

TODAY'S WORLD

JULY/AUGUST 1999



PRAYERS AND SPEECHES FROM SUMMER 1999

WORLD MISSIONS; IIFWP; IRFWP; UNIVERSAL BALLET

Welcome to Our New Publisher

Inauguration as International President of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification and Chairman of the HSA-UWC Foundation



As International President of our global federation of families, Rev. Sun Jo Hwang assumes the mantle of publisher of Today's World magazine from this issue forward. Following is an overview of the inaugural ceremony and of the words he spoke to the assembled leaders and well-wishers.

On June 15, 1999, at the International Leaders meeting held at the Central Training Center, True Parents appointed Korean church president Rev. Sun Jo Hwang as FFWPU International President (which includes the position of director of world missions) and Chairman of the HSA-UWC Foundation. Rev. Hwang was officially installed as Chairman of the HSA-UWC Foundation on June 21 and as FFWPU International President on June 27. The inaugural ceremony for the twelfth chairman of the HSA-UWC Foundation was held on June 21 in the main auditorium in the Do Won Building, which Father built and dedicated for the use of church-related organizations a decade ago, in Seoul.

More than 500 guests attended, including national messiahs, church leaders, and leaders and staff members of organizations and corporations affiliated with the HSA-UWC Foundation. Rev. Sun Jo Hwang's inaugural address was followed by words of encouragement from Rev. Chung Hwan Kwak and a congratulatory address from Mt. Keum Gang International Group president Dr. Bo Hi Pak. Rev. Kwak offered a concluding benediction.

In his inaugural address, Rev. Hwang said, "Since this is a providential occasion. We must understand it with faith rather than reason and from the viewpoint of providence rather than of economic theory." Rev. Hwang also expressed: "I do not know so much about corporations, but I know people who control corporations. God's providential history never gained victory by power. Yet, as we can see through the courses of David, Jesus and True Parents, God has always won. Let us show the world how we overcome through the power of faith. Let us unite in our efforts. Let us overcome today's difficulties through faith, uniting together in life-risking adventure. I will serve as a servant, so let us unite and do our best at the risk of our lives."

In his words of encouragement, Rev. Chung Hwan

Kwak said, "During this period in which the providence must concretely transfer from the first generation to the second, God has installed a precious new leader, Rev. Sun Jo Hwang, who is not only remarkable in his strategic ability, his personal warmth, and his vitality, but also has a deep heart of loyalty and filial piety towards God and True Parents. Since the providence demands such a new beginning, if we really unite in one mind and body victory will ultimately be ours."

The inaugural ceremony and farewell ceremony for the FFWPU International President took place on June 27 at the Headquarters Church in Chungpa-dong. More than 600 guests, including national messiah couples, missionaries, Korean regional leaders and church leaders, and members of staff of various organizations and corporations participated, congratulating and encouraging the newly appointed Rev. Sun Jo Hwang, and Rev. Chung Hwan Kwak whom he was succeeding. Rev. Kwak himself had been officially inaugurated as chairman of the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace (IIFWP) at its Inaugural Assembly on February 6 of this year.

REV. SUN JO HWANG'S ADDRESS ON THE OCCASION OF HIS INAUGURATION AS FFWPU INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

I offer deep gratitude to God and True Parents who have blessed this occasion today. I also offer thanks to Rev. Chung Hwan Kwak whom I deeply respect and who, in serving True Parents' will, has established a global foundation at the front line of missionary work. At the same time I cannot help but request his continuing guidance. I also thank the elder and senior members of the church, and indeed all members.

Our international missionary work began on June 15, 1958, when Rev. Bong Choon Choi left for Japan. Since then, in the ensuing 40 years under

the guidance of True Parents, a foundation has been established in some 195 nations. Even observed from an objective viewpoint, this is clearly a victory for our True Parents and the Unification Church. We cannot find other examples of religions globalizing in so short a period of time.



Rev. & Mrs. Hwang after the inaugural ceremony

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This is the first issue of Today's World to be printed in Korea, after almost two decades of being published in the United States. Today's World wishes to sincerely thank the many members of the church in North America who created and produced the magazine, often in the most difficult of circumstances, for the sake of the members worldwide, and for the historical record. It is our prayer that that legacy of heart and sacrifice can be inherited and built upon.

Front Cover: Father and Mother share the sacrament with Shin Pal Nim on the Day of the Settlement of Eight Stages, celebrated at East Garden, New York, on August 31, 1999 **Background:** An overflow crowd attends one of Father's speeches at Belvedere, earlier in the summer. (Photos: Cover-Ken Owens/NFP; Background-Julian Gray/TW)

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TRUE PARENTS' EAST AND WEST (GLOBAL) VICTORY

REVEREND SUN MYUNG MOON

MAY 30, 1999

BELVEDERE INTERNATIONAL TRAINING CENTER, USA

BELOVED Heavenly Father, Today is May 30, 1999, and it is seven o'clock in the morning. All the blessed families in heaven and earth, and the Parents of heaven and earth, have become one, a unity including all things of the ideal of creation, and which brought Lucifer, who has been the source of bitterness, lamentation, and sorrow of the earth, into voluntary submission. Now there are realms of liberation in heaven and on earth. Nevertheless, all things, humankind and the True Parents have been lamenting. In the spiritual world, young people and those who lived purposelessly and failed to have a family on earth have been crying out. On the other hand, people have been establishing families, yet without purpose, thereby spreading the lineage of Satan. Now, however, as all of heaven and earth has united to form a relationship of brothers and sisters, a tradition has been established through which saints and murderers alike can come to the loving embrace of the True Parents. In Kodiak, the completion of the four position foundation on earth was proclaimed [4.4. Jeol], and in Punta del Este, the completion of the four position foundation in the universe was proclaimed [Jan 8, 1999]. Then, in the Pantanal on May 14 this year, there was the proclamation of the victorious liberation of the cosmos. Upon such a victorious foundation, and with blessed families numbering 400 million around the world, we have shaped the environment for showing the oneness of the whole centered on God.

Through this, the spiritual and physical worlds have entered the age when You can act freely for the sake of humanity. Through the grace of the blessing, You can move freely throughout the realms of the individual, family, tribe, nation, country, and world, and, through the grace of the blessing that permeates earth and heaven, the realm of liberation of earth and heaven has been prepared. Today, after having surmounted countless hills of sorrow throughout history, You have made it possible to proclaim the victory of the True Parents throughout the East and West. We are deeply grateful for this.

All this has been made possible because You have invested an incredible amount of energy to raise the 400 million couples as the basis for ushering in the new world. In order to open the way for the True Parents, countless religious leaders have shed their blood and tears. They were meant to join in the blessing, and help expand the Godly foundation from the 36 couples to the 360 million couples, centering on newly-matched young men and women, and help extend the blessing to the spiritual world. This would have ushered

in the Last Days and established through indemnity the Kingdom of Heaven centered on the Christian culture before the fortieth year. Because of the failure to inherit the blessing on the family level, however, this has not materialized. Hence, Your will is that this be restored by next year, which is the fortieth year since You installed the True Parents, and that a new realm of Fourth Adam be established on the foundation of the blessing of the youth.

We are now able to hold a ceremony of proclamation before the coming of such a victorious day of Your will because the time has come in which the walls between the spiritual and physical worlds are demolished, and humankind, connected through ancestral relationships within their own tribes, nations, countries, and world, sever their blood

ties to Satan by following the heavenly relationship hitherto hidden, thereby joining heaven as new blessed families and attaining the victorious authority with which to liberate all of earth and heaven in the name of the True Parents. We are deeply grateful to You for enabling us to have a commemorative day such as this on which to proclaim the victorious realm of the True Parents in this historic place of Belvedere.

Please join us, Heavenly Father, as numerous spirits from the spiritual world, all the blessed families on earth, and all the religious leaders who have toiled and sacrificed for the sake of the world of truth are together here in the realm of blessing.

Based on the horizontal foundation the True Parents established on the earth along with the liberation of God and the True Parents, we are now approaching the point of witnessing the final, historical declaration of the vertical realm of victory of the True Parents on June 14. We would like to establish the foundation of victory whereupon the blessed families in the heaven and earth and all things centered on God can move beyond the realm of lamentation and shout Mansei out loud. Now we are starting the ceremony. Please guide us from the very beginning to the end. Please accept as Yours the fulfillment of all of the True Parents' hopes. We would like to eliminate the sorrows and lamentations of all ages and serve You as the Father who can reign with the authority to clean up all these tragedies by a single command. As we celebrate this day of proclamation in the hope that You accept this victorious day as a day of joy, please bless us and the proclamation in the names of God and the True Parents. I pray in the name of the True Parents. Amen.

[Translated by Jinseung Eu. Edited for Today's World]



PHOTO: KEN OWEN

DECLARATION OF TRUE PARENTS' COSMIC VICTORY WORDS TO LEADERS

REVEREND SUN MYUNG MOON
JUNE 14, 1999 (EVENING)
HANNAM-DONG OFFICIAL RESIDENCE, SEOUL

These words were shared with a small gathering of some fifteen leaders in Hannam-dong Official Residence following the official declaration at the Olympic Gymnasium in Seoul earlier in the day.

THE mission of Messiah means being born for the will and completing the will during the course of his whole life. The realm of liberation means the liberation of Kingdom of Heaven and liberation of God. Those who are trapped in Satan's jail through Satan's blood lineage must be liberated. Then we must liberate all things. I am thus making a connection of heart with nature by fishing and hiking in the Pantanal.

Drawing together the love of God, the love of humankind, and the love of all things, I have led man through the history of indemnity and proper economic restoration, all centering on the will of God. I offered special devotions (conditions) from May 13 to 15, 1998, in the Pantanal, in order to connect God's will from the lowest pit to the highest pinnacle. Based on that foundation, the Proclamation of the Liberation of Cosmos could be made on May 14 this year.

May 30 saw the Proclamation of True Parents' East and West (Global) Victory Celebration. Through that victory a complete horizontal foundation was laid. Based on this vertical proclamation of today (Proclamation of True Parents' Cosmic Victory Celebration) God will be freed from all worries, and He will be welcomed wherever He goes.

One problem remains. Father must introduce God to this world again. Do you understand what that means? I must liberate Him. This is His land, His country, His family, His tribe, and His people. Therefore, we must accomplish the blessing of 400 million couples. Then what are the biggest problems facing the world today? The problems of youth. The problems of family breakdown. Then there is AIDS. Time is running out.

Then the question is, what family will be introduced. Father's family must be introduced first, and that was a concern. But immediately before Father came back to Korea this time, Ye Jin and Hyo Jin gathered in one room and pledged they would completely support True Parents' endeavors.

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ADAM

Based on the fact that True Parents have fulfilled their responsibility the first son and first daughter can take their positions, and the way of the second generation of the Unification family will be an easy one. People will thus come to realize that the Satanic world and our families are different.

Then what is the final conclusion? The final conclusion is the perfection of Adam. Adam failed to fulfill his responsibility. What is responsibility? The cornerstone of the blessed families, the world, the cornerstone of the family, tribe, people, nation,

Kingdom of Heaven on Earth, Kingdom of Heaven in Heaven, had become tainted. We must cleanse that dirt. Thus, we must clean up the spirit world as well as the physical world.

What is another of Adam's failed responsibilities? It is the reversal of dominion. Satan reversed dominion and dominated Eve. Eve then dominated Adam. Because Adam and Eve reversed dominion, God Himself lost ground. Thus when the time to liberate God comes, perfection of Adam must be fulfilled. In order for Adam to perfect himself, all the reversed dominions must be reverted back to their original positions.

We must restore the fallen world, fallen lineage, and false lineage into true lineage. Until now there were so many complications resulting from relationships. When they went to the spirit world all the lovers were entangled in a confused web. Sang Hun Lee has reported to us about the phenomena in hell, including the content about Lucifer. The reason that man and woman took the wrong path was that Adam did not fulfill his responsibility. Because the dominion was reversed, we cannot correct the problem without restoring the original position. Through the reversal of dominion, Satan held dominion over the lineage.

The cause of the reversal of dominion between the archangel and Eve was false love. The cause of the reversal of dominion between Adam and Eve was also the corruption of the lineage [false love]. Human beings with the tainted lineage, however, are God's children. God is in the position of a parent. But it is as if He were standing upside down. He has nowhere to go. God cannot enter the world of humankind. Who has known this truth?

From the day that Father knew this fact, his tears never stopped. How can God be in such a position? I could not see the sun because my eyes were always full of tears. God should have become the father of humankind. Whose father should God have become? He had to become the father of Adam and Eve. Even if ten thousand years of history came against them, they should not have parted. But all those difficulties separated something that could not be separated. Thus how painful it must have been for God to reunite them, these who have been separated.

Adam and Eve were the only begotten son and daughter of God who were to become parents of millions of generations of humankind. How sorrowful God must have been when they were lost. Moreover, God lost the intended way of love between Adam and Eve that He could have established as the tradition of love. God could not love them. They were His children, but He could not love them. God stood on that cross of pain. Who will liberate this sorrow from within Him? Adam. Adam must liberate that sorrow.

The history of religion progressed through the shedding of blood. In the Old Testament Age, people shed blood through

You must, in turn, receive that inheritance from the Parents. You must understand what kind of path that involves. You must dedicate yourselves to liberating God, True Parents, and all things.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF TONGIL SECYE

True Parents give the benediction for the 37th True Day of All Things and the Declaration of True Parents' Cosmic Victory

offerings. God was supposed to be the sole owner, but all was lost. Thus, through the condition known as tithing, God tried to establish absolute faith, absolute love, and absolute obedience. The families of Israel were all supposed to be God's families. That one family of absolute faith, absolute love, and absolute obedience was to be more valuable than all the families of the world.

Centering on Jacob and his victory, his 12 sons had met the day when they could establish the realm of Israel. God recognized the 12 sons of Jacob, representing the 12 tribes of Israel, as more valuable than anything in the Satanic world.

When the actual time to do battle came, we could not pray. When a person actually knows what he has to do, he cannot really pray. Who would he pray to? He must dedicate his life. He must go over the hill of devotion (*jungsung*) without prayer. Going over the hill of *jungsung*, as a restored Adam he had to clear a path of indemnity for the satanic world. As restored Adam, he had to tread the path of the perfection of Adam, desiring to tear down the wall surrounding God's heart. Because his path was that which he had to go as the Second Advent, he did not pray, "Please help me" when difficulty came. People of the world, on the other hand, pray to God at the slightest sign of hardship.

Thus for 20 years while doing battle on the worldwide level, I did not pray. I did not pray the way others pray, sitting down. Even without prayer, I knew certain facts spiritually. Mind and body had to become one, and I knew that I had to make indemnity conditions for victory in order to return to God. I did not pray at times of difficulty, and 20 years passed. I started praying again last year, on August 1. I knew the time would come for me to guide Heavenly Father.

Keeping my purity, and with a certain spiritual knowledge, I had to discipline my body and align it with the world of mind. Because of Adam's failure, this had to be done. Then all kinds of temptations came. Temptations from money, honor,

ability, and women, all flooded the gates. Heaven itself sent all kinds of temptations, and Satan tried to hook me with so many different baits. Even though there were so many temptations, I knew the standard of spirit, conscience, and God's heart. Thus centering on the standard of *shimjung*, my body had to control Satan as he clung to my body. That is why I did not pray in America.

When there were economic problems and other difficulties, I never prayed for money. I took responsibility. The way had to be prepared for even the body to be able to subjugate Satan. The world of the mind does not belong to the world of Satan. The mind had to overcome all kinds of obstacles. Then Father had to make a victorious foundation in the physical world by fighting Satan and bringing God to earth. This has been the goal of Father's life. Do you understand? [Yes.]

The duties of filial piety and of loyalty were fulfilled. There was worldwide victory. Then, in uniting duty and mind of the Holy Son, I had to attend the eternal God. Thus, I have fulfilled the responsibility of the chosen people, which had to make a foundation of victory that was not tainted by the failure of the body. Only God knows the story of agony that accompanied the process towards that victory.

If someone prays and asks who Reverend Moon is, God will make him weep bitterly. When I enter the spirit world and tell Him, "I am back," God, who is sitting at the top of heaven on a throne, with thousands of steps between Himself and me, might instantly descend those steps and greet me. When I think of how He will greet me, I have no regrets.

OUR RESPONSIBILITY IN FRONT OF ADAM

God Himself is full of tears. I have the responsibility of a filial son, loyal subject, saint, and Holy Son to comfort Him. You should understand True Father who has walked that path. You should go the way of a filial son to one family, loyal subject to one nation, and saint to the world. You should realize that True Parents are the ones who must receive the inheritance from God, standing on one unified Kingdom of Heaven on earth and in heaven. You must, in turn, receive that inheritance from the Parents. You must understand what kind of path that involves. You must dedicate yourselves to liberating God, True Parents, and all things.

There are no more hardships and indemnity. Only one thing remains. Absolute faith, absolute faith! When God created the cosmos, the beginning point was absolute faith. Based on the foundation of absolute faith one can create the body of absolute love and achieve the perfect form of love. Thus, only with absolute faith can we invest absolute love. This love means standing in a position of desiring that everyone become better than oneself. The history of restoration through indemnity progressed through the repeated process of investing and then forgetting. History has witnessed this over thousands of years. We must know the toil and pain that God went through in order to find the family of Adam's perfection. This family also is the family that must liberate God.

This family must be a proud representative of the tribe,

When Adam did not fulfill his responsibility, humankind was bound to go into hell. To reverse this I had to stand in the position of the body of God...I held onto them with the *shimjung* of disgrace, betrayal and *han*. Then I had to pioneer the way to life.

the people, the world and cosmos. It must go over God's pain and sorrow over losing all the ideals of creation and the hope of creation. We must realize that, without having a *shimjung* of liberation where one almost feels as though it were fortunate for Adam to have fallen, we cannot reach safe settlement.

Night or day I am single-minded according to this standard. When I die, when I face God, how will He greet me? I have lived 80 years of my life wanting to attend to a liberated God and to establish Father and Son relationship on earth. Realizing the fact that we have proclaimed True Parents' Cosmic Victory Celebration, we should thank God, thank True Parents, and thank heaven and earth. We have established a foundation internally and externally, going beyond all God's hopes and expectations and exceeding the role of perfected Adam. We are entering the realm of the fourth Adam where we have received the Kingdom of Heaven in heaven and on earth wholly as our inheritance. From that place of inheritance a new family will depart, and this is the hope of our victorious God and True Parents. Do you understand?

It is Adam's responsibility to liberate God. We must go over the hill of perfection hundred times more than Adam has with body of *shimjung* and *jungsung* (devotion). We must become a filial son in the family, a loyal subject in the nation, a saint in the world, and a Holy Son in the cosmos, and we must receive all of God's inheritance. This has been the life of our Parents.

We must devote everything for that cause. We must stand in the position where we are victorious beyond what the eternal God expects. When God can thus transmit His inheritance, we can conceive the victorious God's authority in a new world that transcends the *han* of the fall. Moreover, all remnants of Satan's blood lineage must be wiped away.

THE FATHER'S COURSE TO GIVE THE BLESSING

How do we keep the lineage pure for thousands of years? Along with the liberation of God the liberation of purity must be achieved on earth. When God thus is able to find us, when He is able to find the family, tribe, and people whom He can seek with joy, the sorrowful history of the fall will never again befall our family.

Until now, the blessing has been the church-level blessing. Because there is no nation, the national-level blessing has not been achieved. When we find a nation, we will pass into the age of the world-level blessing, and transcend the three stages of the blessing. Until now we have eaten Satan's food, lived with Satan's things and lived in Satan's realm. We live in an environment where a person can fall, just as Adam and Eve fell at about the age of 16. The possibility of the fall is about 70 percent. There is a standard where, with the authority of a nation, such as with laws, we can do anything [such as protecting the purity of love]. When the church-level blessing turns into the national-level blessing, this can happen. Laws and a constitution with which to govern can be established. The time will come when the contradictions of life that conflict with original *shimjung* will be eradicated. From now on, any person in a

public position in a nation will need to have a family.

I have already made progress towards that goal in America. The reason I established the Unification Theological Seminary in the United States is that I wanted America to take on the responsibility of the realm of first son. But America did not fulfill its responsibility. Thus, I have renewed the UTS graduates' resolution. It was the responsibility of Christianity to bless unmarried men and women. Instead, I am the one who has blessed the Adams and Eves of America. I blessed those who were worse than Adam and Eve's family. That was my responsibility. I had to do it. The entire foundation Christianity built to save those men and women was lost. The blessed families must realize that I had to find and bless those people who were worse than fallen Adam. Do you understand?

If God could, He would have blessed Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. God could not do that. How terrible God must have felt. I came as a prodigal son, took the position of first son, and in God's place, blessed the men and women of America. Then I even had to bless those people who married merely by contract [cases where a couple married each other only for the purpose of receiving certain benefits of marriage]. One cannot even track them in the spirit world. Finding them is the responsibility of their children who have received the blessing.

Because blessed families did not fulfill their responsibility, the Parents had to shoulder the burden. One family's fall in the Garden of Eden brought about chaos and hell. I carried the cross of that burden, and I sought out fallen families in order to save them. I was ashamed in front of God, but I still raised my hand and blessed them. You must realize that I was ashamed and embarrassed. You do not know that God had to shed tears in order to pave the way for Adam. You must understand this.

God had to abandon the one family. When Adam did not fulfill his responsibility, humankind was bound to go into hell. To reverse this I had to stand in the position of the body of God, upside down. I held onto them with the *shimjung* of disgrace, betrayal and *han*. Then I had to pioneer the way to life. No one knows the pain that I went through to build that road. Only God knows. If a spiritually open person asks who Reverend Moon is, he can only weep with bitter tears.

The world does not know that we are entering the realm of law. Everyone is enjoying free sex. I held onto those homosexuals and lesbians. You don't know how difficult I felt having to hold onto them so as to save them. I could not pray. I had to be hit again and again. Kicked and kicked. You do not know that feeling. I have declared this proclamation of liberation with this heart. God is liberated. It is God's heart to greet me with the greatest joy. I lived my whole life to guide God's heart this way.

OFFERING ON THE ALTAR OF THE PROVIDENCE

True Mother also has experienced so many hardships. In 40 years of marriage I ordered her to go through so many miserable situations. Because Father knew the heart of woman, Father forgave, comforted and pulled her hundreds of times.

The people must sacrifice for the nation. The nation must sacrifice for the world. And the world must sacrifice for heaven and earth. Heaven and earth must then sacrifice for God. This is the way of restoration through indemnity.

Even Mother does not know what went on.

Father wanted to walk the path of life where even God had to feel indebted to Father. You must realize that you are standing as the starting point and a foundation of history for the thousands of generations ahead. We are standing on the firm ground of restoration of the spirit world through the physical world. Thus you should realize that in the age of the fourth Adam your descendants could become the heir who can possess a new kingdom of heaven and earth of the cosmos. You should become the ancestors, teachers, and owners of that path, and should educate and guide the heirs who could walk that path.

The time has come for me to be able to avert shame. If not, all things will lament. I always let go of the first fish I caught, offering it to God. Even now 15 to 20 million people die each year in the world. Who is going to take responsibility for them? Because of Adam's fall, a history of sorrow started, and the descendants had to pay indemnity. In order to take responsibility for those dying children, I led the providence of the ocean for decades, making ships and preparing to feed those people.

