936 Summer Olympic Games and after extensive refurbishment, still used to this day.

Armament production

The camps received orders to focus the efforts of the prisoners on war-related projects. Arms manufacturers could then request that the SS supply them prisoner-laborers. The companies paid labor fees to the SS and fed and lodged the inmates in sub-camps near their manufacturing facilities. As the war intensified, many of the inmates at the Mauthausen-Gusen camps did the grueling work of digging tunnels into mountainsides large enough to house factories impervious to Allied bombing. On August 17, 1943, an Allied air raid did extensive damage to the Messerschmitt aircraft factory at Regensburg, Bavaria. Afterward, inmates at Gusen II made the fuselages with all parts installed of the Messerschmitt ME 262, the first operational jet fighter ever produced.

For a time, Mauthausen also hosted Operation Bernhard, a Nazi counterfeiting scheme that used skilled inmates to produce fake US dollars, passports and official stamps. It focused mainly on British currency, producing more than £130 million worth (as much as £7.3 billion today).

Make no mistake, besides granite, military weaponry and counterfeit money another "product" the SS sought to produce, using various methods, was death. Other services they sought to provide to the Nazi Party were the disappearance of human remains (in incinerators installed in 1940) and the erasure from the face of the earth of whole groups of people. In writing about a concentration camp, the terms "prisoners," or "inmates" naturally arise to describe kidnap victims illegally transported and murdered or illegally transported, forcibly confined, denied proper food and water, subjected to humiliation, to physical torture and psychological or sexual abuse.

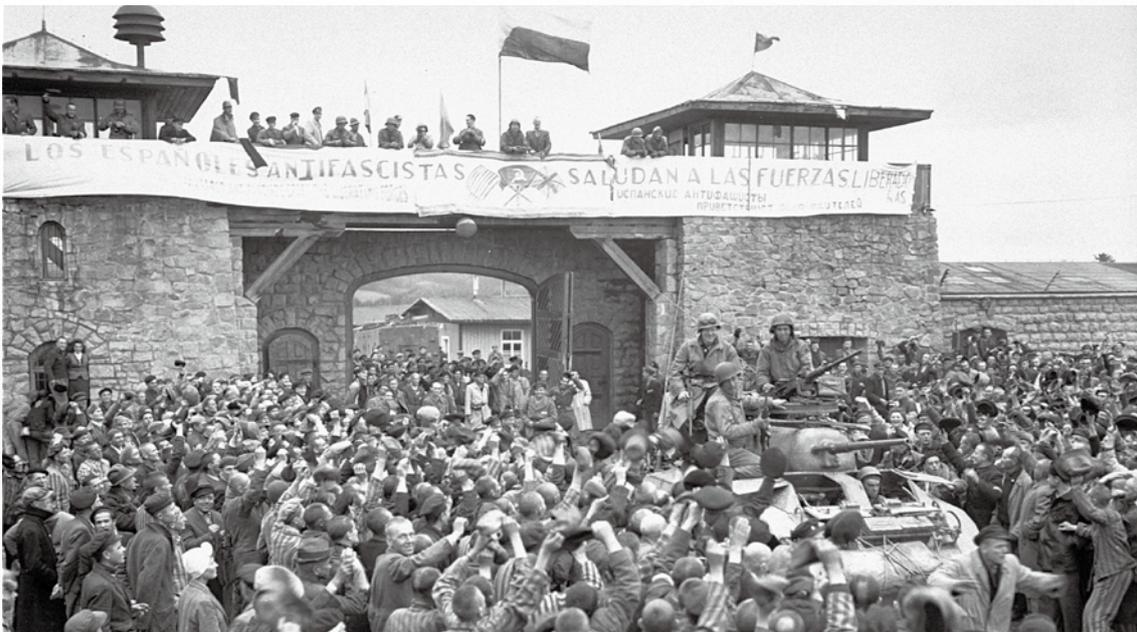
Some notes on Adolf Hitler

Adolf Hitler was born in Braunau am Inn, Austria, which is on the German border, to Alois (1837–1903) and Klara Hitler (1860–1907) on April 20, 1889, Alois' third wife. "Hitler" was not his father's birth name. Alois' mother gave birth to him out of wedlock. When Alois was five years old, he obtained the surname of the man that married his mother.

