

FFWPU holds another International Mass Blessing Wedding Ceremony

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[MBN News]

Family Federation for World Peace and Unification Holds “International Mass Blessing Wedding Ceremony” with 15,000 Couples.

The Family Federation for World Peace and Unification Held the “International Mass Blessing Wedding Ceremony” on the 20th at the Cheong Shim Peace World Center in Gapyeong, Gyeonggi-do.

Approximately 12,000 couples from 194 nations participated in the ceremony live, as well as 3,000 new and existing couples from 62 nations, including America, Japan, etc., who participated via Internet satellite broadcast, for a total of 15,000 couples.

Events commemorating the Holy Birthday Celebration of Rev. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, and the Third Anniversary Celebration of Foundation Day were also held on this day... [See the original story]

[Yonhap News]

Family Federation for World Peace and Unification: International Mass Blessing Wedding Ceremony



(Seoul=Yonhap News) The Family Federation for World Peace and Unification held the International Mass Blessing Wedding Ceremony on the morning of the 20th at the Cheong Shim Peace World Center in Gapyeong, Gyeonggi-do. A total of 15,000 couples from 194 nations, including 3,000 couples participating via Internet satellite broadcast, were in attendance at this International Mass Blessing Wedding Ceremony....

[Newsis]

FFWPU Holds a Mass Wedding Ceremony with 15,000 Couples from 194 nations on the 20th in Gapyeong



[Seoul=Newsis] Reporter Jeong-Hwan Kim= The Family Federation for World Peace and Unification held the “Third Anniversary Celebration of Foundation Day” and the “International Mass Blessing Wedding Ceremony” at 9 A.M. on the 20th at the Cheong Shim Peace World Center.

25,000 people, including VIPs from Korea and other nations, leaders from all walks of life, Peace Ambassadors, elder blessed families, wedding guests, etc., were present at the event.

The first part of the celebration began with a message from FFWPU founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon. “Today we simultaneously complete three successful years of the Universal Seong Hwa and Foundation Day, and begin the fourth year of Cheon Il Guk. I ask all Blessed Families around the world to pledge their commitment toward fulfilling the dream of one family under our Heavenly Parent as we dedicate ourselves to the complete arrival of Cheon Il Guk during the remaining four years until Vision 2020.”



“Let us complete our mission as tribal messiahs during these “Four Years of Hope” and our Heavenly Parent’s and our wish to establish the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth.”



The Mass Blessing Ceremony was held as the finale of Rev. Sun Myung Moon (1920-2012) and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon’s (73) Holy Birthday Celebration and the Third Foundation Day Anniversary. 15,000 couples, including 12,000 couples from 194 nations participating via Internet satellite broadcast and 3,000 couples from 62 nations such as America, England, France, Japan, Israel, Australia, Taiwan, Russia, Brazil and Kenya, participating live at the stadium, overcame the barriers of nation, culture, language, etc., to create bonds of marriage and build pure, true families.

Former U.S. Congressman Dan Burton gave the congratulatory address. “My wife, Samia and I received the Blessing this time last year. Since then, our family’s relationship with God and our marriage has strengthened, and we have become inspired to build a better world. Not only that, but my wife says that I have become a better husband after receiving the Blessing.”

“This Universal Blessing Ceremony respects and embraces all religions and races. With this mindset, all of you have promised God that you will love each other, love your future children, and love all races, religions, peoples and nations. The reason why the Marriage Blessing and the Blessing of Family is the most beautiful thing is because it is

God’s greatest creation and plan for mankind. If true love is the foundation of a marriage, that marriage will serve as the foundation for fulfilling God’s hope and dream. The cornerstone of societies and nations are deep, loving families. Therefore, those of you who have received the Blessing today are stepping out into a new world for God and mankind.”



The cultural performance following the main event was a musical entitled, “Butterfly,” which depicted “Mission Butterfly,” an underground missionary activity carried out by Unification Church missionaries in Communist Eastern Europe from 1970 to 1980.

