



Northeast Region Newsletter

April 2015

3rd Year of Cheon Il Guk

Content

Northeast Regional 21-day Leadership Training Workshop

Korea-Russia Peace Bridge

Victory of 40-Day Fasting

Ukraine

Moldova

Latvia

Lithuania

Estonia

Northeast Regional 21-day Leadership Training Workshop

In order to strengthen frontline activities and for raising up frontline leaders Regional President Rev. Chung organized 21-day Leadership Training Workshop which took place in Ukraine, Kiev.



Thirty front line leaders and members with leadership potential gathered in Ukraine in the Yellow Castle, a house which was recently dedicated to God by Ukraine members. Leaders came from 9 nations Russia, Ukraine, Lithuania, Moldova, Belarus, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Mongolia.

The goal of the workshop was to develop members' passion, determination and ownership for their missions. Therefore all participants in a roll had to experience being a leader of the workshop. They had to lead pledge service in the morning, being MC, organizing cleaning, etc.

For the success of witnessing in NER and this workshop in particular every morning all leaders did 120 full bow jeongseong condition and prayer. HoonDokHwe was from the book "The Way of Spiritual Leader"

The program of the workshop was very diverse. Participants had a chance to listen lectures from the prominent leaders and professors as well as they had training of practical skills necessary for leader.



Regional President Rev. Chung paid special attention for this workshop. He stayed with participants most of the days despite his busy schedule. Every day he gave guidance about importance of jeongseong, which is like breathing for physical body, necessity of gaining real experience with spirit world and making utmost efforts to gain a mind and body unity. Without this foundation it is impossible to become a spiritual leader.

Special Emissary to Asia Region Dr. Robert Kittel gave lectures on Divine Principle in the language understandable for general people without using too much religious terminology. These kinds of lectures are quite effective in the former Soviet Union nations. Then Dr. Kittel coached leaders to give such presentations.

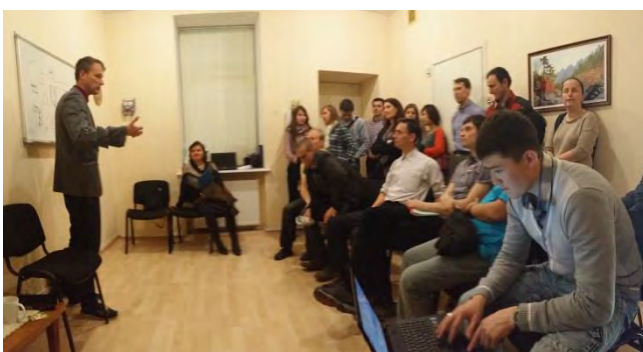




Participants not only listened to the lectures but for few days had lecture and sermon practice. After one or two hours of preparation they had to speak in front of their groups, then each group participant gave his evaluation of a speech using SWOT tool. Many members shared that such practice was very useful because they could see themselves objectively.

Members listened lectures of Prof. Lee Jae Il about fundamental aspects of our faith and leadership, Rev. Lee Jae Young and Rev. Yong Jin Hun about giving sermons. They also watch documentary about Jewish education showing how Jewish people were able to preserve their tradition until now. This is very relevant for our movement today when we are aiming the goal of establishing eternal tradition of CheonIlGuk.

During the workshop leaders practiced fundraising and witnessing in the streets of Kiev. Especially witnessing was very exciting.



During two days leaders invited 32 new guests to the introduction lecture, few of them already listened to 1-day seminar and expressed desire to participate in 2-day and 7-day seminar. The witnessing center in Kiev was truly international, leaders from 9 nations plus CIG missionaries from Korea and Japan were working together. This generated incredible spirit of unity.

At the workshop leaders really faced their limitations and gained strength to challenge them. Several members who are not leaders yet remained in Ukraine for more training of giving lectures and witnessing. Through this workshop leaders could break down their national concepts and develop mind beyond their nations. They could create real unity on the continental level and could practically feel that we are one family under God.