When a holy ground such as the Pantanal appears, Unificationists should visit it. They must lead their families there. It has become the starting point for a tribe to head towards the Kingdom of Heaven. Whole tribes should establish a nation, and they will say that their ancestors are blessed families of the Unification Church. They will all come to the Pantanal. All the ancestors in the spirit world and their future descendants—the citizens of the nations—will all come there. Because the Pantanal is God's blessing, they will continue to offer devotions there. This is the condition that blessed families must set in order to complete the Kingdom of Heaven.

After the liberation of God, which families will God truly love, among all blessed families? Father has made an educational facility in order to clarify whom God will love. Those people will be taught the ways of loyalty and will be set up as leaders.

Thus I told everyone to send their children to UTS. Some families do not even consider sending their children to UTS. I told them to send their children to Sun Moon University, and they don't even dream of it. We cannot employ those people who went to other schools. That is the mistake of the parents, and those parents also cannot be placed in important positions.

Do you understand, Rev. Kwak? [Yes.] You must employ those who graduated Father's school, those who followed Father's direction. [Yes.] Reverend Kwak, you also did not graduate from UTS, right? [Yes.] Thus one issue is who will be leaders in a new church system.

About a thousand UTS graduates must be installed. Recently I gave training to the UTS graduates for three days, from June 4 to 6 in America, which is the first son nation. In that three days they made a new determination. They know that Father went to UTS every day for three years from 1975. They had to repent based on the content that I gave them during that time. America destroyed the second generation Christian culture. (UTS graduates should restore that failure.)

Because way for the blessing did not open, so many fami-

lies broke down. The Keum Ran Church is the Church of Hwal Lan Kim. The Keum Ran Church called Unification Church a church of adultery. Now look what happened. That Keum Ran Church actually became the church of adultery itself. There were demonstrations against the ministers.

To bypass this kind of sin, centering on Christian civilization, Japan, Germany, Italy, Britain, America, and France were set up in providential positions. Britain begot America. France is the archangelic nation. So all the spiritual standards were manifested in nations. The people of those nations were to welcome the Second Advent and receive the blessing. They had to remarry. That potential to receive the blessing was destroyed when Christianity—Protestant and Catholic—opposed me. They had to receive retribution for their failure. I had to take that responsibility, and therefore took the burden of so many sins upon my shoulder. From that lowest pit I salvaged the situation, made bridges and climbed up to the original position.

The women of the Unification Church were supposed to help Father when he was suffering to make that bridge and climb it. Instead when I had to climb, they tried to block my way. Do you understand? Even if they had to sacrifice themselves, they should have made those bridges. Instead they thought in the opposite way, saying, "God has blessed me, and my place is here."

The blessing of the family is for the sake of the blessing of the tribe. The family should sacrifice for the tribe. The tribe must sacrifice for the people. The people must sacrifice for the nation. The nation must sacrifice for the world. And the world must sacrifice for heaven and earth. Heaven and earth must then sacrifice for God. This is the way of restoration through indemnity.

THE MESSIAH SUFFERS TO SAVE HUMANKIND

Those who have used the will for their own sake should have been taken away without the chance of being forgiven. But people did things without knowing, and therefore I must take responsibility. Do you understand? The 360 million couples blessing should have been held in Japan. But they (the people/government of Japan) did not know, so I am taking responsibility. I had to salvage the whole situation and take responsibility. February 7 is a day in the coldest period of the year. We could not help but imagine that everyone was going to freeze to death. We must salvage and resurrect the offerings that God can receive.

The world does not have a real nation right now. America, England, France, and Russia are not real nations. They all think of themselves as "liberal". What is liberal? Liberty means freedom. How can a person have freedom? Can he have freedom when he has lost heaven and earth? America does not exist. There is no nation for the youths of this world. There is no society. "Individualism" and "privacy" are words that have caused the loss of heaven and earth.

The world of mind has infinite desire. But our environment exists only for the individual (which is contrary to the

I had to take responsibility for the things and people that were on Satan's side, without shame. Dignity and honor were not an issue. Do you understand? I had to do unimaginable things to save humanity.

bigger desire of the mind). Therefore, the hippie movement came about. They ran away from home. There was no one at home who welcomed them. Those living at home all rejected them. History of betrayal will end in betrayal. Nobody welcomes them. Nobody welcomes selfish people. Thus everybody gets separated, and each becomes individual palace of the devil. When individualism becomes supreme value and privacy is respected beyond all other values, there is no relationship with God.

But as True Parent, I still had to hold on to those people and save them. I had to sustain the miserable toil of restoring the one family of Adam and Eve (Saving those people is related to the restoration of Adam and Eve.)

In order to turn the nation around (save the nation), I did not sleep day or night, all alone. Nobody knows this fact, even my children, even Mother. It was a serious matter. I could not even tell anything to Mother. Mother had to walk her own course of indemnity. I can now talk about it. I can now discuss it. Yet there is nothing to discuss because all is done. Based on what I have done, our family must establish the foundation where God can dwell and hang up the signpost of the first family of attendance to God.

Let's look at my family. The second sons all died on the road. In the Unification Church as well, the second person had to die away from home. The late president Eu is the second couple, right? Hee Jin is also my second son, right? Heung Jin is also second son. They all died away from home. The law of indemnity does not change. The law of Heaven is unchanging. However, they could not digest everything. Moreover, I could not shed tears for them, even if those tears were coming from the original mind (true heart). Because I still had not greeted the day when I could comfort them in God's place, the day when I could return glory to God, I could not even shed tears for my own children.

Therefore, I established the Day of Victory of Love within three days of Heung Jin's passing away. After that day, a person could win over death. I do not know how many times I battled, carrying the flag of parent of love, on the crossroads of life and death. Thus Heung Jin was able to pass into spirit world as the elder brother of Jesus. Then just as Jesus resurrected and just as the Holy Spirit descended on earth on the day of Pentecost, all the good spirits in the spirit world could come down to earth.

But Jesus could not go beyond the national level. He must

wait till the national boundary is crossed. Reverend Moon blessed Jesus on January 3, 1973, but he could not live with his spouse because he had not crossed the national boundary. He had not found a nation. But the time had come to be able to go over that boundary, on the world-wide level. I therefore reestablished Jesus and blessed the saints. Why? They could descend to earth and establish a standard for a form of family that could attend True Parents. Then they could return to spirit world and, centering on the liberation of their family,

live in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Who knows this complicated content? I lead the providence by sorting out all those complications and reorganizing them. Moreover there is no tradition of Adam's family in the history of providence until now. I had to reestablish all the traditions and create a bridge. I built the bridge of victory where God could go up and down freely.

Father's responsibility is to restore the position of king and prince of liberated, cosmic love. I had to take responsibility for the things and people that were on Satan's side, without shame. Dignity and honor were not an issue. Do you understand? I had to do unimaginable things to

save humanity.

All has passed. I have even blessed my parents. In one generation I blessed my parents and my grandparents. I blessed those who suffered as Unification Church members, those who were chased out without their spouses, and those who got divorced and were expelled from their homes.

THE WAY FATHER DEALT WITH TEMPTATION

There is no responsibility towards Church members that I did not fulfill. I did not do things out of any desire of my own. I did them because of God's command. Do you understand? (Yes.) I am giving you all this as a lesson today. Now, even if I tell God, "Heavenly Father, I don't like this fallen world and spirit world. I would like to make a new and better Kingdom of Heaven," what I say can be achieved. Even now Satan has not been liberated completely, and that is a problem. We must eradicate Satan completely, into oblivion. I don't even want to hear the lamentations of Satan. There is still work to be done to achieve this.

We could, however, make a new Heaven and earth. We can attend God and create a new cosmos. God, who can do this, could not stop the archangel when he destroyed the



True Parents receive a gift to mark the occasion of the new declaration, June 14

(To Rev. Hwang:) What was my first advice to you when you returned to Korea? What did I tell you not to forget? [Father, you said that if I am willing to die, I will be able to save the country.]

proper order of love. How miserable He must have been. When Adam thought about the woman's sexual organ, could he have imagined the serpent that swept thousands years of history into hell? Man's sexual organ is the same. You must be able to imagine and be stunned by the grotesque image of how two people toppled the Kingdom of Heaven.

Father disciplined himself. No matter who it was or how beautiful she was, I overcame desire. When I was a student, all kinds of things happened. Once, a beautiful woman came naked into my bed. What was I to do? I had to win over this situation with my life. I had to be completely alert and deal with it. I had to subjugate her naturally and at that place cry bitter tears with her. Because I had to be able to forgive people who were in love, I had to go over these kinds of situations. Do you understand?

There were so many situations even in the jail in Pyung Yang [August 11 to November 21, 1946, prior to being moved to Hung Nam Prison]. It was rumored that Reverend Moon was a sorcerer. The prison guards watched me and would not allow me to sleep. They thought that I would do something in my sleep. Then I had to sleep with my eyes open. I knew how much toil God had gone through in history. There were so many spiritual temptations.

Nobody knew this fact. Women, from teenage to 70 or 80 year old grandmothers, grabbed Father's feet and head, pulling me. They abandoned their sons, their husbands, and parents to approach me. They naturally denied the secular world. I was in my twenties, and an 80 year old grandmother came to me, called me, "Honey," and told me that she would have 12 sons with me. She said that she had even had surgery to repair her womb. She said that she had prepared everything to meet the bridegroom. She bought a clock, clothing, and other things in order to prepare for the him. When I heard such an old woman considering me as her husband, do you think I was grateful or flabbergasted? What do you think the deceased husband of that grandmother thought about his wife? She had to surrender naturally. I would say, "Yes, yes, of course." All these old women would think of me as their husband. After going through such an ordeal they would think of me as their older brother, from previously thinking of me as their younger brother.

One woman would come into Mother's room and demand that Mother give her the room. It would have been a problem if I had previously given any notion of intimacy to this woman, such as touching her hand. She would have spread the rumor that she was my wife and that everyone should attend her. This is a spiritual phenomenon. She just did not know how to distinguish between the spirit world and the physical world. Because of the restoration process, such phenomena would occur.

Under wide persecution I established the foundation. I have liberated God, Heaven and earth. I placed them all in a horizontal plane and paved the highway towards the Kingdom of Heaven. Your body is like an automobile. You must provide the gasoline, and the engine will turn automatically. So study this overview and reexamine your lifestyle. I

implore you to become persons who will not be ashamed in front of Father and the world. Do you understand?

WE MUST WILLINGLY GO THE WAY OF INDEMNITY

So, from today the UTS graduates must take up positions as leaders. Also if there are any college graduates who have not gone to UTS, they must definitely go. UTS graduates should not get ordinary jobs. A fearful time is coming. The content of Father's teaching is fiercely alive. The road of hard work and suffering for the salvation of America lays ahead. Who would dare look away?

Actually I told them all to come here. I knew that some of them would not come, so I gave a three-day workshop in East Garden (June 4 - 6), starting from a Friday. Friday starts the weekend off, so everybody could come. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. They all made a new determination.

Thus even in Korea, Reverend Hwang, who has graduated UTS, became president. Many people thought it was not going to work out. Because of Reverend Hwang, the task could be accomplished. He knows the activities of the Communist organizations too. I researched that. How are we going to build an educational system to educate the Communists in this situation of conflict between North and South Korea? You have worked hard until now (To Reverend Hwang:) How many years have passed since I made you church president in Korea? [Three years.] What was my first advice to you when you returned to Korea? What did I tell you not to forget? [Father, you said that if I am willing to die, I will be able to save the country.] The way of indemnity. If a person tries to avoid the way of indemnity, he will perish. You must willingly go. That is a blessing. Work even harder than Father. If you work harder than Father, God will bless you.

I have abandoned Korea. Because my mind has left the nation, you must break all records in your activities. The good spirits in the spiritual world knew that fact (that Father had abandoned the country), so they completely mobilized themselves and helped Korea. The spirit world knows. Korea was in the last place, but it became the first place in giving the blessing.

[Translated by Rev. Taek Yong Oh at the Unification Theological Seminary. Today's World gratefully acknowledges the significant contributions made possible by Rev. Oh through his constant efforts to record and study the words and deeds of our True Parents.]

[Edited for Today's World]

NINTH CELEBRATION OF THE DECLARATION DAY OF GOD'S ETERNAL BLESSING (7.1 JEOL)

REVEREND SUN MYUNG MOON

JULY 1, 1999

BELVEDERE INTERNATIONAL TRAINING CENTER, NEW YORK

PHOTO: LUC BABIN/IFP



Although undoubtedly one of Father's shorter speeches (just a few minutes long), it was a joyful yet serious call to action.

THE fall occurred in Adam's family, but God could not interfere in their becoming husband and wife and forming a love relationship, and expelled them. Then, in these Last Days how can these families be blessed again? That is the issue. At that time, since the false parents initiated the problem the blood lineage was different. Now, by the coming of True Parents, and through the blessing they bestow, the blood lineage is being changed, and you must know that through this God *can* intervene. For thousands of years there was great toil to establish the Messiah and one true family. Since the True Parents came

and gained victory so that the Satanic blood lineage could be overcome, and since Satan could be expelled, you must understand that now is the amazing age in which these families can be blessed freely.

By restoring through indemnity and putting in order that which has been connected to Satan, and due to the blood lineage centered on True Parents being connected to the free realm of blood lineage, there are no obstacles. Therefore the age has come in which the blessing can be given freely. Do you understand?

Originally, it was the unmarried men and women who were meant to be blessed by True Father. I should have matched priests, nuns, buddhist priests and nuns who had religious faith, but since Christianity opposed us we were placed in the position of being expelled from the Garden of Eden again. You must therefore know that the fact that other people ultimately had to be blessed is a disgrace before True Parents. It is shameful. You must understand that it means the responsibility of married couples is great. Therefore by blessing the married couples of the physical world, including those who merely made legal contracts, and organize the blessing in the spirit world centering on the remaining

unmarried women, everything will be concluded.

That is why I am telling you to conduct demonstrations. If in the spirit world they hold demonstrations on "True Family, True Parents, True blood lineage" and if we make a big noise here on earth, everyone will receive the blessing. The world will then turn around in an instant. This can be done within seven months but it depends on how hard you work.

Even if you are alone, pin these words on your clothes and make trouble. You should hang up sign boards that read "Let's Become True Parents," "Let's Establish True Families," and "Let's Inherit the True Blood Lineage," and hold demonstrations. It is okay even if you paint it on your face and walk around. If an important broadcasting channel in America broadcasts "The blessing is a good thing" even once, the world goes round! If this is done by a major network in America, it will be picked up and relayed by other stations around the world. If the people of the world oppose, we will respond to them through *The Washington Times* and cable channel. Everything is ready. So are you going to hold demonstrations or not? [We are!]

If a *Washington Times* reporter writes an article, Christian families will read it without fail. Are you going to do it or not? Are you going to fulfill 400 million couples or can't you? If you hold demonstrations in each town then everything will be concluded.

The earth is this big, and the spirit world is so vast. The spirit world is the archangel type: is Adam's family of the physical world going to lose to the archangel? Please answer. The spirit world is descending 24 hours a day. What are you going to do? Do you eat and sleep and play, is that it? Are you going to do demonstrations for one week without sleeping? Are you going to do 40-day fasting? Are you going to

demonstrate for 40 days, walking around without taking any sleep? Will you fast? Will you demonstrate? [We will!] So you know. You mustn't sleep. Have I spoken for more than five minutes? (Laughter) Until now we have done it in this way but one purposeful effort reverses the earth. You kick it. Then it will be over. Can you do it? [Yes.]

[Translated from the Korean by Yoko Abe. Edited for Today's World.]

PHOTO: LUC BABIN/IFP



Our Life and God's Providence

REV. CHUNG HWAN KWAK

JULY 1, 1999

BELVEDERE INTERNATIONAL TRAINING CENTER, NEW YORK

Before he spoke on July 1, Father called on Rev. Kwak to speak to the assembled members. These are the words he shared.

TODAY is the ninth celebration of the Day of God's Eternal Blessing. We have just listened to Father's message on the founding day of this celebration day on July 1, 1991. True Parents had arrived in Seoul that

morning. Before their arrival they had informed the Korean church that all leaders and core members should gather to receive Father's special proclamation. Before Father arrived and spoke to us we truly had no idea, but this July 1 celebration was very important for the development of the next level of the dispensation.

As you know, in 1988 Father focused on the dispensational importance of the Olympic Games in Seoul. After the Games concluded, Father proclaimed the Foundation Day of the Nation of the Unified World [October 3, 1988]. Just prior to the Olympics, Father directed me to request missionaries from 120 nations to gather in Seoul. Father laid more foundation and prayer condition for those Olympic Games than any leader in the world, including the Korean political leaders.

The 1988 Olympics were very important for establishing a unified world. Two previous Olympics, one in Los Angeles and the other in Moscow, were actually only half-Olympics, with Communist nations boycotting the Los Angeles Olympics and free world countries not participating in the Moscow Games. But centering on the Seoul Olympics a unified world appeared centering on the second generation represented by the youthful Olympic competitors. Prior to the Korean War the term "Cold War" did not exist. Based on that war the world was divided into two camps. There was so much conflict up until 1988. So Father laid conditions to unify both camps centering on the second generation.

That was the foundation for a unified world. Father then visited Russia in 1990. On July 1, 1991, he gave the founding speech and proclamation. Based on this foundation, Father and Mother set out for North Korea.

In 1992, Father proclaimed the era of women, and called Mother to the front line for a worldwide speaking tour. Many other celebrations centering on women also took place. In the following year, 1993, the Completed Testament Era began. True Mother was liberated and appeared not behind True Father but at his side. Because of True Father's victorious foundation, each of the Parents—Father and Mother—fully represents True Parents. Mother's world tours then continued in 1993 and 1994. Father initiated these very important world

tours which Mother inherited from Father, completed and fulfilled through teaching many people.

Because 1993 saw the beginning of the Completed Testament era, Father proclaimed True Parents. The significance of the Completed Testament Age is that it is the era of True Parents. So from the dispensational viewpoint, we have already surmounted and graduated from the formation and growth stages—the growth period—and joined the historic era of the

Completed Testament centering on True Parents.

During his life, Jesus Christ could not, without any condition, proclaim himself as the Messiah. But True Parents, Father and Mother, have proclaimed it so clearly and openly at official meetings, in front of world-wide leaders, that the True Parents have appeared on earth. Without the condition of the Declaration Day of God's Eternal Blessing, such progress in the dispensation could not have occurred.

From the beginning of the Completed Testament era in 1993 to 1999 is seven years. At the end of this seven years we will enter a completely new era, the new millennium. In view of this, there is a very significant meaning to each celebration and proclamation Father has initiated or made. We have to learn about and fully understand the background to this foundation.

Furthermore, continuing upon this victorious foundation, in 1996 and 1997 Father made special proclamations centering on True Parents, and also about cutting off the satanic lineage, and about the globalization of the blessing. Father first proclaimed the era of globalization of the blessing in 1992. The 30,000 couples blessing was the formation stage of this globalization. The origin goes back to 1988 when Father proclaimed during the Olympic Games that we would have world culture and sports festivals. Father's main thought and vision were proclaimed officially through advertisements and the media. The First World Culture and Sports Festival was held in 1992 and included the 30,000 couples blessing.

The reason Father proclaimed the 30,000 couples blessing to be the first stage of the globalization of the blessing is this: Since Father began to give us the historical blessing, beginning with 3 couples, there have been ten main blessing events. The second or growth stage of the globalization of the blessing was in 1995 with the second World Culture and Sports Festival. Originally Father's plan was that there be a WCSF every three years, but Father's heart, his vision and his desire, is always to shorten the course of restoration. So

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF SEIL STUDIO/SEOUL



True Parents' heart and Heavenly Father's heart is to reach to all human beings, especially the younger generation, even those in their mother's womb before birth.

after the 360,000 couples blessing in 1995, Father announced it would not take three years and decided the next blessing ceremony would be held in 1997 in Washington, DC.

Thus, the formation stage globalization of the blessing was in 1992, the second stage in 1995 and then, like the top of the mountain, was the blessing in 1997 in Washington, DC, with the time period shortened almost one year. Originally this was to be the 3.6 million couples blessing, but after Father's direction, also on the basis of his prayer and his victorious foundation, he surmounted that hill and then did not rest at the top but went on to bless 36 million couples. Together this was the blessing of almost 40 million couples. Centering on this Washington, DC, blessing Father succeeded in setting a victorious, historical condition.

Then the final achievement, on this foundation, was the 360,000 million couples blessing. This was the New York blessing ceremony together with this year's blessing ceremony in February in Korea. Centering on all existing married couples, all blessing is now finished. Connected with this effort, Father considered how to liberate the spiritual world, not only the physical world. Because altogether some 400 million couples have been blessed, this means 800 million people are involved in Father's efforts in relation to the fallen world. This is sufficient condition for the restoration of the entire existing world. On such a foundation of effort on earth, Father is aiming to liberate the spiritual world.

Father has been concerned about the spiritual world. This is another of True Parents' missions, because True Parents have to liberate God's heart, True Parents themselves, and also all humankind. But not only those people on earth. So without announcing it to anyone, Father alone laid conditions while we focused on preparation for the New York blessing. Even though Father may have mentioned this to us, we never grasped his concern or vision.

Of course, Father had preciously prayed or made other conditions, but mainly focusing on three days in the Pantanal in 1998, May 13, 14 and 15, Father laid special conditions for the liberation of the spirit world. Not only for those in paradise, or good spirits, but also for evil spirits in hell.

For the liberation of evil spirits in hell from Satan a more complicated condition is necessary. But because of Father's unlimited grace and his effort to lay conditions, Father himself accomplished all the internal and external conditions and then last of all gave us direction regarding the New York Madison Square Garden Blessing Ceremony.

Maybe you did not understand clearly that day, but in front of top religious leaders of the world and many, many Christian leaders and believers, Father proclaimed that historical blessing event spiritually in front of God and also in front of Satan. So Father opened the gates to liberate even

hell. Such tremendous grace!

Father continued by directing, together with Heung Jin Nim and Dae Mo Nim's efforts, the blessing together of people in the spiritual world and physical world. By the time of the blessing ceremony last February, Father had opened all of the gates. Father commented that it is like having built a highway between those on the earth and in the spiritual world so as to reach the goal of salvation.

Then one year later, on the May 14 anniversary, Father invited representatives of the national messiahs and once again laid a special condition and celebration linking the physical world to the spiritual world.

Meanwhile, Mother, representing True Parents was carrying out another worldwide tour. Mother, in the physical world, was extending the boundary of liberation and salvation wider and wider. Father, through making the vertical link between the spirit world and the physical world, was extending liberation and the grace of the blessing to reach all corners of the spirit world.

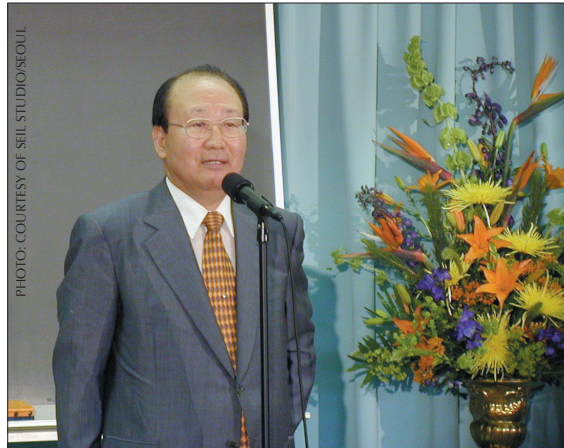
Upon the foundation of Mother's victorious accomplishment in the world tour, Father and Mother arrived in Korea.

