

TODAY'S

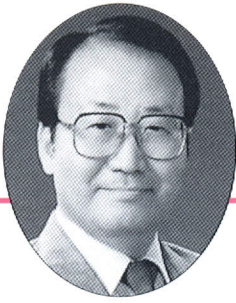
WORLD

OCTOBER 1997

HOLY WEDDING SEPTEMBER 6TH 1997



1. TRUE DAY OF ALL THINGS AND INITIATOR OF HARMONY
2. TRUE CHILDREN'S HOLY WEDDING



Message from the Publisher

Reverend Chung Hwan Kwak

The Heart of True Parents

Leaders' Conference

June 6, 1997

East Garden

SINCE the True Day of All Things, True Parents have been leading a truly difficult, pioneering lifestyle in Salobra. From the dark mornings until late at night when you can not see anything in front of you, confronting danger in the depths of the Brazilian jungle, filled with fierce animals such as jaguars, crocodiles and snakes, they have been spending their days leading a sacrificial life on the front line. With humble and grateful hearts, we should all devote ourselves so that our debt of heart to True Parents can be reduced, even by a little.

I would like to share with you excerpts of Father's words to twenty national messiahs from Latin America, during mealtimes together in Brazil throughout the month of July.

There are times when Father gets up at 3:30 in the morning and goes to the river. It is not because he wants to go fishing. Focusing on the tip of his fishing rod, amid the changeable weather conditions, he is offering unwavering effort.

- History not only repeats itself according to providential time identity; it also develops in a spiral, following the way of heaven.

- True Parents are walking ahead on the path of sacrifice so that God cannot leave them. They believe that if they struggle and take responsibility in times of difficulty, God will support them thinking, "I must help that son and daughter."

- True Parents' lives have not been comfortable at all. The road they walk is one of pioneering, struggle and self-sacrifice. If you live a comfortable life you can become no more than a servant.

- What is the starting point of the unique, unchanging world of unification? It is true love connected by the shortest direct line, where there is no conflict or complaint. Unification and peace bear their fruit at that point.

- True Parents' path is not centered on eating, maintaining their livelihood, or play. It is a life constantly centered on God's will.

- After receiving the blessing, families should live for the sake of True Parents, who are the ancestors of the Blessing, and for the True Parents' family. However, because families live centered on their own family, they perish.

- The life of a national messiah is one of living for the sake of others and investing oneself: that is, to build a bridge to one's mission country so that God, who longs to be there, can come to that country. Such a bridge can only be built through sacrifice and living for others.

- True Parents live in turbulence. They have not even had an opportunity to look at the sun or the moonlight and appreciate them. God is so sorrowful since He has not had any family, tribe, nation or world in which he could take rest.

- Conduct many pre-blessings as representatives of True Parents. This is a way of paying the debt we owe to True Parents.

- True Parents set out on the road of God's will, which began in difficulty, with a pledge to God, and their intention is to complete that road in difficulty rather than in glory. Such is the importance of the road of the responsible person.

- True Parents feel as if the 3.6 Million Couple Blessing is finished and that the 36 Million Couple Blessing has also been accomplished. This can be done when each of the 3.6 million couples blesses ten other couples. True Parents should bless more than 360 million couples while they are still on the earth.

- Work harder than True Parents even if True Parents take rest in the future. Do this with joy.

- True Parents forget eating, sleeping and so on once they determine themselves to accomplish something.■

[Edited for Today's World]

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Front Cover: True Parents pose with the two newly blessed couples. (Photo: Ken Owens/NFP)

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TRUE DAY OF ALL THINGS AND INITIATOR OF HARMONY

REVEREND SUN MYUNG MOON
BELVEDERE INTERNATIONAL TRAINING CENTER
JUNE 5, 1997
TARRYTOWN, NEW YORK

Translated by: Mr. Peter Hyo Yul Kim

THOSE who want to have a rich and happy life show your hands. (Laughter.) Another try. If you are half-hearted in your response to happiness, then happiness will look at you and turn away. Suppose your loving spouse were to call you after a long separation, would you respond half-heartedly? (Laughter.) No. You would instantly jump up and run to him or her.

The qualification to lead a happy life is to always be smiling. What is the next stage of excitement beyond smiling? Singing, dancing, jumping and flying. I ask you again, when you meet your loving spouse, are you going to jump and run or just sit still and say hello? (Laughter.) You naturally want to give your spouse the strongest hug possible in greeting. Then you sing and dance together in excitement.

Everyone desires happiness, but in order to have a happy life your eyes should smile. Some people always have smiling eyes. What about your nose?

Does it smile sometimes?

(Laughter.) When this handsome gentleman sitting here was laughing, his nose was smiling also. (Laughter.) Your eyes follow your mood. When you smile and laugh your eyes also smile. There are variations among individual smiles. Do your hands remain still when you are excited? Do they go up or down, when you are happy? (Up.) We tend to raise our hands because we want to bring our ancestors and even God to our level and share our joy.

When you desperately call your lover, do you put your head up or down? (Up.) Put it all the way up so that your forehead becomes flat and God can come down and sit on it. With God sitting on your forehead, you will be able to dance with Him. It always requires balance. Imagine that God is now standing on your forehead and dancing with you. When you lift your left leg God has to balance His body,

which is now connected to your body. Therefore, He has to lift His right leg. [Father demonstrates.] If God were to stand still and demonstrate His dignity, there would be no fun.

A HAPPY DAY FOR GOD

Do you think God has had a happy day? In the process of creation, God created all things first. Upon that foundation, God created our original ancestors, Adam and Eve, but because of their Fall God lost everything. He lost His children and all things. Even though God has five senses He has had no one with whom He could talk, see, smell, or hear. God has been lonely all the time. Therefore, has God been happy or unhappy? (Unhappy.) Those of you who believe in an unhappy God, are you unhappy people? That is why religious people have been walking the path of tears and suffering.

Some people claim that the teaching of Divine Principle is excellent, but once they step inside they have to go through



True Parents receive flowers on the 35th True Day of All Things before Father's speech at Belvedere, in Tarrytown, New York.

PHOTO: KEN OWENS/NFP

We are all indebted to all things. If we truly want to be proud of ourselves we need to pay our debts first. If we truly understand the reality of our breakfast food, can we carelessly pick up our utensils and eat?

suffering. From God's point of view, is this course of suffering in order to pay indemnity the correct course or the incorrect course? (The correct course.) Does that mean I am good or bad? (Good.)

I have a tight schedule today and still I have not really begun my message to you. I feel sorry that I was 30 minutes late this morning. It was because I ate breakfast and then took a nap. (Laughter.) You are laughing, which means that you know what really happened. Your laughter is telling me that you understand and I don't need to be sorry. If some people feel that I am a bad time keeper they did not understand what was going on. I called to say that I would be a little late. [One member of the audience shouts, "Yes!"] Only you heard that? (Laughter.)

From where you are sitting, observe your body and look around. What do you see? (Brothers and sisters.) The man looks at woman and the woman looks at man. Brothers see sisters wearing beautiful butterfly-like clothing. (Laughter.) The sisters see the brothers wearing dark suits and looking handsome. The dark suits look like crows.

THE SUBJECT/OBJECT FORMULA

Who is happier, man or woman? If we were to take the brothers and sisters gathered here out to the slave markets, who do you think would be chosen first? (Women.) That means sisters may be sold but brothers will remain unsold. Then who is happier? The sisters may be prettier than the brothers, but on the other hand they get sold. The brothers may be uglier than the sisters, but they are lucky just the same. That is why throughout the world, in both east and west, women get sold to men, even through marriage.

Who is in the position of subject: husband or wife? (Husband.) Especially you American women, answer which one is subject. You know clearly. (Men.) The word 'woman' means warning to men. (Laughter.) [Father writes on the board.] This 'm' represents man and 'w' represents woman. When they are placed together they are inseparable. Together they create a whole human being. Which one points up? (Man.) Which side is plus: up or down? (Up.) Even in the English alphabet the 'm' is on the top and 'w' is on the bottom. But some American women claim that women should be subject.

The concept and reality should become one. There should be no separation between them. Which is more precious: the visible or invisible world? (Invisible world.) From a pragmatic viewpoint, there is no value in the unseen. In general America is enjoying material wealth and losing the concept of God.

Man is in the position of subject. If this is the formula, should the husband follow the wife or the wife follow the husband? (The woman should follow the man.) Who is in the position of subject? (Man.) Is it easier to buy a woman or a man? (Woman.) I am showing you how women's eyes move as they see a diamond necklace, ring and earrings. But men don't care.

Some American women might believe that I always put women down. If they sit here and listen to my explanation, they might eventually change their attitude. They will come to realize that I am not a woman basher but rather someone who truly promotes women's value. Don't you think that will

happen? (Yes.) If there is fair competition in the Olympic Games, could a woman beat a man? (No.) No matter how many competitions might exist within the Olympic Games, woman cannot win over man. Do you feel bad about that? (No.) Even if you feel bad, there is no other choice, because this is the truth. Even if we have an eating competition still women cannot eat more than men. A woman usually eats one-third of what a man eats. Isn't the husband usually taller than the wife? (Yes.) If the wife is much taller than the husband that isn't good. If she is too tall maybe crows and pigeons will come and nest in her hair! She will look like a telephone pole!

Before coming to America, I heard that American women are gutsy and brave. Therefore, I imagined that they must be taller than men. But when I saw them I realized that they are smaller than men. Also a woman would have to take several steps to cover the distance a man does in one stride. If you have to cover several kilometers, a man would probably have to take 100 steps and a woman 700 steps. Who tires more easily? (Woman.) Therefore, who is pulling whom? (The wife pulls on husband.) You western women have guts. (Laughter.) You answered me clearly, which is very courageous. (Laughter.)

Show your hands if you believe that women are in the position of subject. Someone may twist reality and claim that I am brainwashing all the women in order to sell them!

For the last 40 years people have been criticizing me, but after 40 years their accusations and criticism have disappeared because they have become tired of it. After 40 years of attacking the Unification Church and Reverend Moon, they thought that surely we would have disappeared by now. Instead I have established the Kingdom of God and am dancing there already. (Laughter and applause.) All the accusers will realize that I am on the top and am dancing in the kingdom. How wonderful it is! Do you feel great? (Yes.) If you don't feel great I will stop right here. (NO.) No. KNOW. (Laughter.)

GRATITUDE TO ALL THINGS

Look around at the color of the carpet, your clothing, the ceiling and everything. Where does it all come from? (God.) Today is the Day of All Things. A woman's body can even bear a child; where does it come from? All things. Your beautiful house, where does it come from? The machinery and equipment you are so proud of, where do they originate? All things. What about your precious car? Everything originates from all things. Do we have anything to be really proud of? We are all indebted to all things. If we truly want to be proud of ourselves we need to pay our debts first. If we truly understand the reality of our breakfast food, can we easily pick up our utensils and eat? Where does food originate? What about the meals you eat three times a day: do you think the food is happy to be absorbed by you or is it crying?

If we truly don't understand the meaning of all things, we are like thieves and robbers. Thieves take another person's property and keep it as their own. In other words, whatever we consume comes from all things, but we fail to remember that fact and regard everything as our own. Therefore, we may be regarded as thieves. Your eyes, nose and mouth all

I can only be proud of my father and mother's love and the sperm and egg I received from them. That is why we cannot deny our father and mother. Neither can we deny our own existence. Unless we become children of filial piety we cannot enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

originate from all things.

Today is the 35th Day of All Things. When we celebrate the 36th Day of All Things, we will have gone over the hill because the number 36 is the product of 3 times 12. Thirty six and 12 can be divided by 3. If you add 3 and 6 it makes 9. Actually, 9 is a satanic number, because if you write 9 quickly it looks like a snake or Satan. If you write 9 with the mouth partly open it means you are ready to take everything for free. Because Satan takes everything, 9 is Satan's number. However, 10, which consists of 1 and 0 means God says okay vertically.

Originally I didn't intend to talk about these things. Do we have anything that truly belongs to us? (No.) A newborn baby originated from the mother's egg and the father's sperm. The baby doesn't have anything of its own, but love connects the two into one and conception occurs. We do not exist by ourselves. I am nothing but the extension of my father and mother, who gave their sperm and egg in order to create me. I don't have anything of my own. I can only be proud of my father and mother's love and the sperm and egg I received from them. That is why we cannot deny our father and mother. Neither can we deny our own existence. Unless we become children of filial piety we cannot enter the Kingdom of Heaven. All things have come through that stage. Therefore, we should be able to love all things just as God does. In the animal world, does extreme individualism exist? (No.) Do you understand me? (Yes.)

