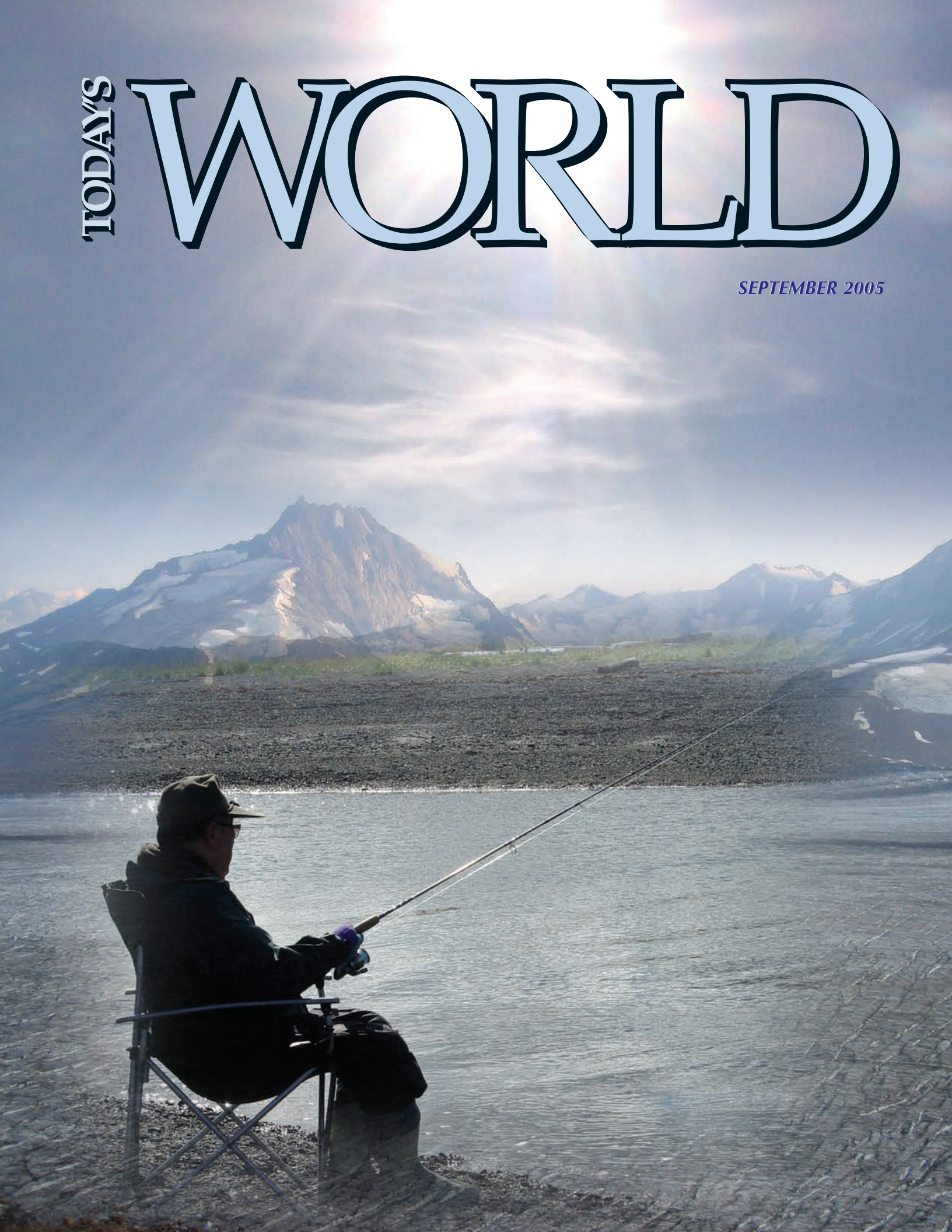


TODAY'S WORLD

SEPTEMBER 2005



International President's Message

Dr. Kwak Chung-hwan



God's Blessing is Eternal

This is the sermon Dr. Kwak gave at the commemorative service for the fourteenth anniversary of Chil Il Jeol, the Declaration Day of God's Eternal Blessing, at the headquarters church in Seoul on July 1. The content has been edited for Today's World.

Hello, brothers and sisters! Today is the fourteenth anniversary of the True Parents of Heaven and Earth establishing and declaring Chil Il Jeol, which they did on July 1, 1991, at 7 AM in the Hannam-dong International Training Center, in front of about two hundred leaders such as Korean institution and business directors, representatives of blessed families and representatives from Japan and America. He described its providential significance as being the day of the declaration of God's eternal blessing.

God's eternal peace kingdom is the blessed families' homeland

If you were to read the prayer from that day, you'd see that God's original desire was not limited to bestowing blessings on Adam and Eve. His blessing was for their descendants as well as everything that Adam and Eve were related to, but because of Satan, this was not fulfilled, so it had to be restored as something eternal. It was July 1 when Father started the course of great victory for substantially restoring people one by one through the conditions of the declaration.

True Parents visited North Korea on this foundation in the same year in order to fulfill the will substantially and negotiated with President Kim Il-sung at the risk of their lives. The previous year, they had already visited the Soviet Union, the suzerain state of communism, and put everything in order when they met President Gorbachev. Hence, they laid the condition for the fortunes of international communism to decline.

Now with all blessed families fully testifying as tribal messiahs to True Parents, Heaven allows us the grace that enables us to eternally connect with Heaven.

What we come here to commemorate is not just July 1, 1991. This point, after fourteen years, is the time for us to reflect most seriously in our hearts on what the will True Parents are administering is, what each of us and our families should do for the will, and what our movement in Korea should presently be doing.

Right now True Parents have concluded their special speaking tour in four major American cities and are moving on to Alaska. Through the special speech and hoondokhae in New York on June 25, Washington D.C. on the 26th, Chicago on the 27th, and Los Angeles on the 28th, True Parents have bestowed much grace on, and taught many things to, the religious leaders and people of America.

At that time, the True Parents gave a clear message of what they would want to convey to humankind in the present age.

The title of the speech was "God's Peace kingdom is the Eternal Homeland of All Blessed Families."

This speech clearly revealed that my homeland and your homeland is God's peace kingdom, the place we should be living in, and the original homeland we should be longing for and seeking to arrive in at the end.

We should deeply realize that True Parents' speech, given in four major cities in the United States¹ was not only for Americans but for all humankind and especially for each and every one of our blessed families.

The title tells us that God's eternal peace kingdom is the blessed families' homeland. The place our blessed families should go to is God's peace kingdom, we received blessing in the position of having to fulfill the will by setting the original homeland as our goal. Notably, the speech given in America contains Father's repeated request that God's will not be determined over the course of eternity but in the moment to moment reality of our life which unfolds before us. We are at the point where we all should deeply think about what kind of lives our blessed families are living right now.

In recent years, I feel more deeply how precious the blessing we received is. We are the people who are living under the privileges and honor given by True Parents. Father and Mother transcend any nation's structure or boundary, and have invested all their victorious foundation and love in each and every blessed family member. And they are asking all blessed members to fulfill their responsibilities.

In such times we have to clearly understand the concept of headquarters. Please keep in mind that True Parents, and the place where they are, are our headquarters; the True Family is our headquarters.

How can we create an unbreakable bond with True Parents and maintain that vital relationship? Even the hoondok message we read today said that "the most precious purpose of life, the ultimate purpose is not owning God but owning the love of God."

Going to the seat adjacent to God, being embraced in His bosom, and being carried on His back is not everything. Even if it were, it would be useless if we could not ultimately gain the love of God. Even though God is with us right now, it is possible that He might not be with us all the time.

The principle of God's true love

Even God is living in the center of His love. That is why love is important, and you should clearly know that the Blessing Ceremony you attended, without being at all worthy, is the holy ceremony of inheriting God's love and lineage. We received the blessing through God's love.

Strictly speaking, we were born into Satan's false lineage, so we

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Left, An aerial view of the Blue Sea Garden area, near Yeosu. The large building closest to the sea is the training center and True Parents' residence. The building in the back has lodgings and apartments. Right, Father-Daughter Satisfaction: Kook-jin nim holding Shin-rae nim



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Cover Photo: Father fishing in Kodiak, Alaska, surrounded by the beauty of God's creation

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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.

A Day of Three Ann

August 20, 2005



THE CRESTS OF THE KING AND QUEEN OF PEACE

These will appear on some official documents, on buildings consecrated to a providential purpose and on items used by True Parents.

The original designs were submitted by a professor of design, but Father has made many modifications. Although it was expected that there would be a single symbol (a place for the inscription of one symbol has been prepared on some buildings), Father decided upon two, one for the King of Peace and one for the Queen of Peace.

True Parents asked that the speech Father gave on the first anniversary of his being declared the King of Peace in the National Assembly complex in Seoul—which was also both the anniversary of his release from incarceration in the United States in 1985 and that of the day of the declaration of the nation of the fourth Israel in 2003—be printed in newspapers around the world. We are happy to carry it in Today's World.

Respected guests from home and abroad, beloved blessed families: I would like to express my deepest gratitude for the work you are doing in many places around the world to establish God's homeland and bring peace to humanity. We are gathered here today to commemorate the historic days in 2004 when ceremonies were held at venues on both Capitol Hill in the United States and the National Assembly in Korea honoring me with a crowning as the "King of Peace." As it happens, this is also the twentieth anniversary of the day I was freed from Danbury prison in the United States after achieving victory over the difficulties of incarceration there. That was the last of six times in my life when it became necessary for me to be imprisoned due to persecution and unjust accusations.

On this meaningful day, I would like to convey to you Heaven's message concerning the value of the Holy Marriage Blessing and its significance. The title of my remarks is "The Holy Marriage Blessing Is the Path to Unite the Virtues of Heaven and Earth and to Harmonize and Unify the Universe as One."

The family of the ideal of creation

Beloved guests, in what form does God, the Creator of all things in the universe, exist? God exists as the dual characteristics of a subject partner in the male position and an object partner in the female position. God created Adam and Eve, the first human ancestors, by dividing the male and female positions within Himself. The children of Adam and Eve were to have been created in the same pattern of male and female as a result of the union formed by Adam and Eve.

God's creation takes place according to this principle of origin,

division, and union. God is the first generation, Adam and Eve were the second generation, and the children of Adam and Eve were to have stood in the position of the third generation. These three generations were to have formed a single family. God gave His blessing, so that sinless descendants could be multiplied through myriads of generations. This is how God created human beings.

If Adam and Eve had achieved individual perfection in accordance with God's will—that is, if they had perfected their character—and entered into conjugal relations with His blessing and accomplished perfect oneness with Him, then a bond would have been formed enabling God to reside within them. Also, their children would have been linked to a holy order of love enabling them to form parent-child bonds directly with God. This is God's greatest blessing to humanity.

In general terms, to bless someone means that we pray for their good fortune. What, then, is the zenith, the apex of good fortune? What is the most precious aspect of good fortune? It is not money. Nor is it fame. It is not power or knowledge. If only Adam and Eve had been able to marry with God's blessing and multiply sinless children, this would have been the most precious of all blessings. All creation would have responded with joy, and it would have been the day of God's greatest joy as well. It would be the place where the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth and the Kingdom of Heaven in Heaven meet.

What would have happened if God's creation in the Garden of Eden had ended with man and there had been no woman? The miracle of all miracles is that men and women exist together in this world. For only one to exist would be the same as no existence at all. Humankind would have ended in less than a hundred years. It is only when men and women are together that the heavenly path can be established and ethics and moral principles have their beginnings.

So the marriage of the perfected Adam and Eve would have been God's own marriage. God would have remained as God, but also Adam and Eve would have become the embodiment of

iversaries



God. Adam and Eve would have become God's body, and God would have settled inside their minds to become humanity's True Parent in both spiritual and physical aspects.

The course of restoration

But, ladies and gentlemen, as a result of the Fall, which was committed by the first human ancestors at the beginning, human history deteriorated into a history of sin and struggle. Human beings, as a matter of course, should have attended God as our true parents, but instead we became the prisoners of hell, dominated by the false parent, the devil Satan. The bodies of Adam and Eve were to have become temples of God, and God was to have resided within them, and they were to have become people possessing divine value. Instead, their bodies became hotbeds of all manner of sin and falsehood, and the devil used them as his dance stage.

In practical terms, the Fall meant that the marriage that should have been performed with God's blessing was instead performed centering on Satan. According to the Principle of Creation, true love, true life and true lineage are inherited from parents. This means that human beings born with Satan as our parent, through no choice of our own, inherit false love, false life and false lineage.

Humanity became pitiful, exhausted by a struggle between mind and body, with each one forced to leave this world having been unable to resolve this problem even at the moment of death. We ignore the voice of our conscience, which represents the voice of God within us, and we conduct our lives controlled by the desires of our body, which has become the slave of Satan. This is a picture of the human condition.

Most people are not even aware that they have fallen to the point of living in such a wretched and oppressed state. They look around and see that others are in the same situation. They think appearing to be able to see, but being in fact blind, is quite natural. They have become such foolish and pitiful people. How much longer will you live oblivious to this tragedy?

In principle, the person who causes a problem is responsible to

solve it. Because we fell by false love, we must eradicate false love even to its last vestiges. On that foundation, we must receive the true Holy Marriage Blessing centered on God's true love, and set out to build true families. We must put down true roots that will enable us to multiply true descendants, generation after generation.

This is not something, however, that one can achieve just by wishing it would come true. Isn't it true that, during the tens of thousands of years since the beginning of human history, no one has been able to achieve this state and save humanity from evil and sin? The many religions that have risen and fallen over the course of history have done their best to achieve this purpose, but even they have been unable to overcome the obstacle of fallen nature and have either failed or been forced to take detours.

But God is a parent of true love. He gave Jesus the status of His only begotten son and made Himself incarnate on earth. Jesus came with the mission of the Savior and Messiah and dedicated his life of thirty-three years to bringing about this will of Heaven. Yet in the end, even he passed away midway through the course as a sacrifice on the cross.

I am not referring to any failure on the part of Jesus himself. Jesus, who qualified as the perfect human being, or second Adam, searched for his bride. However, Judaism and Israel, which Heaven had prepared for thousands of years, were unable to understand Heaven's will and their ignorance forced Jesus to go the way of the cross. Jesus was the incarnation of Heaven's seed of true love, sinless and pure, but in the end he had to return to Heaven without being able to plant that seed on earth. Jesus came to find a bride on earth, hold the Marriage of the Lamb in the presence of both Heaven and earth, establish a family of true love and multiply Heaven's sinless and true lineage. Yet this mission was blocked, midway through the course.

The value of the blessing

God's love is absolute, unique, unchanging, and eternal, and so too the attributes of His will are absolute, unique, eternal and



With the start of the millennium, True Parents set up a three-dimensional foundation of victory in the internal providence and the external providence, began Cheon Il Guk, God's fatherland, the peace kingdom and in the time after the coming of heaven, with God's royal seal and the cooperation of the good spiritual world, became the king of peace and of true love.

Rev. Kwak Chung-hwan, International President of FFWPU

Who are we? We might define ourselves as people who love peace. We are people who want to make peace; we are peacemakers.

Dr. Hwang Sun-jo, President of Ilsang Corp.

unchanging. Therefore, God's ideal of creation must absolutely be completed on earth. The providence by which Heaven has sought the children of God who were lost in the Fall, of Adam and Eve, must be fulfilled.

Please understand that even though Jesus passed into the spirit world because of disbelief within Israel, today Heaven has sent True Parents, who are the saviors of humanity, the Messiah and the returning Lord, to earth, and is bringing the history of the Providence of Salvation to a close. God is carrying out His absolute and eternal providence in accordance with a program for the providence of salvation that cannot be delayed or extended any further.

Ladies and gentlemen, you are present today at a very active scene of the providence. Let those with ears to hear, hear. Let those with eyes to see, see with certainty. Let those with mouths to speak give witness to all nations. The Rev. Sun Myung Moon who stands before you now is the Savior, Messiah, Returning Messiah, Peace King, and True Parent. He has manifested on earth with Heaven's anointing as the one for whom humanity has waited with eager yearning for such a long time.

This is not my own claim. Founders of the major religions and tens of thousands of other saints and sages in the spirit world have sent messages testifying to this fact. God himself has sent a message asking that all 6 billion people work to establish the Peace Kingdom on earth, centering on the True Parents. These messages have already been widely published. If you cannot believe these facts, please put your life on the line in prayer. Surely, Heaven will give you the answers that you seek in prayer.

Ladies and gentlemen, what then is the path that humanity, which became wild olive trees as descendants of the Fall, must take? It is to receive the Holy Marriage Blessing from God through the True Parents. A wild olive tree will always be a wild olive tree, even after a thousand years. It must be grafted to a cultivated, or true, olive tree and secure for itself the true lineage. The Holy Marriage Blessing that is received through the True Parents is the blessing and grace of being grafted to the true olive tree.

It is sometimes said in the world that the Holy Marriage Blessing led by Rev. Moon is nothing more than a marriage performed in the style of the Unification Church. This ceremony, however, is

much more than just a wedding to mark the coming together of a man and a woman for the purpose of beginning to build a family. Weddings held until now were centered on the two individuals involved, but the essence of the Holy Marriage Blessing returns joy to God. It is a precious condition for indemnifying history. It is a holy and grand ceremony of blessing and grace. Please understand that, in this ceremony, we resolve the grief of God from the Fall, of Adam and Eve, and pass through the standard of bride and groom that Jesus was not able to accomplish.

So the term "Holy Marriage Blessing" did not just begin with me or with the Unification Church. Instead, it existed within the innermost heart of God since the time of the Creation. After the fall, however, it became one of His cherished desires. Please understand that God has always pursued this as a goal and longed to see it happen.

Is there anyone who knows the circumstances of God, who had to walk a path of unspeakable suffering in order to bring about this historic day? This is a historic day of resolution of grief and a providential day when God's cherished desire is fulfilled. Seen on this level, the Holy Marriage Blessing is an incredible blessing, but it can also be an incredibly fearful blessing.