Based on that one year memorial day special prayer condition, and then the memorial day celebration and liberation here at Belvedere on May 30, True Parents carried out the declaration and celebration of cosmic victory [June 14]. In this sense, Father and Mother's truly cosmic and historic foundation of victory has already been accomplished.

How, then, does the dispensational timetable and Father's program link with the responsibility we all have? What is this year's motto? "The cosmic expansion of the true blessing and the rooting out of Satan's blood lineage." For

this year's goal and motto, Father's mind is that reaching out to already married couples as we have done until now is not enough. True Parents' heart and Heavenly Father's heart is to reach to all human beings, especially the younger generation, even those in their mother's womb before birth. This new life has to be liberated from Satan's evil blood lineage. So Father created holy candy representing holy wine for the new life still in the womb, and also for children and the younger generation—mainly those who are not yet married.

Originally from God and True Parents' viewpoint the real blessing was only for the pure younger generation. Therefore, the blessing of almost four hundred million couples which is the result of our effort until now is like the formation or preparation stage. Heavenly Father and True Parents' real goal is the younger, pure generation. Father has already directed the worldwide leaders to not only try to find young blessing candidates, but also for those young people aged 11 to 19 to make the pure love pledge. This is even through holy candy.



Because Heavenly Father and True Parents have bequeathed everything to us, it depends only on the fulfillment of our portion of responsibility whether or not we can inherit it.

Father's desire is to liberate and cut the relationship of all humankind, especially the younger generation, with Satan's evil blood lineage, under any circumstances.

This is our task and the goal of all of our plans and activities this year up until the next blessing ceremony, in February. Without announcing it Father already had this vision and plan and had decided this year's motto. Then at New Year, on God's Day 1999, we listened to Father's motto and speech, but we had no idea what it truly meant to completely cut the relationship with Satan's blood lineage. But afterward we came to understand it based on Father's victory ceremonies and the amazing victory foundation of June 14 [June issue].

So please understand what our position is, and the stage we are presently at. Father has mentioned a couple of times that as True Parents, as the Messiah, Father and Mother have done everything, and that there is no further need for them to further serve us or the world. This is because they have already given the blessing, and we received it. And also the spirit world is completely open and a highway has been made for liberation and celebration. From now on there is only our portion of responsibility.

In front of the victorious True Parents, how can we become a victorious individual, victorious family and victorious tribe, at least? Of course we must then build a victorious nation and victorious world. But at least we have to build a victorious tribe, as Jesus never reached that goal. So there is only one condition. Because Heavenly Father and True Parents have bequeathed everything to us, it depends only on the fulfillment of our portion of responsibility whether or not we can inherit it. True Parents have given permission and promised everything saying, "Please, you receive, inherit." The condition is under absolute faith, absolute love and absolute obedience.

At this morning's 7:00 Pledge Service at East Garden I again felt that when we recite the Family Pledge that you recite it so quickly. Why do you go there so quickly? Please think about even one of these concepts, absolute faith, absolute love, absolute obedience; how serious a sentence it is! It is not only that a family just recites the Pledge together. In the bottom of your heart such serious content—you adapt your body and mind to it. Don't rush through it so quickly. It is not only a matter of memorization. It is serious contents. This kind of absolute faith, absolute love and absolute obedience, for us, for our responsibility, is everything. If you have accomplished these three points you have accomplished everything. You will become a victor.

So please, brothers and sisters, once again deeply under-

stand your situation and position. We are in such an important position now. True Parents have permitted all aspects of their victorious effort to be passed on to us. They have prepared everything. We can only gain or inherit this benefit based on our portion of responsibility. So don't focus on others. Based on this condition, centering on absolute faith, absolute love and absolute obedience, then where are we to focus? The blessing of four hundred million couples is our destiny. Because Heavenly Father and True Parents are in agony. They want to liberate this younger generation, if it is possible—this pure young generation. So we must fully adopt True Parents' heart, vision and desire and then focus to gain young candidates.

Four hundred million couples is a tremendous number. Our goal is an amazing number. By our effort it is impossible. Already Father taught us many times that it is not only by our effort. There are many young people in the spirit world who have already been blessed, including our ancestors and good spirits who have all come down and are waiting to support us. If we have a correct attitude and absolute faith we can gain the result. Fortunately, as there is no hope in the secular world with regard to the family, no one can deny the vision of true family, true love relationships and pure love.

In June, Father appointed a new president of FFWPU Inter-

national. Today, you welcomed Rev. Sun Jo Hwang, a truly wonderful young leader. My intuition is that since the June 14 Declaration of Cosmic Victory, the dispensational era is completely different. In True Parents' mind, it is now not so important to focus on blessing existing married couples. Rather, this is a new era in which new, young candidates are to be asked to receive the blessing.

In our movement, also, because of the progress of the dispensation, we need the guidance and leadership of young leaders. The most important thing is, compared with any other time, the result we can gain in this era depends on our level of faith. So please focus on Father's direction

and Father's vision. We must completely adopt and become one with these, and then we have to achieve the results God and True Parents expect in this new dispensation.



Master of Ceremonies Tyler Hendricks breaks from his role as MC at the evening entertainment on July 1 (7.1 Jeol), at the Manhattan Center, New York, to dance with the Pure Love Alliance choir

[Edited for Today's World.]

THE COMPLETION OF GOD'S WILL AND THE REALIZATION OF THE RIGHTS OF ELDER-SONSHIP, PARENTHSHIP AND KINGSHIP THROUGH INDEMNITY

REVEREND SUN MYUNG MOON

AUGUST 8, 1999

BELVEDERE INTERNATIONAL TRAINING CENTER, NEW YORK

Father spoke for more than three hours. He gave poignant insight into the role the Messiah must play in defeating Satan, and on a special new holy ground he had earlier consecrated in the Pantanal.

As a result of the fall, everything disappeared from the realm of God. Elder son-ship, parent-ship, kingship, ideal family, everything whatsoever just left God's bosom. But now the time has come in which we reach the completion of God's will and regain through indemnity the right of elder son-ship, right of parent-ship and right of kingship.

Where did they go? Completion through indemnity is of course restoration through indemnity. From this viewpoint, when we look at the secular world, is God's will now accomplished? What is the meaning of blessed couple, blessed family? The standard we must connect to is the restoration of elder son-ship, parent-ship and kingship. Even though there are many blessed couples, there is no foundation yet to claim kingship, because we do not have sovereignty. In order for God to come down to our level and work with us, we have to establish the realm of elder son-ship, parent-ship and kingship from the individual to the family and national levels. That is the only way.

Until the completion of God's will, no one can claim his or her own property. Everything should be an offering. Only when we offer everything, from our personal assets to our family, our nation and the world, then through the completion of indemnity we can claim kingship.

What is the motto or founding spirit of America? It is "One nation under God." When we say one nation, does that nation belong to you? We have to transcend the level of one nation under God, one world under God and reach the level of one cosmos under God. Do we still need to seek one nation under God then, or just go for one cosmos under God? [One cosmos.]

Because of the fall of man, everything that was meant to belong to humankind, to Adam and Eve, was turned upside down or lost—from all things to children, family, nation and world. Restoring them means we have to regain them for humanity. Through this we can fulfill God's will and the restoration of the right of elder son-ship.

THE MESSIANIC MISSION

At the time of Jesus, who came as the Messiah, the nation and people of Israel in the position of second son were supposed to give absolute obedience to him. This is because as the Messiah he came to begin with as elder son, in order to achieve the realm of elder son-ship. At the time, the Israelites

were not in the position to have families. Based on the prerequisite of absolute unity with the Messiah, they had to offer their absolute obedience to him. Only then, centering on the Messiah, could they have restored their families. Of course, as the Messiah, Jesus would should have participated in his own holy matrimony. By doing so, the Messiah would have become the Parent of humanity. The Messiah's family would have become the elder-son family, and all humanity would have taken the position of younger-children families.

If Jesus had accomplished his goal of holy matrimony during his time on earth, then Jesus' family would have been in the position representing the elder son of all humanity. By receiving the blessing from Jesus and by uniting with Jesus' family absolutely and offering absolute obedience, the rest of the people of the world would have been in the position of younger-children families. Eventually, by the end of World War II, Christianity would have reached the level of one nation under God. But because Jesus' mission could not be completed, and because of the disbelief of the Israelites, this foundation did not exist at the end of the Second World War. In order to restore everything that was lost at the time of Jesus, the Lord of the Second Advent came at that time.]

The entire world should have served Jesus as the King of Kings, but that failed to happen. That is why the Lord of the Second Advent came at the end of World War II. Then through the Lord of the Second Advent, all Christianity was to unite and restore what had been lost at the time of Jesus on the individual, family and national levels. If the Israelites had reached a national level sovereignty centering on Jesus, they could have expanded this to the Roman Empire and eventually the world. Likewise, centering on the Lord of the Second Advent after World War II, the entire world from the individual to the worldwide level was to be unified.

So again, centering on the Lord of the Second Advent, everything—humankind and all things—must be restored because everything was lost through the fall at the time of Adam and Eve. By having absolute unity with the Messiah and by obeying him absolutely we can restore elder son-ship, parent-ship and kingship and offer everything, including all things, to God as restored original beings. When God receives these, He in turn bequeaths them back to humankind through the Messiah. Only when we achieve this goal can we say this world is a heavenly sovereignty, the Kingdom of God on earth and in heaven. Without going through this, even God cannot go beyond the realm of the fall.

The phenomena we are witnessing in the secular world are the phenomena of hell. Everything is separated and divided, from the individual and family levels to the level of

God and Satan are fighting. Who can put an end to this fighting? God cannot stop it, nor can Satan. Why not? Because this result was brought about by the first parents through their fall.

the world. Everything was lost and divided. All creatures, all property lost their connection to the original one world under God, the Creator centering on true love. We lost our grandparents and our parents, man lost woman and woman lost man, parents lost children, we lost our brothers and sisters. Human beings are living on a foundation of extreme self-centered individualism, and so have become the people of hell.

In God's eyes there is no individualism. Every being should be unified as one body centered on one true center and lord, the Messiah. Messiah means elder-son king, elder-family king, and king of kings of all nations. This became necessary only as a result of the separation brought about by the fall.

For Father to become the Messiah, he had to face and win over the nationwide opposition of the fatherland of Korea. In doing so, he was able to hold the holy matrimony in 1960. From that point on, the work of giving the blessing has been expanded to the world. God's family began centering on the Messiah, the Lord of the Second Advent, by true love. Until now in history such a concept of true love was unknown. The Messiah is the first to come to earth and teach clearly what true love is from the viewpoint of the individual, the family, the nation, the world and cosmos, and about God's original heart-oriented world of true love.

There is only one way to connect to God's original true love way, not two. Do you have true love in your mind and body? No. Your mind and body are now separate, fighting against each other. No one has understood how to solve this problem and liberate the individual, family, world and cosmos, and then liberate God. The only one who has understood this is the Second Advent.

DEFEATING THE DEVIL

The Lord of the Second Advent is a person with no property. America and Korea are not the property of Reverend Moon—or of their peoples. We have to restore them back to their original place in God's bosom. Unless you clearly understand this point and achieve this goal, even after you enter the spirit world, even if you are a blessed couple, you will still have your work to accomplish for thousands or millions of years. You have to solve this. The foundation for establishing your place of settlement cannot be made in the spiritual world. This is the most urgent task facing you in this world.

You American women, to whom does all this belong? You all say "It is mine, my relatives', my nation's." How can you straighten yourselves out and tear down all those barriers? The one who can do this is the Second Advent Messiah. Why? Because he clearly understands how to tear down, go the opposite way and rebuild. Whenever you claim anything as your own possession it means you are still far from climbing over Satan's barriers. We have to offer everything to God first.

From Satan's viewpoint many things belong to Satan. Many people, many families belong to Satan. Why? Because the family fell. In the Old Testament Age, things were cut into two as an offering. One part was offered to God and the other to Satan. After the sacrifice of those creatures, how miserable

God was. Originally all things were not to be divided in this way. They belonged to God, but they were lost through the fall, becoming Satan's property and descending to the bottom of hell. Human beings likewise became the children of Satan. This is the fearful reality of human history. How can they be liberated? Only by the Messiah. God cannot do it. God and Satan are fighting. Who can put an end to this fighting? God cannot stop it, nor can Satan. Why not? Because this result was brought about by the first parents through their fall.

When real, perfected parents appear, Satan will recognize and acknowledge them as the correct parents. God will ask Satan, "Do you understand that he is the Second Advent who is the perfection of Adam?" [Yes.] "As he has established that kind of foundation, will you obey him absolutely?" [Yes.] "The Messiah is my absolute, eternal, unique, unchanging son."

[Father speaks in English about the historical expansion of the religious foundation through indemnity; all people are one, not four separate blocks of east, west, north and south. He speaks about making oneness through Abel sacrificing for Cain, shedding blood to save his elder brother. "I want to wear beggar's clothes. Satan cannot touch that." He speaks about the value of being hit by Satan who then has to pay back with interest.]

A CONFERENCE THAT SUSTAINED THE PROVIDENCE

Do you have any possessions? Do you have children? No matter how much wealth a person possesses, how many children he has or how great he thinks his parents are, there is no difference between the poor and the wealthy. Some may think they are much better off, but we are all in the same boat. For that matter, poor people are better off, because they still have hope to climb up, but those who are wealthy and well established have no way to go but down.

When I first gave direction to the American church leaders to invite world dignitaries, particularly from the religious, academic and political worlds, to have hoon dok hae together centering on the Inter-religious and International Federation for World Peace, the leaders responded saying, "Father, it's not going to work. You are going to get us chased out..." No American leader wanted to carry out hoon dok hae with leaders of the world in the way that we have been doing it within the church. According to Mr. Joo's report, however, the result was that the 214 world-renowned dignitaries from around the world who accepted my invitation to participate in hoon dok hae together—and who at first may have been reluctant because they did not know what they were getting into—had smiles stretching from ear to ear.

From the beginning I had absolute faith in this conference. I may be the most stubborn and resistant person when it comes to accepting anything new, yet I have completely surrendered to this truth throughout my entire life and still believe in and live for it. Therefore, when I gave this order to the American leaders I had no doubt that there would be absolute victory. Had this seminar failed, God's providence through Reverend Moon leading up to this moment—all past

Isn't there conflict between South and North Korea? Who do you think can bring reconciliation between these two powers? [Father.] Why Father? Because they are brothers, and I am in the position of parent.

blessings and other events as well as the upcoming 400 million couples blessing—would have been totally lost. Do you think God would have let that happen? God would have thought, “No matter what difficulty there may be, I will come down with absolute authority and power and take care of it.”

Do you understand how God can be liberated by Reverend Moon? By completely occupying Satan, no enemy or opposing power can exist.

DESIRING TO RECEIVE BLESSING FROM FATHER

Do you understand my broken English? (Laughter) You are absorbing these words like a sponge absorbing water, aren't you? [Yes!] We are exchanging the language of true love. The more I understand English, the more urgently I feel I do not need an interpreter and that people have to listen to my speeches in Korean. When I hear the interpretation it is as if fake goods are being sold as the real brand. I do not feel good about this. When, as the owner who knows, I see you, as the purchaser, being deceived by the salesman and taking the fake brand as the true one, should I feel good or bad?

Even Adam and Eve need this, the completion of God's will, of elder son-ship, parent-ship and kingship through indemnity. Once you complete the right of elder son-ship do you think there will be any place in the world where you will not be welcome? People in the secular world do not have elder son-ship. They are adopted sons. Therefore, wherever you go with elder son-ship, those in the position of adopted son will always welcome you. If there is nowhere for you to sleep, they will give their own bed to you and sleep on the floor.

Do you understand clearly? Do you want to complete and possess elder son-ship? Are we talking about elder son-ship that represents all humanity on earth and in the spirit world, or just one fraction of it? [All the cosmos.] It is easy to say all the cosmos, but fulfilling the contents is difficult. How much sweat and tears preceded Father's achieving the victory of possessing elder son-ship? All the billions of people who could not marry, or who were separated or who lost their parents and children and entered the spirit world are waiting for True Parents. When I go there, don't you think they will run forward saying, “Father, we have been waiting for you. Don't you feel like giving us the blessing?” ... When I hear that, what do you think I will feel? I absolutely need Mother and Mother absolutely needs me. Only by True Parents' standing together can all those people who are crying out for the blessing and for settlement even in the spirit world be comforted by my saying, “Children, wait for a while. When the time comes you will receive all this blessing and settlement will be given to you.” Once we fulfill the blessing of 400 million in this physical world it means we will have reached half of humanity.

Don't you think that if people know that, even though the entire world has been lost, if they receive this blessing now from Reverend Moon they can go straight to the Kingdom of God, they will want to receive the blessing from Father?

TRAINING

A woman who does not love Father is not a complete woman; something must be lacking. When True Mother hears this, do you think she should be happy or cry? I know it will make Mother smile, that's why I say this. If you were in Mother's position you would be sad or angry, but look at True Mother, how beautifully she is smiling. Therefore she must be the True Mother, and you have to follow behind her. If you do so, you will the same kind of blessing True Mother receives.

When I went from cold weather to the hot South American climate I was sweating terribly. *[Father humorously describes how he studies the various routes the sweat takes when running down his face, and how through that he appreciates the hot weather.]* Over the past twenty-five years I have spent much time on boats, staying out all day, not even leaving to use the bathroom, taking one can along for everything. When people go out to the ocean they tend to take off their clothes and jump in the water. So no one would blame me for using this small can, not even the fish or birds. Everyone is doing the same. There is nothing to be ashamed of. Even for a woman, if you are in that kind of situation you don't need to sit down to go to the bathroom. You can stand and do it holding onto your husband's arm, then pour a bucket of water to clean yourself. Suppose you had to go to the bathroom on the boat as part of your training. Don't you think God would like that kind of training? The women of the Unification Church should be different from those in the secular world. God would think that way. Aamen... When I say a long “amen” like that, it represents formation, growth and perfection stages. If you have truly that kind of spirit and heart when you say amen, if you do it three times then you don't need to pray.

HOON DOK HAE AND PRAYER

Father's position now is at the threshold of the completion of God's will and of obtaining elder son-ship, parent-ship and kingship. Isn't there conflict between South and North Korea? Who do you think can bring reconciliation between these two powers? [Father.] Why Father? Because they are brothers, and I am in the position of parent. Once they start doing hoon dok hae, after three years the unification of South and North Korea will probably come about naturally. We have had the first round of hoon dok hae with world-renowned dignitaries. If we do this three times, and perhaps ten of the most famous leaders from each nation come to truly feel the need of hoon dok hae for their people and go back to their nations and continue to educate their people through hoon dok hae, don't you think world unity can be achieved? [Yes.] What about broadcasting hoon dok hae on radio and TV? Don't you think those in the spirit world are doing hoon dok hae every day? [Yes.] Where in the spirit world do you think people have to hold hoon dok hae, in hell, the middle level or in paradise, or are there no barriers like that? You are right: there should be no barriers whatever, just a clean, open field where we can have hoon dok hae. Everything should be new. Once all humanity has received the blessing, then through hoon dok hae we can claim the Kingdom of God. The reason is that the

We have to follow the tradition of true love which is eternal,
unchanging, unique and absolute. Do you like absoluteness?
It is a great thing, but it is not achieved so easily.

truth God gave from the beginning of human history, through which God has wanted to educate humanity, is the words of the True Parents. That is why, centering on True Parents' teachings, we can claim the Kingdom of God.

Who should like hoon dok hae the most, God or True Parents? [God.] Think about God's position. Since the time of creation He has been patiently waiting in tears for His words to be received by His children, humankind, many times in a great deal of difficulty, suffering and agony. He has endured pain and suffering because throughout all these years His words have been rejected. When for the first time in history His words are being accepted and studied by people, don't you think God will be the happiest being? By the same token, for more than forty years Father has been patiently waiting for the day when his words would be studied and received by humankind. God is therefore the king in terms of enjoying and appreciating hoon dok hae from the individual to the cosmic level, and True Parents are in the position of the king and queen as individuals, and of the family, tribe, nation and world in terms of liking hoon dok hae in this physical world.

Hoon dok hae can be interpreted as the sword that can divide the heavenly world from the satanic world. If this section represents plus, the other represents minus: God's side and the satanic side. Even among the members of your family, when hoon dok hae time comes around there could be some who like it and some who dislike it. If some of your family do not like hoon dok hae, no matter what it takes you have to bring them to like it. A hoon dok hae champion is beyond even an Olympic champion. That person is like a universal level champion, from the level of family, city or town all the way up. If by constantly having hoon dok hae and becoming a champion you are guaranteed to inherit everything from God, don't you think you will do it crazily and enthusiastically every day? When there are many billions of hoon dok hae going on simultaneously, which hoon dok hae do you think God will want to go and see Himself? God would like to visit the place where True Parents are holding hoon dok hae. Is that true? Of course God truly wants to participate where hoon dok hae is going on centering on True Parents. What about humanity? Do you think the people of the world want to have an opportunity to participate in hoon dok hae where the vertical center and horizontal center are established centering on True Parents? Once a year or every day? Every day! It may be necessary to marry a Korean in order to learn Korean and be closer to True Parents. By having the right and opportunity during your earthly life to participate in hoon dok hae in Korean, when you enter the spirit world you will have the same right for your eternal life. Do you want that?

If you who have blond or brown hair and green eyes want to have black hair and eyes, you cannot dye your hair or change your eye color in eternity, but by marrying a Korean or other Asian person eventually your children will have these. If Reverend Moon says to the world that the Westerners, both black and white, should have interracial marriage with Asians, people may ask if there are enough Asians. But

there are over 3 billion people in Asia, which is about half the world's population. So it looks as if God has been arranging this from the outset.

Do you like to pray while standing or sitting? Americans like to pray standing up, while Oriental people usually like to pray sitting down. How are you going to sit? The best position to pray in is like this: seated with your hands on your knees. When you pray standing up, you don't know what to do with your hands. Your hands feel so heavy. This is the most comfortable, versatile position when you pray. [*Peter Kim: As you saw, Father can even still touch the ground with his forehead from a sitting position.*] While you are holding your legs with your hands you are holding the entire world. Your forehead is heading toward God and you form a 90-degree angle, representing the horizontal and vertical worlds. If when you visit an Asian country you stick your legs out like that in front of you, they may think you are crazy. If you have made a mistake, you have to kneel down and pray, begging for forgiveness. In the history of Oriental people, their way of life has been based on farming and sitting down and praying, so praying in a sitting position is something they are familiar with, whereas Westerners have always had a lifestyle of chasing after animals with their shoes on in the woods. That's why you like to pray standing up! Animals always wear their shoes wherever they go. The same is true for Westerners. You should try to learn how to sit like Father.

When you enter the spirit world, no matter how much you may dislike it you have to learn True Parents' way of doing things and their way of life. We have to follow the tradition of true love which is eternal, unchanging, unique and absolute. Do you like absoluteness? It is a great thing, but it is not achieved so easily.

