

## UPF and FFWPU Albania celebrate the International Day of Peace in Tirana

Manjola Vasmatics  
September 20, 2017



This is the 9th year that UPF and FFWPU celebrates the International Day of Peace focusing in helping children on their journey of education. The event took place on September 20, 2017 in Tirana. This year's UN theme, "Together for Peace: Respect, Safety and Dignity for All" brought together in cooperation UPF, CARP, FFWPU, and National Integration Institute of Albanian Orphans.

6 young students, Doralda Ferizi, Beqir Kaculi, Erol Hoxhallari, Elona Zefi, Enea Leka, Adnan Rexhaj, spend their summer holidays all over Albania fundraising in order to buy school supplies for the academic year of 2017-2018, for 100 orphan pupils.

Moderator of the program, Mrs. Manjola Vasmatics, explained the meaning of this day and quoted Rev. Sun Myong Moon's passages on importance of education as one of the things we should leave behind to our descendants.



The chair of NIAO (National Integration Institute of Albanian Orphans), Mr. Ilir Cumani as a co-organizer of this activity, gave the welcoming remarks and expressed his determination in his heart to work more to make the orphan children happier.

We had the privilege to have the UPF President for Europe, Eurasia and Middle East Dr. Otsuka Katsumi. He shared a beautiful message to start building peace within ourselves and in the world simply by giving a smile. All children and participants were very happy and kept on smiling during all activity.

As a representative of Albanian AfP, Mrs. Valbona Tolli explained the vision of UPF on practicing the main principle of living for the sake of others.

We had the chance to hear two testimonies from Mr. Beqir Kaculi and Mrs. Elona Zefi who shared their experience in fundraising and encouraged the children with heartfelt words.

UPF Chair of Albania Hon. Gaqo Apostoli concluded the activity with a hopeful message and sang few songs together with the children about mother. Entertainment continued with dancing “Unconditional” by Japanese Carp students and singing by Mrs. Kazumi Kawakubo, UPA internship student.

Finally, pupils were invited one by one to receive the package with school supplies.

We wish the pupils a successful year and together we are determined to continue such peace-building projects.