Korea-Russia Peace Bridge. Moscow, Russia

On April 23, 2015 at the Eurasian Peace Embassy from 5 to 9 pm peace initiative in the form of the peace bridge of Russian-Korean friendship was held. From Korean side the president of Korean UPF Son Byeong Ho, the ambassador Jeong Tae Ik, General Secretary Song Gwang Seok a total number of 26 people attended the event. From Russian side the president of Eurasian UPF Jin Hwa Chung, Russian Far East Federal University professor Petrovsky, General Secretary of Eurasian UPF Konstantin Krylov, including Second World War and Korea War Veteran Arsenkin a total of 80 people. Altogether 100 people gathered on this conference at evening of culture of heart.



At the opening of the conference the President of the Northeast Continent Chung Jin Hwa greeted Peace Ambassadors from South Korea and gave a welcome address. In the welcoming speech President Chung reflected on the historic relationship between the Korean Peninsula and Russia. Russia and the Korean Peninsula over the period of the last century was the neighbors who maintained exchange with each other. Until the beginning of the Russian-Japanese War about 20 years Russia and Korea held very deep international relationships. Finally President Chung emphasized that the right-wing movement such as democracy and left-wing movement such as communism, both have to merge together centering on Head-wing ideology advocated by True Parents.

After one and half hour conference the participants could enjoy Russian cultural performance. After serious time of the conference Peace Ambassadors from Korea have been touched by Russian songs and dance performed by 'Angels of Peace', concert group of Russian Second Generation children. Korean song "Beautiful world" sounded and warmhearted performance of young boys and girls moved the hearts of audience.



Next, the special event of the evening – Korean-Russian brother–sisterhood ceremony was held. The ceremony was opened by representative couple of the president of Korean UPF Son Byeong Ho and the President of UPF Eurasia Chung Jin Hwa, and then one by one all 26 Peace Ambassadors met brother or sister from side of Russian Peace Ambassadors. After the handshake, hug and gifts exchanging the participants of ceremony received certificates and took photo. Such an event symbolically brought Korea and Russia into unity. People of both counties could become closer to each other in their hearts.

Victory of 40-Day Fasting

In Russia Nikolay Rzhnevsky fulfilled 40 day fasting condition. He started fasting from February 2 and finished on March 13, 2015. He shared his experiences after finishing condition.



“I was inspired by idea of 40 days fasting. I wanted to be successful in my mission. I said that I want to make this condition because I find forces inside me.”

He set up great goals for his fasting condition.

- 1) For God could come to earth and work here.
- 2) For True Parents' unity and True Mother's health.
- 3) For Huyng Jin nim to be with True Mother.
- 4) For development of Northeast Continent, for Russia.
- 5) For success in his mission as an artist.
- 6) For his family, for mind and body unity.



Fasting was very challenging and painful. Nikolay had to fight internally every day. He says: *“Often I lacked gratitude. The most difficult was to love pain. I tried to pray but it was difficult to overcome. The pain was big. I couldn't place it in my heart. I prayed to don't complain and to reach the end. I asked God about it and He helped me. Of course I couldn't love pain completely. At least I didn't complain to God, why should I have this, because of what?..”*

“40 days without food is very serious. I was afraid of death. I was confident in God because I asked God to give me strength. Even if the moment of death will come, I didn't want to be afraid. I realized the importance of such moment. True

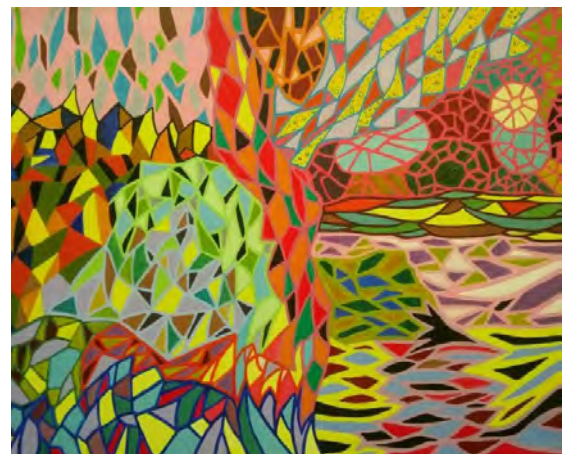
Father said that you cannot build relationships with God if you are afraid of death.”