From now on you have to start a small revolution in your family so that no one dislikes hoon dok hae. You may set your own family tradition that after hoon dok hae you have only ten to fifteen minutes to finish breakfast. Then after fifteen minutes, whoever you may be, you cannot have breakfast. Twelve o'clock lunch; seven o'clock dinner: same thing. You should have that kind of family norm and regulation. Then which level hoon dok hae would you like to participate in, your family level or your village level? [Village level.] Village level hoon dok hae or state level? [State level.] National level hoon dok hae or state level? [National level.] Universal base hoon dok hae or national base hoon dok hae [Universal.] Kingdom base hoon dok hae or world base hoon dok hae? [Kingdom.] The "Father of all true creatures" hoon dok hae or "On this earth horizontal True Parents" hoon dok hae? What kind of True Parents, horizontal True Parents or vertical True Parents? Once you participate in hoon dok hae centering on God you have no problem to continue that activity forever. Do you understand? We are talking about hoon dok hae championship, about being number one in the family, village, county, state, nation, world and universe and in God's absolute hoon dok hae.

Restoration of elder son-ship represents the Old Testament era, restoration of parent-ship the New Testament era and

Everything is created as a family, a brotherhood system. The power of Satan is gone. A new era is beginning centering on the true authority of the king of love, God, with everyone in the Kingdom of Heaven on earth and in the spirit world.

restoration of kingship the Completed Testament era. The two powers in the world, communist and democratic, are similarly in a relationship of older and younger brother. Reverend Moon came as the parent to unite them as a family. In the secular world there is no hope to solve the problems of youth and family breakdown. The only place there is hope is in the realm of the global family established by Reverend Moon. Reverend Moon is now the elder-son king, family king, and blessed couple world king. Establishing the race level, tribe level, nation level, world level and Kingdom of Heaven on earth level is not a problem. Everything is created as a family, a brotherhood system. The power of Satan is gone. A new era is beginning centering on the true authority of the king of love, God, with everyone in the Kingdom of Heaven on earth and in the spirit world.

How to fight and go over the realm that Satan controls is the “home mission” of fallen humankind—this is humanity’s homework. Humankind has not yet completed this work. The one who achieves this victory is the Messiah.

In the horizontal physical world centering on True Parents we build the Kingdom of Heaven on earth, and in the spirit world, centering on God, the vertical True Parent we will build the Kingdom of God in heaven. Whoever opposes this will be in a serious situation when he enters the spirit world. You have to clean up everything while on earth. We have to think: “All things belong to God, not myself. Everything is originally God’s property. My children are originally God’s children. My couple is originally God’s couple, not my own fallen couple.” Do you understand? This has been humanity’s mistaken concept. Who created this wrong concept? Satan.

Forget every concept and habit of this fallen world. Where are you starting from? From Satan’s territory. All creation and all humanity want to return to the bosom of their original parent, God, and to the bosom of their original hometown. We lost our home, our parents, our hometown, our husband, our children, everything, as a result of the fall. You belonged to God originally. But now all beings, all things are under the realm of Satan. Knowledge, power and money belong to Satan, not God. Sometimes God visited America to cultivate a highway for the future world. But no matter how proud America is, you have to know this nation is not yet liberated from Satan’s realm. It must be resurrected. Who are you? [True Parents’ family.] No, no. Satan’s race. (Laughter) Who are you?! A race of thieves, the kings of satanic countries seeking to grasp power, wealth and knowledge!

According to the tradition of the blessing, it usually takes three years of waiting and setting all the conditions, but recently I have been giving the blessing to those who have not even been members for ten hours. The saints and even all those evil spirits have received the blessing. People are wondering how this can be. I am “swallowing” everyone. I recently visited a new piece of land we purchased in South America. We were told there is a snake there that grows to about 25 yards long that can swallow anything, even alligators. When these snakes eat alligators they squeeze them to death and then just swallow them without washing them first. For the snake, eating

all the parts of the alligator is like taking medicine. When the snake is really hungry, whatever goes into its stomach can be digested. What about you? Can you swallow anything?

A MODEL OF UNIFIED LIFE

You women in particular are always concerned about cleaning your teeth, and you ask your husbands to brush their teeth. Suppose your husband lived in the woods for ten years, you hadn’t seen him once and he hadn’t brushed his teeth once. When finally he comes to visit you and is standing at the door, would you ask him, “Honey go and brush your teeth first?” Or would you just want to run to him and hug and kiss him? Through true love nothing is dirty. Suppose you are a beautiful and calm woman and your husband is a most rugged and wild looking man with a beard and mustache. When you kiss wouldn’t you enjoy touching his roughness? The power of love embraces everything, goes over everything and digests everything. All creatures absolutely like this true love power. Isn’t it true?

I have already given the blessing to the entire spirit world and the physical world. What position am I standing in then, in terms of the completion of God’s will and achieving elder son-ship, parent-ship and kingship? Where is the starting point of settlement? Is it Korea? If we measure something we have to measure from the bottom to the top. If God wants to build a palace in this universe, He would probably want to build a pillar reaching from the South Pole to the North Pole so that the palace would be big enough to welcome and accommodate everyone and everything in the entire universe. God needs four pillars, North Pole and South Pole and East and West. The pillars positioned in east and west would have to circle every day at least once like this, so think about the wind and resistance they would have to face. Wouldn’t the North and South Poles have to move too? Because God does not have heavenly sovereignty here, this vertical axis would be activated first. The North and South Pole pillars should move up and down first, then the horizontal pillars meeting the vertical pillars at a perpendicular angle will start making a circular movement, creating 360 degrees. This is the globe. If this globe is folded vertically and horizontally at perpendicular angles, no matter what size it is it will eventually join the main vertical and horizontal pillars. The size may be different, and there will be thousands of different levels, but the biggest, greatest and longest is the God-centered pillar. Based on this principle we say the family is the original foundation of the cosmos, because in the individual family we see these vertical and horizontal relationships. The parent-child relationship is vertical, the brother-sister and conjugal relationships are horizontal. The central point where all these different relationships meet is the point where God dwells and where true love is found. Upon that foundation, every angle is equal. The speed, area, space and length are all equal. That is where God comes.

So from now on we have to absolutely make sure that our mind and body are one. The body represents the horizontal

The holy ground can be named in three ways. It is first the original holy ground. Secondly, it is the root holy ground, and thirdly, it is the holy ground of victory. It is the culmination point of all of human history from start to finish.

and the mind the vertical. Are your mind and body one? Make sure your mind and body become one. A man and woman who have achieved this goal should then become one. Therein is the tradition of the eternal, the absolute, the unchanging and the unique. Their children will then eventually inherit that tradition. What about in your family? Are you united in mind and body as individuals and as a family? What about with your husband or wife? What about between parents and children? The family is the model of all these different types of unity. The family that achieves this goal is eligible to enter the Kingdom of God. That kind of family is the base or foundation to maintain and sustain elder son-ship, parent-ship and kingship for eternity. The oneness of your mind and body is the key. Can you claim that your mind and body are one? What about your conjugal relationship? Your conjugal relationship should be an extension or reflection of the oneness of your mind and body. Is there oneness in your family between parent and child? Without achieving this, no matter what kind of ambition, goal or dream you have in the secular world, nothing works. If you achieve these goals of oneness, it means you are strictly following God's principle, and God will naturally be invited into your family. Do you understand?

The formation stage is mind and body unity, the growth stage husband-wife unity, the perfection stage unity between parents and child. Without achieving this we cannot belong to God. Even as a blessed couple, if you cannot achieve these three stages of oneness in your family, when you enter the spirit world, although you are supposed to belong to the Kingdom of God you will remain in Paradise for perhaps thousands of thousands of years in order to indemnify this. Therefore, no matter what it may take during our physical lives we have to achieve the goal of oneness in our family.

We must secure the completion of elder son-ship, parent-ship and kingship, which is the completion of God's will for humankind. Otherwise we will be criticized and accused for thousands and thousands of years by our descendants and have to pass through indemnity. There will be the family level paradise and the family level hell. If you end up in the family level hell, your descendants will come there asking, "Father and Mother, what happened to you?" In this physical world now we are all separated. We live in different areas and different time zones, but when we enter the spirit world everyone will be together and everyone will be able to see what we have been doing. Do you understand?

I have cleared the path vertically and horizontally, spiritually and physically, all the way to the cosmic level. You just have to follow that path. To do this, centering on True Parents in a spirit of absolute faith, love and obedience, you have to be like True Parents' garment that cannot be removed. Just like a fly sitting on my shoulder, if I go all the way to South America, as long as this fly sits on my shoulder it will end up in South America also. By the same token, you have to stick with True Parents. We need absolute faith, absolute love and absolute obedience. Satan never reached the level of absolute faith, love and obedience, so if we reach that level we have nothing to do

with Satan and we belong to the eternal Kingdom.

THE ORIGINAL HOLY GROUND

What did we accomplish on June 14? That day the declaration of the Celebration of the Cosmic Victory of the Parents of Heaven and Earth was made. So that is the conclusion of the providence. Upon that foundation, when I returned to South America I established a very holy place, a holy ground from where we can build the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. That was on July 27. The holy ground can be named in three ways. It is first the original holy ground. Secondly, it is the root holy ground, and thirdly, it is the holy ground of victory. It is the culmination point of all of human history from start to finish. As Unification Church members you should visit there at least once every four years. So in forty years you should be able to visit ten times.

I have established the Ideal Family Education Headquarters in Jardim, Brazil as the starting point of building the Kingdom of God on earth. After completing forty days of education there, you must go through this place [the holy ground of origin, root and victory] and then enter the Kingdom. Westerners and Easterners should all go there as individuals, families, tribes and nations, and pass through these steps. Without going through that original point which is the victory of God and True Parents, you cannot follow this vertical line. South and North have been divided, but this is the culminating, meeting point. West and East centering on the family level have to focus their lives here as a united family. No matter how great the geographical distance, the starting point has to be the same. We all have to start from that point to climb up this vertical plane. Once we reach that level we can all come to the center point.

In accordance with God's direction, I made this special decree at 4 o'clock in the morning of July 27. The number 27 represents 3 times 9. Upon this foundation, the number 28, which is 4 times 7, represents a new beginning. The first Sunday of this month was August 1, and today, the second Sunday, is August 8. I have therefore given this particular message today about the completion of God's will and the completion of elder son-ship, parent-ship and kingship through indemnity. The transfer of ownership should take place in your nation and should eventually reach the level of the United Nations, covering the entire world. We have been building educational institutions in both the west and the east. In the world of ideology, in the media world and the academic world, even in the financial world, we have reached the top. Now my task is teaching the nations of the world and leading them in the direction they have to take.

I have completed my responsibility to the United States. Even if I leave this country, since I have already given you the right of elder son-ship, you should be able to stand on your own feet. Furthermore you should be able to offer your assistance to your father nation, Korea, and Mother nation, Japan. If America fails, the mother and father nations will be vitally affected too. Do you understand?

I have bequeathed everything to you...More than longing for True Parents, you have to work to fulfill your responsibility and carry out God's providence in True Parents' place.

Korea and Japan used to be enemy nations, America and Japan used to be enemies, and America and Germany too. Because of these enemy relationships all these nations were doomed to perish. But because True Parents appeared, and because they have embraced, educated and offered love to them and also blessed people from these enemy nations in international and interracial marriages, all these nations have been revived instead of perishing.

HOLY LABOR IN A HOLY LAND

As a blessed couple, you should be able to claim that your family is the center of the whole world, this holy ground of origin and victory. On the foundation of the central, un-fallen, perfected Adam's family, expansion to the worldwide level and God's liberation will be no problem. We have to set our focus on this holy ground. We should reach the point to be able to say "amen" because we have restored and occupied this original holy ground which represents the origin of the cosmos, the root and the victory because of True Parents' love and grace. [Amen.]

Should we go and participate there or not? [Yes!] In the time of Jesus, Holy Mother Mary was told to go to register. Because of that she could give birth to Jesus and Jesus was protected. Otherwise Jesus would not have been here in this physical world. By the same token, the time has come that we are all told to go and register. After going through this 40 days you register yourself as a heavenly citizen. Some people may say, "Well, I don't have to go to Jardim." It's up to you. God always works in mysterious ways. Jardim may be out in the boondocks; there is nothing there but clay and animals. But think about the city of Venice. New Hope East Garden will become even greater than that city. With the Unification Church ideal of the family and nation we can change this world ten times over. Can you do it or not? [Yes!]

I have taught you everything so you can receive a certificate of graduation today. Having received the blessing, you and your children should be praised for eternity when you join the spirit world. That is why you are going through this 40-day education in Jardim. There are many varieties of holy land, but they are not the original holy ground. This is the complete original holy ground. Amen! Amen! Amen!

To do this, we have to prepare ourselves from the individual to the cosmic level so that we can inherit and receive the tradition and everything else from True Parents while they are in this physical world. Then we will be able to have eternal life in heaven with God and True Parents.

This month of August this year is a very important month. The word *pal* sounds like the word for "fly" [*pal* means 8, referring to the month of August]. I don't know where my next destination is. I am free and liberated. I have bequeathed everything to you. You have to cherish this inheritance and play your role in my place. More than longing for True Parents, you have to work to fulfill your responsibility and carry out God's providence in True Parents' place.

If the 400 million couples decided to get together and buy

the Korean peninsula, could they do it? No problem. What if we were to secure a million hectares of arable land, an area greater than the arable land in all Korea? On that land we could grow crops such as rice four times a year instead of once a year as in Korea. That land is almost equivalent to the arable land of Korea. It is enough to feed all the Korean people. One hundred thousand hectares could be allocated to each continent so that people could come and do holy labor there, just as God invested His holy labor to create the world. All those physical workers—farmers and ranchers—are the holy workers. We have to love farming and planting.

When the time comes that Father invites all blessed couples to come to South America, will you want to come? I would like to see the houses, the land, the food and grain, everything produced by us to nourish the entire world. No Satan any more.

Recently the Universal Ballet Company, which was founded by True Parents and is led by Hoon Sook Nim, held a European tour. [A report appears on pages 46-47.] In the many different cities where they performed the media reported that the Universal Ballet's performance surpassed the standard and level of European ballet, and even of Russian ballet. They have earned such a reputation. It was concluded that the secret enabling this 15-year old ballet company to surpass those ballets whose history spans more than two centuries was the spirit of Reverend Moon and the Unification Church. There are too many things that I am proud to promote, so I will just stop right here!

Next February I will reach the age of 80. Is it time for me to go back to my home country and live there comfortably, or should I still stay here and shed sweat all the time as I've done this morning at Belvedere?

Believe in God absolutely, love God absolutely, obey God absolutely. Then God will visit you and help you. If you go that way you will not perish, but prosper.

From Rev. Peter Kim's interpretation of Father's words. Our thanks to Rev. Kim for his constant efforts for the sake of the English-speaking members.

[Edited for Today's World]

Declaration of the Realm of the Cosmic Sabbath for the Parents of Heaven and Earth (*Third 7.8 Jeol*)

REVEREND SUN MYUNG MOON
AUGUST 17, 1999 (JULY 7 BY THE LUNAR CALENDAR)
KODIAK, ALASKA

PHOTO: COURTESY OF TONGIL SEGYESEJUL



physical foundation of the nations of the world upon the advent of the Third Adam.

As the Catholics and Protestants failed to unite as brothers, with the Holy Spirit and the True Mother as the substantial incarnation of the true Holy Spirit, it was Your Will to initiate a new heaven and earth and establish the ideal realm of love through the parents on earth. Although You desire to bring the spiritual and physical worlds together, You are not free to realize Your wishes. Hence, You have established a son to accomplish that task and raise the flag of victory, and after this to hand the victory over to You so that You can perform a parade of cosmic sovereignty and

sovereignty of love through all of heaven and earth.

Centering on the relationship of heart between husband and wife and parent and child, and centering on the perfected family that unites heaven and earth, You wanted to initiate the heavenly kingdom in heaven and earth. Centering on the True Parents who pursued the sorrow-stricken course of the Messiah, You desired to unite all of humankind under the lineage of the True Parents and establish the foundation of the chosen people so as to order and re-organize the satanic world.

This will has not been fulfilled even after fifty years, however, and You have had to keep prolonging it until now. How much pain You must have felt in Your heart as You searched the way alone! You desired that Your true son on earth unite Your internal heartistic world and the external world, manifested as the spiritual and physical worlds. You wanted to establish the unity of mind and body throughout the nation and world, and bless and build a substantial foundation on top of the spiritual foundation instead of working through the cultural realm of Christianity.

Because this Will has not been fulfilled, however, the spiritual and physical worlds failed to unite, and as a result the future of both worlds became blocked. But You created channels through which the water drops trickling down the mountain could reach the valley streams, and the streams reach the ocean, joining together as one great sea of true love. In order

BELOVED Father! Today is the August 17, 1999, and this morning, we celebrate the day that commemorates the 3rd celebration of 7.8 Jeol. In order to restore this world You have had to repeat providential history through many ages. And throughout that time, the center that had to be set up was the perfected family of Adam as parents of heaven and earth, able to wholeheartedly represent the family of love before, during, and after the creation, and with whom God and children on earth can find settlement. We know that it has been Your hope to bless this family, Father.

Because the fallen descendants did not know about Your suffering, in place of humankind You Yourself have had to carry the incredible and destined mission of going over the heavenly elder-sonship, parentship, and kingship, and had to lay the foundation of the True Parents to succeed Your course; we deeply repent and regret for Your toils while at the same time feeling boundless gratitude.

We also give You heartfelt gratitude for granting the religious sphere of the True Parents, where the flag of victory was raised after going beyond the numerous chosen religions and overcoming the peak of tribulation. Centering on the True Parents, in order to unite heaven and earth, You have focused on the cultural sphere of Christianity, which has been fighting as Cain and Abel, and You wanted to see the unification of the victorious spiritual foundation of Christianity and



(Photos) Above: True Parents with a group of mostly Western participants of the 7.8 Jeol celebration fishing expedition; Below: a group comprising mostly Korean leaders.

to create the Kingdom of Heaven in heaven and on earth, You had to pass through a history of hardships, suffering and blood, and You know that the True Parents feel ashamed about this. Heavenly Father! You are the king of kings presiding over heaven and earth. You are the very center of love, the parent of all humankind, the teacher, and the owner of the kingship of love. As You have been following Your lost child, You had to go through such a suffering course without being able to make it known. But You willingly persevered and in order to go beyond this You established on this earth the 7.8 Jeol. For this we sincerely thank You.

We thank You that on July 7, 1997, True Parents' 77th birthday, and on the exact hour, minute, and second, the 7.8 Jeol could be declared, on which basis everything blocking God on this earth can be pushed aside, and the foundation of grace and unification transcending time and space that can split the curtain of darkness with love can spread on this earth.

Father! Your heart has been full of sorrow, but You can now face Satan and with Your dignified march towards heaven and earth is inevitable in this age. In the year of Adam's becoming eighty years of age, and in the last of the four specially declared years, a new realm of liberation and victory can be reached through the perfection of the True Parents, of parents in heaven, and of parents on earth, and with the sovereignty of the Kingdom of Heaven in heaven and on earth. Before Your Will to establish a sovereignty of love, glory, victory, and praise, we can pledge each day to fulfill the responsibility of the solemn summons, and we are truly grateful for this liberation. As we return all glory to You, please grant the day when Satan's entire authority is overthrown, and everything can be offered to You.

Father! You have declared many celebration days after liberating all lost things, children, family, nation, world, the entire cosmos and even Your realm of liberation.

I know that these days of declaration are not going to be buried, but they will become a base that lets Your realm of heart shine greater and higher than the bright sun and everything else in the heavenly realm. In order to lay the foundation of love You have made many declarations.

In that way You proclaimed the 7.8 Jeol, which has established that one great hill has been overcome, and Satan can never undermine or erase these declaration days. But on the occasion of the True Parents' having attained seventy-seven years of age, and on the exact second, minute, hour, day, month, and year, we went over the satanic hill of number fourteen through completing human responsibility, and shattered Satan's blockage based upon the limitation of number fourteen, which represents the top of the growth stage, whereupon You declared a day of free settlement and rest of the parents of heaven and earth. This child of Yours declared this day because I know that this is a day of historic commemoration and day when we can praise to the depth of our bone marrow the liberation of all humankind.

Since that day there was a three-year course in which everything on earth and in heaven had to be re-organized. During that urgent time the declaration and celebration ceremony for the cosmic victory of parents of heaven and earth could be held. On the 27th of last month, for the sake of all religions, I declared the original holy ground, root holy ground, and victory holy ground so that we can return to the original land of freedom. By following the vertical line of the eight steps and by climbing up the eight-step bridge shown by the True Parents, we can stand in front of God of liberation. The level foundation of the Kingdom of Heaven in heaven and earthly foundation will become one, and we give gratitude to You for allowing this cosmic liberation to take place so that the great victory of the Parents of Heaven and Earth can be declared on a cosmic level.

Starting from that, in June, July and August, You gave Your approval for blessing the entire spiritual world. You even blessed spirits who had gone to the spiritual world as children and they held the three-day ceremony. Because of this special



PHOTO: PAMELA CLAXTON-MOFFATT

grace, there is now an express highway of blessing reaching from hell to heaven, and we are deeply grateful to You for this. Now we are going over the final peak of the entire physical and spiritual world in order that all the tribes on earth accomplishing a tradition of love and representing the families of Adam, Noah and Jacob may eradicate the satanic lineage and establish the authority of Heaven through the connection of the True Parents' blessing. With the victory represented by the 400 million established blessed families, the beginning of this connection, the decisive initiation of the blessing of 400 million youths under God's blessing will completely cut Satan's lineage. By fighting through the final wall centering on this year's motto "The Cosmic Expansion of the True Blessing and Rooting Out of Satan's Blood Lineage," a foundation of great leaps can be laid. The task is right



Father and Mother sing at the evening entertainment

in front of us around the time of my becoming eighty years of age.

Today, when we can raise the flag of victory throughout the whole nation representing the entire ceremony of blessing, we celebrate the 7.8 Jeol on a foundation representing Russia and Canada in the northern part of Kodiak. Korean, Japanese and American members will become one with the True Parents in the center, and these three nations will unite as one nation in heart, rising as the center of all nations and establishing this authority from the bottom of hell to the top of the heaven. We sincerely thank You that all the declaration days including the 7.8 Jeol can be declared this time in God's name, in True Parents' name, and in the substantial realm of God established by the True Parents on earth.

Upon the declaration of this day, the freedom and victory

have been returned to You whereby the march of Your all-transcendence, all-immanence, all-sovereignty and all-capability can commence in heaven and earth. Hence, from now on please take dominion over the entire universe and, instead of standing in the sorrowful position of being pushed around and chased after, embrace the entire world on the foundation of families that reside under the sovereignty of victory and love. We thank You that You have allowed this declaration to mark the day to regain the unification of heaven and earth, the sovereignty of love, the liberation of the entire cosmos, God, parents, and the authority of glory and victory.

Together with the 3.7 Jeol, we ask You to allow that the liberation of Your all-transcendence, all-immanence, all-sovereignty and all-capability be declared in heaven and earth in Jehovah's name and that all be accomplished as You have allowed. I report the True Parents' accomplishments while offering everything to You on this day. I pray all this in the name of the True Parents. Amen. Amen. Amen.

[Translated by Monika Lewis and Jinseung Eu.
Edited for Today's World.]

