

TODAY'S WORLD

OCTOBER 2004



***True Parents' Four-City Tour in the U.S.
Interview with Antonio Betancourt***

***Rev. Kwak's Speech to Leaders
IIPC Marks First Anniversary***

International President's Message

Dr. Hwang Sun-jo



Who Will Be Remembered in History?

From Rev. Hwang's sermon in Seoul on October 17, 2004

GOD HAS shown His will through two things—through the creation, and through history. All that God created, man included, exists under a certain law. Nothing that goes against this law will be able to exist. Father has defined that law in one phrase: living for the sake of others. The heavenly law is that one should live for the sake of others. If we disobey that law of basic existence, we cannot exist. This is God's law, which resides within creation.

We also have a second teacher—history. By history we mean history within God's realm of victory. God breathes and exists within history. At times, He has appeared as a pillar of cloud or as fire. At other times, He is invisible, like darkness. There is a time of silence when we do not know if God exists or not. The Principle defines this as a period of indemnity. Yet God is alive regardless of whether He replies or not. God's silence is yet another language of God, though without words. In language, there are many means of communication, including our expressions, signals we make with our eyes, the tears we shed and our smiles. In the same way, silence is also a language. When we are displeased, we don't say anything. This explicitly conveys the fact that we are not pleased. A smile expresses that we feel good. Consequently, even silence is God's language.

God is alive in history. He has existed throughout history. History teaches us important lessons. Yet, what event had the greatest impact on history? Countless things are done by numerous people in diverse fields—politics, economics, culture... There were many events yesterday and the day before, a year ago, ten years ago, 100 years and even 1,000 years ago. Yet what event stands out above all of these events as the greatest in history? Some would say it was the birth of Jesus Christ two thousand years ago. Yet, when we look objectively at the birth of Jesus, it does not appear to be a great event at all.

Two thousand years ago, Jesus' birth and life seemed truly insignificant. Jesus was supposedly born in a stable in Bethlehem in a small nation called Israel; he worked as a carpenter for thirty years, had a public ministry for three years, ate and drank with fishermen, tax collectors and harlots, and died next to robbers. He was not killed because of his messianic status. His death was not one to save this world. He was killed as a criminal next to robbers. That was all. That was his thirty-three years of life.

Who would have ever thought that this insignificant life would have a greater influence than Rome, in all its splendor?

Who would have given attributed any significance to the life of the harlot, Mary Magdalene, or to Lazarus? Who would have noted the significance of their existence or recognized their historic value? The Bible talks about chaff and grain. There are people that remain in the annals of history and people that disappear from history. There are those who are remembered and those who are forgotten.

But in the end who has remained? These lowly people, who were not treated with respect in their lives, caught the attention of God and were able to meet Jesus. They felt comfortable with Jesus because, like him, they were also persecuted. Don't we all like people that we feel comfortable with? Maybe Jesus felt free and comfortable among those people, as well. In any case, he probably felt that he was similar to them.

The fact is, these people are remembered in history.

The same is true today. Who will remain in history, and what event will have the most influence in history? In all of history, how did Jesus, though insignificant in worldly terms, end up the man who had the greatest impact on history? Why is it that a great power like Rome gradually lost influence and ceased to be an empire, while the Christian community, small as it was back then, gradually increased and prospered and remains an influence in the direction that history will take? There are three answers to this question. Chaff is burned away and the

grain remains. There are three ways to qualify as grain.

The first has to do with our original essence. We all have an original essence. If we lose that original essence, we lose life. What is that original essence? Original essence is eternal. It doesn't change. Jesus' works two thousand years ago, though not recognized by many people then, did not deviate from their original essence.

Father says that even God follows the law. In other words, God does not break the laws He sets up. If God in His almightiness were to change the laws He had established, His authority would be lost. Father has asked, "Where does the authority of God, the absolute being, lie?" He answered, "Although Satan has snatched life away from God, and though extreme sadness and anger remains, God cannot abandon the original essence called love." This means that if God had abandoned love, His authority would have disappeared. Were He to lose His original essence, even God would lose His authority. The reason Jesus' works have been remembered to this day, and exerted such great influence on history is that he never abandoned his original essence.

Dear members, what is our original essence? What is the



True Parents arrived at East Garden at 7:30 PM on October 15, and took a photograph with those who had gathered to welcome them



Photos: left, Since early September, Father has been calling the Korean members down to Yeosu in groups of 500 for two-day "Registration workshops for citizens of Cheon Il Guk." Pictured are members from Busan. right, Father and Mother enjoy the autumn air the day before beginning their four-city speaking tour



INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Who Will Be Remembered in History?

Hwang Sun-jo 2

TRUE PARENTS

Establishing the Peace Kingdom and Instituting its Territory and the Realm of its Citizens
(Speech at the IIPC First Anniversary Banquet on October 3)

Rev. Sun Myung Moon 4

Prayer on Jigwi Island

Rev. Sun Myung Moon 24

WORLDWIDE LEADERS' ASSEMBLY IN KOREA

Rev. Kwak Speaks to Our Global Leadership

Kwak Chung-hwan 8

International Leadership Convention

Editor 17

TRUE PARENTS' SPEAKING TOUR IN THE UNITED STATES

The United States of America Welcomes True Parents (*Photos*)

18

Thirty-four Years of Love for America

Godwin D'Silva 20

INTERRELIGIOUS AND INTERNATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL

The Founding Spirit of IIPC (including Father's prayer for IIPC)

Editor 24

INITIATIVES IN THE MIDDLE EAST

A Pioneering RYS Project in the Arab World

David Fraser Harris 26

Exodus from Historical Resentment (Interview)

Antonio Betancourt 28

AMBASSADORS FOR PEACE

Energizing a Small but Potent Country

Sedofia Kagni 31

COMMUNITY OUTREACH THROUGH SERVICE PROJECTS

Throwing Out the Bad and Embracing the Good

Paul Saver 32

True Parents' Grandchildren Devote Time to Local Causes

Source: Service for Peace—Korea 33

COMMUNITY OUTREACH THROUGH LOCAL EVENTS

Building Relationships Through Leisure and Sports

Source: The Segye Times 34

Cover Photo: True Parents pray over the holy wine on the newly named *Cheonju Tongil Guk Gae-Cheon Il* holy day, October 3

PUBLISHER: Dr. Hwang Sun-jo
EDITORIAL ADVISORS: Chang Kwan-hyun
Kaye Allen
MANAGING EDITOR: Julian Gray
ASSISTANT EDITOR: David Beard
TRANSLATION: Kentoku Hamasaka
RESEARCH AND ADMIN.: Kim Hyung-woon
DESIGN & LAYOUT: Alireza Alhoui

Printed by Wooh Seong Sa, Seoul, Korea

TODAY'S WORLD is a publication of the international offices of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU). Founded in 1980 by Rev. Sun Myung Moon, *TODAY'S WORLD* is published mainly for members and associates of FFWPU. A source of information, insight and inspiration for its readers, and a forum for the exchange of news and experiences, the magazine facilitates a sharing of heart among Family Federation members and friends. (The views expressed are therefore not necessarily the official views of FFWPU or its founders.) Members and close associates of the Family Federation generally address or refer to Rev. and Mrs. Moon as "Father" and "Mother."

TODAY'S WORLD E-mail: todayworld@tongil.or.kr Mailing Address: 12th floor, Dowon Building, Dohwa 2 dong, Mapo-gu, Seoul, Korea 121-728; Tel: (82-2) 6383-3203 Fax: (82-2) 6383-1500

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Airmail to any country: One year (12 issues) \$59, 50 euros, £35, ¥6,500 or 70,000 won; Two years (24 issues) \$105, 85 euros, £60, ¥11,500 or 125,000 won; Six months (6 issues) \$32 or equivalent (subject to adjustment for exchange rates). In Korea: 12 issues 45,000 won, 24 issues 79,000 won, six issues 25,000 won. Checks can be made payable to JULIAN GRAY TODAY'S WORLD, and money orders to JULIAN GRAY. Send to the address above. Or transfer payment direct to our Korea First Bank account # 303-20-016058, Swift Code: KOFBKRS Account name TODAY'S WORLD JULIAN GRAY. Credit cards: We hope to be able to receive credit card payments in the near future.

Back issues of *TODAY'S WORLD*: Issues from July 1999 to the present are available from us on demand. Please enquire also about earlier issues.

Establishing the Peace Kingdom and Instituting its Territory and the Realm of its Citizens



Father's Speech
IIPC First Anniversary Banquet
Little Angels Arts Center
October 3, 2004

RESPECTED past and present heads of state and government, religious, political and academic leaders from around the world, honored guests from Korea and abroad: We stand today at a truly extraordinary moment in history. We have come to the time, according to heavenly fortune, when it is possible to establish the heavenly peace kingdom. This is the ideal kingdom of heaven that brings to perfection God's ideal of creation, on earth and in heaven. In anticipation of this day, heaven and earth have waited impatiently for thousands and tens of thousands of years, since the beginning of human history.

Throughout history, humanity has never ceased its yearning for peace. Even now, leaders of good conscience in many places around the world are devoting themselves sacrificially to bringing about world peace. World peace, however, cannot be accomplished through human yearning and human efforts alone. We must first come to a providential time when we can receive the heavenly fortune for establishing a world of peace. Second, when we reach this extraordinary providential moment, we must have a definite understanding of the nature of the world of peace that Heaven seeks to bring about through us. Furthermore, we must know the precise method by which this can be brought about.

As you know, exactly one year ago, I declared to heaven and earth the founding of the Interreligious and International Peace

Council (or the interreligious and international peace UN). Over the past year, we have seen amazing progress and accomplished many things. We have successfully carried out many educational peace programs and pilgrimages for the sake of world peace in such places as the Middle East, where interreligious discord and even violence and conflict between people and nations is widespread; in the United States, which stands in a position to take on responsibilities of the second Israel; and in the Republic of Korea, where even now the tragic division between North and South continues, and people are pointing guns at each other.

Today, I would like to take this historic opportunity to speak on the topic, "Establishing the Peace Kingdom and Instituting Its Territory and the Realm of Its Citizens." I want to convey to you a special message from Heaven for humanity in this age.

Absolute Values Centered on True Love

Ladies and gentlemen, when we examine the order of existence in the universe, we see that each and every being is created to live for the sake of others. This is the fundamental axis or foundation for the accomplishment of God's ideal of creation. When God, the king of wisdom, created all things in the universe, He made sure that each being was rooted in true love. That is, He established the practice of true love as the basic principle of natural law and the essential key to the act of creation. True ide-

als, true love and true peace are not only God's ideals of creation, they are also what humanity yearns to possess.

What was God's purpose in creating human beings? God initiated His work of creation, because even He, though He is omniscient, omnipotent, and omnipresent, did not want to exist in a state of isolation. So, first, He created the entire universe as the environment for the human beings that He would later create and place at the center. Then, on that foundation, He created human beings as the object partners of His absolute love. God's purpose of creation was that He wanted to feel joy as He related with the human beings He created. He wanted to watch them grow to perfection; receive the blessing of marriage from Him; multiply true children and build the ideal, the kingdom of heaven, in which they would live for eternity. True joy can only be experienced when one becomes the owner of true love.

God created human beings as the object partners of His absolute love and as His true children. What position could be more precious or closer to God than that of being His children? Based on the principle of creation that He set up, God invested Himself wholly and completely. God established absolute faith, absolute love and absolute obedience as the standard of His principle of creation, and invested 100 percent of His being in accordance with this fundamental principle. For God to reach the position of humanity's true parent, true teacher, true owner and true king, it was first necessary for Him to perfect human beings, based on an absolute standard, as His object partners in true love. In this way, absolute values are created.

A lone individual being can never become an owner of true love. This can only be done in relation to an object partner. God, too, has no choice other than to exercise absolute obedience in the face of the true love principles of this absolute value realm. A husband and wife may have received blessings from the whole world when they married and live in such happiness that they lack nothing that the world can offer, but if they have no children between them they can never become parents. By the same logic, in order for God to stand in the position of the owner of true love, He needed to establish human beings as His object partners in the value realm of absolute love. In other words, it is absolutely impossible to establish absolute value centered on true love without being in relation to an object partner.

Please consider the order of the universe. Even if some being is large, it cannot sacrifice smaller beings for its own benefit. The

concept of survival of the fittest, the so-called law of the jungle, is a view with roots in Hellenistic thought and is fundamentally incorrect. Those who espouse this kind of thinking fail to consider the absolute value of sacrificial love by which one being seeks to help a partner reach perfection as an owner or subject of true love. This perfection is achieved when the partner becomes an absolutely obedient object-partner, lives for the sake of its subject-partner, and invests itself in its partner with true love, and then forgets that it has made that investment. If we exclude true love, only a concept of struggle remains. God's principle of creation, however, is not based on survival and multiplication through struggle. Instead, His principle is based on harmony and unity, achieved through a process of give and take action centered on true love and absolute values, in the context of subject- and object-partner relationships.

When a smaller being sacrifices itself for the sake of a larger being, we must not see this as happening in the context of the concept of struggle. It is an investment for mutual development; it must be a voluntary and sublime sacrifice for the sake of producing something greater. When an individual willingly sacrifices for the sake of the family, a family for the sake of a nation, and a nation for the sake of the world, how can this be seen as struggle? In this way, we can see absolute value of sacrificial love manifested in the practice whereby each partner seeks first to establish the other as an owner of true love.

For this reason, we must completely rid our lives of all selfish thinking and actions. These can be thought of as the root of fallen nature, providing the cause for all evil. There is no difference between selfishness on an individual level and group selfishness. Both are diametrically opposed to the spirit of the absolute values derived from true love. They represent shameful behavior that seeks to compel others to sacrifice themselves for oneself and seeks to pursue one's own interests exclusively, as opposed to leading a life of giving and of voluntarily sacrificing for the sake of others, that is, a life of true love lived for the sake of others. Such selfishness is a poison mushroom skillfully planted by Satan deep within the struggle between mind and body that came about through the fall of the first human ancestors.

If you pick this mushroom and eat it even once, thinking that it will help you get ahead in the world or give you a sense of pleasure, you will fall into addiction and find it difficult to escape from this evil trap, even through a lifetime of painful effort.

True Family Holy Wedding

On the morning of September 26, 2004, at Cheongpyeong Training Center's Cheonseong Wanglim Palace, True Parents officiated the Holy Wedding of Moon Kook-jin nim and Miss Park Ji-ye, with the True Family, guests and members in attendance. After the main ceremony, a traditional Korean ceremony was held for family members and invited guests (*photo*).

Born in Seoul, Ji-ye nim is the fifth child and only daughter of Park Jeong-hyun and Yang Pan-nim of the 430 couples. She is a graduate of the Sun Hwa (Little Angels) School and of Choong-ang University in Korea where she majored in dance. ♦



Unfortunately, the world in which we live today is filled with such people who live in a pitiful state. In the absence of any clear solutions to this situation, countless innocent lives are being lost every day.

Please consider your own bodies. There is no part of your body that you can confidently call your own. Each of you was born as a result of the love between your father and mother. We know that 99.999 percent of our body comes from the blood, flesh and bones of our mother. The remaining 0.001 percent can be seen as the seed that comes to us from our father. How can we say that anything here is "mine," and justify our living lives of selfish individualism? We must recognize that our bodies, everything about them, are extensions, or offshoots, of our parents. In other words, all the elements that make up your bodies were already present in your parents' sperm and ova. No one, no matter who he may be, can be an exception to this great principle of creation.

Consider the concepts of "front" and "back." The fact that a person uses the word, "front" assumes an acknowledgement of "back" as a preexisting condition. In the same way, the word "above" can only exist on the basis of a prior acknowledgement of "below." When a person says "left," this presupposes "right."

By the same logic, the word "man" can exist only because of the prior existence of a being called "woman." In other words, men are born for the sake of women, and women are born for the sake of men. If there were no men, there would be no need for women. By the same logic, if there were no women, the existence of men would be without value. Ultimately, there is nothing about any of us that lets us say we were born for our own sake. All beings exist and function for the sake of a partner. This means we were created to move toward the ideal world through reciprocal relationships.

Nothing comes into being for its own sake. The life that is in accordance with God's ideal of creation is the life of giving for the sake of others, of sacrificing with love, and of seeking to perfect the owners of love through obedience. Because we are each created for the sake of a partner, it is only natural that we should live our lives for the sake of that partner. In this way, absolute values come into being.

Absolute Faith, Absolute Love, Absolute Obedience

How, then, can human beings, who are descendants of the Fall, shed our fallen nature, establish absolute values through our reciprocal partners, and establish the peace kingdom that is God's earnest desire on the levels of the individual, family, nation and world?

First, we must resemble God. What did God do when He created all the creatures of the universe? Didn't He believe and act in accordance with the absolute standard of the principle and order of creation that He Himself had established? Furthermore, He planted within us an absolute standard of love.