Gaining power through listening of Cheon Seong Gyeong was the strongest spiritual experience. “After 30th day, when I couldn't do anything, I was just lying in the bed and listening to the CSG. Special time was at night, from midnight and till exactly 6 a.m. During this time hunger pain was reducing, and special grace was coming, the mind was clear. And I was enjoying listening to the CSG. I felt better and I could hear special words of True Father.

“When I was finishing condition I felt special Divine force of God and True Parents that supported me. In the last days of fasting I felt not so good physically. I was weak, dizzy... almost fainting. From other side I felt that there is a force that supports me, that don't let me fall down internally and externally. Before I couldn't notice this force. Not so clearly...”

In the last day the force showed itself. It was invisible, elusive, unobtrusive, from other side mighty and attentive to me. It was one from the most important experiences. I realized that everything is due to God and True Parents. Fasting condition ended without extra problems.”

During the fasting he had many spiritual visions, but the most powerful was when he finished the condition. As Nikolay himself shares, he wanted to express his pain that's why he drew the picture (on the right). However, if you look on it you don't feel pain, you feel very strong spirit. He found his style.



You can watch full version of interview with Nikolay Rzhnevsky at NER Cyber Theological Seminar: <http://nercts.org/self-development/the-testimony-about-the-condition-of-40-day-fasting/>

Ukraine

Witnessing activity

The all-Ukrainian meeting for blessed families was held on April 25, 2015 attended by over 30 families. Participants talked about responsibility of blessed families and the importance of developing our relationships with each other through communication.

UPF: Interaction Peace School Lesson

The meeting for Peace School students in Kiev Family Center “Family House” was held by UPF of Ukraine on April 2, 2015. It was attended by 30 people, including 11 young volunteers from Korea. The meeting comprised special training program “Interaction” with interesting games and tasks. After that, we video recorded the interview with Jeremy Gilley, the founder of Peace One Day organization. This video record we sent directly to Jeremy Gilley.



The meeting was very exciting for all participants. Ukrainian and Korean students eagerly made friends and everybody enjoyed the meeting a lot. The atmosphere was so emotional and warm that students unwilling to go home kept on communicating with each other even after the end of the meeting.

The concluding Peace School meeting at Kiev school #291 was held on April 16, 2015. It was attended by representatives of 14 schools; 17 students presented their projects. There were many interesting and original projects on: ecology, education, historical research, and service projects. Students demonstrated their creativity in organizing and carrying out the projects. The Peace School Commission carefully considered and evaluated each project. The results will be announced later.

The 8th WFWP annual international conference

The 8th annual international conference related to Mother’s Day was held on April 29, 2015. It was sponsored by WFWP of Ukraine. The event on “Women’s Sensitivity and Commitment as the Key to Peace” took place in the Kiev International Convention Center, Ukrainian House. The conference was attended by leaders and representatives of governmental and public organizations, prominent artists, educators, scientists and international guests from Japan – totally about 500 people.



The conference was related to the role of women and mothers in building a peaceful society and the role of national and international non-governmental organizations in expanding the idea of human values. Also the annual «Woman of the Year» awarding ceremony was held during the conference. Eight Ukrainian women received the award in different nominations for their sincere contribution to development of education, science and culture in Ukraine.

Moldova

Despite the turbulent events that Moldovan Church community went through in its work in the month of April, we go on with our activities, take care of potential guests and never stop witnessing.

Church area

In the Church area we continue our weekly activities, among them: weekly meetings on witnessing; Prayer Meetings on Mondays; Famous People Club sessions on Thursdays; Sport' Club on Sundays; Movie Club Sessions on Sundays.

Blessed Wives' Meetings

Blessed Wives' Meetings were renewed twice a month on Thursday. On April 23, after receiving a relevant internal guidance from Rev. Cho, the Special CIG Envoy to Moldova, Moldovan Blessed Wives attended a master-class in preparing *kochujang* by Mrs. Cho.

Based on such wonderful experience there came the idea of organizing once a month the "Community Wives Meeting" which will be a new witnessing way for our Blessed Wives.