NEW INTERNATIONAL OFFICE OFFICIALLY DEDICATED FOR FFWPU AND WORLD MISSIONS

On Thursday morning of July 24, Rev. Sun Jo Hwang hosted a Sign Hanging Ceremony for the new international Family Federation for World Peace and Unification headquarters and World Mission Office, which Father had directed should be on the twelfth floor of the Dowon Building in Seoul. A number of national messiahs and leaders of church-related organizations assembled at the entrance to the twelfth floor offices for the short ceremony. Holding the new sign, Rev. Hwang first offered a prayer for the global providence, and then, assisted



PHOTOS: COURTESY OF SEIL STUDIO/SEOUL



by Rev. Kwang Yol Yoo (National Messiah to Romania), lifted the sign onto its mountings amid applause.

Following the ceremony, Rev. Hwang spent time with the national messiahs in a new office established for their use when they are in Korea, which includes full computer and communication facilities.

We can say that the year 1999 is heralding a period of conversion to a new providence, and that a new era of God's providential history must unfold from the year 2000 with the new millennium. (Rev. Sun Jo Hwang)

CONTINUED FROM PAGE

Inaugural Address

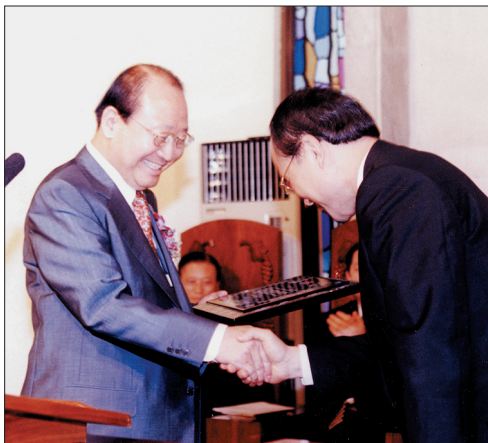
As I now perform the responsibilities of FFWPU International president, in carrying them out, what am I going to set down as a spiritual keynote before our members? I will do my best with the spirit of restoration through indemnity and a heart to die—the teaching ‘You will live if you die’ that True Parents have emphasized. Why did True Parents emphasize the spirit of restoration through indemnity to me? I think it is a precious statement never to be forgotten and through which to inherit the records of life and the spirit the first generation have created at the actual spot of the providence. I myself who have inherited the responsibility of world missionary work and FFWPU based on these foundations, cannot help but receive guidance and chastisement from Rev. Kwak. I also cannot help but receive guidance and chastisement from all the senior and elder members of the church.

We are welcoming the providential season of harvest. True Father, who was born in 1920, will soon be 80 years old, and True Parents, whose Holy Wedding was consecrated in 1960, will celebrate their 40th anniversary. In 1988, the Foundation Day for the Nation of the Unified World was declared, and this year will see its twelfth celebration. Moreover, this year is the seventh year of the Completed Testament Age, and the third celebration of the Cosmic Sabbath of the Parents of Heaven and Earth. We can generally say that the year 1999 is heralding a period of conversion to a new providence, and that a new era of God's providential history must unfold from the year 2000 with the new millennium. This will be when True Parents' providential, historical course, and the providential course of the Unification family, bear fruit.

The first providential task in order to inherit True Parents' tradition is the establishment of our own tradition and our inheritance of True Parents' life and realm of victory. The second responsibility we must accomplish with the development of the providence is to settle the culture of *shimjung*. Through establishing this tradition with a certain form and content and by bringing it before the world, we can testify to our identity and our lifestyle before all people. Thirdly, True Parents gave some guidelines through their words: “From now on, the world mission headquarters must aim to establish things at

an equal level throughout the world [Editor's note: As a basis for this, a guidebook has been produced which will

Rev. Chung Hwan Kwak receives a plaque in appreciation of his notable accomplishments in developing the global mission



PHOTOS: SEIL STUDIO/SEOUL

Rev. Sun Jo Hwang's inaugural address at the Headquarters Church in Seoul

help all nations follow the same established traditions with regard to, for example, making offering tables and holding Seung Hwa ceremonies]. True Parents have instructed us to concentrate on bringing the world into oneness with Korea as a model, and I will therefore implement such a policy, centering on our realm of heart.

Our fourth task is clearly the accomplishment of the blessing of 400 million couples of unmarried men and women and to break through with a grass roots level movement [*tong* and *ban*—the smallest administrative units in Korean society].

I will implement a policy to push forward in these providential tasks. I believe all these things are possible when our will is bound together as one.

[Translated by Yoko Abe and edited for Today's World]

Rev. Sun Jo Hwang: A Biographical Note

Rev. Sun Jo Hwang was born in South Cholla Province on October 1, 1955. His education includes masters degrees from the Korea Theological Seminary and UTS. He joined the Unification Church in 1976 at the age of twenty. Despite his relatively young age, his leadership experience covers a diversity of fields, including regional CARP director, education director for the Citizen's Federation for North-South Unification and lecturer in theology at Sun Moon University. In the first half of this decade he received several postings throughout Korea as regional church director.

In July 1994, Rev. Hwang was assigned as regional leader in New Jersey in the Eastern United States. From there he moved to Washington, DC, also in the capacity of regional church leader. It was during this time that Rev. Hwang completed his graduate course at the Unification Theological Seminary.

In July 1996, True Parents recalled him to Seoul and assigned him as president of the church in Korea.

First International Seminar *"True Families as the Foundation for World Peace in the New Millennium"*

JULY 29 TO AUGUST 1, 1999, WASHINGTON, DC

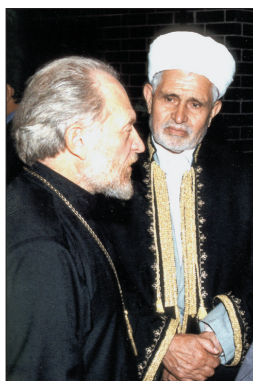
Thomas Walsh
Louisville, USA

On the last weekend of July, in Washington, DC, a historic event took place: the first International Seminar on "True Families as the Foundation for World Peace in the New Millennium," or, as it came to be called, the "Hoon Dok Hae" conference. Around the first week of July, Rev. Chung Hwan Kwak, Chairman of the recently established Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace (IIFWP), received direction from Father to convene this conference before the end of the month and to bring together 200 distinguished participants representing more than forty nations. Father gave specific direction that the content of the conference program—unlike any previous international conference for VIP contacts—should be dedicated to a series of hoon dok hae readings. The conference was sponsored by the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace and the World University Federation.

Father's direction was that from each country, three participants should be invited; one should be a religious leader, one a political leader and the other an academic leader. Initially forty-three nations were asked to bring three participants each. In addition, Rev. Chang Shik Yang, Continental Director for North America, was asked to bring two participants—one religious leader and one political leader—from each state where Mother spoke on her recent speaking tour in the United States. There were twenty-two states where Mother spoke, and so North America was asked to bring 44 additional guests

to the seminar.

In response to Father's direction, Rev. Kwak quickly set up a Seminar Secretariat under the leadership of Mr. Neil Salonen, who then appointed Dr. Thomas Walsh as the Seminar Coordinator and Dr. Frank Kaufmann as the Program Director. Rev. Kwak informed the Continental Directors of Father's direction, and assigned quotas for each continent.



All participants were then approached and invited directly by our movement's leaders in the assigned countries. The response on the part of the global leadership of our movement was immediate. They quickly went to work, and soon

began submitting names of their recommended invitees. In a short time, the participant list rose to two-hundred and fourteen, with fifty-one nations represented. This was truly a remarkable achievement.



The seminar program included a series of seven ninety-minute hoon dok hae sessions.

The readings focused on the following themes: Life on Earth and in the Spirit World; The Ideal of True Parents; The Ideal of True Family; The Prayers of Sun Myung Moon; The Kingdom of God; and, Passages from Dr. Lee. The hoon dok hae readers were Dr. Tyler Hendricks, Vice-President of FFWPU-USA, and Mrs. Myra Stanecki, President of the Martin Luther King Jr. Family Life Institute, both of whom read with great dignity, vitality, heart, and, on occasion, tears. As one participant from France, Claude Durand-Berger, put it, "It was a very opportune, useful and inspired idea to gather all these people, coming from all parts of the world, around hoon dok hae. It helped us to know better, and more completely, the message of Reverend Moon and it helped Reverend Moon's message to be more strongly asserted and still more widespread, at a particularly opportune moment in the evolution of the world and in the development of Unification Thought."

Mr. William Reed, a journalist in the USA, said, "As one who has been a participant in numerous programs of the Unification Church, I was very pleased to have such a program on Reverend Moon's speeches and teachings.

In addition to the *Divine Principle*, I was pleased and enlightened to participate in the hoon dok hae programs. It helps me to better know my Unification friends and the source of the vision of Reverend Moon. Please keep this concept and build upon it."

Each hoon dok hae session was followed by responses from two assigned



discussants, one an FFWPU church member and the other a distinguished contact familiar with the work of our movement. Discussants for session one, on "Life on Earth and in the Spirit World," were, Rev. T. L. Barrett of the Life Center Church in Chicago and Dr. Andrew Wilson of Unification Theological Seminary. Session two discussants, on the same theme, were Rev. Michael Jenkins a Vice-President of FFWPU and Dr. Cromwell Crawford of the University of Hawaii. Session Three discussants, on the topic of "True Parents," were Dr. Marcelo Alonso, a physicist formerly with the Florida Institute of Technology and currently Chair of the Academic Advisory Board for the World University Federation, and Dr. Anthony Guerra who is Dean of Graduate and Undergraduate Studies at the University of Bridgeport. The discussants for the session on "The Ideal of True Family" were Dr. Mouazzam Gill a journalist with The National Educator and Dr. Gordon Anderson of Professors World Peace Academy. The session on "The Prayers of Sun Myung Moon" was discussed by Archbishop Emmanuel Milingo of the Vatican's Pontifical Council for Immigrants and Refugees, Fr. Lawrence Fares of St. Ronald's Catholic Church in Detroit, and Dr. Thomas Ward a Visiting Professor at the University of Bridgeport. "The Kingdom of God" was discussed by Mr. Gerald Coleman of FFWPU in Liberia and Chevalier Pier Giorgio Buttigieg of the Bahai Community of Malta. The final session was entitled, "Passages from Dr. Lee," and the discussants were Dr. Thomas Selover of the University of Saskatchewan and Mr. Alain Nicolier of the Swedenborg Church in France.

The reflections of the various discussants were

both deeply insightful, informative and moving. The subject matter of True Parents words was taken with utmost respect and seriousness. The non-Unificationist commentators were especially interesting due to the fresh and creative way in which they related to Father's words from their own areas of expertise—spirituality, physics, moral education, politics, journalism, etc. Their comments also underscored the universalism inherent in Father's words. The Unificationist respondents, on the other hand, brought a different kind of depth to the discussion, rooted in their many



years of personal engagement with the words. They also provided very useful explanation of some key concepts, helping to make what appeared as new and unconventional ideas understandable.

I must add that it was clear that the Unificationist commentators were themselves deeply

inspired by the seminar, and by the quality of the participants. Their comments as discussants were not only intellectually impressive and rich, but heartfelt. Any Unificationist would have been very proud to observe their work at this seminar.

Although True Parents were unable to attend this seminar, we were blessed with the presence of Mr. and Mrs. Hyun Jin Moon. Hyun Jin Moon, the Vice-President of FFWPU International, spoke



PHOTOS: COURTESY OF IIFWP OFFICES

to the participants at a banquet on Saturday evening. He emphasized the importance of his parents' work, and praised the participants for their awareness of a need for a global consciousness, moving beyond provincial thinking in relation to religion, nationality, race or culture. Participants were inspired and moved by his remarks. As stated by one participant, "The presence of Reverend Moon's son was a gift from God." And another said, "I can see a clear future for the movement of Reverend Moon through his son."

In the evenings, during the seminar, there were special presentations on activities inspired by the words of True Parents. The first evening, two representatives of Pure Love Alliance—Mrs. Michelle Myers, Director of Public Relations for PLA, and Mr. Steve Schneider, Educational Director of PLA's Chicago Chapter—gave a very informative and uplifting report on the work of PLA in the USA and worldwide. The response to this presentation was overwhelmingly positive, with participants repeatedly inquiring about bringing PLA to their own countries.

The following evening, Mr. Michael Smith, Executive Director of the American Constitution Committee, gave a powerful report on the "Parents Day" initiative promoting the ideal of the family throughout the United States of America. Once again, this presentation brought inspiration and hope to the participants, as well as numerous inquiries as to how to establish a Parents Day initiative in their home countries. Dr. Rahat Achylova, a member of Parliament in Kyrgyzstan, announced that she was "determined to organize 'Parents Day' in Kyrgyzstan."



"It really comes down to the question, "How do we restore families to become true families?" This has been my father's lifelong occupation and ministry for the past sixty years."

Hyun Jin Moon

People of all faiths—Christian, Muslim, Jewish, Hindu, Buddhist, Sikh, Bahai, Swedenborgian, Native American, Traditional African, Unificationist, and even a former Marxist—found the hoon dok hae to be an eye-opening and even transformative experience. Dorothy Allen, a participant from the USA, said "The PLA presentation by the young people was encouraging, because it is a grass roots movement and it will gain momentum and help reverse immoral behavior. Thanks to True Family for initiating this abstinence program and taking it to the schools, and the world. Thank you, Dr. Moon, for your concern about morality,

"I know I am younger than you, and probably not as accomplished or distinguished, but as a young man, I want to be able to see hope. I think the past generations who wanted to break with the past, their parents and all that was built before them made a mistake. As a young man, I want to challenge you to work together in building this world anew and in bringing an awareness to people that we have to break down the barriers... and bring people to sit together and discuss."

Hyun Jin Moon

and importance of the family as a basic unit....All your thinking is years ahead of its time. The people in your church are wonderful."

Bishop Abraham Olaleye of Nigeria commented that, "I am grateful for the spirit of respect for all religions and particular for the love expressed for Jesus Christ. I was very moved by the teaching of Reverend Moon concerning grandparents, parents and children and that a True Family will always take care of the grandparents....Also I am deeply moved by the respect Reverend Moon teaches for the ancestors. I am so inspired I believe we must call upon the United Nations to create a "Family Campaign." Let us call upon all the Ambassadors of the United Nations and ask them to initiate this."

Dr. Mohamad Jodeh, Chairman of the Colorado Muslim Society, stated that, "My favorite reading was Reverend Moon's teaching on the True Family. I felt that if you were to change the titles that you could not distinguish it from the Holy Koran. It is the same word of God."

Fr. Gleb Yakunin, a Russian Orthodox priest, and former dissident who spent eight years in prison for his faith, was deeply moved by the program, and repeatedly asked that Father's prayers be translated into Russian. In addition he testified again and again that Father is the only hope for stopping the rising tide of immorality and family breakdown."

However, not only the participants unfamiliar with hoon dok hae were moved by their experience, but many veterans of hoon dok hae as well. Dr. Anthony Guerra made the following reflections, "I have been comparing in my heart and mind over the past few days this first hoon dok hae conference with the many other Unification-centered seminars for VIP guests. The strongest metaphor I am left with is that of the difference between the atomic bomb and conventional weapons. In this hoon dok hae conference, our guests and also we members, are challenged by the direct words of True Parents. In the atmosphere created by Father's words, we all seem to be delivered from our old selves and recreated in his image.... Father has given us the formula for Pentecost."

And, as Myra Stanecki put it, "At time I found myself trembling with excitement, knowing that these are the kind of DP workshops that our movement should have been having forty years ago, focused on the world's leader-



"I would like to challenge all of you to take the task upon yourselves to become messengers, an extension of my father's vision, messengers for true, ideal families. Please bring this vision back to your home countries..."

Hyun Jin Moon

ship and those most prepared by God."

This International Seminar, pulled together with a whirlwind of activity, came together with awesome power and beauty. Everyone was touched by the power of God's word. Some of us on the staff, wondering how this innovative—shall we say risky—program would be received, were once again struck by the wisdom of True Parents and the power of God's truth.

Dr. Walsh is the Deputy Secretary General of IIFWP, and was the Coordinator of this seminar.

CONTINUED...

THE REPORT OF THE IIFWP INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR IS CONTINUED ON PAGE 45 WITH REV. CHUNG HWAN KWAK'S CLOSING ADDRESS TO THE SEMINAR PARTICIPANTS.

Actionizing a Vision for the Future in Honduras

An Interview with John Gehring and Carol Pobanz

Rev. John Gehring and Rev. Carol Pobanz returned from the latest Religious Youth Service project, in Honduras, Central America, this summer, and were interviewed by Today's World magazine editor Julian Gray. A number of second generation members (children of blessed members) participated in the project. The vision that was shared will no doubt contribute greatly to shaping the future of the movement.

John Gehring: This morning I was reflecting and remembering how during the Yankee Stadium campaign, when we had over a thousand members gathered in New York City, Father didn't give that many directions to us on how to proceed in the campaign, but one thing he did ask of us was to go out and clean up the streets of New York. That helped in a lot of ways because people saw us serving in their communities. Even if they didn't talk with us at first, we were the people who were cleaning up the streets. At least we were contributing to the city in ways that other people were not. We were doing something that was needed. At the time New York was also going broke, so people really appreciated what we were doing. In the same way, RYS is really the public face of what religion can do and what our movement is capable of doing—going out and really making a difference in a community, taking on undesirable tasks and bringing young people with life, love and enthusiasm, getting them out into the community and showing a model of what true love and true service are.

The deepest level of education is gained through experience. When you bring someone to hear a lecture, they are only going to retain maybe 10 percent of what they heard. But if people experience practicing their values they will keep that for the rest of their lives because it's theirs. RYS helps people to practice their values so that they become their own. They can feel, "It's not something someone taught me from the Principle book. It's something I sort of believed when I came, then practiced, and found out it was great." Then they become a visible example to a commu-

nity because they get to experience receiving a kind of love and heart they never experienced before.

Many communities are not treated fairly, let alone well, especially in poorer areas. People go in and usually take something away from them.

Then here is this group not only treating them fairly but giving the best they have to offer. It becomes a totally different model. This speaks more than a thousand lectures and moves people to want to contribute back. It creates the kind of give and take that is so essential between the community and the people participating in the project. They do not just want to receive but want to know what they can do in turn.

For the first few days people in a community may not know how to respond, but after the team has been there for a week they feel they have to do something and ask what they can do. That is what is so powerful. It sets up a process beyond the event in which people come to feel concerned about offering something back to their own community.

Even though the RYS is not specifically a Unification Church project, people understand that it is connected to Reverend Moon. It is of a kind no one else could have done and no one is doing. But it is being done, so there must be something special behind it. People are curious to know what that is and what motivates these people. What makes them go out and clean up a poor neighborhood in Honduras instead of spending their summer partying?

Carol: For the blessed children, this a



PHOTOS: COURTESY OF RYS HEADQUARTERS

A group of the participants from the summer project in Honduras pose with the lady mayor of the village where they were working

way to experience the Principle beyond what is possible by sitting in lectures. We joined and then lived in centers from where we worked together, applying the Principle in so many practical projects. RYS is like a center life experience for the second generation. They can get involved with the world in a principled dynamic. It is even possible for them to include their friends in such an enlarging experience. Two of the blessed children brought a family friend with them, a young boy, and he really got involved. This is a very exciting time. People do not have to let go of their spiritual path or give up their religion. They have an opportunity to broaden themselves by learning about other religions and testing out their own.

Even if a group of blessed children had a project and a location that they would like to do, it would be very dynamic if they could invite their friends to be a part of it. If this kind of missionary work is something they want to invest in, they have the opportunity to even come as staff.

Julian Gray: How do you raise the funds for these projects?

John: RYS has about 5 percent of the funding it had in earlier years, and yet it is doing many more projects. That is partly because of the teamwork and

network of RYS alumni [i.e. previous participants and supporters], many of them our church members, but many not, who have taken responsibility with a willingness to work with other organizations—so that we don't have to do everything. It is a big step when you decide to work with other people. You make partnerships and no longer have the same level of control. But you find out your need to create—through give and take—a bigger vision than the one you came in with. It's good for our members, because often we are pretty insular in our attitudes: our friends and contacts tend to be Unification Church members; we lose the habit of reaching out to our community and world that we should have, as Father has encouraged. When we need something we call our church friends. Our movement has to go beyond this way of working, otherwise we will remain a small movement and will never have the impact we could. Having give and take with the best that the religious world has to offer, the top young people from all different faiths and nations, bringing them together with the best that we have to offer, our second generation, should initiate a new dialectic. Unlike Marxism, however, it should be that one that tears down *barriers*. What you will get through such give and take is a new product that is better. If we are going to move forward we need to have this give and take with the best that God and humanity have to offer, and that is the religious youth of this world.

Julian: How much is RYS able to benefit from Father's efforts in interfaith work over the years?

John: Very much, because RYS didn't come out of itself, it was a project of the IRF. Initially we found participants through our interfaith conferences, when Father announced he wanted to create the RYS. We asked those religious leaders if they could sponsor or at least recommend young people to participate. For instance, many of the disciples of the Grand Mufti of Syria were part of the project. So there are these great people who will be influencing Islamic Syria years from now.

Carol: In trying to establish the IRF here in New Jersey, one of the people I stumbled upon was an early RYS participant, a now very senior Buddhist monk who went on one early world tour.

John: That was the Youth Seminar for World Religions, the precursor to the Religious Youth Service. Participants visited the religious centers of the world.

Julian: I understand there is a definite educational dimension to the RYS.

John: We would have our IRF advisors give lectures and talks on, for example, Catholicism and Judaism. So these advisors were the core. They helped shape the educational part of the program. Then later the interfaith education was shaped a lot by IRF. Some of our contacts were professional leadership trainers, so they started incorporating leadership training as part of the RYS. So these people who work in business to train organizations to be efficient and to create and accomplish visions also helped shape part of the RYS curriculum. So we have a strong leadership training aspect of the program.

We do not use a traditional lecture format where someone gets up and speaks for 45 minutes and the listener just takes notes. We do have some talks, but I think part of the reason RYS has grown is that we allow the teams to discuss and come up with their own conclusions. Then again they can feel they own the results and this is their project.

Carol: One of the things done at the very beginning of the RYS program is a kind of visioning out. The first thing participants do is vision out what they want to do. Then it really does become their project. It is never the same project twice because you will always have a different group of young people.

John: It's almost a cliché, but unity in diversity is illustrated through the unity of one big vision but the diversity of visions of the way to get there. During the three-day orientation we have the groups create vision posters which express what their vision is. Basically it's the same vision with hundreds of different expressions of how to get to an ideal world. What they are saying is basically from the Principle of Creation—they want to see the three blessings fulfilled. They want to see people in their communities living in harmony, people who can control themselves. That is their vision when they go into the project, they are trying to practice and live the values of the principle of creation.

Many of the problems preventing

us from reaching our vision narrow down to man-woman problems and the misuse of love. We are teaching, in a very generic sense, what the ideal is and what some of the blocks are, and then we show the project as a restoration. "This is what your vision is, these are the things that block it. How do we bring those things that are wrong into correct order so we can accomplish the ideal?" We are teaching an understanding of the deal of creation through experience, that there was a fall—that we are not where we should be—but also that there is a restoration process and that each person has a part in creating something that can restore what was lost.