The position of the Holy Marriage Blessing is where all the sorrow in history, from the farthest past into the present, can be brought to closure. A new beginning can be made toward fulfilling the cherished desires of God. It is a starting point, an opportunity to create a new future for humanity. It is the most certain way to extricate oneself from the dominion Satan exercised in the era before the coming of heaven.

Only through the Holy Marriage Blessing can you inherit the bond of True Parents' love. It is the process and end result of the transfer of Heaven's full authority. When a family that has received the blessing goes to the spirit world, True Parents will be responsible for them. This means that such a family will live under the dominion of True Parents. Once a heavenly bond is made with the True Parents through the Holy Marriage Blessing, this becomes an eternal and unchanging bond. The Holy Marriage Blessing becomes the key to opening the gates of Heaven.

The fulfillment of the blessing

Then, ladies and gentlemen, what kind of time and age is it



I wish Rev. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak-ja Han Moon, hero, king of peace can become the incarnation of eternal, unchanging, true truth and true love. I hope the good men and women from all over the world who are participating today can have true families, through the blessing of the couple who are the king of peace and become leading actors in the work for world peace.

Venerable Na Yong-hwa, Founder of Imjae Buddhism

Peace is not brought by somebody as a present; it has to be eternal and positively should be completed. To complete peace, we should become its subject and owner and exert ourselves. I'm sure that if you practice true love in your lives within society and go to the front line, we will come nearer to peace in Korea. Besides, all over the world, I know many people have the same desire as we do. Many people are working for peace; I truly respect this.
Chairman Lee Cheol-seung, Seoul Peace Prize Cultural Foundation

when the blessing becomes reality? The Era before the coming of heaven, when the world was under Satan's dominion has ended, and we have entered the time after the coming of heaven, when the Peace Kingdom will be established. This is the best of times, when the grief of God, who has worked for six thousand years to see this day, is resolved and the cherished desires of humankind for peace are realized.

It is the time when we see the fulfillment of the cherished desires of Jesus, who came to earth but left before he could completely fulfill God's will. In addition, it is the time when the blossoms of true love bloom and bear fruit for the first time since the creation of human beings, and when we can be welcomed by all nature and receive its respect and glory.

How strongly has God yearned to see this day? We come to a new era in which evil disappears. At this time, a new heaven and new earth are established under the bright light of the sun, and all creation communes together, the entire universe dances in a new morning of victory.

I have said that the heavenly ideal cannot be fulfilled without establishing the family through the Holy Marriage Blessing. The heavenly ideal is completed when the will of God is fulfilled and the heavenly way is established in the family, centering on true love.

What kind of love is true love? True love exists for the public benefit; it is a love that seeks first to give and live for the sake of the whole. It is a love that gives but then does not even remember that it gave, and it gives without end. It is a love that gives joy. It is the heart of love of a mother embracing her child and feeding it at her breasts. It is the love of a child who practices filial piety toward the parents and feels joyful. Just as it was with God when He created human beings, true love is the creation of a love that is absolute, unique, unchanging, and eternal without condition or expectation of receiving anything in return.

True love creates for us the wellspring of the universe, the center of the universe, and the owner of the universe. True love also symbolizes God's root, His determination, and His power. So when we are bound together in true love, we can be together forever and still enjoy each other's company. The universe and even God will follow when we pull them with true love.

The value of true love is reckoned by its power to bring an eternal end to the walls that human beings descended from the Fall, have created, including national boundaries, race, and even religion. An absolute prerequisite for entering the Kingdom of Heaven is a life lived for the sake of others, that is, a life of true love.

What is the heavenly way? In short, it is the tradition of Heaven. It is a tradition of practicing true love rooted in Heaven. A life in the heavenly way is an exalted life that transcends the human laws of the world. Violent social or political revolutions are unnecessary in true love, and the same is true in the heavenly way. You only need to follow the path of true love, the heavenly way, and practice a life of sacrifice and service that is for the sake of others. This is the path that will bring about an explosion of God's love. It is the path to develop and expand God's lineage, and the path to preserve God's lineage forever.

You now need to run forward in this time after the coming of heaven with a determination that says: "As long as God does not change, I will not change. No matter the circumstances, I will continue on this path. Even if the life, love, and ideals that I have preserved until now in the satanic world are all taken from me, I will continue on this path. Even if God should change, I will bring God back and continue on this path with Him. If God is not absolute, I will make Him absolute, if necessary, and continue on this path."

Ladies and gentlemen, why do we marry? I have said that we marry in order to enter the Kingdom of Heaven and to save humankind. We must understand that when two people become husband and wife through the Holy Marriage Blessing, the wife who stands before the husband is a daughter of God and a daughter of humanity. If the man can love his wife as much as humanity loves her and as much as God loves her, then he is qualified to be her husband. The same is true for the woman. Just because he is your husband, don't say, "Look, that's my man." Before you claim him as your man, think of him as God's son and as a man who represents all the men in the world.

Between a husband and wife, the husband is the right foot, and the wife the left. They should leave footprints of a life lived

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11....A DAY OF THREE ANNIVERSARIES

True Parents' Benediction

Sixth Phase of the 400 Million Couples International Blessing
2005. 8. 1(월) 천안유관순체육관 세계평화통일가정연합

International Blessing of 400 Million Couples, Sixth Phase

Cheonan, Korea

August 1, 2005



Our Heavenly Father and master of the universe, today is the first day of August, following July, in the fifth year of Cheon Il Guk, the day that marks the restart of the number 8.

Even after the Fall, You did not cast us away, but have embraced us and endeavored throughout the history of humanity, a history of suffering and hardships, in the position of the vanguard, the pioneer, and carried out the work of re-creation. When we think of the fact that You have single-handedly pioneered, in surmounting the high summits of the eight stages, beginning from the individual to the family, tribe, race, nation, world, universe, and finally to God, we cannot help but feel ashamed that human beings are fallen descendants, the fruits of evil without honor or dignity, the descendants of the satanic world born on earth.

Due to the Fall, the bodies and minds of Adam and Eve became engaged in an endless struggle, and in the family, unbreakable borders and boundaries were established between husband and wife, parents and children, grandparents, parents, children, and siblings centering upon the central clan. We are aware of the fact that all these walls need to be indemnified in the process of Your sorrowful and grievous work of re-creation as a part of Your course of suffering and pioneering.

On this day we are celebrating a great historic event, in which pure young men and women of the Unification Family have gathered here in front of God to receive the blessing, to take the first step in the realization of the ideal of the family centering upon true love. As we do so, we should also labor as we follow the course of indemnity with You, and walk

the path of indemnity and pioneering that extends from the individual to the family, tribe, race, nation, world, and the heavens and the earth together with You, centering upon me, to remove the borders and national boundaries that exist on the battlefields of individuals, families, tribes, races, nations, the world, and the cosmos.

Humankind has been ignorant of the fact that, on the earth, for which You hold the right of ownership, the borders existing within and between families are a result of the Fall, and through these borders, Satan can intervene and take charge of us. And centering on these borders and boundaries, the history of wars and conflict has continued for days and years, and the authority of Satan now extends beyond the world and even reaches heaven and earth; in fact, this world is unified under Satan's command. Though the Parents of Heaven and Earth are gazing out at the land filled with bitter pain, reflecting their heartrending grief, humanity, immersed in confusion, does not know of their existence, and so You have embarked on the work of enlightening them to this truth.

Our Heavenly Father, You are endeavoring to rid individuals of the battleground of the mind and body that exist inside them, as well as the battlegrounds of the family, tribe, people, nation, and cosmos, the spirit world and physical world, heaven and earth, and God and Satan, and to prepare the foundation for ownership centered upon humanity. However, at the same time, on the other side, exists the power and authority of Satan, working to destroy everything and do away with the horizontal standards.

We understand that, unless You, by applying more and

more of God's love—which is true love—to all disbelief and destructive behaviors, which are the cause of wars raging in the satanic world, standing on the side of false love and false sins, have brought them into the position where they will surrender and submit to You voluntarily, You cannot rid the individual of the battlefield inside him, and subsequently, the battlefields of the eight stages from the family to the tribe, the people, the nation, the world and the cosmos. With this knowledge, You, our Heavenly Father, standing in the position of the subject, and the only one who can undertake this task, have pioneered all this by Yourself, the suffering path of re-creation, the lengthy and historic work of indemnity in the eight stages starting from the individual; You have opened up and followed this path by establishing many religions.

The purpose for the establishment of religion differed from that of the nation. The national realm, representing the realm of Cain under the leadership of Satan, has throughout history persecuted and oppressed the religious realm, searching to regain the position of Abel, the younger brother's realm. Nations went so far as to uproot religions, repeating and inheriting the traditions of the history of Cain killing his younger brother. Humanity was living in an environment where the national realm was connected to the religious realm by a link smeared with blood, where the former went to all means and measures to oppose the latter so that the altar of blood could not be transformed into the altar of true love that would bring about liberation of humanity.

For God cannot triumph over the satanic world if humankind is not given knowledge of this truth. Our Heavenly Father, You established religion in the form of the five religious spheres and different philosophies, so that different peoples could choose the form of religion that would suit them best; that is, the various cultures, backgrounds, and traditions existing in the satanic world could be accommodated by religion. To enlighten humanity, ignorant of the truth, that our Father of true love and the Master of the Kingdom of Heaven exists, You walked the lonely, unbroken path of pioneering and persevering for the four thousand years of history from the time of the Old Testament Era, all in preparation for the coming of Jesus Christ, the Messiah.

By sending Jesus as the Messiah, You had intended to purify the defiled lineage of humankind, to establish one family on the foundation of God's true love, true life and true lineage as the true olive tree in this world that is a field of nothing but wild olive trees, to make more than half of this world controlled by Satan into a field of true olive trees by engrafting the trees with the true olive tree of God. In order to make this come to pass, You have come through the First and Second World Wars, and gone beyond the Third; You have labored to become victorious in the history of struggles and divisions in Your overall course involving the earth, humanity, and ideologies. We, Your children, who have gathered here to receive the Unification family blessing, are aware of Your endless endeavors in this regard.

You had to work to trample down and clear away, centering on true love, the battlefield of the individual, the battlefield of the family, the battlefield of struggles between father and son, the battlefield of clans engaged in wars that were not connected to their leaders, the battlefield of wars between nations, the battlefield of the conflict between the world and individual nations, the battlefield of the fight between heaven and earth. Even You, the Master of the Kingdom of Heaven, had to keep true to the standards of absolute faith, absolute love, and absolute obedience when You first undertook the great work of Creation, and in accordance with this, You

issued the strict commandment to Adam and Eve never to see, touch, or eat of the fruit of the knowledge of good and evil, thereby establishing the first border of the strictest absolute faith, absolute love, and absolute obedience. However, Eve herself failed to achieve the position of full maturity, in which she could become one with Adam, and instead fell midway; though she was still not fully grown up, she ushered in that lamentable day, completely naked, centering upon the body of the slave.

Adam was destined to become the master of creation who could govern everything, and so day in, day out, he went out to embrace nature, to supervise, itemize, and analyze the world. He was always out, busy with this task, and Eve, left behind, cried on the lap of the archangel and was consoled by him. Eve could not act together with Adam, nor could she follow him wherever he went, and so she was always left alone, shedding tears of sorrow in her sadness.

The archangel was entrusted with the mission of taking care of, embracing, and cuddling the children on his lap—in short, raising them. He forgot his position, however, and the responsibilities he had been given.

When Adam and Eve grew up and reached full maturity, You, God, were to reside in their hearts and be one with them in mind and body, and they would thereby have become the owner of love, the ruler over both the physical and spiritual worlds. Knowing this, Satan got the idea in his head that if he formed a relationship of love with Eve, he would move ahead of Adam and become the heir to God's lineage. Consequently, an unbelievable incident occurred in Satan's violation of Eve's precious organ of love, which is the main palace of goodness and evil.

The words recorded in the Bible are a clear instruction not to eat of the fruit of the knowledge of good and evil. In spite of these words, however, Satan violated Eve, an act that became the dividing point where the most evil and the most precious were separated from each other—true love being connected to the kingdom of heaven, and evil love to hell. Though he knew that, through that act, he would plummet into the world of total darkness and destruction, Satan, overcome by his greed, violated and defiled Eve and occupied the position of the owner of false love, the owner of false life, and the owner of false lineage. This was how the miserable history of humanity began.

The main palace in which You, God, should have dwelt and exercised Your authority of true love, true life, and true lineage, and kept true to all such traditions, was instead taken over completely by Satan. He consequently brought about the ceaseless struggles between the mind and body, husband and wife, families, tribes, peoples and nations. He caused division after division, separation after separation, finally making this world into an environment of chaos and confusion, in which not even God Himself coming in search of the original ideal, the ideology of unification, could distinguish one from the other. The six billion people living in this world today as the fruits of history cannot discern the path they should follow, and cannot find their way back even if they want to go back. They do not know the direction to take, and are ignorant of the starting point, the purpose behind it, and they cannot connect the cause with the effect. In short, they have lost their bearings in the confusion and due to the Fall, with the root of their value defiled by Satan.

And finally, centering upon the True Parents and after making preparation after preparation for the Advent, You sent Jesus as the King of kings of the chosen people of Israel, four thousand years after the beginning of history, to mark

the end of the Old Testament Era and the beginning of the New Testament Era. Though he came down as a king, to become one he first needed to have sovereignty, a nation and citizens to govern. It was the mission of the Israelites to unite into one heart and soul and prepare all this, so that they could serve and attend the coming Messiah as their King. In this way, Rome would then have been made to submit voluntarily through love, and all peoples in the world would have been embraced in the bosom of love. They would have been engrafted with the true olive tree as the sons and daughters of God, and become resurrected. This world would have become, not a battlefield, but the harmonious Garden of Eden as originally intended.

Everything represented by this plan, that Jesus should come to earth and hold the Feast of the Lamb through which he would establish the position of the parents of true love, true life, and true lineage—everything that should have been established under the national power—failed to be accomplished due to the disbelief and opposition from the Israelites and all forces of Satan on earth in conjunction with the spirit world; and Jesus ended his life on earth on the cross.

The thieves on the crosses on his left and right, and his three apostles, all betrayed the true father, and thereby lost the true parents, and consequently, a true family could not be begun on earth. As a result, a true family, a true tribe, a true race, and a true nation could be formed, and neither could the position of the ideal of oneness centered upon the owner of the realm of unity of heaven and earth and realm of the complete union of true love in the heavens and the earth, could be established. Instead, for two thousand years after Jesus' death on the cross, You continued in Your toils of indemnity, restoration and liberation, climbing over high mountains and crossing deep valleys to restore the position of the perfected, ideal Adam centered upon true love.

None knew or understood Your heart as You strove on. Religion, and the chosen nation of Israel were ignorant of it, and subsequently they failed at the national level, and as a result, everything You had achieved so far was lost. Thus, You had to come back to earth, to the land of the lost nation, and send down the Second Coming on behalf of Yourself, the Master. From the time You created Adam with the Ideal cradled in Your heart, You labored endlessly; for twenty years since the creation of Adam, You waited for him to reach maturity. When he fell before reaching perfection, and made this world into that of Your archenemy, the battlefield extended until it covered heaven and earth, You still toiled on to give birth to and raise the third Adam on such a foundation. Your work has been one long history of bitterness and grief.

You sent the Second Coming to earth, and after the Second World War, Great Britain, the United States and France, as well as Japan, Germany and Italy settled down in the victorious hegemony of Christian culture, from where they surmounted the hill of the individual and family, the hill of the tribe, people and nation, and the hill of the unfulfilled responsibility of the Israelites. You labored to bring the entirety of Satan into complete submission and liberation, to establish on this earth the Kingdom of Heaven in a nation greater than Rome, to make this world into one where only Your ideal at the Creation of the Heavenly Kingdom, can continue forevermore. And You labored to restore and re-create Your eternal garden of faith and love, and the place for a life of love, of eternal obedience, the place for the lineage of life, the place for the lineage of the king of the liberation of heaven and earth. Heavenly Father! As of now the history of a grievous and lamentable world has come to an end.

As we bring the era before the coming of heaven to an end and usher in the time after the coming of heaven, after having fulfilled the conditions of indemnity and broken down national boundaries and borders by July 2005, the fifth year of Cheon Il Guk, we finally stand in the position of having opened wide the gates in answer to the summons from God, which is represented in our gathering here for the sixth phase of the International Blessing of 400 Million Couples. Gazing down upon us, You, our Heavenly Father, are finally able to embrace humanity in Your bosom and centering on the UN, starting from the individual to the family, tribe, race, nation to the world, You can now become one with the United States. The time has finally come when we can proclaim the liberation of the spiritual and physical worlds. We are truly, truly grateful to You for allowing us to hold this final event, the Blessing Ceremony.

In Your embrace, with God as the first generation, Adam and Eve as the second, and their sons and daughters as the third, three generations can form a family untainted by the Fall, and centering upon the one original family where four generations—grandfather and grandmother, father and mother, husband and wife, and sons and daughters—can settle down, we can bring Satan to surrender. We can bring down the barriers through the eight stages, beginning from the individual, and open wide the gates of liberation. Father, thank You for permitting us this one hour of the Blessing Ceremony taking place across the world, where the barriers between the spirit world and the physical world have been broken down and we are free to travel to and fro.

Today, in this Yoo Gwan-soon Gymnasium in Cheonan, Southern Choongcheong province in the land of Korea, I proclaim that the sixth phase of the Blessing of 400 Million Couples is being conducted here at this moment, in a place where the 186 nations of the physical and spiritual worlds have been brought together. I hope and pray that You will become the King of Kings of love on the foundation of this proclamation, free to act as You wish, and that after the proclamation of Your having become the True Great King of Peace, as which You will no longer walk the path of suffering for thousands of years to come, You will become the privileged owner and watch over us in all we do.

On this day, August 1, as the national boundaries on the planet earth are being destroyed centering upon the Bering Strait, and we are now governed by the kingship of peace centered upon love, there is no one on earth who can oppose us or block the fulfillment of Your will, for on this day Your all-embracing, all-immanent, all-powerful reign with full authority over us can begin. I proclaim in the name of True Parents that, by permitting us to hold this holy wedding ceremony, the flower and core of the culture and sports festival, You can bring down the barriers and borders between heaven and earth, and return to your original ideal, the kingdom of heaven in which You can reign over all nations freely and as You please, through absolute love, absolute life and absolute lineage. Grant this world to become one that is under Your victorious sovereignty, according to Your will.