NGO sphere, WFP of Moldova

On April 18, the Special CIG Envoys, Rev. & Mrs. Cho, met Masaki & Miki Kutsuzawa, missionaries in Moldova who have been investing themselves for the last 20 years in supporting and developing the WFP of Moldova. They talked about uniting efforts in working for Moldova restoration.



On this foundation on April 24 they met the former president of the WFP of Moldova, Mrs. Raisa Bradutsanu. After that on April 28 they met the first president of WFP of Moldova, Mrs. Serafima Sava. All meetings were successful and participants expressed their eager desire for cooperation. We believe that with the returning of Rev. & Mrs. Cho, the Special CIG Envoy to Moldova, a new phase of cooperation with the WFP of Moldova has started.

Visit to kindergarten

On April 23 the "SUN" CC team visited for the second time a kindergarten. The teachers and children enjoyed new culture of Japanese songs and kimono show.



Latvia

The Loving Latvia project

The first part of “The Loving Latvia Project” was held at the Latvian UC HQ on Sunday, April 12.



In the Danbury prison, True Father declared, “We moved our HQ to Danbury!” There he practiced the life for others; he cleaned and washed the prison facilities and public toilets, and kept on HoonDokHae readings. True Father always did it with a loving heart for America, as a condition to serve even the country that imprisoned him.

So, we have decided to follow his example; we cleaned our HQ all together, old and young with True Parents’ spirit.

After Sunday service and lunch, many members and some guests washed the windows, doors and walls, made repairs in the Peace Embassy and cleaned toilets. Cleaning windows was not an easy task, because of heavy double window panes that we had to take out and put back in place. But we felt enthusiastic in our work and did it united in spirit.

One student guest joined our project and felt so interested that she read True Father’s Autobiography. She was really moved by True Father’s life course. She received her first Divine Principle book as a gift. Since then, she has been doing HoonDokHae every day. “The Loving Latvia Project” is also important as a means to reestablish HoonDokHae tradition in each family.

Our commitment is creating a good spiritual atmosphere in the HQ of Latvia. We feel that living for others is the best way for creating unity and our spiritual growth. In Latvia we are making efforts to establish and maintain the Heavenly tradition.



Lithuania

Church activity

The new spring has come to Lithuania. According to Vision 2020 centering on True Parents, 3rd team of Korean Cheong Il Guk missionaries arrived to NER. First, they attended the Special Kick off Seminar for CIG missionaries in Ukraine. After that, 6 missionaries got their missions and went to Lithuania (Kho Un Bin, Yun Yon He, Mariko Mochizuki and their leader Mr. Togo) and to Estonia. In Lithuania the spring witnessing condition is planned from April 17 to June 2 with Korean CIG missionaries. We have rented the new witnessing office in the center of Vilnius, near the Gedimino Street, because there are usually many students walking in the center of the capital. Every day, 3 or 4 local members join the witnessing activity with CIG missionaries. During the first week, some new guests came for the introduction lecture. Two guests are studying Korean. Altogether, there are 8 people receiving education.



Estonia

The third team of Korean CIG youth missionaries arrived in Tallinn, Estonia, on the 7th of April. They started witnessing at the Tallinn University right after the 3-day workshop.

On April 15, we organized the Bulgogi dinner with our seven new guests contacted at the Tallinn University and Tallinn Technical University; two previous contacts of the second team witnessing of the Korean CIG youth missionaries joined us.

We organized the Korean class with the Divine Principle lectures based on the CARP USA daily program.



On Saturday, the April 25, we went to the local resort Valgehobusemäe, with big bags of food and much enthusiasm. There, in order to get to know each other better, we started with playing team games. The resort house was very beautiful; we studied the Divine Principle and played ballgames during breaks between the lectures. After that we learned to sing the song "Seonghwacheoreom" and played the Korean game Yut. Both Koreans and Estonians gave beautiful artistic performances which gave us plenty of fun; then after the sauna we went to bed.



On Sunday, the head of the local authority took us out on a hike and we could admire the amazing natural surroundings of the resort. There was also the viewing tower, and the most courageous of us climbed up to the very top!

At the end of our trip, we learned how to make kimbap.