By finishing the project they see in part their vision fulfilled, in that they have built a community. They get that sense of confidence. In a sense, they fulfill their foundation of faith and foundation of substance so they can receive God. Another really absolute miracle that happens is, since for thousands of years God has been longing to have people of all faiths, cultures and races work together, when they fulfill this condition God comes down and they become so happy. They are so full of joy and experience that they never felt God in this way. God has been anxious to pour Himself out but needed a condition. Now they have set the condition so then God can fill them up. That is the way I see the Principle at work in the project, and how by happenstance we have followed in Father's pattern for God to work.

People may look at our work externally as just a work or service project, but over the last 14 years I could see it is a real restoration. We talk about restoration, but we do it so often in symbolic terms. God needs a practical, physical example on this earth—a model. People don't understand that the spirit world cannot come down unless there is a physical model, an example. They are looking for something to have give and take with, a common base. What we have to create is a substantial model for the spirit world to come to. Now it's there, almost like a lightning rod. From there then God can build

We have been in countries where they were warring and when we came they stopped but then the warring resumed after we left. In so many situations we have had an impact, where communities have been moved to a point they have never been before.

When Jesus explained the miraculous

relationship of Father and son between God and humanity, it created a new level which for the last two thousand years we have been trying to align with. Similarly, RYS creates an experience of heart that may take time to really understand—that we are really brothers and sisters because we really have one Father. The participants have lived that experience. We've had tens of thousands of people, from a hundred countries who have had this experience. So something is going on.

That is why, even with almost no central funding, we will have maybe eight projects this year. Because it's their vision now, and they've experienced it firsthand and want to recreate that experiment in their own communities.



RYS participants carry out the arduous but rewarding task of ridding a local neighborhood of uncollected garbage

Looking at America, we are hoping that somewhere we can do a project for Native Americans, because that history has to be healed. Black-white relationships also have to be healed. So many of our blessed children are mixed racially, so they can contribute in a way that a purely white-raced person wouldn't be able to. We want to deal with these restoration issues. We're going to Northern Ireland next month. It's almost as if you need neutral parties that aren't Catholic or Protestant there who don't have that historical baggage and can go in as free agents to just really love.

Carol: RYS gives the opportunity for other people to get involved. One Christian minister I know is hoping to join this project in Northern Ireland. RYS is a place where people can be part of our movement yet not lose their religious identity,

but rather contribute from their standpoint. Our contacts can get involved on a different level through RYS, contribute what they have and still gain the greater aspects of Unificationism. Unificationism is not another religion. We are a facilitating movement. People come to understand and become a part of it simply through the experience.

Julian: How do you communicate a Principle vision to the larger world without vast resources?

John: Mark Anderson came to the Honduras project. He is a long time member who has been serving as state representative in Arizona for the last eight years. So he has been elected to a prominent

public office in the state. Mark participated with his daughter. The Honduras press were delighted to see this American public official, whom they kept calling "Senator," coming in and cleaning up garbage together with his daughter. What kind of heart is this, to take your daughter into the poorest kind of area and

to do this kind of humble work yourself when you are a big shot politician? It shows a different motivation for doing politics, i.e. that being in politics is not to enrich yourself and spoil your children, but to serve others and teach your children how to serve others. This was a wonderful model of what true service is, influencing the political realm. Newspapers and television constantly interviewed Mark. His being there made a national impact. We visited a former top political figure who had been vice president of Honduras twenty years ago. I noticed that Mark was the VIP at this meeting. When we visited this man at his *hacienda*, Mark was treated as an honored political guest. It was nice to see. If we can keep on bringing good people who represent many other people it adds so much weight to the project. Honduras was also hit recently

by a hurricane, and twenty thousand lost their lives. There was terrible damage. America showing this face is really important.

If we want Father to be welcome in America we have to create things that are needed in America. Racial conflict is a major problem in America. We need to heal this. Family breakdown is also a major problem. Who can present models? When people see the model of Carol with her son and Mark with his daughter—I brought my two daughters—when they see families working together in this way, doing family service in different countries, when they see black, brown, white and oriental families all doing this for other people it truly motivates people's original mind to want to do something.

If the original mind were not there, then there is no hope for restoration. But everyone has an original mind. Everybody can be stimulated to do goodness. But if they don't see it, that's our fault.

Another thing that was good for Central Americans was that we brought Central Americans together. Altogether we had people from 14 countries: Nicaraguans, a large group from Guatemala, and Panamanians. That is good for them to see. Nicaragua is poor, almost as poor as Honduras. The Hondurans were really moved by the Nicaraguans coming. We are hoping we can do a friendship project in Nicaragua through which we can link it with Honduras, and others. This would be a Friendship America project—through which we are trying to support unity in the Americas according to Father's desire. This should be centered on Christian unity. But it is not going to happen just because Father says it. Father did not specifically instruct us to do this project. We are trying to respond to Father's direction in this way because this is what God wants.

You start with religious people. The foundation is then spiritual. Everything should come out of the spiritual. So if we have religious people working all together, the political, economic, social and cultural leaders should then follow.

Julian: Can you say a little more in detail about the Honduras project?

John: We had 43 participants and staff from 14 nations. We were welcomed initially a month before the project by the president of the Congress, who invited me to come and speak for their national youth week. That really helped, because

I mentioned there that we were bringing this group of young people from 14 countries, including Arizona state representative Mark Anderson. So the press knew we were coming. Literally six out of seven days that we were in Tegucigalpa we received great coverage by newspapers, radio and television. The armed forces are big in these countries and the armed forces radio also covered us. Their reporter who covered the RYS story happened to be a bright young woman who became a member about a year ago. We received such good coverage.

We worked with the Ministry of Social Projects this time because of the minister's support when we first went to Honduras in 1996. On that occasion our initial project was cancelled. But the minister understood what we wanted to do and showed us several projects, among which we found a great project repairing a school. They already had all the materials prepared. They didn't expect that much to get done, but we did an incredible amount in a short time and they were really pleased. So when we came back again they were delighted to be able to work with us. We had some coverage on TV last time and in the press, but this time it was much more extensive. This brings benefit even to these cooperating organizations.

Julian: Can you describe the actual work you did?

John: One of the projects we worked on was cleaning up garbage. We collected close to a thousand bags—four tons of garbage. We also were building a retaining wall to prevent flooding. Then because we realized the garbage would come back if there was no place for it to go, we built garbage bins. At the end of the project when the mayor came she promised to build another two bins and to make sure that the trash collectors would come to that community. This woman mayor was really happy to have us come and asked us to do projects directly with her next time. So we've

been invited back.

Julian: Is there hope that the project will have had a permanent effect on that local community?

John: We are concerned that the garbage might come back, but we're hopeful that the Sisters of Charity can come in and work there offering consistent follow-up and education.

Julian: Please relate an experience that moved you on a personal level.

John: I think the deepest moment for me at this RYS project was when we handed out certificates of graduation.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF RYS HEADQUARTERS

I was given a certificate at the end that was presented to me by my two daughters. I have been doing this work for 14 years, but when I left for the first project in the Philippines my daughter was two years old and crying, "Daddy, Daddy, don't go. Tigers will eat you." Now here she is, fourteen years later, giving me a graduation certificate and having graduated the program herself.

We work so hard and we long so desperately to turn something over to our children. Through working on this I could see that we are turning this over to them. It's a wonderful feeling.

We in the first generation have to battle it out, but as I look at it now, if we haven't created something for the second generation to do, what is the point of all

our guidance? We have to create things for the second generation to jump into. It doesn't have to be the same battles. We can't say, well now you go and live in a center. Their destiny is not to be church members but to be their brothers and sisters' keepers. We have to create ways that they can enter into life and contribute in that way. As first generation members, the biggest challenge is whether we can create a path for the second generation to walk on through which they can contribute. RYS is helping to do this, as are other projects. We have to really invest much, much more in the next decade to help create the second and third generations' path for them.

Carol: This is one of the things that has been created for them as their opportunity to serve on the next level. I feel this is one of the strong points of this whole project—how the second generation really benefits from it. It is interesting that we began with the idea of the second generation and are also concluding with it. If something is close to our hearts, it is the ideal that Father has given us, that what we do here is passed on to the second generation.

[Second generation Unificationists who took part in the summer project in Honduras were: Kendra Anderson, Daniel Bessell, Chun-Hee Bessell, Ginie Blanchard-

Bessell, Charmaine Doroski, Simone Doroski, Hye-Won Gehring, Hye-Jin Gehring, Clara Hoover, Lara Hoover, Oojin Mudgett, and Solomon Pobanz.

John Gehring is the Director of the Religious Youth Service. Carol Pobanz has worked extensively with interfaith projects in the United States and is currently regional coordinator in New Jersey.]

[Edited for Today's World.]

Inaugural Speech of a New Continental Director

"SACRED BOND FOR THE SALVATION OF AMERICA"

DR. CHANG SHIK YANG
NORTH AMERICAN CONTINENTAL DIRECTOR OF FFWPU
New Yorker Hotel Grand Ballroom
June 24, 1999

Rev. Chang Shik Yang was the first of four new continental directors to receive their assignment from True Parents in 1999. At his official inaugural banquet, so many were the expressions of encouragement and congratulations for him and for his predecessor (Rev. Joong Hyun Pak) that he elected to sing a song with his family (see photo overleaf) rather than extend the occasion into the early hours! Even so, his prepared speech of introduction is included here as a beautiful expression of humble yet exemplary dedication to the will of God.



Rev. and Mrs. Joong Hyun Pak; distinguished pastors, leaders and guests; brothers and sisters.

I am humbled to stand before you tonight, with the awesome responsibility that God has given me, to move the nation of America, which He loves so deeply, toward his will. It is even more overwhelming to inherit this responsibility from Rev. Joong Hyun Pak who has given his heart and soul for the salvation of this nation for more than 25 years. Rev. Pak's vision, passion, and creativity have helped to shape the Unification Movement in America, and have left an indelible mark on the history of this nation. Rev. Pak, you have been a strong leader, a wise teacher, a loving elder brother, and a powerful example of total commitment to all of us, and we will never forget your wholehearted investment for the sake of God, our movement, and America.

Brothers and sisters, let us think about the task before us. What is the mission of the Church? Had there been no fall, our first ancestors would have walked and talked with God throughout their lifetime. The world, and even the entire cosmos would have been the Garden of Eden. Through them, our

Heavenly Father would have realized His ideal of love and centering on them, the entire creation would have fulfilled the way of harmony and life for the sake of others.

The nature of the human fall was selfishness. When Adam and Eve disobeyed God's commandment for the sake of their own self-centered desire, a huge gap developed between the God who lives and loves for the sake of others and the children who sought to live for themselves alone. This vertical alienation from God was expressed horizontally as the man and woman grew distant from each other. Mistrust, blame and resentment filled their hearts. Husband was alienated from wife, parents from children, and brother from brother. Cain's murder of Abel began a history of violence, betrayal, racism and suffering rooted in the fallen nature of humanity: the desire to use others for the sake of myself.

We call this gap between God and humankind sin. Genesis teaches us that "God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thought of his heart was only evil, continually." (Genesis 6:5) But God, who cannot help loving His children and living for them, immediately determined to save His children. In the

midst of a dark and cruel world he searched the hearts of his children to find even one who could rise up and offer himself for the salvation of humanity. Noah, Abraham, Moses, the prophets, and all those whom God called followed a path of sacrifice. Their tears, their offerings, and sometimes their blood became the foundation upon which God built His providence, gave us His word, and raised a people of faith who were longing to receive His son. Upon this foundation, God sent Jesus, who offered the ultimate sacrifice. Jesus was cruci-

fied in ignorance by a people who had been prepared for him for two thousand years, but never knew that he was the anointed one until it was too late. But by obedience, Christ was made perfect, and with his death and resurrection, the veil of the temple was torn in two. Jesus became the bridge, and humanity could be reconciled unto God through him.

Thus, the path of history has been one of restoration, and the purpose of religion is reconciliation. Although it is we who turned from Him, it is God who took responsibility to initiate this reconciliation. Jesus, His son, inherited this responsibility and gave his very life for its fulfillment. And if we are the heirs of Christ, if we are the ones summoned by Heaven to follow this path, then the mission of the church is the same: reconciliation. Reconciliation of God and man, reconciliation of our selfish bodies with our Godly minds, and reconciliation between husband and wife, parents and children, brother and brother. Thus every division of class, race, religion or nationality is the place of our ministry. Every broken marriage, loveless child, divided community and confused society cries out for our commitment, our compassion, and our embrace. When these divisions are healed, when every dot, every iota, is restored according to

God's law as Jesus promised, this will be the Kingdom of God on Earth. "And there will be neither mourning, nor crying nor suffering any more, for the former things will have passed away." (Revelation 21:4).

Jesus left the keys to this Kingdom on earth, and what we bind or loose on earth, shall be bound or loosed in Heaven. Ours is not to merely wait for the jeweled city to descend. Ours is to work for the fulfillment of the Lord's prayer: "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven". For this purpose, in the providence of God, America was founded. Despite the many who came to this land for their own devices, and despite the wounds and injustices of its history, America was founded upon a vision. And God planted this vision in the minds of a faithful few, and carved upon their hearts the ideals manifest in the constitution, laws, and the tradition of freedom and justice in this country. America was established as one nation under God, with a mission not for America alone, but for the sake of all humanity. Who is the true founder of this nation? God. Who is the true ancestor of America's spiritual tradition? Jesus. America was meant to be a model of the Kingdom of God: a melting pot of races, faiths and cultures, and the foundation of not just one nation under God, but one world under God.

But as the prophets forewarned, when the fields are plentiful and the people are satisfied, they forget God. In the nineteenth century, the French historian Alexis de Tocqueville found America's strength when he found her pulpits burning with righteousness. "America is great because America is good," he said. "And if America ever ceases to be good, she will cease to be great." Without question, the heart of America and her people is still good. Americans are generous, big minded, enthusiastic, and creative. But America is becoming a nation without God, adrift in a sea of moral confusion. In the last 30 years, the number of married couples with children has declined by more than one third, while single parent homes and non-traditional families have doubled. Two out of every three children born in America's cities will never know the love and presence of a father in their homes. Every year 15.3 million Americans are infected with a sexually transmitted disease, including 3 million teenagers. The Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta estimates that one out of three sexually active Ameri-



PHOTO: COURTESY OF GRAEME CARMICHAEL

can teenagers has some form of STD. There are nearly a million teen pregnancies each year in this country. And just weeks ago, the American Psychological Association published a report claiming that sexual abuse of children by adults might be a positive experience for some children! This ridiculous report, and tragedies like the Columbine school massacre in Colorado demonstrate the confusion in America. And where is the church? Where are the pulpits burning with righteousness? The very same moral confusion infects our congregations, while many religious leaders are afraid to speak out for fear of alienating their membership.

Tragically, America is leading the cultures of the world not towards heaven, but to the depths of the pit we call hell. Through television, movies, music, and commercialism, America's false culture of free sex and selfishness is corrupting the youth of the world. Traditional values of family, respect for elders, and service to society, are breaking down throughout the world. The scourge of HIV and AIDS has become the most devastating plague in history, and threatens the very future of mankind. The most recent report from UNAIDS estimates that 16,000 people contract the HIV virus every day. That equals 1 infection every 5 seconds! Undeniably, the world is following the moral decline of America. If there is to be new hope for humanity, America must wake up, to fulfill the purpose for which it was founded by God.

In history, God has raised righteous prophets from humble origins to lead

His providence and to reconcile a stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears to His purpose. In the same manner God called Rev. Sun Myung Moon, a farmer's son from the unknown land of Korea, and sent him to awaken America to its providential destiny. Arriving in 1972, he traveled across America sharing God's message in city after city, speaking on topics such as "God's Hope for Man", "God's Hope for America" and "The New Future of Christianity." He clearly proclaimed America's mission to become "one nation under God" to lead the world to establish "one world under God" and to pave the way for the Kingdom of God on the earth "one cosmos under God". He warned of America's moral decline, the breakdown of its families and the threat to its young people. He made a sacred pledge to work with America's young people for the renewal of this country. The fruits of that pledge are the leaders of the movement who fill this room, and the members across America who have given their heart and soul for this nation.

In accordance with the call of Christ, Reverend Moon has led a true ministry of reconciliation in America and around the world. He has founded numerous federations and associations to foster inter-religious and inter-cultural harmony. Ninety Percent of the movement's budget has been spent not on building churches or strengthening its own denominational identity, but on promoting dialogue and understanding between diverse faiths, races and nationalities. Matching hundreds of

thousands of international and interracial couples, Reverend Moon has worked to heal the deep divisions between the cultures of mankind. Lifting his wife, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, as a true partner in leadership, they have together established the role of True Parents as leaders of the movement and as a model for humanity. They teach the many couples they have blessed to live for the sake of each other, inherit the standard of True Parents and establish God centered families. And by training young people to live a life of discipline, service and sacrifice, they have taught their followers to reconcile their selfish bodies with their Godly minds.

Just last year, Rev. and Mrs. Moon set an important example for all religious leaders. They dissolved their own denomination, the Unification Church, and committed its membership and resources to become the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification, an international and inter-religious association to promote the harmony of mankind through a true family culture.

Reverend Moon called me to America in 1993. And like Rev. Pak and many others before me, I left my family behind and came to serve God in this great country. I have studied, prayed, and worked together with American brothers and sisters. I have come to know and love them, and the many others who have come from Japan, Europe,

Africa and around the world to fulfill God's hope for America. I have seen and felt for myself that this nation has a noble heritage and a great mission for God which has yet to be fulfilled. Over the past year, I have spent many nights in prayer with hundreds of our members at the Ellipse behind the White House in Washington, DC. It was there in 1965, during his first visit to this country, that Reverend Moon consecrated a Holy Ground to pray for the salvation of America. And it is there, in the shadow of the Washington Monument, in view of the memorials to Jefferson and Lincoln, that I have heard their voices calling to me. I have sensed the longing of the pilgrims and founding fathers. I have felt the pain of the slaves and martyrs whose innocent blood was shed unrighteously. And I have understood the sacrifice of the patriots who died for freedom or to purge this nation of the sin of slavery. I have heard them calling to me, and to the Americans of today: "Do not let our lives or our deaths be in vain." In the marrow of my bones, I know that they are watching us, praying and urging you and I to fulfill the mission of America for which they gave their very lives.

I, too, stand before you today to make a solemn pledge to the people of America. To the members of the Unification Movement, I come as your brother. I promise to love America as my own

country and to raise and support Americans for the leadership of this nation. Let us rededicate ourselves to the new pilgrim movement which our True Parents initiated in this land more than 25 years ago. To the respected religious leaders and friends who are gathered here, let us work together beyond race, religion and nationality for the salvation of America and the establishment of God's Kingdom of righteousness, love and peace on the Earth. Today, the torch has been passed to a new generation of leaders, a revitalized membership, and a united religious community. We must accept this responsibility with solemn hearts and deep determination.

I ask you to join me in pledging our lives in front of God, in front of Jesus and the Holy Spirit, in front of the True Parents, our ancestors, and all humanity for the fulfillment of this sacred mission: Rebuilding the Family, Restoring the Community, Renewing America!

May God be with you and your families and may God bless America.

Unificationists in Pure Love



PHOTO: COURTESY OF US CARP HEADQUARTERS

ONE MOTHER'S DAY

"AND YOUR SONS AND DAUGHTERS SHALL PROPHECY, YOUR OLD MEN SHALL
DREAM DREAMS, YOUR YOUNG MEN SHALL SEE VISIONS..." (Joel 2:28)

Tony Appia
New York, USA

This is not a typical fundraising story, and yet, perhaps it should be. It begins the evening before Mother's Day in America...

We wrapped the flowers from 11 o'clock until 6 in the morning, in preparation for the day's fundraising. We finished everything. We stocked the van and slept for a couple of hours.

When I arrived at the place, even before I could get out of the van, people were pulling up and buying flowers. I had got set up by 10:30. And it was constant. Sometimes I had 10 or 15 people waiting in line for flowers. And they were waiting patiently, and happily. They said things like, "No one has ever given me such good service before." Almost everyone gave a tip. No one asked for discounts. It seemed as if the usual barriers were simply not there. I didn't sell any singles either. It was mostly dozens and half dozens. It was \$20 a dozen. One man came up and said, "Give me 50 flowers." He just threw the money on the table and drove off. And it was like that all morning.

I didn't have time to go to the restroom. My mother had made some tea and a sandwich. I took one bite of the sandwich and a sip of the tea, and that was it for the day. I couldn't move. I couldn't count the money. I didn't count the money from the day before. I had no idea how much money I had in my pocket. I had tons of money in all my pockets.

Then around noon, I suddenly had this warm feeling all over my body. It started from the top of my head. It was just like I was on fire. I get hay fever so I don't like working with flowers. But during this time I didn't sneeze, not even once. Suddenly my whole body felt warm. I felt like suddenly my whole body was shaking. My stomach was really on fire. My knees were shaking. Suddenly I felt I was speaking—but it

wasn't my voice.

A voice was speaking to me, yet through me. The first question the person asked was, "How long have you been in this church? What have you done to restore your family? And how come you haven't blessed them?" And he started lecturing me about my family, how I needed to take care of them. It was really interesting. This dialogue continued for about an hour or so. I was told I have to bless them all and take them to Brazil, to Jardim, to the family education workshop. It was so strong and the voice kept saying, "I'm serious about this. I'm serious about this." It was using the same intonation and the same manner in which Father speaks. Just like that. It was very strong. This continued for about an hour or so. In the meantime, the people kept coming. I had to take care of them. I couldn't do anything else. As the people drove away, the voice would speak out loud. It was lecturing me. It was giving me detailed advice about how I need to take care of each person in the family, and what they needed. The voice told me I should have a meeting at five o'clock with everyone in the family, and to tell them the message that I'd received. I was totally astonished.

Towards the end, I had three buckets of flowers left. This was at about three o'clock in the afternoon. But I had no idea how much money I had. At one point I tried to count the money. I went to the van. I took the money out of my pockets and I started counting. Suddenly five cars pulled up. So I just threw the money on the floor of the van and went out to take care of the people. All the while I was looking to make sure no one would go near the van. The voice said, "Don't worry about it. Don't worry about it."

As soon as things calmed down, I went back and I took the money, but the voice kept saying, "Don't count it. Don't count it." So I stuffed it back in my pocket, walked back to the stand and continued selling. Then things calmed down a whole lot.

Towards the end one man came up

to me and said, "How much are those flowers?" I said, "You know, I've made my money today. Help yourself." So he said, "Oh, really? I like those astramarias." He said, "I'll take them all." I said, "Help yourself." So I wrapped them up for him and as he was leaving I just said to him, "By the way, you have to do one thing for me. You didn't give me any money, but please make a donation to a church or your favorite charity." And he said, "Yes, I will, I will, I will." And he drove off.

A second person came up—a little black girl—and I could see her counting her quarters and her dollars, and she wanted to get a flower for her mom. So she came up and she said, "Mister, how much are those flowers?" And I said, "They're \$20 a dozen." And she says, "Oh, I don't have that much." And she started to walk away. I said, "Well, what do you need?" She answered, "Oh, I just need to get a flower for my mom." So I said, "Help yourself." So she pulled out a dozen roses. And then she said, "Oh, I need one for my sister and my aunt, too." So she pulled out two more dozen roses. So I said, "No problem. Just tell your mom Happy Mother's Day, and give her a kiss. And she said, "Thank you so much." She ran off. I could see her mother in the car smiling and waving.

