

Commemorating the six years since True Father's ascension to the spirit world

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It has been six years since True Father's ascension to the spirit world. To commemorate the life he lived, an Anniversary Celebration was held at the World Peace Center in which members paid their respects. Members were provided with flowers as they entered the World Center which they were able to offer to Father, adding a personal touch to otherwise formal proceedings.

A short film was shown, featuring Father's joyful nature as he sang and danced. Highlights from events across the world were shown to demonstrate how Father's legacy continues on, despite him not being physically with us.

Various celebratory performances were presented including a musical depicting a traditional Korean folktale and Paul Potts singing alongside the Little Angels. If you would've told me 10 years ago that the original winner of Britain's Got Talent (Paul Potts) would perform at the Blessing Ceremony, I wouldn't have believed you. Yet there he was, belting out his signature Italian opera and even speaking a bit of Korean.



Held straight after the Sixth Anniversary Celebration was the 2018 Blessing Ceremony, in which six 2nd Generation couples and two 1st Generation couples from the UK participated in.

Dressed to the nines, the couples were Blessed in marriage together as officiated by True Mother. While to the outside world the Blessing may appear as a mass marriage ceremony, it's only when reflecting upon the internal meaning of why couples have come together, do you realise the significance of such an event. Couples came together with the promise to keep God at the centre of their lives in order to live a life with greater purpose.



To reach the Blessing, participants are required to maintain a high purity standard and are encouraged to take time to work on themselves as individuals. With the divorce rate for couples at a low 3%, it's evident that the investment it takes to reach the Blessing is worthwhile.

A Yut game (traditional Korean board game) was next on the agenda. The stadium was divided into four teams with representatives from each team coming down to centre of the stadium to take a more active role in the game. Winners of the competition had the chance to win big, with prizes such as a brand new car up for grabs.

Later that evening, Paul Potts and the Little Angels choir came together to perform a full concert as part of a cultural festival.



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A dedication ceremony was held for the new Cheon Bo Won building, which now stands where the previous Chung Pyung store stood. The building is the new genealogy centre, meaning it will act as a museum/achieve of the movement's history. Additionally, it will house new bath houses. However, only the exterior is completed. The building is planned to be officially open to members around February 2019.



Personal reflection

It's easy to feel detached from how things are done in Korea, either because of the geographical, cultural or language differences. Yet, it's only in Korea that you realise the scale at which the movement is working at. True Father accomplished an unprecedented amount in his lifetime, so to witness how his legacy continues six years on, is nothing less than inspiring.