I proclaim that, just as I have reported to You at this time, as of today, it is possible to advance into the era of the kingship of the Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind, which is a kingship of love, with liberation and love. Please accept this proclamation with joy. I proclaim all this in the name of True Parents! Amen! Amen! Amen!◆

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7....A DAY OF THREE ANNIVERSARIES

for the sake of God and humankind. These footprints are, in fact, your families. But if either the right or left foot is not whole, the person will limp. Will you be people who leave footprints betraying a limp? When you become a couple in which the wife upholds the husband as she would Heaven and the husband holds the wife in esteem and protects her as he would the earth, then the place where they embrace will be where the virtues of heaven and earth are harmonized and the universe will be harmonized as one.

Our mission

Respected leaders, we are now entering a glorious age. The Kingdom of Heaven on earth that is God's ideal of creation, the Peace Kingdom, is being established before your eyes. The life that I have lived for more than eighty years, a lonely path speckled with drops of blood and sweat shed only for the sake of Heaven, is now witnessing the fruits of victory for the benefit of the six billion people in the world.

In more than 180 countries, ambassadors for peace who have inherited Heaven's will and tradition are working hard, day and night, proclaiming the values of true love and true families. They are moving forward with full force to establish a world of peace on earth.

In the Middle East, one of the world's tinderboxes, Jews, Christians and Muslims have found the resources in my philosophy of peace to engage in a new dimension of peaceful dialogue. The Unification Thought of Rev. Moon also played a decisive role in ending the cold war. Efforts behind the scenes to bring about the unification of my homeland of Korea are being carried out under my leadership.

But that alone is not enough to satisfy me. I began my life's work at the command of Heaven. I have come as the True Parent of humankind with God's anointing, and I am determined to keep my promise to Him to build His Kingdom.

Ladies and gentlemen, I would like to take the opportunity of this precious forum today to declare a truly historic and revolutionary project for the sake of peace and the welfare of humankind. This is a project to build a bridge over or a tunnel under the Bering Strait, where Satan has historically divided east and west, and north and south, and where the North American and Russian land masses are separated.

This World Peace King Bridge/Tunnel will be connected to a future international highway system, so that people can travel by car from Africa's Cape of Good Hope to Chile's Santiago and from London to New York, making the world a single community.

Heaven warns us that separation and division will no longer be tolerated. This project will bind the world together as a single

community, tear down the walls of race, culture, religion, and nationality created by human beings and establish the world of peace that has been God's cherished desire.

The United States and Russia must become as one, along with European nations, China, India, Japan, Brazil, and all other nations, and indeed all of the world's religions. Together they must combine their energies to succeed in this historic project. The success of this project will play a decisive role in establishing a Peace Kingdom where there is no need for war or division.

Ladies and gentlemen, some may question how such a huge project can be completed. But where there is the will of God, there is a way. The science and technology of the twenty-first century has advanced to a level where boring a tunnel under the Bering Strait is not a problem. The construction costs are also not a problem. For example, do you know how much money the United States poured into the war in Iraq during the past three years? The figure is going to reach 200 billion dollars soon. That is more than enough to complete the Bering Strait project.

The choice before us

Why do not only the United States, but so many in the world continue the foolishness and barbarism of war, pouring endless amounts of money into the project of killing one another? Humankind should stop repeating the perversity of sacrificing our children's lives, squandering astronomical amounts of money for the sake of war. The time has come for all the countries of the world to pool their resources and dash forward toward establishing the world of peace that is the desire of God, who is the master of the great universe.

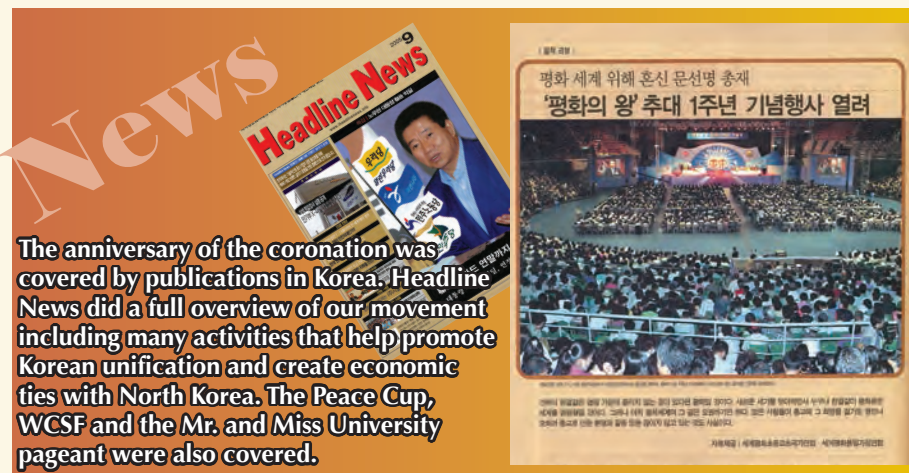
Humanity has entered a dead-end street, and the only way for it to survive is to uphold the peace philosophy of true love, true life, and true lineage that is taught by Rev. Moon. When your good ancestors are mobilized and the heavenly forces in the time after the coming of heaven sweep down upon the earth, even countries and peoples that appear strong will have no choice but to surrender.

The choice is now before you. There can be no perfection in ignorance. This message that I convey to you is both a warning and a blessing from Heaven. Will you join in step with me as I rise and gain victory in accordance with heavenly fortune? Will you become principal actors in establishing true families, true societies, true nations, and a true world? Or will you remain captive behind the same old walls that Satan likes—the wall of your religion, the wall of your culture, the wall of your nationality and the wall of your race—and spend the remainder of your lives in agony and regret? Heaven is summoning brave leaders who will turn this world of evil upside down and establish a new heaven and new earth.

Today I have delivered Heaven's message. Please inscribe it deep in your hearts and remember that the Holy Marriage Blessing received through the True Parents has the unifying value of bringing together the virtues of heaven and earth. Please use this information to set new coordinates for your lives, so that you may become wise leaders.

Let me end my remarks by asking you to pledge that you will become brave leaders who will maintain the heavenly way that has become the tradition of the time after the coming of heaven and who will lead the world and humankind.

Thank you. ♦



The anniversary of the coronation was covered by publications in Korea. Headline News did a full overview of our movement including many activities that help promote Korean unification and create economic ties with North Korea. The Peace Cup, WCSF and the Mr. and Miss University pageant were also covered.

*CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2....***INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

cannot become God's children. True Parents have said that they gave us the blessing conditionally, and when we fulfill our portion of responsibility the lineage can be purified over three generations at minimum, and seven generations at maximum.

The dearest ones to God are those who embody His substance, the true children who have inherited the lineage of love. Because fallen people forsook it, however, He could not love them. Nevertheless, True Parents have taken the responsibility for conditionally removing all of our undesirable connections to Satan and have raised us to the conditional position of not having the original sin. That is the blessing, and that is why we say it is a conditional blessing.

Though it is conditional, the value of the blessing is still beyond our imagination. Children without original sin are born through the bodies of first-generation blessed couples. There are two aggravating circumstances, though, attendant with that. Firstly, the second generation children are born without original sin, whereas their parents were born with original sin but have had it pardoned through the blessing. Secondly, the worldly environment those of the second generation are born into has not been fully restored, and the sovereignty of Satan's false love reigns. Members of the second generation from blessed families are growing up under those two difficult situations. That is why True Parents speak of restoration taking three to seven generations.

The ideal that God envisaged at the time of the Creation included each generation of children being greater and better than the last, as long as their parents lived according to the heavenly principle. That is the principle of God's true love. The principle of true love cannot be fulfilled without an object partner, and it is a righteous desire that one's object partner be better than oneself.

That is the essential, original nature of true love, so God created humankind, His children and the object partners of true love, to be greater than Himself. In keeping with such a heart, we all have the original nature of wanting our children to be better than ourselves. It is the heart given by God and matches the universal order. So if blessed members of the first generation abide by the heavenly way and fulfill the duties of loyalty and filial piety to true love, there is no doubt that all their descendants will be born better than they. It matches the universal order and principle for those of the second generation to be better than the first, those of the third generation to be better than the second, and those of the fourth generation to be better than the third.

What God desires are the most fundamental things. "How can the pure lineage of true love quickly thrive throughout the world?"—Isn't this God's greatest wish? In line with the two impediments I mentioned shortly before, the first generation members received the blessing conditionally. It was as if they did not have original sin. Therefore, how can they live their lives so that they receive less accusation from Satan and move closer to God?

How can a father and mother fulfill such roles? Also, we should be quickly establishing God's peace kingdom and creating an environment in which Satan is prevented from moving. In that way, those of the second and third generations will be able to grow up in a much safer atmosphere.

Since that environment is not yet formed, however, we are appealing to our children and grandchildren not to pick up the patterns of behavior that exist outside the church. If we look a step deeper into the principle, God blessed people to have descendants that are simultaneously God's children as well as their own personal children, not just children exclusively their own. God allowed them to bear the children of God.

True Parents have also expressed that God is the vertical owner of true love and a parent without a physical body. Thus, He can only multiply children through people while they have physical bodies. Among all things of God's creation, therefore, He specially blessed us by allowing us to bear the children of God.

Blessed family tradition and responsibility

God has not been waiting until now just to feel happy with His sons and daughters living on the earth. Only when they become the most perfect object partners to God on earth can they also be the perfect object partners even in Heaven. The period of such preparation is our earthly life, as was intended at the time of the Creation.

God granted people the privilege of giving birth to and raising His sons and daughters. This is the blessed family tradition. When we look at our beloved children, we should agonize over how to raise them as God's children and bring them up accordingly. Also, those in the second generation should have the pride of being God's sons and daughters and live pure lives. Moreover, they should maintain the lineage of true love, and expand God's lineage. When it happens, the two aggravating circumstances mentioned will gradually disappear.

As a result of blessed families' efforts all over the world centered on True Parents, the environment is gradually becoming closer to one of heavenly sovereignty. At last the gates to the time after the coming of heaven have opened widely. Now if, through our devotion and effort and our living with penetrating loyalty and filial heart generation after generation, we sever the ties with Satan that we have been conditionally separated from so that he cannot reattach himself, our second generation—and beyond that, our third—can be born again as children more precious to Heaven. That is God's wish, True Parents' wish and all our blessed families' wish.

In such an era, True Parents have instructed all blessed families to live based on their own responsibility. The time has come when each of us is responsible for our own life, that is, for creating a hoondok family church and being a tribal messiah. "Your family is a church. Teach the heavenly way in your family, set the family tradition, and give the blessing to expand the heavenly lineage." Isn't that the way? Some time ago True Father said, "Let all people in Korea,



In response to Father's request, between mid-June and August 20, members in Korea energetically distributed holy wine and holy candy to the nation's citizens. The official report at the conclusion of the campaign showed that virtually the entire nation's population had been blessed.



whether babies or adults, drink holy wine and so give them the blessing." What does this mean? If all people drink holy wine, the foothold of Satan disappears. Our second and third generations and our further descendants will be able to live freer and safer lives.

Are you aware, however, of the amount of responsibility you bear as one family? As many as four thousand people. This is a very big number and the activity period is short, so I have given instructions to conduct the holy wine ceremony in three ways for more effective fulfillment of the goal.

Children less than nineteen years of age can be sanctified by eating Cheon Il Guk candy, and the holy wine ceremony can be conducted until August for all the people connected through the tribal messiahs, relatives, and hoondok churches. Finally, if we supply the Happy Maeshil [plum] drink which was specially produced by Il Hwa beverage company in a nation-wide campaign, we will be able to complete the mission as True Parents instructed.

Beloved members, the success of this campaign, which will culminate at the end of August, depends on us. God's providence can be determined by how much we invest and how hard we try.

True Parents asked us to take on the mission of tribal messiah and said that all blessed couples should save 36 couples, 72 couples, 124 couples and 430 couples. If you add all these together, it is 662 total couples. These 662 couples can be selected from the four thousand people we are each going to bless.

Is there anyone here who has blessed 662 couples and fulfilled the ideal of God's peace kingdom? If there is, you do not have to come to church, and it does not matter if you do not participate in activities. But if you have not fulfilled this yet, it is not too late to start now. Please do your best in order to fulfill your goal.

God's blessing is eternal

True Father, who has already fulfilled everything, is still standing on the front line of the providence at the advanced age of eighty six. How can we pursue our own individual comfort, our livelihood, and our own circumstances? If we achieve everything, if we show the faith that brings comfort to True Parents, our elderly Parents will be able to rest peacefully.

Now is a time to be very busy. Husbands and wives should be united as blessed couples and raise their children and grandchildren properly in front of God's will. Moreover, as representative of God and True Parents, they must expand and disseminate the blessing to the world. Therefore, we have entered the era of living according to the words of the Family Pledge. This nationwide holy wine ceremony campaign is also a movement to fulfill this.

Beloved members, the Chil Il Jeol we are celebrating today is a holy day for declaring that God's blessing is eternal. Even until fourteen years ago we could not even begin to say "God's blessing is eternal." When something insignificant was made to be God's own, the satanic forces interfered to tear open and attack it. Not even one thing remained on God's side, but as a result of walking an indemnity course of bloody tears, True Father made a rocky island of life in the middle of waters like the Pacific Ocean. There, he sought out and raised True Mother.

However, the satanic forces attacked in many different ways, like crashing waves or a tsunami, and True Parents overcame and formed a rock of the true families through 36 couples, 72 couples,



On September 12, in New York City, True Father launched the Universal Peace Federation, saying it "represents God's victory, the fruit of the True Parents' blood, sweat and tears and the world's cherished hope." Held at the Lincoln Center performing arts complex, ground for which was broken by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1959, the event constituted the first of a twelve-city tour of the United States to be followed by speaking engagements in Korea, Japan and throughout the world. Father's speech was also the cornerstone of a week-long international leadership convocation addressing the theme, *Challenge and Change for Global Governance and Civil Society*.

124 couples, 430 couples, 777 couples, 1,800 couples, 6,000 couples, 6,500 couples, 30,000 couples, 360,000 couples, 40 million couples, 360 million couples and 400 million couples.

Until today, True Parents have been parrying the countless challenges of a billion satans. They have internally secured the position of servant of servants, servant, illegitimate son, adopted son, son and daughter, husband and wife, and parents. They have also connected that rock externally to the cosmos and extended it to the family, tribe, people, nation and world. Later, in 1990, they reached the communist bloc, restoring Gorbachev and Kim Il-sung. On such a victorious foundation, True Parents splendidly carried out the Declaration of God's Eternal Blessing.

They have magnificently declared that "God's blessing is eternal. True Parents are unchanging. Therefore all those who become one with True Parents and the True Family will receive eternal, unchanging blessing."

Blessed families should realize that they are blessed families and have been found through the bone-breaking suffering of True Parents. They should be walking the path of devoted sons and daughters who can liberate God and True Parents from their pain. But what are we doing right now? Aren't we confused about front and back, left and right, inside and outside—not knowing the direction in which to go?

Brothers and sisters, the problems lie within us. True Parents have fulfilled everything. Aren't we witnessing that? The people of the world respect True Parents and are following their teachings. Conferences are being held in Korea to educate five thousand leaders from various fields. So far, 3,400 have attended these seminars.

The Declaration of God's Eternal Blessing that was carried out fourteen years ago is now being grafted substantially into the world. True Parents have worked so that we can fulfill everything substantially. We should now not only commemorate the declaration but fulfill the will and return joy and glory to Heaven. ♦

1. A slightly revised version was given at the WCSF opening ceremony on July 29

True Mother's Mother: The Story Continues

In our April issue, we ran a biographic sketch of True Mother's father, Han Seung-woon, and in July a sketch of the early years of her mother, Hong Soon-ae—long before Father declared her to be Dae-mo nim. This episode covers the years she spent with prophetic religious groups in preparation for the Second Coming. This material was first published in Korean by the FFWPU History Committee in their journal, Sa-bo.

"One day, after talking all evening with members of the New Jesus Church, at around 1:00 AM, I was about to sleep. I heard someone calling 'Soon-ae,' again and again. At that time, I came to the realization spiritually that Jesus was calling me to go to Chulsan. I prayed and lay down."—*Hong Soon-ae, later known as Dae-mo nim*

Kim Seong-do (1882–1944) was someone who should have taken on the responsibilities of Eve as a representative of Korean women¹. When she was seventeen years old, she married Jung Hang-jun from North Pyong-an Province in present-day North Korea. He had been married twice before and was twenty-seven years older than she.

For the sake of healing herself from a mental disease and her son from illness, Kim Seong-do converted to Christianity. Her husband, however, stuck to the traditions of Confucianism and severely persecuted her. Nevertheless, she kept her faith. In fact, she should have been recognized by God, and she should have brought her husband to the point of surrendering to God, but her husband opposed her to the end. He became paralyzed and died when he was sixty-one, after seventeen years of marriage.

She became increasingly more devoted to her faith. She was deeply concerned about the root of sin and prayed sincerely and consistently. She was able to talk to God through prayer. In April 1923, she spoke with Jesus. At that time, she announced to the Presbyterian Church what she'd learned through revelation—that the sin committed by the ancestors of mankind was sexual in nature, that Jesus had been murdered and that the Second Coming would take place in Korea. She was persecuted for this and in 1925 excommunicated.

Later, she started conducting worship services again from her own home. In February 1931, her daughter, whose name was Seok-hyun, received a revelation; she heard, "Repent! The new Lord has come!" From the perspective of God's providence, when the presence of the Messiah is made known on earth, a woman called by the Lord should also become known; that's why the term "New Lord" began to be used to refer to Kim Seong-do, whose entire family did a three-day fast and prayed and developed conviction based on the content of that revelation. From that point on, they often sang songs such as "Song of Gratitude" and "Song of Life." They became known as the Denomination that Awaits the Lord or The Church of Thanksgiving to God.

