

FFWPU Europe and the Middle East: Life of Unwavering Commitment - Hyo-yul "Peter" Kim

Knut Holdhus
December 24, 2024

In memory of Hyo-yul Kim (1947-2024), known as Peter Kim, and his life of devotion and commitment



Dr. Hyo-yul Peter Kim, February 21, 2013



Hyo-yul Peter Kim with [Father](#) and [Mother Moon](#) on Cote d'Azur, France July 19, 2009



Dr. Peter Kim assisting [Father Moon](#) during his meeting with Premier Kim Il-sung in Hungnam, North Korea December 6, 1991

Dr. Hyo-yul "Peter" Kim (김효율) left this world on 23rd December after a prolonged illness. His life was marked by unwavering commitment to the [Family Federation](#) and a close relationship to its founders, [Father](#) and [Mother Moon](#).

He was born in 1947 in Jangheung, South Jeolla Province, South Korea, and was a dedicated member of the [Family Federation](#). He joined the movement in 1965 and served in various leadership roles, including pastoral work and cultural affairs. In 1970, he was [blessed in marriage](#) to Mrs. Phyllis Yamato during the 777 Couples [Blessing Ceremony](#) officiated by [Father](#) and [Mother Moon](#).

Dr. Kim became a special instructor to the family of [Father](#) and [Mother Moon](#) in 1970, tutoring their children. After relocating to the United States in 1974, he gradually assumed greater responsibilities as a personal assistant to [Father](#) and [Mother Moon](#).

From 1990 onward, he served as their official English interpreter during numerous world speaking tours, including significant events such as the 1990 World Summit in Moscow and the 1991 special meeting [Father](#) and [Mother Moon](#) had with Premier Kim Il-sung in North Korea. In 2001, Dr. Kim interpreted for [Father Moon](#) during his 50-state speaking tour in the United States.

Beyond his interpreting duties, Dr. Kim held various executive positions, including CEO of the New Yorker Hotel, president of the U.S. Association of Korean [FFWPU](#) Missionaries, chairman of the Pacific Rim Educational Foundation in Hawaii, and vice chairman of the Hyojeong Global Unification Foundation. He also translated the book "Life in the World Unseen" into Korean, published in 1990.

In 2024, Dr. Kim published his autobiography, "[Memories of Grace: A Life of Attendance to True Parents](#)", reflecting on his experiences and dedication to them.

Here is a message from Dr. Michael Balcomb, President of the [Family Federation](#) in Europe and the Middle East, on 24th December about Dr. Kim:

"Yesterday we received the news that our beloved elder brother and friend, Dr. Peter Hyo-yul Kim, has ascended after a long illness. [...] Peter is survived by his wife Phyllis, daughter Yeonshim, son-in-law Jin Suh and their children.

Those of us who have lived in America will always remember Peter as the faithful and accurate translator of the [True Parents'](#) words, both [True Father](#) and [True Mother](#). And not only in America: he accompanied the [True Parents](#) on many of the most dramatic episodes of their ministry, including the visit to North Korea to meet Kim Il-sung in 1991, the arduous course in the Pantanal region of Brazil and Paraguay, the 50 Day-50 State 'We will Stand' Tour to Christian churches in 2001, and many more.



Difficult translation job: [Father Moon](#) speaking in Abuja, Nigeria July 17, 2011

I particularly remember Peter translating for [True Father](#) in 2011 in Abuja, Nigeria. It was a particularly difficult challenge. The event was billed as starting at 7pm, but, as is common in my birth country, didn't really start until several hours later! After too many guest speakers and VIP introductions, [True Father](#) came to the stage to speak not long before midnight - and the translation equipment broke down right away. It was Peter who came forward to save the day, conveying [Father's](#) message with accuracy and good humour despite the lateness of the hour. The President of Nigeria at that time, Goodluck Jonathan, has remained a staunch supporter of the [True](#)

[Parents](#) ever since.

Earlier this year, Peter published a book of memoirs, entitled '[Memories of Grace](#)' in which he recounts many precious behind-the-scenes insights from a lifetime of devotion and attendance to the [True Parents](#). We highly recommend it to you.

We invite you to pray for Peter and his family during this time of transition."

Text: Knut Holdhus

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Memories of Grace: A Life of Attendance to True Parents: Memoirs of Dr. Hyo-yul Peter Kim Kindle Edition

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The symbol of the providential man!
This is the autobiography of Chairman Hyo-yul Peter Kim, who served as True Parents' special advisor and became True Parents' mouthpiece.
This will be a valuable resource for members to learn about the attitude and feelings of Chairman Kim Hyo-yul, who served True Parents and observed and practiced True Parents' providence from the side, as well as the behind-the-scenes stories of True Parents' providence.

Dr. Hyo-yul Peter Kim
Dr. Peter Kim was born in 1947 in Jangheung, South Jeolla Province, Republic of Korea. He joined Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU) in 1965 and began his life as a public leader, first in the field of pastoral work, then in the FFWPU HQ Department of Culture. In 1970, Dr. Kim was blessed with Mrs. Phyllis Yamato during the 777 Couples Blessing Ceremony officiated by Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon. Dr. Kim received a doctorate of philosophy, honoris causa, from Sun Moon University.

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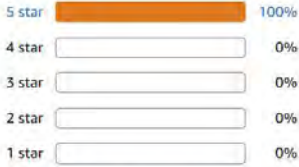
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