America has nothing to be proud of. Does this beautiful land with its splendid trees and grass belong to America or to God? (God.) What is there for America to be proud of? If anyone thinks this wealth and this creation belongs to them, they are thieves and are doomed to lose.

Now you understand the true meaning of the Day of All Things. When you look at me walking here, this is not really me but a mass composed of all kinds of all things. It is like a tree stump and rock walking.

BEAUTY BASED ON BALANCE

Is there anything we can truly be proud of? (No.) Those of you with a pretty face may think you can be proud of that face and sell it. Such sisters are thieves and not true owners. When you call someone a beautiful woman you are referring not only to the face. A pretty woman should have everything in balance: pretty face, pretty feet and pretty hands. Also her hips and chest should be properly developed. If you truly want to label someone a beautiful woman then you have to draw her as a naked model and conclude whether or not she is beautifully proportioned.

When you select a watermelon at the market, you cannot determine if it is ripe simply by looking at the skin. Even though the shape is a little odd, if it is ripe inside that is the watermelon you want. Is this not true? (Yes.) Usually when a woman has a pretty face, she has defects some other place. Either her hips are too small or her feet are too big. (Laughter.) Something is not balanced. Therefore, don't marry any woman judging by her face alone. (Laughter and applause.) Even if your wife is not so pretty, her heart might be well balanced and her entire

appearance well balanced. If that is true, you are guaranteed to have beautiful children. (Applause.) That is true.

When a woman applies make-up, does she concentrate on her face or go down to her feet? (Face.) Suppose a woman applies make-up to her entire body every day. Then she will become a museum item, because there has been no woman like that in history. What if you are given the choice between a woman who covers her face with make-up or another woman who spends several hours a day taking care of her entire body? If such a woman truly exists, don't you want to go and take a look at her? There are people who would even pay for that. When the time comes for a person to pick their spouse, they should be able to look at the person naked and see how well balanced he or she is.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE RACES

The white race with their deep blue eyes, brown hair and high noses originated in the North Pole. Your ancestors came from the North Pole, surrounded by white snow. They longed for blue water. In biology classes at school didn't you learn that animals can adjust their skin color to their environment? By the same token the white race came about through this environment.

In South America recently, I caught a fish that is yellowish when it is in the water but turns black as soon as it is pulled out of the water. Why? To protect itself. Since even low-level fish are able to do that, human beings can adjust to their environment. Therefore, the white race which originated from the Arctic area has nothing to be proud of. You should go back to the Arctic. (Laughter.) That is true.

If you are at the North Pole, you certainly cannot farm. The weather conditions would not allow it. What else can you do? You have to hunt in order to survive. Hunters may kill each other to get the animals that have been killed. White people have a long high nose with narrow nostrils. This is to warm the air as it travels up the nostrils. People living in the tropics have short noses and wide open nostrils. The Arctic people stayed around the Scandinavian region. When they ran out of food they moved down towards England and Ireland and became pirates. England was a place where pirates went to hide their treasures. They were a strong nation of hunters. Eventually Great Britain had the strongest empire, and they claimed that the sun would never set on it.

White people went to Africa and sold their black brothers and sisters into slavery. They colonized those countries and killed thousands of innocent people. But the world is not the world of the white race, is it? (No.) When the sun sets, it goes down. History proves that the time of white domination over other races has ended. Why is it that the white race in general doesn't like the black race? Historically speaking, due to the brutality of the white race the relationship between blacks and whites has become that of enemies. The historical facts demonstrate that the white race did not do much good for the black race. America is like a battlefield between the white and black races to a certain degree. Isn't that true? (Yes.)

Asians have round flat noses and wide faces. They look like a rice paddy. (Laughter.) The round nose indicates that they

Asian culture stems from farming. When there is not enough rain farmers stand and look up towards heaven or they sit down and pray for rain. They always hold onto God's grace. That is why the major religions all came out of the Orient.

want to become rich. *(Laughter.)* If your face is round and big and your nose is small and flat it will be like a soccer field. *(Laughter.)* Asian culture stems from farming. When there is not enough rain farmers stand and look up towards heaven or they sit down and pray for rain. They always hold onto God's grace. That is why the major religions all came out of the Orient. Four great saints are from the Orient.

The black race goes after tropical fruits. The white race from the Arctic hunts and kills animals. The oriental race farms and waits for God's grace. In general, which of the three races has a greater desire to reach towards God and receive His grace? (The Orientals.) That is why the saints came from the Orient. If the battle between white and black brothers and sisters still exists in the world today, who is going to be the mediator between them? Mediators should come from God-loving people. The first Messiah came from the orient. Also, the Lord of the Second Advent will come out of the oriental race. Amen. *(Applause.)* Some people may say that I am promoting myself through this. I am very famous in America, but am I famous in a good sense or a bad sense? Comparing America and me, who in fact is good and who is bad? (Father is good.) Who won the battle between America and Reverend Moon? (Reverend Moon.)

It is said that whoever comes to America becomes assimilated within five years. The famous term "melting pot" is always used to describe America. However, I came to America over 25 years ago but have not become Americanized at all. Instead, I have caused America to become Moonized. Day by day the number of my followers is growing rapidly. *(Amen.)* We seem to have been laughing away our first hour or so here.

THE CENTER OF HARMONY

Human beings stand in the position of initiator of harmony between God and all things. There should be cause and effect. How can we move this? We need a center. Our right hand reaches for God and our left hand holds onto all things. When you spin around, all heaven and earth will spin together with you. As long as you keep your grip upon God and all things, God's eye and all things will move around in the same direction as your eyes. If you truly revolve in this way God will want to spin around a million times per hour with you. Even if you spin around with God a million times per hour, should the axis turn, or should there be one center point that you spin around? When anything spins fast it gets lifted up and flies away. Therefore, you need a strong anchor.

When you raise your hand to indicate your desire for something, do you show your right or left hand? (Right hand.) Make sure to keep this kind of balance. Stay with God and keep a grip on all things. This is the way you can keep your balance and turn around together.

It is natural for everyone to be right-handed. Those who are left-handed show your hand to me. If you were in Asia you would have a difficult time marrying. Try to correct it. Even when you write try to change to the right hand. There is a common understanding in Asia that the woman stands on

the left side of her husband.

Asians learn the beauty of combination through mastering the use of chopsticks. Even your five senses have a built-in subject/object relationship. Why? Because the entire universe exists in this way.

The structure of the Korean language has a built-in reciprocal subject/object relationship. When we try to explain a person's gait we repeat the word. Also in English when we want to indicate a person's pace we can say, "slowly, slowly," rather than just "slowly." It makes a reciprocal, balanced relationship. In Korean we say "bali, bali." All of this indicates the Oriental philosophy and way of thinking. Asia is the place where such philosophy and spiritual teaching usually comes from. I came from Korea, which is part of Asia. Do you like me? (Yes.) How long did it take you to like me? (One day.)

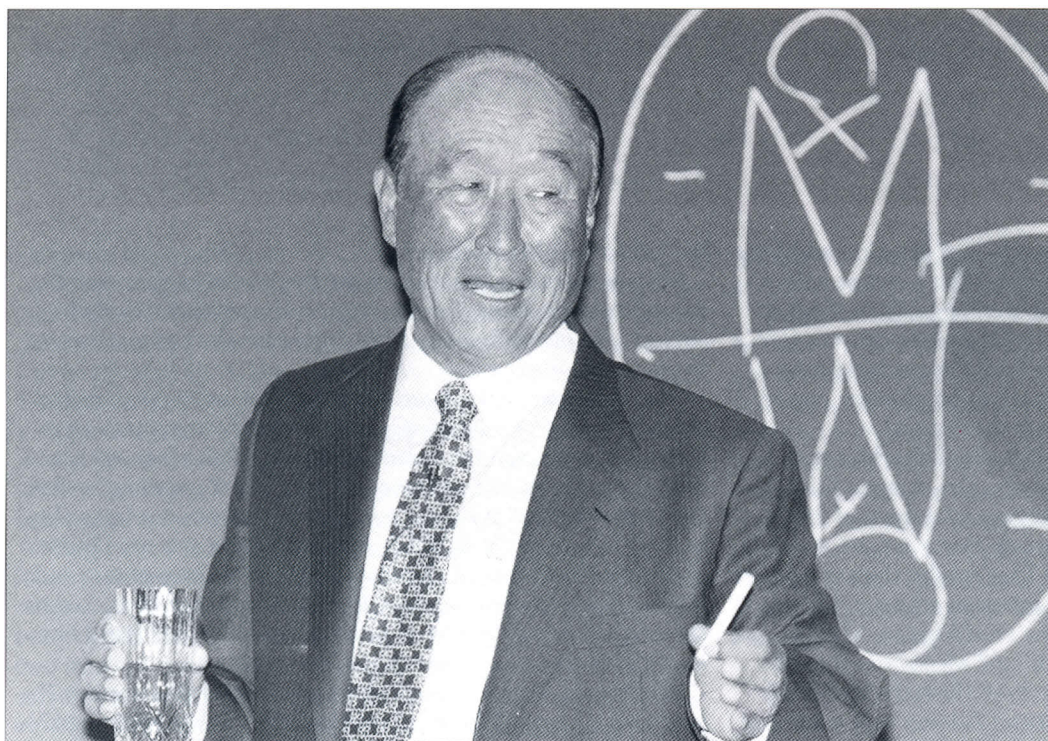
For twenty or thirty years before coming to this country I was praying for this country and loving it. What about you? Have you thought about me in this way? You are sitting in front of me today. However, a third of you may some day disappear. (NO.)

Please remember on this Day of All Things that we are indebted to all things. Even one strand of your hair is indebted to all things. Nothing is our own. We are in debt to all things for everything. Therefore, we should be able to say to the world that everything on this earth, including the soil, trees and mountains, is an extension of myself. This is how we can demonstrate our appreciation to the world. We should realize that all things of creation are sacrificing every ounce of themselves in order to support and maintain our life. How then can we repay our debt?

We can label human beings as the ones who have killed the most animals in human history. How can we eliminate this debt? Are we good or evil beings? (Evil beings) When you shouted out like that all 40 billion cells of your body nodded in agreement. How can we be forgiven? By offering our love to all things. Because if we truly understand the reality, the entire universe is more precious than our own children. More precious than anything else. All things are waiting to meet the owner who can love them as God loves them. They are longing for that true owner who can care for and love them as do God and True Parents. Because all things want to be treated with appreciation by the true children of God, once we reach that level all things will be happy to be absorbed by human beings.

THE DESIRE OF ALL THINGS

The purpose of the existence of all things is to be absorbed by the owner of true love in this world. They joyfully look forward to being absorbed by this true love owner. The cells of the mineral kingdom are absorbed by plants. The cells and elements of plants are absorbed by animals. Animals are there to be taken and absorbed eventually by human beings. *[Father draws a diagram on the board.]* What do they look like? Man and woman. Where do you think all the cells and minerals from the mineral, plant and animal kingdom go? What part of the human body absorbs them? What is the final destination that all things desire? (The sexual organs.) That is true.



Father shows in a diagram how men and women naturally harmonize with one another.

sharing it with all things again. If you truly have that kind of heart you will never become sick. The universe will protect you. You will live a healthy life.

Am I always healthy? (Yes.) One time, when I was eight years old, I had to lie down because of sickness. But since that time I have never gotten sick. (Applause.)

THE TEST OF TRUE OWNERSHIP

My heart is always the same. When I first stepped onto America soil I declared to the universe

God poured His greatest effort into the human sexual organs.

Some may still think that as the founder of the Unification Church I should not refer to the sexual organs in public. (Laughter.) Ordinarily Christian ministers don't refer to sexual organs in a sermon.

God created the human sexual organs, to be a sacred place, not what they have become since Adam's fall. Do you understand? It is supposed to be a holy palace. In God's original plan the sexual organ is a love palace. This is the truth. All the cells from the mineral, plant and animal kingdoms eventually want to arrive at the human sexual organ and become a part of it, but they cannot travel there directly. Therefore, minerals have to be absorbed by plants, plants by animals, and animals by humankind. In this way they can eventually reach their destination. Under the universal law of existence the higher levels of creation absorb the lower levels of creation. Charles Darwin's theory of evolution states that the strong eat the weak. According to Darwin's theory we are the worst beings, but it is actually not so. It is a natural universal law. If we take Darwin's theory literally then God is the worst kind of being.

However, God planned creation in a certain way, and when love is involved there is no evil. Even mother birds sacrifice their own lives for the sake of their babies. How about you American mothers? (Yes, Father.) Your sound is good, but your content is not so good.

In our world today, teenage mothers abandon their newborn babies in garbage cans. That is even worse than animals. The practice of free sex is absolutely not acceptable. If people practice free sex, a woman might bear a child from a man whom she hates. Consequently, she throws that child away. They do not take responsibility for their actions. Do you understand?