In your lives, too, if you adhere to and practice these three

major principles of absolute faith, absolute love and absolute obedience, not only the great religious leaders in the heavenly world but also your good ancestors will be fully mobilized to guarantee your happiness. See what happens when you practice such an absolute standard of faith, love and obedience for the sake of your parents, husband or wife, and brothers and sisters. If this were done, how could the root of the pursuit of unprincipled pleasure and selfish individualism work its way in? If you come to live according to this absolute standard, Heaven, too, will protect you and watch over you according to this same absolute standard.

Second, because we, through no choice of our own, are descendants of the Fall and have been born with an inherited fallen nature, it is the task of each of us to bring about three great revolutions in our individual lives. I refer to the revolution through indemnity, the revolution of conscience and the revolution of heart.

The revolution through indemnity means that you must indemnify your internal and external right of ownership, and establish a standard that transcends that realm of indemnity. You must carry out a revolution in your own lives by which you boldly shake off all the habits and even the way of thinking that you acquired during the time before the coming of heaven, which was the time of the realm of satanic rule. On that foundation, you must practice an absolute standard of true love, which is the standard for our lives in the time after the coming of heaven, and live eternally as God's true children. In addition, you must go through a revolutionary course in which all your property and your external rights of ownership are turned over to Heaven. Then, after you cut off all ties to the satanic world and separate yourselves from Satan, you inherit Heaven's blessings. That means to increase heaven's wealth as sanctified assets such

that Satan will never again be able to claim ownership over them.

To what does the revolution of conscience refer? This is an internal revolution in which we must practice absolute obedience to the voice of our conscience. I am sure you cannot deny that within you there is still the unending struggle between the commands of your conscience, which pursues that which is good, and the temptations of your physical mind, which pursues the desires of your physical body. To bring this shameful internal conflict to an end, we must have a clear understanding of the role and function of our conscience.

The conscience knows everything about you, every move you make and every thought you have. It knows these things before your teacher does. It knows them before your parents do. It knows them before God does. What happens when you go against the commands of your conscience? You will be attacked by pangs of conscience. Dust gathers, grime builds up and wounds open up on your soul. Such wounds can never be erased. They are fearful baggage that you must carry with you when you go to the spirit world. You must work in a revolutionary way to suppress your physical mind and receive the guidance of your conscience, so that you may become a treasure, that is, a clear, unblemished, and



Mother lights the holy day candles on October 3 at Sutaek-ri

clean soul, ready for the day that you make your way forward into the presence of God.

What is the revolution of heart? I have said that God created human beings as His children. What, then, is the connection that ties each of you to God? It is the love and heart between parent and child. If there is no communication of heart between parent and child, how can they maintain a relationship of love and respect? Human beings, who have lived for thousands of years under the influence of the fallen realm, are still slaves in our hearts to false parents, false love, and false lineage. If we are to escape from this yoke, we must constantly live lives of true love, practicing forgiveness and always giving to others. Through this process, we are able to return to the realm of God's loving ownership. If your heartstrings are still tied to selfish individualistic ways in pursuit of the vainglory of the satanic world, you will end up on a path of hopelessness and lamentation. On the other hand, if you live for the sake of others, that is, if yours is a constructive life of seeking to be the first to yield to others and give to others, your heart will be tied to the heart of God eternally. In other words, this means you must completely cut your ties with the false parent, receive the Holy Blessing from the True Parents who have been manifested in this world as substantiations of the invisible God, and secure Heaven's true lineage.

Third, you must scrutinize your own lives every moment of every day. I am sure you all had experiences back when you were in school, looking at a problem on a test paper and not being able to make up your mind whether the correct answer was right or wrong. [Koreans mark an answer "O" if it is right and "X" if it is wrong.] The same is true with your lives. I am asking you, in the course of your daily lives where you are faced with innumerable situations, each different from the others, to analyze and scrutinize each moment as to whether or not you are right or wrong and grade yourselves. Both in its shape and in its nature, an "O" can embrace and digest an "X." An "X," however, cannot embrace an "O."

If have given yourself an "O," you are likely living in an affirmative and hopeful way. You have set a vertical axis that extends up to heaven, and you are leading a life as at high noon-without any shadow. Yours is probably a life of great depth and breadth, in which you are able to forgive and embrace even your enemies in the spirit of true love. If have given yourself an "X," however, you are likely living in a shameful way, where your heart is filled with negative elements, such as insecurity, irritation, bitterness, and envy. You are probably leading a life where your mind and thoughts are narrow and intolerant, and you are being selfish and individualistic to the

point that you do not see what is happening with anyone around you.

I believe that you have a choice that could not be clearer. Every moment of your lives must deserve an "O" grade. You must receive a grade of "O," which is perfectly round and not out of shape in any way. You must come to have the form of an "O," which forms a 90-degree angle with the center, no matter where it is placed. Please lead lives in which you pursue the true "O," so that you can look at the brightly burning sun and not be ashamed, and you can face with honor the vast and infinite universe, and you can stand before all of creation and have nothing to hide. An "O" symbolizes harmony, unity and peace. Whereas "X" symbolizes death, "O" symbolizes love and life. When your mind and body become completely one, you will take on the appearance of an "O," and when your mind and body are in a state of chaos as a result of conflict, your appearance will take on the shape of an "X."

Ladies and gentlemen, humanity is now at a time when it must return gratitude and glory to God and True Parents. Humanity must offer gratitude for eternity to the True Parents for inaugurating the period after the coming of heaven, an unprecedented

event in history and one that will never be repeated in the future; and for bringing about the era of the arrival of the realm of true liberation and complete freedom. The time has come for humanity to boldly break out of the fallen Garden of Eden, covered in the very beginning with falsehood and blood as a result of the mistake of Adam and Eve. We must all rise up with extraordinary determination in response to Heaven's call.

Please give careful thought to the reasons you are here today. Is it simply because you received an invitation from the sponsors, and therefore you came to participate in a conference? Whether you desired it or not, you have been called by Heaven. Just as I suddenly received Heaven's call as a young man of fifteen [sixteen by Korean reckoning] and began an eighty-year course of blood, sweat and tears for the sake of bringing true liberation and complete freedom to God, and for the sake of saving humanity from Satan's yoke,

so also you must now go forward determined to offer your lives in order to accomplish God's exalted will for a World Peace UN.

In closing, let me say that I hope you may receive the blessings of heavenly fortune that are pouring down like a waterfall and that you may each accomplish your mission as a proud citizen of Cheon Il Guk, the Kingdom of Heaven, in the presence of God, True Parents, and all humanity. May God's blessing be with you and your families for all eternity.

Thank you. ♦

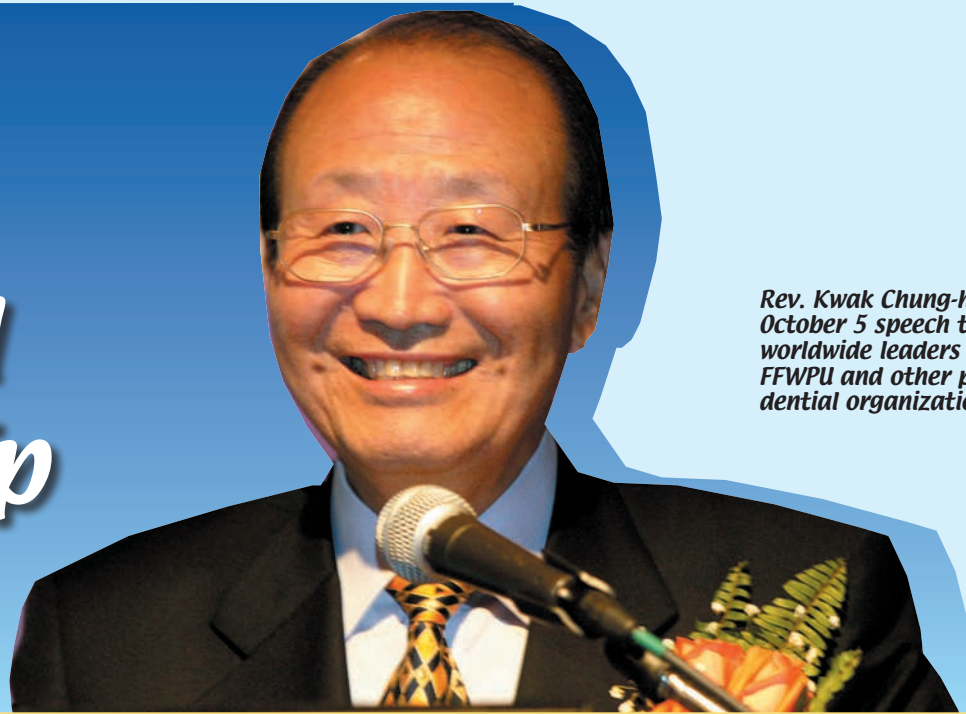


On the October 3 holy day, Segye Tongil Guk Gaecheon II (hitherto in English, "Foundation Day for the Nation of the Unified World"), Father declared the era of Cheonju Tongil Guk** and changed the name of the holy day in Korean to Cheonju Tongil Guk Gaecheon II**. The English translation is currently being reconsidered for general accuracy.**

Prior to the pledge ceremony that normally begins each holy day, True Parents personally officiated a special holy wine ceremony for representative couples from 12 Korean clan names (among the 275), during which True Parents themselves drank the holy wine (photo above).

On this day Father also declared an end to the era of restoration (bokgwi shidae) and declared the era of restoration (or reinstatement) of rights (** bokgwon shidae).**

Rev. Kwak Speaks to Our Global Leadership



*Rev. Kwak Chung-hwan's
October 5 speech to the
worldwide leaders of
FFWPU and other provi-
dential organizations*

WE HAVE HEARD FATHER talk about Cheon Il Guk on numerous occasions. Cheon Il Guk is God's ideal of the peace kingdom. It has the meaning that the era after the coming of heaven has arrived. As we are in the era after the coming of heaven, we need to have a different awareness from that of the era before the coming of heaven and a new way of approaching God's will.

God's purpose of creation is the realization of the ideal of true love, God's most fundamental and central attribute. Yet because of its very nature, true love is always in need of a partner. All things in this universe including man were created as God's object partners because God needed a partner of true love on whom to bestow His love.

Thus the motive and purpose of the Creation was true love. Consequently, all people, who were created from true love—particularly in the context of our relationship to God—belong in a parent—child relationship with God, which is a most intimate relationship of love. On the basis of this we become true parents, true teachers and true owners—the perfection of the embodiment of God's true love, true life and true lineage. We become true owners in terms of sovereignty, and true kings. In this way, God's partner in true love is established. When the God of true love and His partner of true love come into relationship, the eternal peace kingdom is realized. God's purpose in creating was to establish the peace kingdom.

Unfortunately our first ancestors, Adam and Eve, fell and were unable to become the true parents, true teachers and true owners. Instead they became the false parents, false teachers and false owners, connected to Satan. The Fall occurred not by God's error but by man's. Consequently, mankind must go the path of salvation, or restoration, through the Messiah. Restoration means the restoration of true love, true life and true lineage. The Messiah comes in the position of a true parent, true teacher, true owner and true king.

A Reign of Peace and Prosperity

Fallen man must meet the Messiah at the perfection level of the growth stage—the stage of the growing period at which they fell—and receive the blessing in order to go up through the last

stage of the growing period, the completion stage. Through this, the peace kingdom will be automatically realized. God guided the providence of restoration in the Old Testament age centering on Israel, the central nation and people responsible for providence. Yet, they failed to fulfill their mission and remained in the position of the first Israel.

After Jesus, Christianity took over this mission, and later America, representing the nations of worldwide Christianity, became the representative nation of the second Israel and had to substantially fulfill this mission. America took on the central and leading role in taking charge of the providence for the New Testament era. As a result, the Old Testament age and New Testament age, together, until the time of the Lord of the Second Coming, became the age of restoration. The providence after the advent of the Lord of the Second Coming is an extension of the providence of restoration. The Old Testament age (formation stage) and the New Testament age (growth stage) constituted the course of restoration up until the perfection level of the growth stage, which is the point at which Adam and Eve fell.

As the central nation that receives the Lord of the Second Advent, Korea constitutes the realm of the third Israel centering on the returning Lord. This is the Completed Testament age and the period for the completion of the providence of restoration in order to perfect man who failed to perfect himself during his growing period. When this providence centering on the ideal of the third Israel is complete, mankind leaves the realm of the first, second and third Israel and enters the realm of the fourth Israel.

Yet the era of the realm of the fourth Israel can be considered the start of the reign of peace and prosperity that brings the settlement of God's ideal of creation and the peace kingdom.

Strictly speaking, the realm of the fourth Israel is centered on Korea; it is the responsible blessed families that must take the subject position and establish the realm of the fourth Israel as the ideal. The fourth Israel ideal is Cheon Il Guk. According to what Father has said, the nation of the fourth Israel is the external expression and Cheon Il Guk the internal expression—Cheon Il Guk and the fourth Israel are the peace kingdom that perfects God's ideal of creation. God and humankind must realize the eternal peace kingdom, God's fatherland.

The Meaning of the King of Peace Ceremonies

In accordance with the changes in the age, we held the ceremony for Jesus in Jerusalem on December 22 last year to crown him king of peace. This was in order to free God and Jesus from their anguish. Then, the coronation for the king of peace centering on Heung-jin nim and Jesus was held on February 4 this year. This was to connect the foundation of the previous coronation providence for Jesus held in the first Israel to America, the representative nation of the second Israel.

On this foundation, on March 23 this year, True Parents were crowned the king and queen of peace on Capitol Hill in America. It is significant in that religious leaders representing the vertical history of the world, and UN political leaders in America representing the horizontal era of today, participated in the crowning ceremony. In keeping with these coronation ceremonies in the first and second Israels, and with the course of the coronations for the sake of Heaven, a further coronation was held on August 20 at the National Assembly library in Korea as the providence to establish the vertical aspect of history through completing the king of peace ceremony. Korea is the third Israel nation, and connects the third Israel to the fourth Israel. It is the central nation that will usher in the fourth Israel. Though this ceremony to crown the king of peace took place in the National Assembly complex, its importance can be found in its title, the "Blessing for Registration in Cheon Il Guk for the Revolution of True Heart and for True Liberation and Complete Freedom." Only a correct interpretation of this title will allow us to understand the deep significance and meaning of the king of peace ceremony.

In concrete terms this was the crowning ceremony for the king of peace. Usually when we speak of a coronation ceremony for a king, we think of the kingship of an absolute monarch ruling his or her subjects and with the authority over a geographical area. But now we are being called to alter the way we think.

Crowned as the king and queen of peace, True Parents are the king and queen of true love. True love permeates everywhere and is not restricted in any way. Therefore the king of true love and peace is a king that knows no boundaries in a region or nation. He is not a ruler who enjoys his kingship merely during his lifetime but is the king of peace that reigns for eternity, free from the limits imposed by time. This is in accordance with a sovereignty of true love rather than external authority.

God's true domain of the original ideal of creation is the sovereignty of true love. The sovereignty of true love is a complete, perfect realm, in keeping with the ideal of creation. Yet, to understand the revolution of true heart and the civilization based on that heart, which is connected to this coronation ceremony, we must understand three great revolutions.

We had to hold this crowning ceremony after declaring and proclaiming it before God and Satan. However, we find the words "Special Blessing" [Teuk Sa **]¹ above the title on the banner. This special grace that comes with this crowning ceremony and is bestowed to the people on earth and the spirits in spirit world is something so tremendous that it is beyond description.

I would like to explain the significance of the [August 20] king of peace ceremony. The king of peace is the king of Cheon Il Guk. Internally Father has always been the king of kings, and the king of peace. Yet, more than True Parents have, we have been in need of the king of peace and this ceremony. We cannot relate to this king unless we first become citizens of Cheon Il Guk. That is why the ceremony that day was called the Blessing for Registration in Cheon Il Guk. We have to be registered in the Cheon Il Guk family register. We must register our birth. Yet to be registered, we need to receive the blessing because fallen man has no life in front of God. To be registered means to receive the blessing. The blessing

allows us to come under God's good governance, true love, true life and true lineage. In this regard, we have the Blessing for Registration in Cheon Il Guk. There will always be a blessing component along with the king of peace ceremonies. A king of peace ceremony without the blessing is meaningless. That is, True Parents are king and queen to those who are registered in Cheon Il Guk. True Parents gave a benediction to the people who were there that day, which included leaders from various nations. Since it was difficult to do a complete blessing ceremony at the National Assembly complex, Father had instructed me the day before to have all the participating leaders drink the holy wine and receive the preblessing. Father gave the benediction that day to include everyone else in the world who had drunk the holy wine and received the blessing, to register them in Cheon Il Guk and to bestow special grace on them along with the king of peace ceremony.

This coronation is fundamentally different from worldly coronations. The red words in the middle of the banner mean "special grace." It was a special grace unconditionally given to us, though we are not qualified to become citizens of Cheon Il Guk or to be ruled by the king of peace.

That special grace reaches all blessed families in this world and in the spiritual world. Different parts of the banner read, "a revolution of true heart" and "registration in Cheon Il Guk." Father has emphasized a revolution of true heart many times in the past. We are registered in Cheon Il Guk only after bringing about this revolution of true heart.