In 1932, Rev. Lee Yong-do, Rev. Baek Nam-ju and Rev. Lee Ho-bin came to work together. They held a revival meeting, but

in a short time, their collaboration broke down. Of the three of them, Rev. Baek was in the position of Adam

relation to Kim Seong-do. walked barefoot with his dis-

Mr. Kim Baek-moon, the two hundred kilometers from Wonsan to Chulsan, where in October of that year he submitted an application to the Religious Department of the Educational Affairs Bureau in the office of the (Japanese) Governor-general of Korea for official permission to start a church. Once this was obtained, the Holy Lord Church was registered in February 1937. Subsequently, conflict and discord between one faction that was theologically inclined and another one that focused on the Holy Spirit worsened to the point that Rev. Baek left the Holy Lord Church.

In 1936, Hong Soon-ae went to Chulsan with her mother and kept a close watch on the surrounding situation for a while. A middle-aged woman, whom people there called the New Lord, seemed to be just a village elder, yet remarkably, she was the leader in everything that was going on. She usually acted uncertain, like a newly married woman might, and very humbly, but she prayed in a booming voice. She penetrated people's spirits and inspired them with wonderful sermons. She would get into a prayer position that was very low to the ground and pray all through the night crying and crying. She wore cotton rather than silk or satin. She shared God's grace through her deeds. This was Kim Seong-do.

Hong Soon-ae left the New Jesus Church. She would come and go to Chulsan from her home, usually in a twenty-day cycle. At most she would be there for thirty days. Kim Seong-do taught her followers about the sin of lewdness and the sin of the murder of Jesus. Not only did she teach this to people but under her guidance, they experienced these truths in prayer.

In an interview years ago, Hong Soon-ae's younger brother, Mr. Hong Soon-jeong said, "During my days at Pyongyang Elementary School, when I stopped by my hometown on vacation, no one was usually at home. Generally, my father would be on a business trip and my mother and sister would be in Chulsan at the Holy Lord Church. They would have left a letter for me and then walked all the way to the train station, which would have taken a day. I even went once to Chulsan with the address of the Holy Lord Church."

During the time of their going back and forth to the Holy Lord Church, Hong Soon-ae finally became pregnant after nine years' of marriage. At 4:30 AM on the sixth day of the first month of the lunar calendar (February 10 according to the Gregorian calendar) in 1943, when she was thirty years old, she gave birth to her only, precious daughter. This child, who grew up in her mother's family's home, became True Mother.

When True Mother was born, she did not cry but sang mysteriously. The first time after the birth that Hong Soon-ae ate seaweed



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soup², Satan, dark and horned, appeared and tried to kill her baby, saying, "Kill this baby right now or in the future, this baby will endanger the world." Hong Soon-ae held her baby girl tightly, drawing her close to her body as she fought a fierce spiritual battle with Satan, shouting, "How can I kill my baby?" Mother's mother thought deeply about that intriguing incident. About a month after that, Kim Seong-do appeared to her in a dream and told her, "This baby is the daughter of the Lord, and you should have the attitude that you are raising her as a representative of God."

True Mother could walk and speak clearly before her first birthday. People commented on her good behavior. Satan wanted to attack her to leave a psychological scar on her before she turned six years old. Later, when she had come down to southern Korea, a stranger testified about True Mother, "She'd better succeed in cultivating her religious sense. If she were to go out into the secular world, she would become a traitor to her country." So, Hong Soon-ae did her best in raising True Mother to be pretty, clean and beautiful, in order for her daughter to devote herself to God's providence in the future.

True Mother's father named her "Hak-ja," with the Chinese characters that mean "crane" after having a vision of bright, clear sunshine in a thick pine forest where two cranes played together harmoniously. True Father interpreted the meaning of True Mother's name in this way: "'Han' in the true sense of the word, means 'Korea' or 'oneness,' as well as 'universe.' Han Hak-ja signifies that she would become an eminent scholar [Another meaning of "Hakja" is "student."], who would study the nature of God and the causes of his bitter pain. She would be the true object of God. 'Ja' indicates that she would marry God's prince."

After Pyongyang Elementary and Middle School, which were connected to Doshisha University in Kyoto, Japan, Mr. Hong Soon-jeong began studying abroad at an advanced school of pharmacy in Osaka in 1940. It was while he was in Japan that his parents took Mr. Han Seung-woon into their home as a potential son-in-law. Before long, he married Hong Soon-ae, but Mr. Han was not able to remain in his wife's home, because he was teaching at a school far away in Yeonbaek in Hwanghae Province. Hong Soon-ae was almost always absent from home because of her ardent passion for her faith. Mr. Han and his wife did not have much time together; they lived separately.

Mr. Han taught at and served as a vice-principal of Manseong Public Elementary School from 1945 to 1946. He came south over the border³ because of a threat from the Communist Authority in April (or May) 1946. Before that, in fact, Mr. Han had returned to his parents-in-law's home when Mother was about four years old. Hong Soon-ae, however, did not follow him south, because she firmly stuck to the way of faith, awaiting the Messiah.

After coming south, Mr. Han worked as a principal at elementary schools around Seoul and Gyeonggi Province. Until his retirement as a teacher in 1974, he dedicated his life to educational work, especially to the education of children in the countryside, where he worked for forty-one years in a total of around fifteen schools. During that time, he remarried. His second wife, Jee Hee-sun, was a fellow teacher with whom he had two sons (Han Wee-il in 1948 and Han Wee-yong in 1951).

The Inside the Belly Church

Seok-cheon and Seok-jin, two sons of



Kim Seong-do, were in the position of Cain and Abel. They should have become one with their mother, who said that the eldest son and his wife were responsible for the course of Joseph and Mary. The eldest son's wife, whose name was Choi Ae-seon, was the daughter of a sincere Christian minister and had had a lot of spiritual experiences. She understood her mother-in-law well. Kim Seong-do wanted to hand her mission over to her daughter-in-law and asked Ae-seon and Seok-cheon, as a condition, not to have sexual relations. Her son, however, did not go along with this, and Kim Seong-do's daughter-in-law died as an indemnity condition.

The Holy Lord Church spread and established twenty meeting places in Chulsan, Anju, Pyongyang, Jeongju, Sookchun, Haeju, Seoul, Wonsan and other locations. But, in the autumn of 1943, because an informer passed secret information to a Japanese police detective, Kim Seong-do and around ten core members were jailed and tortured. On April 1, 1944, three months after her release, Kim passed away at the age of sixty-one. Since at that point Hong Soon-ae and her mother had been going back and forth to Chulsan for eight years with the sincere belief that the Garden of Eden would come into being again centered on the New Lord, they were perplexed and embarrassed.

Heo Ho-bin succeeded to the mission of Kim Seong-do. Heo had been running, with her husband Lee Il-deok, one branch of the Holy Lord Church in Pyongyang. A revelation brought the members of Holy Lord Church together after Kim Seong-do's death. At that time, Jesus spiritually inspired Heo, who was called Samonim⁴, as a way of referring to her as the bride of the Lord. A special revelation occurred in which she experienced the sensation of having a child in her belly (her womb), indicating that the Second Coming would be born through a womb. This group, led by Heo, was known as the Inside the Belly Church.

In fact, Kim Seong-do was an Eve-type and Heo Ho-bin was a Mary-type. Heo and her husband liberated Jesus from the resentment that arose from Joseph and Mary having been unprepared to attend and serve him. Heo Ho-bin and Lee Il-deok prepared for the Second Coming to arrive in joy and glory. At Jesus' birth, Mary had not even prepared a blanket to wrap around him. Jesus was wrapped in a hat. Jesus let it be known through signs that if he had not been God's true son, he would have frozen to death.

Actually, Joseph was very rough with Mary. He asked her, "Who is this baby's father?" Mary was not able to give her breast to Jesus for as long as her heart desired for her to do. Heo Ho-bin and her husband learned through revelation that as Jesus grew up he was badly treated and also that he did not accomplish what he was intended to. They lamented over the resentment that Jesus felt, which led them to prepare all the things that were necessary for

Jesus during his life and should have been offered to him. They tried to liberate Jesus.

Every facet of his daily needs, such as clothing, meals and housing, of the highest quality, were prepared. One Western or Korean traditional suit of clothes was prepared for every third day of Jesus' thirty-three years of life. The cloth they came from was brand new and pure. The price of the cloth, which was washed and checked for loose threads or other abnormalities twelve times before being used, was never haggled over. Before making an item of clothing, the tailors cleaned the room. They never used a sewing machine; the



Top of page, True Mother's father, Han Seung-woon; Bottom, Hoon Soon-ae, among elder sisters from Japan and Korea

tailors sewed three stitches at a time, tied the thread and began another set of three stitches. They were not allowed even to stand up until the item of clothing was completed. If the tailors made a mistake, they were punished. They learned Jesus' clothing sizes from heaven. After having finished making everything for Jesus, the Inside the Belly Church members started making clothes for the Second Coming. Members of the church offered their property in order to prepare everything but genuinely wanted to offer more and more. Three meals were prepared as if they were a feast for the Messiah. Before cooking rice, they washed it twelve times.

The worship service of the Inside the Belly Church involved only bowing. They might bow 300 times or 700 times or even 3,000 times a day. They were genuinely preparing for and expecting the Second Coming. They were ready to offer their lives if God were to order them to do so. Heo's daughter was prepared as the bride of the Second Coming. Twelve disciples were prepared, too. Heo predicted the date of the defeat of Japan and publicly announced that she would meet the Second Coming.

Father and Heo Ho-bin

Hong Soon-ae and her mother joined the Inside the Belly Church and dedicated themselves to preparing clothes, embroidering floor cushions and folding screens, making Korean leather shoes and Korean traditional hats and other things. On a night that followed a day when Hong Soon-ae really wished that she could see the Messiah, if only in a dream, she had a visionary dream. She was wearing white clothes and was about to go into a room after having worked in the kitchen, but her mother said that no one was allowed into that room. Nevertheless, she went in. In the room, a man with a healthy, strong physique was sitting, facing east. He turned to her and said, "I am studying how to find you." Hearing that, she grabbed his hand and out of gratitude to God began weeping, at which point, she woke up.

A month later, she had another prophetic dream. The same person she had seen earlier said that he should study in a place farther north and asked her to put her favorite blanket and quilt and suits into a bag for him. She answered, "Yes!" These things were already prepared in a room. She gave the bag to him, and he said, "I will come back after three years. You should not change your mind." He left for the north whistling. He looked very lonely. She woke up crying.

In August 1946, Heo Ho-bin and the staff members of the Inside the Belly Church were taken to Daedong prison in Pyongyang by communist policemen. The clothes they'd prepared for the Messiah were confiscated. Members felt grief. Among the members who had not been arrested, however, another direction from Heaven came, and they began to make clothes for the Messiah again. At that time, Heo Ho-bin while in prison, received a revelation where she saw the Messiah coming out of prison and being met by twenty or thirty members. Meanwhile, True Father was arrested while witnessing in Pyongyang and was sent to the same prison for a hundred days.



Hong Soon-ae, affectionately called Grandmother Hong, ascended on November 3, 1989.

At her Seung Hwa Ceremony, True Father prayed,

"Loving Father, today 1989, November 6, 10:40 AM, I visited the resting place of the body of Grandmother Hong. Through Grandmother's ascension a heart-to-heart bridge between heaven and earth is formed. Father, may this bridge allow for Judaism, Christianity and Unificationism to be one in heart."

True Father tried to contact Heo Ho-bin several times, but she did not recognize him.

The first condition to become the True Mother of humankind is having internal lineal ties to people that had overcome Satan's accusation. Adam was alone. Jesus should have been alone. True Mother's maternal lineage included seven generations with one son per generation [though they may have had daughters]. The members of those generations remained virtuous despite their loneliness. True Mother's grandmother, Hong Soon-ae and True Mother were only daughters [sons, here, are not taken into account]. They had few relatives, so their lives were rather simple. Three generations established the foundation for becoming the bride of the Messiah through suffering through loneliness with faith.

Hong Soon-ae and her mother did not compromise with the secular world. They lived a religiously sensible and clean life. They dedicated and sacrificed their lives to Heaven. Through that condition, they inherited the main tradition of faith in the Second Coming. Kim Seong-do pronounced a blessing on True Mother when she was a baby, and when

Mother was four years old, the mother of Heo Ho-bin, who was the woman who led the Inside the Belly Church, received a special revelation and pronounced a blessing upon True Mother saying she would become the bride of Heaven. Through these processes, True Mother inherited all the historical foundations.

True Father has spoken about this series of providential efforts by saying, "[The area of God's providence] started by these poor women became a bridge. If those women had fulfilled their responsibilities, [progress would have been made in God's providence] and a bridge created to the next stage. Through those processes, finally, the highest and purest woman could appear and become the representative of women in the world and the supreme mother. Likewise, the providence of restoration proceeds from the lowest to the highest."

Father has also said, "Grandmother Hong Soon-ae devoted herself to waiting to meet the Second Coming without considering any other circumstances and went through historic suffering. True Mother participated in that training, too." In a sense, Mr. Han Seung-woon and Hong Soon-ae established separate families; they lived independent of each other, but ultimately, it was the will of God and the journey they had been called to take. ♦

1. She is the grandmother of Chung Su-won of the 36 couples
2. Korean women eat seaweed soup for some time after giving birth to speed their recovery and to help them produce milk.
3. This refers to the dividing line between the Russian occupied zone in the northern part of the Korean peninsula and the American occupied southern part.
4. A title given to the wife of a respected man, such as a teacher



The Long Arm of Prayer

We are happy to share with our readers a young person's testimony to the power of prayer for others. This testimony was originally given at the summer forty-day workshop, which was attended by many second generation members.

I've always been the kind of person who wanted to share every experience, no matter how small or insignificant, with the world. But I find that a truly worthwhile testimony is one that will be an inspiration and good influence on others, especially blessed children (who tend to forget how very precious they are). And so, for this reason, I have chosen to share this testimony publicly in hopes that it will move your hearts in some way, and more specifically, give you a stronger incentive to pray for others. But first, let me give a little history of myself.

I come from a very clichéd situation. One of the only blessed children in my area, and the oldest daughter of a state leader, I struggled a lot with the church. But unlike many other blessed children, I let my feelings about the church be known and rebelled in every way imaginable. All in all, it's safe to say that I was, in a sense, the ringleader of the BCs in my area; I had dragged several of them down with me, including a sibling.

Anyway, to make a long story short, with the help of God, my parents and my good spiritual world, I was able to make a complete turnaround in my lifestyle, and just a little less than a year ago, I came back to the church. Upon making this change in my life, I had realized the bad influence I had been on the local

blessed children, especially one person in particular. I immediately felt the need to help this BC in any way possible, though I myself had only begun recovering from my past. I did little things, like taking her out to lunch, taking her to a concert, to movies—anything to make her feel loved and help her understand that she didn't need any of her fallen friends, or promiscuous clothing for her to have self worth. I did all these things as a way for her to listen to my plea for her to change her lifestyle. But, unfortunately, she ended up feeling judged and came to resent and dislike me, and so we had lost all communication after only about a month of my efforts.

After all that, I just gave up and continued with my life, becoming more involved in church activities, and really working hard to restore myself of my sins, and make my spirit stronger for the sake of serving God's providence, and for my future

husband. I eventually made the decision to go to Cheongpyeong for forty days, thinking it'd be good preparation for STF and college. While in Cheongpyeong, I found that my biggest struggle was with forgiving myself and letting go of my past and moving forward with my life. The situation I had left this sister in came back into my mind, and I was once again guilt-stricken. But because I wasn't exactly sure what to do, I finally came to the conclusion that all that could be done was to pray. So I prayed hard for quite some time that my absolute, good spirits could forget about me and help her.

To be honest, I wasn't really sure about the technicalities of absolute, good spirits, and whether you could ask your own to help another person or not. But I just figured that she was in some ways my responsibility, so it was worth a try either way. In the back of my mind though, I didn't really think my prayers would do much for her. Not that I felt that prayer was insignificant, but rather that she was so set in her ways and so comfortable in her new lifestyle and environment, that it'd probably be years before any change would occur. But the spiritual world proved me wrong. Near the end of my stay at Cheongpyeong, I received a fax from my mother. The general message was about her stay in Florida and the popular "You don't call enough" speech. But the very last sentence read, "By the way, [name expunged] is coming back to the church." And my heart stopped.

Because of prayer and the incredible power of the good spiritual world, the spiritual life of a blessed child has been saved. This is no mere coincidence of any sort, but truly the work of God, who has shown me that I had so little faith. This sister, who was once on the path to spiritual death, is now slowly but surely on her way back home, which is by no means any less than a miracle. So, I hope that from this testimony, you will pray more deeply and seriously for your friends, family and most importantly those blessed children who are struggling for whatever reason. Every single blessed child is so vital for the intricate plan of the restoration providence. So please, have faith and I'll keep praying to God for you and your families and all other blessed families throughout the world.◆



Members of the second generation at a forty-day workshop in Cheongpyeong

The author of this testimony prefers to remain anonymous



Jr. STF: Climbing God's Dream

By Jo In-beom

The leader of Junior STF Korea decided to provide this article verbally rather than in writing. Though he was speaking about events he was personally involved in, what he said seemed to rise directly out of his heart, honest and self-effaced.

In May, Akiko Ikeno, who sometimes helps the True Grandchildren, came to Korea to discuss what they might do this summer. It was at that point that I learned Shin-won nim, Shin-chul nim and Shin-ae nim would be taking part in our Junior STF workshop.

I think I should explain first that with regard to the education of members of the second generation, those of the first generation worry about their purity, not just in terms of lineage but in terms of faith. Education has often been focused on pureness, on being a good kid and on raising their faith. It has been inner-oriented, faith-based education, trying to ensure that good kids remain good kids. Hyun-jin nim's focus on second-generation education is a little bit different in that we're not just trying to raise the children to be good children, because just raising them to be good children entails the problem of their not quite understanding who they are—as distinct from any other good child. The aspect of self-identity needs to be addressed, so I wanted to focus on education where the children on their own could come to realize who they are and what their role is at this time. Based on an understanding of who they are and what they are called to do, they can take action.