All things are awaiting your appreciation and your love. When you relate with all things in your daily lives, you should feel in your heart that they are providing everything for your husband, your children and yourself. Then express that deep appreciation. That kind of love is what all things are longing to receive. If you truly reach that level in dealing with all things, then you will feel like dividing one third of your food and

that I loved America more than anyone else ever has. The person who loves the most will become the true owner. Since I love America more than anyone else in human history, those who oppose me without knowing that reality will eventually surrender.

Whoever offers more love will become the final winner. Those who offer more love resemble God, and God will protect them and make them victors and owners. (Applause.)

Those of you who love me raise your hands. Have you been bribed? (NO.) I often invite world-level dignitaries for various activities. Then I am criticized and accused of bribing them to come. But in reality they come and contribute. (Applause.)

We need to truly hang onto God, grasp all things, and make a perfect circular movement. Then we become the harmonizing point between husband and wife, parents and children, heaven and earth. Then we truly become the initiators of harmony. That is how the Kingdom of God on earth will be built.

On this Day of All Things we can know that all things are truly waiting for true love and the true center of harmony. Amen. (Amen) This doesn't mean you have to go to Argentina and buy a farm and raise cattle. You can simply buy a pet dog or cat and share your love with them. If you have one animal at home you should feel that it represents many species of animals.

Just as there are three stages of growth, keep three animals at home. [Father draws on the board.] Even this ladybug that I am drawing could be your pet. One way of taking care of them and sharing your love for them is to take a portion of the food you prepare for your children and share it with your animals. Then they will grow in happiness. By practicing this, you will develop your own concept of sharing love with them while sharing love with your children. Pay more attention to your pet.

Share your love with one ladybug as a representative of the entire insect kingdom. If you have a pet ladybug at home, on a cool fall night when the moon is high and bright millions of insects will come around and create a natural insect orchestra. How beautiful! If insects create an orchestra, you can use a small stick and beat it to create a rhythm. If it is high pitched

When I am communicating with nature to that degree do you think I feel tired? Sometimes I will experiment by shouting out loud. Then immediately all the hundreds of birds stop singing. (Laughter.) After a few minutes one courageous bird begins chirping again and they all follow. (Laughter.)

then follow that pitch. If it is low pitched do the same. How wonderful and happy that situation would be!

The frogs on the South American continent create such a wonderful orchestra. I am accustomed to the singing of frogs in Korea. However, there is no comparison. In South America there are scores of species of frogs, and they create all different melodies. I have taken off my shoe and beaten it to keep time with this frog orchestra. (Laughter.) That is true. It was so wonderful!

You don't get tired of my sermon, do you? (No.) If you truly have enjoyed this, even if we construct a metal door to keep you out you would somehow get in. Do you follow? (Yes.)

In South America I go out fishing and sit on a small stool sometimes for twelve hours. Sitting still by the riverside, if I make too much noise the fish will swim away. Therefore, I have to sit quietly doing nothing, staring at the water and the fishing pole. One bird from the trees and bushes around begins to chirp. Then gradually as time passes it attracts other birds, and tens and sometimes hundreds of birds begin singing together. That is really beautiful. You will never know how sweet it is. The birds' orchestra is truly more interesting than fishing. (Laughter.) Certain bird songs aren't necessarily pleasant. They sound as if they are shouting. But that is how a bird calls its lover and children, so a person should be able to enjoy it also. When I am communicating with nature to that degree do you think I feel tired? Sometimes I will experiment by shouting out loud. Then immediately all the hundreds of birds stop singing. (Laughter.) After a few minutes one courageous bird begins chirping again and they all follow. (Laughter.)

People become tired sitting hour upon hour, but these birds never seem to tire of singing together. Why not? Because their song is the song of love. They are dancing by flying from one branch to another. They always move and demonstrate to one another. If the female bird flies and the male doesn't follow she will chirp as if to say, "Come on, what are you doing?" (Laughter.) Then the male bird follows her.

LESSONS FROM NATURE

I learned a lesson from that give and take with nature. Whoever can truly communicate with nature and enjoy this give and take will never consider divorce, because if you truly observe nature you will recognize that give and take between pairs always operates in nature. Even between flies, when the male and female sit together and there is one portion of food, the male fly always indicates to the female to take it. (Laughter.)

Unless you have the experience of prison life you will never understand what I am going to say now. But when flies are buzzing around you can attract them by placing your saliva on your finger and offering it. Usually one fly lands and tastes the human saliva. Then another partner will come and enjoy together. Then immediately you can close your fingers and catch two flies at one time. (Laughter.)

Because you have nothing to do in prison, once you catch these two flies you can cut off one piece of their wings so they cannot fly away. Then set them free. They crawl around the floor but always together in a pair. If you feed them they will remain with you and become friends. This is true. In reality,

human beings are worse than animals. Therefore, is this Day of All Things which we celebrate here as the Family Federation for World Peace a good or bad day? (Good day) Amen. Amen. Amen. That is the sound which all the animals and plants who have lived and died and those which will come into existence in the future long to hear. Wherever I go this heavenly fate and fortune goes with me. Therefore, don't you feel empty whenever I leave America? (Yes)

While I am in America, the Korean brothers and sisters are praying every night in a prayer vigil and counting the days. As soon as I arrive they are so happy. Also in South America, brothers and sisters who are a thousand miles away try their best to come to see me.

People who don't understand the Divine Principle might feel that their husbands are normal and doing well and their children are growing well so why are they attracted by Reverend Moon. They misunderstand me this way.

According to the Christian tradition it is normal for the pastor to give a sermon for less than one hour. But here today I have been speaking for more than two hours so far. In the outside world, if you become bored you would find an excuse to get out. But here, even though you need to use the bathroom you try to hold it, because I am sharing with you and giving out so much power and energy. That is why you are considered crazy.

Do you truly like me? (Yes.) I am asking the brothers this question, because if all of you sisters respond then True Mother might feel sad. (Laughter.) But of course, Mother will be happy to hear that you all love me. That is why I love her. (Amen. Applause)

Just like God, whatever I do, wherever I look I offer my love, so my life is totally centered upon the give and take relationship of love. This is my life. Amen. (Applause.) The original palace of Amen is the Kingdom of God in Heaven. That is our destination. Amen. (Amen.) From there we can inherit everything from God. Amen. (Amen.) Please join me in prayer. ■



New York City Symphony orchestra conductor, David Eaton and Mrs. Sheila Vaughn performing for the True Day of All Things evening entertainment at the Manhattan Center Studios in New York City.

PHOTO: KEN OWENS/NFP

LEADERS' CONFERENCE

REV. SUN MYUNG MOON

JUNE 6, 1997

EAST GARDEN

Translator: Mr. Peter Hyo Yul Kim

YOU have often heard me say that sooner or later, when we have this kind of leaders meeting, only one language will be used—Korean. That is an even stronger reason why leaders for each country all over the world should be Korean. That way they can understand my message directly and convey it to everyone else. Therefore I feel that, even in America, we need more Korean leaders, so that they can teach the Korean language to the American leaders.

I am also instructing the national messiahs to educate their local leaders in Korean by the year 2000. Do you remember that in 1985 I began telling everyone that from the year 1990 I was only going to use the Korean language? It has been almost fifteen years now. So please remember that by the year 2000, the Family Federation leaders must be able to speak and understand Korean.

This is not just my personal encouragement or opinion. It is the providential view that you must be able to speak and comprehend Korean. The year 2000 will be the beginning point of the kingship era. There will be one language --the one which is used by the True Parents. The entire world will evolve, centering around the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification, with one language, one culture, and peace all over the world.

Soon blessed couples from all over the world will be told to come to Korea. For how long? We don't know yet, but by then, you should be able to speak Korean.

As you know, I have many grandchildren, and more will be coming. I will allow my grandchildren to marry non-Koreans. In order for your children or grandchildren to be qualified to be matched with my grandchildren or great grandchildren, it is a prerequisite that you and your children be able to speak Korean. If one of your children or grandchildren is connected to my lineage, then you are eligible to move to Korea and live there. Don't you agree?

America, as it is now, is not God's kingdom. American culture evolved around the English language, so it is not the heavenly culture. Think how much time we waste dealing with language barriers. If the entire world used just one language, we could publish just one book, but because of the thousands of different languages, everything has to be translated and published in various languages, wasting time and energy and materials.

ERA OF GLOBALIZATION

In the near future, the world will be united and become one world under God. Everyone will transcend religious barriers, language barriers, and racial barriers. Everything will be united under God. People will be able to travel all over the world freely without visas or passports. To build a house will not take much effort or materials because with new technology we can put up balloon-type housing, like that of the Den-

ver airport building. Once you inflate it and make it tight, it will become your home. You can carry your house in the trunk of your car, because when you flatten it, this big balloon house will become just one small bag. You can carry your house around and wherever you find a nice place you can inflate it and stay there as long as you want. When that time comes, we will become like heavenly gypsies. We will drive around the entire world because there will be no national boundaries whatsoever.

Think about all the headaches involved in maintaining a house. We have to pay taxes, maintain boilers, pay electricity, all this kind of nuisance. You will be able to just flatten your balloon house, pack it in a trunk along with enough plates and chopsticks or forks, and live comfortably because you will not have to waste time.

Suppose you want to stay for one month in each nation. In about fifteen years, or 185 months, you could go around the world. So if you go around the world four times by the age of sixty, you should be ready for the spirit world. But if you begin this world journey at the age of twenty, then when you reach the age of eighty, you will be even more ready for the spirit world. Who can do these tasks except True Parents? True Parents are the only ones who can do this. Logically, you cannot deny this fact. Also, according to the Principle, that is the way it should be done.

LEARN THE KOREAN LANGUAGE

Therefore, I am telling the Korean leaders to push people to study Korean. It may take some urging, but it has to be done. So unless you can speak Korean, you cannot become an international leader in the Family Federation and cannot come to international meetings such as this one. This is for the sake of your future generations, because three generations will be responsible. Adam's generation, Jesus' generation and this generation have to be restored; otherwise, you cannot reach perfection. You Korean national messiahs have to encourage all of your members to study Korean hard. Teach them even in the nighttime. In the future, any country or any person who cannot speak or understand Korean may not be eligible for the Blessing. Those leaders who feel, "Please Father, can we avoid that?" raise your hands. But it has to be voluntary study, not forced. You should feel voluntarily that you want to study Korean.

I am going to give you a couple of more practical reasons why in the future people should use this balloon-type housing. Think how much material is wasted to build a house. We have to cut down many good trees and mobilize natural resources to complete a house. Think about the air pollution in big cities. If we have simple balloon houses and everyone can move around freely, we do not have to destroy our environment. Like heavenly gypsies, wherever you find flat land and good weather, you can settle there for several months. You can farm in order to supply your food, and after the har-



East Garden, June 6, 1997.

vest comes, you can move on. We do not need big cities.

Airplanes will be developed that will not need long landing strips. You will be able to press a button as you do with computers, and such a plane will carry your family wherever you want to go and land you softly there. If you have to cross an ocean, different sizes of submarines will be able to carry the five or ten members of your family quietly across the ocean without any trouble.

Also, if it is necessary, your family may stay under the sea for a certain time period to live, or you can go up into outer space like astronauts, stay there for a time, and come back down. We will be totally free.

When that time comes, if there are many different languages, there would be so much confusion. That is why we need just one language. Those who strongly feel that we need just one heavenly language, show your hands. Everyone agrees, so now we have reason to urge you to study Korean. Do you understand? (Yes.) No one can give me an excuse. Since I came here I have been studying English. English is not so easy; you have to memorize. Korean is very easy. The pronunciation is easy. You can learn everything with no problem. This is a very convenient, high level language which God has given the Korean people. Think about my situation. I am close to eighty years old, but still I am studying English. I always keep an English-Korean dictionary in my briefcase.

A NEW MESSAGE

I have been preparing one very important speech to deliver at the celebration of the 15th anniversary of the *Washington Times*. This morning I was reading that particular speech, and

True Parents are the only ones who can change the blood lineage.

Mother suggested, "Father, since there is not enough time, why don't you deliver this speech in English?" I took Mother's advice and started reading the English translation. If I deliver the speech in English, I can do it easily because I have discovered the following secret: as long as you emphasize the subject, verb, and object the message is conveyed. Do you agree? When Orientals deliver a speech in English we have a tendency to read without intonation. That is why there is miscommunication. But as long as we know where the emphasis is, we can deliver the speech.

Which of us is in a better position to learn a foreign language, you or me? So, you must do it!