Though it mentions only a revolution of true heart, the three great revolutions are implied. These are a revolution through indemnity, a revolution of conscience and, finally, a revolution of heart. Mentioning this implies that we need conditions in order to go through all three great revolutions. We can live in this new age only by knowing this fact...

Three Revolutions We Must Experience

1. A Revolution through Indemnity

First, I will mention the revolution through indemnity. Humankind did not originally belong to Satan but fell into his possession through the Fall. Our love, our life and our lineage belonged to Satan. There was nothing we could claim as ours in front of God. God could not recognize anything of ours—not our lives, our love or our possessions. In particular, our habits and traditions and even our way of thinking have had nothing to do with God. Consequently, a revolution that can eradicate the habits, thinking, traditions that we have had—a revolution through indemnity—is called for. We need to give up our internal and external belongings, surrender them all to God and return them to Him as His possessions. Then Satan will not be able to approach us.

Revolution through indemnity means first drawing a line between Satan and ourselves. We have been taught the Principle. We all know about indemnity conditions. They are conditions that are set up in order to restore mankind to its original position and state. Indemnity conditions are set for the purpose of drawing a line between Satan and ourselves, to separate ourselves from Satan. Thus, the phrase "revolution through indemnity" means a revolution that removes all connections with Satan.

We became false parents, false teachers and false owners by inheriting false love, false life and a false lineage from Satan. Therefore, revolution through indemnity means bringing oneself to a state of emptiness; in other words, reminding oneself that one has nothing. This is a condition man must set up, because it was his own fault—not God's—that he established a blood relationship with Satan. Thus, the first step in initiating a revolution through indemnity is realizing that one's fallen self has fallen nature and

belongs to the satanic lineage. Unless we acknowledge these facts, revolution through indemnity cannot begin.

This is the first condition. We should consider this seriously, especially as we usher in the time of Cheon Il Guk. Father tells us we need a fundamental change of lifestyle and habits, because we are not fully aware of the fallen self within us. Therefore, we must set up indemnity conditions and quickly initiate a revolution through indemnity to reach the sanctified position where Satan cannot claim ownership over us. Without a revolution through indemnity, the other revolutions cannot begin.

2. A Revolution of Conscience

After a revolution through indemnity, the second revolution we need to initiate is a revolution of conscience. Though our ties to Satan are severed, God cannot immediately bestow His grace on us. After the revolution through indemnity, we wind up in a midway position. Consequently, this does not automatically qualify us as God's object partner. We would still have original sin and be within Satan's reach. Therefore, though we may be separated from Satan by an indemnity revolution, Satan still laughs at us with ease. Despite our being temporarily in this state through setting conditions, Satan thinks that he can always invade us again, that our original sin and fallen nature will emerge again and cause us to behave in a way that can be used as a condition for Satan to relate with us. Consequently, we must set up indemnity conditions many times throughout our lives. The mind and body are constantly in conflict because of our original sin and fallen nature. Thus, it is necessary for us to set up conditions based on the conscience. God works through a person only when his mind and body unite centered on his conscience.

God does not work in places rife with confrontation, struggle and conflict. After setting up indemnity conditions and reaching the midway point, we have to quickly unite our mind and body. The unity of mind and body must be achieved centered on the conscience. Our conscience, Father has said, precedes our parents, teacher and lord.

When Adam and Eve fell, they hid behind trees because their consciences had made them aware that they had sinned. Although God already knew that Adam and Eve had eaten from the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, He called out and asked where they were. Even before God knew, their consciences already knew of their fall. That is why the conscience precedes the parent, teacher and lord. Thus, no man can claim to be the lord of his conscience. Our parents gave birth to us, but they are not the lord of our consciences. Though parents give birth to a child, they cannot be the impetus for his conscience, since it did not come from them.

The conscience knows everything, regardless of a person's IQ or level of education. The conscience is aware even before any teacher is. The conscience has no earthly master. Who is the master of the conscience? God is the master of our conscience, which can be likened to God's sentry post. In war, the headquarters is located away from the front line. A sentry post is located at the front. The conscience is God's sentry post on the front line between each individual and Satan. Unfortunately, our consciences are imperfect; they are still at the level reached by Adam and Eve in front of God before the Fall. Yet Satan cannot eliminate it. Throughout the generations, people have been born with such a conscience.

It is unfortunate that it is still imperfect. Imperfect though it is, its orientation toward God is absolute. The conscience itself will never yield to any threat or intimidation. Consequently, when we realize that we have gone against our conscience, we reproach ourselves and feel mental anguish. What is surprising is that the pangs of conscience we feel in our lifetimes leave behind a bitter feeling in our original hearts, and filth and grime accumulate there. This

damages us and leaves behind a shadow in our eternal spirit self. Consequently, those who feel pangs of conscience will suffer difficulties in the spiritual world.

Why? Heaven is God's world and His guard post, the conscience, is working here on earth. If we are afflicted with pangs of conscience here on earth, we will have the same feeling in the heavenly world. It will be like a scar or a shadow.

The conscience, simply put, expresses God's most precious nature and teaching that He has given to man, and even fallen man still has that conscience. A person can unite his mind and body based on his or her conscience. People who undergo a revolution of conscience are no longer object partners of Satan; they can now relate to God and be under His dominion. Thus, the revolution of conscience is a course that is absolutely necessary.

Via a revolution through indemnity, a person who has been under the dominion of Satan comes to the midway position between God and Satan. Through a revolution of conscience, we become God's object through which He can work, centered on the conscience. After this, we must experience a revolution of heart.

3. A Revolution of Heart

Mankind inherited original sin because of his link of heart to Satan's false love, which came about due to the Fall. No one can easily rectify the situation of man's heart being connected to original sin and Satan's false love.

Original sin can be cleared away only by receiving the blessing from the Savior—who comes as a true parent representing Adam—and by completing a revolution of true love and, further, a revolution of heart. This revolution of heart becomes a revolution of true heart, because the heart is the root and foundation of true love. Therefore, a revolution of heart is completed through a revolution of true love. A revolution of heart must be achieved through the blessing, but Satan will not easily allow fallen people to be taken out from under his dominion through the blessing given by True Parents.

Satan does not back away unless the right conditions are established. He is tenacious. Satan's submission is possible because True Parents have walked the path of indemnity filled with sacrifice and tribulations in order to immobilize Satan and prevent his accusations. This has made it possible for fallen man and even Lucifer to be transferred under the dominion of the True Parents through God's grace.



Groups of
Parents in t

In order to receive the grace of the revolution of heart, we need to reflect deeply on the tribulations and sacrifices of our True Parents. The revolution of heart is completed through the establishment of a tradition of pure love and a pure lineage, and the absolute value that springs from true love.

A person who has received the blessing must always maintain his purity and keep his lineage pure after bringing about a revolution of true love.

A revolution of heart can only come about when one is connected to the good, God-centered lineage and embodies the absolute values that are based on true love, which enable one to become the lord of love and the subject of love through his or her respective partner. Thus, the perfection of a husband's love is achieved through his wife, and the perfection of a wife's love is achieved through her husband. Each can come to possess love. Parents need to guide their children with true love in order to perfect their parental love and qualify as the subjects. The revolution of heart is completed only when the values that come from true love are established.

The perfection of a revolution of heart is equivalent to the complete restoration of an ideal family. When an ideal family is restored, the revolution of heart will be complete. With the perfection of a revolution of heart, a person's behavior and lifestyle would naturally be expressive of absolute faith, absolute love and absolute obedience. Father constantly emphasizes absolute faith, love and obedience. How difficult it is to embody these in our lives! The reason this is difficult is that we still haven't undergone a revolution of heart. We fail to be absolutely obedient to God's will and to True Parents' teachings. When we have undergone a revolution of heart it will not be difficult for us to remain absolutely obedient, loving and faithful. Rather, it will come to us most naturally. To discern whether we have completed a revolution of heart, we can use absolute faith in what Father teaches, absolute love for Father and absolute obedience to Father's instructions as the metric.

The Era of Complete Freedom (Seokbang)**

It is with these three revolutions in mind that Father gave us the phrase "true liberation and complete freedom." What does the phrase refer to? Liberation (**) means to be externally liberated from confinement. Liberation would mean to be freed from the fetters of Satan. Yet, the record of one's sins and time in prison

will still remain in one's family register even after being freed. Complete freedom (**), according to Father's definition, means erasing the criminal record on one's family register, bringing fallen man out from the shackles of Satan and into God's dominion, and further placing him in a position absolutely immune from Satan's accusation—that is, no traces of the Fall or anything else that need not be recorded. I have explained the coronations within the context of the three great revolutions, liberation and complete freedom, and registration into Cheon Il Guk.

We need to make sweeping changes in our perception of these concepts. When we look at pictures from the king of peace ceremonies or think about True Parents' crowning, we may simply think that True Father became a king, but that is not the essential point. Father was already the king of kings and the king of true love and peace. Please understand and remember that we have become the object partner to this king and entered his sovereignty. We have become citizens of Cheon Il Guk.

The phases of Father's mission and movement

To date, Father has founded over a hundred providential institutions, which include global organizations. When we view the history of Father's mission from an external point of view, we can see that during the 1950s Father focused primarily on spreading the new truth. In the 1960s, our movement engaged in many outreach activities in Korea such as helping farming villages and service activities. In the 1970s, we had the International Victory over Communism activities. In the 1980s, we led the movement for the unification of North and South Korea. In the 1990s, Father initiated a large-scale movement for world peace. Since the beginning of the new millennium, Father has begun a full-scale movement to address the idea of global governance. On a global level, Father has launched an organization that can help the world move in the direction of goodness in realizing the ideal envisioned by the United Nations if the UN is unable to fulfill the expectations held of it. Our activities may already be making some impact in the world. What is important to us is that Father's activities as a whole have gone through three stages.

The first stage was a movement to revive faith—a church movement for the purpose of spiritual revival. This first stage of activity was to overcome fallen man's spirituality and restore internal human value. Yet, even as Father pushed this movement forward, he waited for the day when the church would cease to exist, which was quite unusual for the founder of a religion. There has never been anyone in history who founded a religion and then eagerly looked forward to the day it would cease to exist! Father has said that the church is a training center and a school for retraining and educating fallen people. Those who are enrolled in this school must graduate after completing a designated course. Many religions have emphasized enrolling in their religion, joining their church, but not one has ever taught the concept of graduating from their church.

What indeed is a true Christian? A true Christian is one who has been trained in the teachings of Jesus, who resembles him, who practices his philosophy and leads an exemplary life. What is a true Buddhist? A true Buddhist is one who is educated in the Buddha's teachings, and who lives in society based on the Buddha's philosophy with a character similar to the Buddha. This is the only thing that Father has taught as a religious leader. Therefore, the Unification Church is a school and training center. Once we are registered in this school, Father has told us to quickly graduate and become respectable people and exemplary members of society. Father has said that originally the church was not the ultimate goal of our lives; church life is a course that we must go through as a result of a mistake, the human Fall.

What are we to do after graduating from this character edu-



Leaders at the World Leaders Assembly take souvenir photographs with True Father in the garden at the Hannamdong house; here: Asia, Europe and South America

cation? We need to have a family. The second stage that Father desired was a movement that would lead to the creation of ideal families—a true family movement. Father states that we need to devote ourselves to creating ideal families after graduating from the church. With this conviction and truth, Father prepared in the 1960s, during the early stages of the church-based movement, by bestowing the grace of the blessing.

Then at the end of July 1996, in Washington D.C. [at the inaugural assembly of the FFWP], Father stated before several thousand leaders from around the world, including religious leaders, that he would bring an end to the Unification Church. He proclaimed that from that time forth, it would become the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification. Father brought an end to our church. Yet Father had educated us and prepared for this ideal family movement and family federation movement from the 1960s. That is part of the history of our blessing. Father conducted the second stage of activities based on the Family Federation.

Father has said the final stage is embodied in the movement for realizing world peace. It is a movement for the realization of heaven and of the eternal peace kingdom. For a long time now, Father has been preparing and setting up many organizations for world peace. He has made global preparations for the realization of peace centering on his interreligious and international philosophy of peace. He established the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace (IIFWP) in 1999 as the central organization of the third stage of his peace movement.

As individuals we must experience the three great revolutions, be liberated and completely freed, be registered into Cheon Il Guk and attend to the king of kings, the king of peace and love; this is the course we must take in providence. An overview of the external history of the overall providence shows that the first stage was an eternal revival movement of faith through religious awareness. The second stage was a true family movement to guide families and young adults to be true people. The third stage was a peace movement. The reason Father led a peace movement after the family movement is that the family is the basic unit for creating world peace. Thus, Father first initiated the Family Federation and parallel to this began a movement for peace. Families should not just think about establishing ideal families. After creating an ideal family they, as the basic unit for world peace, must render their services and participate in this peace movement. Father's view is that as of February 1999 he had already established all the external organizations of the church movement, the ideal family movement and the peace movement.

The providence leading to Cheon Il Guk

What Father has done is to substantially prepare to internally create Cheon Il Guk based on these external foundations. Of course, many important events transpired even before 1999, but since the inauguration of IIFWP in February 1999, Father has been busy with the providence of completing the Cheon Il Guk ideal and heaven on earth. I will explain some of the more representative activities.

On May 14, 1999, Father proclaimed the Ceremony for the Liberation of the Universe. True Father had to complete the Cheon Il Guk ideal in heaven as well as on earth. The Ceremony for the Liberation of the Universe had to be held on earth and in heaven, because the spiritual world had to be the initiator. Therefore, Father brought Lucifer to natural surrender, received his apology and forgave him, and made conditions for proclaiming the liberation of the king of humankind, God and True Parents. Then on June 14, one month after this ceremony, Father proclaimed the True Parents' Cosmic Victory [in Korea].

To summarize, in Brazil, Father established the formation-level foundation based on the conditions he was making. He then went

to America and held a rally on the growth level. After coming to Korea, and with True Mother standing in a position equal to his, Father held a large commemoration in Cheongpyeong after decisively establishing a providential foundation on the cosmic level beyond the reach of Satan's accusation.

On July 27, 1999, True Father offered the Consecration and Dedication Ceremony for the Original Holy Ground, Root Holy Ground and Victory Holy Ground in Brazil. Father held a dedication ceremony before Heaven and stated that blessed families must become owners of this great holy ground.

On September 9, 1999, the Heaven and Earth Unification and Liberation Ceremony (The Proclamation of the Realm of Liberation of Cosmic Unification for the Parents of Heaven and Earth) was held. The ceremony was held at nine minutes and nine seconds past nine o'clock on the morning of the ninth day of the ninth month of 1999; Father was 79 years old (9.9 Day). This proclamation was made on the condition of having paid indemnity for and having completely restored the number nine, which had been lost to Satan, and on the condition of having completely abolished the sovereignty of Satan. On this foundation, Father proclaimed the following day, September 10, Sam Shib Jeol (3.10 Day), through which God could take dominion over the universe.

What is amazing is that the time of praying in one's name began on September 14, 1999. In 1999, True Parents brought about these remarkable developments by elevating the spiritual world and physical worlds, True Parents' ideal, the holy grounds and all things, and marked the new era by allowing blessed families to report and pray in their own names. All these things were preparation for Cheon Il Guk.

Even in 2000, the beginning of the new millennium, there were amazing proclamations. On April 20, there was the Proclamation for the Settlement Age of the Realm of the Fourth Adam. From that day True Parents could fulfill everything that should have been Adam's to do. God told Adam that everything would come to pass according to what he said. With the victory of the settlement age of the realm of Adam, the age is dawning in which everything True Parents say will be realized.

Then from June 17, 2000, there was the Declaration of the Return of the Oceans to God, the Declaration of the Return of the Land to God, the Declaration of the Return of the Cosmos to God, and the Declaration of the Return of the Realm of the Heart of the Fourth Adam to God. Father had to return to Heaven everything that had been lost. He set up these providential proclamations and conditions to return the oceans, land, cosmos and further, the realm of the heart of man, to heaven.

On August 18, Father declared the renewal of the United Nations and the abolishment of national borders. This was the condition for establishing an ideal world of peace and for establishing the external fourth Israel. In America, on September 12 of the same year, Father celebrated Chuseok centered on the second Israel, holding the Chuseok Ceremony for the Total Liquidation of Resentment in order to completely liberate saints in the spirit world and to rid the spirit world of resentment. Father stated that all the walls in the spirit world had been brought down.

Dear leaders, the essence of God is true love, which knows no boundaries. Its embrace is far-reaching; there is no place that it cannot reach. It does not discriminate. It gives to all.

Satan went against this true love and tore apart everything under his dominion into bits and pieces. He bundled everything up in self-centeredness, and created walls of individualism and denominationalism and barriers based on self-interest.

Consequently, even the spiritual world is filled with countless walls and barriers beyond description. Father held the Chuseok Ceremony for the Total Liquidation of Resentment to break down these walls.