Most of the time, education to help them become aware of their identity has just emphasized that

they are God's and True Parents' children, that they are loved by God and loved by True Parents. That's the usual framework. Children who are raised under that kind of concept would usually be moved just by the fact that God loves them or perhaps that True Parents would say something about the second generation. They would really be touched and moved to hear that. It seems that an understanding of the fact that God and True Parents love you is some type of standard of faith.

On top of that, Hyun-jin nim is emphasizing the fact that they are not just children; they are members of the extended True Family. On that vertical axis where there are God, True Parents and the True Family, we are all connected in terms of our lineage. So although we haven't perfected ourselves and are not mature, we are connected from God through True Parents and through the True Family. Since we are connected to that vertical axis, since we are part of that extended True Family, it's very obvious that whatever dream God, True Parents or the True Family have should also be our dream.

It ought not to be that we are just doing things because God and True Parents want them done. Rather, being part of God and True Parents, being completely connected to that vertical axis, whatever they want is naturally what we want. That's the kind of realization that we want to cultivate within the kids. What we have to understand is that the ultimate dream is to create a family under God—one great family under God. So, if you ask us in the second generation what our vision is of our movement, we would answer that it is to create one global family under God. There is one requisite that must be fulfilled before creating a family under God and that is bringing about the reunification of Korea centered on God and based on His sovereignty. Not only is that a task for us, but those in the second generation have to prepare themselves to become leaders who contribute to building the nation in the post-unification era.

We heard from Shin-won nim through his personal testimony that as he grew up he'd never received this kind of specific education until 2003. In 2003, he participated in a Service for Peace project, but before that he honestly said that he didn't really feel like doing any of these things. He also had his own conflicts and struggles within his heart. It was a burden for him to appear before the unification family as a whole. From 2004, he had time to spend with the Korean and Japanese Junior STFs. He finally started to realize who he was and what kind of role he could play within the overall picture. Before that point, even for Shin-won nim, the ideal of a person of faith had been one where the person reveled in God's love and True Parents' love while also saying, "Yes I love True Parents and God and I love others," but that was all. Shin-won nim honestly said that his ideal of a person of faith had been one who was grateful for God's love and talked about love without anything attached to or following after it.

For the first time, he was able to meet not only the kind of people who love God

and love True Parents and feel loved by them but who actually say, "Because I love God and True Parents, I want to fulfill their dream." He was able to see people who actively wanted to change themselves, to change the movement and to change society, so that we can create that ideal, that dream. He was able to see a greater version of what a person of faith might be defined as. Seeing that dream and vision he was able to find hope and also passion that



motivated him to bring about that dream. He was able to find greater pride in True Parents and in Hyun-jin nim, his father, who actually developed this new Junior STF program that was making kids start to feel that way. He was finally able to discover who he was and he was able to find the determination, the stimulation, to live for God and live for True Parents.

The Koreans: an international issue

Shin-won nim was born in 1988, during the Seoul Olympics, when the world was able to discover for the first time in modern history what kind of nation Korea is. He also sees that there is great significance in his having been born in that year. He feels he has a mission and role to play in building God's nation. He wants to prepare with kids around his age who will be helping him and helping God's providence for the later time when he takes on that role. This international Junior STF workshop was an occasion to bring the different types of Junior STF from around the world together, to help them become more cohesive and to have the same kind of culture. Shin-won nim participated in this workshop and has expressed satisfaction and that he was happy to have gone through it.

Father and Hyun-jin nim have mentioned many times that the unification of Korea cannot be done by the two Koreas alone; it has to be accomplished by acting from the viewpoint that we are all one family under God. It can be realized when it's done in order to create a sovereignty under God.

Unification has to be realized in order to bring about one family under God. You have to look at unification from that perspective, that it's the indispensable means of creating one global family under God. That's why, since we were bringing all kinds of Junior STF chapters from around the globe, for this workshop we came up with the theme that the unification of North and South Korea

Junior STF is not just a workshop that makes promises. By going up Jirisan and fulfilling our personal objectives, by reaching the top, we've just taken the first step to actually realizing the dream of North-South unification. The reason we are all gathered here--representatives of the U.S. Korea, Japan, Europe--is because we want to make God's dream a reality. Not only that, but my father, in a speech, said that Junior STF and STF are the hope of our movement. What this means is that we are at the forefront of making God's dream a reality. ♦



Excerpt from Shin-won nim's testimony

is not just an issue confined to the Korean peninsula but is something that we all, as one global family under God, should take an interest in. This is something we should all deal with and find joy in trying to realize.

Even within Korea itself, many people do not look at unification in a positive light. All the policies being promoted now are independent policies; they don't want any outside interference created between the two Koreas by other governments or groups. Before, even within the second generation in Korea, people understood the vision of reunification and liked it, but they had no conviction when it came to the idea that it had to be an international issue. Now, through this workshop, they were able to see the international scope of the issue and were able to find greater strength and hope. They were also able to see people being transformed by the new culture being built within Junior STF. People carried that back to their homes.

Many of these kids did not know much about our movement as a whole; they had never realized how influential we have become. They didn't even understand what our movement is. Through this workshop they were able to see how much Father has been working on an international scale to bring about God's dream and ideal—the

international blessings and all the other projects that are going on all have a connection to this reunification issue. They were finally able to feel great confidence and conviction in the value of the movement itself.

Even some people who are not members of our movement, when seeing how transformed the kids were and the culture imbued in them, were shocked. The young participants discovered greater conviction in the fact that the foundation that the True Family, True Parents and the Unification Church have made really has the strength to change people. When those who came from overseas arrived, the issue of reunification was just conceptual to them at first. "Because True Parents were born in Korea, I guess we have to do it," seemed to be their feeling. Through this workshop, they were able to understand the deeper, providential significance of reunification and how everything that Father has been doing meshes with it. That is one of the good results that they obtained from this workshop.

Shin-won nim was observing the entire process throughout the workshop and the changes that occurred in people; from there, he was able to find greater conviction in the unification issue.

We developed an international standard for Junior STF, which we reported to Hyun-jin nim. We came up with it last year but were able to strengthen and supplement it this time through the workshop. Within the Second-generation Department we have an online club called "Hope and Dream." We keep in contact through that. It was created by Kim Jin-soo, who up until now has been the coordinator, under Hyun-jin nim, for the second generation throughout the world. He was just semi-officially appointed the Junior STF International director. Junior STF began last year and there have been a lot of changes and developments since then. It is unfortunate that we weren't able to fully convey the developments that have been going on in STF to our entire movement. This time we made a Junior STF international PR team.

As a service project, the all-girl team that included Shin-ae nim, Hyun-jin nim's daughter, came to our area of Seoul. We took elderly women to a public bath to bathe them. She was hesitant at first, but among all the girls, Shin-ae nim was the only one to hug her "partner." She came out of the sauna area and there were women resting. She was very friendly and massaged them. She was an example. She said that usually she's calm, but when she does this kind of activity she becomes talkative and feels powerful.

—Mrs. Kono, Nowon District Family Church



CONTINUED ON PAGE 29...JR STF: CLIMBING

Il Shim: A Commitment to Purity

By David Beard

Faith is not passed from generation to generation with the same lack of concentrated effort as are physical characteristics. In less than a decade, a program to help our teenagers take possession of their faith has grown in popularity.

French ethnographer Arnold Van Gennep (1873-1957) may not have been the first person to compare rituals performed in different cultures highlighting milestones in a person's life, but his 1909 book *Les rites de passage* gave us a means to define them. A rite of passage is a ritual through which a community acknowledges that one of its members has passed through a period of isolation, having been torn from the security and comfort of one phase of life and propelled by mainly biological factors toward the next. It is a celebration of the person's emergence—having run the gantlet—and reincorporation into the community with a changed status.

A prospective groom's pre-wedding jitters—brought on by his sudden estrangement from his single friends and his having to confront (perhaps for the first time) the depth of his own mettle as he prepares to enter the terra incognita of married life and potential parenthood—his efforts to conquer these feelings and the coming together of friends and family in recognition of his new standing and increased responsibilities as a married man constitute a common example of the course of a rite of passage. Birth, death, marriage and puberty are all part of the life cycle where changes that come naturally with time go in tandem with a change of social elevation; such transitions are often recognized in some ceremonial way by the wider community.

In the religious world, these times of change are colored by the person's particular faith. Since sometime in the fifteenth century, for example, when a Jewish boy reaches the age of thirteen, he undergoes a puberty ritual to mark his becoming a bar mitzvah, literally a son of commandment, that is, a man personally responsible for fulfilling the commandments.

The ritual the boy passes through has the Torah as its focal point.

A portion of the Torah scroll is read before the synagogue on each Saturday Sabbath, so that over the course of precisely a year it is read from beginning to end. On a prearranged Sabbath, the teenaged boy is "called to the Torah" to read in front of the synagogue for the first time.

Typically, the boy will have spent a year preparing. His parents may have hired a tutor to teach him how to cantillate—to recite the sacred text in musical tones. The recitation is done in Hebrew and working out the pronunciation of the words is made more difficult by the absence of vowels¹. As if the situation is not stressful enough, the Torah scroll cannot be touched, though a pointer may be held over it to help keep one's place while reading.

The rite is not necessary to the boy's emergence as a man in the Hebrew faith, but it gives that emergence public recognition and support. From that point on, he's a person with greater responsibilities. He can now be called to the Torah on subsequent Sabbaths; he can be counted as part of the quorum of men necessary for full synagogue service and the responsibility for his obeying the commandments has passed to him from his father.

For more than five hundred years, this was done only with boys. In 1921, combative rabbi Mordecai Kaplan, who was the founder of the Jewish Reconstructionist movement, a professor at Manhattan's Jewish Theological Seminary and a man who had only daughters, decided to try something new. His daughter Judith was the first girl to go through a bat mitzvah ceremony.

A recent Unificationist rite

Adolescence is a remarkable time. With some children, hormonal clouds swirl around like dust storms in the Kalahari Desert. Parents worry. Communication is sometimes difficult. Isolation ensues. Parents who love scripture appreciate its potency and have first-hand experience wielding its power in their own personal battles. They may fear for a child who is defenseless without the word, but they know what God knew in the Garden: Our children must arm themselves.

Whether in response to the dangers facing children in a complex world or simply as

a starting point for their religious education, in some regions of the United States, and to a minor degree in Europe, a Unificationist rite of passage, known as Il Shim, is gradually gaining popularity.

First developed in 1999 in the American state of New Jersey, Il Shim, which means "one heart," is conducted in various locations in different ways, but essentially, as Kenritsu Yamamoto, youth minister of San Francisco's Bay Area Family Church, described it, the purpose of



Adolescence is a time of great intensity. Here, second-generation members enjoy summer camp in America.

Il Shim “is to teach our kids about purity and taking responsibility for their own lives of faith.”

Mainly adolescent members of our second generation go through a program that involves study, service and sacrifice (often a fasting condition) before pledging to remain pure and setting off to develop faith that belongs wholly to them.

How this is done in Northern Virginia may vary from how Il Shim is conducted in Oslo, Norway, but even in the individual areas where Il Shim programs are being held, the particulars of the program are still in the process of evolving. Eighteen-year-old Emmanuel Voelker explained that when he went through the program in the Los Angeles area in 2001–2002, it was a ten-month program where the candidates had homework on a different Il Shim topic each month. Some families used this as a tailor-made opportunity to share deeply about their personal views on faith. The eight points of the Family Pledge were covered as were prayer and purity. Graduates were also required to have done twenty-four hours’ of service work comprising eight hours in the home, eight hours in their church and eight hours in the community.

After speaking with Los Angeles’ 2002 Il Shim graduates, it was decided that in the educational portion of the program, the next batch of youngsters to go through Il Shim would benefit more from three workshops, each focused on a different topic—their faith and relationships to God and to True Parents, their commitment to purity and to the blessing and their lifestyle—how their faith is expressed through action. Elizabeth Manaka sees Il Shim as “a great opportunity for each family to come closer together centered on faith,” so along with a seven-day prayer condition that the parents and child do together and either a three-day fast, a one day fast or three one-meal fasts, the children in Los Angeles will also be interviewing their parents about their life of faith or their experience of joining the church. After the interview, the children will have to submit an essay of at least five hundred words about what they learned from their parents through the interview.

My family faith

Judie Lejeune of the Northern Virginia Family Church describes their Il Shim experience as “a purity and inheritance program,” by which she suggests a key aspect of the program involves “inheriting the faith of your family.” Our way of faith differs from that of other religious groups. Taking those first steps toward inheriting the faith of a Unificationist family involves approaching the front-line—where that faith initially became real for those in the first generation.

In New Jersey, where they have recently completed their seventh annual Il Shim ceremony, current guidelines call for candidates to attend a two-day retreat, to undergo a three-tier experience of service projects as is done in LA, to do a seven-minute, seven-day prayer condition with their parents—with whom they will also fast one meal before coming to the ceremony itself—to attend five Il Shim preparation classes and to complete a home study program. The home study program asks the teenagers to read sections of “The Way for a True Child,” the eighth hoondok book in the Gathering for Reading and Learning Series as well as parts of “Outline of the Principle: Level 4.” Based on these readings, they are to reflect on such topics as *choosing to become a true son or daughter of God*, and *the importance of purity*. The questions they are asked to answer and be prepared to discuss include What is salvation? What does it mean to be in the direct dominion of God? Why is it wrong to date? What are some spiritual conditions you have made? and Why has God’s providence of restoration taken so long to accomplish?

Brian Sabourin, the Youth Minister for New Jersey’s New Jerusalem Family Church is planning to release a CD² after an Il Shim training session that he will be conducting in conjunction with but just prior to the 2005 Educators’ Conference at the Unification Theological Seminary in Barrytown, New York. The Educators’ Conference will run from October 7 to 9.

It’s no wonder that after being asked to invest so much of themselves spiritually, intellectually and physically, the children feel a great sense of accomplishment in having qualified to go through an actual Il Shim ceremony, when the community comes out (and from all reports people come in droves to attend this pivotal ceremony in the life of the young Unificationists) to acknowledge that these young people have undergone challenges and emerged with a heightened status and greater responsibilities.

At the ceremonies, which indirectly serve to inspire the younger children, who look up to the teenaged participants and to give great hope the adults, who depend on the participants to carry Father’s vision and their own efforts forward, sometimes the Family Pledge is recited and commonly an Il Shim Pledge is read aloud as well.

Most areas have adopted the idea of using a “True Love Waits” ring, which is used in conjunction with a Christian sex education program that was developed by the Lifeway Student Ministry. One of the parents slips the ring on their child’s finger, where it generally remains until after the matching or blessing when it can be offered to the spouse as a symbol of their years of effort to remain pure.

Some children discover that other students in school have the same ring after having gone through similar programs in their Christian church-



Il Shim Pledge

AS A BLESSED CHILD OF THE SECOND GENERATION,
I FREELY AND SINCERELY DEDICATE MYSELF TO:

1. Love and honor God and True Parents by practicing a life of attendance with absolute love, absolute faith and absolute obedience.
2. Love and honor my parents by maintaining the tradition of our lineage that began with the Matching and Blessing of True Parents and has been passed on to me.
3. Love and honor my church and community by giving of myself in service to others and by participating in church activities.
4. Love and honor my future spouse, my future children and myself by maintaining sexual purity prior to receiving the Matching and Blessing.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 35....IL SHIM



Reaching for the Stars:

An Interview with Joshua Cotter

V-CARP

The expectation that the generations produced by the blessing will change the world is very high. In a brief, candid interview, the President of CARP in the United States, Joshua Cotter, outlined the work CARP is doing to empower the emerging second generation in his country for the sake of the future.

What is CARP presently focusing on?

Our main focus has been raising a core group of second-generation university student leaders. We feel that that is the key to also reaching younger members of the second generation. College student BCs have to stand on the front line and do a public mission.

CARP is also involved with Special Task Force (STF), where our responsibility has been second- and third-year STF. They come to our CARP centers for witnessing training primarily. That is, one-to-one witnessing and Divine Principle training, so they become proficient in lecturing the Principle. Basically, the STF period is a springboard for going to college. Hyun-jin nim laid out a seven-year course for second generation—two years of STF, one year of fundraising, one year of witnessing and four years of college as a student leader, hopefully in CARP. Not all of them come to CARP, but that's okay, as long as they are active on their campuses as student leaders. At the same time, we encourage the student leaders to be active in youth ministry.

We think that both aspects are important; they should have an outreach, witnessing, experience on their campuses, so that they can influence their campus culture; they can then take that internal breakthrough and victory and share it with younger BCs when they do youth ministry within our church. We find that if they do one or the other, it doesn't work. If they just focus on taking care of younger members but have no victories themselves, they run out of stuff to nurture the younger ones with; but if they are constantly outreaching on their campuses, meeting prepared people, working with conscientious youth and doing projects and witnessing through that, they'll have much more to share. If they themselves feel they are victorious on the front line, they have much more to share with the younger ones and it's good for the younger ones to see them as models. We're rebuilding CARP in America to be a campus-based organization centered on second generation college students and there are hundreds of them out there. We haven't been able to effectively reach many of them; so we basically decided that we will focus on raising a group of forty student leaders from around the country.

Another important component of this is that CARP has been working with the Family Federation and the Second Generation Department to reach out to these students. We had, for example, a national leadership summit at UTS, where about forty student leaders came at the beginning of this year. These were not all

CARP students. Some of them were in youth ministry, some were STF graduates, and some weren't. It was a very big cross-section, but they were all active in either youth ministry or on their campuses. From that Youth Summit, we have been working with them throughout this semester, particularly centered on one "elder" second generation leader, Akiko Ikeno. Akiko has been instrumental in investing in these guys. We feel it's important; you know, most of the CARP leaders are older.

We're from the first generation. I'm fifty-two years old. Hyun-jin nim told me just three days ago, "You're too old to be doing this." We want to empower the second generation now to take the leadership role. They're ready to do it. We want to just support them in that role.

