

TODAY'S

WORLD

JULY 2007





The War We Are Still Fighting

Dr. Kwak's address on July 26 at the Universal Arts Center during the United Nations Peace Forces of the Korean War Memorial Federation Convention 2007, which was held from July 24 to 29

Honorable Korean War veterans from the sixteen nations who served with the United Nations Peace Forces who fought in defense of Korea, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen: It is my honor and privilege to address you this evening. Welcome back to the Republic of Korea, a nation blessed by God with freedom, hope and prosperity, built on the foundation of the blood, sweat and tears you and your fellow soldiers shed more than fifty years ago.

Unfortunately, this significant chapter in history has faded from the memory of many people. Yet, when viewed in light of humanity's long struggle for lasting freedom and peace, the Korean War is one of the most consequential conflicts in history. Its significance must be understood and its place in history should never be forgotten.

When we look from a global perspective, we recognize that the Korean War was the first of its kind. It was the first peacekeeping mission of the United Nations. It was the first war in which representative nations of the free world united together to protect freedom and peace against communist aggression. It was the first great conflict of the cold war.

The cold war was a time of ideological, political and military struggle. Communism, based on Marxism and Leninism, is atheistic, totalitarian, and imperialistic. The free-market, democratic nations upheld freedom of religion, and individual human rights.

During the cold war, the Berlin Wall served as a firewall separating the Western democracies from communism. At that time, communism clearly hoped to dominate Western Europe in the same way that it had dominated Eastern Europe.

The Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), roughly following the thirty-eighth parallel as it bisects the Korean peninsula, has functioned in a similar way in the Asia-Pacific region. If each of you, your families, your nations and the UN Peace Force had not been willing to enter the Korean War, the entire peninsula would have been brought under communist control and domination.

Just imagine what might have happened if you had not been willing to take responsibility, at the risk of your life, for a people and a nation that had no obvious relevance to your life and your security.

What could have happened?

First of all, if the Korean peninsula as a whole had fallen, Japan would have been isolated and vulnerable. It had no military in the post-World War II era. Japan, at that time, had an active Communist Party with representatives holding seats in parliament. Had Korea fallen to communism, Japan would very likely have fallen as well. Stalin had, at that time, a serious, strategic goal to dominate Japan.

If Korea, and later Japan, had been dominated by the Soviet Union, the United States would have lost its two staunchest allies in the Pacific. America's capacity to have a strong presence in East Asia and the Pacific would have been greatly compromised and weakened. As such, the very vulnerable Pacific island nations would have fallen like dominoes.

As young men, you fought to protect not only a small nation in the Far East but the freedom and peace of all the people of the world. The thirty-eighth parallel that divides the Korean peninsula, like the Berlin Wall in the West, was the border line between the free world and communism, between an open society and tyranny, between prosperity and poverty.

After the end of the First World War, all the colonies of defeated nations were liberated. With the end of the Second World War, the colonies of both the defeated nations and the victorious

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Cover Photo: True Family members at the opening of a permanent exhibition covering True Parents' lives, at the Korean FFWPU Headquarters in Cheongpa-dong, on July 9 *Above:* True Parents with Shin-kook nim, Kook-jin nim and Ji-yea nim's son, who was born on May 13; *Back Cover:* The Global Peace Festival stage and crowd in front of Seoul City Hall on July 8

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The Three Great Subjects Principle from the Viewpoint of God's Providence

The WCSF 2007 Founder's Address at the Opening Ceremony, given at Yoo Gwan Soon Stadium in Cheonan, Korea July 4, 2007
This speech has been declared Peace Message Fifteen. It has been reedited for Today's World.

Distinguished guests from at home and abroad, athletes participating in the interreligious sports tournament:

I thank you from the bottom of my heart for taking part in the World Culture and Sports Festival, which is growing in stature as a genuine peace festival for all humankind.

This year, we are celebrating the twelfth WCSF, under the theme "The Advent of the Era Beginning a New Universal Civilization of Peace." The festival presents a model of harmony and peace to bring together the six and a half billion people of the world as one family under God.

Humankind in the Last Days

Ladies and gentlemen, please look at the world today. Can we find anyone among the current leaders of the world who is genuinely concerned with the future of humankind and who is making the sacrifices necessary to bring harmony and peace to humanity on an interreligious and international level? Human beings are like children who have lost their parents, like misdirected youths who do not recognize their teacher, like sheep who have lost their shepherd. Human beings have become spiritually blind, unable to see even an inch in front of them.

There are now some two hundred nations in the world. Yet, aren't many of these nations engaged in fierce conflicts, directly or indirectly? Aren't they all intent on pursuing their own interests? Even the United Nations, founded with the noble ideal of protecting the welfare and peace of humankind, has reached its limitations. Watching helplessly without a solution to the global crises of war, starvation and disease, isn't the UN becoming an organization that exists more in name than in substance?

Calling ourselves "lords of creation," we human beings have forged our own history. Although humankind has seen terrible massacres, and suffered natural disasters, the human race has survived and continues to multiply to this day, seeking a bright and happy world—although with only a vague concept of what that might be. Why is it that the human race is still unable to escape from the mire of sin and disease?

The Three Great Subjects Principle

Ladies and gentlemen, on the occasion of the opening ceremony of the Peace Palace and coronation of the king and queen of peace on June 13, 2006, I proclaimed the basic duties and mission—based on the heavenly way—that all citizens of the kingdom of God, Cheon Il Guk, should understand and fulfill. I did so in order to fulfill God's call to me to bring humankind to live as one global family in a sacred reign of peace under God,

by overcoming the tragic reality humankind is facing. Today, I would like to address you on the theme "The Three Great Subjects Principle from the Viewpoint of God's Providence." This message is Heaven's blessing that serves as an important teaching in guiding humanity's future. Please open your heart and listen to this message so that you may be ready for your eternal life.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is important to know that God endowed human beings with the Three Great Subjects Principle at the Creation.

The first great subject you are to become is a true parent. God created us as His children. We were to become true children by perfecting our individual character after going through an autonomous period of spiritual growth based on the principles God established. We were then to become true couples, have our own children and attain the position of true parents. In this way, we were to perfect ourselves by practicing and embodying the true love that God bestowed on us through the act of our creation.

In reality, however, moral values in our world today are deteriorating rapidly. The moral laws governing the relationship between parents and children have been thrown to the ground, fidelity between couples is being discarded as an older generation's old-fashioned concept and brotherly love between siblings has become a rare commodity buried in the swamp of self-centered individualism. For these reasons, the most important thing to do is establish true families based on true love. This means we must build families in which three generations live together in true love, centered on true parents.

The second great subject you are to become is a true teacher. Although the world is full of evil influences, one way or another, a person enters relationships in life where either he or she is in a position to teach or in a position to learn. Our first teachers are our parents, in our family. They should be our first and greatest teachers. As true teachers, it is parents' primary responsibility to raise true children.

Children who are raised by true parents through a true and good family education easily progress into their school education. This is the next stage. School provides an institutionalized education, but even within that framework, teachers have the responsibility—with the heart of true parents—to raise and educate them to become true children. By this I mean that horizontal, academic education must be carried out on the foundation of vertical, character education. Therefore a teacher must first possess the heart of a true parent.

The third great subject you are to become is a "true owner." God created the universe and inherently is the true owner and



lord of all creation. God's creation is the fruit of His complete investment, carried out based on the standard of absolute faith, absolute love and absolute obedience. From this example, we can gain the wisdom that enables us to become a true owner. The secret is to invest true love on the basis of that absolute standard. The precondition to becoming a true owner is to possess the heart of a true parent.

The organic relationship between the Three Great Subjects

The Three Great Subjects Principle expresses an organic relationship that is mutual, absolute and indivisible. This is because a true parent, true teacher or true owner can stand in the position of either a subject partner or an object partner in relation to the other two. In other words, once you attain the position of a true parent, the positions of a true teacher and true owner emerge from there. Once you reach the position of a true teacher, the positions of true parent and true owner are included. When you attain the position of a true owner, you will immediately become a true parent and true teacher as well.

From the outset, human beings were born to inherit and embody God's complete Three Great Subjects Principle. To become a person of character, perfecting the Three Great Subjects Principle, we must become like God Himself. We must have a heart that is like God's and love other people and all creation on the basis of His absolute standard, just as He does. In other words, we must attain a state of loving unity with God, wherein we can love the creation. At that point, the true parent, the true teacher and the true owner all converge.

The world operates in the harmony of various systems and relationships. In this complex and diverse world, the principle of becoming a true owner naturally applies to the relationships between people; but it also applies to the relationship between human beings and the creation. The question is what kind of person can be called a true owner. Someone who lives for others, caring for and sacrificing to serve others—in other words, a

person who practices true love in daily life—can be called a true owner. Only someone who cares for all things in the creation with true love, protecting and nurturing them, can become a true owner of all creation.

In light of this, it is not your position or status that makes you a true owner. It is determined by your character and capacity to love. The president of a company who loves and cares for all his employees with a parental heart is the true owner of that company. Only the president of nation who loves its citizens in a way reminiscent of a parent who caringly raises his or her children, and who shares the sorrows and joys of life with them, can become the true owner of that nation.

Our conscience as a true parent, true teacher, and true owner

Ladies and gentlemen, God's creation is truly mysterious and profound. God created us as His children and to be the lords of creation. To this end, He gave us each the highest and greatest gift—a conscience. This special gift is given to us as a compass to guide us through life in this earthly world. We can say that our lifespan is one hundred years. Regardless of who we are, from the moment of our birth to the moment we die we cannot escape the influence of our conscience.

The most elevated function of the conscience is its role as our true parent, true teacher and true owner. In other words, our conscience acts as a true parent, true teacher and true owner on behalf of God in guiding our lives and educating us from the time we are born. Our conscience functions as a guide, keeping watch over our every action in every moment. It is aware of our every word, action and thought even before our parents, our teachers or God are. God infused into the conscience the fundamental function of guiding and supervising our lives.

Yet the conscience, which should be clear as crystal, has been clouded due to the Fall and is now unable to fully manifest its original function amid all manner of sin and sickness. That is why you must become people who can listen to the voice of

your conscience, crying out to be liberated even one day earlier and granted innermost freedom from this evil world, which is under Satan's dominion.

However, there is no way for fallen people to restore the original function of the conscience by their own power. This is because they have not established a direct vertical relationship with God. The six and a half billion people in the world today are all off at a tangent, each and every one living under the illusion of being genuine and the best in his or her field. However, no one will be able to find the path to salvation before someone sets an absolute standard of the most direct relationship to God, at a ninety-degree angle.

Beloved leaders from around the world, there is one person, the first and probably the last to hold such a position in history, who holds the keys to free humankind from Satan's bondage and to lead them to heaven. That person is the one standing before you today.

I never wished for or sought this position, but I was anointed by God and placed in the position of the Savior, Messiah, Lord at his second coming and the True Parent of humankind. It is a position that is absolutely free from the influence of Satan's realm. It is indeed I, Rev. Moon, who have been charged by God with practicing and demonstrating first hand a life based on the truth and on submission to the conscience. The path of a true parent, true teacher and true owner I am walking will allow the people of the world, who are going six and a half billion separate ways, to be reconnected to God at a ninety-degree angle.

The absolute, good spirits in the spirit world, who number more than 300 billion, are testifying in unison to this fact. The founders of the great religions, principally Jesus, as well as great philosophers and thinkers, and even some communist leaders, are shedding tears of gratitude for this amazing truth.

The value of the cross-cultural marriage blessing

Ladies and gentlemen, even the people in the spirit world have no way to be saved without receiving the grace of the blessing from the True Parents.

The time has come for humankind to fulfill the heavenly decree of creating one family under God through the international and cross-cultural blessing. As the True Parent, my teachings are for you to receive. What way is there to create the kingdom of heaven on earth and in heaven other than by becoming one family under God? What other way is there to create the ideal world that God envisioned at the time of the Creation, the world in which all people are united beyond the boundaries of

race, culture, religion and nation, and where war and conflict do not exist?

Without your being aware of it, the True Parents have proclaimed the opening of the era after the coming of heaven, which will allow humanity to be liberated. Even God will be liberated and set completely free in His heart. The True Parents are now taking this revolutionary truth that we must all become true parents, true teachers and true owners to all corners of the world.

Ladies and gentlemen, the fundamental spirit of World Culture and Sports Festival 2007 is one of fulfilling the sacred task of bringing all people together as one family. Please remember that we, as people of religion, culture and athletic prowess, have the mission to come together as one and bring the era beginning a new universal civilization of peace into fruition. Religious people, in particular, must become the leaders of this sacred revolution of true love. I have already completed all the necessary preparations for this.

With a view to the building of the ideal kingdom of heaven that is God's desire, I am promoting the world's grandest project, which is to build a tunnel under the Bering Strait. It will be part of the creation of the International Highway of Peace that is to connect all oceans and continents and allow people to travel at full speed around the globe.

The United Nations, which began with the lofty ideal of realizing world peace, is now only a shadow of what it was meant to be. Unable to turn away from this sad reality I am promoting the renewal of the UN. In support of these efforts, I have founded the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) as the new Peace UN, or "Abel UN," with the belief that we must pour "new wine into fresh wineskins." UPF will guide humanity in the era for the beginning of a new and universal civilization of peace. It is already active in more than 120 nations.

All you have to do now is trust in and follow the True Parents. With your conscience as your compass, attain the status of a true parent, true teacher and true owner. Manifest true love in your daily life, thus ensuring your eternal life in heaven. Heavenly fortune will speed you on your path, and your good ancestors who have received the marriage blessing will actively assist you in your activities. Have courage, and strive to go forward!