October 14, 2000, was the fiftieth anniversary of Father's release from prison in North Korea under the Communist regime. To commemorate this day, Father conducted a liberation ceremony for those in the spirit world to bestow special grace and privileges on them on the occasion of that day, which commemorated Father's release from the shackles of Satan. On that day Father, began a special forty-day condition in order to hold a cosmic event.

Forty days later, on January 13, 2001, Father held the Coronation Ceremony for the Kingship of God. The king of peace ceremony for True Parents would not have been possible without this coronation. We need to be aware that True Parents invested tremendous devotion to bring about that event.

Then, on October 16 and 20, 2002, we had the holy burning ceremonies, held along with the Rallies for the Harmony and Unity of Heaven and Earth. We had the rallies to create harmony and unification, and we had the burning ceremonies to destroy things we held dear as a condition of transferring all our material goods and possessions to God.

On February 6, the Holy Marriage Blessing Ceremony of the Parents of Heaven and Earth Opening Cheon Il Guk was held on the foundation of God's coronation. The earlier Holy Wedding of our True Parents had been held only on the level of our church.

The opening of Cheon Il Guk and the kingship of Cheon Il Guk is always related to registration in Cheon Il Guk. If we do not register in Cheon Il Guk, we will not benefit even if the ideals of Cheon Il Guk are achieved. That is why True Parents held this Holy Marriage Blessing Ceremony on the cosmic level by which they personally opened the gates to Cheon Il Guk. The Holy Marriage Blessing ceremony in February 2003 was an amazing event that was held for the purpose of opening the gates to Cheon Il Guk. Because of this blessing ceremony, we were able to participate in the blessing ceremony for registration in Cheon Il Guk. On the foundation of this Holy Marriage Blessing ceremony, True Parents in the position of the king of all kings, held the Coronation of the King of the Blessed Families of the Peace and Unity of the Cosmic True Parent and the True Parents of Heaven and Earth. Though this did not reach the national or tribal level, True Parents carried out the Coronation of the King of the Blessed Families based on the central axis of the vertical providence.

On March 10, 2003, the Family Party for Universal Peace and Unity was established. Busy as we were with church activities, and though we are not engaged in politics, Father gave urgent instructions to create a family party. Cheon Il Guk should have come on earth with the opening of Cheon Il Guk. That is why we needed a central organization—a party—that can establish Cheon Il Guk and manifest it. Yet Father established this not as a political party but as an educational party.

Internally, as the foundation to bring about the start of Cheon Il Guk was formed, Father could proclaim the external fourth Israel. Since, unworthy though we were, we had to become the citizens of the fourth Israel and of Cheon Il Guk, Father allowed us to receive Holy Wine and Holy Salt to sanctify us once again. This was to help us become the people of that nation. With the progress of the internal and external global providence toward Cheon Il Guk and the peace kingdom, on October 3, 2003, Father inaugurated the Interreligious and International Peace Council, IIPC. Externally, Father had founded the family party. In the same way, on a global scale Father established IIPC as a organization for global governance.

If IIPC is to be true to its name, it has to become an organization that transcends religion and nationality.

With this in place, Father gave instructions to hold the coronation for Jesus in Israel on December 22. This was based on all the important providential declarations and ceremonies that had been held since 1999 and particularly those held from 2001 to 2003.

Now, this year, 2004, is a transition period during which history will begin to move in a new direction. This is the year of the beginning of the time after the coming of heaven. It is important to correctly understand the providence in 2004. We should adjust all our activities to conform to a proper understanding. From the very beginning, on January 1, 2004, Father proclaimed God's fatherland and the time of the peace kingdom.

This was a declaration hailing the advent of the time of Cheon Il Guk. In the second Israel [the United States] on February 4 the crowning ceremony to engraft the victorious realm of Jesus' coronation in the first and second Israel to the realm of the second Israel, centered on Heung-jin nim and Jesus, was held. And a historic event took place on March 23 at the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington D.C. with a ceremony crowning True Parents as the king and queen of peace.

A new Sabbath

After that Father declared the designation of *Ahnshi-il* as a new Cheon Il Guk tradition. April 19 was the forty-fifth True Parents' Day. True Father designated *Ahnshi-il* that day as the tradition of Cheon Il Guk. The seven-day week, the Sabbath system and the Gregorian calendar will no longer be needed. The old Sabbath day in particular has, in truth, no meaning. We go to a religious service and rest on Sundays. Yet people do not remember God. They have come to just rest on this day instead of going to a service and instead of worshipping God. The number eight, rather than the number seven, is God's basic unit. We have the Sabbath, but Father declared the designation of *Ahnshi-il* as part of the culture and tradition of Cheon Il Guk, which will be established in the future when we'll attend God every day. Not only that, on that day, Father designated the content of *Cheon Seong Gyeong*² as the basic teachings that we should study and follow.

2004, a year of transition

From that date on, *Cheon Seong Gyeong* has been in preparation. We commemorated the first *Ahnshi-il* on May 5. Father proclaimed *Ssang Hab Shib Seung Il* that day. The time before heaven passed away and the time after the coming of heaven began. The number five of the entire Cain-type realm (combining one: God, two: Adam, three: Eve, four: the entire environment—in other words the family and tribe—and five: all of creation) is established anew centering on God's tradition with the original God, original Adam, original Eve, the original family and the original creation by *Ssang Hab Shib Seung Il*. Father declared the day of victory for *Ssang Hab Shib Seung*, where these two sets of five (which Father symbolized by his two hands) were combined, and began the day by commemorating the first *Ahnshi-il*. With the speech "The Purpose of the Harmony and Unity of True Love Is the Perfection of the Absolute Value System of True Families" given on May 21, Father declared the absolute value, true love, as the basis for his philosophy and ideology.

Based on all these foundations, the Blessing for Registration in Cheon Il Guk for the Revolution of True Heart and for True Liberation and Complete Freedom was held on August 20, a day of special grace, at the Korean National Assembly complex. This was a historical event where crowns were offered to True Parents based on the series of historic coronations that connected the first and second Israels.

In this way, 2004 has been an amazing time of transition and change. "Revolution" is not a strong enough word to express what has occurred so far this year. We must not compare True Parents' crowning as the king and queen of peace with the other worldly coronations. This coronation was not restricted by time or space. It was a coronation of the eternal king and queen of heaven and earth, which transcended all barriers. Thus, the Cosmic Parent, the

Parents of Heaven and Earth, and the Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind as the king and queen of true love and peace are the king and queen of all kings and queens and eternally embrace all the things on earth and in heaven. Father's kingship of peace is not an external sovereignty. His is a perfect authority and dominion, because he is the king of true love and reigns through love.

The providence for the coronation for the king of peace has proceeded as I have described above. What we need to understand is that the result of this amazing providence, his coronation as the king of peace, is tremendous, though externally, it may seem very small. As Father has said, it has the providential significance of clearing away all evil, all the sins that were committed centering on Satan. Father said that it was "severing the head" of the history, tradition and absurdity centering on Satan. Holding the coronation for the king of peace is tantamount to cutting the root of the 6,000-year-old, Satan-based tree with its leaves of sin. As it has dominated history, humankind and the rest of the creation completely for six thousand years, this tree had been as robust as ever. It has now been cut down, however; and though the leaves that are on the fallen branches may still be green, the root has been severed.

We have passed from the time before the coming of heaven to the time after the coming of heaven.

The time that was centered on Satan has passed; the time after the coming of heaven is centered on the king of peace. Thus, the time of God's fatherland and of the eternal peace kingdom has begun, and it is centered on the true parent, true teacher, true owner and true king.

Our relationship with the King of Peace

What happens to us in light of these developments is that in the past our individual mistakes have been forgiven within our relationship to True Parents as their children. Now, however, since they have become the king and queen of true peace, the law and constitution of Cheon Il Guk comes into existence. Since True Parents are the king and queen of peace of the law and order of love, we can no longer relate to True Parents merely in the context of a parent—child relationship. Instead, the time has come for us to relate to them as citizens of Cheon Il Guk to our king and queen. We must realize this fundamental difference. So the first thing we must do is attend the king of peace as our personal, absolute king, and as the subject of absolute faith, absolute love and absolute obedience. Second, what is the position of our families? The family unit, encompassing the husband—wife relationship, the parent—child and the sibling relationships, must be understood in accordance with the laws upheld by the king of peace. As individual tribal messiahs, we must hold a king of peace ceremony for each of our tribes, which need to be restored. Maintaining an attitude that True Parents' picture represents True Parents' presence in our homes, doing pledge service on Ahnshi-il, instilling in our children the values expressed through the Family Pledge and doing hoondokhae are what it means for the lord and king of a family to attend the king of peace. We must absolutely do this. Having hoondokhae at five o'clock in the morning must become an iron rule. Only then can you attend the family king of peace and your tribe.

The Kwak clan king of peace ceremony

I was personally troubled; I was worried about how to restore the Kwak tribe and hold the coronation. This cannot be done in some symbolic form.

I had to set the standard in doing this. So I hung up a banner that read "Bosan-Kwak Family Blessing for Registration in Cheon Il Guk and the King of Peace Ceremony" and blessed the Kwak

tribe. Three hundred representatives of the Kwak family, including the president, executives and local representatives of the Kwak clan association headquarters gathered that day. Families with the surname Kwak are known to have a strong Confucian tradition. They are generally not religious. Moreover, it was not certain whether anybody would understand me if I said that we were going to have a crowning ceremony.

How could the people who would come understand the meaning of what was written on the banner? The program began with introductory remarks. Dr. Kim Min-ha, chairman of the Advisory Council for Unification, made some congratulatory remarks as did Ambassador Han Sang-gook. I then went into my lecture, because they had to register before the king of peace ceremony. I talked about Father's being recognized as the worldwide king of peace and explained that we had to receive the blessing based on the ideal of becoming true families.

All the couples drank the holy wine. My wife and I gave the blessing to them, and the president of the association headquarters, representing the people there, made some nice congratulatory remarks based on a basic draft I had given him. He stated that in history, there had never been people like True Parents who are working to bring peace to humanity, and thus, we acknowledge Father as the Kwak clan's king of peace.

Now, the eldest representative of our clan had to take this crown and offer it to my couple, but who would do such a thing?³ The program concluded with the highest spiritual atmosphere; the oldest people from the head household of the Kwak tribe held the crowns and offered them to True Parents' chairs. My wife and I, representing True Parents, accepted the crowns and placed them in front of True Parents' chairs.

I was extremely grateful that the people who came that day participated with dignity. There was not one word of criticism. Everybody participated and money did not matter. The president of the clan association was the first in sending 500,000 won [US\$450] as a contribution to this blessed event. With this as a start, I hope to begin a charity campaign for the Kwak clan. The coronation of the king of peace has to bring together all the family names of Korea and nations of the world together.

Of Mongolian descent



The joint Blessing for Registration in Cheon Il Guk and the King of Peace Ceremony for the Moon and Han clans

As national messiah to Mongolia, I was invited by the president, prime minister and congressmen of Mongolia to prepare for a king of peace ceremony there. I went to Mongolia with the plan to hold the ceremony and Cheon Il Guk blessing there sometime toward the end of October. Initially, I was going to Mongolia to simply decide the date and prepare for the coronation rather than to actually hold it.

The day before my departure, I asked Father if he would participate in the king of peace ceremony at the Mongolian National Assembly, and if I could choose a date. Father said that job was now ours, not his. He asked me if I had the idea that he should run around to each nation to receive the crowns! He said now we should go as his representatives and just give him a report from each tribe and nation.

When we had the king of peace ceremony in America with the religious leaders and congressmen, Father and Mother did not receive the crowns directly. Instead, Hyun-jin nim and his wife received them. In Korea Hyo-jin nim and his wife received them in True Parents' stead. Under the same principle, when each nation holds a king of peace ceremony, the national messiah or someone representing that nation should receive the crowns and bring them to True Parents.

Amid this busy period, Father instructed me to hold a conference for the leaders of the Mongolian people in Korea and create a "Mongolian Peoples' Federation for World Peace." This conference was not a simple one. We had sixty representatives from Mongolian, China, Korea, Japan and many other nations where babies tend to be born with Mongolian spot. Three hundred participants including scholars also came to Seoul and gave presentations.

The dissemination of the Mongolian history, race and culture throughout the world has proven to be successful. The phenomenon of the Mongolian spot is said to be present at birth among 60 percent of the human race. If in a situation where there have been interracial marriages we find the statistic that 60 percent of people have the Mongolian spot, it may mean it comes from a dominant gene.

In the first family, that of Adam and Eve, Cain killed Abel. The Mongolian spot would have

Facing page, Moon Yong-hyun, Father's cousin, and his wife present the crowns for the Moon clan; right, the crowns for the Han clan are presented



Cheon Il Guk and King of Peace Ceremony held on October 2 in Seoul

been conveyed through the descendants of Cain, Japeth and Seth. After the flood judgment, from the time of Noah, these three tribes were disseminated throughout the world along with the Sumerian culture. The people from this lineage, who spread throughout the world, are in the position of the first (elder) son, as Father has stated. The people who, as children, had the Mongolian spot are in the position of the first son.

God felt so much anguish; he was so taken aback by Cain's killing Abel. This conference was held to have the Mongolians, the descendants of the first son, pay due respect to God and offer their devotion to dissolve God's anguish over the crime committed by the first son. Along with the conference, we had a holy wine ceremony, blessing ceremony and a king of peace ceremony for True Parents with representatives of the Mongolian people. There may have been some points that were lacking, because we didn't have much time to explain everything!

There were fifty-nine high-level representatives from Mongolia. One young translator came to translate. But this young Christian translator said something bad about the conference so that a senior member of the Mongolian delegation had a change of heart. On the day of his return to Mongolia, he held a press conference saying strange things about our conference. He said he'd gone to a Mongolian conference hosted by Rev. Moon's group, but instead of a conference it was just a bunch of sermons—and that he was made to drink from a wine cup filled with some strange liquid!

Yet, because of the significant foundation we have there, none of the other Mongolian participants stood against us. I felt compelled to hold a press conference, so I wrote two press releases. One explained what the event in Korea had been about, and the other one refuted the claims of this person. Before releasing these, though, I asked a congressman and our key leaders about the situation in Mongolia. They had been busy preventing the announcement by that person from getting on the main TV channel and in the main newspapers. After some deliberations, we decided to refrain from using a negative method of addressing the situation.

We decided we should let people know about the conference in a positive way. Fortunately, we were able to secure an interview on the main TV channel and things turned out all right. After having overcome these difficulties, we met the president of Mongolia and the prime minister, such that they invited True Parents for a state visit. On the 29th, we held a king of peace ceremony on the national level for the first time, with 216 leaders, former prime ministers, congressmen and governors. All these leaders attended the ceremony, which took place in a civil and solemn atmosphere. I gave a lecture on the blessing and told those leaders that we needed to save Mongolia to save the world. I exhorted them to become exemplary parents, teachers and leaders. I told them to receive the blessing and to refresh their determination to create ideal families. I had the couples in the front come up, including the former prime minister's couple, and gave them holy wine. After I gave the benediction, my wife and I, a couple representing Buddhism, and a congressman offered the crowns. The robes and crowns we used were of the traditional Mongolian style.

King of peace ceremonies for nations and continents

We will hold king of peace ceremonies in forty nations and on all six continents within this month. I will go around the six continents and personally oversee the events.

We need to establish the standard of life of attending True Parents as the king of true love and peace. Our lifestyles must go through fundamental changes. As passive conditions, we must become blessed families and citizens of Cheon Il Guk that uphold pure love and pure lineage as the highest values and virtues in our

lives. Second, we must respect human rights. This can be understood in relation to absolute love and a system of absolute values. If we could become brothers and sisters through an absolute relationship of true love centered on the subject-object relationship, we would absolutely respect the rights of others. Third, we must base our life on the principles of a true owner.

To put this in another way, first we must live with the character of a true parent. With this as a model, we must teach our families and establish a tradition. Second, we must develop the character of a true teacher in relating to other people. Third, we need to be in a position where we can deal with all created things and public money as a true owner. If we can bring about the unification of the fatherland and cultivate a family relationship based on this foundation, we can achieve the conditions necessary to qualify as people of Cheon Il Guk.

From the viewpoint of God's overall providence for restoration, establishing the tradition of pure love and pure lineage is like God restoring Eve as His bride. With the heart of participating in God's providence of restoring Eve, we should be proud of our purity and pure lineage before the world. Second, respecting human rights in the end means the completion of an ideal relationship between Cain and Abel. Third, our relationship with all things including angels is related to restoring our right of dominion over creation. Fourth, we need to expand our vertical and horizontal relationship to encompass the entire world, on earth and in heaven.

The responsibility of the family in this era

The basic method for doing this is the hoondok churches and breaking through in local community outreach. Thus, Father is decentralizing the church in Korea. What this means is, if Father is in Yeosu we should be doing our job in Yeosu. Why should we go to Seoul when the headquarters is not there? In other words we are no longer being instructed or brought together through an external system or organization. Now Father is personally dealing with all blessed families as cell organizations.