Then a third man walked up and he said, "Mister, I want to get something for my mother." And I said, "What do you need?" And he said, "I just want to get her some flowers."

And then the spirit came back to me. And I looked at the man and suddenly I slapped him on his chest. And I said, "That's not why you're here, is it?" And I slapped him again. And the man started crying. Then he said, "My mom is really sick and she needs help." And then the spirit said through me, "You saw me in a dream, didn't you? You saw me in a dream last night. That's why you're here." And he said, "Yes. Someone told me to come to this location; someone would be waiting for me here." I said, "God told you to come here, didn't He?" And he said, "Yes."

"Because He knew that I had something for you." And then I started screaming at him, "I've been working all day here for you. Everything I made yesterday and today is yours." Then I took everything I had in my pocket and I gave it to him. The man was flabbergasted. There was a lady, a nicely dressed lady standing next to him. She was screaming, "This is a trick. Don't take that money. It's not yours. Don't touch it. He's going to call the police." And the man was saying, "No, no. I saw him in a dream. I know it's him." And a crowd had gathered. People were just so shocked.

I turned around and I said to them, "I've never seen this man before in my life but God told me to come here and to work for him and to give him this money." I must have had close to \$6000 in my pocket. And I gave the man everything. And the man was just crying. People were trying to pick the money up and I said, "Don't touch it. It's not yours. It's not mine. It belongs to him. Don't you touch it." So the man just pulled up his T-shirt and wrapped all the money up.

There was one man standing off to the side and he said, "Wow, I've never seen anything like this before." Another man, a black man, walked up to me and he said, "You know, I've been a youth Christian minister for many years and we always teach the children about Jesus, and how generous Jesus was. But this is the greatest testimony I've ever seen." He asked, "How did you do that?" I said, "I didn't do anything."

And then the voice was speaking through me and it said to him, "You witnessed this. You witnessed this, didn't you? I didn't know this man. I've never seen him before. But he received everything I had. This is the spirit of God. This is God's love." And then I just hit the man who had received the money on his chest once more and I said, "You are my brother and I embrace you." I gave him a big bear hug. I said, "God loves you, brother. Go take care of your mother." And then I turned back to that man who had said he was a minister and he said, "How did you do this?" And I told him, "God's representative is on earth. Reverend Moon is here. The living God is walking on this earth. You should go and find out what he is doing." And he said, "Reverend who?" I said, "Reverend Moon." He said, "Where does he live? Where is he?" I said, "You go and find out and find out what he's doing."

And then I turned and I screamed to the people, "You have no idea what God has in mind for you. This city is garbage. You have no idea how painful it is to God to look at this mess." And then I said, "I'm going. I have to go get my wife. Then I have to go see my family at 5 o'clock. I'm leaving. I'm going." And then the man came over and said to me, "Now I believe." The Christian minister, he said, "I have to find out what Reverend Moon is doing." And then he said, "Don't worry about your table. I'll clean it up for you. You just go and do what you have to do."

The next morning when I woke up I looked in the mirror. I said, "My goodness, am I crazy? What happened yesterday? What happened?" And I was trying to find some link between what happened and reality. And then I remembered that a couple had come up to me. They had bought some flowers and as they were driving away the wife had called me over and said, "This is for you. Thanks for the excellent service." She gave me \$4 and I said to her, "I don't need your money." She said, "Take it." I said, "OK, I'll take it and I'll give it to my church. I didn't put it with the rest of the money. I put it in my back pocket. I remembered that \$4 while I was in the shower. I jumped out of the shower and I pulled out the \$4 and I looked at it. And I thought, 'Yes, God is alive. I'm not crazy. This really happened. I threw the money on the floor and I kissed the bathroom mirror and I said, 'God is great. True Parents are great.' You couldn't believe how happy I felt. It was amazing."

My parents said, "We should go out and check this out and make sure that those guys didn't really rob you, and also to pick the stuff up from the flower stand. So that morning we got in the van. We all went down there. And the first words that the station owner said when we walked in were, 'In all my years of working at this gas station I have never seen anything like it. Yesterday, you told a man that God sent you there to work for him all day and then you gave him every penny you had made over the last two days. That's the craziest thing I've ever seen or heard. You guys are nuts.' He couldn't believe it."

Lenga was saying later, "Well that happened, but how are we going to pay for the flowers and how are we going to pay our bills?" I said to her, "When God's spirit came to me, the spirit said,

"For many years you have been not serious enough about doing God's will. The same God that helps True Parents will help you. You are worried about money. You are worried about clothes. You are worried about education. You are worried about houses. If you are doing God's will, God will give you the money if you need it. If you are doing God's will, God will give you a house if you need it. You don't have to worry about those things. It's because you haven't been doing God's will that you will continue to struggle, and continue to have problems. But if you do God's will, if you do the hoon dok hae, if you do your witnessing, if you take care of your family, if you do the service life, the worship life, God will help you. You don't have to worry about those things." But still it was hard for me to reach out to her and to console her because her thinking was that I had worked hard for nothing. I said to her, "This is Father's life. He gives everything and forgets. He gives everything without any condition. And he's still doing it. And if God gave us that experience to be able to help someone out in that way, we should be grateful that we were such an instrument that God could use. God gave us this experience to teach us something." The spirit kept saying to me, "This experience is not for you. Write it down and share it with your family. Share it with everyone. This experience is not for you." During Dae Mo Nim's liberation ceremony, my grandmother in spirit world had come to my wife and said, "Pray for me, please." I feel the spirit world is so close, and they know what's happening. The day afterwards, I felt so at peace—so peaceful for the first time in all my years. I felt completely at peace. So the stress and the worry about money and all those things just seemed to dissipate. I said to my wife, "God will give us all those material things that we need, just like he does for True Parents. If we just focus on doing His will, I'm sure those things will come. We don't have to worry about them. We're running after them and they've been eluding us and we're getting more and more into debt, without realizing that we haven't been doing God's will, which we haven't. Because we have nothing to do with God, He can't help us." So I hope that we can learn something from it.

My wife could not easily understand why would God give us the blessing and then take it away. I said, "Maybe God is

Jewish-Muslim Encounters: History, Philosophy, Religion, Society, and the Arts

Frank Kaufmann
New York, USA

Jewish and Muslim leaders met at the Hesperia Hotel in Cordoba Spain for four days of inter-religious dialogue under the auspices of the of the Inter-Religious Federation for World Peace (IRFWP), from August 19 - 22, 1999.

Approximately 10 leaders and scholars from each tradition sought greater understanding by engaging in dialogue defined by the conference concept "Jewish-Muslim Encounters: History, Philosophy, Religion, Society, and the Arts."

All participants wrote scholarly papers. Conference conveners Dr. Charles Selengut (Drew University, USA), and Dr. Mumtaz Ahmad (Hamp-ton University, USA) recommended prospective themes for contributors such as, "Religious Authority in the Two Religious Civilizations," "Law and Custom...," "A specific event and its

consequences...," "Mysticism in the Two Traditions..." and many other possible topics and issues.

It is the view of IRFWP that politically pursued peace initiatives, absent the willingness to take up the difficult reality of religious difference, are fated to suffer constant setback and disruption. Lasting peace is only possible grounded in hard won mutual understanding. This Cordoba dialogue was undertaken so as to contribute from the religious side elements necessary for the construction of a far reaching and enduring political, social, and cultural accord among Muslims and Jews.

The IRFWP selected Cordoba for this conference due to its historical significance for both Muslims and Jews, as well as for the fact that the city was a site in which these communities lived in relative harmony.

Not many know that in the 11th century Cordoba was one of the most

important capitals in Europe. Jews, Muslims and Christians lived peacefully together, and important philosophers, scientists and artists emerged from there.

For Muslims, Cordoba has historical interest since it was the capital of the Spanish Muslim dynasty of the Ummayyads (756-1031). The Great Mosque of Cordoba (La Mezquita) was founded 785 CE. It was added to and expanded over the next two hundred years to make it the third largest structure in the Islamic world.

For Jews, one historical attraction in Cordoba is that it is the birthplace of the Rabbi Moses ben Maimon (aka Rambam or Maimonides) (Around 1148 C.E) who wrote a renowned commentary on the Mishnah.

Indeed the very last remark in the conference deliberations, from Rabbi

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One Mother's Day

trying to teach us a lesson here. Our life is to live for the sake of others despite whatever problems we have, despite whatever difficulties we have. Our life is a life of service—service for the sake of others. And if we try to put our own happiness and our own concerns ahead of others, we're going to have problems. Of course, God wants us to take care of our family; of course God wants us to have nice things and to be happy. But our primary concern is living for the sake of others. If we can't do that, then we have nothing to do with God."

I'm sure the ancestors came down. I believe it. My brothers keep asking, "What have you been reading these past few weeks?" And I told them Reverend and Mrs. Moon's speeches. He said, "Wow, I gotta read those." So I'm giving him the speeches: Mother's speaking tour speech, The Path of Life for All Humankind. He's going to read that one.

I'll make a copy for him. He's excited to read those speeches. I can see that it is already having a profound effect on him.

[Editor's note: Tony could not identify the visiting spirit; he felt the person might well have been a Korean as the voice had certain distinctive characteristics.]

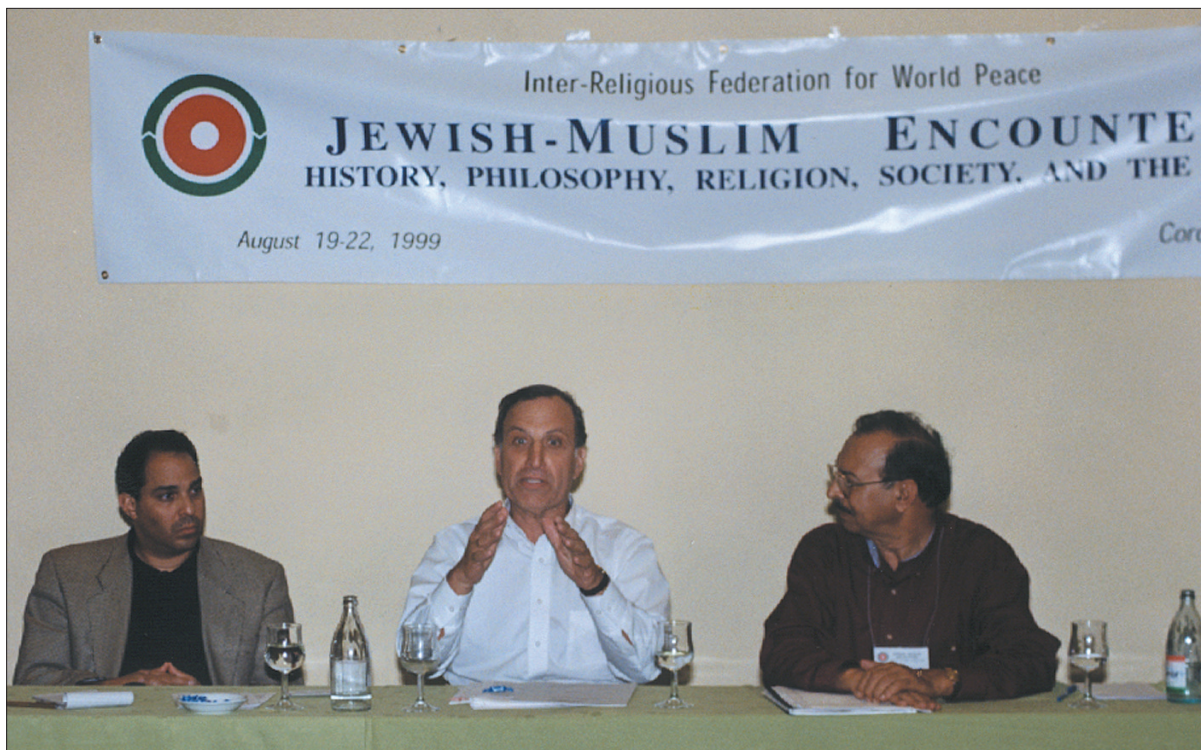
His testimony caused controversy among members. Some thought that if Tony's experience was really from God, he would have been directed to donate his earnings to the church or toward other more obvious priorities. On the other hand, surely it is the experience of many of us that heaven works in ways beyond the borders of such convenient logic. As Tony himself observes in his testimony, Father himself has often invested generously in people who had little commitment to the ideals he teaches, and no connection to our movement whatsoever—people who were, in effect, as complete strangers as the man who was led to Tony in his dream. True Parents have committed a large proportion of available resources toward inspiring people to reflect deeply on the value of their lives and what its potential might be. This is

God's grace to His fallen children whom He loves. And sometimes, it seems, that grace is dramatically expressed.

As we move further into the realm of restoring ancestral problems, and liberating those whose lineages we share, we should imagine that the interface between heaven and earth will be more electric. Ancestral, rather than earthly, merit or debt may be the prime mover. Perhaps it was so in this case.

I believe such experiences should lead us only to pray that someone is helped to the realization of deeper wisdom and love.]

[Edited for Today's World.]



Canada) once again brought their preeminent scholarly talent to the table, and altogether new faces (such as Ygal Carmon, President, Middle East Media Research Institute, and former advisor to several Israeli Prime Ministers, Irfan Ahmad Khan, American Islamic College, and Razia Akter Banu, University of Dakha, Pakistan, Eliezer Don-Yihya, Bar Ilan University, Israel) easily connected to IRFWP's trade-

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Jewish-Muslim Encounters

Elkan Levy (President Emeritus, United Synagogues of London) was to ask, "What was it about this time and this place which enabled Jews and Muslims to flourish and support one another? It would seem that we should seek to grasp and re-construct such conditions in our own time?"

The conference had six sessions during which all 20 papers were debated and discussed. The papers naturally fell into broad themes, namely: Mystical, Theological, Political, Social and Cultural, and Historical. Participants came from the United States, Europe, the Middle East, and South Asia. The engagement was respectful but straightforward. Issues were hotly and honestly debated. There was no haste for artificial concord. Rather these partners sought understanding, friendship, respect, and the founding of relationships which can contribute by example and by substantial output to future peace initiatives among the two communities.

The conference opened on the evening of arrivals with papers from Sulayman Nyang, and that of Gil Kahn who examined the issue of Democracy as it pertains to the two traditions. The morning session of the first full day of the conference included a fascinating study of Moroccan Saint Veneration among Muslims and Jews, by Janice

Rosen (Archives Director, National Canadian Jewish Archives). Mustansa Mir (Youngstown University, USA) presented in the same session on the topic Kabbalah and Sufism: Jewish and Islamic Mysticism. Every session proved as riveting and absorbing. No area of discussion was taboo or off bounds. Interestingly, the politics of the Middle East proved far less explosive than the discussion on gender in the two traditions.

The conversation dynamic was greatly enhanced by the presence and contributions of IRFWP veterans such as Sulayman Nyang (Howard University, USA) who wrote on Muslim-Jewish Relations in the United States of America: Convergence and Divergence, and Richard Rubenstein (President, Bridgeport University, USA) who wrote a rivetting piece of contemporary historical analysis entitled *The Temple Mount and My Grandmother's Paper Bag* (the bag contained dirt from Eretz Yisrael eventually used to allow her to "symbolically return home" at the time of her burial). Their familiarity with IRFWP standards and rigorous patterns of dialogue was a great support to the conveners who sought to create an ambiance conducive to frank and open discussion void of acrimony.

Some stars from the recent IRFWP, "Jewish Identity" conference (for example Gilbert Kahn, Kean University, USA, Yudit Greenberg, Rollins College, USA, Lawrence Kaplan, McGill University,

mark atmosphere of serious, purposeful, and deeply respectful dialogue. Shaykh Abdur Rashid brought a history of commitment and dialogue experience, Shaykh Nooraddeen Durkee, a lifetime of textual passion and proficiency, and Rowena Muzquiz a superb knowledge of the region and its religious and political history.

IRFWP president Rev. Chung Hwan Kwak sent a written message to be read in his absence, in which he recounted Reverend Moon's (IRFWP Founder) sacrificial history as a champion of world peace, and the latter's current initiatives for harmonizing political, scholarly, and religious leadership, most particularly through the recently founded Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace (IIFWP).

The participants did reach consensus on issuing the Cordoba Declaration, but this was not the sole objective of the encounter. More importantly the participants invested seriously in forging relationships which we pray will flourish and become the cornerstones of peace and bridge-building between these deeply related communities of believers and religious civilization and cultures.

[Dr. Kaufmann is the Executive Director of IRFWP.]

From East Asia to East Europe: A Korean Missionary's Story

*Byung Chul Kim
Seoul, Korea*

Byung Chul, how would you like to take responsibility for the church in Albania? It was in December 1993, while I was fundraising in Germany, that Rev. Kwang Kee Sa, president of the church in Europe suddenly asked me this. I was too shocked to say a word in response. Up to that point, I knew only that Albania was the most extreme Communist nation in Europe. A few days previously I had read about Albanian refugees who had been refused entry into Italy. They threw themselves into the sea rather than return to Albania. I reflected on what sort of situation might exist there such that its citizens would choose to die rather than go back there. Could I really do on a mission in such a place?

On Jan 28, 1994, I came to Tirana, in a small plane with fewer than 10 passengers via Slovenia airport. It was the smallest plane I had even flown in. It was already dark when we arrived. My first impression was that the airport was small, like a countryside train station. My luggage was carried from the plane on a cart pulled by a tractor.

Two missionaries, Andre Wyser and Jose Suarez from Switzerland, had already been in Albania for some time. On the way to the church center, a small rented house, only the stars in the sky accompanied me. A few houses dotted the way, but no light came from them. Later I realized this was because the electricity was off more than on. The car shook dramatically as we made our way along the unpaved road full of pot-holes. As we arrived in downtown, I could see more lights. The one building that caught my eye was the mosque in the center of town. Then I remembered that Albania was over 70 percent Muslim.

The house had been empty for two weeks as the missionaries had been away fundraising. As soon as we entered the house the smell of moss assailed my nostrils. We lit a candle as there was no electricity. The house had a living room, where we could give lectures and hold services, and a bedroom with one bed. There was a toilet. However, there was no kitchen. When

I sat on the bed there were no springs, only blankets. Everything was so damp as there was little light and no heat. I felt that if I were to sleep there I would get sick. I could not complain however, as I knew the missionaries had been living there.

In my prayer I determined that no matter what difficulty came I would overcome. There were no shower facilities in the house, so to fulfill the condition, I had to wear a swim suit and shower outside.

The next day, I went out to look around. The air was fresh, and I felt good. The first thing I saw on the street were horses with carts. I remembered my childhood belief in Korea that to unknowingly stand on horse manure would bring good luck.

The former national leader, Andre, stayed with me for one week, and took me to the homes of many guests. Many of them were teachers and art professors. I was quite surprised as the living standards were very poor, the house furnishings crude and antiquated.

Nevertheless, I was welcomed warmly and given very generous hospitality. The hosts would say, "A guest is considered a treasure in Albania" and "Bread, salt and heart." (If there is love, then simple food is enough.) When I heard this I felt that these people were very warm hearted, and I felt I wanted to return to them the love, words and blessing of True Parents. My desire was to restore

the first, second and third blessing of God in this country. I wanted to make Albania into an exemplary nation.

Looking back, that first year, 1994, was the most important of my life. With Jose, I gave Principle lectures every evening, even if only one guest came—and following Rev. Sa's strong enjoiner, even if no guest was present. At the time, I felt lonely and as two people living and working together, we struggled. But the warm Mediterranean weather was embracing.

When it was announced that ten Japanese sisters were to come to each nation, my heart was so uplifted, and full of hope, as if I were a public official receiving the support of millions of people. When the Japanese sisters arrived, we moved to a new apartment. This new apartment had a telephone and was so much better that it was like moving to paradise from hell.

Meanwhile, the mission was accelerating. We gave lectures every morning, afternoon and evening to the many guests brought by the Japanese sisters who were devoting their hearts to the nation. The number of guests was increasing every day, to the point that our center was not big enough. Even so, I did my best to project my voice so that all could hear. Sometimes I felt the presence of God overwhelmingly. On one occasion I could not begin my sermon as the tears were coming without ceasing.

The first summer in Albania, the



Rev. Kim (second from right) with members in a scenic part of Albania

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF BYUNG CHUL KIM

temperature reached into the 40s, the hottest weather I had ever encountered. Moreover, there was not enough water. Whenever we finished morning prayer, we had to bring water up the stairs from the first floor neighbors. There were many unimaginable difficulties due to corruption and crime, but our center was filled with love and we welcomed our guests with all our heart.

Working together in the mission members inevitably had conflicts from time to time due to lack of understanding, and at times I also had such struggles. Realizing, however, that they were precious sons and daughters of God, I felt so grateful to them for the investment they were making.

There are distinct differences between the oriental and western ways of thinking. I felt that I came to a foreign country from Korea not just to bring the Principle but to act as a bridge between the cultures.

We had a witnessing goal every year, and the goal for 1994 was fifty new family members. Today, there are more than one thousand members and many are blessed. In that early time just to find one member was so precious. In order to become a member, a guest had to attend a five day course of Principle lectures. We had to enable them experience the warm atmosphere of our center and that meant not only teaching them the Principle, but also relaxing with them with family evenings and games. The fact that I had learned to play the guitar as a youth was to my advantage. In fact, some guests came more for the music we shared than for the lectures at first, or to study and practice English. Whenever I saw this, I felt sorry—but I realized True Parents must view us with the same feelings at times.

In December 1994, when we finally fulfilled our goal to find 50 family members, we were so happy, and Rev. Sa visited Albania for the first time. We welcomed him as if it were True Parents who were visiting. He gave us very inspiring words, full of grace. Through him we all felt the love of True Parents.

Ten single members and twenty-four married couples from Albania attended the 360,000 couples blessing in 1995, mostly by video—and we could accomplish our national goal of 150 new members for that year.

On God's Day 1996 Albania received a

plaque of appreciation from True Parents as one of the nations whose mission had developed the most. This is kept at the headquarters as a treasure of our nation.

The year 1997 is remembered as the year of blessing fever. That year on January 12, we held a pre-blessing ceremony in Vienna, Austria. It was the first pre-blessing ceremony in Europe, and Rev. and Mrs. Chung Hwan Kwak officiated. Rev. Sa's determination—and that of all brothers and sisters—was very strong. Even so, I felt it would be impossible to bring Albanian members to Austria due to visa restrictions and the financial challenge of funding the air



Albanian members during the blessing campaign of 1997

travel. Nevertheless, two weeks prior to the event I could see by the daily reports that only ten percent of the projected participants were actually ready to attend. Rev. Yong Tae Choi, Balkans regional leader, urged me that if we could not bring couples from Albania and the Balkan region, the event would be a failure. He said he would advance us some money and that we should gather as many pre-blessed couples as possible to come. We managed to find 42 couples who could attend, including professors, businessmen and professionals—most of whom were distinguished members in Albanian society. However, as we feared, all their visa applications were rejected.

Yet we had to charter an airplane, even though there was the risk that we might have to cancel and pay a penalty. I gave a lecture to these couples on the significance and value of the blessing. Going to Austria was not for tourism, but a patriotic undertaking. They recognized this and responded very well.