I pray that you may all attain the true family ideal so that you can shout out *eog-mansei* for the advent of the era of the kingdom of peace under the sacred reign of peace, based on the Three Great Subjects Principle.

Thank you very much.◆



The seventeenth Chil Il Jeol, also known as the Declaration Day of God's Eternal Blessing, being celebrated on July 1 at Cheon Jeong Peace Palace; though he had been matching couples until late the night before, Father spoke extensively.

Invocation of the Blessing

Given by True Parents at the Blessing Ceremony, July 5

On this day, in Yoo Gwan Soon Stadium in Cheonan, 1,634 couples have gathered to carry on the traditional blessing of Heaven by forming families of Cheon Il Guk, in attendance of the beloved Cosmic Parent and the Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind. These couples have resolved to form true conjugal relationships, passing on the inheritance of Heaven and aiming toward the world of eternal blessing and liberation. We are especially grateful to You for choosing and establishing this day as the very day on which the blessed couples of the Unification Family throughout the world and the couples who are receiving the blessing here can participate together and celebrate this day.

If we who are gathered here today had not fallen, we would have resided in the Garden of Eden, where we would have inherited the blessing as the kith and kin of the Parents of the horizontal and the vertical, centered upon True Parents. At the same time, we would have become the representatives of all prosperity and well-being, and we would have received the blessing and received our inheritance. However, because we lost that right, and in order to reestablish this on the fundamental level, our Heavenly Father, as the original owner of love who can embrace all of heaven and earth, has carried on a history of regeneration and re-creation time and time again, setting His sights on the eras of the individual, family, tribe, people, nation and world. All families of the Unification Family, and the members both in heaven and on earth, are truly grateful for this day. With our hearts filled with our earnest adoration for the endeavors and deeds of Heaven, we thank You for taking part in this celebration.

Closely observed by all of heaven and earth, at this place of blessing where Heaven is bestowing the right to inherit liberation and complete inner freedom, now these 1,634 couples will complete all the promised and long-established covenants of the kingdom of God.

The original, ideal realm before the Fall, which was lost in Eden, was lost in Adam's family. The family of Jesus tried but was unable to restore it. Thus, it comes down to the Lord at his second advent, coming in the name of True Parents, on the basis of his appearance on earth. This is the occasion on which the foundation to attain and perfect that ideal realm is laid down in each of the families who are receiving the blessing, at the occasion of the blessing, the place of final separation—from which all of Satan's authority can be completely eliminated in the generations to come. This is the occasion that is being observed by the people of 186 nations across the world.

Father, we truly pray that You will accept this hour as one when You can bequeath the realm of the royal family of the sons and daughters of Heaven, connecting to the right to receive the grace of liberation and complete inner freedom, at this



place where our Heavenly Father and True Parents, the Cosmic Parent and the Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind, are one body, one heart, one harmony and one essence.

We also hope and pray that the relatives and family members gathered here today will become protective walls around those who have received the grace of the blessing today, and that they may become the parents and the family members who can help the blessed couples of today to stand up and actively engage, and teach them to be loyal and filial, and to serve their ancestors with responsibility. We earnestly pray that You will bless and bequeath this day to be a commemorative day on which they can form bonds of unity in heart, through which they can become one with their ancestors, their tribes, and their descendants.

We truly hope and pray from deep within our hearts that today will become a day to be commemorated, on which the authority of the grace of the blessing can expand and be declared throughout all nations and ages to come, like one great melting point as of this hour, now closely watched by the 6.5 billion people of the world.

We also pray that the protection and grace of Heaven will dwell eternally with the 1,634 couples who will forever pass these on, along with the traditional blessings of Heaven to their descendants, tribes, and their nations. I declare this blessing in the name of True Parents. Aju! Aju! Representing the entire cosmos, we all proclaim, Aju! ♦



The speech that follows is Hyun-jin nim's first as Chairman of the WCSF Organizing Committee, a position Father appointed him to earlier this year. During the course of WCSF 2007, Hyun-jin nim spoke at many of the major events, including at two new initiatives organized by the Youth Federation for World Peace—the Global Peace NGO Seminar and the Global Peace Festival.

WCSF Chairman's Address

Hyun-jin nim's speech at the WCSF 2007 Grand Opening Ceremony, July 4, 2007

Members of the Universal Peace Federation's Presiding Council, esteemed leaders of Cheon Il Guk and ambassadors for peace representing 120 nations, youth leaders from all the world's faith traditions participating in the Interreligious Peace Sports Festival, delegates from YFWP and World CARP, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

Welcome to World Culture and Sports Festival 2007, a festival of peace for heaven and earth. This is truly a momentous year in the history of God's providence, as it represents the seventh year of Cheon Il Guk. Accordingly, the founders of this event, the Reverend Dr. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon, the True Parents of Heaven and Earth, have declared this year to be a "Jubilee year in God's providence... the likes of which humankind has never experienced."

As you are well aware, in the Book of Genesis, God created our first human ancestors and all things in six days and rested on the seventh, declaring it the day of Sabbath in celebration of His divine act of creation and the hope of establishing a true family centered on true love, true life and true lineage. However, because of the fall of Adam and Eve, mankind spiraled away from God and His original dream. This dream, which has eluded humanity for thousands of

years, was brought to light on a cold, windswept hilltop in North Korea when my father, deep in prayer on an Easter Sunday, felt the anguished heart of God and was anointed by Jesus to carry on the messianic mission to create one family under God.

I am proud to announce that my father has stayed true to this promise to God and Jesus those many years ago, and upon the foundation of untold sacrifices and blood, sweat and tears, we stand at this watershed moment in providential history. Therefore, the theme for this year's festival, "Advent of the Era for the Beginning of a New Universal Civilization of Peace," is not only fitting but a necessary goal for this year. It represents a turning point in God's providence where the yoke of satanic dominion is lifted through the ushering in "of a new sovereignty of goodness, in which humanity can attend God as the central being."

Humanity has endeavored throughout the ages to create a world of lasting peace, yet peace has eluded us. To live in a world without war has been the dream of every good man and good woman since the beginning of time. You who have gathered here today, who have come to compete and contribute, are being tasked with the responsibility of developing your character, along with your athletic skills and intellect so that you may be the peacemakers of tomorrow.

The Opening Ceremony of the twelfth World Cultural and Sports Festival on July 4 at Yoo Gwan Soon Stadium in Cheonan, Korea; Inset: Representatives recite the Athletes' Pledge





On July 19, participants (from the U.S., UK and France) of the July 17–21 International Leadership Conference in Seoul visited Cheon Jeong Peace Palace at True Parents' invitation. A similar ILC is scheduled for people from Japan, Germany and Italy.

During the Seoul Olympics in 1988, my father proposed the holding of a World Culture and Sports Festival. He envisioned a global festival that included sports, the arts and culture, academic conferences, and an interreligious and international celebration of marriage and family.

It was his feeling that many sports competitions and international festivals have become overly commercialized and often political, losing the greater vision of peace upon which they were founded. Unable to live up to their lofty visions for peace, many succumbed to the worst attributes of market capitalism and unchecked competition, which only exacerbated the divide between political factions, ethnic groups, races and nations. For this reason, the World Culture and Sports Festival is being held as a venue for fostering harmony among the peoples of the world and thereby engendering the creation of a culture of true love, a culture of heart, rooted in the dream of building one human family under God.

Begun in 1992, the World Culture and Sports Festival is now being held for the twelfth time. It is an umbrella festival covering several related activities, all of which are affirmations of humanity as one family under God. These include the International and Cross-Cultural Marriage Blessing Ceremony, the Interreligious Peace Sports Festival, the World University Students Assembly, the Mr. and Miss University Pageant, and others – making this a sacred gathering of God's extended family. The goal of everything we do is to realize a world of true peace and a culture of heart – a dream cherished by humankind throughout the ages.

The International and Cross-Cultural Marriage Blessing, or "World Peace Blessing" is the spiritual center of this festival. Young couples pledge to join their lives together for the sake of true love and everlasting peace. Along with couples who are already married, they will dedicate themselves and their lives in the sacred bond of trust that is a God-centered marriage, not only for their own personal happiness, but for the sake of building a world of peace for all humanity, one

family at a time.

Throughout history, God has spoken in different voices, revealing the appropriate faith tradition to the different cultures and peoples of the earth through their religious teachers, but firmly rooted in His eternal principles. In organizing the World Culture and Sports Festival, we recognize that every religious tradition honors certain universal principles that come from an absolute, unique, unchanging and eternal creator. Rooted in "the way of the Heavenly Father," these principles are rooted in the divine act of true love, or living for the sake of others and the creation of God-centered families, where three generations live in harmony and love, establishing the three great kingships and the four great realms of heart.

The World Culture and Sports Festival is a celebration of what humanity could accomplish together if it is to realize the dream of building one God-centered family. Let us break down the walls of separation and division through the embrace of true love on the athletic field or in the conference halls and in our very homes. Let us become the owners of this "jubilee year" during this providential age of Cheon Il Guk and pioneer the path to establishing lasting peace in our lifetimes. Remember, everlasting peace can only be realized within a family where the vertical order of love centered upon God unlocks the doors to our individual and collective conscience, where we could find contrition, forgiveness, understanding and—most of all—true love.

Ladies and gentlemen, today, we stand on that proverbial mountaintop looking to new horizons, which could be our reality tomorrow if we are bold enough to take that first step. Will you raise your aspirations today to the highest of peaks and dream the greatest of all dreams? Let us stand together as the owners of God's dream to build one family under God, Aju!

Thank you very much, and may God's abundant blessing be upon you and your families. ♦



Hyun-jin nim's Keynote Address at the Global Peace NGO Seminar

July 6, 2007, at the Korean National Assembly Office Building

Illustrious members of the Korean National Assembly, distinguished guests from abroad, family members, friends, ladies and gentlemen:

It is a great and distinct honor for me to be here today. I wear many hats, but the hat I wear most proudly as I come before you today is as a proud son who is carrying out the work of his parents.

It is so fitting that here in the nation's capital of this peninsular nation of Korea, we have invited distinguished guests, leaders in **politics, religion and society**, and have welcomed them to this nation in order to share with them a vision of peace for this coming century.

I was born here in Seoul years ago. I followed my parents to America when I was a young boy, and I lived there most of my life. Yet I never really fit in there because, deep inside, my origins and roots were here.

Even so, I realized that the dream that my parents have cherished and yearned to see realized in their lifetimes is not the dream of just one family, or of one man or woman. It is the dream of all the people in this nation and of all the people in the world to build one family under God.

This dream came to my father as a result of divine ordination. While he was a young boy, among the windswept hilltops of what is now North Korea, on a cold Easter Sunday, he went into those hills yearning to liberate God from his suffering and anguished heart, His bereaved heart as a parent that has lost His children. There on a hilltop, while earnestly in prayer, Jesus came to him and gave him the mission to build one family under God. This fulfillment of this mission is something all people have yearned for whether they are **Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, or Confucian**—regardless of their tradition of faith. To see all humanity as one peaceful family under God is a dream the realization of which humankind has yearned for since the beginning of time.

It was on that hilltop that this torch was passed for the sake of building one family under God. For many years, in absolute determination and dedication, in order to build this dream, he has sacrificed everything—including his own family, his brothers and sisters, his parents, and the home that he knew in North Korea. He has sacrificed not only all those things we as people cherish, but he has sacrificed himself. He was



The Global Peace NGO Seminar, held at the Korean National Assembly complex on July 6, brought together representatives of NGOs and other public-minded figures. Their purpose was to discuss the unique contribution NGOs can make to improving people's living situation and resolving conflict. Hyun-jin nim gave the keynote address as chairman of WCSE. This seminar also served as a starting point for the Global Peace Expo Initiative, which will work to connect civic organizations with peace initiatives around the world. All those who took part in the event, which was sponsored by the Youth Federation for World Peace, signed the Seoul Declaration of Global Peace.



Left: At the Global Peace Festival, Stanislav Shushkevich, former chairman of Belorussian Supreme Soviet, presents gifts to a Japanese mother and her four children, whom she has raised alone for ten years following her Korean husband's death; **Middle:** Hugs all round mark the finale of the festival; **Right:** An African dance troupe whose members are resident in Korea performs; to gauge the success of the event see our back cover photo of the crowd that came to take in the festive atmosphere and enjoy listening into the late evening to more than twenty top Korean music stars.

unjustly imprisoned six times for his beliefs and for his conviction to realize the dream of building one family under God.

There were those naysayers who said it could not be done. There were naysayers who belittled him and demanded, "Who are you to have such big dreams? Who are you to say you are taking on the mantle of a great man, a divine man such as Jesus Christ? Who are you to say you are taking on the mantle of building one family—a vision and dream that the likes of Buddha, Moses and Mohammed undertook? Who are you?" Yet he had tenacity and hope. He had the audacity to rise up to take up that challenge—the mantle and the cross—of bringing this dream to the human family, so that it could be our dream. We stand today on that proverbial mountaintop where this dream is no longer just a fleeting concept or ideal but is something firmly rooted in the hearts and minds of great men and women around the world as well as in this nation of Korea.

We are planting seeds. We are planting the seeds of hope in creating one family under God in the hearts of men. As the seeds germinate there, as they truly take root, one person at a time, peace can be realized on the earth.

More importantly, centered upon this dream of building one family under God, my father has touched upon principles universal to all humanity, especially to those who are faithful and devout and who want to serve God in the realization of this dream. These are principles that can unite us, that can bring us together and allow us to elevate ourselves, to liberate ourselves from the narrow boxes of our own faith traditions and our own "isms." These allow us to unite upon a platform of eternal principles that are rooted in God's divine principle of true love, of living for the sake of others and of building God-centered families.