Father is saying that he will bless and work through any family if the conditions are set. So our field of activity is the hoondok church and local community outreach. It is our priority above any other that might come from an external organization. So, we need to change our consciousness, lifestyle and way of thinking.

Then we have the mission of tribal restoration and the king of peace ceremonies. On the smaller level, we will hold a king of peace ceremony in our families, but this must be expanded to the tribe and nation. Our lives need to take a different direction. First, we ourselves as individuals and as blessed central families must become a unit, and become representatives of True Parents. Now we pray in our own names; we have inherited everything from Father. Since we are the representatives of True Parents, we must value each of our families and live our lives centering on the absolute value systems, which express God's absolute love.

Second we must become the true, devoted sons and daughters to God and True Parents and become the true center. Not only are we to become the center of Cheon Il Guk, the task that remains before us now is to go the way of a true saint and the path of a true, divine son or daughter.

Third, in the age of the realm of the fourth Adam, we are the owners and representatives [of True Parents]. Thus, we must always feel a sense of responsibility. We have to work with that sense of responsibility and ownership.

I would like to quote from Father: "From now on, do not seek God and True Parents as the hand of salvation for your family." Father has brought salvation to us; he has given us holy salt, holy wine and the registration blessing ceremony. He has done everything he can do for us. So Father is saying that the savior and God will not bring salvation to your family. You must be responsible for your family. You must now become representatives of the savior and take care of your own family situations. Judgment does not come from outside.

Fourth, our mission is creating a true, ideal family, ideal nation, world and cosmos, and further, to create the ideal relationship between God and man. In other words, our mission is to become an "owner" of the relationship of love between God and man. For this, our lifestyles must be different from what they were in the time before the coming of heaven and in the time of restoration.

We need the right of inheritance of true, ideal love, and to

expand that through our descendants to come. Since True Parents have done everything for us already, we can automatically become the embodiment of true love and convey this through our descendants just by having the right attitude and fulfilling our responsibility.

Lastly, since we are True Parents' representatives, our prayer is now a report, as a part of a life of directly reporting to heaven. We must live with an emphasis on the spiritual world and on hoondokhae.

Father once said, "My prayers are becoming shorter and simpler." His prayers are becoming shorter and simpler because he doesn't need to make a substantial report. His is a life of directly reporting to Heaven, so he is naturally and directly connected to God. We have not reached that level yet. We shouldn't be asking for something in our prayers, but since we are still lacking some qualities our prayers are bound to be longer; and we are still in need of a life of prayer.

We must together substantiate Cheon Il Guk and the time after the coming of heaven on the levels of the individual, family, society, race, nation, world and cosmos. Our task of offering a king of peace ceremony should not but done just in form, or as a procedure. Offering this ceremony means being an object partner to True Parents, who should be attended as the king and queen. By attending True Parents as the king of our tribes, we can become object partners to them on the tribal and family levels. Isn't that what each individual and family should become? Then everything in our lives and in our organizations will gradually be integrated centering on the providence of Cheon Il Guk. I predict that things will be very different from the past.

Cutting off from the tree of the Fall

We should now have absolute faith, absolute love and absolute obedience to the king of peace, the Cosmic Parent, the Parents of Heaven and Earth, and the Parents of Heaven, Earth and Mankind. I cannot emphasize this point enough.



Rev. and Mrs. Kwak with the crowns of peace in Mongolia

We all have been working hard in each of our nations and departments on the front line. We should now be conscious of the changes in the providence and focus on changing our attitudes and behavior.

When I participate in hoondokhae in the morning and report to True Father in the evening, I feel that Father is truly trying to save time, to shorten the time frame. Seeing this, I feel so grateful.

We see Father trying to save time in this way, so we also must be able to do something that can surprise Father. If we could do that despite the difficulties we face, our fortune would change. I mentioned earlier that the leaves of the 6,000-year tree are still as green as ever. Father has given instructions for each family to hold a king of peace ceremony. Do not wait for the leaves to wither away. Go forward according to what Father says and, next, hold a king of peace ceremony on the tribal level. This means cutting the smaller branches [from the tree of fallen history] one by one. Then hold a king of peace ceremony on the national level. This means cutting down the large branches. That is the will of Heaven and of True Parents.

Father has always said that no one [in fallen history] has been able to appear as an owner. and that thus *we* must now have the mind of an owner and work with that mindset.

I hope you will all base your lives on what I've said today.

Thank you. Let us pray.

Prayer

Our Cosmic Parent, the Parents of Heaven, Earth and Human-kind, to whom we are grateful: We truly thank you for your heavenly grace. Your beloved leaders, who are spread across the globe, have come together from places of lonely struggle and the

difficulties of restoration to follow, to the end, a path of loyalty and fidelity to you. Father, bless this time and let our hearts approach your standard. Bless this time, so that we may raise our standard.

We bring words of comfort to you in your course of bringing an end to the age of restoration, while you long for the time of completion and of settlement. You have prepared and allowed us to participate in these significant ceremonies, which we still do not understand. We deeply repent for bringing sorrow to you, because we are unworthy before you and are ignorant.

We offer you comfort as you face loneliness in enlightening us, teaching us and praying for us, so that you may bring substantial victory to these great tasks. Now, our footsteps in building the time of the peace kingdom, Cheon Il Guk, in the time after the coming of heaven must become substantial and in line with the standard of your providence. Let us realize these points during this time. Give us your wisdom, and let us live in greater intimacy with you. We pray that you bestow the same grace and blessings on all our brothers and sisters around the world. Let us be reborn through this time, and bless us so that we may live as the citizens of Cheon Il Guk.

I offer this report in the name of Kwak Chung-hwan, of a central blessed family. Amen◆

1. The Korean words can mean special pardon or grace
2. In English, the Holy Scripture of Heaven, or the Heavenly Bible
3. Rev. Kwak was by no means the oldest member of the Kwak clan present; asking a clan elder to make the presentation to his couple representing True Parents was a delicate matter

International Leadership Convention in Korea

Leaders of our movement from more than one hundred different countries converged on Seoul for the Assembly of World Leaders, held from October 3 to 10, on the theme "Forging a Path to Cheon Il Guk and the Peace Kingdom." Leaders of nations and providential organizations convened under the auspices of IIFWP, with the support of the FFWPU international headquarters.

The highlight of the convention was three separate opportunities to hear Father speak, at the October 3 holy day celebration that served to launch the assembly, at Hannamdong residence in Seoul and at Blue Sea Garden in Yeosu. The assembly's program unfolded at the Central Training Center, just outside Seoul, and featured True Parents' special representative Rev. Kwak Chung-hwan's in-depth presentations on God's providence in the present time (see page 8). There were presentations by continental directors and other leaders on various initiatives of the movement, such as one on the Middle East Peace Initiative by Hod Ben Zvi, national leader of FFWPU-Israel.

A visit to some special locations came next. The first destination was Yeosu. Rev. Hwang Sun-jo (whose hometown it is) welcomed them as they arrived, in three buses, at True Parents' new residence and training center around midnight. The following morning's hoondokhae was with Father. Later in the day, the leaders took a boat out to sea from the city of Yeosu, returning to Blue Sea Garden. Rev. Hwang spoke that afternoon about the Cheon Il Guk providence. The following day they continued their journey on to Busan and to the Rock of Tears, where fifty years ago Father is said to have prayed for the future expansion of his ministry throughout the globe. The tour concluded with a chance to see the development of the various facilities at Cheongpyeong, and to take part in an ancestor liberation workshop there.◆



Photos, left, the assembly organizing committee included (l. to r.) Rev. Choi-Yong-tae of IIFWP-Korea, Dr. Thomas Walsh, and Rev. Chang Kwan-hyun of FFWPU International offices in Seoul; middle, the workshop in full swing; right, prayer at the Rock of Tears



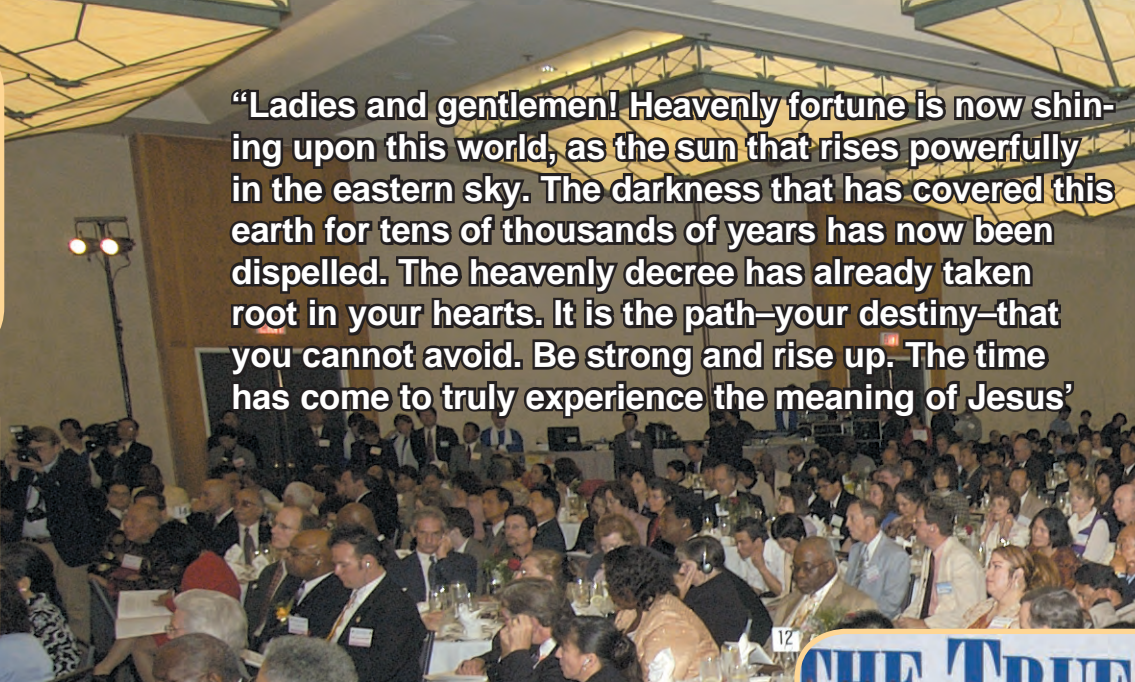
True Parents' For
New York—October 26 Wa
Chicago—October 29 L

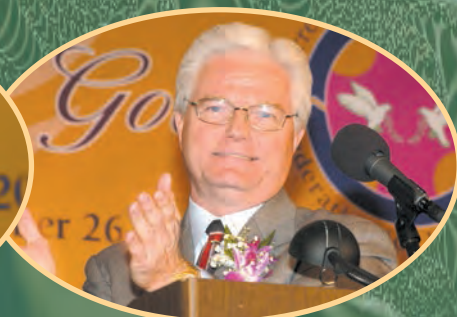


THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



“Ladies and gentlemen! Heavenly fortune is now shining upon this world, as the sun that rises powerfully in the eastern sky. The darkness that has covered this earth for tens of thousands of years has now been dispelled. The heavenly decree has already taken root in your hearts. It is the path—your destiny—that you cannot avoid. Be strong and rise up. The time has come to truly experience the meaning of Jesus’





our-City Itinerary
Washington DC—October 28
Los Angeles—October 30

CA WELCOMES TRUE PARENTS

teaching that whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever is willing to lose his life will find it. All of us without exception, including myself, are bound to go to the spirit world someday. I sincerely ask you to engrave tonight's message on your heart, that from this time forth you will live a life that will not leave you with any regrets..."

From Father's Speech



Thirty-four Years of Love for America

...and how America returned that love

By Godwin D'Silva

LOS ANGELES was the final city in the four-city speaking tour. The usual preparations took place in proper sequence but this time, notice of the event came only ten days prior. Owing to our able regional director, Rev. Ku Baek-joong and his wife Mrs. Ku Sun-hee we prepared an outstanding event here in Los Angeles.

The eastern cities, New York, Washington and Chicago, did a phenomenal job of hosting the king of peace event and Los Angeles being the fourth and final one, we decided that this was going to be a fitting conclusion for their Majesties "the King and Queen of Peace."

From the onset, the spirit in Los Angeles was one of welcoming a royal family. From invitation cards gilded in gold, to the preparation of the crowns of peace, the awards and even the program booklet itself, there was an aura of roy-

alty.

Interestingly, mobilization efforts to invite our guests were much easier, thanks to an improved database and also the fact that many of our key guests really wanted to see True Parents. Many key people wanted to offer gifts to our True Parents. One of them, Dr. Chi-Yu Lu, an expert in Chinese calligraphy, wrote out a banner in classical Chinese script. His gift is explained further in this article. It was presented after True Father's speech.

Another gift for True Parents was *California Paintings*, a book of paintings by our brother John Modesitt, who resides in the San Diego area. He is rapidly becoming well known in the art world. Several of his works have been auctioned at famous auction houses around the world, such as Christies in Paris, who normally do not auction paintings

of living artists. They made an exception with John Modesitt's works. In his book, the preface clearly states that the inspiration behind these paintings was John Modesitt's teacher—the Rev. Sun Myung Moon. It reads:

This book is dedicated to the True Parents: The purpose of my work as an artist is to help restore the fallen world that has been in the hands of the satanic culture. My motivation is to testify about True Parents. The evil world has claimed art and I want my painting to be part of the new culture of heart (*Chun Il Guk* culture). Each painting honors True Parents and the Blessing given us. The original paintings in this book are all around the world. Thank you, True Parents!

This 108-page book with forty plates of original impressionist paintings, which reflect the inspiration of the great

art of the French painter Claude Monet, was published as the second in a series of art books. True Father was certainly inspired about the book and went over it page by page. He even signed a copy for the artist, whose work can be found at www.americanimpressionist.net.

At the event itself, True Father was completely at ease with the eight hundred people who had gathered. The prelude to the main address was filled with pomp and ceremony. Powerful choirs, such as our very own Origin, under the direction of Rick Joswick, and the Sadoc Christian Choir sang the now famous hit *Peace, Shalom, Asalaam Alaikum*. Rev. Sterling Brown of the Greater New Guide Church in Alta Dena gave the invocation, and Dr. Yang Chang-shik and Rev. Michael Jenkins introduced various speakers from around the nation. From our local side, we had Imam Haitham Bundakji and Keith McCarthy, mayor of a district in Downey, California, present the crowns of peace. This presentation followed on the heels of Dr. William R. Johnson's amazing speech nominating True Parents the king and queen of peace, an excerpt of which follows:

A Tribute to a Man Whose Mind Is of God

There have been many great men and women who have had a penchant for peace. Mohandas (or Mahatma) Gandhi, the wise and holy leader of the people of India was such a one. Dr. Ralph Johnson Bunche, who served as undersecretary of the United Nations and who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1950 was another. There was Patrice Lumumba, the fearless leader of the fight for freedom in the Belgian Congo, who was dastardly murdered for his efforts to bring peace in his homeland. The Dalai Lama, the high priest and spiritual leader of the now occupied country of Tibet is a modern day example of a man of peace; as is both Bishop Tutu and President Nelson Mandela of South Africa. And who could make a list of great men who have given their lives for peace without including the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.?

We cannot forget the great heroic efforts for peace by many women. We must not forget the efforts of Eleanor Roosevelt who single handedly opened the door for the great Marian Anderson to sing at the Lincoln Memorial on Easter Sunday, 1939; neither can we forget the late, great Mary McLeod Bethune, who gave her life in the struggle for equality for the young people of this nation; and who can forget the exploits of Constance

Baker Motley, one of the leading legal minds of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund during the heyday of the Civil Rights struggle?

Oh, the list of great men and women who have been on the forefront for peace around the world is long, and we need to remember these stalwart peaceniks, who have gone against the grain of our society and have stood alone, in many instances, even when there were threats against their lives and even when their friends did not understand their penchant for peace.

Tonight we have the pleasure to honor a man who in this day stands as the king of peace. Who is this man of whom I speak? He is the man who has the audacity to believe that "when we love our enemies and make oneness with them, the boundaries between us will collapse." He is the man who has the audacity to believe that "wherever there is a boundary, that is where you will find Satan's kinfolk living; and wherever people live in harmony and peace...there you are certain to find God's kinfolk—true people of goodness who have inherited God's lineage." Who is this man of peace? He is the one who believes that walls and boundaries are made to be destroyed. He is the one who says, "Even if there were a million boundaries in the world, it would not be a problem for me. They can be eliminated easily." How does he propose to eliminate these walls and boundaries? It is through true love; for he says again, "Unless a person knows God 100 percent and stands in the same position as God, it is impossible to resolve such a situation."

