

## The awards of Tomiko Asano and Enkhjargal Sanjid praised

September 2014



As part of the commemorative events for the second anniversary of True Father's Seonghwa, the Korean Multi-Cultural Peace Federation and the International Families Council published *Until that Day of Victory*, a collection showing awards presented to foreign wives blessed to Koreans. This collection covers the bases on which these blessed family members came to receive the awards. The awards range from Presidential Citations to Devoted Daughter-In-Law Awards, Fecundity Awards and other awards from governmental institutions and local governments. The awardees in this collection include forty-three blessed wives from Japan, two Filipino blessed wives, one Thai blessed wife and two Mongolian blessed wives.

The awardees initially came to Korea because their husbands are Korean. With the loving heart of serving others, they practiced values that Koreans respect as part of their own tradition, mainly filial piety and fidelity. In embodying those values, these women negated prejudices and stereotypes Korea had had regarding marriage to non-Koreans and created the basis for development of a multicultural society. Through their exemplary lives, they

also gained a number of awards and were covered by the media. In this article, we cover two awardees in the book, Mrs. Tomiko Asano, a Japanese blessed wife that received a presidential citation in 2012 and Ms. Enkhjargal Sanjid, a Mongolian blessed wife that received an award from the Minister of Justice in 2011.

### Tomiko Asano

#### Buan Family Church, North Jeolla Province Received a Presidential Citation



*Mrs. Asano sharing her joy with members of her church*

I came to receive this presidential citation through a recommendation, done without my knowledge, by the head of my township. They assessed the dedication and work I had invested in taking care of my mother-in-law, who was suffering from poor health, and my husband and as well my service to the local community. Based on this assessment, I received an invitation to join the "Luncheon Meeting for Hidden Actions of Filial Piety Carried out Nationwide and Admirable Parents" at the Blue House on Parents' Day, May 8, 2012.

A hundred and sixty-eight people received awards that day; among them, seven people received the Medal of Merit Presidential Prize and another seven received the Presidential Award. The fourteen awardees received an award certificate and medal from the president himself, who shook hands with each awardee and took commemorative photographs. More than thirteen local newspapers in North Jeolla Province including Joongang Ilbo covered an interview of me in their papers. My interview appeared in many internet articles and I appeared on television on KBS1, KBS2 and MBN.

### Introducing myself



I was born in Osaka, Japan, on July 10, 1963. I studied nursing at the Vocational School of Disaster Insurance for Workers. After graduating, I worked as a nurse for three years in a surgical ward. I joined the Unification Church in 1991 and was blessed in the 360,000-Couple Blessing Ceremony with my husband, Yeong Cheon Kim in 1995.

### My Life in Korea

Our family comprises my mother-in-law, who is eighty-five years old, my husband and our three children. My oldest daughter is in her second year of high school, my second daughter is in her second year of middle school and my son, the youngest, is in sixth grade of elementary school. We live off farming. My mother-in-law suffered from right hemiplegia because of a cerebral infarction. Fortunately, she has become much better by receiving treatment and rehabilitation training for a long time. Now she can go to the bathroom by herself with the use of a cane. My husband caught Japanese encephalitis when he was in middle school; this had affected his speech and cognitive ability to some degree.

Seven years ago, my husband had an injury at a construction site that caused a fissure in his neck bone. He had to have an operation. Fortunately, he was not paralyzed, but he had to quit his job because of constant pain in his arms that plagued him afterward. Now, he is doing farm work with my mother-in-law. While taking care of the household, I could pass the fifth level of the Korean Language Proficiency Test and also passed the national nursing examination. I have also been offering my services, going around the village halls in Buan and providing moxibustion treatment.



*In 2012, Korean President Lee presenting citations; Mrs. Asano is in white.*

### A Letter Expressing Gratitude to True Parents

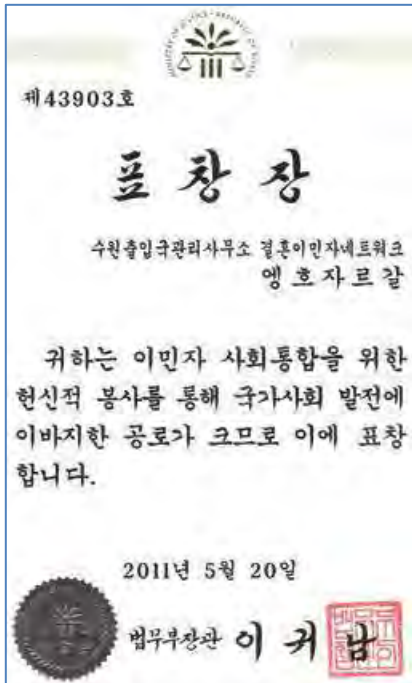
My life of faith started after I understood True Parents' course while I was in Japan. I believe that in my

life, through blessed life, I have been training in how to live for a greater existence by searching for Heavenly Parent's and True Parents' hearts, instead of living centered on myself.