Is it not in the family that we learn about peace, love, brotherhood, parenthood, the relationship between husband and wife and all the important relationships within the family? It is said that if you have a friend—a

dear friend—and you want to emphasize how close this friend is to you, you use a simile in familial terms, to establish the intimacy and closeness that cannot be described in any other way. You would say this friend is like my brother; this woman is like my sister; this elder is like my father or my mother; this youngster is like my son or my daughter. It is that intimacy that we learn within the family. And it is a God-centered family—a family rooted in the divine vertical order of love, where God can dwell—that allows us to have an individual as well as a collective awareness as to what is right, what is good and what is divine.

The dream of changing the world through blessing together in marriage people from enemy nations is a dream that no one has spoken of until this time. Yet it is a dream that is being realized and is unfolding before our very eyes. We witnessed a beautiful expression of this yesterday in the Holy Blessing Ceremony of one thousand six hundred couples in Cheonan, and thousands upon thousands of couples worldwide. Through true love and building ideal families, we are slowly breaking down the walls and the barriers that separate people from each other.

You know this is a vision that has been too long in being actualized; yet it *has* come and settled upon the earth through the vision and the work of my parents, the Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon.

What is more impressive is that this vision is so enrapturing. You know it is said that the hardest converts are your own children. Yet in 2006, the whole Moon clan, three generations, took on the mantle of this great vision, visited almost every nation in the world, bringing a message of peace and hope. That message was about the creation of ideal families through investing true love.

This was an unprecedented tour and an unprecedented event. I am proud that I took part in it. I know that many of you gathered here today in this illustrious building, the center of power in this nation of Korea—



Enthusiastic STF members at the Youth and Student Leaders Rally on July 8, at Cheongpyeong Youth Center

especially our international brothers and sisters — have come to celebrate this vision of peace based on true love and the creation of true families. We have come as one family, stripping ourselves of our pretensions and evoking the spirit of harmony, unity and peace that only comes from the divine love of God, which we know to be true love, expressed in living for the sake of others.

In Hawaii, in March, my father presented a tremendous vision for the twenty-first century. I was astounded by that vision. As we all know, the twentieth century — a century rooted in the Atlantic sphere, was a century of untold violence, war and conflict. More people perished in wars during that century than in all the previous centuries combined in the history of humankind. Untold crimes were committed during the course of that century. It is not a distant memory; it is an all too familiar memory as many of us were born in that century of strife and struggle.

As we entered the twenty-first century and a new age dawned, there were those who said that the twenty-first century would be a century of peace. Yet shortly thereafter, in 2001, came “9/11,” and the world was once again embroiled in chaos and confusion as the great superpower, America, embarked on a war against terror that had religious connotations and geopolitical ramifications. Yet even the most powerful nation in the world could not find a solution, even after six years of conflict, turmoil, death and violence.

This is an age where peace cannot be found by military means or through a political solution. My father has always believed that politics is rooted in self-interest. Where can you find God in a system rooted in self-interest? We first need to focus our attention back on God and what His will is for humanity. If we were to ask all those people of faith in the world today, “What is the vision God has for humanity?” there is not one that would deny it is the vision of building one family under God.

I want to put a challenge to you today. If we were to hold a referendum in the United Nations on the

existence of God, do you not believe that referendum would pass unequivocally and by a great majority, because the people of the world whether Christian, Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu or of any other faith tradition believe in God and recognize that there is an eternal father we need to be aligned to? If we can understand the vision that He has for us, truly we can find a way to peace. Because the vision that heavenly parent would have for humanity would be one of peace, reconciliation and unity.

My father, although considered to be a religious leader, is first and foremost a man of God who has taken on the mantle of the great mission of building one family under God. He is not a religious leader in the sense we usually understand religious leaders. He did not embark

on this great quest of building one family under God to create a new religion or to offer a new theology. He came with the mission and explicit purpose of bringing the will and purpose of God to humanity and making it humanity’s purpose and will — the will to build one family under God!

Korea stands in a historic watershed moment. I believe in the Pan-Pacific era vision that my father outlined in his March speech in Hawaii. It encapsulates so beautifully the history of humanity and explains how, as we shift from the twentieth century to the twenty-first century, there is hope here in the Pan-Pacific region. Korea stands right there in the center of that region, bridging the continental system of Asia and the island nations of the Pacific. It is a peninsular nation bridging those two worlds together to offer humankind a vision of peace.

My father initiated the Mongolian Peoples Federation that represents 74 percent of the world’s population. The resources of the Pacific Ocean and the island nations are abundant. The world’s greatest ocean and largest land mass, holding the greatest number of people, are in this Pacific sphere. Thus, if there is unity between the continental and island regions, and if the people can truly become the owners of this vision of one family under God, world peace can be realized in our lifetimes.

Today I believe that in one sense, we’re planting seeds — planting the seeds of peace. If we can plant the seed of peace in our hearts today, the seed of one family under God... Can we all say together, “One family under God?” If we could plant the seed of one family under God in our hearts today, in this illustrious setting, a building that represents the nation of Korea, in this era of the Pan-Pacific Rim, in this providential moment in time, with this great vision of building one family, truly, truly, truly, amazing things could happen!

Thank you very much. May God bless you and your families. ♦

IPSF Closing Ceremony

Excerpted from Hyun-jin nim's speech at Sun Moon University on July 10
to participants of the Interreligious Peace Sports Festival

It is a distinct honor and pleasure as the chairman of WCSF to have welcomed you here to Korea. I hope you fought well, not in the name of war but in the name of peace, because those who play together live together in peace. This is what this is all about. The Interreligious Peace Sports Festival is about building a sandbox, where human beings can strip down to the bare essence and become children again. I believe it was said once that in order to enter the kingdom of heaven you need to be like a child. This is because a child does not know war, does not know conflict, does not know religious, racial, national or ethnic divisions, or whatever other divisions and barriers humanity has erected as we "grew up." The spirit of this sports festival is to rekindle the child within you before you put up those walls, so that we can bring the

walls that divide humanity crumbling down....

Many years ago, I, too, was an avid sportsman. I competed in the 1988 Olympic Games here in Seoul and in Barcelona in 1992 as a member of the Korean equestrian team. I remember the sacrifices—personally—that I had to make to be able to achieve those high goals. For the few minutes that I spent on that course, I'd had to prepare for a lifetime. So I know the amount of dedication that all of you have toward perfecting your skill so that you could be the sportsmen you are. However, true sportsmanship is not physical ability but understanding the spiritual component. I remember my coaches used to always tell me, "A champion is 30 percent physical excellence, 70 percent internal excellence." In other words, your game face has to be on; your mind has to be on; your spirit has to be on,

if you want to be a true champion. I hope you learn the meaning of being true champions in this festival as you participate here in Seoul....

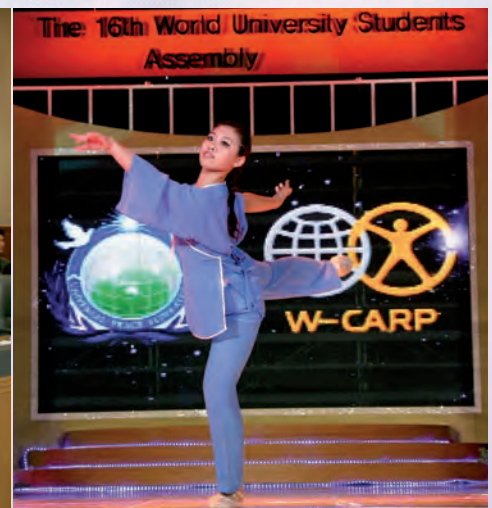
I want to commend all of you for your dedication and your hard work and your participation in these events. We hope that you can be ambassadors for this festival when you go back home to your respective countries, so that you can bring the message of peace and the culture of living for the sake of others that you've experienced in this festival to your homes, your neighborhoods, your communities and your nations, so that we can truly build one family under God. ♦



Hyun-jin nim reflects on the course of the 2007 World Culture and Sports Festival at an evaluation meeting for its organizers



Left: World-CARP's seventh International Education Conference, held at the Cheonan campus of Sun Moon University; Right: Dance performance at the sixteenth World University Students Assembly, July 10





Forever Grateful

By Hi-Seung D'Alberti



My father and I arrived at Incheon International Airport in the afternoon of June 26, after a thirteen-hour flight. When all the parents and candidates had gathered, a bus took us to the Youth Center near Cheongpyeong. We arrived there around midnight so one of our concerns was how to get some much-needed sleep. We were told that in the morning there would be guidance in the sports hall, followed by breakfast, after which we would all be going to Cheongpyeong so Father could match us.

The next morning I woke up and prepared for the matching. I put on my nicest clothes and went to the sports hall. What a surprise! The "guidance" was actually morning sports. You can imagine what it was like when two hundred and fifty candidates were stretching in their sportswear, while I was the only one dressed formally.

After breakfast, ready for the matching, we all met and took buses to Cheongpyeong. Upon arrival, staff members led us to a small hall. We all felt fear and anxiety, anticipating what the matching would be like. The MC asked us to sit down. "Would it finally start? How long would True Father speak before he started matching? Would he ask someone to sing? Who was I going to be matched with?" While thinking about these things, surprising information was given to us. True Father was not there and nobody was sure when he would be arriving. Meanwhile, second-generation leaders from Korea and Japan began teaching us about the matching and blessing. They shared their own experiences—including the situations they went through and the challenges they faced.



Having endured several hours of lectures and guidance, the time finally came for dinner, shortly after which, the MC stated, True Father would arrive. Full of enthusiasm, we went for dinner and came back as fast as possible, thrilled that finally the matching would commence. We assembled again in the hall with the previously lost feeling of fear and anxiety, waiting for further word. First of all, our parents had to leave, so they wouldn't distract us during the matching process. Not all the parents had accompanied their sons and daughters to Korea but many of them had.

Asked to sit quietly and meditate, I noticed that my heart was pounding. We closed our eyes and merged our thoughts in the silence. Eventually, several brothers and sisters were asked to sing songs. Following this, we were again asked to prepare internally, this time for the imminent arrival of True Father. This appeared to be a second false alarm and the lectures proceeded yet again. With the announcement of True Father's certain arrival, we began to prepare the hall and arrange ourselves into regional and age order. At last, True Parents entered to a powerful heartfelt applause. Father asked how the candidates were arranged in the room then asked for those twenty-six years old or older to raise their hands. I was surprised when twenty or thirty hands rose. This surprise was heightened when it transpired that the oldest candidate was thirty-six. Shocked, True Father asked, "What are you doing here? You could already have children!" After this small incident, True Father stood up and the matching began.

With the completion of matching of the older brothers and sisters, I knew my time had come. The group I was in, eighteen-year-old brothers, was called. Apprehensively, I stood up, positioning myself in the last row. While True Father was matching one of my friends, a misunderstanding resulted in three sisters being prompted forward by the sisters surrounding them. Only the last sister was the correct match. Unexpectedly, True Father turned, focused, and called for the tall Western brother in the back. It was me! I passed through a wall of brothers in front and was matched to the sister prompted first in the previous matching, Dawn Haider, from the United States. We showed our gratitude by bowing to True Parents.

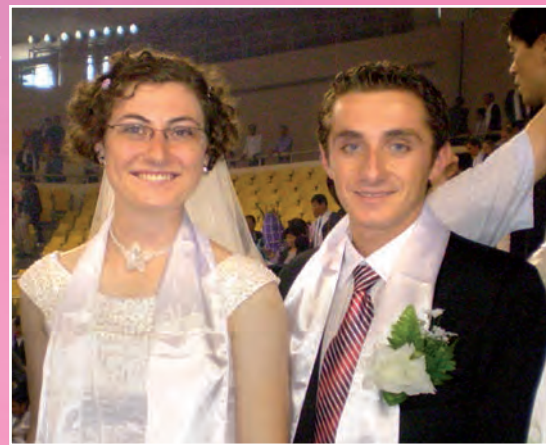
Upon leaving the hall, we noticed parents waiting, greeting their new sons- or daughter-in-laws and taking pictures. My father is Italian, my mother, German. Dawn's father is Austrian, her mother American. While I had come with my father, Dawn had come with her mother. We told the rest of our families about our matching by telephone.

After our official photographs were taken, we had the opportunity to pray together as a newly matched couple. We

CONTINUED ON PAGE 21....FOREVER GRATEFUL

My Road to the Blessing

By Barbara Boros



I met my spiritual father in 2002, when I was seventeen years old. During my seven-day workshop, in the first prayer I had ever prayed in my life, I had a life-giving experience with God. I heard His heart speaking to me: "I love you." I felt that He forgave me everything and just loves me. I rushed out crying, completely overwhelmed. This was the starting point in my belief, which will always be my source of love.

I planned to begin university in 2005, but I felt I had to wait one more year. At the end of that year, I realized why—we were invited to attend the matching and blessing. Father matched me personally, and I felt I had a unique gift from True Parents. I spent sixty days in Cheongpyeong for workshops, and I only prayed that I could grow in my heart to fulfil this blessing. Since childhood, my only dream has been to attain eternal love. I wanted to show the world that this is possible if we decide to persevere through anything. But something happened I never dreamt of: the one whom I trusted more than myself left the church, and left me. I tried to find God in this situation, but I could only cry, because nothing had been more

sure to me than that this had been from God. It goes without saying that for the 2007 matching, I felt I was not prepared. My national leader explained to me that time won't make things better, and my intellect could follow the logic of that, so I applied and started a condition.

I had a dream about three weeks before the matching. There was a group of Albanians, and one brother came to me and said, "Hi."