Would you like to hear the speech I prepared for the *Washington Times* anniversary? [Clapping] You have a choice; do you want to hear this important message in Korean, or in English? Those who want to hear the speech in Korean, show your hands. It's more than half, isn't it?

A GLOBAL VILLAGE PERIOD

This is the time of globalization. It is just one step before you. This is the global village period. No country or other power can take care of family problems; only True Parents can. Do you believe it? Do you know this? (Yes.) Major social problems such as family breakdown, juvenile delinquency, free sex and homosexuality must be solved by True Parents.

Of course, God has the ability to solve such problems, however, because of the Principle, God cannot touch them. But God wants to see these problems dissolved. Even Satan wants all of these problems eventually to be solved. But neither God nor Satan can do this; it takes True Parents to solve these problems practically. God could not touch the human fall because of the Principle. Because of the fall, the lineage was transferred from heaven to Satan. That is why God has been waiting and waiting until True Parents could come. True Parents are the only ones who can change the blood lineage; and restoration can be accomplished only through changing the lineage. Satan is fed up. He cannot do it, but he wants to see these problems solved. The lineage owner is not God, but True Parents. No one except True Parents can even touch the problems. Therefore, we can proclaim that the entire world can be saved by us, by True Parents' group. No one else under God can touch it.

Who knows this secret as a reality? Of course God knows, and the spirit world knows, all of our ancestors and the saints and sages know that these problems must be solved and that True Parents are the only ones who can solve them, practically, in this physical world. Therefore, when we accomplish our goal of 3.6 million blessed couples and one more step, 36 million blessed couples, then the entire world will be changed instantly.

The Adam, Eve, Abel and Cain nations (Korea, Japan, Amer-

Satan is always imitating God one step ahead, however the final goal and destination of both sides is to make one world; the difference is whether it is centered on God or not.

ica and Germany) have been mostly opposing me. It is logical that Unification Church members who join in the future will want to go to those countries so that they can experience the persecution and hardship which we all have experienced up until now. Of course, the signs of Unification Church membership have been rather small up until now, but we have experienced hardship and persecution in those four major nations.

So in the future, when we have hundreds of millions of followers, they may want to go to those countries so that they can taste the difficulties. I will not have to send them. Those future members will voluntarily go to those nations. Many people will want to experience such a hard place, and unless they go to those four countries they will not be able to experience the deepest hardship.

That is why representatives of the Adam, Eve, and archangel countries such as America and Germany, have been going out as national messiahs. But America and Germany may face the danger of losing their positions if they do not carry out their missions because China and the CIS may take the position of archangel nations. Actually, China and the CIS are advancing more rapidly than America. Of course both sides, America and Germany, and the former Soviet Union and China, have experienced hardship and persecution. The only difference is that these free nations, America and Germany, went through these difficulties and yet believed in God, while the other side went through almost the same kind of experiences but did not believe in God. Atheistic experience and theistic experience; that is the difference.

Satan is always imitating God one step ahead, however the final goal and destination of both sides is to make one world; the difference is whether it is centered on God or not. There-

fore, if the president of a nation just receives God into his heart and the hearts of his people, there are no problems. But in America, if there are 250 million people, there are 250 million different opinions and different directions.

The Soviet Union and Red China always laid that kind of foundation. In that case, God canceled everything. How can you follow America or Germany? No. Cain and Abel will meet in the same place, and in the same situation. Of course there may be some sacrifice. We do not know how much, but if that is the point God has to work on to restore humanity, if offerings and sacrifice are inevitable, it will be done.

Once we accomplish the goal of 3.6 million couples this year, imagine the impact on the world. If I move to countries such as those in the CIS or China, where our foundation is being built rapidly, and invest to the same degree as I did in America, then those countries can be changed and restored instantly. Be alert! When the tribal messiahs and national messiahs fulfill their missions of restoring 160 or 180 families, then those countries can build a stronger foundation. But if you do not, you will fall behind. People around the world keep shouting, "Yankee, go home," because of the American influence which results in social problems such as AIDS, free sex and family breakdown. On top of that, they are saying, "Let's welcome Rev. Moon to our country so that we can be saved." Eventually even America will want to listen to me.

Every nation wants to advance beyond America. I have come through America and am carrying out the providence in South America. But who knows? Soon I may move to Africa to advance the providence there. The time may come when I will move from South America to Africa. The entire world is welcoming me, and I am ready to move to the CIS, China and other such

places. There is a common saying or joke in those former communist countries which goes, "Well, we wanted to get some fresh air from the world, but some flies came in along with it." I am not going to those countries as a fly but as a honey bee to provide honey to their people. It will become a reality. I am giving you this step-by-step explanation this morning not to make you laugh, but as a warning that this will take place in reality. So wait and see.

Members in our Eve country, Japan, have been sacrificing everything to provide funds for the entire world to advance God's providence. Yet, if you do not carry out your responsibility, despite the support received from Japan, the future generations



PHOTO: KEN OWENS/NFP

Father and leaders bow in farewell at the closing of the meeting in East Garden.

In order to build the Kingdom of God on earth, we have to unify language and accomplish the one language culture. We have to be united with the same direction as God and True Parents. We will build one language, one race, one nation, one kingdom under God.

of Japanese people who come to your country and see nothing was accomplished will become so angry that you wasted their parents' sacrifice that they may set fire to your country to burn it down. They may burn your house and your possessions because you are not worthy. The future generations of Japanese people may do that. That kind of revolution may take place.

In any case, the entire world will be restored automatically. The time is coming when the people of the world will accept my teaching and welcome me. If they believe it, then they do not have to be told what to do. They will automatically find out what has to be done. For example, if there are nations and people unworthy of the support and help received from Japan, those people will be excluded one way or another and the entire world situation will be straightened out.

Then I may enjoy the rest of my life in a cave or on top of the Rocky Mountains, because I have not slept much over the last forty years. I may sleep in a cave for forty years, and while I sleep this entire world will be completely cleaned up. Or I may just enjoy eating, playing and sleeping for forty years. I may play with the bears and animals for forty years. Then the entire world will become clean. I will not even have to step in to ensure that this will be done.

Do you need me or not? I have taught you everything now. So if you do not carry out your responsibility, people from the satanic world will come to take your role and you will be chased away. Wait and see. Those people will be willing to sell their houses and do everything that you cannot do right now.

I have spent more than twenty years here. Think about what we have done. Sometimes, probably unconsciously, you used my influence and my teaching for your own purpose. Think about what Christianity has done to me. From the individual level to the family, tribal, national and worldwide levels, they have been opposing and persecuting me all the way. So once there is one world under God, what do you think we have to do for these Christians? Shall we eliminate them or save them? When Jesus came on the earth, people could not welcome him. That made a foundation for a miserable result. During the past 2,000 years, murder spread all over the world. Is it true? How much God's heart is aching to save the church. Just like Jesus Christ, I was chased out by the Christian world. Therefore, unless we protect and save our families from the satanic world, our nation will perish. Look at the situation in America; this is a vivid example. So we have to be fully alert. The time is coming. That is why I changed our name, our sign. It is no longer "Christianity," but "Family Federation." Do you understand?

Once the 3.6 million couples blessing task is done, I may not come back to America at all. What is your responsibility as American leaders? How many couples are you responsible for? (360,000.) That is about one-third of Korea's responsibility and one-seventh of Japan's responsibility. So how can you claim that your country has been the best country in the world? The Christians were in the position to receive the blessing first. So therefore, you have to go out to reach 360 million couples. Please be alert. Why is Christianity declining rapidly? Is that a good omen or a bad one? What do we see from Christianity

right now: a good side or bad side?

You Unification Church members of America, don't you think you have been using, either directly or indirectly, Japanese money and members, Korean members, and even me too? Then what is the result? If we had invested the same amount that we invested in America for the last 25 years somewhere else, such as in South America or Africa, I could have restored many countries there already. But because of Christianity, I started here and I have invested here. For this providential reason I could not abandon the Old Testament and the New Testament. In order to start the Completed Testament, I needed this foundation. That is why I chose America. But now that all these foundations have been established, the Old Testament and the New Testament are not needed. That is why I came up with a new nation.

From God's point of view, the master or center of the Old Testament era, the New Testament era and the Completed Testament era is Rev. Moon. We do not need the Old and New Testament eras anymore. That is why we are using the name Family Federation. Of course, we have to understand that from God's point of view I am now the culmination of the Old Testament era and the completion of the New Testament era, and I am also the center of the Completed Testament era. So if I go to a corner of the world somewhere, the entire world testament will follow, as well as the Old and New Testament eras.

An individual alone cannot build a nation. This is how God lost a family base. Everything was lost—the whole family. To make unification is no problem. The Kingdom of Heaven will come on earth. Do you understand?

So, again the time is here that I may not pay attention even to the blessed couples. Of course, I have been investing everything, my heart and soul, to take care of the blessed couples and look after them, but I have too big a task now to restore the entire world. So my attention may not be upon you.

FULFILL YOUR RESPONSIBILITY

Please go out and reach your tribe and your clan and restore 185 couples to receive the Blessing and thus become qualified to be registered in the Heavenly Kingdom. Then come to see me. Do you understand? No matter what it may take to accomplish your mission as a tribal messiah, even if it takes selling your house, your cars, your assets, go and do it.

I am going to the ocean and to the farmlands. It takes time to go out to the remote countryside, sometimes days. Sometimes you complain, right? Your mission can connect there; without that, you cannot connect with God.

So the time may come for me to withdraw from America. I am already beyond the national level, so even if I give up America or give up Korean citizenship, I will always have a place to go.

You must understand that in order to build the Kingdom of God on earth, we have to unify language and accomplish the one language culture. We have to be united with the same direction as God and True Parents. Do you understand? We will build one language, one race, one nation, one kingdom

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24

The True Family poses for a portrait following the Peh Baek Ceremony. (Photos: Ken Owens/NFP)



C o n g r a t
Young Jin Nim and Hwa Jung Nim
N e w Y o r k , S e p



u l a t i o n s
 and Hyung Jin Nim and Yun Ah Nim
 t e m b e r 6 , 1 9 9 7

True Family Blessing

Richard L. Lewis
New York City

THE Holy Wedding of True Parents' sons, Young Jin Nim and Hyung Jin Nim, took place on Saturday, September 6, at the Manhattan Center in New York City.

The wedding of Mr. Young Jin Moon to Miss Hwa Jung Yoo and of Mr. Hyung Jin Moon to Miss Yun Ah Lee occasioned a day of ceremony and celebration attended by elders and leaders of the Unification community from around the world. This Blessing sets the stage for the Blessing of 3.6 million couples worldwide that will occur November 29 worldwide centered on the main ceremony at the RFK Stadium in Washington, DC. Young Jin Nim, born in Tarrytown, New York on June 22, 1978, is Rev. and Mrs. Moon's tenth child and sixth son. He is currently attending Columbia University majoring in East Asian civilization. His bride, Hwa Jung Yoo, born in Incheon, South Korea on September 2, 1977, is the daughter of 1800-couple Jong So Yoo and Sang Nan Lee. Mr. Yoo is with the Hankook Titanium Company in Korea. Hwa Jung Nim is currently a sophomore at Seoul National University with her major in traditional Korean vocal arts.

Hyung Jin Nim, born in Tarrytown, New York on September 26, 1979, is Rev. and Mrs. Moon's eleventh child and seventh son. He is currently matriculating at Fairfield College in Connecticut with emphasis on Spanish studies. His bride, Yun Ah Lee, born in Pusan, South Korea, on November 6, 1978, is the daughter of 777-couple Seung Dae Lee and Eun Jung Joo. The Lees will soon be moving to Iceland as national messiahs. Yun Ah Nim is currently a freshman at Kookmin University, Seoul, with a major in design and the visual arts.

The celebration of the Blessing had three stages. In the morning was the Blessing Ceremony itself, in the afternoon, the traditional Korean Peh Baek Ceremony, and the day concluded with an evening banquet and entertainment.