Despite my inadequacy, I received an important award, given to those whose acts of filial piety are praiseworthy, from the president himself. I believe that this is a blessing from Heaven in response to my constant desire and effort to do Heaven's work even if it meant sacrificing my family. I repent for my inadequate life of faith and will work harder to become a member that obtains more actual results as an owner of Cheon Il Guk. As a blessed family, it is indeed an honor and joy to be able to make True Parents happy, for they have guided us to the way of God's will and given us life. I sincerely convey my gratitude.

**Ms. Enkhjargal Sanjid**

**Anseong Church, South Gyeonggi Province, chairwoman of Mongolians in the International Family Council**



**Received an achievement award**

From 2007 to 2013, I received several awards from national institutions and social groups. In 2011, acknowledged for the activities and work I carried out when managing the general affairs of the Gyeonggi Married Immigrants Network in helping multi-cultural families settle well in Gyeonggi Province, I was presented with an award certificate from the Minister of Law and from the Immigration Office in Suwon on Together Day. In 2010, I received the Happy Family Award during the second Multi-Cultural Family Award Ceremony for the volunteering work I carried out within local communities of Gyeonggi Province. In 2009, at the twenty-fourth Gyeonggi Women's Handicraft Contest, I made it to the finals and received an excellence award in the immigrant woman's essay contest section. In that same year, I also received a letter of appreciation from the Anseong police superintendent for the dedication I invested toward the betterment of police tasks, particularly for my contribution as a civilian interpreter.

**Introducing Myself**

I was born on July 21, 1977, in Ulan Bator, Mongolia. I was the second daughter out of seven siblings. After graduating elementary school, middle school and high school in Mongolia, I graduated in Media Studies from the National University of Mongolia. I joined the Unification Church in 1999 and around a year later, on January 27, 2001, I was blessed to my husband in the Second Phase of the 400-Million-Couple Blessing Ceremony.



*Mrs. Sanjid and her family*



*Mrs. Sanjid and the governor*

## **My Life in Korea**

My husband is forty-seven and is an office worker. We have a son, who is in fifth grade and a daughter, who is in sixth grade. After going to church every Sunday, we will visit my mother-in-law, who is living alone in the province, and help her with farm work and household chores. Of course, we also faced many difficulties as a couple because of the different environment we grew up in and the differences in our thought processes.

My husband was not a religious person at all and this would make life in Korea itself difficult and lonesome at times. It has been fourteen years since I came to Korea and despite the difficulties, it is a joy to see my

children grow up every day and I am happily living with my family.

## **Letter of Gratitude to True Parents**

Heavenly Parent, the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind, I love you. True Mother, you look beautiful indeed, when we see you always sacrificing for us and shedding blood, sweat and tears; I feel sorry and thankful at the same time. Thanks to True Parents, my life in Korea has been truly meaningful despite my inadequacies. My name is Enkhajargal. "Enkh" means "peace" and "jargal" means "happiness." How great would it have been if my life had unfolded according to the meaning of my name?



When I first received the blessing, I was greatly determined to build an ideal family and an ideal kingdom of heaven. However, reality was not easy. Even now, pain and bitterness still reside in one corner of my heart that I have not been able to reveal to anyone. However, I could endure everything until now because God was with me and because I am aware of the spiritual world.

From 2007, I started volunteering to work in a cafeteria at a senior citizens' welfare center in the city of Anseong. Coming from abroad, volunteering was my first step into Korean society. In 2009, I began working with the South Gyeonggi Married Immigrants Network. Though

inadequate myself, I will continue to do many good things for both Koreans and non-Koreans.

I hope also to increase my confidence. I am now in charge of Mongolians within the International Family Council. Since the period until 2020 is important, I am determined to do my best, regardless of the many difficulties that may occur, internally and externally, by complementing my inadequacies and becoming a lamp to my neighbors -- just as True Parents are lamps of hope to fallen humanity -- by enthusiastically carrying out my work and activities. I will become a child that realizes Heaven's will in my lifetime at all costs. I will become number one in my life in Korea, in my life of faith and in my Cheon Il Guk life and so will my family.