I had no special feeling...okay, so you are the one, fine. "Hi." We shook hands and that is all. All I remembered from the dream was that he was not tall. Now, thinking back, I can say he looked similar to the person I was later matched to.

I told my national leader about the dream. A few days later he asked, "In the dream, did you shake hands?"

"Yes, we did." I didn't see his point; maybe he knew something....

As it turned out, Father would be matching! I was trying to convince my leaders that I could stay in Korea for a forty-day workshop after the Blessing Ceremony so I would not have to buy a second air ticket and come again for forty days. I had given up, however. My

CARP leader said the national purpose was higher and that I needed to be back in Hungary after the Blessing Ceremony. Because I trust in God, I agreed to that. But then my national leader came up with the idea that I could help with the translation of Cheon Seong Gyeong and earn some money to support CARP. Of course, I loved the idea. That is how I got to Korea.

On June 23, I arrived. We were not sure when the matching would take place but were soon told that June 26 would be the day. I was losing weight. Having enough butterflies in my stomach, I felt no need for food. June 26 came...and went.

On June 27, I checked my e-mail, but of course I expected nothing, at least I hoped it wouldn't come yet.... But then I found an e-mail from my national leader with a photo attachment.... Oh my goodness!

Okay—deep breath—fortunately it was dinnertime in the translation office, so not many people were present.

I read, "Hello Barbara, Heavenly Father gave you a brother from Albania as your spouse." This was it. Some sisters who were still there wanted to look. I

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20....**MY ROAD**





Marriage is a Family Matter

By Christophe Vierra



Immediately after high school, I joined STF in America. I was following my older brother's footsteps. I ended up doing STF for three years. I felt it was best for me, especially before college. Last year I entered college, where I'm studying biology. I have mostly been involved in helping Service for Peace get started in France.

My original desire was to get matched and blessed right after finishing STF, because I felt it would be the best way to receive protection when going to college and also because at that time I felt, spiritually, particularly well prepared. However, because of school it became impossible for me to do so.

Even though my mind had been mainly focusing on receiving True Father's matching, my parents asked me if I would not mind being matched by them. Actually, I could foresee a lot of value in having my parents do the matching, especially related to communication. Indeed, the most beautiful aspect of my matching was all the communication.

First of all, I knew my parents made serious conditions to be guided by Heavenly Father in their choice. After their

decision, they talked to me, and then I talked to my fiancée's father. This latter conversation, by phone, was very valuable for me. Especially in that, being Korean, my father-in-law emphasized the importance of the involvement of the whole family, including the grandparents, in one's wedding, because it is a life-long commitment. So even before sharing with my fiancée, whom I did not know, I felt 100 percent trust that Heavenly Father was behind this matching.

Finally my fiancée and I and both sets of parents were able to meet. It was really beautiful. Speaking to her parents, I felt very good, as she did speaking with mine. Through this abundant sharing and our finally getting together, we came naturally to acceptance.

A blessed family environment

I am very lucky because even though my wife, Kim Yi-sun, is Korean, she speaks good English. She moved to Bosnia in 1998, where her father is the national messiah and acting national leader. Misunderstandings sometimes happen because English is not her native language and not mine, but those always

end up being very funny. Nevertheless, when I came to live with her family and thus encountered the Korean culture, I experienced culture chock. It seemed to me that Korean people had no expression of love or care in their facial expression, so at first I was always worried that I might have done something wrong. Quickly, though, I became used to other, internal, ways of expressing love.

I can value both of our past experiences, my own on STF and hers living abroad as the daughter of a missionary, for the harmonious give-and-take relationship we have had to this point. Those experiences have especially helped us to come to accept each other's background and culture. It is interesting to compare Korean and European culture. We have been thinking to adopt only the good points of each for our life together and for raising our children in the future.

Our spiritual family

Before the blessing, I spent some time with some of my wife's aunts. I am grateful for the advice they gave us concerning the blessing. They encouraged us to think deeply about all our ancestors who



Christophe and his bride Kim Yi-sun (far left) help stir a giant pan of the Korean dish bibimbap at the Global Family Culture Festival, which featured traditional Korean games and refreshments, in the afternoon after the Blessing Ceremony.

Congratulations to the Couples

Congratulatory Address by Dr. Lee Soo-sung, president of the New Town Movement Association



Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon! Distinguished guests who have come from all countries of the world to celebrate this Blessing Ceremony for the realization of a world of peace! Ladies and gentlemen!

I feel greatly honored to have the privilege of offering my congratulations to all of you devout men and women who have gathered here today. We are not just celebrating an ordinary marriage ceremony. This is a moment when you are setting a new direction in history in order to accomplish the original world of peace longed for throughout the ages of man.

I feel close in heart to this cross-cultural Blessing Ceremony, which brings harmony in the realm of family, by transcending the barriers between races, cultures, nationalities and religions, and even between enemies.

Despite the fact that national boundaries are becoming irrelevant due to the progress of science and the rapid development of communications the world over, individualism and egotism are becoming widespread and are actually factors in building divisions between people.

If people stubbornly emphasize their own ethnic origins, it will prove difficult to form a close human community. Moreover, in the years since we have entered the twenty-first century, conflict of an interreligious nature is becoming the greatest threat to humankind.

Yet Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon foresaw this problem. Beginning in 1960, they have held more than twenty international Blessing Ceremonies. This blessing transcends national borders, religious sectarianism and skin color. It is undeniable that this is the surest method to actualize the ideal of one global village.

Rev. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon are global religious leaders who have devoted their lives to a movement toward peace that is to bring harmony to all people. Through their accomplishments, which include the Victory Over Communism (VOC) movement that helped bring an end

to communism, the Pure Love Movement and the True Family Movement, the Middle East Peace Initiative—not to mention initiatives for peace on the Korean peninsula—they have been recognized for their contributions to world peace. They have been acknowledged as the king and queen of peace.

Among those achievements, I feel that the True Family Movement, which seeks to regain the family values and sexual ethics that have deteriorated, must receive great attention and must firmly establish itself. The first step to achieving this is the Blessing Ceremony, at which men and women who have kept their purity both in heart and deed can share true love with their partners.

Marriage should be the biggest event in a person's life. Everyone here who is participating in the 2007 Cross-cultural Marriage Blessing in the Sacred Reign of Peace has now been newly born as the husband or wife.

The basis for peace is not found in a far off place; it begins from a family wherein true love dwells, a family rooted in the heavenly principles. We can only agree in our hearts with Father Moon's message that peace in such a family will expand to the society and the nation, and will ultimately bring about a world of peace. The two people who have established a model of this teaching with their lives are none other than Rev. and Mrs. Moon, the king and queen of peace, who are present with us today.

Please inherit the foundation of sincere devotion that Father and Mother Moon have shown in attending God and make genuine effort, stemming from our hearts, to help unite North and South Korea and build the world of peace that will form the backbone of God's kingdom.

Lastly, I would like to wish for the long life and eternal honor for Father and Mother Moon. I further wish that all your families be filled with true love, peace and happiness. Thank you very much. ♦

could not for any reasons build a happy family. Even though the environment and restless preparation did not help us to focus internally, she and I kept a grateful and also repentant heart toward our ancestors. We pledged deep inside that we would strive earnestly to establish an ideal family centered on God so as to please God and to liberate our ancestors' hearts. Keeping this mind-set helped both of us to value the Blessing Ceremony.

After the blessing, I came to stay with her family in Korea and this has been wonderful. I received such a warm welcome from all her aunts and uncles; I could really feel I am becoming part of her family. I was impressed and grateful for all the wisdom her aunts wanted

to communicate to us for the success of our relationship, even sharing a few times throughout the night. During the course of about a month, we came to see almost all her extended family living in Korea. Even though we could not speak the same language, we created very close bonds of heart, especially by exchanging smiles and playing together. Looking back on this time I feel it was precious; it has helped me to understand my wife's background and thus her present mindset so much better.

She will come for a short time to France to visit my family as well. In this way, we feel our union will become blessed not only by Heavenly Father but by our whole family in the way her father

explained to me by telephone the first time we spoke.

These next coming years we will both focus on finishing our studies in our respective countries. We might live together after that. In this way, we would like to continue preparing our hearts before starting family life and learn to communicate well for the success of our future relationship.

Our vision for the future is to develop a serious God-centered relationship and always to keep in mind that we are pioneering the way of an ideal family, which our ancestors could not do, and therefore to feel that we want them to experience true joy through us. ♦



World Culture and Sports Festival 2007

2007 Cross-cultural Marriage



Marriage Blessing in the Sacred Reign of Peace



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15....**MY ROAD**

said, "I cannot. Sorry." I really could not look. Since I always felt somehow uneasy toward Albania, for some inexplicable reason—it was almost the only country with which I was not comfortable—I was not sure I could agree with my national leader's statement. I had to rush out, to cry and pray. I was completely confused, shaking, fearful and just crying.

It was a shock, the whole event. But I said to myself, "Okay. What is this? It's just a picture. No problem to look at it, eh?" I tried to calm myself and looked at the photograph. But my calmness disappeared again, and again I rushed out and spent another half hour praying and crying. The reason might be that the blessing process had now become real, substantial. I felt that now there was a real somebody to whom I was going to entrust my life.

Thinking back, these tearful prayers were something that tore me away from my suffering self and took me back to the zero point, a new beginning. Some sisters encouraged me, "He looks nice." "He looks deep hearted." "He has nice eyes; he is certainly a good brother."

"Yes, maybe," I thought.

Then from a brother helping our translation team I got some news, "Your match, Erald Dervishi, is also here in Korea, fund raising." (Oh, great God, what will happen?) "...he is a sincere member; he loves to use the internet and speaks English well." Thanks be to God for that!

The next day, I got more news. "He accepts."

Okay. I'll telephone him. Yes, I'll call (as if that were so easy!). But then again, there is no other way than just to do it—say hello and say goodbye. Maybe

I should prepare a question to at least avoid an embarrassing silence. Okay. I'll ask him his birthday; I was wondering why they hadn't written it under the picture. I felt I needed to know that.

The first telephone call was fine. He had been trying to reach me while I was on the way to a public telephone. I reached him first. I asked when his birthday was. He said it had been two days earlier, on the day of the matching—a surprise from God.

Our first talk lasted almost two hours, until my telephone card ran out. We shared many things, and it really brought a big change in me. I was able to calm down and recognize God's work in this matching, especially when he started to talk about something he had to share...his own broken blessing and how he was deceived very badly. I felt in that moment that my heart, which had been torn apart, found rest. This may sound strange, but I felt that he would understand my heart and that we could really be of help to each other. I was comforted.

As for him, I came to know that on the 27th he had been fund raising; it had been really hard, and he became upset with people. He thought, "Even though I usually only use the internet on Sundays, I will take a quick break and check my e-mail now." While he was writing some e-mails, one came in—the one with my picture. The writer suggested he pray about the match, but having no time, he just looked at the photograph and immediately replied, "Okay, I accept."

He told me his team would come to Cheongpyeong within a few days. I shouldn't worry; he would be here soon! Then, at the July 1st holy day celebration in the palace, after having to convince the

guard to let us in, I was absolutely *not* expecting a sister to come to me and say the Albanian team was sitting a few rows ahead of us and that my fiancé was there.

What did I feel? "I will not go to him—no way!" I had not even prepared my mind, not to mention how I looked at the moment. "No way!" But then again, there was no other way. I had to go there, though I was far from happy or comfortable. The sisters created this nice anecdote (which has been repeated many times since), "Oh, the prince and princess first met at the palace." (Why are they making it more embarrassing?)

Somehow I survived. We spoke a little and he teased me some, especially about letting my hair grow. I met his whole team and said goodbye to them.

When I went to the hotel in Guri that was the site for the Holy Wine and Indemnity Stick Ceremonies, Erald had told me he would arrive very late that night, after midnight. Unlike the other sisters, who were preparing to meet their fiancés, I felt relaxed; I was comfortable. But again a surprise (and not the last)—his team was already in Guri, having dinner. At first I felt like disappearing! That was the second time we met.

Anyway, during the blessing time, we went out to talk every evening, and it was really very nice. We found we had many things in common and good points to discover in the other. We found a little place by the riverside that became our favorite chatting spot, there with the water and a heron.

I began to relax with him. Somehow, I accepted and believed that he had really accepted me. (I was always worried that he was somehow disappointed.)

For me the Holy Wine Ceremony was



Left: Some parents came with second-generation blessing participants; here, a mother who travelled from Spain to see her son blessed sits with the new couple after the ceremony; **Right:** Reiner and Barbara Vincenz with newly blessed daughter Leena and son-in-law Jario Gavin, after the blessing ceremony.

were touched by the efforts of the Cheongpyeong workshop participants, who formed a human corridor in front of the prayer room.

This was followed by light refreshments in the cafeteria, which was reorganized for us as a place to get to know each other in a peaceful environment. I could sense the happiness of the couples from their talk and laughter. We all had an opportunity to develop our fledgling relationships during the next couple of days.

When the day of the Blessing Ceremony arrived, we were taken to a stadium in the city of Cheonan. Couples from the first and second generation filled at least half the stadium, while guests included relatives, regional presidents and journalists. Onstage were some of True Parents' children and grandchildren.¹

After the rehearsal, the ceremony started. Rev. Hwang Sun-jo was the MC with Mrs. Lynne Kim translating into English.

