

Unification Church of America North American Headquarters

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MEMO: BFD 2010-09-16

To: District Directors, State & Church Leaders, Blessed Central Families

From: National Blessed Family Department

Re: True Parents' Matching and Cosmic Blessing Ceremony on October

10, 2010 in Asan, Korea- UPDATES

Date: September 16, 2010

We would like to make you aware of the following important updates regarding True Parents' Cosmic Blessing Ceremony October 10, 2010 in Korea:

- ➤ The application deadline for participating in the Blessing has been extended to Thursday, September 30, 2010.
- ➤ Candidates for True Parents' matching, which will take place between October 6-8 in Korea, must apply by Tuesday, September 28, and as announced previously, participate in the candidates' workshop at UTS in NY (September 17-19) or in Los Angeles (October 1-3).
- ➤ Those older than the specified age for TP's matching, who meet all other qualifications, may apply and attend, though we cannot yet guarantee that you will be matched (see #IV below).
- ➤ The Blessing will be broadcast via internet, and official ceremonies should be organized in each district for engaged couples, previously married couples and Blessed Central Families who did not participate in the October 14, 2009 or February 17, 2010 Blessing ceremonies.
- ➤ There will also be a main USA ceremony, held Saturday, October 9, 2010 at the Lovin' Life Learning Center for couples and their families. It will include a celebration banquet, entertainment and inspiration, before and after the 10:00 PM (New York time) ceremony.
- > The program, education content and materials for the main ceremony will be available to all districts for use in local ceremonies and education as needed.

The following details are for those planning to participate in Korea. Details for ceremonies in the USA will follow in a separate memo:

- **I. SCHEDULE OF THE BLESSING CEREMONY:** Sunday, October 10th, 2010 at 11:00 AM in Korea (Saturday evening the 9th in USA: 10:00 PM in New York, 7:00 PM on the west coast)
- II. LOCATION OF THE MAIN CEREMONY: Sun Moon University Campus, Asan, South Korea

III. WHEN TO ARRIVE FOR THE BLESSING:

- **A.** Couples already matched should arrive on October 8th, 2010 in Korea and plan to leave on October 12th.
- **B.** Candidates for True Parents Matching should arrive on October 5th, 2010 and plan to leave on October 12th. The matching will take place during a special workshop for these candidates from October 6th 8th in Korea. Only those who are physically present will be able to participate. No matching by photo is planned, but those who cannot travel but wish

IV. CANDIDATES FOR TRUE PARENTS MATCHING: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

True Parents intend to match Blessed Children in order to recreate a model of the original ideal for the Blessing. Candidates who meet the Cheon II Guk standard outlined below, with the special faith and commitment required to make this offering are welcome to apply. All candidates for True Parents' matching must complete the application process, attend the Blessing Workshop September 17-19 at UTS or October 1-3 in Los Angeles, and be interviewed by the National Blessed Family Department before traveling to Korea.

Those older than the specified age who fulfill ALL other qualifications may apply, and are welcome to attend. Although we cannot guarantee that you will me matched, Father has shown great concern for the matching of elder BCs in general. We will inform you about whether or not it will be possible for you to attend and we recommend that those who are in this category should register as well. Others who feel strongly about their qualification, but have a question or minor discrepancy concerning the standards outlined below should contact the BFD at Blessing@unification.org to discuss this with us.

Cheon Il Guk Standard:

- A. Age: BCs aged 17 to 24 (born between October 11, 1985 and October 10, 1993)
- **B. Innocence:** Those who are receiving the matching and Blessing for the first time. (A person who has cancelled a matching by True Parents or who has been matched by their parents before may NOT participate)
- **C. Purity:** Those who have not kissed, dated, established a girlfriend/boyfriend relationship or made any exclusive romantic commitment.
- **D. Faith:** Those who have absolute faith to accept True Parents' match without question and who are resolved to not break it.
- **E. One Family:** Those who are willing to receive the Blessing with a person from **any** race or nationality.
- **F.** Those with no specific physical, developmental or psychological problems- perfect health.

NOTE: Those matched and Blessed by True Parents previously, whose partner cancelled the Blessing prior to the couple beginning a sexual relationship, who meet all of the other qualifications, have been called to True Parents' matching at times in the past. Those in this situation who wish to participate if allowed should contact Blessing@unification.org.

Remember, all candidates must be qualified by the National BFD in order to participate.