Adolph went through a Catholic baptism. He was the first of their four children to survive early childhood. A younger brother, Edmund, was born in 1894 but died in 1900. A sister Paula was born in 1896 and died in 1960. (Once her brother became dictator of Germany, he instructed her to change her name to Paula Wolff. She added "Mrs." though she never married.) Their father had grown up in a peasant family but rose to become a government customs officer.

The family moved several times to homes in the same area and then in 1898, when Adolf was nine, they moved to Leonding, a village 5.5 kilometers (3.4 miles) from Linz. Adolf went to secondary school in Linz, though he did not graduate. He left school in 1905. He wanted to become an artist and traveled to Vienna in the autumn of 1907 to take the entrance examination at the Vienna Academy of Fine Arts. The results suggest he was not without talent but he failed the examination. He left Vienna upon

Left: Adolf's mother, Klara Hitler née Pözl (1860–1907); regarding her death, her doctor later stated, "I have never seen anyone so prostrate with grief as Adolf Hitler." *Right:* A "self-made man" from a peasant family, Adolf's father Alois (1837–1903) has been described as haughty, ill tempered, miserly and unpredictable. *Below:* For the sake of this historic photograph, those involved re-created the scene a day later, which allowed one group of ex-inmates of Mauthausen to make a banner that reads, "The Spanish Anti-Fascists Salute the Liberating Forces."





The main gate at the Mauthausen Concentration Camp seen from inside the camp. The granite used came from Mauthausen's own quarry, which was used to work inmates to death.

learning his mother was dying. By several accounts, Adolf loved her deeply. Klara Hitler died in December of breast cancer. A few months later, Hitler returned to Vienna. He lived for three years in a hotel for transients. During that time, he eked out a living on money that he and a business partner made selling postcards Hitler painted. His fortunes later declined. He spent nights in shelters and ate at soup kitchens for the poor. This changed when he received his inheritance at age twenty-four.

Abominable worldview

Sometime in the years that Hitler lived near Linz, he encountered and resonated with the teachings of Georg Ritter von Schönerer (1842–1921) a virulent nationalist and anti-Semite, though Hitler later claimed not to have been anti-Semitic when living near Linz. Hitler made contradictory statements about the origin of his anti-Semitism. During his time in Vienna, Hitler said he initially read the mainstream newspaper (free of charge in coffee shops) but comments critical of Germany's Kaiser irritated him. He also read an alternative paper that was pro-German and anti-Semitic. He strongly admired then-mayor of Vienna, Karl Lueger, a virulent anti-Semite. From whatever source he imbibed the poison, no one in history is more strongly associated with anti-Semitism today.

Hitler attempted to dodge Austrian conscription, but failed. He went to stay in Munich, the capital the kingdom of Bavaria within the German Empire, but Austrian police pursued him there. Eventually, he returned to Austria, where authorities deemed him too physically weak to serve. Hitler hated the idea of fighting beside non-Germans in the Army of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. After World War I broke out, he wrote to Ludwig III, king of Bavaria and he somehow managed to get into the Army of Bavaria. He proved a zealous soldier. He rose to the rank of corporal, working as a runner delivering dispatches on the battlefield. Twice decorated and twice wounded, Hitler was in the hospital recovering from temporary blindness from mustard gas when news that Germany had lost the war reached him. The humiliation of defeat had a deep effect on Hitler and created an atmosphere in Germany ripe for his perverted leadership.

Hitler returned to the army barracks in Munich, where a recent revolution had expelled the monarchy and established the Free State of Bavaria. Their rule was short-lived and their leader, Kurt Eisner, died of assassination a year later as he was walking to Parliament to submit his resignation. Meanwhile, the army trained Hitler as a propagandist in anti-Bolshevik ideology and used him as a barrack's informant, to keep an eye on other soldiers. Over time, his work expanded and he received orders to spy on various small political parties sprouting up in Munich. This brought him to the German Workers Party one evening in September 1919. A guest speaker had finished speaking when an audience member stood up to criticize the speaker's views and express his own desire for Bavaria to secede from Germany. Hitler rose from his seat and subjected the man to such a ferocious tirade that the man rushed out of the hall. Before Hitler left, the head of the party, Anton Drexler, "witnessed" to Hitler, giving him a pamphlet on Drexler's own political views. Hitler did return. The following year, it became the National Socialist Workers Party (Nazis) which Hitler took over in 1921.