¹ Hyun-jin nim and Jun-sook nim, Kook-jin nim and Ji-yea nim, Hyung-jin nim and Yeon-ah nim, In-sup nim and Sun-jin nim and Lee Hyung-jin nim and Shin-mi nim

Rev. Kwak Chung-hwan spoke to begin the event. Finally the officiators' attendants entered, announcing the moment we all had been waiting for. To loud applause for True Parents, the gates on the stage opened. Amidst my joy was an underlying sense of melancholy because True Father is pushing his body to incredible limits for the providence. Observing the difficulty True Father had walking, it pained me to think about all the time he is using to help us instead of spending it with his family, and imagine the fatigue that comes with constant traveling. However, I was able to regain my focus and enjoy the drops from the Holy Water Ceremony followed by the Blessing Vows. I put all my efforts into shouting "Ye!" to the vows, and I am determined to fulfill them in the future. With this determination came a new wave of internal power, brightening my spirit for the rest of the ceremony.

When True Parents left, I could not stop myself from feeling so grateful for everything that I had received, which is how I want my heart always to remain. ♦

Hi-Seung lives in the Czech Republic, where his parents, Elio and Brunhilde D'Alberti, are national messiahs.

very meaningful. I understood how it might have felt for God to lose his children and bloodline, how it might have felt to see goodness being trampled, so I felt this is a new start and I want to, have to, trust this man holding my hand....

The blessing itself was nice. I tried to talk to True Parents in my heart and was happy that Father, after matching us, now could see us next to each other, dedicated to following what he foresees for us. I learned the content of the four vows and tried to say the "Ye!" with the heart to keep those promises forever—to become an eternal wife, to raise our children so that they become dedicated children of God, to keep the Unification Family's tradition and to establish the four great realms of heart and the three great kingdoms.

I can say I am grateful to be blessed by True Parents and I am always happy and tranquil in my heart when I look at my ring. I can't wear any metal. I am allergic; after a few days, I get red spots and it becomes itchy. One special thing is that with the blessing ring I don't have this problem.

Once back "home," I had the inspiration to give Erald a USB stick drive as a present, and it proved to be a very good idea. I shared my music, some photos and a little message. In return, I also received some really lovely music that helps in difficult times. We are both, in a way, day-dreamers, but of course I am more of one.

Altogether, we have met five times since the matching, but we probably won't see each other again until next summer, when hopefully I can go to Albania.

As for the future, we just have one goal, to hold onto each other, centered on God. I am always worried about how we will manage **with only limited contact**, but I have no other way to go but to continue on my way toward God, find Him in my life and set my purpose toward Him. Then it will hurt less that we can't continue getting to know each other personally for a while.

Today we chatted and we started to talk about the spirit world and our experiences. He said he used to be very close to God, so sincere and so dedicated, always praying and reading, but after this break in his life (the broken blessing), he went

back to the zero point. I felt I want to become someone he finds trustworthy, so that we can forget the bad past and do more for God. After finding and building up our unity, we can resurrect and understand God's heart more deeply (not only the bright side but—through our experiences—His broken heart) and still learn to love. As for me, the words of a song I got from him, "High," by the British duo the Lighthouse Family, give me a lot of energy: "We're gonna be forever, you and me."

Let it be so. I will try my best. And trust that he is doing the same. ♦



Traditional clothing brightens the Global Family Culture Festival after the Blessing Ceremony; newly blessed couples play a traditional Korean throwing game, *tu-hoh*.



GOING BEYOND OUR BORDERS



IPSF 2007

By John Gehring



The Interreligious Peace Sports Festival showed how young people from different religious backgrounds could experience one world family. To make this possible there had to be good preparation; we had to have a staff that was itself inter-religious. For the last four IPSFs, twenty to twenty-five of our staff members have been non-Unificationists from various backgrounds—Sikhs, Hindus, Muslims, Christians and Jews. Many, though not all of them, came through involvement with Religious Youth Service, with some of them having taken part in RYS as far back as the first project in 1986. Prit Pal Singh first got involved with RYS in 1989, when he was twenty-seven. He later worked as an RYS group leader. He's forty-five now and came this year as a spiritual adviser representing Sikhism. Our Buddhist monk, Balan-goda Ananda Chandrakeerthi, from Sri Lanka, has been involved in eleven RYS projects.

Fazida Razak, who was in charge of media relations, was an RYS regional director for several years and first

became involved with RYS seventeen years ago. Also on the media team was Shakirah Sharifah Syed Omar, a professor and a Muslim. She became involved in RYS in Sri Lanka in 2000. She has even organized two RYS projects on her own. Ana Olson is Christian; her husband is an ACLC minister, one of the first, a Lutheran. She became involved through RYS in Central America. Yacob Yacob, the minister of culture for Jerusalem city government, was the Jewish adviser. That's the level of diversity that the IPSF staff has had.

Our recruiters also come from all different backgrounds. Some of them are not RYS alumni either, such as the Minister of Sports in Sri Lanka. He's a good Buddhist, and he loves Father's vision. He helped screen the one hundred and sixty athletes who came from Sri Lanka. All the applications came through his department. He either approved them as good enough or he didn't. When Father spoke in Colombo, the capital of Sri Lanka, he brought forty people to attend Father's speech. Baruch Shalev, our recruiter in the Middle East, is Jewish.

I shared with Rev. Kwak that I had a desire to focus on bringing participants from the Middle East this year. One result was that a soccer team consisting of Iraqi refugees living in Jordan made the journey to Korea to take part in IPSF. Jordan now has seven or eight hundred thousand Iraqi refugees living by the border. In the course of the soccer competition, this Iraqi team played against one from the United States, which was a good, tough game. Two nights later, the players exchanged shirts and were arm-in-arm. I saw a pair of them together. The American was saying, "I'm American," and the Iraqi, "I'm Iraqi but we're together." They were like brothers. It was that kind of feeling, a poignant example of nations with issues, from different religious spheres, embracing each other. They could work through their disappointment and share the spirit of what the festival is about.

Because they had exchanged shirts, the Iraqi team didn't have their own team shirts when they were brought out and introduced before the opening game of the Peace Cup tournament,



More than a thousand athletes participated in IPSF 2007, representing their countries and religions.

which supports the Play Soccer Make Peace program that the Iraqi team came through. The Iraqi players had to wear IPSF shirts. They were brought out to the center of the field, where they were given soccer balls. It was a festive moment.

We were trying to bring more from Yemen; we just had just one representative come from Yemen.

Dignitaries from Jerusalem also came, including the vice mayor. We want to develop a relationship with them to open the possibility that in the future we can have some sporting events there. Maybe we can hold a future IPSF in Jerusalem. This time they had runners. At the last IPSF, the Israelis participated in several sports; they had a basketball team and sent tennis players. This time they focused on track.

A total of 1,080 athletes participated in this IPSF, representing some fifty nations. I noticed an increase in the athletic prowess in those who came and an increase in the quality of their character. This is the first year, for example, that we didn't have any problems with alcohol use. Every night we had cultural programs. After playing sports, athletes want to celebrate in a healthy way if the structure is in place.

Mornings began with a prayer and meditation session, and a theme for the day. Ten to fifteen languages were in use by the participants. Language barriers meant we could not teach on a grand scale through words. We created the International Night of Friendship for Peace, a high-level cultural performance. In the first half, David Eaton, the conductor of the New York City Symphony, conducted the Meong Gyeong Chamber



Below: The Opening of IPSF 2007 at the Asan Campus of Sun Moon University on July 2; Opposite page: Mr. Gehring giving his opening address

Orchestra and Seiko Lee and Kiah Victoria sang. For the second part, cultural dance troupes from Sri Lanka, Thailand and Taiwan performed. The great thing is that it wasn't just for the IPSF athletes. We invited people from Cheonan and some of the diplomatic community from Seoul, thus involving members of the Korean public, who clearly enjoyed the performances. Next time, it is my hope that the cultural groups that come for IPSF will be able to perform at the WCSF opening ceremony.

Our budget was greatly supported by the fact that 83 percent of the airfares were paid for by the athletes themselves, or by their parents, by sponsors or through national (government) grants. Even nations that are not wealthy paid most of their travel bill. Sri Lanka is a good example of this. Their country has an average annual per capita income of about \$750, and the airfare was \$700. Yet

that nation managed to send a hundred and sixty athletes, who acquitted themselves extremely well. Sri Lanka also sent and paid the airfares for a cultural group.

What we are doing is something incredible; how do we get the word out? Many of volunteers working on our staff have journalistic experience. Also for the first time, this year, we used a media company to help us with promotion of IPSF.

We also have some good supporters based in the media. For example, one ambassador for peace is the vice-president of a Indian television company. We asked him if he could cover the event. As things developed, for the cost of three airplane tickets, he came to Korea with two crew members, and they are creating a thirty-minute documentary on the IPSF, which will surely bring it to the attention of a large number of people in their country.

The people at Sun Moon University really worked hard. It is not their job, they are professors and teachers but they tried very hard to bring this event to the public. I really appreciate our hosts at Sun Moon University, our unity with them is the core of IPSF success. We have two years until the next event. There are a lot of peace initiatives we can do through sports and culture. We want to work together to make them great and on that foundation of grass-roots work, we can make WCSF 2009 incredible. ♦

Mr. Gehring is the International Chairman of IPSF; this article was based on a report he gave at the WCSF final luncheon and a follow up interview.



Thailand, Taiwan and Sri Lanka sent talented dance troupes to take part in the International Night of Friendship and Peace on July 6 that also featured a performances by a symphony orchestra and two professional singers.



Reflections of an IPSF Staffer

Toms (in the blue t-shirt) with the Lithuanian basketball team at IPSF this year



Interview with Toms Silenieks during IPSF 2007

How is IPSF different from past WCSF sports festivals?

I participated in the 1997 and 2000 Hanmadang Games,¹ which focused on uniting the world through competition among teams from each continent. The athletes were mainly from within the Unification movement. It was fun. I represented my country and continent on the basketball team.

The Interreligious Peace Sports Festival is completely different, with athletes representing their countries and religions. Through the power of sports, they try to cooperate and harmonize as one global family. In contrast to the Hanmadang Games, at IPSF there are more cultural performances, friendly games and educational programs. Also, at the IPSF opening ceremony, everyone wore the same uniform, which symbolizes equality and unity.

IPSF is countering a global trend toward interreligious conflict. Through its events, IPSF hopes to move the hearts of athletes and capture the attention of the world, with a view to creating a peaceful atmosphere among fifty nations, five races and nine religions.

What has impressed you about IPSF?

The warm welcome from organizers and various culture programs related with the sports! Mainly people came because they liked to do one thing – sports. But the organizers very creatively involved other aspects of life. People came from many nations and religions. It was challenging for my delegation, and also for me.

The impression I had was that all eleven days were exciting and full of delight. I was also impressed that many of the staff roles were taken by Sun Moon University students. For those studying languages, public relations or media, it was a very good chance to practice and test out what they have learned. Locating IPSF at SMU campus in Korea was a great idea.

What did you do as a staff member?

My main responsibility was to assist the Estonian and Lithuanian athletic delegations, which totaled thirty-seven people. From the day of their arrival, I helped them adapt to being in the East, because for most of them it was their first time in Asia. I was conveying information and organizing events through which the athletes could use their time fully. My athletes made it to the finals in their sports, which caused them to miss the official sightseeing tour, so I took them sightseeing in Seoul for a day.

I was amazed that nobody seemed to know much about the Baltics, so I made it my mission to witness to festival staff mem-

bers and athletes from others countries about my athletes' countries, sports, lifestyle and religion.

What special challenges did you face?

Dealing with the different nationalities and religions was challenging for me. People from western countries tend not to move or think as groups; we tend to keep our distance from others. But for this occasion we were all together in one campus. People from the East have more of a common focus. The young people who came from countries such as India and Sri Lanka, which have a large population, were so boisterous, lively, and went around as a group. In their countries, they may feel constrained and less free to express their exuberance. In this situation, I was facing the trend of the twenty-first century when nations and races will mix. Our campus was like a small global family.

Is IPSF leaving a good impression?

I'm sure that IPSF had a profound and good effect on the participants. The varied program led to changes in their view of Asia and other countries, and about the possibility of living as one global family under one God.

The athletes were impressed by Korea, its culture and traditions. Previously, they had only known about this country through its famous automobile and electronics brand names.

That participants came from such countries as Iraq and Afghanistan was amazing. I'm sure they really enjoyed these eleven days and the chance to experience a peaceful and harmonious atmosphere. In particular, the Iraqi soccer players were in the limelight.

Even my delegation was amazed at how the Asian teams prepared for the games—their strong spirit, determination and team work. They saw how they showed respect to their coach, and to the opposing teams.

They also gained some understanding about the purpose of IPSF, and about Rev. Moon and his various activities.

When I shook hands with the athletes and coaches on their departure, I felt that deep changes had taken place in their view of life, and their minds had begun to think globally.

A final word?

IPSF is aligning with global trends and is engaged in the mission of raising peacemakers through excellence in sport and through cultural and interreligious cooperation. For those who want to taste what it means to live in one global family, they can join in such projects as this one in the future. I am sure they will have unforgettable experiences. ♦

Toms Silenieks is from Latvia and is currently engaged in translation work in Korea

¹ The Hanmadang Games, begun in 1984 in conjunction with the CARP convention were later absorbed into WCSF. It was a sophisticated sports competition often played by members in Korea for the Blessing Ceremony. Scoring was done by the "continents," as our largest church administrative divisions were called until recently. *Han madang* is Korean for "one yard," and indicates sharing a common playing field.

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

nations were liberated. Meanwhile, Korea was divided into north and the south at the thirty-eighth parallel. How could this have happened? One might have expected that Japan, one of the aggressor nations in World War II, would have been divided, as Germany was. Why, instead, was Korea divided?

There is a spiritual reason for this development, which cannot be explained without understanding God's providence. Throughout history, following the Fall of Adam and Eve, God has tried to restore his lost sons and daughters. During the process of restoration, righteous people have often suffered more than the unjust; and goodness has also faced persecution. Time and time again, good people have suffered while the forces of evil seemed to gain power and influence. In order to save or restore fallen humanity, God has to sacrifice the righteous and humble in order to save the unjust and arrogant.