V. FOR ALL BLESSED CHILDREN: DOCUMENTS TO SUBMIT

Please download and submit the following documents at www.familyfed.org (click 'Blessed Family' under 'HQ Departments on the right side of the website, and click 'Forms'), and complete the following requirements:

- 1) Blessing application form
- 2) Family Introduction form [not required for already engaged couples]
- 3) Purity interview form
- 4) Matching Report [for couples matched already by their parents)
- 5) Blessing fee receipt

- 6) Certificate of Blessing Workshop [within 2 years of Blessing date; since October, 2008]
- 7) Two 8 x 10 photos- one full length, one head and shoulders [engaged members need only 1 photo, or may prefer to submit a <u>nice</u> photo of your couple- for TP]
- 8) HIV/AIDS test
- 9) Certificate of Health Exam [only for True Parents' Matching Candidates)
- 10) Confirmation of Qualifications for True Parents' Match [for TP's Matching Candidates)

PLEASE COMPLETE AND SUBMIT ALL DOCUMENTS AT THE SAME TIME.

VI. FOR MATCHED FIRST GENERATION COUPLES

Please complete the First Generation application materials, available at the Blessed Family Department webpage in the members' area at www.familyfed.org/members under "forms." You can also obtain them from your district BFD. Submit these and a certificate of completion of a Blessing Workshop to your district BFD by September 30, 2010.

VII. FOR PREVIOUSLY MARRIED COUPLES- Details will follow in a separate memo

VIII. WHERE TO SUBMIT BLESSING APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

<u>Candidates for True Parents' matching</u> (who have not submitted their application by September 15) should <u>submit one copy of documents to the National BFD</u>, and <u>send one copy to their District BFD</u>. All others should submit one copy to the district BFD only.

All Blessing applications should be submitted to your District BFD by Email or Mail.

NOTE: The minimum resolution for digital photos sent by Email is 1MB.

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IX. BLESSING DONATION FEE

The Blessing Donation is more than an administrative fee- it is an historical condition expressing gratitude and sincerity for receiving God's eternal gift of the Blessing through True Parents. Costs for the Blessing event are deducted from the offering, and the remainder is placed in a fund belonging to True Parents, but used for the education and support of Blessed Families and children. The standard Blessing fee for the USA is \$2,000 per applicant (and their family), and is adjusted as follows:

- \$2,000- for those participating in the Blessing in the USA
- \$1,500- for those participating in Korea (reduced to assist families in funding international travel costs)

- \$500- for those being Re-Blessed, who paid their original fees in full

Those who pay their Blessing fee in full need not worry about any additional costs for transportation, meals or accommodations in Korea, or in the main USA event in New York. District or local level events may request a modest fee to cover the costs of these events.

Please use 'Blessing fee payment form' at www.familyfed.org and submit fees by October 1:

- By Email (credit card): BFDadmin@unification.org
- By Fax (credit card): (212) 997-0054 ATTN: Mrs. Esther Flores
- By Mail (check or money order):

National BFD- Blessing Fee ATTN: Mrs. Esther Flores 481 8th Avenue, Room 603 New York, NY 10001

X. APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR THE BLESSING: September 30th, 2010

XI. 7 DAY FAST

According to True Parents direction, <u>all</u> participants in the Blessing (1st or 2nd generation) should complete a 7-day fast prior to the ceremony. If any participant is concerned about completing the fast due to health problems, medications or other difficulties, contact your district BFD to discuss alternative ways to complete this condition wholeheartedly.

XII. TRANSPORTATION AND LODGING INFORMATION: Still to be announced

XIII. THINGS TO PREPARE:

<u>BLESSING RINGS</u>: Can be pre-purchased in America at the Japanese Publications Store at 4 West 43rd St. in New York City (Phone 212-302-6216). Also, we expect that rings of different qualities and costs will be available in Korea. Further information will follow.

All Blessing candidates should prepare a Blessing ring and a dark (black or blue) suit with a white shirt and a red tie (brothers) or a white wedding dress (sisters). Bouquets, gloves and veils will be provided in Korea.

Participants should bring FM radios for translation during the matching & Blessing Ceremony.

For further information, contact Esther Flores at BFDadmin@unification.org or (212) 997-0055. Additional information regarding previously married couples and Blessing ceremonies in the USA will follow soon.

Most sincerely,

Rev. Joshua Cotter

Executive Vice President

Unification Church- USA

Rev. Phillip Schanker

Director, Blessed Family Department

Unification Church- USA