The Blessing Ceremony

This day also celebrated another, if less historic, event: the long-awaited resurrection of the Manhattan Center Opera

House—this Blessing being the event that inaugurated its new incarnation as the Hammerstein Ballroom. This 3,000 capacity auditorium with its full-sized stage, three balconies and a 150-foot ceiling—that only six months ago was a derelict wasteland suitable only for storage—had been transformed into a glorious space decorated with flowers and ribbons now quite suitable for royalty. Of particular note was the spectacular restoration of the ceiling mural soaring 150 feet above the proceedings. The setting of the stage was dramatically classical: against a cerulean blue diorama a semicircle of tall, white Grecian columns stood with the dais and True Parents' chairs at its focus. The hall quickly filled to overflowing with invited guests for the ceremony which began at 10:00 a.m. As the music of the "Song of the Garden" quieted the excited buzzing of conversation, members of the True Family entered and took their seats. Then Dr. Bo Hi Pak, as sprightly and ebullient as ever, took the podium and opened the proceedings by inviting the audience to stand and sing the "Song of the Banquet." After Dr. Pak gave an overview of the ceremony and an explanation of the symbolism involved, Dr. Tyler Hendricks, President of the America Church, gave the invocation. The processional then began with the stately entrance of twenty-one pairs of bridesmaids—dressed in soft pink dresses with bright pink hair ribbons—and groomsmen, second generation blessed couples who stood on either side of the central aisle carpeted with the traditional Korean festive fabric *saekdong-chun* with its vivid, multicolor stripes. To joyful acclaim, Father and Mother in their ceremonial robes then entered and walked slowly down the aisle to the chords of the "Hallelujah Chorus." They ascended the dais where their third son, Hyun Jin Nim, handed a candle lighter to Mother who passed it to Father, who then lit the two candelabra of seven candles on either side of the dais. Taking their seats, the entrance of the brides and grooms was heralded by the entrance of four of the youngest grandchildren who skipped down the aisle scattering white rose petals all around. To the music of the "Wedding March", the two wedding

couples entered side-by-side and walked slowly towards the stage. Twenty-one steps away from True Parents they halted and bowed, and repeated this at fourteen steps away. Ascending the stage they made a final bow seven steps before True Parents. This sequence, as Dr. Pak had just explained, symbolizing the growth to perfection through its three stages. They then stood before True Parents who sprinkled them with Holy Water from two silver basins held by assistants. Father, in his distinctive resonant voice, then solemnly recited the Wedding Vows to the couples in Korean and received their assent—the formality lifting somewhat at the end when Father made an aside in Korean which elicited chuckles from those in the audience who understood. Father and Mother each raised a hand over the heads of the couples and Father began to pray over them. His deep, sonorous voice filled the auditorium with guttural Korean as he passionately spoke to God. In a tender moment during the silence following his prayer, Mother leaned forward and wiped a tear away from the cheek of her youngest son. The attendants then carried in a red velvet cushion bearing the wedding rings. Turning to face each other, the brides and grooms removed their gloves and, with the assistance of the attendants, exchanged rings. They then faced the audience for the first time and Father's voice rang out over them with the Proclamation of the Blessing, greeted with enthusiastic applause. Dr. Pak then read a few of the many letters of congratulations that had been sent to Rev. and Mrs. Moon. A leading US congressman expressed his "warmest congratulations on the marriage of your two sons... I believe in the importance of a strong and unified family and commend you for your commitment to maintaining your family ties." Marion Barry, Mayor of Washington DC, wrote, "In light of your efforts to rebuild families through the True Family Values Ministry, the Pure Love Movement and the International Blessing to be held here in November, we certainly want to congratulate you on this day of special joy for your family." Richard Daley, Mayor of Chicago, wrote that he was "delighted to add my heartiest congratulations to the many



True Parents offer a toast for the newly blessed couples.

you will receive on your wedding day." Jerry Fallwell, Pastor, Lynchburg, VA, wrote that, "I pray that this will be the beginning of an unending experience of joy and fulfillment as you serve God together for the rest of your lives." Dr. David Billings, Church of God in Christ International, wrote, "I wish to congratulate you on the blessed marriage of your sons. Our prayers go with these couples." Minister Louis Farrakhan, Nation of Islam, wrote, "Congratulations on your solemnized expression of your desire to become as one. May Allah bless your journey and make you successful, for truly, the Kingdom of God must be based on God-centered successful marriages and God-centered successful family life." Shaykh Abdul-Karim M. Ahmad, United Moslem Movement, wrote, "May Allah's blessing be upon you and your family." Dr. Pak, holding a sheaf of letters, concluded by remarking that there were by far too many for him to read. Rev. Chung Hwan Kwak then took the podium to give a congratulatory address "on behalf of True Parents' worldwide foundation." He gave a brief overview of providential history leading up to how "all mankind can now return to God: It is the destiny of all people to pass through the Blessing and establish true life, lineage and love." He recalled the many difficulties overcome at the time of True Parents' Blessing and the struggle to expand the circle of Blessing to its current extent of, at last count, eleven million (a number which elicited an explosion of delight from the assembled guests). The second congratulatory address was given by Dr. Richard Rubenstein, president of Bridgeport University. He spoke of marriage in terms of the unity of mind and body, heaven and

earth and concluded his address by quoting Moses, in resonant Hebrew followed by a translation, "May the Lord bless you and keep you." The third address was given by Dr. T. L. Barrett, Pastor, Life Center Church of God in Christ, Chicago. He recalled the visit to his church of "a powerful woman, more regal and royal than Queen Elizabeth—True Mother of Mothers, Mrs. Moon." He spoke of holding Blessings for the members of his church. He concluded that he "would do all in my power to help fulfill the goal of 36 million blessed couples," a pledge that drew an explosion of approval from all present. Yoshimi Kadota, a Japanese opera singer, then sang a hymn of praise followed by a rousing "three manseis" led by Father. To the strains of Mendelsohn's "Wedding March," the couples then walked down the aisle amidst clouds of confetti and streamers—as the assembled guests went ecstatic—followed by the grandchildren attendants and, finally, True Parents. While this was the official end of the ceremony, no one left as it was now time for taking photos, a lengthy process but a highly informal and enjoyable one. With this done, True Parents exited the hall and, almost immediately, the crew appeared and politely encouraged us all to leave so they could set up the hall for the evening banquet.

Peh Baek Ceremony

While the morning ceremony focused on the union of man and woman as a couple, the afternoon Peh Baek ceremony is focused on the fact that families are also united by a wedding. The purpose of this traditional ceremony is to welcome the newlyweds into their new family and clan, and to bestow blessings

of lineage and prosperity. This was a much smaller affair and, consequently, admission tickets were few and hard to obtain. The Crystal Room of the New Yorker Hotel was packed well before the start of the ceremony with atmosphere provided by tinkling, atonal Korean folk music. The floor was carpeted in white cloth with a *saekdong-chun* aisle leading from the door to the offering table. This was laden with elaborate towers of fruits, nuts and candies in intricate, geometrical patterns. Behind the towers, a table was set for four to dine by attendants entering with many dishes, including a whole roast duck topped with a little paper crown. To the side were the two elegant spires of the wedding cakes. The True Children entered, dressed in Korean costume, and took their seats to the side of the offering table. Rev. Kwak opened the proceedings, and all present faced the center aisle as True Parents entered in Korean dress—Father in pale green, Mother in deep red and bright blue—and they went and sat behind the offering table. Rev. Kwak spoke at length in Korean (no translation, unfortunately, as is the new custom) at the end of which the wedding couple arrived and stood on the threshold of the room. Their costumes were extraordinarily elaborate: the male dress including a black hat (that, to my mind, evoked the rounded mountains characteristic of Chinese paintings) and a heavy metallic gold-and black belt over maroon clothes. The female dress included a black and gold headdress that flowed all the way down the back, a heavy white cloth that was carried over the arms near the forehead, and a voluminous apron of vivid red. These costumes were so ornate that a pair of attendants had to help them sit

down and stand up. As they stood in the doorway, Father prayed softly and passionately. After his prayer, the couples walked down the aisle and bowed before True Parents and sat before the table. The parents of the brides then served them wine and they solemnly drank it. When this was finished the spirit of the room changed dramatically from liturgical to festive as people started rushing to the front to get a good view of what was to happen. Attendants took towers of grapes and nuts from the offering table to Father and Mother who both seized a great handful—first of grapes, then of nuts—and then, much to my surprise, flung them over the table at Young Jin's Nim bride who, opening her apron, attempted to catch as many as possible. Her catch was wildly cheered by the crowd now surrounding her. Parents then repeated the Bestowing of Fruits on the bride of Hyung Jin Nim who also got a rousing cheer. Father then spoke a few words in Korean and the room quickly reverted to solemnity as the guests scurried back to their places. The next step involved such a lot of kyung-bae's—full, formal bows—that it was difficult to keep track of who was bowing to whom, but the program, luckily,

contained a complete list: couples to parents, husband and wife to each other, couples to elder siblings, to younger siblings, youngest children to the couples, couples to parents-in-law. Dr. David S. C. Kim then animatedly led the guests in a round of "Happy Wedding Day to You" as the couples cut their wedding cakes with ceremonial swords. The couples then went behind the offering table and sat down at the table. First, each new husband fed his new wife noodles from a bowl—noodles representing long life. The tiny portions offered by the husbands were clearly insufficient in Mother's eyes because she made her boys heap them on the chopsticks to much laughter from the women by now all clustered around the table again. Everything then quieted down for a while as, mainly hidden by the offering table, the two couples completed the ceremonial meal together. This marked the official end of the ceremony and the start of the photography session. Following this, Father led everyone in four manseis to complete the afternoon's celebrations.

Evening Banquet

Returning that evening to the Hammerstein Ballroom it was clear that the Manhattan Center crew has spent a busy afternoon—the room had been transformed into an elegant banquet hall.

The head table was on the semicircle first balcony which had been converted into an intimate space with beige drapes. On the stage were two elegant wedding cakes and the main floor was covered with circular tables all beautifully decorated with flowers and crystal. Seating was by numbered invitation and there were many hundreds of guests all taking their places at the tables. This writer—lucky to have an invitation at all—had a setback at the start: the assigned table, way in the back and under the balcony, was already full. This report might have had to be second-hand if, after minutes of anxious waiting, an usher had not arrived and escorted me to one of the best tables: center front with a view of everything. This stroke of personal fortune, it turned out, was because an hon-

ored guest had to cancel at the last moment, unknowingly bequeathing to me a fabulous spot to record—and enjoy—the proceedings. At our table was Rev. Barrett who had given the third congratulatory address in the morning and he entertained a stream of people all telling him how moved they had been by his words. A host of waiters swirled into the hall and, within minutes, we all had a delicious-looking smoked salmon appetizer before us. This was the only challenge of the evening: looking at this delicacy for what seemed ages as emcee Peter Kim gave an overview of what we could expect to happen that evening. A fanfare announced the arrival of Parents and the wedding party who took their places at the high table. After a tumultuous welcome, the wedding couples came down onto the stage for the cutting of the wedding cakes. After the by now traditional struggle to light the candles, the cakes were cut as Peter Kim led the guests in singing "Happy Wedding Day to You." The task completed, two guests came forward and presented the couples with gifts which they accepted to much applause. Mr. Neil Salonen then took the podium and said grace over the meal. As soon as he had finished the host of waiters reappeared with what looked like champagne but turned out to be sparkling apple juice and filled our glasses. Everyone stood and Peter Kim led the toast to the happy couples. To much applause the couples returned to the high table. At last, we were invited to eat and I fell upon the smoked salmon. Once the main course had been served—chateaubriand of beef—Alan Inman, emcee for the entertainment portion of the evening, appeared on stage and started the show with an anecdote of how he had ended up by mistake in the Grand Ballroom upstairs where a very sophisticated audience was celebrating the accomplishments of the TV soaps.

The curtains opened revealing a breathtaking diorama of the earth in space with the New York skyline silhouetted; the setting for "Wedding Bells on Broadway", six couples doing vigorous, youthful dancing to show melodies.

Next, Mr. Inman informed us that Hyung Jin Nim had studied the bugle in school and to honor this was the next set, three buglers performing "Bugler's Holiday", a brassy (what else) fast-paced piece that had everyone tapping along. Next was the University of Bridgeport choir—a mixed choir of about fifty young men and women dressed in simple black-and-white conducted by Moon Sook



PHOTO: KEN OWENS/NFP

Hyung Jin Nim and Yun Ah Nim cut their wedding cake.

Choi in a dress of sparkling silver that blazed and flashed under the lights. They sang a series of Korean folk songs that started off softly and ended with a vigorous climax of powerful sound.

Next was Meet the Beatles with Ben and Stian Lorentzen and band who, with their basin cut hairdos, ran through a medley of Beatles songs that were so well done that, closing my eyes, I felt that the originals were back on stage. Alan Inman then introduced singer Kathy Sharpton and told a few amusing anecdotes of how he, as a Republican, got a lot of flack for knowing her husband, Rev. Sharpton. She first sang a powerful rendition of the Lord's Prayer followed by a jazzy rendition of "We are Family." Mr. Inman then spoke briefly in appreciation of Peter Kim's long years of service to True Parents before handing the emcee role back to him for the final segment. "Are you curious about the new in-laws," he asked us rhetorically and got his answer, a resounding, "YES!"

First Mr. and Mrs. Yoo took center stage and, after a bow to the head table, Mr. Yoo spoke a few words of appreciation translated for us by Peter Kim. They then sang a sweet, soft song together. Rev. and Mrs. Lee were then introduced and, after a short speech, they sang a robust song together.