Father Moon came to a realization of this truth. It is actually a principle by which God advances his providence of restoration.

If we understand this principle, we can see that the Korean peninsula has become a sacrificial altar and the Korean people the offering. As we know also from biblical scripture, an offering must be divided.

Furthermore, it is also the case that the reunification of Korea, now divided in two, cannot be achieved without the involvement of God. The history of our division, as seen from God's providence, is not just a division of a territory or even simply the division of a people who share the same history, culture, and language. The division of Korea represents the division between theistic and atheistic value systems.

Therefore, in order to overcome the division of the Korean peninsula and bring about its unification, we must eventually reconcile these two worldviews, one centered on spiritual values and the other centered on materialism.

God's providential will is to open a path that leads humanity to lasting peace and salvation. The reunification of Korea is the model for global peace and unity.

The source of true peace and unification can be found only in God. Peace and unification are not brought about by human endeavors alone. Peace and unification are possible only when we practice true love, in accordance with the principles of God's providence.

God's providence of restoration is truly profound. From a political, economic and social point of view, it may seem that your participation in the Korean War came about according to your own will or the will of your government. However, in reality, the invisible hand of God, working for the salvation of humankind, chose you to become a part of this noble army that was created for the purpose of protecting the Korean peninsula.

Respected veterans of the Korean War, the fall of the Berlin Wall brought an end to the cold war in the political, economic and social arenas. Yet, while the Soviet Union has fallen, the cold war is still alive, particularly when we consider the ongoing divisions that remain in the realms of ideology, human consciousness and culture. These "internal" divisions—between materialism and spiritualism, between selfishness and unselfishness, between moral idealism and moral relativism—are in fact more fundamental and difficult to resolve.

Even here in South Korea, the communist ideology still has its proponents. They claim, falsely, that you and other UN Peace Force veterans were part of an invading army or occupation army.

Materialism, secular humanism, and theories of sexual liberation are still promoted, and they are infiltrating the culture and the society—our families, workplaces, local communities, and the internet—without our understanding and awareness.

Throughout the world there are movements that encourage family breakdown, the deterioration of sexual order and ethics and the corruption of youth. The movements are rapidly spreading throughout the world.

The Berlin Wall and the thirty-eighth parallel were representative front lines in the cold war. But now, in this age, we are facing a new front line that needs to be fought on the level of our families, local communities, workplaces and the internet.

This new threat is spiritual and moral in nature. We must now rise again to protect our core values and our families from this threat. The precious sacri-

fices that you made must bear fruit in the realization of a true world of peace.

Out of the ashes of the Second World War the United Nations was established. At the same time the cold war intensified.

Let us now take the lead in renewing the United Nations so that it can become an institution that truly serves the cause of universal freedom and peace. Let us look beyond the interests of particular nations, religions or ethnic groups to establish one global family of humankind.

In September, in New York, Father Moon will convene a global assembly of the Universal Peace Federation, which is to rise as a new United Nations that aligns itself with God's providence. Through UPF, the world will be transformed. We are moving into an age when the barriers of race, religion, nationality and culture will be overcome, and when we can live together as one family under God.

This vision can be realized because of your sacrifice.

Once I again I extend my deepest respect and appreciation to you for your commitment and life-long dedication to the eternal cause of freedom and peace.

I pray that God's comfort and blessings be upon those who made the ultimate sacrifice. Thank you very much.◆



Turkish soldiers interrogating prisoners during the Korean War

Still Allies



Welcoming remarks by UPKMF President Lee Chul-seung

Respected UN veterans from the Korean War and their families, distinguished diplomats, ladies and gentlemen! This occasion today is truly a significant and welcome one that fills my heart with a flood of emotions. Fifty-seven years ago, the Republic of Korea, born through elections under the supervision of the UN on May 10, 1948, was reduced to ashes by the invading communist armies under North Korea's Kim Il-sung. The Republic of Korea, our free, peaceful homeland, was in a precarious situation when, in accordance with the UN resolution, sixteen nations including our ally, the United States, courageously rose against this injustice to save our peaceful homeland. We applaud and express our appreciation to the spirit you displayed in protecting peace. In order to bequeath this spirit to our posterity and to leave its mark in history, we are here at the second convention of the UN Peace Forces of the Korean War Memorial Federation. UPKMF, a nongovernmental organization, which held its first convention in Seoul in 2005.

Respected veterans, ladies and gentlemen! Were it not for the intervention of the UN forces during the Korean War against the sudden invasion of the communist army from the

north, what would have become of us today? We would not be enjoying freedom and prosperity, nor would we have seen the successful hosting of the 1988 Seoul Olympics and the 2002 World Cup. After the liberation of my country from Japanese imperialism, I committed myself to the building of this nation. During the Korean War, as a civilian, I formed and supported the Volunteer Students Corps while experiencing first hand the tragic battlefields of a fratricidal war.

The Republic of Korea, which was revived through your invaluable sacrifice and that of your comrades who took part in this war for peace, has gone through a turbulent half century, passing through various stages of development. Now it has risen to become the eleventh most economically developed country in the world. Yet, even now, half the nation of Korea has still not been recovered from the grips of the communist regime, and our people have suffered the pain of division for sixty years.

Now global communism has collapsed. Its false ideology and regimes **have disappeared into the pages of history, leaving behind untold damage and human suffering. To this day, North Korea, the instigator of the Korean War, is regarded as**

The 16 nations UN Peace Force in the Korean War

Australia
Belgium
Canada
Colombia
Ethiopia
France
Greece
Luxembourg
Netherlands
New Zealand
Philippines
South Africa
Thailand
Turkey
United Kingdom
United States

1

2



UPKMF Visits the Veteran

The Korean War veterans are aging. Though the ones who attend UN Peace Forces of the Korean War Memorial Federation conferences are robust, age-defiant, many others are infirm and remain at home, unable to endure the strain of long, transcontinental flights or the rigors of following the seminar schedule. For this reason, UPKMF staff members, led by their president, Lee Chul-seung, toured the sixteen nations to express in person gratitude for the veterans' sacrifice.

UPKMF is an unusual veterans association in that not all of its members are Korean War veterans. At Father's suggestion, it also includes active-duty soldiers from units that fought in the Korean War and the war veteran's children and descendants in succeeding generations. While on tour, the UPKMF staff members met children, now middle-aged adults, who were moved, sometimes profoundly so, that the loss and pain they experienced from the Korean War was being recognized.

In Paris, they met Axel Gay. Mr. Gay's memories of his father were formed from photos of his parents' wedding, a single photo of his father with three other soldiers and the letter to his mother that photo had arrived in from Korea.

Axel's father, Francis Gay, arrived in Busan in July 1951 and was immediately assigned to the front lines. He died fighting for control of a seven-mile string of mountains that the French know as *Crève-cœur*, a translation of its English nickname, Heartbreak Ridge. "The letter was written on September 8, 1951, and on the 29th he was killed. That is all we have," he said through a translator on the sidelines of the UPKMF Convention 2007. "My father wrote something very personal," he explained. "He said he had made his peace with God within himself, to be ready just in case. He had never spoken of this, never before this time." In July 1952, his father's body, with those of twenty-five other Frenchmen, arrived by ship at the Port of Marseilles.





UPKMF President Lee Chul-seung at the National Cemetery in Seoul adding incense to the eternal flame honoring those who sacrificed themselves for Korea's freedom.

the world's most impoverished dictatorship and its nuclear development program still remains a threat to world peace. North Korea's attempt to reunite and communize the Korean peninsula through the Korean War was thwarted because of the intervention of UN forces. Today it has changed tactics and under the veneer of peace it has succeeded in creating ideological confusion in the Republic of Korea. Under the direction of North Korea, left-wing activists in South Korea are now calling for the removal of the statue of General MacArthur who had valiantly led the UN forces during the Korean War.

At the time of his father's death, Axel was just six months old. Having no direct memories, he formed a heroic image of his father from what he had and from stories his mother told him. "Only when I was about five years old did I understand my father had died, not before," he said.

When asked what he first thought when invited to Korea for UPKMF Convention 2007, Axel said, "It was an opportunity to follow the trail of my father. When we were at the thirty-eighth parallel yesterday, I felt as if I were walking in my father's footsteps." Heartbreak Ridge is not far from the border between the two Koreas.

"It was difficult to live with just an image of my father," he added. "Today, I'm fifty-six years old. It's as if a circle has been completed. My mourning is ending now."

After the convention, the UPKMF leadership along with several Korean generals attended hoondokhwae, where they reported their activities to True Parents. Father instructed them on how to further develop their work and had each of the generals sing a song.



Axel Gay and his wife Nicole find Francis Gay's name on a wall honoring Korean War dead at the UN Cemetery in Busan.

① At London's St. Paul's Cathedral, which houses a memorial to those who died in the Korean War; ② A veteran in Crete with a wartime memento; ③ UPKMF lays a wreath at a memorial to Colombians lost in the Korean War; ④ Ethiopian War veterans UPKMF members met during their tour of sixteen nations

In this age, people call for peace and reconciliation. Yet there are still certain values, principles and historical facts that cannot be compromised. We must not be deceived by the "peace tactics" employed by the communists in North Korea. I believe that this occasion today will be one of reaffirming our determination together with the veterans from the sixteen nations that fought in the Korean War under the UN flag.

For a long time, we have been indebted to our ally nations. Through this event, and as a citizen of the Republic of Korea, I wish to convey my heartfelt gratitude to your nations and your peoples, to those who fought in this war and their families. As comrades for peace, and as comrades in arms, let us carry on in the spirit of those who died, so that their deaths will not have been in vain. Let us keep our bond as allies, as it was fifty-seven years ago. As ambassadors for peace who work for world peace, let us march forward, hand in hand to the end of our lives for the sake of the peaceful reunification of Korea and for peace throughout the world.

The founder of this federation, Dr. Sun Myung Moon, has dedicated his entire life's effort to transcending the barriers of religion, nationality and race in order to realize a world of reconciliation and peace. Even today, he is working at the front line to bring about the peaceful reunification of his homeland, the Korean peninsula, which still remains divided as a remnant of the cold war. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my appreciation to Dr. Moon for his support in sponsoring this event and the Convention held in 2005.

Once more, I extend my deepest appreciation and gratitude to the UN veterans from sixteen nations and to their families. I pray that God's blessings will be upon those brave soldiers and their loved ones. ♦



Archbishop Milingo Visits a Family Church

News that Archbishop Milingo would give the June 10 Sunday sermon at a small, second floor Family Church in the northern reaches of Seoul drew to the service more than twenty ambassadors for peace from the area, several of whom were practicing Catholics. The archbishop was introduced first by his wife Maria and then by the Unificationist pastor.

Referring to the unity he felt in the room during the Holy Songs that preceded his sermon, Archbishop Milingo said, "Those that love God move in the same atmosphere of harmony and love. We often hear of God as a God of love, but rarely hear 'God is good,' yet love in action is goodness." He went on to distinguish true love from what he referred to as diplomatic love—kindness dispensed to achieve some benefit. "The goodness and love we've invited here today is an essential part of God, who is good and loving," he concluded.

At one point during his sermon, which was given in English and translated into Korean, he asked those in the audience that do not sin to raise their hands. No one did. He appeared amused. "Well, those of you who have had days when you were sinless,



please raise your hands." Again, no one did. At that, he appeared genuinely concerned. "When I go to bed each night, I examine my conscience," he explained. "In two minutes, I go through everything I have done and said. Two minutes! When

I have done or said something wrong, my conscience tells me immediately." He was clearly suggesting that we all do the same and that we ask forgiveness from God for any transgressions. He warned the congregation, "Be confident in your purity. When you hesitate or express doubt, the devil gains confidence that he still owns you."

Following his sermon, the congregation formed a line leading to Archbishop Milingo, who laid hands on couples and pairs of individuals and prayed. Some people were visibly moved, wiping away tears as they retook their seats. The message and prayer evoked a rich spirit that seemed to nurture all those who had come to listen to the sermon. During lunch following the sermon, it was clear from his demeanor that directly serving a congregation of believers had also brought delight to the heart of Archbishop Milingo. ♦

—A TW Staff Member



Archbishop Milingo and other priests with Hyung-jin nim and Yeon-ah nim

In the Incorporeal, Online World

There are many free, high quality videos of interest to Unificationists on the internet nowadays. Using You Tube (www.youtube.com) with "iifwp" or "ffwpu" as search terms (without quotation marks) produces some results, but dip any further into our alphabet soup of organization names, and non-Unificationist organizations come up that also have initials such as UPF, RYS, IPSF or WCSF. Finding videos related to our organizations among them, when they are there, is tedious work.

A great, direct source of videos is Universal Peace Television, which is at www.uptv.org. The site has a wealth of professional quality videos that can be watched and downloaded. There are videos introducing our organizations and projects that would be great for guests as well as others on everything from efforts to rehabilitate girls who escaped sexual enslavement by an ostensibly Christian guerrilla group to the complexity of DNA and how that relates to human origins. Internet Explorer appears to be Universal Peace Television's preferred browser. Mozilla users may need to switch temporarily.

Teaser videos on You Tube about topics such as Jesus' marriageability are being used to attract people to www.getreadynow.net, which has the appearance of a Christian outreach site for young people with style. There you can watch five chapters of Divine Principle in videos that are shots of slides with a lecturer's voice-over. The lecturer is first-rate. To watch their teasers on this web site, under the heading "Need Inspiration?" click on "Enjoy our Videos."