Up until the day of the departure, still the visas had not been granted. The president of the Women's Federation in Austria met with the Austrian interior minister and pleaded with him in tears. Moreover, our members in Austria

made financial guarantees for all the Albanian participants, even though they did not know them. Finally, in that early morning, I could give the couples, who had all but given up hope, the amazing news that the visas had been granted. We all felt that this was Heavenly Father's victory.

Most of these people were experiencing air travel for the first time. This was the biggest group of Albanians ever to travel out of Albania at one time. Including staff, our group was also the largest national group to come to the blessing from Europe.

The blessing ceremony in Vienna was very beautiful, and the participants from Albania were particularly inspired by Rev. Kwak's beautiful blessing address. They had made great efforts in the preparation of their blessing suits and gowns. Long after the event they cherished the memories of the blessing in their hearts, and promised to send their children to our center to support us in the future.

I want to say how grateful I am to our members who, when the electricity failed in the midst of the cold winter, often late at night, had worked so hard, travelling back and forth to the public telegraph offices to send communications. Even though it was hard, seeing the faces of these members, and their attitude of sacrifice, we felt true love. We truly felt the value of what we were doing.

Often, we had a family evening after dinner, singing songs together. One Japanese sister would sing song in tears, longing for True Parents. Even though we had come from different cultures, and spoke different languages, all of us had the same love and longing for True Parents, and these qualities within our hearts sustained and supported us.

After returning from Vienna, the national messiahs to Albania planned a big blessing festival to be held at the national palace in Tirana. We invited Rev. and Mrs. Sa to officiate at the blessing ceremony. It was one of the biggest and most beautiful blessing ceremonies to have been held in Europe. Thereafter, we continued to hold blessing ceremonies, not only in Tirana, but also in other cities.

In April 1997, the collapse of a pyra-

mid scheme into which many Albanian citizens had invested money led to civil war and all foreigners were supposed to evacuate the country.

All public security facilities normally controlled by the army and police were taken over by angry civilians. They demanded the president's resignation. More and more people flooded into the capital city as the rebellion grew. We heard through foreign news sources that rioters were approaching the capital city, and we planned for all the Japanese missionaries and national messiahs to leave the country, and that I, as the national leader, would stay. Then we heard that one Italian blessed sister, who was pregnant, had been on the last airplane out of Albania. When we heard this, we thought we would all have to stay in Albania. That night, the sound of gunfire was becoming much closer, and red glow covered the sky. My wife was six months pregnant with our second child. She wanted to hide her fear but I could see that night that she was trembling with fright. We could not sleep that night. At two o'clock in the morning an unexpected telephone call came from the Japanese embassy in Austria, saying that all the Japanese and foreigners must gather at the British embassy at 6 o'clock in the morning. So we went.

It was very painful to have to leave behind the young Albanian brothers and sisters. But I felt responsible for the safety of the other missionaries and the children who were present, and I accepted to drive the van. Early in the afternoon we joined a convoy of about twenty cars and drove to a former military base. We were airlifted by German helicopters to Montenegro, from where we were taken to Cologne airforce base. Upon arriving we were surprised that our news became international news. TV reporters from Korean news agencies were awaiting us at the airport. Rev. Yeung Sik Cho, national messiah to Albania, sent word to Korea that we had managed to leave Albania and it became a top news story in *The Segye Times*. My wife and I gave a twenty minute report for the Seoul TV network. My parents were relieved to see from the television that our family was safe.

While I was in Germany I fundraised

to support the mission in Albania and kept in touch with the members in Tirana. Although I had determined to follow the will of God, I hesitated to return to Albania during such conflict. But Rev. Sa urged me, that as soon as the airport was open, I should return. I felt that he was pushing me into a very difficult situation. Later I came to understand that this was to prevent my determination for the mission deteriorating, motivated by love.

It was exactly 40 days later that I returned to Albania, just as it had been when returning after my initial visa problems. It was clear that God was

of God. One of our sisters, named Juli, was walking on the local street doing preblessing activities, when she felt that an insect was biting her right foot. She bent over quickly to inspect, and at that very moment a shot rang out. The bullet passed right over her body as she stooped. Had she not done so, it would certainly have hit her.

With some members, I was doing preblessing activity in a small village. There was a terrible noise of a shootout for about half an hour. Had I not been in someone's house at the time, I would very likely have been caught in the crossfire.

The year of 1997 was a bad one for Albania, but so much blessing came from God in the providence. The newly-elected president and his wife welcomed us at his presidential office, where they received the pre-blessing. The first lady, presidential aides, and the lady founder of an Islamic spiritual group with a membership of more than one million participated in the blessing ceremony in Washington DC. The first private TV station in Albania received the satellite broadcast of the 40 million couples blessing ceremony, and broadcast it throughout Albania, so many of the couples in the major cities could watch

and participate.

Rev. Yeung Sik Cho and myself were able to meet the country's new president. Rev. Cho explained to the president and first lady in detail about the meaning of the blessing, and they listened very attentively. The ceremony included the holy water, holy wine and benediction. Before drinking the holy wine, the president shouted his declaration that he would love only his wife, which made the first lady smile from ear to ear. The president wanted to attend the blessing ceremony personally, but the weight of his public duties being too heavy, his wife and close aides attended in his place.

Even though Albania is the poorest nation in Europe, we sent many pre-blessed couples to the United States to participate directly in the blessing ceremonies in 1997 and 1998. The participants willingly paid all their expenses and blessing fees: and we even had a lit-



Rev. Kim, his wife and children with blessing participants, 1998

guiding us, step by step.

When the president resigned, the crisis in the country diminished. Still, crime was rampant in the society. I was grateful to the Albanian members who had been keeping our church center, and grateful to God that no members were injured. During the crisis, many ordinary people had lost their lives through shooting accidents. Some had been shot without knowing where the bullets came from. Many tragedies of this kind occurred.

After returning to Albania, we continued preblessing activities, despite the danger. We visited almost every house in Tirana and other cities, with the help of students, second generation members, and members from other European countries. There was still so much violence going on, and many innocent people continued to die.

Almost every family, it seemed, had a gun in their home. Under such circumstances, we could feel the protection

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An Emerging Mission São Tomé and Príncipe

Alfonso Nelson Taty Ntoko
São Tomé

There well over two hundred independent sovereign states in the world today. Unificationists have been active in almost all of them and mission centers have been established in every possible nation. Some of the smaller nations are more remote from the main thoroughfares of trade and communication, we do not hear of them often in the news media. One such tiny country is São Tomé and Príncipe. The testimony is of an emerging mission, and of how help sent by True Parents was the answer to the prayers of the lonely but faithful pioneer who first went there.

When in 1989 the Central Africa regional leader, Jacques Marion, called me to come quickly from my mission in the provinces, I felt so many things in my heart because he had not told me why I should come to the national headquarters in Kinshasa, capital of (then) Zaire. Once I arrived, he explained the importance of building missions in Angola and São Tomé, and that some had already felt unable to take on that responsibility. He asked me to choose to go to one of these countries. The desire burning in his mind was for me to go to Angola because of my long experience in the church. My choice, however, was São Tomé. In my heart, I felt that because São Tomé was so poor and the people so isolated that they needed someone to lend a hand.

So I was assigned the mission to open our church in the two-island nation of the Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe. The islands, which have a total population of 130,000 and a total area of 1200 square kilometers, are located about 250 miles west of Gabon in the Atlantic Ocean. The islands are 100 miles apart. The capital city, also called São Tomé, where most of the country's population dwells, is almost on the equator. The country is mountainous and has a wet, tropical climate.

I immediately started to prepare for my mission by fundraising for my air ticket. The best way to reach the coun-

try was through Gabon, the nearest mainland country. There I some help from Mr. Hiro Tosaka, the Gabon national leader at that time.

Everyone knew that Gabon was not an easy country to get into. I could not travel there by air because visas were difficult to get from the Gabon Embassy in Congo. I had to take the risky way, going by road through Congo (Brazza-ville). I left in December 1989. There were many controls and challenges on the way, but Heavenly Father helped me a lot. I fasted partially everyday of my journey for many days. I reached Gabon on January 6. There, I spent six more months preparing for my mission with prayers and fundraising.

On the afternoon of June 13, 1990. I arrived in São Tomé. I could not bring in any literature or the *Divine Principle* because the country was in a transition period to democracy from a



**Mr. and Mrs. Taty Ntoko with two children of the Ferch family
(National Messiahs from the USA)**

socialist system established 1975. I told people that I was coming to whatever kind of business I could. I was identified as businessman. I started selling in the market where I got a chance to learn about the people, costumes and traditions. I lived by myself not knowing anyone. I made friends with some people but I was not feeling so good because people were not living in a principled way. I was able to teach the Principle to three people among whom one continued his life of faith.

In November 1990, when True Father recommended all American members to visit Africa and feel its suffering, I received two missionaries, Richard Perea and Jae Suk Cohen. For me, it was a big consolation. Because my house did not have enough room, we all rented one house together. Spiritually my life entered a different atmosphere. I could feel that Heavenly Father had not abandoned me. Upon their arrival I received them with a limousine because they were so precious for me. I cried a lot. It was Heavenly Father who came to visit me. We spent some days together and had so many experiences. We witnessed to people together and individually. However after these two missionaries left, some of the people we witnessed to traveled to other countries and others did not follow the Principle way.

I continued selling in the market by myself. Witnessing, teaching cooking. It was not easy but I learned many things

The new church headquarters in São Tomé, opened August 7, 1999, in the presence of senior public officials.



PHOTOS: COURTESY OF SCOTT FERCH

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Albania

the money left over to use for the center.

Thereafter, we resumed our blessing activities. But I was feeling the need, also, to expand the focus of the activities, partly for my own sake.

In October 1998, another national crisis occurred, so the Japanese sisters, including my wife, had to leave the country at the instruction of the Japanese foreign ministry. It was difficult to accept this situation with its accompanying loneliness. Yet I did not want to show my weakness to the Albanian members. Rather, I wanted to give them hope, as my motto for my life of faith is, "Always be Grateful."

To find matching candidates for Blessing '99 we gave TV and newspaper interviews, paid for advertising, put up posters, and invested out utmost in all the activities. To lay a spiritual foundation, we sang Grace of the Holy Garden with clapping, every night, according to the tradition in Chungpyung, with the desire to remove the influence of evil spirits. We completed fasting and *kyung-bae* conditions. At that time, members had had many spiritual experiences. Some could see spirits in the center. One sister who translated my lectures could hear the words I was going to speak immediately before I spoke them. From such investment we found many candidates, whom True Parents matched

so wonderfully. Jesus said, "Blessed are the poor in spirit." Albania had indeed received the blessing of heaven.

I want to make 1999 the most important year on my life—this is my determination and prayer for the year. I therefore offered a seven-day fast out of the desire to get rid of my fallen nature and resolve previous mistakes. In June, Mother was to visit Albania as one of the nations on her international tour. The crisis in Kosovo had begun, however, and with it the threat of terrorism. For this reason, Mother was advised by the US State Department not to travel to Albania. Mother gave a 100,000 dollars for the development of the church in Albania after asking Rev. Sa which European nation had the most potential.

On leaving Albania after ten years in Europe and five and a half in Albania, and on reflecting back over the experiences of that time, I realized that what I have accomplished for the will is much less than I have received. In America, where I am now going to further my studies, I will do my very best to return the love that I have received.

[Byung Chul Kim's father fled

North Korea during the Korean War. He married late and raised two sons, of which Byung Chul is the second. Byung Chul Kim met the church in 1988 just after the Seoul Olympic Games. He was blessed with his wife, Hiromi, in the 30,000 Couples Blessing in 1992. They have three children. At a Balkan regional meeting held in Macedonia in July of this year, Byung Chul Kim received encouragement to attend the Unification Theological Seminary to further his education for the future of his ministry.]

[Edited for Today's World]



Meeting the country's new president

São Tomé and Príncipe

that I could not experience before. Saotomeans are very kind people. But because of the struggle they had every day to live they often would become distracted when they tried to follow the Principle way of life. Everyone wanted to have a good future for his or her physical life. Being such a difficult country to live in, to sacrifice for God's providence was a lot for them. Moreover, some members left the country to seek a better life.

In 1994, a group of Japanese sisters came to establish the Women's Federation for World Peace. It was a new providence with another spirit. Heavenly

Father came again to bless our mission country. They started to witness under Rev. In Kook Cho, a second-generation brother who was sent by True Father to have some experiences in Africa. We were now finding more young men and women to join the church. It was a new foundation. I was so grateful for their help spiritually and financially for this mission.

The newly established WFWP began to hold crochet classes, and opened a kindergarten for children aged 3 - 6.

One difficulty was that we were always spending a lot of money to rent our church center. We had bought land on which to build a church. In 1997, when True Father sent the national messiahs our to the world, our mission again was uplifted. The American national messiah came with his all

family as True Father recommended, to live with us in this small and poorest country, in order to suffer together and appreciate our True Parents' heart. Together with the national messiah's support, we were able to defeat the problem of paying rent by constructing a National Headquarters in the capital city. The building was inaugurated on Aug 7 of this year.

In conclusion, the way has been so long to reach this level. I was alone but now there are actually many to build God's Kingdom in this country. I thank everyone who has helped this country spiritually and financially. May God bless all of you.

[Edited for Today's World.]

First International Seminar: Closing Plenary Address

"Cleansing the Spiritual Environment"

Excerpts from the Words of Rev. Chung Hwan Kwak, President of IIFWP

Over the past few days I have heard many testimonies from among the participants describing their experience with the words of Reverend Moon. Some are surprised by the broad range of topics and the depth of his insight. I want to say that the depth and insight of his speeches are not derived from his study in school or from research. Rather, they are rooted in his very personal and direct relationship with God. Moreover, this relationship is not only intellectual, but a fundamentally deep and loving relationship.

Reverend Moon initiated this hoon dok hae tradition for the sake of transforming this world. By setting aside the time to study God's word on a daily basis, we can establish a firm foundation for our family life, and in turn, a firm foundation for the creation of stable and peaceful societies and nations.

This is why we have practiced hoon dok hae and studied the meaning of True love, True Parents and True Family. Reverend Moon has said, "You have to study, researching God's deepest level of knowledge, connecting with that high-level of value. The most powerful thing is God's true love, the core of God's being."

Today there is no time to describe the many organizations and institutions established by Rev. and Mrs. Moon as part of a comprehensive plan for world peace. However, I do want to share briefly about the work of the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace.

In many regions of the world, the political, religious and academic leaders are not unified and cannot contribute effectively to a lasting peace. Many times political leaders pursue peace, but without fully grasping the spiritual, moral and cultural roots of conflict. Religious leaders, on the other hand, often fail to fully appreciate political realities. Academics, furthermore, frequently distance themselves from both religion and politics.

To remedy this situation, Reverend Moon founded the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace, dedicated to promoting greater collaboration and cooperation among

religious, political and academic leaders so that our efforts for peace are both more comprehensive and effective. This is the reason we have called leaders representing religion, politics and academia to this seminar.

The IIFWP maintains that efforts for world peace on the part of the United Nations and other international organizations needs to be enhanced and complemented by the wisdom and insight of the world's great religious traditions, as well as by the expertise of persons in the arts, the media, and especially education. Reverend Moon has indicated that the current structure of the United Nations should be improved by including a council of religious leaders who could assist in the efforts for peace, especially since in so many areas of conflict, politics is linked to religion, culture, ethnicity and historical traditions. If we are truly serious about peace we must seek to improve current models of peacemaking.

The IIFWP is already working aggressively to establish a global network of leaders from all faiths, nations and academic fields. Immediately after the inauguration of IIFWP this past February, Rev. and Mrs. Moon began a world tour to establish IIFWP in more than forty nations. Next February in Seoul, Korea, the IIFWP will celebrate its first anniversary with a major conference. In addition, a variety of initiatives are underway, emerging as a response to the input we have received from contacts throughout the world.

I invite you to submit suggestions and recommendations for IIFWP programs and activities. Also, please recommend candidates for either individual or institutional membership. I also want to encourage you to become an active participant in the work of the IIFWP. Actually, I should really say, please become not only a participant, but a leader in the work of the IIFWP. As a graduate of this

seminar, I believe you are now uniquely empowered to serve as a great light for your families, your communities, your religions and your nations.

The Pure Love Alliance is but one example of how, centering on Reverend Moon's teachings, individuals are empowered to work in many very practical and effective ways to transform our present world into a world of goodness. He is deeply concerned about the well-being of the world's youth, and their standard of character and morality. Most of all, he wants to guide them

to the ideal of true love and true family. This coming year he will offer a blessing for all the youth of the world. I sincerely hope each of you, as leaders of your respective religions, academic institutions, and nations, will teach your young people about the PLA's pure love movement and about the year 2000 Youth Blessing for

True Families. If each of you do this, how bright our future will be. For if you guide one young person in the way of this movement for true love and true family, you bring blessing not only to one individual, but to an entire family, their children and all their descendants.

Since you are the alumni of this very historic, first international hoon dok hae seminar, you can be proud and confident in guiding others in your family, your universities, your places of prayer and worship, and your nations.

As we stand on the threshold of the new millennium, let us work hand in hand, together. Let us, once and for all, end the history of war, of racial and religious conflict, family breakdown, and self-centered living. May the glory of God's precious True Love spring forth from every corner of the earth.

[Edited for Today's World]



Universal Ballet Company Acclaimed in Europe

Julian Gray and Anne Inoue
Seoul, Korea

Universal Ballet performed in Hungary, Italy and Spain during July of this year, presenting 18 performances in 7 cities. In Hungary, five performances of *Swan Lake* and *Giselle* in the Hungarian State Opera House in Budapest from July 2-7 were completely sold out. Even in Italy and Spain where the summer season takes many vacationers out of the city, large audiences were captivated by the artistry demonstrated by a Korean company performing what has traditionally been a Western art. Hoon Sook Nim, who dances under the stage name Julia H. Moon (H for Heung Jin), was herself surprised at the positive response both she and the ballet company as a whole received in each of the countries where they performed.



Hungary

If immortal, heavenly love exists which cannot be expressed with words, but only with dance, it is called Julia H. Moon as Giselle.....

Julia H. Moon is a non-recurring miracle. Romantic music vibrates in all her nerves and becomes etherialized in inimitable motion. — Magyar Hirlap, Budapest

The wonderful prima ballerina and General Director Julia Moon, and the learned choreographer-ballet master, professor Oleg Vinogradov's skill, stage direction, professional

direction and quest for perfection radiated from all members of the company—from the stage work of soloists recruited from South Korea and from international theaters, as well as from the work of every member of the corps de ballet.

Is this all there is to their secret? Or perhaps beyond the brilliant implementation of classical technique and form of expression, is it also the vitality, ease, diligence and artistic humility allied with talent that radiated from Universal Ballet's performance?...

The miracle in the history of dance has occurred: the ideal beauty conceived in the

Russian ballet theater at the end of the 19th century is taken on and shown to the world by Koreans at the end of the 20th century. — Art of Dance, Budapest

Italy

*Universal Ballet performs the white acts of *Swan Lake* with an exactitude not always guaranteed by our centuries-old European ballet companies. Impeccable black and white swans*

in the final act, white-face court jesters whizzing round the stage like spinning tops, court ladies resembling queens and brilliant character dancers (the Spanish dance in the third act is magnificent) wearing lavish costumes take the stage with sumptuous Russian-style sets...the excellent Universal Ballet lives up to its universal goals. — L'Unita, Milan

The work done by Oleg Vinogradov and his dancers: the soloist, principals, and corps de ballet, has been extraordinary...The meticulous direction ...has reaped its benefits: impeccable Russian technique combined with Asian grace. — La Repubblica, Rome

It's done. The western tradition of classical ballet has moved to the Orient. The password is to forget the Maryinski of St. Petersburg and the Bolshoi of Moscow and replace them with Universal Ballet of Seoul. — Corriere della Serra, Rome

Spain

*(On the July 23 outdoor performance in Rome:) In the garden of the German Academy of Rome where the association "Invito alla Danza" presented their Summer Ballet Season, the Universal Ballet Company performed on Friday night a version of *Giselle**





(Photos) Facing page top: Julia Moon is warmly greeted by members of the audience in Rome; bottom: an appreciative audience in Budapest; This page top: Julia H. Moon and Jae-Hong Park in the Versiliana Festival performance of *Swan Lake*; bottom: Universal Ballet Company members bring new life to famous sights in (middle) Budapest and (below) Rome.

that will remain forever in the memory of the Roman people not only because of Guer-
ra [the famous Argentinian male dancer] and Moon but because of a synchronized corps de ballet that drew enthusiastic applause from an audience that almost did not believe what they were seeing....

It is not often that the corps de ballet receives applause during their scenes and is even less common that beyond the ovation and final applause, a dance audience is motivated to go forward towards the stage and backstage and even onto the stage to hug the artists and to see them up close almost with the intention and necessity of proving to themselves that the artists were human and earthly people. Without exception the audience was extremely grateful and exuberant to have been given such a performance.

— El Mundo

(On the July 29 performance in the Veranos de la Villa Festival in Madrid:) Universal Ballet is a great company. No doubt about it. Strength can be clearly seen in the production and in the beauty of the costumes, along with the refinement of the soloists, able to take risks and produce virtuosity at the highest level. — El Pais

Ballet requires a unique effort by its practitioners in the discipline—and the art—of mind-body unity. And when

that human beings are the greatest and most beautiful of God's creatures, the last created being). Significant development of these qualities requires tremendous investment and self sacrifice. Moreover, the dramatic expression of such timeless values as honor, fidelity and ideal

it is done well, it stimulates in others the appreciation of the qualities that contribute to that unity: athletic discipline, artistic expression, and the unmatched beauty of the human form in motion (And while we were writing this, Hoon Sook Nim reminded us

vation of the best among the classical traditions of the arts, one role Universal Ballet avowedly seeks to fulfill, assists in no small way the preservation and restoration of the classical values.

Dr. Pak strongly exhorts the members of Universal Ballet to live pure lives, and he has expressed that this is prerequisite to the ballet's continued existence. It seems to be having an effect. As one observer commented, "The reason the dancing affects people so deeply is that what they are on the inside comes over in the performance." The impresario who managed the tour, himself a veteran of four decades of such work, spoke highly of the company's character. It was, he said, the first time in the course of organizing a tournee of several weeks, taking the dancers and staff to lands with food and customs far different from their own, that he had encountered no complaints.

Father has expressed his own pride in the work of Universal Ballet in several recent speeches (see August 8 speech, in this issue), and has directed the company to tour both the USA and Europe in the years 2000 and 2001.

[Anne Inoue is the UBC General Manager. She and her husband Yuji were blessed in the 1275 Couples Blessing in 1989. They have one daughter.]



love, and of the world of the spirit, portrayed in front of appreciative audiences, convinces us that the arts are firmly entrenched in the larger scheme of bringing the human race back into contact with its original potential. The preser-



Upon the declaration of this day, the freedom and victory have been returned to You whereby the march of Your all-transcendence, all-immanence, all-sovereignty and all-capability can commence in heaven and earth...We thank You that You have allowed this declaration to mark the day to regain the unification of heaven and earth, the sovereignty of love, the liberation of the entire cosmos, God, parents, and the authority of glory and victory.

Reverend Sun Myung Moon
August 17, 1999 (7.8 Jeol)