Akiko has really been standing up herself and raising this core group, mentoring them. That's the key point, visiting them and having weekly, national conference calls; sharing their victories and their struggles and creating a solid team of leaders around the country who can then raise students in their areas. That's starting to take hold. The second phase of this is that we had a thirty-day workshop in Bridgeport and in New York in June of this year. Again around forty of these core student leaders came. They focused on Divine Principle lecture training and fundraising—very fundamental things. They witnessed in New York one-to-one out of the 43rd Street building. What we're finding is that they can get into it if it's presented in such a way that they can connect to God's heart. That's what they're craving—a personal relationship with God.

Some parents envisioned members of the second generation entering society—something we were rarely able to do (we were always knocking from the outside)—and establishing themselves in positions where they're respected for who they are, and then speaking out about Father.

I think it's Hyun-jin nim's and True Parents' and True Family's hope that they will be much better than we are, and I totally believe that. The second generation is different, but we really think the fundamentals of frontline training—fundraising and witnessing—are valuable for them to have under their belts to use throughout their lives as a springboard for other activities. Of course these are the same things we went through—and I think there have been some problems if we put them through that course in the same way that we did it. So definitely with STF, we've had to learn from those experiences.

Hyun-jin nim talks about the education pipeline for the second generation. Where we failed, I think, is that we weren't able



to—so far maybe—have them focus on the end goal, which is to create a happy, ideal, blessed central family. So, whether they're on STF or Junior STF, which is now being created, or on CARP, we're trying to instill in them that all these things are training. Even their fundraising and witnessing are actually training for them to become good husbands and wives, good parents and children and to create these healthy blessed central families. But of course, the key component is the family itself, an internal value system has to be instilled in them from their parents, from the blessed central family. This is a time when the family has to take responsibility for that education, not depend on the church to do it or Sunday school. It should be taught intimately by the parents.

I understand your question. I think Hyun-jin nim totally believes the second generation can shine and do great things, but he still believes that they need at least some period of getting that fundamental training and that it can actually help them in their life of faith or whatever they do.

I can speak about America certainly. I can say that STF has had to open up, change and learn. Since I came on three years ago, there has been the creation of a parents' board. I don't know if you're aware of that; I think that is very important, because we recognized that maybe the STF operation was too closed and that the parents wanted to know more and wanted to be involved. That has been an ongoing relationship, which is still developing. The parents, for example, in the kick-off workshop—which starts in about a week—will have a parents' meeting, a parents' workshop. So we encourage the parents to be as involved as possible. I think it's still developing and there's still a ways to go. I think the element of the parents is essential.

Where do you see things going within, say, the next five years?
In America, now, I feel the hope lies in university students. If we can empower them as leaders, they will be running the CARP centers. They will be the ones changing the culture on their campuses substantially and also creating a foundation for those coming behind them.

Up until now, when people have been on STF they have had a great experience on the front line; they are constantly challenged and are doing hoondokhae. In one sense, they are in an environment where their peers are doing this and they have team leaders, but after two or three years, people graduate STF and are thrown into a college environment. If there's no one there to support them on their campuses, many of them actually decline. It's kind of a natural thing. There's such a strong culture on the campuses to influence them.

Already in places like the San Francisco Bay Area, Los Angeles, Maryland, Virginia, New York, New Jersey, UB, Boston and Texas, we're starting to create schools that hopefully more and more BCs can come to; we can offer them a stable CARP environment or CARP campus environment, where they will not be alone; they can feel welcomed there. In the next five years, we'll be able

*Hyun-jin nim's heart
is to find a way for all
of them to connect
[to STF] in some way,
not just to raise up an
elite group.*

to create a substantial campus movement and foundation. The hope of course is that those in the second generation—and this is starting to happen—will witness to [new members of the] first generation, because we need more core members to really create a powerful campus movement. They need to gain a witnessing mentality and the confidence to witness, the confidence to share their faith—not in a closed or narrow way, but in a very natural way. They could witness to their friends or to people they do projects with.

I see that happening already and in the

next five years, I hope it will grow dramatically.

STF, so far in America, is reaching a small percentage of the second generation. That's a real frustration. We're always trying to find ways we can create, or ways we can work with the regions to create, regional or local programs that can reach those of the second generation who can't go—or don't want to go to—STF. Hyun-jin nim's heart is to find a way for all of them to connect in some way, not just to raise up an elite group. And beyond the second generation, he wants to open up the STF program to the young people who are coming into our movement nowadays. I think that will happen. I think STF will become something that not only our church members but also others can join in and gain from that kind of training. Some cases of that are already happening—first generation members are going on STF.

And Junior STF is also developing. Hopefully in these next five years, this pipeline can be created. I think that also involves working with parents and blessed central families. As Dr. Yang has said, in America we have to nurture our orchard now, which means that we have to focus on husband-wife relationships. Husband and wife have to be united in their value systems, so that their children can inherit that tradition from their parents. I think the key is how we create healthy blessed central families; and if we don't have that key, we have to be honest. If I have difficulty with my wife, we have to resolve that. We have to be one and our children have to see that and inherit that from us in the family. Hyun-jin nim's point of view is if you want to be a leader, whether it's in CARP or the Family Federation, you should be an exemplary husband or wife, an exemplary father or mother, exemplary parents and children. That's also a key; a happy, motivated, blessed central family is the key to breaking through with home church and *tong ban gyeokpa* and tribal messiahship. I think it's all connected, and I think the next five years will hopefully see more blessed central families in America taking ownership over

home church and tribal messiahship, not just depending on one or two leaders at the top. We'd like to see more and more families rising up as active community leaders, neighborhood leaders. And if we're going to really offer a nation as Cheon Il Guk, in the next four or five years, it's going to take all the families assuming ownership over their faith and their neighborhood and our movement. ♦

Joshua Cotter is the president of CARP in America



CARP Convention 2005: Energetic members of CARP are changing campus culture

STF Finding My Identity

By Calum Robertson

At the age of twelve, I had to leave the beautiful country of Scotland because of my parents' mission here in Korea. When I first arrived I could hardly speak Korean, but I was sent straight to a Korean school. It was pretty hard for me because of the language and because I couldn't really communicate with the other boys. During this whole time in Korea, I would sometimes go to the Korean church service for the second generation on Saturday, but it was even harder to mix in with the Koreans there than it was at school.

I heard about the Junior STF program, though, and saw a rather impressive video of what the Korean Junior STF had done last summer. I had also heard many stories over the period of time I have been living here in Korea. My motivation for applying was to prepare myself in some way for (senior) STF, so all I really expected was fundraising, witnessing and the usual. However, when I went there, the atmosphere was completely different. At usual workshops, I would go to have a deeper relationship with God, then I would go back home to my school and usual lifestyle, not having changed much. At this workshop in January 2005, though, our goal was to find and realize God's existence and to develop a relationship with Him. Hyun-jin nim says that the second generation's identity is that of extended members of the True Family. What this means is that we have the same parent, God, so we have the same purpose and goal in life, which is to realize what God intended for humanity from the beginning of time, an ideal family. Not only our own ideal family, but a God centered human family which includes every single person on earth. So during the workshop when we were fundraising, one of our goals was to think and feel in our hearts that every person out there was part of our family.

By the end of the workshop, I became a little closer to realizing my identity and what my responsibility as a member of the second generation was, so I started to invest myself more in fulfilling God's dream. Our first goal when going back home was to change the culture of the second generation at our local churches. This change was so that all in the second generation could accept the immense responsibility given to them by God on the day they were born of changing the world and come to church to actively participate in activities towards this goal. Our next goal

was to change the culture of the young people in the world, by bringing our school friends to church to learn about God and to adapt to the culture of the second generation, which is to live for the sake of others, embodying the Core Values.

Before going to Jr. STF, I merely went to church because of my family; in Scotland I had gone to meet my close friends. Now, though, I can go to church on Sunday with a much more profound, deeper understanding of the Unification movement, thanks to what I learned on Jr. STF. After having a hard time relating to the those in the Korean second generation, I can now go together with them in this campaign to bring peace to the world.

Recently, in the summer, I went to another Jr. STF workshop, except this time it was an international workshop. Jr. STF members from all around the world came together in Korea with three members of the True Family, Shin-won nim, Shin-ae nim and Shin-chul nim, to have a workshop. It was an amazing privilege for me to be with them. We went for an adventure hike on Jiri Mountain, the second highest mountain in Korea, and we also did fundraising and Service for Peace projects around Korea.

On the adventure hike, we walked three long days across the rough mountain terrain in all weather conditions. The first day there was a monstrous gale with lots of rain, which actually forced us to stop for the day. The second day the weather cleared up a little revealing blue skies. And on the third and final day, when we reached the peak of the mountain, the sun rose in the early morning, casting its light all over the surrounding land. This was an amazing experience, because the sun only rises on days that clear on around fifty days a year. Our goal was to reach the top of the mountain no matter what, so we all put all our heart and energy into every step we took, especially Shin-won nim and Shin-chul nim. They had sustained injuries, but still fought their way to the top of the mountain in the pouring rain to meet God, who blessed us with the amazing sunrise.

After the mountain expedition, we started fundraising for three days in Seoul. It was great to think of everyone out there as family, especially with my partner, an American the first day and a Japanese the second. Then we went to Sun Moon University in Cheonan for two days for service work. Actually, the first day we went out fundraising and at the same time gave out holy wine candies to the people on the buses to bless all people in Korea, a goal True Parents gave to all Korean members. When hearing the testimonies that day, I learned Shin-chul nim and his two partners were able to bless around a thousand people whom they think were participating in a rally for Korean Unification. It was a great achievement for the day. Then the second day we went to a disabled peoples' home to make fruit drinks and have entertainment with them. It was a nice experience to bring joy into their lives, as one family.

In conclusion, Jr. STF was an experience which brought me closer to God and made me really want to realize God's dream. Soon it will not be just a dream, but instead we will all make it a reality. This also helped me to understand why Hyun-jin nim started STF and why all those in the second generation should go through a two-year course in it. I thank my parents for this experience, and especially I thank God, True Parents, and the True Family for making these experiences and inspirations possible. ♦



Calum (right) and a partner fundraising with donation boxes

A Pure Love Activist Lands in France

by Kim Jeong-sin



After an issue of Today's World returns from the printers, we sometimes hire day workers to help us get the magazine out the door and on its way to you, our readers, as soon as possible. This month, we found ourselves across the table from the Pure Love missionary to France, who was in Korea visiting her parents. With a little encouragement, she told us about the mission she and the other graduates of Sun Moon University's Pure Love Department have been given.



Originally, Father had instructed that a pure love university be made. It's very difficult to make a university, so they started with a department in Sun Moon University. Professor Kim Gye-jong made a structure for Pure Love Studies and later other professors joined the faculty.

When the first class of students from our department were nearing graduation, they were wondering about their future, what they would do after school. They asked our professors, who asked Father. After graduation, they first all went to Canada, where they studied English for six months. While in Canada, Rev. Kwak visited them. He spoke to them for a while about the importance of their studies and gave them their mission. That was the first we heard about becoming Pure Love missionaries.

For the first-year students it was a bit of a struggle, because they didn't expect to be missionaries. I had been in the first class, but I took a year off to improve my English. Those of us in the second year had a little more time. It was not a surprise. Rev. Kwak met our group in Cheongpyeong during a forty-day workshop. He looked at each of our faces and asked our fathers' names and then we had a drawing for countries. The first-year students are missionaries to Korea, Mongolia, Slovakia, Oceania, Germany, Russia and Hungary. The second-year students went to Mongolia, Israel, France, Brazil, Russia, Italy, the United Kingdom and China. The third-year graduates are still studying, but they know that after they graduate they'll go to the Philippines to study English. After that they will go to their countries, which they have already chosen—Chile, Malaysia, Lebanon, China, the Solomon Islands, Paraguay, Spain, Austria, the Czech Republic, the Dominican Republic and the Philippines.

Mongolia, China and Russia are important countries, so they got two missionaries. The president of Korean CARP said we are the first woman missionaries

from Korea. I am very proud of that.

We keep in contact with each other and share ideas, though it is easier for me to contact the ones in Europe. The first Pure Love missionaries have one year more experience than I do. They have thought about what to do more than I have, so I ask advice and they give suggestions. I received lecture material from them for lectures I gave in France.

We all think our mission is very important. We studied Pure Love for four years, so we want to make a Pure Love movement in our countries, but we are starting with members of the second generation. The European Pure Love missionaries had a Pure Love workshop this year in May for some in the second generation, those who speak English. To me, this is the first step toward a Pure Love movement in Europe.

Each of us has a little different concept from the others. When I studied Pure Love Theory, this emotional area had just been made into an academic subject. This topic is kind of large, so it wasn't at first clear to us. But after I studied many things, I could develop my own idea of what Pure Love means. We studied Pure Love Theory for a semester. We also studied psychology, a bit of Divine Principle and Unification Thought, family counseling (the Korean term, 가정치료, actually means "family healing") and childhood education. Because it is not really clear what Pure Love is, we studied many things. To me, the counseling part is more relevant, but my friends may see things a little bit differently and concentrate on other areas related to Pure Love.

It would have been easier to study something like biology, which deals with clear causes and results. The subject of Pure Love is emotional because it deals with love. When I think of Pure Love, it is easier to talk about problems related to sexuality and to then say, "Oh, that's why we have to have pure love." But I don't like this kind of technique. It has a strong impact on people, but that's just the surface; I want to speak about the subject more deeply. I'd like to use both ways, actually. Hyun-jin nim speaks about *shimjung* culture. We have to make a pure-love culture. This is difficult to do. It isn't just a matter of lectures and education. We have to have a movement.

We've started with our second generation now. I want to make it much larger with non-members. I will think about that, and my friends will think about that. ♦

We have to make a Pure Love culture

In the Land of My Ancestors

The whole world has been watching the great transformation taking place in the huge nation of China. Soon Eng Burghardt and the WFWP office (following page) offer us a closer look.

By Soo Eng Burghardt

My first trip to China was in 1994, over ten years ago. It was the time of the hometown providence and I had been invited by my father (before he passed away), who wanted to visit his hometown for the last time together with all his children. It was the first time for me to set foot in China and to meet my uncles and aunts and all the other relatives. I remember that I made some spiritual conditions at that time. I prayed at every historic place and gave all my relatives a photo of True Parents, hoping that the door would open for the people of China to receive the light and grace of the Second Coming.

Going to China a second time was something that happened to me unexpectedly. It was quite spiritual. On my way to Korea from Palau, my mission country, I stopped over in Malaysia to visit my parents' tomb and to do a tribal blessing.

I have liberated and blessed my ancestors, including my parents, back 117 generations. This time I felt the spiritual world was working closely with me; spiritual phenomena were happening. All my broth-

ers and sisters became united in heart with me in prayer and shed tears of repentance; they promised to help me financially. My father even appeared to the Australian husband of my sister and urged him to just focus on what we have to do in our missions, not to worry about money. My father told him our ancestors will help us. My sister and her husband were blessed among the 30,000 couples.

After arriving in Korea, I was told that more sister participants could go to the conference in China. I had heard of the significance of this providential event and that its purposes were to bring the victory True Parents had achieved in the speaking tour of four American cities and the love expressed through that tour of the eldest-son nation to the Cain nation of China and to embrace and love China. I felt that as owners of Cheon Il Guk, we have become universal people; we have no concept of nationality any more, so I can represent any country. I wanted to be there to support this event.

I didn't have enough money for the airfare. I prayed for my ancestors to help me. The day before we departed for China, I received money from my sister in New Zealand for the air ticket. I believe it was the work of our ancestors; they must have desired for me to be there. I am grateful for having this precious opportunity to visit my father's homeland again, this time with a

completely different providential purpose. Deep inside my heart, I was moved by our True Parents' wisdom and heart to make this event possible.

Beijing, here I come!

The group I left Korea with had nine other non-Korean members. After landing at Tienchin Airport, we were driven for two hours by bus to Beijing. I was amazed at the changes that have taken place in Beijing within the last ten years. Many skyscrapers and housing developments were being built as well as sports buildings for the 2008 Olympics. We were informed by a tour guide that most of the resources for the development were pulled in from wealthy overseas Chinese, not from the government.

Upon our arrival, we were invited to a traditional Siamese restaurant, where waiters and waitresses wearing traditional costumes welcomed us. There we met the American and Japanese groups. It was indeed an international friendship meeting of women from all continents. Our hearts melted together while enjoying the traditional folk dancing and singing on stage.

The next day, we divided into four groups—Korean, Japanese, American and international—and toured Beijing. I was in the international group, which was composed of participants from America, Nepal, Malaysia, New Zealand, Czechoslovakia and Japan—a total of fifteen of us. We visited famous sightseeing spots: Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City, the Great Wall and the Temple of Heaven. It was a pity that because of the upcoming Olympics, many places were being renovated. We could not experience the grandeur of the sites. Each spot has unique character and beauty. I will just mention the things about the Temple of Heaven that struck me most on this trip.

Tiantan, the Temple of Heaven

The construction of the Temple of Heaven, where the emperors of the Ming and Qing Dynasties held ceremonies to worship heaven and pray for good harvests, began in 1420 during the reign of Emperor Yongle of the Ming Dynasty. It was under continual reconstruction and enlargement until it was finally completed in the reign of Emperor Qianlong (r. 1736–1795) of the Qing Dynasty. At the center of the Temple of Heaven is the Heavenly Center Stone. It was said that in the ceremony of worshipping heaven, when an official read aloud



Above, Soo-Eng with her daughter, Sarah Below: The joy of sisterhood! Participants of the sisterhood exchange with their certificates

prayers to the God of heaven from this spot, his voice had a strong resonance that allowed it to reach heaven. Since it was the center point to reach heaven, when the emperor prayed here for God's blessing, the commandment that was given to him had to be obeyed and followed absolutely. It amazed me that the ancient emperor of China had already practiced a heavenly ritual that called for absolute faith and absolute obedience. If Christianity had been brought to China in Jesus' time, the kingdom of peace would have been realized on earth already. The Heavenly Center Stone as the central point from which to reach heaven reminded me of the Cheongpyeong original palace, the closest point to reach the spiritual world of heaven.