The New Jerusalem Family Church at www.trueparents.org, has a very nice newscast for members, presented by bright young second-generation members. It's called NJ3 News, and its tiny logo is currently next to a virtual bouncing ball. NJ3 News is a refreshing, rather than cute, imitation of a television newscast and covers

Yes, We'll Gather at the River

By Kim Oon-soon

Yongwol will always be Yongwol. There is a saying that Jeongseon follows Yongwol like a shadow, and Jeongseon is a place I can never forget. Why? That is where, after having received the call of Heaven, I came in 1970 to offer my heart for three years. At that time of crisis, in order to save the nation, and with a soaring, hopeful heart in my breast, I left my one-hundred-day-old baby behind with relatives and invested in that special three-year condition.

Before I started this rafting trip, I prepared day by day, especially praying that we wouldn't have rain. After arriving at Yongwol, we ate our prepared lunches with relish and prepared to board our rafts. Donning our life jackets and helmets, we formed a line and walked for about ten minutes. We divided ourselves among four rafts and got in. Looking at the water in the Dong River, I could see that it was nice and calm, just right for the sixth-grade students [a euphemism for "people in their sixties"] that were included in our party.

Once we had boarded our rafts and began paddling, four people led everyone in army marching songs, bringing everyone into union. When we sang in time, we felt even more as one.

I'm not sure if it was because it had just rained, but on both sides of the river the mountain peaks were covered top to toe with trees simply bursting with green foliage. The pine trees, standing handsomely on the mountains, seemed to gesture to us, infusing our hearts with gladness and delight.

We drifted along with the flow of the water, feeling the warmth and affection that nature shares so well. I wanted to scoop up the clear water with two hands as it flowed around the rocks that poked their heads out of the river. I had to leave it behind however, with a longing left in my heart.

I suppose one thing is true: being human, we need to be in touch with nature, to converse with nature. Only then can we feel its beauty and our own internal world, the original character that lies buried deep within us.



One member in my raft was so happy to be close to the mountains she cried out in joy. "Nice to see you!" and "See you next time!" she would say to the mountains as we passed. As I watched these beautiful exchanges, with her sharing her love with the creation so

naturally, I wondered if this wasn't how God intended things to be at the time of the Creation.

The weather was perfect for rafting; the sun shone between the clouds, the rain held back, and a cool breeze wafted over us. "Don't ask where heaven is!" was what we thought, laughing and loving to be in the midst of nature. Try as we might, we couldn't help it, we had to sing out, "This is heaven!"

If you haven't tried it, you simply cannot understand the exhilaration of rafting in places where the water flows quickly and forcefully. As we shared this wonderful time together, I looked back on the time when we were called by God and recalled how we lived through those early days as if we were perfect, yet with imperfect, still unclean hearts. And I recalled the love and truth that God has shared with us over the years. Rafting is the perfect opportunity for reflection, which can provide nourishment for growth toward perfection for each of us and for our blessing group.

I'm grateful to True Parents, who are always the origin of our coming together. Among the 430-couple wives group I will pioneer a new spirit, so that we can approach things with a more mature heart and set an example of unity and harmony as elders in our community.◆

Mrs. Kim is the finance officer for the 430-Couple Blessing Association.

local projects and events that members worldwide might like to hear about or introduce in their own areas.

Charles and Eleonore de Watteville maintain a web site primarily to serve ambassadors for peace. Find it at www.dwvideos.com. It features a mixture of videos including ones of well-known speakers from our major organizations giving presentations. Many of those videos have been uploaded to You

Tube but are easier to locate on the de Watteville's own site. They have another web site, www.unificationstudy.com, with online videos, videocassettes for sale and an attractive set of free PowerPoint slides of the red parts of the colored version of *The Exposition of Divine Principle*.

Please also visit the Native American Leadership Alliance (NALA) web site and watch the video "Heal the Circle"

at www.nalacircle.org/peacepoles.htm. Above the first photo, of American Indians standing beneath a Peace Pole, click on New Video Presentation: Heal the Circle and follow the links. Produced by a music video creator, the video is a rich cultural excursion, giving a glimpse into the spiritual way of Native Americans, whose healing power is being felt as far away as the Middle East.◆

—A TW Staff Member

To All Houses without Exception

David Beard

Archeologists say the Pacific islands were the last places on earth to be inhabited. Likewise, they were among the last outposts to receive attention from Christian missionaries. True Parents visited the Marshall Islands in the latter half of 2000 and the Pacific islands have been included on the tour itinerary since the first peace tour in 2005. It's a long distance to travel for a much smaller number of people than could be reached and blessed in major cities, which reflects the conviction expressed in Divine Principle that (following his or her realization of the purpose of creation) each person, in even the most inaccessible location, "assumes a divine value, comparable to God" and "is unique in all the cosmos."

Tongban gyeokpa,¹ which Father has been emphasizing since at least the 1990s, expresses the same unshakable belief in the significance of each person. After delivering her public speech in the Solomon Islands during the God's Model Ideal Family and Nation, and the Peace Kingdom tour, True Mother spoke to Oceanian members about *tongban gyeokpa* in August 2006. Paul Saver, the leader of the Melanesian region within Oceania, was in the audience that day. Reached by phone recently, he said, "She emphasized working in that particular way, and in fact, in December of 2005, I had felt a strong push from the spirit world that that was what we have to pursue."

The members of his subregion had worked on the grassroots level in more than thirty villages but changed their method of approaching people when the call came to prepare for the world tour. Mr. Saver's original plan was to put *tongban gyeokpa* into practice in over three hundred villages last year. "I feel some regret we didn't do that," he said, "but this is basically the direction we are taking now in Vanuatu and the Solomons."

¹ Literally, *tongs* and *bans* are the smallest Korean municipal divisions, irregular in size. Seoul has 25 boroughs [*gu* 구], each divided into districts [*dong* 동], made up of wards [*tong* 통], comprising block areas [*ban* 반]. Seoul's largest *gu* has 18 *dongs*; each (on average) having 40 *tongs* containing 7 or 8 *bans* each. Seoul City Hall recently reported a total of 102,778 *bans*. We often use "grassroots" or "local area" for "*tongban*." *Gyeokpa* [격파], too, is used in a figurative sense. Literally, it means "to smash" or "to rout," but here means, "conquer all challenges," or "win the heart of every person." We often use "breakthrough" or "outreach" for *gyeokpa*.

From the New Hebrides to Vanuatu

Vanuatu—where the kernel of this article originates—is a Pacific island group, constituting a nation and comprising—according to the United Nations' Island Directory—eighty-one islands. The history of European intervention in the island group known today as Vanuatu is peculiar. Those of the islands that are inhabited had been so for about three thousand years when a hapless Portuguese navigator sailing from Peru, commissioned by the pope and the king of Spain, became the first

European to visit them in 1606. He landed on an island less than a tenth the size of Switzerland convinced that he had discovered a continent larger than Europe. After a brief, aborted attempt to establish a colony, he sailed away, never to return.

A French navigator rediscovered the island group as he passed through on a voyage around the world in 1768. In 1774, a British explorer spent more there and named them the New Hebrides.

According to *The Historical Dictionary of the British Empire*, traders first came to the New Hebrides in 1825 coveting sandalwood. Plantation farmers followed. "Missionaries arrived in 1839, in the form of Protestant Britons, their Polynesian converts, and Roman Catholic French priests.... The first planters were British, but they soon were outnumbered by Frenchmen."

Thus, two nations competing for trade goods, rivals who had claimed colonies elsewhere among Pacific islands, vied for control in the New

Hebrides, while their attendant branches of Christianity vied for the souls of the islanders. Added to this, around the 1860s, came blackbirders, pirates who kidnapped the natives to sell them as indentured servants on other islands or in Queensland.

Both the French and British sought protection from their respective, distant capitals for themselves and for their native religious converts. Rumors, hearsay and the odd accurate fact slowly made their way back to Europe. An inaccurate newspaper article in an Australian paper about British plans to annex the New Hebrides would wend its way to France or a report that natives of a French controlled island in the New Hebrides group had visited New Caledonia (a French island colony) requesting that France take over New Hebrides would find its way to London causing great disquiet.

In 1887, Britain and France dealt with the issue by creating a joint Naval Commission "composed of naval officers belonging



to the British and French Stations in the Pacific, charged with the duty of maintaining order, and of protecting the lives and property of British and French subjects in the New Hebrides.”

In 1906 they went a step further. In a rare instance in colonial history, the French and British governments agreed to claim simultaneously the New Hebrides as a colony. There were two colonial governments, two currencies, two police forces, two incompatible school systems based on two different languages and two national anthems. There were three legal systems, French for the French, British for the British and native for the Ni-Vanuatu, as the indigenous people refer to themselves.

By 1974, David Lamb of the *Los Angeles Times* reported that it was costing \$14 million dollars a year ostensibly to govern 5,500 colonial residents. “There is no real territorial sovereignty in the New Hebrides,” he wrote. “Today, the highest court is the joint court, which is supposed to be composed of a French judge, a British judge and a president appointed by the king of Spain. But since Spain has no king,² the court has had no president for nearly forty years. A French [police] officer cannot arrest a British subject. He has to call a British policeman; likewise, an Englishman receiving a parking ticket from the French police department tears it up.” This form of shared government is called a condominium. Those who experienced it called it pandemonium. Effects from this convoluted past contribute to the atmosphere that our members work within today.

The New Hebrides finally gained back its independence on July 30, 1980 as the Republic of Vanuatu. One of the key figures who struggled to lead the nation out of the long period under such divisive influences and then kept the nation united afterward was Father Walter Lini, a Ni-Vanuatu hereditary chief and Anglican priest, who became Vanuatu’s first prime minister.

Tanna

Paul Saver pointed to a core group of ambassadors for peace who have begun lecturing, personally running one-day seminars, as one of the most promising recent developments in his subregion. He mentioned that in Vanuatu the ambassadors for peace have taken on nearly all aspects of the seminar work. Mrs. Aila Willitts, the UPF director in Vanuatu, explained that she had recently arrived in Port Vila, Vanuatu’s capital, to prepare for a seminar to find the ambassadors for peace had already done everything, “hiring the venues, ordering the meals, all the outreach—preparing and sending invitation letters and printing the programs.... I was kind of like... cough, cough, excuse me, don’t you need my help? I am particular and concerned that everything goes well, but everything they did was done to our standard.”

She went on to say, “The [Ni-Vanuatu] chiefs who came were of a very high level. They know their own people better than we do—who is good, who is not.” She added that the quality of the ambassador for peace effort was especially pleasing to Rev. Yong Chung-sik, the regional president of Oceania, whom Aila described with admiration as “a very driven man.”

That seminar was one of a series conducted on three of Vanuatu’s islands. Following the one that was held on the Island 2 Spain did not have king between 1931, when Alfonso XIII abdicated, until the succession of Juan Carlos I in 1975, the year after this *LA Times* article appeared.

of Tanna, Rev. Yong spoke about three circumstances that need to be manifest in the course of establishing God’s nation—the Holy Spirit, the word of God continually being proclaimed and true love in practice. At that time, he created the Vanuatu Village Education Teams (VNET). Rev. Yong asked a Christian woman leader, Annie, and her husband, a pastor, to join a team led by a brother named Stephen Kaveng, while another pastor and his wife joined a team led by Stephen’s spiritual father to do one-day seminars in every village in Tanna over the following forty days. The regional president stressed, “We need to take God’s word to all houses without exception,” as Paul Saver was later to report.

Stephen Kaveng is twenty-five years old and was born and raised (with one brother and six sisters) on Tanna, which is one of Vanuatu’s larger islands. In terms of size, Tanna is the equal of Chicago, America’s third largest city. In that amount of space, Chicago is home to 2.8 million people, while Tanna’s population is approximately twenty-five thousand. Of course, the greatest difference between them is that Chicago is surrounded by only the rest of the United States, whereas Tanna is surrounded by a body of water more than seventeen times the size of the U.S.

Stephen may have grown up in a remote location, but he spoke English well and exhibited a sharp intellect when I spoke to him recently by phone. It was a fellow Tanna-islander who witnessed to Stephen in late 2003, but Stephen was soon assigned to work in Port Vila, which is on the Island of Efate.

Stephen spoke to me from Sydney. He had taken a rare trip there for a period of preparation before coming to Korea for the Blessing Ceremony. Asked what his preparation entailed, he replied, “I’m doing a half-day fasting condition continuously with a seven-hundred bow condition.” Stephen had already been doing work in the same tongban gyeokpa spirit that Rev. Yong stressed with VNET. He has been visiting villages, speaking about HIV / AIDS, sometimes teaching with a blackboard and chalk. He has been introducing UPF and True

Parents’ life course and the blessing. If someone in the village provides a generator, he provides the fuel; with the electricity produced, he uses a computer to show DVDs. People from several villages sometimes come together and he speaks to crowds of over a hundred and fifty.

While visiting one village, he had an unusual experience in a church. “When the chief was giving a word of welcome, he gave me time to speak,” Stephen explained. “When I said, ‘My name is Stephen Kaveng,’ the people all laughed. I had just been introduced; I had never been there, but they already knew about me. The night before I went to the church, a lady had had a revelation or a dream. Somebody appeared to her and said, ‘Someone by the name Stephen Kaveng is coming to speak to you people. He’s coming in a yellow shirt and red trousers.’ I didn’t even know that, but the day I went I was wearing the yellow shirt and the red trousers.”

Stephen naturally sensed that God had preceded him. He feels responsible to reach each community, so he usually doesn’t spend too much time in one area, but at this church he spent a week teaching Divine Principle to the full congregation.

