

Rev. Moon Prays with Members in the Boat That Survived the Wave

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Rev. Hyung Jin Moon, top left, prays with survivors of the quake in Hachinohe, Japan on March 19, 2011. Rev. Moon and Mrs. Moon (right) stand with Unificationists at the side of the fishing vessel that was left stranded in a parking lot after the tsunami waters receded.

Unificationists in Japan were cheered by the surprise visit of Rev. Hyung Jin Moon, President of the Unification Church International, his spouse, and Ms. Yeon Ah Choi, widow of Hyo Jin Moon, on March 19 and March 20, 2011. Perhaps none were more surprised than the 100 members of the port town of Hachinohe in the northern prefecture of Aomori.

The following report is from Mr. Francis A. Javier of Hachinohe City, a Unification Church member, and distributed through Michael Reiko Ito Shea on Facebook.

“Elder Brother Hyung Jin Nim and his wife visited our city today by surprise. At 4:10 p.m. [March 19], they arrived at the center and gave a short message to all the members present, more or less 100 people,” Mr. Javier wrote.

“After the very inspiring message, some 40 members including our family proceeded to the port that was badly damaged by the tsunami for a prayer. Our Elder Brother showed his deepest sympathy to all victims of the quake and tsunami. Here in Hachinohe church, our mother figure's husband is a fisherman. Among the other boats in the port, his fishing boat was not swept away by the tsunami. This was strange, because all of the boats nearby were swept away by the strong wave, including the much bigger boats. His boat has the flag attached of the Unification church. After Our Elder Brother prayed in his boat, he called up the couple and to the surprise of everyone around, Hyung Jin Nim, took from his neck the Unification Church necklace with a diamond in it and gave it to the couple. Everyone was crying while shouting Og Mansei,” according to Mr. Javier, who also wrote: “Hyung Jin Nim’s very important message was: Show your strength and attend God and True Parents in this very crucial time of the providence.”

Rev. Moon preached at the Tokyo Headquarters church on Sunday morning (March 20, 2011) and delivered a \$1.7 million donation from the Unification Church to the Red Cross at the urging of his parents, the Reverend and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon, He reportedly also gave smaller donations to the Japanese Unification Church to assist with quake relief.

Chiba Training Center Houses Refugees



Mrs. Yeon Ah Choi, widow of the late Hyo Jin Moon embraces young girl at Chiba training center in Japan.

Later on Sunday, Mrs. Yeon Ah Choi, widow of the late Hyo Jin Moon visited the Chiba training center yesterday, where 204 church members are currently taking shelter. The members there are refugees from Fukushima, where radiation leaks from the nuclear power plant forced them to leave their homes. She distributed gifts of notebooks, pens and pictures of True Parents.

In the Chiba training center there are 78 adults, 76 older children and 50 children under six years old according to Rev. Haga, the church leader at the center. For several days the middle-school and high-school students have been attending Divine Principle lectures, he tells Familyfed.org.

One high-school students from Fukushima later wrote the following impression after Ms. Yeon Ah Choi's visit: "The first impression was that she is very pure. Her style was good, too, and the voice was very sweet. Mrs. Yeon Ah Nim prayed to God for us. And, to all the refugees she has given lots of gifts, like a notebook, a writing instrument and other things. The photograph of True Father and Mother has also been given to all of us. When I received a photograph directly from her, Yeon Ah Nim hugged me strongly. I got a lot of spiritual energy from her smile. I will not forget this precious experience. I want to become a person who can give spiritual courage with a smile to many people."

The number of church families still missing is seven, which is down from 120 families a week ago, according to the Japanese Unification Church website. Unificationists in the United States were also encouraged to hear that many of their family members have been found.

Isamu and Sandy Matsumoto in Buena Vista, Virginia, longtime Unification Church members, report that "Over the last two days, we have heard good news about Isamu's family. Due to the help and support of a local Japanese friend, and her friend in Tokyo, we have gotten word that four of Isamu's cousins are alive. Last night we also heard that his sister was alive, and this morning, miracle of miracles, we heard that his mother is alive. You cannot imagine the relief my husband feels. It is as though a huge burden has been lifted from his shoulders and heart. His neighborhood is rubble, but his mother's next-door neighbor apparently heard the tsunami warning, and grabbed her, and they drove to higher ground. She is now housed in the library of the middle school."

Other Unificationists, Herb and Takako Brown from Northern Virginia, also reported the recent finding that their parents have been relocated to an undisclosed shelter with many others from that community in Fukushima Prefecture last week when the nuclear plant experienced difficulties," according to Rev. Randy Francis in Washington, D.C.