

# One World, One Language. Just a Nice Dream?

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By Barbara Grabner

The Slovak chapter of UPF held an event which was dedicated to the search for a common language. The last sequence in the book “The Divine Principle” states that the multitude of languages results from the confusion and conflicts caused by the Fall. During the Second Coming mankind would regain a common language. True Father encouraged our members countless times to learn his language. How to let the public know about the reason for learning Korean?

A good opportunity arose when our family came in contact with a teacher of Esperanto in early spring. Jarmila attended the Little Angles Performance in Vienna and visited other events and lectures afterwards. In a booklet she gave us we read that the founder of Esperanto, Louis L. Zamenhof (1859-1917) not only had the vision to find a common language but wanted to combine the basics of all world religions into a Unified Religion. Zamenhof discovered that this goal was beyond his capacity and focused on solving the language problem. Since the Esperanto World Congress 2016 will be held in Slovakia and in 2017 in Korea, it seemed fitting to highlight the need for a common language. Besides intensive mailing advertising also the event posters were displayed in the hallways of the university.

On the evening of October 19, heavy rainfall caused that less people came as had promised. Even during a short walk one got wet despite an umbrella. It afforded strong will to go out in the dark and rain, and therefore the organizing couple Barbara and Milos Klas greeted every single guest with sincere appreciation. The 20 guests then enjoyed a unique and interesting program. Jarmila Rechorisova introduced to us the life and work of Louis L. Zamenhof, some historic world languages, the efforts of scholars to solve the “Babylonian confusion” and explained to us the basics of Esperanto. A convincing aspect was how much easier the administration of the European Union would become if they used one common language. The 23 official languages of the union need 506 channels for translations which costs several hundred millions of Euros per year.



The second presentation focused on Korean, the prospects to make it a worldwide spoken language in combination with the recent Korean Wave. Who knows that in China Korean belongs to the most popular foreign languages? Even in the United States the interest in this language is rising considerably. Sylvia Jurisova attends the language course sponsored by the Korean Embassy in Bratislava. She explained her personal motivation to study Korean, and why it is not so difficult to learn it. We were surprised to hear that the political division between North and South already results in language differences. UPF Secretary General Milos Klas showed pictures of Sun Moon University in Korea and explained in a few words the vision of the founder.