“During the one week with them,” Stephen said, “they had many other experiences—revelations and their ancestors in the spiritual world appearing to them in dreams and speaking to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 35....TO ALL HOUSES WITHOUT EXCEPTION



Stephen Kaveng is among those in Oceania putting tongban gyeokpa into practice

Alignment across Africa



Various Contributors

COTONOU, BENIN, MAY 30–JUNE 3

The first of two such workshops held in Africa, this Alignment Workshop, conducted by World CARP, drew a total of 183 participants from thirteen nations. Twenty-nine people came from Nigeria, seven from Niger, sixteen from Togo, fourteen from Ghana, five from Mali, one from Sierra Leone, three from Cameroon, twelve from Ivory Coast, fourteen from Burkina Faso and the remaining eighty-two from within Benin.

Life was breathed into the workshop by people such as Rev. Tokuno Eiji, our regional president; Rev. Pak In-chul, assistant regional president, who doubles as the W-CARP leader for Africa; and three senior vice-presidents with CARP, who contributed to the workshop as international advisors, Mr. Yoo Kyung-myung, Mr. Goto Aya and Mr. Nohara Koichi.

Edwin Plekhanov Ondoua, the events coordinator of the African headquarters, was the overall coordinator of the workshop. Rev. Paterné Zinsou, the director of West African Subregion One was the workshop director and Rev. Pierre K. Amoussouvi, the national leader of Benin, was the workshop coordinator.

According to Mr. Nohara, this was the first alignment seminar organized with participants from so many nationalities. A hundred and fifty people had been expected to attend; fortunately, that number was exceeded.

“Let Us Own a New Paradigm of Leadership for the Age after the Coming of Heaven!” was the theme of the workshop. It was organized to guide all leaders to an under-

standing of a new vision regarding our organization and in terms of the realization of Cheon Il Guk on earth. They were encouraged to face their missions with a new mind-set, to challenge and to accomplish their responsibilities.

Judging by the level of resolve evident in the participants, we can no longer say those goals are beyond our reach. The sense of hope and commitment now far exceed any trepidation; there is more energy to confront the challenges to bringing victory for God, True Parents and the True Family in Africa. Aju!

Day	Motto	Area Covered
1 st	Own the Culture of Heart	Background of W-CARP; seminar's significance, responsibilities of blessed central families
2 nd	Become the Owner of God's Providence	Strategies to establishing Cheon Il Guk on the national level
3 rd	Embody Core Values	Day of challenge
4 th	Strategize for Mission Fulfilment	Best practices, testimonies of pioneering efforts W-CARP Goals to achieve by 2008
5 th	Develop a W-CARP Chapter	Reflections on the workshop and written evaluations

During the five days, youth leaders, CARP leaders and core church leaders from the various nations learned new strategies befitting God providence in the era after the coming of heaven. Dominic Odey Yegwa, the Nigerian W-CARP president, felt the workshop helped deepen his understanding about many concepts, particularly that expressed by the term, the “Vertical Axial Line,” which is what God originally dreamed of establishing—the three generations of God, True Parents and True Children. He felt that it expressed who we are and our lineal connection. He wrote, “[Understanding this] has enabled me to feel the deeper meaning of the blessing given to me—that I am the representative of Heavenly Father, True Parents and the True Children wherever I am, at all times, and for all of my life. Aju!”

Alignment is in reference to the Vertical Axial Line. It requires cultural and strategic adjustments to connect to the vision and goals of God, True Parents and the True Children. CARP members naturally relate this to embodying the Core Values, which call for us all to “live for the greater good,” “take ownership,” “work as a team,” and “dream big.”

For Khonde Asong Laud, national leader of Cameroon, the workshop reduced the idea of building one family under God to what he must personally do. The team spirit of those who ran the workshop for five hot days was recognized by the national leader of Ghana, Paul K. Gayina. “There were



Left to right: Nohara Koichi, senior vice-president, CARP; Futila Michel Di Mayeko, DR Congo FFWPU national leader; Goto Aya, senior vice-president, CARP; and Mr. Aduapiano, an ambassador for peace who is the financial adviser to President Joseph Kabila of the Democratic Republic of Congo



inconveniences," he wrote, "but they never complained. Also, whenever one lecturer was guiding us through a topic, the rest of them supported by remaining in the room until the lecture ended."

Many people felt it would be worthwhile having the same workshop periodically, even once or twice a year. Having leaders and other members from different nationalities together and working as one team for the same goal instills confidence in our own members that we are the hope for the world to break down all barriers and to realize one family under God.

Rev. Paterne Zinsou wrote, "I would like to reaffirm my new resolve to support our elder brother Hyun-jin nim's determination to substantially establish Cheon Il Guk on earth by 2012." In line with that, he felt it would be beneficial to hold the seminar not only regularly but in each of the five African sub-regions.

KINSHASA, DR CONGO, JUNE 6-10

The Democratic Republic of Congo¹ is one of Africa's French-speaking countries. It is located in the center of the continent (what those who live here like to think of as the heart of Africa). It is more than two million square kilometers in size and holds more than sixty-two million people.

As in Benin, the lecturers who traveled here from W-CARP, as directed by Hyun-jin nim, CARP's international president, were Mr. Yoo Kyung-myung, Mr. Goto Aya and Mr. Nohara Koichi. Mr. Edwin Plekhanov Ondoua, a special envoy from our regional headquarters, was the MC for the seminar and ran the hoondokhwae sessions, which focused on the Peace Messages. Mr. Ondoua was often helpful throughout the workshop with on the spot guidance and practical solutions.

¹ Because the names of two neighboring nations are nearly identical, people often use the capital cities to differentiate them. The Democratic Republic of Congo is also called Congo Kinshasa (or sometimes DR Congo); the Republic of Congo is called Congo Brazzaville.

Our original plan was to hold the workshop in a hotel, but we chose instead to use our center as the seminar venue. For dining halls we used classrooms at a nearby school we run. Those taking part in the workshop arrived and registered on June 5, but the program actually began the following day with a four o'clock wake up.

Twenty-four of the participants were from our neighbor, Congo Brazzaville. Nine people came from Angola. One person each came from Zambia, South Africa and Gabon. The remaining 159 were locals, from Congo Kinshasa. They were divided into four groups under group leaders and subdivided into ten teams under team leaders.

After the arrival of Rev. Eiji Tokuno, our regional president and special guest, we had an opening ceremony. Rev. Tokuno was resolute that we go through the alignment workshop, because as he explained to us everything started with True Parents and without them no hope exists for humankind, and looking to the future, we need to deepen our ties with True Family members. Rev. Tokuno also exhorted us to unite centered on our national leaders.

After elaborating on the lack of understanding of the Jewish people concerning the mission of Jesus, Rev. Tokuno spoke on the importance of the family and the true lineage centered on the True Family. We were encouraged to study Korean for the ability to penetrate True Parents' teachings and English for better communication with our regional headquarters.

The morning schedule on the challenge day moved rapidly. Mr. Nohara had prepared us for this with a presentation the day before on adventure-based experiential learning. We had twenty minutes of hoondokhwae beginning at five o'clock and ate breakfast on a bus as we traveled to an area where we would go on foot to our challenge activity start-off point. Getting there took an hour of marching. Once we arrived, we did some physical exercises and then teams of five people each received a bag that had to be filled with fifty kg (110 lbs) of sand. This had to be carried on the head,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 35....ALIGNMENT ACROSS AFRICA



Man in the Middle

Interview with Kim Im-joong, a Peace Cup interpreter

How did you come to work on the Peace Cup?

I knew someone working at the Peace Cup Organizing Committee, so I helped out with the Peace Queen Cup [women's international soccer tournament] last year. The Peace Cup Organizing Committee assigned me to work with the Bolton Wanderers.

Did the organization explain its idealistic views?

The Peace Cup people explained to us that, as a private, church-related organization, we are hosting the Peace Cup because we believe that football can promote peace in this world.

Were the players interested in the host nation?

They were interested in Korea in general. We traveled a lot and people saw the barbed wired fencing along the Han River.¹ So I talked to them about the relationship between North and South Korea. That interested them.

What were your main areas of responsibility as interpreter for the team?

Last year I was support team leader for the U.S. national women's team, but this year I was in charge of media relations for Bolton. There were four different liaison personnel for the team—these were headed by the team leader who dealt with the football team manager, the Peace Cup Organizing Committee, and so forth. That is the most demanding position. My own tasks included interpreting for interviews and press conferences. But of course we all helped out when someone needed it.

Another person dealt with the kit (gear)—uniforms, footwear, and other equipment, and was in contact with the hotel, goods suppliers, and so forth. Yet another helped out the team's own reporters—there were three reporters who came with the team. They moved closely with the players and took video content that is not for public viewing—this included the players during leisure time, going shopping, and so forth.

Did you have contact with the players, or were you mainly working alongside the team administrators and manager?

I mostly had contact with the team manager and administrators. The team has its own media representative, so I mostly dealt with him, but of course I got to talk to the manager to get his views

¹ Due to the danger of infiltration from North Korea, the western reaches of the Han River are fenced and guarded by sentries

Above: With Olympique Lyonnais, three-time Peace Cup competitors and this year's champions, are (left to right) Hyung-jin nim, Hyun-jin nim, Peace Cup founders—True Parents, Kook-jin nim and Rev. Kwak, the chairman of the Peace Cup Organizing Committee. Left: Im-joong (white t-shirt, on the right) translates for Bolton team manager Sammy Lee.

about the match. I was also responsible to get comments from the players about the matches so that the Korean press had something to say!

Did you know the soccer terminology?

I had translated a lot of Peace Cup-related documents. Football vocabulary is not that difficult. Anybody can learn it!

What were the challenges of serving a professional sports team?

It was a unique experience, yet very stressful and demanding. Usually we got to sleep around one o'clock in the morning and got up around seven... and we were always on standby to resolve issues. The unexpected always happened. For example, the team might suddenly change its hotel, or practice times, etc. Those things can be tough to change, but the team expects it to be done. Nothing like "We hope it can be done," or "Please try"... Just do it! Some things you cannot control... but you sometimes feel you are being blamed for things! Lots of stress. But at least once in a lifetime I think it is worth it.

What did you enjoy most about the daily experience?

Watching football on the scene, getting to know world class players, just giving them a friendly greeting, helping them in practical matters...

Do you feel the players enjoyed being here and participating in the tournament?

It looked as if they were not as tense as when they were playing in their own league or nation. For example, before the final game, Anelka (a star French player on the Bolton team) was greeting the players from the French team, Olympique Lyonnais, just prior to going out onto the pitch. It was good preparation for the team to play in a tournament such as this. I think the players enjoyed it, though they seemed to miss home after a week!

A final inspiration from working with the Peace Cup?

The best part of the Peace Cup was that I got to support a providential event while earning my keep!

I feel hope that the Peace Cup can become a global event for football fans. I see that possibility... that something our movement started can become internationally popular. That feels good. ♦



Indian competitors greet the audience at the twenty-ninth Mister and Miss University International, at the Seoul Fashion Art Hall, on July 8; The winners (right) were Mr. Malaysia and Miss Thailand.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 31....**TO ALL HOUSES WITHOUT EXCEPTION** them. To make a long story short, they all accepted True Parents' position as the Messiah and the returning Lord. They still want to understand more about the providence of restoration and Adam's, Abraham's and Moses' courses. They want to know more, because many of them are even willing to give lectures." The Christian woman who had the initial revelation about Stephen is Annie, the woman who with her husband have joined Stephen's VVET team in reaching out to the villages of Tanna.

Though the response among young people in Vanuatu generally has been mixed, Stephen shares the inspiration that others feel about the Vanuatuan ambassadors for peace.

"Even though Paul Saver and Auntie Aila are not in Vanuatu, the ambassadors are really working very hard, meeting all the pastors and the parliamentarians and others." Two days before our phone call, he and some ambassadors for peace had gone to visit the prime minister, who in Vanuatu is the head of government. The prime minister is Ham Lini, Father Walter's young brother. "He is really completely on the supportive side," Stephen said. "He pushes very hard that we work more in Vanuatu."

Experiences like this suggest many of us could benefit from the example of the work in the Pacific islands and the application of tongban gyeokpa. ♦

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 33....**ALIGNMENT ACROSS AFRICA** the shoulders, the bent back...on an unknown trek, which as it transpired required that we ford a brook on foot and go around a monkey reservation back to the point of origin.

During the sand loading, some teams filled the bags only halfway with the idea that this would allow them to travel faster, but the brother who led this activity asked everyone to bring the bags together and he redistributed them. Some of those who had filled the bags only partially received a full one; some who brought in a full bag set off on the course with one only partially full.

Everyone rushed into this adventure and all faced obstacles that had to be overcome along the way. We had been told never to abandon our bag and never to lighten it by spilling sand out onto the ground. As we shared about our experiences later, everyone thought of True Father carrying bags of ammonia sulfate while in Hungnam prison in North Korea. Brothers and sisters experienced symbolically what Father had gone through substantially. Another activity we participated in was the carrying someone heavier than oneself, from which we could imagine Father carrying Mr. Pak Chung-hwa on his back for a distance on the trek from North Korea to the South.

Just after this meeting, Rev. Tokuno came to say goodbye to the participants, since he had to travel to Kenya and onward. He explained the two reasons why DR Congo was



recommended as one of two locations for the Alignment Workshop—it has a multitude of young members and many high-level ambassadors for peace.

In the evening of the final day, we held a banquet at a downtown hotel for ambassadors for peace with Mr. Goto Aya, senior vice-president of CARP. Unfortunately, another senior vice-president, Mr. Nohara Koichi, had been struck by malaria and was unable to participate in the final day's activities. Among the ambassadors for peace, a strong contingent, including a government minister, participated from the Republic of Congo. ♦