It is this man to whom, tonight, we pay homage, we honor and we give our love. It is this man—who exemplifies true love, who knows God 100 percent and who stands in the same position as God—that we take time to crown the king of peace. This true parent, this spiritual Father, to those who know him, has evidenced his belief in the one God, who called him from the countryside of Korea and instilled in him a passion for the fruit of the Spirit—love, joy and peace. This man has brought together—in twelve pilgrimages for peace to the Holy Land—the diverse peoples of that violated land, including Jews, Druze, Palestinians, Arab Muslims, and Arab Christians. He has brought together Protestants, Roman Catholics, Orthodox Christians, Buddhists, Native Americans, Hindus, and many others from around the world. These have come together in workshops,





Kwon-jin nim shares a table with Mother at the Los Angeles event



A gift of calligraphic writing from a Chinese master



Father at the victory celebration the morning after the event

in marches, in candlelight vigils, in fellowship and in love in a time and in a place where the suicide bomber and the sounds of tanks and rockets are more prevalent than songs and prayers and shared meals. This man has evidenced his belief that walls and boundaries can and must be eliminated. But only those of us who have come to know God 100 percent and stand in the same position as God can be effective agents of true love, which is the only element capable of eliminating the walls and boundaries that separate us from each other.

So it is with these thoughts and reflections in mind that I offer the motion that the Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon be crowned this day, October 30, 2004, the king of peace and that we give him all of the respect, the honor and the homage such a king deserves and has a right to receive. Let all who are in favor of this motion to so designate stand on your feet and shout: Hail to the king of peace!

All in the audience stood and greeted the king of peace, whereupon Imam Bundakji and Mr. McCarthy entered the stage with two beautiful crowns. Rev. and Mrs. Yang Chang-shik received the crowns and placed them on two ionic pedestals. They really looked so beautiful.

Archbishop Stallings' testimony, given in preparation for Father's speech, was the most moving of the four he presented during the tour. Kwon-jin nim, the first member of the True Family to be born in America, was in attendance, and he mentioned he was very moved by Archbishop Stallings' sincerity. The Archbishop explained that he has come to realize that he didn't really know God before meeting Father and Mother Moon. He was very happy with his Christianity, very happy with his life. Yet, when he met Father Moon,

his whole world turned upside down, because he realized that one's mind and body must be in harmony. There must be perfect oneness between our thoughts and actions, and he sees that in Father Moon. The closer he gets to Father Moon, the more he realizes how little he has understood God all these years. But now his eyes are being opened. The inspiring message of Archbishop George Augustus Stallings brought the preparation program to a climax with the introduction of the keynote speaker, the Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon, the king of peace.

The audience was extremely moved and broke into spontaneous applause several times during the fifteen-minute video presentation that followed, especially when scenes of the Middle East pilgrimages appeared.

When Father came to the stage, the audience was absolutely unified, and total victory was secured for the four-city tour. Father spoke for two-and-one-half hours, reading one or two sentences and giving one or two paragraphs of explanation. It was beautiful. Father felt so free to speak. When we realize that those who came to this four-city tour are the ones whom God relies on to save this nation, we feel humbled and very sincere and penitent. We must change to be worthy to stand up and lead America. We must be more true to the calling of God.

Father spoke with deep heart, pouring out his love for America to each and every person, without hesitation. He went on and on, because the unity of the audience with him was absolutely beautiful. Muslim, Christian and Jewish leaders, as well as black, white, Hispanic, Asian, Eskimos and native Hawaiians—every race was in that room, and they were glued to the podium with Father. When Father said, "I'm speaking too long," the audience cried out, "No, please continue."

This special speech, printed between

beautiful golden covers in a booklet of twenty pages, summed up True Parents' fifty-year mission of liberation and blessing, and in its profound truth, both challenged and embraced the audience. True Father told the audience that the speech was his legacy to them; together with the mission with which God has called them—to save America through restoring True Families that fulfill God's Ideal. The topics covered included mind—body unity, the three revolutions (through indemnity, of conscience and of heart) and "absolute sex." The last was a very frank discussion of marital love in terms of abstinence and fidelity and extensive explanations in practical terms of the significance of practicing these timeless truths in our daily lives in order to secure a basis for God's blessing and the building of His kingdom.

Several guests testified that they were astounded at the energy of his two-and-a-half-hour presentation and the interaction with the audience. He testified that his purpose in the four-city tour was to save America and support the American election by raising the issues of family values and morality based on God's Ideal of creation.

Following the speech, there was a presentation of flowers by Rev. and Mrs. Benson, Pastors of the Summit Evangelical Church of Pasadena. True Father then presented framed award certificates, signed by True Parents, to several high level leaders from the Los Angeles area and also from other Western states.

Imam Haitham Bundakji, Director of the Orange County Islamic Society received this award. Ms. Norma Foster, President of the United Nations Association, Pacific Chapter, was next to be recognized and then Dr. William R. Johnson the CME District Superintendent of the Los Angeles and San Diego area. Awards were also presented to the District Superintendent and Director of



The victory celebration and hoondokhae



Entertainment on the night including traditional native American dance



Father leads the final dance

Education for the Pentecostal Churches of Portland, Oregon, the Rev. Stewart Minneweather; to a Samoan pastor from Seattle, Rev. Tausilia Moliga; to the pastor of the Hope Community Church in East Oakland, Rev. Brondon Reems; and also to Rev. Betty Tatalajski, the founder of the Temple of Universality in Phoenix, Arizona.

Awards were then presented to the True Parents. First, President Chi-Yu Lu of the Chinese Central Committee, who is an expert calligrapher, presented a special banner about seven feet (210 cm) tall proclaiming Rev. Moon "the one who opened the true way to fulfill Heaven's will and the one way to realize true peace." President Lu's calligraphy work is sought by world leaders, but never has he produced such a statement before. He has invested his whole life in promoting the peaceful reunification of China and Taiwan.

Then a stunning, specially designed, three-by-five-foot Proclamation of the King and Queen of Peace, signed by nearly four hundred pastors, civic leaders and ambassadors for peace in attendance that day was presented. True Parents penned their signatures in the middle of this historic document, which is highlighted by a regal crown. The resolution text is surrounded by decorative, Korean-style phoenix birds and the whole is beautifully framed in gold.

We also had local Crown of Peace Awards given to fifteen outstanding individuals, representing various faiths and communities. The banquet event ended with everyone present participating in a holy wine ceremony. After True Parents left the auditorium, the guests stayed on to enjoy songs from several choirs who had come to be part of this auspicious event.

The next morning, thirty ACLC clergy members and ambassadors for peace joined over eight hundred members

from the Los Angeles and San Francisco areas in listening to True Parents speak at the hoondokhae session from 5:00 AM. True Parents entered the wide stage, where two armchairs and flowers on a table awaited them under a bright yellow banner proclaiming the victory celebration and hoondokhae meeting with them.

The main theme of the one hour reading by Dr. Yang Chang-shik was the restoration of ideal, true families; the content was an explanation of the Family Pledge. True Father then, noticing the young members leaning over the front of the stage to get closer, gave a special one-hour message for those of the second generation. They hung on each word from him. He specially emphasized the way of faith for young people and interacted with his enthusiastic audience.

Following the message, twenty CARP members sang *O Happy Day*. The group sang with tremendous enthusiasm. True Father seemed pleased. The performance was followed by forty members from a Special Task Force (STF) youth group singing the *Battle Hymn of the Republic* with some original improvising and a very celebratory spirit. Finally, the Korean Evangelical Association (KEA) second-generation group sang and danced the tradition Korean folk song *Holo Arirang*—another very impressive performance.

True Father, obviously happy, wanted to respond, so he asked Mr. Peter Kim to sing for the audience on his behalf. He sang *Danny Boy* very well, but who can substitute for the True Father? After a chanted chorus of "Abonim" from the crowd, True Father stood and began singing a Korean folksong, *Tae Han Pal Gyong* (Eight Scenes of Korea).

What followed was amazing. All the leaders began dancing to the tune with True Father in celebration. True Father

closed with an encore and led everyone in the song *Ummya Nunaya* (I Want to Live by the River).

Finally, Rev. Ku led all in three cheers of *Eog Mansei*, proclaiming and offering the total victory for God's Kingdom.

The reaction of those ministers and ambassadors for peace who attended was one of elation. Elder Otis Wright of the Church of God in Christ (though he now calls himself a Family Federation member) said, "I enjoyed this event so much. When I see True Father talking to young people in such a way for so long, I see he really cares about them. I was so excited to see him singing and dancing with all the ministers as well."

Rev. Alice Hattley agreed and commented, "I'm very touched by what he has to say. Every point he makes is really important and so necessary—such as teaching about true love and bringing the family, the nation and religions together, and coming closer to God through the practice of true love. By hearing and seeing what is happening in Rev. Moon's movement for peace, I feel that the kingdom of God is coming. Soon every race and every faith will worship God together as His family."

It seems the event was truly an amazing blessing and historic achievement for the Western states. And when the national election results were determined on basis of issues of family values and honoring marriage, it seemed that we were doubly blessed.

Rev. Moon said that this tour was his "last message" and "legacy" for God's chosen nation of America. It was truly a day of hope for America. ♦

Godwin D'Silva is the state leader of Southern California. He and his wife Darlene were blessed with the 2075 couples in 1982.

The Founding Spirit of IIPC

October 3, 2004 marked the first anniversary of the founding of the Interreligious and International Peace Council (IIPC), a project of IIFWP that seeks to draw upon the wisdom, experience and altruism of leaders in religion and government for the sake of world peace. Although not yet independent of its parent organization, IIPC has held inaugural assemblies and opened offices in a number of regions and countries. Notably, for example, Samoa hosted the inaugural ceremony for IIPC in the Oceania region, which was attended by several heads of state from other Pacific island nations, and on the religious side, by the heads of several national councils of churches. People throughout the world have placed their hopes in the UN as an organization resolving conflicts and fostering peace and True Parents' long range vision for IIPC is that it function in a similar capacity: as well as their nominal assignment of hundreds of members to support the cause, the IIPC logo is prominent in the materials of the Middle East Peace Initiative and other efforts jointly undertaken with IIFWP.

In Korea, permanent offices have been established for each of the seven nations Father originally designated to send representatives overseas: Korea, Japan, U.S.A., Britain, France, Germany and Italy. They are staffed by peace ambassadors representing those nations, who take turns to come to Korea to develop the IIPC outreach programs (leaving their families to manage as best they can!), which include cultural evenings and seminars on strategies for peace. As a result of outreach to the religious community, for example, the offices host daily visits from Christian ministers. Members of the local and international community have even joined forces with the IIPC members on a permanent basis. The pioneers of this small but dedicated IIPC outpost are showing that efforts for peace sow fertile seeds among like-minded people.♦



Father's Prayer on Jigwi Island

November 4, 2003

A prayer for the newly conceived IIPC and for those whom he called to be its pioneers

HEAVENLY Father, I pray that the spirit world and physical world become one. Your seed of love should have begun from the true parents on earth but due to the fall the seed of love of the false parents was sown destroying the world on earth and in heaven; You stood alone in the universe, a natural prison besieged amidst the power of Satan, unable to relate with anyone, unable to address anyone. All these things came to pass, You lost everything in the cosmos that You created with the ideal of love; You lost the ideal realm of Adam, the owner, whom You wanted to see perfected to become the owner of the cosmos. Alone, You made so much effort. In order to attend to the history of recreation all of humanity, the ancestors of the world of heaven representing humanity and humanity on earth come together before You in shame and humbly offer our apologies to heaven.

In order to clear away all the lamentations and history of anguish of heaven along with this stained land, You set up the realm of religion and through the chosen nation of Israel You sent the True Parents in the name of the Messiah onto this earth. Jesus Christ who came to establish Your kingship amidst Judaism and Israel, the Cain and Abel centering on one people, left without planting all the desires and fulfillment needed for him to land firmly onto this earth. The people

of Israel thus failed to attend Jesus as the owner of this earth and stood against the nation and the will of the providence, and many people have been lost as a result.

All these numbers of indemnity, these factors of indemnity, were satisfied but in order to indemnify once again through the restoration of the kingship of Israel, of the world and of the cosmos that wasn't reorganized because of this, You prepared for two thousand years centering on the ideology of the Second Coming by connecting the numerous altars of blood. From yesterday's prisons, from the deep fallen abyss of Rome, from the bottom of hell on earth, You worked on connecting these altars of blood, connecting the individuals to go beyond the pass of the altar of blood which indemnifies all things; the family, tribe, people, nation and world.

Through the Lord of the Second Advent who is to come, the offerings centering on the New Testament Age and Completed Testament Age beyond the Old Testament Age, the sacrifice of the central creation, the sacrifice of the children centering on the sons and daughters of the New Testament Age, the identity of that which pains the parents of the Completed Testament Age, all these sacrifices lay on top of the foundation that can unify the realm of Israel, the kingdom of heaven on earth and in heaven before the Father. With this victorious altar before You, we have ushered in the age of offering all three genera-



tions as a sacrifice, the creation, our children and family, the family and cosmos, everything to the Father.

As You suffered the course of history, now fifty-eight years of history have passed since the liberation [of Korea], I thank You Father for Your hard work and grace. To place all these things in order I came here in the name of the Second Advent, established myself on this earth and stand feeling ashamed before You who have gone the same pioneer course. Your will which was to bring this world into order by the time I reached the age of forty was prolonged and now at the age of eighty-three, in this age at this time I will proclaim the peace kingdom in order to bring about a new UN and bring about heaven's ideal of the kingdom of heaven on earth. To bring this to pass I will have Japan, Germany, Italy and Korea become one centering on Britain, America and France after the Second World War so that they can usher in the unified transition centering on the True Parents and the True Lord of the Second Advent.

All these things that should have been achieved by the time I was forty instead became a tragic history with the failure of Christianity to fulfill its responsibility, and the divisions between Britain, America, France, Japan, Germany and Italy. On the foundation of these failures I will overhaul all these things that must be restored again and in this place where I proclaim the Peace UN, the proclamation of the Peace Kingdom, the representatives of seven nations are gathered here together. Here I combine the realms of Israel centering on all the nations of the world, and all the proclamations of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Israels that must be inherited.

On the basis of its union with Cheon Il Guk I will build the Peace UN and the peace kingdom centering on the United Nations and standing on the unified basis of heaven and earth along with the True Parents, on the standard of becoming one on earth with the Cosmic Parent of heaven, I have come to this island of Jigwido with the promise to assert the victorious supremacy secured by the Parents of Heaven and Earth. Centering on this nation, this place in the stead of Jigwido,¹ the name in line with the restoration of the entire universe, centering on Mt. Halla, Mt. Baekdu and Mt. Everest, the owner of heaven was raised upon the basis of the summit of the entire world. Let all the plains that were created from the water and river that flowed from there be connected to the bosom of love of the Unification members who seek the "garden of the mountains and rivers."² Let the liberated earth that was prepared and untainted by the fall, the entire globe, the heavens, be offered to heaven on the altar of the living resurrection as God's possessions. Let the children be protected and be offered by the parents.

Through this we are here in Jigwido standing at the peak of this age where the nations and world as a whole can intersect with the world domain of the perfected ideal love of Adam on the original standard before the Fall. Let this be raised to the standard of the restored land that combines all of heaven and earth. All that we pray for with the hearts of the representatives of these seven nations who are here in prayer, let it represent the kingdom of hope of heaven on earth and in heaven that represents the UN, and with this kingdom of heaven on earth and in heaven I proclaim in this hour the liberation of God, the liberation of the Cosmic Parent, the liberation of the Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind and the settlement age of the liberation of the Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind.

In accordance with Your will of hope, I pray that the flowing rivers, oceans and land can become one through the mountains, through the flowing waters and the animals that live in the "garden of the mountains and rivers," with the highest mountains and land. I fervently pray that You will bless this hour so that we may graft onto the world of the unified heaven that can embrace Your

love. Here the representatives of the seven nations and we who represent the other 1st, 2nd, 3rd Israel religious orders come before You with this request. I fervently pray and wish that You will allow the establishment of the kingship of eternal peace and tranquility centering on the victorious dominion that unites all these things I have proclaimed.

All Your desires that were in the original realm of heart of Your ideal of creation can finally be fulfilled. Let evil be trampled before You, and with Your victorious compassion let the blessed families on earth be reorganized to completely liberate heaven. I fervently pray that they will become the legitimate children of heaven as the successors of the family king of heaven, the tribal king of heaven, the national king of heaven, and cosmic king of heaven, who can serve You in the liberated position. Let our heart, body and mind-set be focused on this essence at this hour. Let this memorial day, where the ideal of Jigwido can blossom, settle down amidst the unity between Your heart, True Parents' heart, the heart of the Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind and the heart of the people. I pray for the advent of the Peace UN and Peace Kingdom that can completely embrace the universe in the near future. This I pray and report in earnest in the name of True Parents. Amen! Amen! Amen!

Please remember this as if Mother were here with us. I thank You for allowing all the blessed families in heaven to participate today and thank You for accepting this prayer.

I thank You for allowing the blessing of heaven to harbor this eternal heart of victory. In True Parents' name I thank You. Amen!

Closing Words

Please remember that I prayed for this commemorative day where heaven and earth can become one, uniting everything, so that the land—this restored land—can expand to restore the world, and restore heaven and earth.

Know and believe what I have prayed and proclaimed. When You all go to spirit world You will have to pioneer all these things.