Next, six of the True Grandchildren—three boys and three girls—took to the stage. They sang three delightful songs with the smallest girl, without a trace of stage fright, leading the clapping and the smallest boys battling for control of the angle of their microphone.

Next on stage were grandchildren from In Jin Nim's family on the piano: first a tiny girl at the huge grand who skillfully played her piece, followed by her older brother who played a perky piece with great flair. He was then joined by his older brother and they performed a fast-paced duet together on the shared keyboard.

Kwon Jin Nim then took center stage and, as "a long-time married man" gave some advice to the newly-weds. He then sang "To Dream the Impossible Dream" accompanied by Kevin Pickard on piano. As an encore, he sang "God Bless the USA" acappella and exited the stage after a rousing cheer of "God Bless America." Next on stage to wild applause was Hyo Jin Nim who, after the brief comment that "life goes on, yes," launched into song. That power and passion was there in his voice as he rasped out two Korean blues songs.

For an encore, he sang a reworked version of Eric Clapton's "Tears in Heav-

en", sung with such intensity and tears that it cast a poignant spell on us all. After Hyo Jin Nim's departure, Mr. Kim invited the newly-wed couples down onto the stage to perform where they were showered by confetti and streamers and bedecked with flowery leis.

Young Jin Nim—looking rather stage-struck—and his wife sang a lovely, soft love song together after she spoke a few words of thanks to True Parents. For an encore, Hwa Jung Nim, with a little encouragement from her new husband, stood forward and sang solo an operatic aria in a lovely clear voice. Hyung Jin Nim's couple had the opposite dynamic—he was ebulliently at ease while she was shy and retiring; her words of thanks were so quiet that Peter Kim had to stand next to her to pick them up. They then sang a sweet song together with the encore a solo by Hyung Jin Nim: a wild and uninhibited rendition of "La Bamba"—including a break dance spin on the floor that astonished everyone including his wife. All the True Children and Grandchildren then arrived on stage and Hyun Jin Nim spoke movingly of his two—no longer baby—brothers. Then, as the assembled family sang "Oh Danny Boy", the grandchildren gamboled exuberantly with the confetti and streamers on the floor, completely upstaging their parents singing behind them. To prolonged applause, True Parents joined their family on stage and Father spoke briefly of how the Blessing is eternal and continues in spirit world. Once we have accom-

plished the 360 million Blessing, he concluded, God will be free to move in the world to influence what happens. Mother then sang the "Battle Hymn of the Republic" while Father provided an erratic backup in his bass register. They then sang a sweet duet together, Mother's clear contralto complementing Father's bass rumble. Finally, all heaven broke loose as they launched into "Ummaya Nunaya": everybody joined in and Father started to conduct the audience: first the right section then the left then both together; the children started to dance with each other and the grandchildren continued to express their delight in swathing themselves in confetti and streamers (which they had been doing all along anyway); Rev. Kwak started cavorting in a most uncharacteristic manner and, belying his age, Dr. Pak started leaping in the air holding hands with the youngsters; and Hyung Jin Nim did some more break dancing on the floor. Father, beaming benevolently all the while, conducted the chaos with evident pleasure. Eventually Father halted the music and he ended the day with a question: "Are you ready for 3.6 million and Washington DC?" to which came back a resounding roar: "YES!" On this upbeat note, the fabulous day of celebration ended. ■■

[Edited for Today's World]

Richard L. Lewis is the Editor of Unification News. He and his wife Giorgia participated in the 2075 Couples Blessing in 1982. They have one child.



Young Jin Nim and Hwa Jung Nim share from the offering table during the Peh Baek Ceremony.

PHOTO: KEN OWENS/NFP

Pure Love Tour 1997

Victoria Wilding
Canada

MAKE it sure! Keep it pure! Thousands of people in America and abroad heard this message as 300 young people stormed 25 North American cities on the Pure Love '97 Absolute Sex National Tour. Initiating revolution the Pure Love Alliance (PLA) stood up for sexual purity before marriage and fidelity within marriage. As a tour participant, I believe that Pure Love '97 was a growing experience and, more importantly, that it gave a new hope to America and the world.

From the west coast to the east, we spread our message in various, often creative ways. For example, we each prepared a three minute "Absolute Sex" speech which explained that sex is a precious act that must be saved for marriage. To the shock of the public, we would ask the question Who owns our sexual organ? At the top of our lungs, from the busiest street corners, then went on shouting such that even someone a block away would learn that his sexual organ belongs to his spouse.

Others heard a shorter explanation of absolute sex before being asked to donate a dollar for decency in return for a button and a brochure.

Also, in every city, curious business men and business women peered out of their office windows hearing the drum beat from the street below. Many were surprised to see a group of parading

youth loudly chanting and clapping in unison, and waving banners and placards. The colorful placards read slogans like, "Condoms can't protect your heart," "Honk for Purity" or "Pure and Proud."

Our marches were followed immediately by an energetic rally, the most entertaining way to convey our message. Rock'n roll played by our band, The House of Montreal, classic hits sung by the Circle of Life choir, rap by Chocolate and Vanilla PLA Pudding, a 50's song by the "Funky Gals of PLA," hip-hop dancing performed by the PLAettes, martial arts performed by the Won Hwa Do team, body surfing in the audience, skits (including dancing STD's), live classical music, guest speakers, and even speakers from among the tour participants provided a wide variety of entertainment to suit everyone's tastes.

The tour was not only a lot of fun, it was a chance to practice what we preached; it was a chance to develop our characters. Our Absolute Sex speeches allowed us to become confident public speakers. By doing 'DFD' (A Dollar for Decency) we learned to embrace all people as God does, and the marches made us realize God's longing to save the people suffering the consequences of free sex. I tried to maintain a prayerful heart as we passed a night club in Baltimore, inside which one of the dancers stood watching us. Also, many of us discovered an abundance of energy that could be used for encouraging the rally performers by jumping, dancing, and hopping around crazily. And whether it was through the public speaking, the fundraising, the marching or the rallying, we all had the opportunity to experience God's Heart through challenging our limitations and investing 100 per cent.

To expand our minds as well as our hearts, the tour provided us with education. We were repeatedly told that the bus is a classroom not a bedroom. So we were given times to study - Condom Nation, by Richard Panzer, a book that appallingly reveals the flaws of safe sex education, and teaches the advantages of purity. We were also very lucky to have Rev. Sudo, a humble and exceptionally good lecturer, give us four full days of lectures, mainly about the Four Great Realms of Heart, and the impor-

tance of purity and the Blessing.

Obviously, the tour participants having ridden the buses together, sung together, eaten together, slept together (or frozen together like at Yellowstone National Park.) and even shared showers together, for close to two months, became the closest of friends. Our assigned groups became our families and whether we shed tears of frustration at the beginning or not, on the last day, most of us were crying to see each other leave.

Finally, thanks to the unwavering faith of our founder, Jin Hun Park Moon, the tour was an enormous victory. For instance, the television coverage totaled over three hours. In fact, we even inspired Reverend Sun Myung Moon our True Father, whose idea it was to start a purity movement in the first place.

Surely the PLA's success will continue into the future. A 10,000 person march is scheduled for November in conjunction with the Holy Blessing of marriage ceremony to be held by Reverend Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, our True Parents. In addition, plans for a Pure Love '98 Absolute Sex National Tour are already underway. Three thousand people are expected to attend.

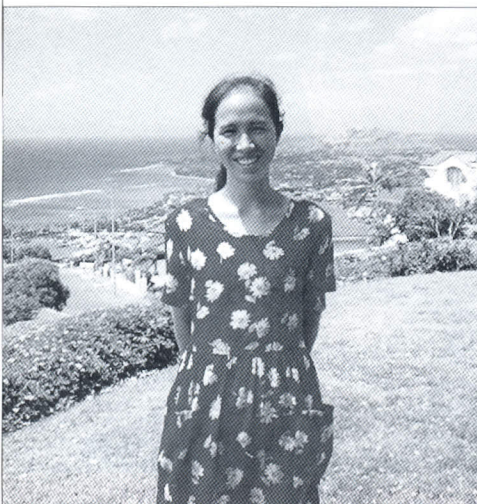
My mother's experience

"When I first heard from my oldest daughter Victoria that she was going to join the 'Pure Love Alliance' summer tour visiting 25 cities, I felt that the second Unification Church generation age is already here. It reminded me of Father's Day of Hope tour in the early 70's. While my husband and I were visiting Japan and Korea to pre-bless my Japanese and Korean relatives, the PLA team visited Seattle. Victoria and Adrian had such unforgettable experiences. I could see that they had grown up to a higher dimension. My own memories of "The Day of Hope" tour are the most precious ones in my life. I always recall that as the golden time of my life.

When they came back from the tour and showed us the video, I was in tears. Their energy, determination and team spirit were so inspiring to all the first generation couples. Adrian told his younger sister Marianne that she shouldn't complain about food at all because he some-

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE

PHOTO: COURTESY OF VICTORIA WILDING



Victoria Wilding.

Dealing With Sin

Lois Carlson
Washington DC

WHEN I got to Chung Pyung Lake, it was easy for me to see the blending of the traditions of spiritual cleansing of different religions in the workshops.

For instance, the walk up the mountain to the trees each morning was like the pilgrimages of Islam. The attitude of vertical conversation was akin to the Christian monastic vow of silence. Sitting on the floor and singing was like the Buddhist practice of yoga and recitation of mantras. The use of the drum was like the ceremonies of the Native Americans. I felt that our major problem is that we do not "see" our sins. As True Father says, we are one with them. So I would ask God to help me see my sins. Absolutely in all cases, as soon as I would pray that way, a fallen nature would come up or a sinful thought or glance. I did not try to hide in shame over the sins. I thanked God for revealing them to me.

I understood that unless I could see my sins I could never repent for them and, therefore, never be liberated from the evil spirits attached to those bases. So a part of me would actually be excited when the next sin was revealed.

Practically speaking, I approached each clapping session as a spiritual condition for the particular sin I was "working on." I realized that the sessions were like mini foundations for the Messiah:

- The foundation of faith was set with me as the central figure, the song as the conditional object (with my mind focused on and united with it), and the session's length as the time period.

- The foundation of substance was set by my inner Cain overcoming its fallen nature and surrendering to my inner Abel through repentance.

As Mrs. Richardson, a key staff member, said to us there, deep tears of repentance are the real cleansing act of the heart. So whenever I couldn't cry deeply with tears, I would ask God to show me my sin or attitude of the that was blocking me from Him. I kept going deeper and deeper until I arrived at the place where I could cry with such tears.

When I first met Daemo-nim, I was quite surprised at how powerful she was. She said that because True Parents do not want us to fear coming close to them, they cannot correct us very much, though they can see our sins and fallen nature. So she is in the position of correcting us. I am grateful to Daemo-nim and to True Parents for this, for it is true that if True Parents corrected me in this way, I would have a difficult time being with them. Daemo-nim spoke clearly and directly, telling us exactly what the consequences would be for our sins. What else can she do?

My heart was deeply moved by the lecturers. One lecturer was relaying how the angels are constantly helping to "keep them in line" by chastising or punishing them when they go off the track. One said he came down with itchy hives. Running to Daemo-nim, he asked, "What did I do?" She inquired if he had done what she had asked. Realizing he hadn't, he confessed this and promised to do it. She then removed the angels and the hives went away.

From one perspective, this relationship may sound harsh. But from another it does not. Part of our problem on our path to God is that it is difficult to know when we veer off. It isn't until we are far down the wrong road that we can see our wrong thinking, feelings, or actions.

How much easier it would be to come back if we were shown we had

erred after having taken only one or two steps off, and how quickly our minds and bodies would learn to stay on the right path the next time.

It is like training a horse. If you let it feed on the grass while you rest on it, when you want to make it move again, it will resist.

However, if you pull its head upward even before it begins to munch, the horse stands firm, waiting for your command.

I didn't concern myself with whether or not I could see the angels which are present in abundance, at Chung Pyung. I focused on seeing my sin.