Rise to power

Over two days in 1923, Hitler and other Nazis attempted to overthrow the state government of Bavaria based in Munich. After this failed, he hid out in a friend's home but police captured him. Newspapers covered his court testimony, which attracted some followers. Convicted of treason, Hitler



FFWPU members in the gas chamber. Mauthausen was the last camp liberated. Nazis had removed the gassing mechanism, but numerous people described it. Alois Hoellriegl testified, "In 1942 a gas chamber resembling a shower room [see the white overhead pipes] was built next to the incinerator. Gas executions were carried out in the gas chamber approximately three times a week and the bodies were burned in the adjoining incinerator. From my guard post, I could hear the sound of the victims pounding on the door when the gas was turned on."

received a five-year sentence, but served just nine months in Landsberg Jail and emerged a nationally known figure on April 1, 1924.

That year National Socialist Party (Nazis) garnered three percent of the votes and gained fourteen seats in the German Parliament. This declined to twelve seats four years later. In the midst of the Great Depression, in 1930, they won 107 seats and in 1932 attained the majority in Parliament with 230. On that basis, President Paul von Hindenburg recognized Hitler (hoping to keep an eye on him) by appointing him to his Cabinet as chancellor of Germany on January 30, 1933. Following the suspicious fire that gutted the Parliament Building on February 27, 1933 and amid rumors spread by Nazis of communists and other villainous figures endangering Germany, Hitler approach Hindenburg, who was dying to say enemies surround us, we need more power. The following day Hindenburg approved the Decree for the Protection of People and the Reich, greatly curtailing the freedoms of the German people and opening the door to Adolf Hitler's dictatorship.

People that write biographies of Adolf Hitler must sense their audience's need to know why ordinary Germans became Nazis and were willing to follow this hate-filled leader, some even becoming his alter ego, emulating him in deeds such as the atrocities committed at Mauthausen. Ian Kershaw, author of multiple biographies on Hitler turned to pioneering German sociologist, Max Weber's theories on charismatic leadership in an attempt to explain what "caused" Hitler. Weber (1864–1920), who likely never heard the name Adolf Hitler, taught that an environment always has some influence but at times an environment has a powerful influence. If it hadn't been for the upheaval and devastation of World War I and the political and economic chaos and the social humiliation that followed in Germany, Adolf Hitler would have been the man—to be pitied or reviled—ranting on the city subway train or at a rural bus stop; the kind of person we all try to ignore. He would never have won elective office, have been able to manipulate the Austrian political system or have found such wide support. We may never know. We do know we can pray hard and work hard to build a world that never sees such horrors again.

Nuremberg, the beginning and the end

Adolf Hitler pronounced Nuremberg the City of Nazi Party Rallies in 1933. Nazis assembled and marched there, held meetings and plotted there and in Nuremberg Hitler gave vociferous speeches. The Nuremberg Race Laws, the blueprint of racial policies against German Jews, were adopted there in 1935. The first declared the swastika flag the German national flag and forbade Jews from using it. The second outlawed marriage and sexual relations between Germans (defined as Aryans) and Jews, thereby defining them as non-Germans. The third declared that those of German blood only are eligible for citizenship; all others had no rights.

Only later, they defined those in the Jewish race as (simply put) anyone who has three or four Jewish grandparents. (Even some Protestant ministers and Catholic priest were redefined as Jews.) Nuremberg, too, was the location of the trials that sought to uncover the unthinkable crimes, recognize the victims and prosecute the perpetrators of the outrageous evil that had taken place and that concentration camps such as Mauthausen epitomized. *✍*

A TPmagazine staff member wrote this based on and quoting from yadvashem.org; Nuremberg records (Nazi Conspiracy and Aggression; Law Reports of Trials of War Criminals) and Hitler: A Biography, by Ian Kershaw.