◆

1. Jigwido: literally "island returned to the earth"

[Ji: earth, Gwi: return, Do: island]

2. Sansuwon

Photos: facing page top, participants in the IIPC Oceania inaugural assembly; bottom, Father speaking to members in Jigwi Islands, November 4 last year; below, IIPC volunteers climb up onto Jigwi Island from the boat, and, right, love the natural environment



A Pioneering Project in the Arab World



David Fraser Harris
Damascus, Syria



"YES, BOTH MY PARENTS ARE JORDANIAN," replied Suleiman, in Arabic. The Petra guide who had asked him couldn't quite work out who we were—young Jordanians singing local Arabic songs with Lebanese and Palestinian friends, with Egyptians and Syrians walking behind them talking to their friends from Ghana, Japan, Pakistan, Scotland and the U.S.A. "R...Y...S is where...you...learn...," sang the group. The rhythm was still Arabic, but the words were English now.

We had stopped to visit the ancient Nabatean city of Petra on our way to Wadi Rum, a magnificent desert in southern Jordan. This was almost the end of our Religious Youth Service (RYS) in Jordan, and we were heading to the desert for a special period of reflection before bidding farewell to each other and returning to our homes.

Volunteer work — and more

Ten days earlier, we had gathered at the King Hussein Youth Center near Salt, not far from Amman. Our two days' orientation prepared us for our common task: yes, we were going to be painting and cleaning alongside each other, but that was only one part of our task.

We were also attempting to produce a model of peaceful cooperation, using the few days that we had together to build relationships of respect and even love for those from different faiths and cultures.

"How does your culture view manual labor?" Kerim, our educational director from Ghana had posed the question during a break to those who had been slaving away alongside him with pickaxe and paintbrush. After a moment's hesitation, most agreed that such work is generally looked down upon. Yet they felt proud to be doing it with RYS.

This, RYS's first project in the Middle East, had been arranged in cooperation with Jordan's Higher Council for Youth. The project had been chosen from many proposed by the city of Salt. The work that we had to do involved clearing the grounds around a disused building and redecorating it, so that the building itself could be used as a center that will provide skills training for local women, while the grounds could become a play area for their children.

"God is in the other"

In addition to the work, we had a lot of discovering to do, as we tried to learn

about each others' "worlds." We had a rich educational and cultural program, including sessions dealing with conflict management styles, handling our own biases, perception of each others' faiths, our vision for RYS, seeing the strengths of others, etc. We also had brief morning meditations, each morning led by a different faith from among those represented—Muslim, Christian and Unificationist. Our cultural program included visits to numerous sites of interest, including the tombs of Joshua and Shuaib (Jethro); Mt Nebo, where Moses is said to have died; the Dead Sea; and of course Petra and Wadi Rum. But no cultural experience is complete without the food, and our hosts were definitely not going to let us get away without tasting the very best of their dishes. We were treated to Jordan's *mansaf*—Lamb stew seasoned with aromatic herbs and cooked in dried yogurt—which some dared to eat in the traditional way, with their hands from a common dish; and dinner in the desert

Left, after the conclusion of the project, a well-earned time for reflection at Wadi Rum; right, RYS participants visited Jordanian families one evening, in keeping with the RYS emphasis on cultural exchange

was *harb*, lamb roasted under the sand. Some of us had come expecting to lose weight thanks to the work, but there's no chance of that happening to you in Jordan!

Exemplary hosts

Our hosts were exemplary. The City of Salt provided us with transportation to and from the worksite and all the necessary materials for the work. Council staff assisted us throughout the project and the mayor himself spoke both at our opening banquet and at the cultural evening that marked the end of the work portion of the project. The city's leadership immediately grasped the value of such volunteer work and were keen to have their own young people work alongside the RYS volunteers. After these young people joined us, we were able to arrange for the entire RYS group to visit some of their families one eve-

ning. It was a very special opportunity (especially for the international participants) to experience firsthand the hospitality of Jordanian families, both Christian and Muslim.

An evening of enlightenment

On the evening of October 9, having completed the work portion of our program, we held a cultural evening at the King Hussein Youth Center. The hall

was filled with 120 people, including local youth from the city of Salt, families of Jordanian RYS participants, and others who had helped in the months leading up to the project.

The first speaker, Dr. Sari Hamdan, Secretary General of Jordan's Higher Council for Youth, spoke about the national strategy for youth and welcomed RYS. After welcoming words from Maher Abu-Essamen, an engineer and mayor of Salt City, and myself, speakers included Senator May Abu Essamen, Secretary General of the Jordanian National Forum for Women, who spoke on "The Role of Youth in the Socioeconomic Development of the Country"; Professor Hamdi Murad, professor of Comparative Religion at Al Barqa University, and Dr. Odeh Sueiss of the Council of Churches in the Middle

CONTINUED ON PAGE 31....RYS JORDAN



Renewal of a building, renewal of hearts

AFTERTHOUGHTS – Through correspondence with the author

One dedicated WFP representative, Fusayo Irikura, has been in Jordan for ten years and was working at the highest level, while running WFP programs in the poorest area. This had resulted in high quality Jordanian participation in the first IPSF (the winner of the Peace Run was a Jordanian athlete) and national level interest in IIFWP and related projects. In the months that followed, the invisible foundation of our True Parents became more and more evident, as we discovered, one after another, people in key leadership positions who had attended the Muslim forty-day workshops in New York twelve years earlier.

People in the region are keen to correct the foreigner who presumes the problem is a religious one, pointing out that for them the problem is one of land. They point to harmonious relations between locals of the three Abrahamic faiths, insisting that the real problems stem from intrusion from outsiders. No example illustrates this view more clearly than the simple fact that Saladin's right hand general (in his battles against the crusaders) was a Christian!¹ However, even with such views, they are amazed by the spirit of our pilgrimages. At the end of a lively breakfast session, Imam Jodeh followed his prayer by leading the mixed group in cheers of "Allah u Akbar" (God is great) and "Praise the Lord." My Syrian friend later told me that the hotel staff were quite amazed – "Are

these people Christians or Muslims?," they asked aloud.

At the end of March, while visiting Jordan to prepare for the project, I learned that one of the pilgrimages to Israel/Palestine would be coming through Amman. My Palestinian Syrian friend and I were glad for the chance to meet up with them and give them a taste of the viewpoint from the Arab world. The American pastors were surprised to learn that we could not join them on their pilgrimage, since going to Israel would have made it impossible for us to return home. It must be hard for people outside the region to grasp the extent of the polarization here. Living in the region myself, however, I knew that it would be impossible to include participants from Israel in our project. It would be mistaken to conclude from this that people over here do not want peace. On the contrary, they yearn deeply for peace, while differing widely about how it may be achieved.◆

David and Keiko Fraser Harris (6000 couples) moved to Syria with their family in 1997, a year after the national messiah providence began. David was subsequently asked to take on the role of regional secretary general for IIFWP in the Middle East.

1. Saladin (Salah al-Din Yusuf bin Ayub) was a twelfth century Muslim warrior who defended Egypt in the crusades and eventually became its ruler



Exodus from Historical Resentment

An Interview with Antonio Betancourt

Antonio Betancourt was in Korea recently for the leaders assembly, during which time he kindly shared some of his thoughts on the Middle East Peace Initiative.

The first liberation in recorded history occurred with the Exodus that happened in the Holy Land when the Israelites were liberated from Egypt. If we believe True Parents when they say that the providence of liberation and complete freedom [seokbang]** is the final exodus, it is only natural that representative Unificationists from around the world, who are chosen to represent humanity internally, and ambassadors for peace, who are representatives of the world's cultures and faiths from 191 countries, will have to go to the Holy Land and experience a kind of exodus for the twenty-first century, for Cheon Il Guk, for liberation and complete freedom. This exodus is the liberation of our historical hatreds and our release from historical resentments that have nested in the hearts of humanity.

People are chosen to go to Israel, visit the historical places, visit the land where the history of restoration began, where the first encounter between God and man occurred, and connect with the voices of the past, the voices of the prophets and the people of God from three great religions. Participants can walk in prayer, meditation or self-reflection, and try to connect with what True



Antonio sings for True Parents and all leaders during the recent world leaders assembly in Korea

Parents are asking, with the purpose for which they are sending us to Israel at this time, and with what God wants to achieve.

What happens then is that even the stones and the walls—those historical walls seven thousand years old—talk to people, and people connect somehow with Sarah and Hagar, and with the men and women of the past. They cry and feel shaken. Their faith is revived, whether they are Unificationists or not.

The continental directors are very pleased with these pilgrimages. The ambassadors for peace are leaders in their own right in their communities, in politics, media, culture, science, government, etc. Yet, in matters of religion many are basically agnostics. Religion for them is not an everyday diet. It is very difficult for us to penetrate that shield of agnosticism and skepticism. It is therefore difficult for us to inspire them to become workers for peace because the peace that we're talking about, the peace that IIFWP is presenting to the UN and to the world, is basically the use of faith, religion and spirituality as instruments to work out problems. It is very difficult for a person who has neither faith nor religious inclination to be a good helper in the process of building the peace kingdom or the culture and kingdom of the heart.

Religion is very serious in the Holy Land. It is associated with the voices of

the past and the longings of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and the prophets. It connects people with the roots of their faith, especially Christians, Jews and Muslims. It connects people with the disciples of Jesus and the saints of Christianity who throughout the ages have undertaken pilgrimages to Israel. It connects with people who considered it their sacred mission to save the holy sites from infidels. It is all these voices that are there and longing for peace. And we, the ambassadors for peace of Cheon Il Guk, are the fulfillment of all these longings.

The spirit world in Israel and Palestine is very, very active. After only a short meditation a person can feel it. For example, there was the case of one journalist from Guatemala. He was not necessarily religious, but he approached the Wailing Wall, the wall of lamentation for Jews, and he touched the wall and closed his eyes to say a brief prayer. At that moment he heard a voice that said, "I am the God who cured your daughter in 1997. Do you remember?" He told me this testimony in tears. He never expected that the God of the Wall,



which is the God of the Jews and Israel, would speak to him.

He had thought that if something like this was going to happen it would happen at the Holy Sepulcher or in a Christian church because he comes from a Christian background. But no, God was making a statement. After he heard this voice, he began to wail and cry loudly in front of the wall, and all the Jews that were there became affected by this and also began to cry loudly.

Then there was the instance of a Pentecostal pastor who initially refused to enter the Dome of the Rock. He said, "I feel very strange about this Mohammedan religion. I always felt very skeptical about Muslims. I came here to the Holy Land because I was encouraged by my friends among the ambassadors for peace, but I want to confess that I'm very skeptical about the religion of Islam, and I don't feel good entering this temple."

I asked him, "Do you know that in this place is the rock where Abraham sacrificed his son Isaac?" He didn't know that. I added, "That is a compelling reason for you to go. Forget about your concerns over Muslims. This is a holy site of God."

So he went in and touched the rock. You have to reach out as far as you can in order to touch the rock. At that moment he began to shake very violently and shout, "Hallelujah! Hallelujah!" He felt an electric jolt that pushed him. God spoke to him: "Why do you discriminate against my people? Why do you do this?" This man had an immediate change of heart, and said, "The Muslims are my brothers. The God of Muhammad is my God."

People are being transformed there. The longing of God in that land is being fulfilled through True Parents. God is desperate there. The voices and the spirits of the past are desperate. People are having all kinds of spiritual experiences. The best witnesses for our pilgrimages to the Holy Land, for the role of ambassadors for peace and for building the culture of peace from the UN all the way to the grassroots level in the neighborhood are the ambassadors for peace who went there—more so than the Unificationists! This is the testimony of the continental directors and national messiahs.

The ambassadors for peace are more on fire than the Unificationists who have gone there. They feel connected with True Parents in a way they were not

connected before. The concept that True Father comes to fulfill the Word, and the longing of the Word from the beginning, and that True Parents and all of us are concluding the history of restoration through indemnity becomes real. They grasp that there is continuity to the work that we are doing and an actual conclusion.

Jerusalem had always been a city of pilgrimages, even before Jesus. It is the city of David. It is the city of Solomon. Mt. Moriah is there. In other words, there are sites where man had encounters with God, and these became the places for people to go and experience the heart and spirit and mission of historical figures such as Abraham and Isaac, Moses, Ishmael and so forth. People in the ancient world went there. All the saints of Christianity traveled to the Holy Land and connected to those people all throughout history.



The tour guides themselves say that our groups are very special groups, because the feeling of devotion is so high.

It is true that people go and experience something of ancient history and ancient theology, but when they come back to the hotel, we are the ones who make sense out of what they experience and see. For example, the place where we base these continental pilgrimages is Mount Scopus. Mt. Scopus was where the Romans gathered their forces for the destruction of the temple seventy years after the crucifixion of Jesus, so it is very appropriate that we are gathering the forces on Mt. Scopus—not to destroy but to rebuild the temple in the hearts of every human being. This whole initiative has such symbolic meaning.

The people arriving there come with

a mission. They are not only inspired, but are chosen by True Parents and by Heaven. They have their counterparts over there. They embrace and cry together. Many Palestinians, Jews, and Christians feel that this movement is coming to resolve their ancient grievances. We will bring peace.

We teach the people that peace is coming, and also the people who embrace those who come to liquidate the resentments of the past and to make a conscientious effort to think that we are one family—a larger family of man—because we all descend from Adam and Eve. In a narrower sense, we are the family of Abraham and this is a feud within a family. We've all been hurt—some in more recent history such as the Palestinians and the Jews—but no one has a monopoly on pain and hurt. The one who has been hurt the most is our God. We move people to change

from a focus on their own pain to an experience of, first, the pain of God, Abraham, and the saints of history who wherever they are in the spirit world are lonely without the fulfillment of their dreams and the promises that they made to God. We have to connect to the pain of God who promised peace to His children throughout history and yet could not fulfill it.

Peace is the work of two entities. One is God and the other is His children. We want to teach the Palestinians and the Jews to "Please confront the demons of the past in your own hearts and mind. Exorcise and get rid of them. You've been hurt, yes, but the whole of humanity has been hurt. We have to put the hurt on the side and think that we need reconciliation; we need to heal the past and God is going to do it." This is not based on humanistic thinking or just by feeling good about each other. We have to think that the God of history is trying to do something based on the conditions that True Parents have made in the fifty or more years of their ministry. This is the age of completion and the fulfillment of God's promise. God will heal the heart of humanity and, as we heal our hearts, we heal the heart of God and then we can build the culture of heart. We tell people we cannot build the culture of heart with broken hearts—with the broken hearts of the children of Abraham, the heart of humanity, or the heart of God.

True Parents are asking us to heal

our own hearts, to face our own demons, hatreds, resentments, biases, racism, and our own divisions. As we break down the walls and embrace the other—black, yellow, Muslim, the one with a different faith—we embrace the thinking that we have the same invisible true parent. Upon this understanding, True Parents can work because they bring all of this offering of people confronting their historical resentments and hatreds to God. God will liquidate all of it.

Father is making all these conditions to separate the hatred of humanity and to liberate everyone. That is what liberation and complete freedom is—to erase the memory of the pain of the hurts, so there is no history or record in our lives. There is no file somewhere that Satan or someone can later on bring in and say, “You did this.”

There certain conditions that are required. Father cannot do it automatically. We have to confront these historical hatreds with real people of different colors, beliefs and customs. We have to break down all the barriers. This is real, not conceptual. The people in Israel respond when the providence chooses to bring them in touch with someone, whether from Tonga, Korea, Japan, Palau, USA, Germany, or U.K. We offer a totally new perspective and therapeutic way of dealing with pain and histori-



Leaders of the Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem welcome members of one MEPI delegation

cal hurt.

These historical hatreds between the children of Ishmael and Isaac will come to a conclusion when we finally make the conditions with True Parents. True Parents are pushing to make certain conditions. America has to make certain conditions which I believe have been fulfilled by us in the Holy Land. Once those spiritual conditions are met, then God will act. When humanity's five percent is done, led by True Parents, then we'll see peace. A lot of people will claim credit. Let them claim it. At the end, you will know and those who need to know will know who really did it.

We know who brought peace between left and right, and East and West when the walls came down and communism collapsed. We know it was the True Parents. No credit has been given to the True Parents, or to the Unification Movement, or to CAUSA or VOC, but eventually the truth will come

to light and people will know. I don't put much emphasis on the political side of things because political matters are subordinate to the spirit. And economic considerations are subordinate to those of the spirit.

We know this, but sometimes we forget. Even we Unificationists forget and we try to see things from the more external point of view. I'm forever asked, “Tell me, practically speaking, how you are going to bring peace between

the Palestinian and Israeli leadership.”

I don't have a ready answer from a purely political or economic viewpoint, but I believe what True Parents say, that if we create the spiritual conditions, and the spirit moves, then the walls will come down as they did in Jericho of old. It will happen as it happened with the Berlin Wall and international communism. Peace will come to the Holy Land and throughout the world, and our fatherland of Korea will be reunified when the spiritual conditions are met.

We are working towards that end and are very grateful to our True Parents for the opportunity. ♦

Antonio Betancourt is Regional Secretary General, IIFWP-North America. He has recently spent much time in Israel coordinating the continental pilgrimages. He and his wife Kyoko were blessed with the 2075 couples in 1982.