I have learned in the past that being spiritually open is not a litmus test for spiritual purity. Focusing on spiritual phenomena can actually distract from the real purpose of spiritual growth, which is to develop the "Four Great Realms of Heart." ■■

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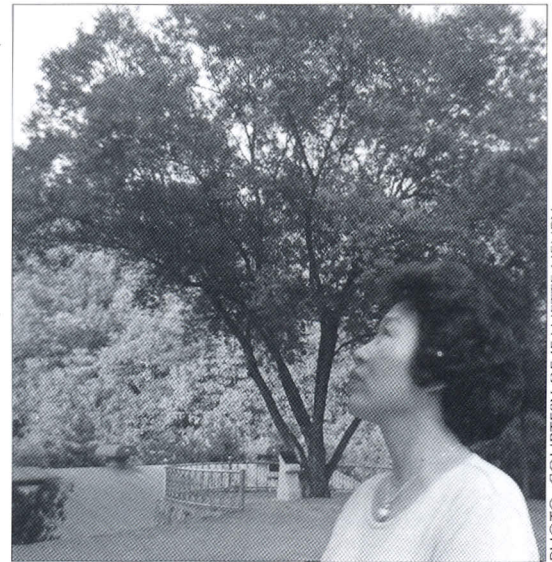


PHOTO: COURTESY OF JEANETTE HENRY

Mrs. Kim (Daemo-nim's medium) meditating at the Tree of Love.

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Pure Love Tour 1997

times had been hungry, and had slept in parking lots or on top of the dryer. The most precious gift is the bound of love

that they established to each other during the tour. Victoria and Adrian are already talking about meeting the team during the winter vacation. I would like to express my gratitude to Heavenly Father, True Parents and Jin-Hun Nim. Thank you very much I.T.P.N." ■■

[Edited for Today's World]

Michiko Miyamura and her husband participated in the 1800 Couple Blessing in 1975. Victoria is their 17 year old daughter who participated in the tour. They are from Canada.

RYS Friendship Project in the Dominican Republic

John Gehring
New York

As an inter-religious peace project, the RYS is constantly seeking for ways to create better cooperation among the youth of various national and religious backgrounds. The Religious Youth Service (RYS) serves as a conditional offering in that it is designed to heal historic divisions and pay indemnity through a course of tears and sweat. At its core, the RYS is a joyful model of cooperation which pioneers the road to true relationship in the Completed Testament era.

Each nation has its own particular history with its own restorational needs. Nations are also faced with the current political, religious, social and economic realities which point to a society's underlying strengths and weaknesses. The RYS is designed as a catalyst which can help each nation deal with fundamental problems that they face by helping reverse the pattern of wrong relationships that

scars the world and its history.

RYS founder, Rev. Sun Myung Moon and RYS's religious advisors agree that the central foundation for a healthy future lies in the cooperation between people of faith and they see this task as increasingly falling on the shoulders of the upcoming generation. Responding to this need, the RYS has completed over sixty service projects in 25 nations while conducting hundreds of seminars, leadership trainings, peace marches, medical teams and other activities.

The spirit of our age requires that religions in the world inherit the heart of True Parents, a heart that has no enemies but seeks out ways to help others. In the Americas, Christian cooperation is a providential imperative and tackling societies' problems is a focal point where that cooperation can begin. As part of a strategy to better connect people of faith in the Americas, RYS has sponsored its third "Americas Friendship Project" which was hosted by the Dominican Republic on May 1997.

Forty staff and participants representing Haiti, Dominican Republic, USA, Japan and Germany helped repair a rural school 20km. outside of the capital of Santo Domingo. The central theme of the program; "Creating an island of friendship," was based on the current need for closer relationships between the residents of this island, the home of both Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

In January, 1996 the RYS in cooperation with the IRFF and the WFWP held a project in Haiti in which foreign participants came largely from the USA and from the Dominican Republic and helped to build a medical facility and school rooms at the Haitian Academy outside of Port au Prince. Based on the success of this initial project and the cooperation between the sponsors a plan was made to invite a large team of Haitian participants to the Dominican Republic and build on the trust and good will from that initial project. The RYS project in May was the result of this plan.

The ideal of peaceful cooperation and friendship takes more than a vision and good intentions; hard work and effective planning are also needed. One example which helps to illustrate some of the difficulties encountered in implementing the friendship project was that all our programs had to be conducted in Creole and Spanish. This was laborious, often testing participants' patience.

Aside from the linguistic differences of the participants, cultural outlooks, religious background and economic situations were often widely diverse and people had to work to find common denominators upon which to build trust and friendship. Dr. Ron Burr (University of Southern Mississippi) and Dr. Kathy Winings (IRFF) teamed up and helped model and guide the teams to come to points where cooperation and sharing could begin. The physical work at the school also provided a way to create team spirit and cooperation.

The rural village where the repair of the school took place was eager to welcome the RYS. The school master was trying to make a last effort to keep the



PHOTO: COURTESY OF JOHN GEHRING

Participants of Religious Youth Service serve families in the Dominican Republic.

school open. The appearance of international volunteers did two things for the community; it provided a needed service on the building but more important, it renewed the community's interest and involvement in the school.

Mothers and children, out of curiosity, increasingly appeared at the work site. Before long, the children and parents were drawn into the activity and joined the work teams, painting, scraping, cleaning and doing jobs that suited their abilities.

The contrast between the school's appearance before the coming of RYS and at the time of departure was dramatic. The contrast in the energy level of the village at the time of the arrival of RYS as to the time of the project's completion was just as dramatic. People serving people generates joyful energy and provides a visible demonstration of what religious cooperation is about.

One special gift that the RYS created for the school was a beautiful friendship mural, designed and painted by participants from the University of Bridgeport. This mural required an enormous amount of cooperation and extra work but provided the personal warmth of a gift of love.

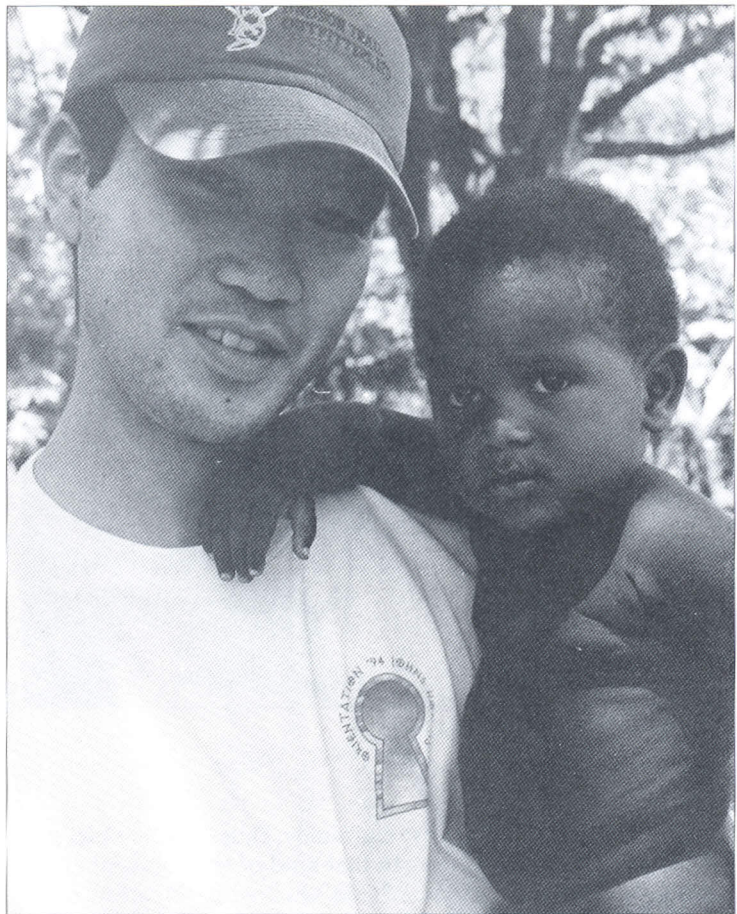
During the project, RYS participants were able to involve themselves in discussions on themes related to their religious faiths and to the theme of peace. One demonstration of this spirit which occurred during the project was the Island

Friendship Ceremony which was sponsored by the WFWP. During this evening program fourteen teams of three representatives from Haiti, the Dominican Republic and Japan were matched in friendship. Participants commented that the time they were able to spend together and share openly was one of their deepest experiences during their stay at the RYS.

One afternoon, RYS participants had a chance to test the Caribbean waters, which were found to be warm, blue and to the liking of all. In addition, participants visited several historic sights in Santo Domingo among which the museum in honor of Christopher Columbus was of most interest.

RYS programs conclude with evaluations and a time for reflection. Ms. Rachel Wood and RYS director, John Gehring conducted several sessions which gave the participants a chance to think about what they learned during this time together and allowed them to make some personal commitment to what they would like to do when they returned back home. One session included the creation of a "Declaration of Friendship" between those representing the Dominican Republic and the Republic of Haiti.

As the RYS plans future activities in



One RYS participant poses with a local boy.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF JOHN GEHRING



Children help scraping furniture.

the Americas it hopes to draw an increasing number of students from the USA and Canada into a deeper relationship with the neighbors to the south. RYS, as part of the International Religious Foundation (IRF) seeks to show the value of the religious heritage that belongs to the Americas. This heritage goes back to the Americas first peoples and has strong Christian roots, yet it is a heritage that is continually adjusting to the impact of new immigrants and contemporary changes in our understanding of ultimate reality.

The age of religious cooperation is dawning. In this time of change the RYS serves as an agent to help foster the transition. The hand to hand, heart unity found in restoring a rural school or in building a women's shelter comes from the desire of God's children to do His will. We are reminded of St. John's prophetic words in the book of Revelations; "The children will lead the way." ■

[Edited for Today's World]

John Gehring is the executive director of Religious Youth Service. He and his wife, Yoshiko are from the 2075 Couples' Blessing and have five children.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF JOHN GEHRING



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Leaders' Conference

under God. That is the family; one family. Those who are trained in that environment and live in that kind of environment are eligible to enter the Kingdom of God. Otherwise, you are incomplete and cannot enter the kingdom.

So, do you think we have to accomplish our goal of reaching the allocated number of couples in each nation? For that reason, I have generalized the blessing ceremony, such that even those who have received this pre-blessing are allowed to give the blessing. Think about how much we have advanced.

What is democracy based on? Democracy is built on individual rights, but in our Kingdom of God on earth, policy will be based not on individualism but on family rights: family authority, then tribe and clan authority, then nation and world, then the Kingdom of God on earth. Within the family, tribe and nation, there is no concept of individualism, because the family is the basic unit. Families form a tribe or a relative tribal organization; then, to form the nation and world is no problem; thus the Kingdom of Heaven will come on earth. Can you make that foundation through your family? The family is so strong. God connects there. Man and woman united into one have so much love power that they can do anything. Is this true? Strong, strong. Clear? Those who are determined to fulfill your mission, show your hands? Shall I believe you, or not? (Yes.)

How many times have you failed? I have done everything alone up until now. The people of the world have concluded that upon the foundation which Rev. Moon has built he can do whatever he wants. Don't you think that time has come? The time is coming when countries such as Korea, America and Japan will come forward and seek my advice on how to solve the problems of their nations. My answer is clear: "Change your tradition of the family system and rebuild it centered on true love; then all the problems will be solved." Economics and technology are not the major problems. Once the family problem is straightened out, then money and everything else will follow. Money power, manpower, political power, whatever, everything will follow.

"Change your tradition of the family system and rebuild it centered on true love; then all the problems will be solved."

Our blessed couples should pull everything like locomotives. Do you understand? I am that kind of locomotive. Everything is going the same way. As long as I keep breathing, I will keep marching forward. I will never stop. So as long as you inherit my tradition, you will survive; you will not die. Also as long as you are as alive as I am, then your country will survive too. It is up to your family.

In America, there is no tribal concept. In general, the concept of tribe in America is not as strong as in the orient.

Today's conference is over. No matter how many more hours we talk about this and that, it is beside the point. The key message this morning is whether we will accomplish our goal of the 3.6 million couples this year. If you are determined to do that, even though you failed many times in the past, that is the message you are encouraged with today.

Do you understand? I am that serious. I am not doing this for joy. I have never let go of God. I have been hanging onto God all the way through. My challenge to God has been, "God, I have done more than You asked me to do, so how could You leave me?" You are in that kind of position. Even if I leave America, you have to be able to say, "Father, I have done more than you asked me to do; how could you leave me?" Please be alert! Okay?

You remember the previous messages I delivered in various locations. The first one was *"The Principle View of the Providential History of Salvation,"* followed by *"In Search of the Origin of the Universe."* This third new one which I will deliver in a week or so is entitled *"True Family and True Universe Centering on True Love."* These three messages are the cornerstones for building the Kingdom of God on earth. These are good enough to be distributed. So you, as leaders of the Family Federation, must digest and understand these contents fully and memorize them. These are the main contents, the crux of the Completed Testament book. These are very important messages that you have to learn by heart.

First you have the honor to hear this in Korean. [Mother presents the third speech, *"True Family and True Universe Centered on True Love"* in Korean. It is then read afterwards in English.]

Everyone should read these important messages as many times as their age. Thus if your grandfather is eighty years old and he reads it eighty times, your entire family should also read it that many times. Then your entire family will be restored.