In 1918, the Temple of Heaven was opened to the public as a park. It was fascinating for Westerners to see old and young people doing community activities in the park; group by group, people were practicing tai chi, traditional and modern dancing, singing in choirs, doing exercises, etc. It reminded me of my youth. Chinese people like to spend their leisure time together in the community. Bonds of love within the community are very strong.

Highlight of the trip

The highlight of the events was the Forum to Build Families Harmonizing with Devotion, which the Chinese government had a hand in organizing along with the Inner Mongolia Ideal Family Federation. The main speakers of the event were Dr. Son Dae-o, president of PWPA-Korea and around ten Chinese professors, experts in their fields. Park Keum-sook, president of the Ideal Family Federation for Peace in the East, also spoke. I found an opportunity to speak to the vice-director of a Chinese government department, who was thrilled to meet someone who could speak her language coming from another part of the world to take part in this event.

For the Women's Federation for World Peace, the key experience was a cultural event at the National Theater, where Moon Lan-young, president of WFWP in Korea spoke and Park Keum-sook spoke again. Both stressed the importance of true love and harmony in the family, which is the key to bringing about world peace. It was for that purpose that WFWP brought women from around the world to unite with women in China in welcoming the Olympics to Beijing.

The evening culminated in entertainment by famous singers from China and Korea, plus modern and traditional dances.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 29....CHINA



Woman-to-Woman: WFWP in China
By WFWP Korea

The Goodwill Exchange for World Peace tour of Beijing brought together, from August 17 to 20, a total of 555 woman leaders from Korea, Japan, the U.S., Europe, Asia and China—from twenty-six countries—with an aim of encouraging the 2008 Beijing Olympics. This was organized centered on the Inner Mongolia Ideal Family Federation for Peace in the East in cooperation with WFWP and PWPA Korea.

On August 18, from 9:00–2:00 a Forum to Build Families Harmonizing with Devotion, organized by the government, the Inner Mongolia Ideal Family Federation and academics was held at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing. The meeting advocated the restoration of marriage and family ethics and proposed that related legislation should be established to strengthen families.

The first plenary event for WFWP followed the forum on the same day. It was a cultural concert organized by the Ideal Family Federation for Peace in the East and held at the National Theater. President Park Keum-sook of the federation said she was happy that the day-long forum was a success and hoped that the 1.3 billion people of China could work together to nurture families of true love. President Moon Lan-young, of WFWP Korea, in her greetings offered wishes for the success of the Beijing Olympics as a celebration of peace and harmony not only in Asia but throughout the world. She emphasized that peace is built on a heart of reconciliation, forgiveness and sacrifice, and introduced the worldwide activities of WFWP to this end.

Among the performers at the cultural event were the famed Song & Dance Troupe of China and renowned singers from China, including ethnic Taiwanese and Koreans.

During August 18–20, twelve tour buses escorted the participants to Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City, the Royal Gardens, the Temple of Heaven, the Great Wall and other sights. On the evening of August 19, a sisterhood ceremony was held at the New Century Nikko Hotel in Beijing. Following remarks by President Park and President Moon, congratulatory messages were given by Kim Yoon-duk, a former South Korean minister and congresswoman, Chief Secretary Wang of the Ideal Family Federation, President Kuboki of WFWP-Japan and President Ward of the WFWP-U.S. Each sisterhood group consisted of four ladies representing China, Korea, Japan and another nationality. Gifts were exchanged, followed by dinner and entertainment. Spontaneous volunteers added much to the exchange.

The tour was a heaven-sent opportunity to build relations with an incredible nation that holds a fifth of the world's population. The people of China are devoting their efforts to preparing for the 2008 Beijing Olympics. Future exchanges will continue to promote internationalization and friendship. ♦

Women leaders singing together at the event



For the Marshall Islands and the World

The College Board web site says the College of the Marshall Islands has 700 undergraduates. Meet the man whose CARP club there has 650 members.

By Takaaki Ito

From June 4 to 12, 2005, a youth leadership seminar sponsored by IIFWP Oceania entitled The Marshall Islands Leadership Seminar: Universal Values and Lasting Peace, Toward a New Model of Leadership for the Twenty-first Century was held in Melbourne, Australia. Young leaders from all over the Marshall Islands took part in it.

True Parents visited the Marshall Islands during October 15-19, 2000. Kes-sai H. Note, the president of the Marshall Islands, had organized a state-level welcoming banquet. True Parents were very happy, and True Father spoke to the leaders of the nation for one hour in a very relaxed mood, as if he were talking to our church members. True Parents went fishing and caught four fish: a blue marlin, a mahimahi, a wahoo and a tuna, all in one day.

Our family moved from Burkina Faso (Western Africa), where my parents had been missionaries for twenty-one years, to the Marshall Islands in September 1997. While attending the best private school in Majuro, the capital of the Marshall Islands, I was selected to participate in the first National Spelling Bee Contest in January 2000. With God's grace, I ended up in first place, winning the contest. I was asked to give a speech that was broadcasted by radio and television nationwide. Because of this, I am famous here! After having graduated from high school, I was admitted to Cornell University in the United States. I studied there for one semester and was elected president of the Cornell CARP club, but I have taken a leave of absence from college because of the high cost of tuition. I went fundraising and witnessing in America and Japan

and came back to the Marshall Islands in September 2003.

I have experienced God in my life several times in my childhood and high school years. In December 2003, when I was praying and asking God for guidance, I felt peaceful and I felt my mind and body becoming one. I received the inspiration to go to the College of the Marshall Islands to set up CARP there and start witnessing there. I saw a vision showing me the possibilities and opportunities lying ahead of me. My motivation from that time until now has been that from the bottom of my heart I have been voluntarily and enthusiastically determined to do it for God, True Parents, the Marshall Islands and the whole world.

CARP was established, on February 21, 2004, as a registered student organization at the only university in the Marshall Islands. Ever since then, we have been holding weekly meetings. Several hours before the weekly meetings, I pray and make my mind peaceful. After having prepared my mind and body, I go to the college to carry out the meetings.



Marshall Island youth leaders meeting in Australia

At each meeting, we have explained about Hyun-jin nim's core values and IEF's Character Education themes. CARP membership has increased rapidly. By the beginning of this year, we had more than six hundred and fifty members. We have had Service for Peace activities, involving students in community clean-up programs as well as in renovating and painting classrooms. CARP has now become the biggest club at the college. The student president is a member, as are some professors. In the course of reaching out to the students, some of them have come to the headquarters to study Divine Principle and many have signed up as FFWPU members.

All the while, I was reporting to Rev. Moon In-sun, CARP consultant for Oceania, and Dr. Yong Chung-sik, Oceania's continental director. With the generous help of IIFWP Oceania, it then evolved into investing for a workshop. The college's student body president, the vice president of the National Youth Council, some other club officers, youth community and church leaders, as well as the son of President Note took part in the workshop. The seminar covered some Character Education material followed by Divine Principle lectures and CARP's core values. Even though most of the participants had some kind of Divine Principle background, everyone felt the Holy Spirit; everyone, even the staff members and lecturers had some rebirth experience. As a staff member, I gave a Core Values lecture. The graduates from the workshop are now working together with the leaders of the country and the ambassadors for peace for a national-level youth convention and other seminars. Earlier this year, the Character Education program was introduced to the government by a senator and a former minister. Almost all of the members of the National Parliament, including its president and the ministers, welcomed the idea of introducing the Character Education program with a round of applause. A bill that would allow the program's curriculum to be taught in all schools is now in the process of being passed.

I feel that we are now in the new age of Cheon Il Guk and that the time of harvest has come. Having stayed in the Marshall Islands for about seven years, I feel that the Marshall Islands is full of hope. We are working hard for the restoration of this nation to become God's country as soon as possible. ♦

Takaaki Ito is the son of Rev. and Mrs. Kenichi Ito, Eve nation national messiahs to the Marshall Islands

Climbing Mt. Jiri

It was my tenth time taking part in an expedition up Jiri-san. I have always been a lover of mountain climbing. I have been up Jiri-san many times, but I felt it was a different experience participating in this expedition. We called it a "challenge" for Junior STF. It was not just about climbing a mountain; it was more of a training process. The summit is a metaphor; it was our designated goal and the process of getting to that goal had more of an educational flavor. Of course, heading toward that goal we encountered many difficulties. Last winter, actually, it snowed so much that we were isolated up there at one point. It came out on the television news that one mountain climbing group become isolated on the slopes of Jiri-san.

During the summer this year, it rained a lot. We had three teams. One team had a certain point they wanted to reach as their goal on the first day, but they weren't even able to get half the distance because of the rain. In the end, they hiked all through the night to get back to the lodging that was lower on the slope, just so they would have some place to stay.

At one point, Shin-won nim injured his leg and couldn't actually go any farther in that condition. Essentially, what we organizers had in mind was to reach a goal centered on the grandchildren. We wanted to have an international group of kids all come together in unity and achieve the goal, but when Shin-won nim wasn't in any condition to go up the mountain any more, it no longer

seemed viable. The director of the Second-generation Department in Korea later confessed that when faced with the situation of Shin-won nim not being able to go any farther, he thought it would have been strange if everyone else made it to the top but Shin-won nim stayed down below.

During all the difficulties that we faced this time, we realized we couldn't dwell on the question of whether to go on or not. Genuine leaders would not think about whether or not to go on but only about what is now needed to achieve the designated goal of getting to the top. Finding a way to make that happen reflects a leader's way of thinking.

One team had to go back and Shin-won nim was in no shape to go farther, so he and a couple of other people went down as well. The other two teams went to the top, while the team that went down together with Shin-won nim devised another plan. They decided to keep on going in order to join the other teams at the summit.

Shin-won nim went back injured but even during the course of going back his physical situation improved. He was determined to still do this. In the end, with a few exceptions—people who strongly felt they could not go on—we were all able to make it to the summit. Essentially, going back, losing ground, and then resolving to try again was very difficult. We saw Shin-won nim making the decision without any hesitation.

Shin-chul nim was also on the team that had gone back. It wasn't that they didn't want to continue on up, but they ended up not being able to, at least at first. He felt very bad; he had promised God he would make

it to the top. Shin-chul nim, after coming down, was really down and blue, feeling bad that he hadn't made it. When he was given the opportunity to go back up, he was so happy. He had a happy heart.

Shin-chul nim testified that the first day he was not very stimulated by the idea of climbing the mountain. It was more of a duty that he didn't really want to do. After coming down, though, because he felt bad about not having fulfilled his promise to God, he could find greater strength and motivation to go up the mountain the second time, even though it was more difficult the second time. We were able to see that as well.

On the last day, when all the teams had regrouped at the top, we went to see the sunrise at a point called Cheonwangbong. It had been raining like crazy before that, but interestingly, that day we were able to see the sunrise. Seeing the sunrise at Cheonwangbong is very difficult. On only fifty-one days a year on average is the sky clear enough to get a view of the sun rising from that point.

What everyone felt, I think, is that if we all go toward a goal, putting all our effort into doing that, God will help and be with us as we go toward that dream. That's what I felt as well. ♦

Jo In-beom is the leader of Korean STF

For a report on the 3rd International STF Assembly go to www.today'sworld.org and click on **Futher Reading**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27.... **CHINA**

Many local Chinese were invited through a newspaper advertisement about the program. One Chinese couple told me that they like our idea of peace through ideal families.

The final evening brought the climax of the events through the sisterhood exchange. The purpose of this event was written on the certificate: "Women leaders participating in the Goodwill Exchange for World Peace, held with wishes for a successful 2008 Beijing Olympics, shall firmly promote friendly relations and goodwill based on deep mutual trust and respect. We shall contribute further to realizing peace and harmony among nations, and hereby sign this Certificate of Sisterhood Exchange, aimed at building a world of real peace."

I was touched and moved by the wisdom and love of True Parents in making this event possible by bringing us, women from all over the world, together in Beijing through WFWP. The whole event awak-

ened me to the fact that we are truly living in the age of women. Women are now truly liberated. We can now come together, work together, go shopping together, go sightseeing together, laugh and cry together as our hearts melt together as real sisters. There are no more barriers between East and West, no more barriers related to different races, nationalities or cultures. All this is possible because we are the children of God and we have the same True Parents.

My strong feeling about this event was that the providential time for China has come. My prayers of ten years ago have come true in the sense that China has begun to open its doors. God's providence is moving so fast that it is sometimes beyond our comprehension and imagination. Only True Parents know that now is God's time. From this experience of contacting the local people in China, I felt they are so pure. As President Moon mentioned

in her speech, the preceding Olympics in Japan and Korea paved the way for the Olympic in China in 2008 to come to fruition. I remembered what Father had said years ago, "Divine Principle was discovered in Korea, developed in Japan and will blossom in China." I hope it will come true in the near future, and we sisters will be meeting again in China. ♦



Left to right, Anne Marie Morgan, Ute Lemme, WFWP International President Moon Lan-young, Soo Eng Burghardt, Naoko Isa Brazil (at back) and Ing Keng Brandner in China

The Little Nation with a Big Heart

With a population of 20,000, and its location 885 watery kilometers east of the Philippines, the island nation of Palau may not seem like the center of the universe. But take a closer look.

The Korean national messiah wife to Palau, Mrs. Bang Chang-ran, felt powerful anticipation as she arrived for a recent WFWP conference. She expressed her heart in this way:

I came to this land of Palau with the feeling of stepping into my hometown, the place where I was born. I had longing and a fluttering heart; tears burst out in strong nostalgia. I felt devotion in every step I took. Palau had a festival atmosphere; and being a matriarchal nation, meeting the president was not possible without passing through the chairwoman of the women of Palau.

Colorfully dressed women of Oceania presented the best gifts to the president's wife, representing their own respective nations; and as the word began to ripen, the atmosphere was filled with excitement for the most historic event since the independence of the nation.

The idea of holding a conference for women from Oceania in Palau was conceived after discussions between the wife of the president of Palau, Mrs. Debbie Remengesau (who does not like the

term "first lady") and Dr. Yong Chung-sik, chairman of Oceania IIFWP, at the conclusion of the Inaugural Conference of Oceania IIPC, which was held in Samoa on March 9–11, 2004.

Nearly eighteen months later, an August 25–28 conference sponsored by WFWP Oceania with the full support of Mrs. Remengesau was held in Koror, the capital of Palau. The conference was attended by Dr. Kwak Chung-hwan, the international chairman of IIFWP, and his wife Mrs. Yoon Jung-eun; Dr. Yong Chung-sik and his wife, Mrs. Sasaki Yoshie; Dr. Thomas Walsh, secretary-general of IIFWP International; Professor Moon Lan-young, president of WFWP Korea and Jynene Helland, vice-president of WFWP international.

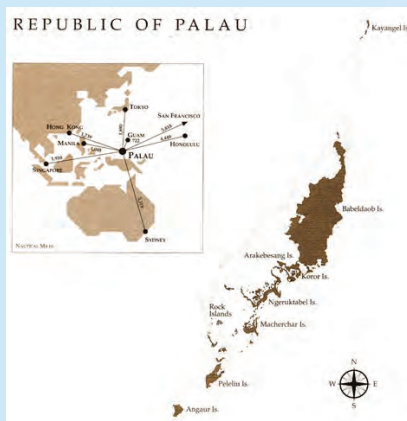
In addition to Mrs. Remengesau, her friend and nearby neighbor (in Pacific island terms) Mrs. Mary Note, wife of the president of the Marshall Islands came with Mrs. Florine Philipppo, the wife of the country's vice-president. Other prominent leaders included the wife of the deputy prime minister of Papua New Guinea, the wife of the deputy head of state in Samoa, traditional leader Queen Pa Marie Ariki of the Cook Islands, Mrs. Alisi Walker, from the Ministry of Women, Social Welfare, Poverty and Alienation in Fiji and Mrs. Lerina Nena, wife of a former president of Micronesia. Woman leaders were also on hand from the Cook Islands, Tonga, Saipan, Australia and New Zealand.

The conference served to bring together woman leaders across the significant cultural and geographical distances dividing the Pacific nations and to launch a transnational women's movement in Oceania for powerful and positive healing in

the family and community.

Preparation activity throughout the month of August included a mobilization for the conference and a True Family Festival and Blessing. A team went from state to state and held public meetings called the Healthy Family Campaign. This involved the singing of Japanese songs, a presentation on "The Family is the School of Love," a cooking lesson on healthy food for the family and an introduction to WFWP. At the conclusion, a Holy Wine Ceremony was conducted and invitation flyers to the True Family Festival were given out.

One of the special features of the conference was the attendance of around one hundred women from Japan who participated in the



Top: left to right, Mrs. Jynene Hellend, Prof. Moon Lan-young, Dr. Kwak Chung-hwan, Mrs. Debbie Remengesau, the wife of the President of Palau; Mrs. Yoon Jung-eun, the wife of Dr. Kwak; Kwak Shin-sook, the daughter of Dr. Kwak; Dr. Yong Chung-sik and his wife Mrs. Sasaki Yoshie: Left: The wife of the president demonstrates the work of local women harvesting and cleaning taros

beautiful heart to heart Reconciliation Bridge of Peace ceremony, thereby becoming sisters to many Palauan and Oceania woman leaders.

An apology made on behalf of the Japanese present by Mrs. Yamazaki Kiyoko was profound. Many participants, especially Palauans, were deeply moved. Then Mamiko Rattley, secretary-general of Oceania WFWP, gave a report on Japanese advances during World War II, and again the Japanese participants felt sorrow at the widespread damage wrought in the Pacific. This prefaced Jynene Helland's explanation of why we were about to hold the Bridge of Peace sisterhood ceremony.

The True Family Festival which took place on Friday, August 26, in the afternoon was one of the highlights of the conference. Although it was part of the conference non-conference participants such as husbands and relatives, were also invited along to create a larger event to celebrate the family and marriage rededication and blessing.

The stage was set as Rev. Kwak summarized and focused the afternoon's content and conducted the blessing. It was a beautiful afternoon, topped by the profoundly meaningful marriage rededication and blessing. More than five hundred people took part in the blessing. Many Palauan participants felt sorry that the event had not been advertised more in order for many people to hear what was being said and to receive the blessing. People were caught up in the spirit and took the holy wine with eagerness.