Tree planting was one of the service projects undertaken by volunteers among the MEPI delegates



A sisterhood ceremony to bring peace



Energizing a Small but Potent Nation

From a talk with
Sedofia Kagni

Sedofia Kagni is the FFWPU leader in Togo, and although his country is one of the smaller ones in Africa, he works ambitiously to reach the most important and inspired leaders in the country.

This past July, he held a ceremony where he conferred the title Ambassador for Peace on a number of tribal leaders—some of whom govern up to half a million people. These leaders, who wore traditional attire, are from the southern part of Togo and Éwé is their common language. (photo above)

Rev. Kagni was also too part recently in a large interdenominational church service organized by the Celestial Church of Christ (which has millions of followers in Africa). Leading lights from the Christian leadership of the country participated and spoke. In his own address to the large congregation, Rev.

being close to God. Holding up the Divine Principle book, Rev. Kagni explained that Rev. Sun Myung Moon had come to show everyone the right path through his teachings on pure love. His words gave everyone cause to reflect. ♦

Kagni (photo below, in grey suit) was very direct. He said he was aware that even among the members of churches in Togo there are some who have a problem of sexual promiscuity. He added that sexual immorality hinders people on the way to heaven, blocking them from



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27....RYS JORDAN East, both of whom addressed the topic "Collaboration of Religion and Society."

These speakers were followed by two RYS participants, Firas Faluji from Syria and Rasha Al Nasr of Jordan, who gave their impressions of the project. Finally, the RYS participants had the chance to present their own performances, including a poem in English, a bilingual

sketch introducing RYS, complete with slideshow of the program, and a spirited song. Local youth provided a singer to round off the evening before we broke for dinner and a chance to meet and talk more informally.

Considering that fact that almost everyone present was an Arabic speaker, we arranged for the entire evening's program to be conducted in Arabic, with Mr. Qusay Khlaifat, RYS participant, acting as emcee.

Two evenings later, after returning from Wadi Rum, we held our graduation dinner at a restaurant not far from the youth center. Twenty-one certificates were given out and many tears were shed. The next day, as participants headed home, the Jordanian daily, *Al Dustour*, published

a report on RYS. The world knows that this is a region where hope is hard to hold onto, and Jordan itself is acutely aware how much depends on the 70 percent of the population who are the youth of their nation. Perhaps the Palestinian parents of one Jordanian Christian participant were addressing both when they told me, "When we see what you're doing, we feel hope." ♦



Throwing Out the Bad and Embracing the Good

By Paul Saver
Vice Chairman
IIFWP Oceania

*A different kind of
religious youth
service...*

Service has always been a natural expression of the religious way of life. Some Unificationist projects have a unique approach with the potential to inspire healing and reinvigoration in local communities anywhere in the world. Father desires that we succeed in local level outreach; Today's World wants to cover some of the ideas that show promise. Here, a service project to renew a school brings visible renewal to the participants.

Honiara, the capital of the Solomon Islands was the venue for a June 30 -July 6 RYS program, which was a joint effort with FFWPU, IIFWP and IEF. The setting was in Tenaru, about thirty minutes by car from Honiara, at the school grounds of St. Joseph's Catholic Secondary School, which had been carved out of a swampy jungle-like environment, teeming with a variety of birds that "chatted" all day long. In the evening, mosquitoes were ever constant companions, and there were so many huge frogs that it looked like "Frogtown."

Most of the participants were in their early twenties and came representing five Christian denominations; there was a solitary Muslim participant. An unusual element in this RYS was that the participants were people in need of rehabilitation. Almost all of the forty-four participants came from broken or abusive homes.

There are no "street people" in the Solomon Islands. Every Solomon Islander is part of an extended family of around fifteen to forty people, which means that even if a child has little or no contact with their biological parents, they have many aunts and uncles who double up as parents. Unlike the isolation experienced by disadvantaged kids in places like Australia, Solomon Islanders are always surrounded directly by community. Nevertheless, most of our participants had smoking, drinking and stealing habits, and overcoming these habits was what the majority wrote when asked to give their life goals.

There was no indication whatsoever that any of these practices occurred during the program. Sophia Chottu, an IIFWP ambassador for peace and the prime mover and shaker behind this RYS, had, for weeks before the program began, drilled into the participants, most of whom come from her hometown, that they had better "get their act together" before coming to the RYS.

An innovative feature of this RYS was that it made use of a natural marriage between RYS and Tong-Il Moo-Do. Instead of the traditional morning worship or meditation service, our participants engaged in ninety minutes of martial arts. They did exercises or meditation and self-defense drills, initially led by Master Hoshiko Takamitsu and later by our Solomon Island black belt instructor, Alfred Goate'e.

On the first day of the project, the school principal, having assessed our volunteers, summoned our staff into the administration building to not only welcome us but to give us a stern talk on his concerns regarding the suitability of our participants. They were to be entrusted with recently purchased tools and supplies, which had cost \$20,000 Solomon (about U.S. \$3,000). Several times he requested our assurance that tools and supplies not be wasted or abused. I must say I too was worried, but our fears were gradually eased; each day as the principal patrolled the sites, he observed such care and pride in the work being done. Several times I heard him say he was very happy with the work.

There were four work sites. Two were on the school grounds, where we painted the exterior of the administration building and replaced all the security screens and mosquito netting in one of the dorms. The third was across the road in a new library building, where we painted, cleaned and assembled furniture. The fourth site was a ten-minute walk away at St. Martin's Rural Training Center, an agricultural school, where during a recent period of ethnic tension, the school's fifty head of cattle had been slaughtered by opposing sides. Here we also painted student dorms. Almost everywhere you look in the Solomon Islands, most buildings are in a dire need of fresh paint, so when you paint a building, it looks as if you have just built a new one.

During the program, participants attended three religious venues: the Ahmadiyya Muslim Center, the Bahai Faith Retreat and the Tenaru Catholic Church. At the Muslim Center, the question and answer session lasted for about one hour, with many questions left unanswered because of time constraints.



I teamed up with Fazida Razak, a longtime RYS alumnus and practicing Muslim, for the educational program. The theme was developing good character. I gave interactive lectures on relationship intelligence and the prevention of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases. True love and anger management were the major themes. Fazida led many group exercises. Noteworthy was the childlike attitude of participants, who openly shared gruesome past experiences. The purpose of this exercise was to identify the roots of unresolved anger, so as to be able to forgive and "let go." One participant said he had wanted to kill his mother and had chased her with an axe. He'd ended up chopping down one of the posts that supported their house—such was the rage that gripped his heart. Such graphic testimonies were not unusual.

Even after only four days, we witnessed dramatic changes in individuals and in the behavior of the group. When participants had first arrived, there were awkward moments. When we began the seminar program, for example, some participants looked at the ground or out the window rather than at us, the trainers. After we had spoken about being proactive and taking responsibility, however, when both Fazida and I were a few minutes late for a session, we arrived to find that everybody else had come on time and had already begun singing.

When participants attended the martial arts sessions, they assembled in straight lines without being told to do so. I thought to myself, "If these are the worst of Solomon youth, I am inspired that we can reach the heart of anyone." By the last day, participants were openly smiling and laughing, looking us in the eyes, greeting us and giving words of encouragement.

One of the high points of RYS is the cultural evening held on the last night. This was certainly a high-energy event. The Minister of National Unity, Reconciliation and Peace, Augustine Taneko, who is an IIFWP ambassador for peace, came to give the opening address and to personally hand out the graduation certificates. His speech was more of an impassioned sermon, passing judgment on fellow Solomon Islanders (members of the local community and beyond were present too) for going to church every Sunday but later allowing hate to fill their hearts. He said, "Unless you practice love, don't call yourselves Christians." His message embraced the visiting Solomon Island leader of Ahmadiyya Muslims, Imam Musa Masram, his members and "all others who live the gospel of love and peace." Later Imam Masram said that it was the first time he had met a Solomon Island government minister and that unexpectedly he had been warmly accepted. RYS made this possible.

The final half day of the program began with fasting until 11 AM and a series of self-reflection exercises led by Fazida. This is an essential part of the RYS experience; it solidifies what was learned and cements the bonds of trust with us, the trainers, and amongst participants.

The grand finale was a moving scene as participants, moved by the Spirit, formed a big circle, linked hands and in unison repeatedly sang what had become a theme song about love that connects us all even though we physically go separate ways.

Many eyes glistened with tears as Fazida and I went around the circle to shake hands, hug and say our parting words. As we drove away, everyone followed down the road. Some boys sprinted ahead to get a chance to wave goodbye longer. Fazida and I knew that—somehow, in some way—God's love had touched their lives and had made an imprint that will remain with them forever. ♦

Service for Peace



Grandchildren of True Parents Devote Time to Local Causes

For nine days in early August this year, 120 young people representing seven nations (including large groups from Thailand, Korea, Japan and Cambodia) were in Thailand for a Service for Peace project. Four of True Parents' grandchildren made the journey from America to take part.

Photos: top, Shin-hwa nim and another sister take care of disabled children at a theme park as part of the service project; below, Shin-bok nim demonstrates a hands-on approach to service—here, helping build a wall for the new school, and (right) discussing the work with project director Song Won-seok; bottom, A Thai TV station interviews Shin-bok nim about the project (Shin-bok nim and Shin-hwa nim are the first son and daughter of Ye-jin nim and Jin-whi nim; their younger brother Shin-choon nim and Hyun-jin nim's first daughter Shin-ae nim also participated)



Reaching the Community Through Leisure and Sports

Church-sponsored tournament draws 104 teams

FFWPU international president Hwang Sun-jo recently mentioned that if it is difficult to touch the heart of our communities on the basis of ideology, we can instead do something to serve the community and in that way make progress in our local outreach (tong ban gyeokpa). To that end, mountain hiking clubs and more recently, local soccer tournaments have been set up in Korea and are proving quite popular. The following is adapted from an article that appeared in the Segye Times newspaper on October 24, 2004.

The opening ceremony for the Peace King Cup 2004 Tournament in Gwangju, the South Cholla Provincial capital, the largest amateur soccer tournament ever held in Korea, began on October 24 at the city's Moodeung Stadium. The tournament is cosponsored by FFWPU and the Gwangju Municipal Department of Life and Sports and is being managed by the City of Kwangju Soccer Association. Similar city-wide tournaments have already been successfully held earlier this year in Yeosu and Daegu. At the opening ceremony of the tournament, which will run until November 7, the more than one thousand soccer players¹ were joined by Ban Myeong-hwan, chairman of the Gwangju City Council, Chang Jin-soo, president of the Gwangju Soccer Association, and Dr. Hwang Sun-jo, international president of FFWPU.

Chairman Ban encouraged the players who are to participate in the tournament by saying, "This tournament can contribute toward building a healthy local society; it will help promote the health of individuals and harmony in the family and in soccer clubs." President Chang stressed becoming skillful citizens who understand the value of teamwork and who have the demeanor of proud citizens of the City of Gwangju, and of the nation that placed fourth in the last World Cup. Dr. Hwang explained that, in the process of realizing world peace, the game of soccer is one method of overcoming con-

flicts and antagonism. He added, "My wish is that through this tournament the City of Gwangju makes great strides toward becoming a city of culture and peace."

This tournament is divided into eight divisions. Two Department of Life and Sports divisions, two club divisions and two university club divisions. A total of 104 teams are competing. The final is to be held on November 7 at Moodeung Stadium.

At a celebration on the night before the tournament was to begin,



One of the competing teams poses with tournament organizers

held in the Sangmoo Convention Center in Gwangju, city mayor Park Kwang-tae said "Because of financial constraints we have been unable to offer much support, but FFWPU has supported the tournament. I want to thank them for that." ♦

1. In Korea, early morning soccer is quite popular. Clubs typically play on the playground of a local school and offer a donation to the school.



Opening ceremony: Rev. Hwang is presented a plaque appreciating the church's initiative



A pledge of fair play is made by a representative team captain

original essence of the Unification Church? This morning while we were reciting the pledge, many thoughts went through my mind. We have faced many difficulties. We were not well prepared during the pioneering days. We were lonely and cold amidst persecution, yet we were filled with hope. The words "God's will" created a wave of inspiration deep within our hearts—and behind all this was the "original essence."

My definition of original essence is heart [*shimjeong*], fellowship and a sense of common bond within the providence. These things made us who we are. The Christian church and other religions couldn't bend us. We found self-respect and hope, and a vision for the future. Though we were often in the dark, we were always able to find hope. That was because we were filled with the original essence. We were filled with the belief that God's will shall be fulfilled. God's will is eternal, and though the truth may not yet have been completely revealed, the truth is eternal. Today, this feeling may have been diluted. Yet, though we may be suffering, and feel hurt, this deep-rooted original essence is still within us. True Parents have never wavered.

On March 23, they were crowned king and queen of peace, in America. Father spoke to those gathered that day. At the end of his speech, almost in tears, he said, "I will continue to work harder than anyone else until the day the earth overflows with God's true families, guns in the Middle East fall silent and give way to fireworks of peace and joy, and shouts of "mansei" celebrating the unification of my homeland Korea echo across the Pacific to be heard in America."

Dear members, I ask that you look again at the video of that event. Firm resolution can be seen on the faces of members and non-members alike. Father has been unchanging on the path he has been forging throughout his life, from his time in Heungnam prison fifty years ago until after his being acknowledged as the king of peace. Father also has mentioned that on the path of restoration through indemnity many of True Parents' family members have died away from home. It was because this was the providence of restoration through indemnity. Father has said that he was constantly aware of that path. His philosophy of life is to be determined to continue, until the end of his earthly life, to work to establish God's tradition in the wilderness. Father has led a life centered on this core essence, a life that has never wavered. Whether a person is rich or poor, whether he's a simple member or a national leader, whether he has a public mission or not—this essential content is the essence of our life.

The second way to qualify as "grain" and not be thrown away has to do with conviction and vision for the future. The message Jesus gave two thousand years ago initiated a revolutionary change. Jesus taught about a God of love to the Jews who only knew God as a God of law and judgment. The fact that God is a God of love can be easily talked about today, yet at that time it was a revolutionary message. How easy it is to say, "I do my Father's work." Yet it was because of such a simple phrase that Jesus was killed. At that time, it was a revolutionary declaration, a bombshell. At that time, God was not called "Father." Amidst revolution-

ary challenges and struggles, Jesus gave mankind a vision for the future saying, "The kingdom of God is at hand." Thus, an act with eternal effect—an event that can affect mankind for eternity—must be done by someone who does it in line with a clear vision for the future.

Dear members, where can we find a vision for the future nowadays? Can we find it in politics? In economics? Is anyone presenting a vision for the future? Can it be found in religion? No, it cannot. Which religion has a vision for the future? Yet among all religious and political leaders, who has not cried out for peace? They have all had that dream, but they have not been able to offer a solid vision for making that dream a reality. They have declared, "It's impossible. Mankind's eternal dream is peace, but peace cannot be realized."

What about us? We are presenting a vision to the people of the world that can dissolve all national boundaries and transcend religion, race and nationality on every level. True Parents have given us the ageless truth. We are putting this truth into action. Thus, the work we do now is offering an ultimate answer for this age, as did Jesus' message two thousand years ago. We have been enlightened

as to how man should live, and what ultimate happiness is.

The third reason that Jesus' life was able to exert everlasting influence was that two thousand years ago he taught people about the spirit world. The Old Testament doesn't offer much understanding about the spiritual world. The New Testament, however, deals more with the concept of the spirit world. Jesus showed the people of his time many spiritual works. The same can be said of this age.

What is the blind spot of this age? There is a lack of spiritual values and belief

in matters pertaining to the spiritual world. True Parents have put it in simple terms: No matter whom you meet, the only thing you need to change them is an understanding of the spiritual world.

Clearly, the providential situation today has reached a climax. This is an amazing time when a new lineage of goodness has arrived on earth in the name of the king of peace and the banner of Cheon Il Guk. This is reality. We should have even greater hope, because we are the central personages of this age. Yet, it is evident that we have lost our spirit somewhat. In the past, though we were few, love was burning within us. Now we have grown in number, but our passion and love have cooled.

It is now autumn, the season to put ourselves in order once more. Though we face trials, God has taught us many things. In particular, He has shown us the heavenly law present in creation and in history. We must not lose the essence of our lives. If we can find a vision for the future, we can become great people. If we are confident spiritually, there is nothing in this world for us to envy. Yet if we lose this vision, we will waver and lose direction. Thus, we must never be swayed in any situation.

Please, engrave in your hearts that the time has come for us to once more open our eyes and fill ourselves up with an awareness of the providence. ♦



At the October 3 holy day celebration, Korean (and International) Church president Rev. Hwang asks leaders responsible for Korea to pledge their determination to fulfill their responsibility in this new era

“Forging a Unified Path to Cheon Il Guk and the Peace Kingdom”



The participants of the Assembly of World Leaders international leadership convention held in Korea from October 3 — 10, at Sutaek-ri (Central Training Center)