BUILDING THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

Eventually, there is no other choice but to accept my message as a final solution. Christians in general have been opposing me and my teaching, but Christianity frankly does not know how to build the Kingdom of God, either on earth or in heaven. Those who follow my teachings have a clear idea how to build the Kingdom of God on earth as well as in heaven. The original point is clear, and the direction is clear. You have to know the starting point. Our church is clear, and the starting point is clear. Man's starting point and God's starting point are connected. The starting point is clear and the direction is clear; thus, the purpose is clear. There is one direction, not two. The atmosphere is not complicated. Do you understand? It is

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True Parents lead the Pledge Service at East Garden.

clear. No other religion is clear. All their starting points or directions are unclear so everything is complicated. Is it true? We have a clear direction: one direction and one goal. Our result is clear.

I have emphasized that by July 7 according to the lunar calendar, which falls on August 9 on the solar calendar, we will definitely reach the goal of blessing 3.6 million couples so that I will immediately proclaim to the world that we will start marching towards the goal of the 36 Million Couples Blessing. We can accomplish that goal within six months. Do you know how? If each of the 3.6 million couples who receive the blessing this year will go out and find ten more couples, then the 3.6 million times 10 equals 36 million couples. Of course, the blessed couples will connect their relatives and immediate family members and friends. So each blessed couple can find ten more couples; it is not a difficult task. So we will achieve this goal of blessing 36 million couples within six months. After that, we will reach 360 million couples. Thus, the entire world will eventually be restored.

So, blessed couples, bring your relatives, your grandparents, brothers, aunts and uncles, and cousins. Each can bring ten couples without any problem. Do you understand? Then people all over the world will go, "Wow!" Are you convinced? It's true. Once we truly accomplish our goal of 3.6 million couples, we will have a quantum leap. The entire world will stand up and follow this. There will be blessing fever all over the world.

I have the ultimatum to complete my providential responsibility by the year 2000. I have to take the world completely away from Satan and make one big, worldwide family base, centering on True Parents. We have to make a complete nation. Do you understand?

My goal is to complete my responsibility for the providence here in this physical world by the year 2000. Suppose by November 29 of this year, which is the blessing day for the 3.6 million couples, I proclaim to the world that we have reached 18 million couples, and within six months we will reach the goal of 36 million couples. We will go for 360 million couples within another year. Then the entire world will bow down. Shall we do that or not? (Yes!)

Now the heavenly hurricane is upon us. It is now sweeping the entire world. Broken families cannot bring a peaceful world. We have to create a boom, a hurricane.

The 36 million couples could be reached within six months, but if it takes another year or so, fine; we should keep going for that goal. Then I will announce the 360 Million Couples Blessing by the year 2,000. All the world's families must pay attention and join. All countries must participate in our Blessing. Are you connected with my concept and vision?

How many more years do you need? Because of this urgency, the entire spirit world is mobilized now. Amen!

Let us pray. ■■

[Edited for Today's World]

Reflections on Jewish Identity

Dr. Frank Kaufmann
New York

FROM August 18 - 21, 1997 the Inter-Religious Federation for World Peace hosted a path-breaking conference entitled "Contemporary Reflections on Jewish Identity." Events surrounding the conference were dramatic and tempestuous. The fruits of the conference were abundant and promising for future growth and development. The academic quality was distinguished, and the human element was in many ways noble. We thank God for the excitement, the people, the scholarship, and the legitimate contribution arising from this conference.

The conference took place in Ariel, Israel, which for a number of participants was a point of controversy because the town is a major Jewish settlement on the West Bank. Currently Jewish people are divided in their opinions on settling in the West Bank and other disputed areas which are discussed in the Oslo accord. Thus the very site itself added an edge and an intensity to the conversation.

Deliberations transpired over the course of three full days. As is the customary practice for IRFWP conferences, all participants prepared academic papers. The conference theme, "Contemporary Reflections on Jewish Identity," is as hot a topic as one can find in the whole world of religion. The contemporary Jewish landscape is rich in just about all elements which make for dynamic, religious reflection. The conversation tackled huge historical phenomena crowded into this century such as the Shoah (the Holocaust), and the establishment of a Jewish state (Medinat Israel), as well as elegant and complex doctrinal issues such as chosenness and lineage, sacred land (Eretz Israel), and more issues Biblical, historical, and sociological came into play. The fundamental questions raised by this conference proved an intellectual and spiritual feast in their own right.

A total of 23 participants attended, from the United States, the United Kingdom, and Israel. The majority were from the U.S. The nature of Judaism in each of these three places differs profoundly from one environment to the next. This alone provided educational opportunity for the participants. To hear and learn

first hand from colleagues at one's own level of scholarly and professional understanding the condition of Jewish people in these different national circumstances was valuable.

It is no secret that IRFWP conferences carry with them a unique, bittersweet quality because they bear simultaneously the sterling reputation for decades of quality conferences, together with the controversial quality of Reverend Moon's centrality to its operations. For this and other reasons, the IRFWP conferences seek a balance among the participants of "veterans," namely those who have attended our conferences and are familiar with Reverend Moon's munificence and the professional standards of his organizations, and new friends, namely those who often have to resolve issues and questions they have inherited from the years of bias and prejudice which have poisoned the media throughout the time of Reverend Moon's visionary ministry. The veterans often prove a great help in getting first timers through the inevitable and understandable jitters, until they see how blatant have been the lies about Reverend Moon. The advance of the IRFWP toward fulfilling its mission of seeking world peace through inter-religious harmony and cooperation thus expands in one way deeper (as the veterans mature in their commitments and experience), and wider (as new and fresh leaders become involved).

This time, however, the ratio was way out of balance. Just four participants had familiarity with IRFWP. This might not have been so noteworthy had there not emerged immediately prior to the conference an all out assault on the conference by professional religious bigots and fear-mon-

gers, in tandem with unprincipled reporters and editors of the *Jerusalem Post*. For four days, the *Jerusalem Post* carried slander, libel, and falsehood, sometimes on its front page, waged with the sole purpose of closing the conference down. The fascinating aspect of this particular instance of persecuting a minority religion was that the New York based figure at the heart of the shameful attack apparently had no qualms about assailing and denigrating his own people. In this would-be attack on the good work of Unificationists, tens of Jewish leaders of towering international status, and even an entire, established institution of higher education in Israel was maligned.

Given this obscurantist attack on our work, if ever there was a need for "veterans" it was at this conference, and it was precisely at this conference in which they were in short supply! The "veterans" worked overtime. Sleepless nights. After the *Jerusalem Post* pulled out all stops and sullied all ethical standards in the four day effort to destroy the conference, it then came time for opening day. All we (the conveners and the organizers) could do was sit, look at one another, and wonder in silence (who would say it aloud?) if anybody would show up. How great would be the casualties after a full blown, international media assault?

The day unfolded as if scripted by
CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE



Conferees from both the US and Israel tour ancient Biblical sites.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF FRANK KAUFMANN

Philippine Radio Education Program

Federico V. Nidusa
Manila

ABOUT 90 percent of the nation's population (20 million people) are tuned to 283 AM radio stations in the Philippines. There are five 50-kilowatt stations with national coverage, six 20-Kilowatts with 200 ~300 kilometer range and the rest of the radio stations are locally based stations with 5~10 kilowatts with 30~50 kilometer's range.

Our first live radio program was aired last January 26, 1997, a few days after the start of our national mobilization. It was then on DWBL 1242 KHz, Metro Manila, every Sunday at 9:30 - 11:00 p.m. When the number of Pre-Blessing Couples had increased in the provinces, in a period of six months, we opened eleven more radio programs in eleven local radio stations in major key cities.

The way we started

We visited first the major radio stations, then we discussed with the station managers their available time slots, preferably from 7:00~10:00 p.m. during weekends. This is the time when the prospective listeners are already in their homes. It is very common here in the Philippines for any radio station to sell time slots during weekends. Most blocktimers (buyers) are religious groups. On Saturday and Sunday nights, AM radio sta-

tions are saturated with religious programs. Our program proposals to station managers are for the most sought-after programs - family values ! The length of the programs range from thirty minutes to 1.5 hours, depending on the station's available time slot.

1. Introduction of the program, by the sponsoring organization; its purpose and the benefits that it can offer to the listeners.

2. Greetings from the hosts: which is livelier in radio broadcast. This is to greet the listeners and to introduce the hosts, their backgrounds and their social status. Having qualified broadcasters with thorough knowledge on the subject matter is very important for the listeners.

3. Explanation of the program. For a first broadcast, it is advisable to explain the purpose of the FFWPU and the reason why we are conducting Pre-Blessing Ceremonies. We also explain the different steps of the Blessing Ceremony and its significance (first, a practical explanation, a deeper one will come later. In the Philippines, we introduce Rev. & Mrs. Moon as True Parents over the radio.

4. Dialogue - Part 1: To keep the listeners tuned-in to the program, the presentation should not be in lecture or sermon style but in lively dialogue among the hosts. Topics include today's reality but focus mainly on family problems, roots of problems, introduction to the Principle, etc.

5. Musical Piece No. 1: This is to entertain the listeners with appropriate music, preferably songs that promote love and peace.

6. Station I.D., Program I.D. & Time Check: Use the radio station's standard I.D., program I.D.

(The title of our program is the VOICE OF UNITY.)

7. Domestic and/or International News: To inform the listeners about the activities of the FFWPU, update on memberships, the number of pre-blessed couples, domestic and world-wide results.

8. Dialogue - Part 2: Proposals to solve family problems based on the Divine Principle, True Parents' speeches and hosts' actual experiences. Presentation of the Divine Principle should be made in a very lively fashion in the form of question and answer.

9. Musical Piece No. 2: Songs to be played must be in accordance with the tenor of the dialogue.

10. Station I.D., Program I.D. and Time Check:

11. Greetings' Portion: Greet the newly blessed couples. By mentioning specific names, people will be very inspired. Give thanks to people who are helping the mobilization.

12. Special Announcements: Invite listeners to call our centers (announce addresses/telephones) or invite them to our workshops or activities. Time to inform listeners about our future plans, projects

and how they can be involved.

13. Final Dialogue: This time is for internal guidance. Use Family Pledge or True Parents' speeches as the basis.

Parting Words (Extra): Thank all the listeners. Invite them to listen again. Mention the title of the program, day, time, the radio station and the radio frequency, end with the words "Good night and God bless you!" We inform the new Pre-Blessed Couples during the Pre-Blessing Ceremony about our radio program. While we are raising up more broadcasters, our radio program in Metro Manila is being recorded, edited and sent to the rest of the radio stations in the provinces for "taped broadcasting." Please feel free to write me, should you need more information.■

[Edited for Today's World]

Federico Nidusa is the president of the Research Institute for Social Values and Moral Development. He and his wife, Marilon Nidusa, participated in the 30,000 Couples Blessing in 1992. They have one child.



Eric and Gen. Magsino in actual broadcast.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF ERIC V. NIDUSA

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Jewish Conference

Frank Capra. The simple, human honor and dignity could only bring a tear to the eye. One by one, each and every invited participant showed up at our distant little hotel in the far reaches of the West Bank. "What the hell is going on Charlie!?" They would ask even before they plunked their luggage down. Twenty three men and women came to do what they said they would do. They came to tackle the preeminent question

for Judaism today. Indeed they were among the best to challenge this question, and they sat down to do their work with grace, fervor, penetrating acumen, honor, and humor.

Purple hearts all around, but perhaps most especially to the co-conveners. The IRFWP, its presidents and advisors, are proud indeed to have sponsored and shared in one of the finest religious conversations in recent time. Preparation for publication of the scholarship in English and Hebrew is under way.

Many thanks are also due to Mr. and Mrs. Abe (national messiahs for Israel),

Thomas Cromwell (continental leader for the Middle East region), the Israeli brothers and sisters who so sacrificially served the conference, Reverend and Mrs. Moon for their trust, vision, and generosity, and God for His magic and thrilling ways.■

[Edited for Today's World]

Dr. Frank Kaufmann is the executive director of the Inter-Religious Federation for World Peace. He and his wife Hiroko, participated in the 2075 Couples' Blessing in 1982. They have three children.



*True Family Portrait at the Manhattan Center, Hammerstein Ballroom. September 6, 1997.
(Photo: Ken Owens/NFP)*

“Just like God, whatever I do, wherever I look I offer my love, so my life is totally centered upon the give and take relationship of love. This is my life. The original palace of Amen is the Kingdom of God in Heaven. That is our destination. From there we can inherit everything from God. Amen.”

REVEREND SUN MYUNG MOON
TRUE DAY OF ALL THINGS
JUNE 5, 1997