During the four days, Rev. Kwak spoke on several occasions including before the Palauan Senate, where he was introduced by Mrs. Debbie Remengesau. Before introducing him in English, she spoke to the senators in Palauan, thanking them for their attendance and the show of support it represented for the policies of her husband that focused on the value of families and on purity.

Margaret Sisserson felt the powerful presence of the Holy Spirit as Rev. Kwak asked the senators, "How do we create a world of lasting peace?" He continued:

This is something that all people desire, and yet it has still not been achieved. Is this something that governments alone can achieve? Is it from lack of power, wealth, or intelligence that humanity has not achieved peace? At the most fundamental level, peace has its source in the human spirit, the realm of the heart, which is the center-point of the human need and capacity for true love, good relationships and joy. Lasting peace arises as the realm of heart within each human being is liberated and expanded, encompassing families, communities, nations, and the entire world.

A nice vision perhaps, but if we are to move from idealism to practical achievements, we must translate this high vision into a plan of action that leads us to peace....

The development of the IIFWP and the IIPC as an innovative model of good governance has profound significance for human development and world peace, and the Kingdom of God. It is a very serious and important matter. God and the spirit world are behind this initiative. Please be confident and please reflect on, study and put into practice the principles I discussed here today. There are enormous tasks that lie ahead if we are to build a world of lasting peace. These include building an international highway that spans the globe. Maybe you have heard, Dr. Moon is working to build a Bering Strait Peace Bridge Tunnel to unite East and West for the sake of peace and economic development. In every field and area of endeavor there is work that needs to be done, for the sake of lasting peace. We need resources of course, but most of all we need a culture of heart. For this we need your help. We need you as partners. The world needs you.

Remiang Skebong, an ambassador for peace, commented that Dr. Kwak speaks so calmly but the impact is so deep into the spirit; it lifts your mind up to see God's big vision.

During the course of the conference Mrs. Mamiko Rattley spoke to four key woman leaders, Mrs. Remengesau and Mrs. Note, Mrs. Avei of Papua New Guinea and Mrs. F. Tuimalealiifano of Samoa about making this women's conference an annual event. They were asked to become members of an advisory board. They said it was a good idea and they were happy to support it.

Plans have been made for six further conferences for women in Oceania next year. Conferences are planned for Papua New Guinea, Saipan, Samoa, Cook Islands, Fiji (another international gathering) and the Marshall Islands before the end of 2006.

The conference concluded, Mrs. Bang Chang-ran paused to recall what she had experienced in her heart:

I was grateful for the speeches of Rev. Kwak in the parliament and in the women's conference, which were the ripening words melting bones and flesh. I saw the 100 percent absorption of the word in obedience.

The WFWP conference was possible through the sacrifice and service of missionaries from Japan and Australia; there was resolution for peace through reconciliation and forgiveness; tears were burning hot.

When the representatives of each country were singing, I sang a Korean folk song and all the women got up and danced to it. I was surprised at the sight of the world being one, feeling the dancing of the spiritual and physical worlds. ♦

Adapted from a report by Gregory Stone, with additional material



Left, Dr. Kwak converses with President Tommy Remengesau of Palau; Right, Dr. Kwak presents a gift to the President



Palauan women were inspired by the True Family Festival and Blessing

The Living for Others Award

On a night that demonstrated the remarkable diversity as well as the depth of good will in Australian society the first presentation of the Living for Others Award was held.

By Rick McInerheney

Australian IIFWP activities took a great step forward on May 2 with the highly successful 2005 IIFWP Living for Others Award presentations. It was the inaugural event, which we hope to make an annual occasion where we celebrate those precious and important people in our community who often go unnoticed, unheralded and unappreciated, but who are practicing the universal moral value of unselfish service in the community, so essential for peace and happiness.

A crowd of four hundred attended the historic event, which was graced by the presence of the governor of New South Wales, Professor Marie Bashir, who presented the awards. The representative of Queen Elizabeth II to New South Wales, Marie Bashir, a former clinical professor of psychiatry at the University of Sydney and a trained surgeon, is effectively the head of state. Also present were several other politicians, religious leaders—including two archbishops—and a wide variety of community leaders, activists, and volunteers from diverse religious, national, ethical and professional backgrounds, who joined together to make a beautiful spirit of unity.

The event developed based on several months of united effort of the Living for Others Awards Steering Committee comprising several ambassadors for peace and IIFWP staff members. We have come to realize that though the power derived from working together with our ambassadors, dramatic results can be achieved. A Chinese TV (NTDTV) network covered the event as did the Sydney-based Arabic newspaper *Al Telegraph*.

Recipients of the Living for Others Award included Zuleyha Keskin, vice-president of Affinity Intercultural Foundation, in the category of interfaith harmony for her work with such projects as the Women of Faith Dinner; "Aunty" Ali Golding as an educator and spokeswoman for aboriginal people in the category of media, culture and the arts; Ann Tran, the first president of the Vietnam-

ese Women's Association of New South Wales, in the category of service to the community for such activity as initiating an elderly friendship association and a home for the mentally ill and Dalila Shinko for her work in the Assyrian community as a welfare worker in the category of family values.

We also appointed twenty-one new ambassadors for peace, including Syrian born Archbishop Issam John Darwish of the Melkite Greek Catholic Church who founded the Christian-Muslim Association in Australia; Chanaka Bandarage a barrister and solicitor and a Sri Lankan community leader and Vikranjit Singh Grewal, the treasurer of the Sikh Council of Australia. The evening included multicultural musical performances interspersed through the program, such as a Chinese children's violin ensemble, singers from Iraq and the islands of the Pacific, and Assyrian dancers in traditional costume. But it was the presence of the governor that made the evening so special. She was visibly moved as she presented the awards to many wonderful recipients. She was also surprised to be presented with a Good Governance award by Rev. Enrique Ledesma, representing the founders of IIFWP. She commented that it was the most multicultural and one of the most enjoyable events she had attended in recent times. She later wrote, "It is always uplifting when people of diverse cultures who are devoted to peace and harmony gather to celebrate their commonalities and work together for the common good."

The formal program ended with all attending drinking the holy juice, and then singing "Let There Be Peace on Earth." As one participant later commented, the evening was filled with "excellent presentations and an environment of love, trust and peace." And we quite agree with his conclusion, "We should have more of these." ♦

Rick McInerheney is Chairman of IIFWP-Australia



Top, A proud recipient holding the Living for Others Award; Left, Everyone shared holy juice; Right, The eclectic Australian religious community was on hand for the festivities





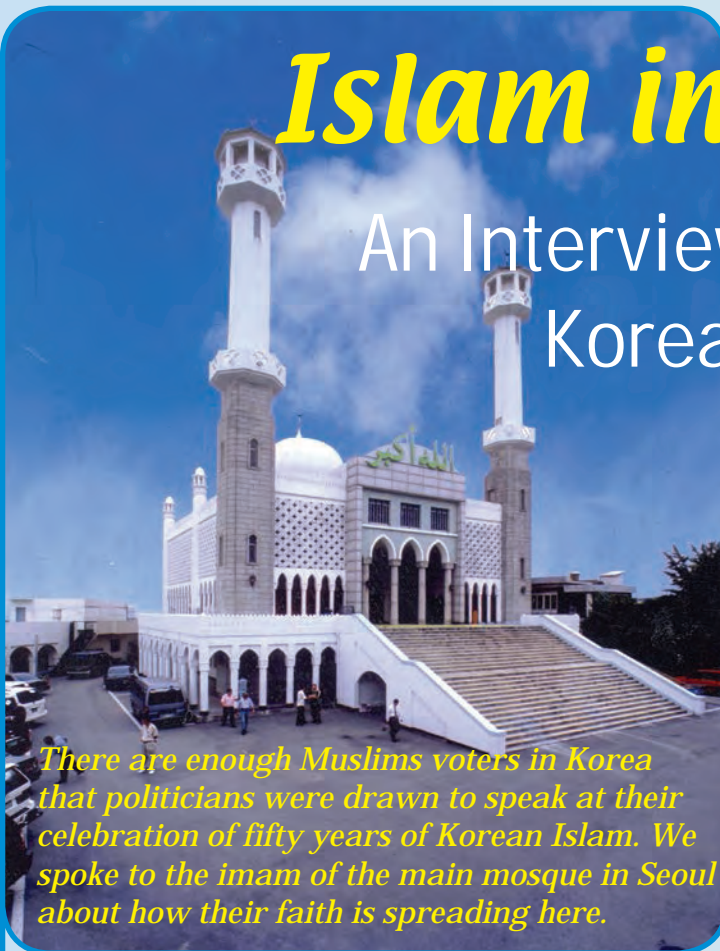
Members of the American Clergy Leadership Conference were in Korea at the time of WCSF but additionally had their own course of total immersion. Along with visiting the DMZ (above) and the War Memorial, all met with True Parents and attended hoondokhae. At one point on their tour they stopped by the new headquarters and received Divine Principle books. On that occasion Archbishop Stallings had this to say:

"Most of the ministers who are in Seoul Korea at this time, who either attended the World Culture and Sports Festival or the IIFWP conference on world peace or who even came for the blessing of marriage ceremony and now the American Clergy Leadership Conference have had various degrees of presentations on the Divine Principle. Probably one hundred percent of the ministers here have been exposed to the Divine Principle. Some of them have studied it in depth, but most of them are still in that process of internalizing what they have read and have had taught to them. But we are encouraged by the visit here to the national headquarters of the Family Federation for World Peace and receiving a personal copy of the Divine Principle, the three-color version, so that we can study it more in depth and most importantly to be able to incorporate the Divine Principle into the context of our everyday ministry particularly in our preaching and teaching ministries."



Islam in Korea

An Interview with a Korean Imam



There are enough Muslims voters in Korea that politicians were drawn to speak at their celebration of fifty years of Korean Islam. We spoke to the imam of the main mosque in Seoul about how their faith is spreading here.



Sulaiman Lee Haeng-rae, Imam of the Central Mosque, Seoul

Please tell us how Islam has developed in its fifty years in Korea.

One of the countries that sent soldiers at the time of the Korean War was Turkey. It was through the soldiers that Islam was introduced to Korea. The soldiers had an imam with them. They also had a Korean translator, Shim Baek-haen. He was connected to Islam, so Koreans connected to Islam through him. He organized the Korean Islamic Association through his family and relatives and friends. He received support from the Turkish army, for example, they were given electrical outlets or tents that were used as temporary Mosques at that time. There were lots of financial difficulties. Shim Baek-haen wasn't a wealthy or powerful person. He solved this difficulty by approaching representatives of Islamic countries and getting support from them. He spoke to Korean people about Islam and did some public relations and was given books and financial support. By connecting to Islamic nations he made a foundation that could be developed.

This mosque also wasn't financed by Koreans. We had almost nothing and couldn't have built a mosque. The land was provided by President Park Chung-hee as a way of improving relations with Islamic countries by supporting their religion. The money for this did not come from Korea but from Islamic countries. Even now, our circumstance is the same. Money comes from abroad. In Islam we have zakat¹, which is given monthly. It is calculated not on income but on profit. After subtracting all expenses, we donate 2.5 percent, or one fortieth. We don't receive operational expenses from our believers, so how can we operate? The only way has

been money from foreign nations. We haven't been receiving enough money from our believers, but soon we should finally be self-sufficient.

That was the process of our development. Of course, from the beginning, Koreans have given money, but it would have been impossible to sustain ourselves if we could only rely on Korean Muslims. We are still operating with foreign support.

Missions need money. With money, active mission activity is possible; we can spread the faith when people are working to do so. It's a difficult situation. For Christians, everything is run through tithing. It's sufficient for them to operate on. We have zakat, but it's not the same as tithing. We can say that the Korean contribution comes from witnessing. Koreans can easily witness to Koreans. That's the area where we can see a contribution from Koreans. Financially, Islamic institutions in Korea have been run through the support of foreign funds.

We have heard that some of the Korean soldiers who volunteered to go Iraq converted to Islam before leaving Korea. Please tell us about that.

Usually, people who become Islamic are those that have a connection to an Islamic country or that do business with Muslims and want to understand something about Islam or that want to understand Islam because they are studying the Arabic language.

It was the same with the *Zaitun*² unit. Iraq is Islamic; this is common knowledge. If you are not familiar with an Islamic nation, to remedy this, it is good to learn something about Islam. Knowledge of Islam would help these soldiers. They were educated here at the Central Mosque. They studied here for about a week, and forty-five became Muslims. Because they need to understand the local situation, the Ministry of National Defense asked us to teach them, so we did.

This is not the first time something like this has happened. In the 1970s, Korean construction companies started to get work in Saudi Arabia and elsewhere in the Middle East. Companies wanted us to teach their employees. People joined here or there in the Middle East. When I was as responsible for overseas Korean Muslims in the Middle East, three thousand Koreans became Muslims in Kuwait and three thousand in Saudi Arabia. I took care of many things for them and tried to help solve any problems they might

have had.

In the case of businessmen, they do not know much about Islam, but they want to do business in an Islamic country. That's how many people become Muslims. Four universities in Korea also have an Arabic language department—the Korean Foreign Language University, Myungji University, Busan University and Chosun University in Gwangju. They study Islam because they need it to understand Arabic; or they need Islam because they want to study abroad in Islamic nations. Once they've studied it, many people become Muslims.

What do you do to help the general public understand Islam?

We are not doing any systemic education. For Islamic outreach, we do not raise missionaries who do mission work and teach people about Islam. All Muslims have a duty to do a mission. Each individual demonstrates through one's attitude as a good person and one's righteous way of life as a believer what it means to be Islamic. This raises people's interest and compels them to knock. That, rather than visiting people and trying to get them interested, is the way of a genuine Muslim. Islam is practice. We do not pursue people and ask them to believe. It is better to demonstrate it through the way we live. An everyday life is a life of faith. We show through practice, though we do invite teachers here to help them give a proper view of Islam to their students.

There are people here from all over the world. It's a bit like visiting the UN.

Arabic Islam, Korean Islam and Malaysian Islam are not separated. Islam is an international religion. We are all brothers. This is the Central Mosque, so many people in Korea from around the world come here. There are two major Islamic events each year, Eid al-Fitr and Ramadan. On those days, three or four thousand people from every nation come here to the Central Mosque.

There are ten Mosques in Korea, though none of the others is as big as the Central Mosque. There are also sixty-five temporary mosques throughout the nation. These are mainly in areas where foreigners are living. These people pool their money and rent a place. I am sometimes surprised by this. These are people who have come here to work in order that they might send money back home, but they will donate a month's salary to rent a house as a temporary mosque. Some donate several months' salary. When I encounter such a spirit, I think it's really great. In some areas they've collected \$100,000 and they want to buy a building to serve as a

mosque or land to build one on. With such a volunteer spirit, things are developing.

Drinking alcohol is widespread in Korea. Is this a barrier to Islam here?

Yes. Drinking is an established part of our culture. The Korean way of thinking is that food and alcohol have to be served to guests. It's difficult to change this overnight. As Pascal³ says, a second habit can destroy an earlier habit. We have to abstain. We have to not do things by habit but chose whether or not we should take alcohol. When others are doing good things, we can learn from them and absorb it, but Koreans are not good at doing that. The good thing is that, although I had also been a drinker and a smoker [before finding Islam as a university student], I gradually stopped. Gradual development is a good way, I think. I also do things in that way.

Besides drinking, there are other aspects of Islam that are difficult for Koreans to accept. It is quite usual here for people to eat pork, but Muslims do not eat it. This is because of habits that a pig has; a pig is fierce, lazy and dirty. Even from a scientific standpoint, pork is excessively oily and not good for health. It has detrimental effects on personal character. There are some people who cannot give up the habit of eating pork, but Islam forbids it. There are things in Islam that are Halal [acceptable] or Haram [forbidden].

Beyond this there are lots of difficulties, because we emphasize practice. Buddhists might only go to a Buddhist temple once a year. We ask people to put their faith into practice every day. We pray five times a day, though some people might only do it once a day. Effort is essential in our lives. We wash our hands beforehand. It is difficult if we think it is difficult. It's more difficult to maintain the right attitude of a believer. More difficult than washing and praying five times a day is living a good and righteous life.

In our service we stand and recite the Koran or do a half bow. Some people ask whether being a Muslim is difficult because the lifestyle is so conservative. It is difficult, but living the righteous life of a true believer is more difficult. One hadith says that all behavior is related to intention. It indicates that God doesn't look at the result. God sees the intention. The life of a believer is such a life. ♦

1. The word is Arabic for "purification." It is a religious tax rather than a charitable offering.
2. The name adopted by the group of about 3,000 Korean soldiers deployed to Iraq. It's Arabic for "olive," a symbol of peace.
3. French scientist, Blaise Pascal (1623–62)

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es, while for others the ring sparks conversations about purity and opportunities to witness to their own personal faith.


Essayist Elizabeth Holland in "New Rituals in Jewish Tradition," when writing in part about Jewish life-cycle rituals for women such as bat mitzvah says, "In most religious traditions, it takes several centuries to test new religious innovations and see whether or not they stand the test of time and become deeply imbedded in the tradition. We are at the beginning, the first few decades of the process. When we experiment with all this new liturgy and new ritual, we are saying that for our generation this is meaningful. What may or may not happen is that it will take root in the whole of Judaism and eventually become 'traditional.'"

Similarly, Il Shim was born out of youth pastors looking for a

meaningful way of introducing young people in their congregations to the rigors of life within the Unificationist faith. Time will tell if it officially becomes a part of our tradition, but for now the practice seems to be meaningful to an increasing number of congregations. ♦

1. This, according to information on the Kingston UK synagogue web site, is because "[the Torah] contains many layers of meaning. Access to these layers would be very much restricted if these vowels were written on a Torah scroll."
2. E-mail Rev. Sabourin at: BrianSab@aol.com

DO YOU HAVE A STORY TO TELL?

A composite image featuring a person's hands typing on a laptop keyboard in the upper right. In the lower left, there is a fountain pen and a small bottle of India ink. The background is a soft-focus outdoor scene with greenery and a blue sky.

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