Foundation Day is one of the main Holy Days proclaimed by FFWPU founders Rev. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon. It refers to the day when “a new age and history begin” in the Age after the Coming of Heaven. This is Heavenly Parent’s Day and the day when the providence to substantially establish the Nation of Universal Peace and Unification (Cheon Il Guk) on the earth begins.

Under the peace ideology of “One Family Under God,” the International Mass Wedding Ceremony has been held every year, beginning with the marriage of 36 couples in 1961 officiated by Rev. Moon and Dr. Han...



[Segye Times]

“Overcoming National and Racial Borders to Establish One Human Family of True Love”

Gapyeong Cheong Shim World Center Universal Blessing Ceremony

The Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU) held the “Foundation Day Third Anniversary Celebration” and the “International Mass Blessing Wedding Ceremony” with 25,000 couples in attendance on the 20th at the Cheong Shim Peace World Center.

The day’s events started with the anniversary celebration, followed by the 15,000 couples Universal Blessing Ceremony and the cultural event. Cheon Il Guk refers to the ideal world (Heaven on Earth) that humankind has been dreaming of and the FFWPU has been commemorating since 2013.

The Foundation Day Third Anniversary Celebration was held prior to the Universal Blessing Ceremony. FFWPU Founder Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon stated, “Today we simultaneously complete three successful years of Rev. Sun Myung Moon’s Universal Seong Hwa and Foundation Day, and begin the fourth year of Cheon Il Guk. I ask all Blessed Families around the world to pledge their commitment to fulfilling the dream of one family under our Heavenly Parent as we dedicate ourselves to the complete arrival of Cheon Il Guk during the remaining four years until Vision 2020.”

... The first part of the program began with Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon and 12 members of the Supreme Council Sun Jin Moon, Yeon-Ah Moon, Hoon Sook Moon, Joon-Ho Seok, Young-Whi Kim, Jae-Seok Lee, Jin-Choon Kim, Yong-Cheon Song, Hideo Oyamada, Ki-Hoon Kim, Farley Jones, Thomas Walsh on the platform. As the emcee, FFWPU Korea President Kyeong-Seuk Ryu led the program through the Cheon Il Guk Anthem, a prayer, a commemorative video, proclamation of the Cheon Il Guk Policy and speeches. The crane, which is the national bird of Cheon Il Guk, gracefully flapped its wings on a video screen behind the podium.

Family Federation for World Peace and Unification Founder Dr. Hak Ja Han (second from the right) performed the Holy Water Ceremony for the brides and grooms at the True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind Universal Blessing Ceremony on February 20, 2016 at the Cheon Shim Peace World center in Gapyeong, Gyeonggi-do.

The commemorative video illustrated the leadership, journey, and ambition of Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon in ceaselessly leading the FFWPU all over the world following Rev. Moon’s Seong Hwa. After receiving flowers of victory from Joon Ho Seok and his wife, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon proclaimed the establishment of three Cheon Il Guk “Wons”: the Cheon Jeong Won (Administration), Cheon Jae Won (Finance) and Cheon Gong Won (Public Relations).

... The second half of the program, the Universal Blessing Ceremony, is being referred to as a great march of true love and peace to tear down the walls of nations, religion and race, and put a complete end to war. Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon officiated the Blessing Ceremony in a traditional Korean *hanbok*, and sprinkled water on the heads of the 12 representative couples on the stage as part of the Holy Water Ceremony.

As a wedding gift, Dr. Han then presented rings to five representative couples, symbolizing the eternal bond of marriage, and all the brides and grooms faced each other as they placed the rings on their spouse's finger. The 25,000 people attending the ceremony applauded the newlywed couples during the Blessing Ceremony.

The moment Dr. Han finished the Holy Marriage Proclamation, cannons went off as thousands of balloons were released into the air and drifted up toward the ceiling. The FFWPU explained, "The five different colored balloons represent the 15,000 couples that will work wonders of blessing and true love."



... The atmosphere at the Universal Blessing Ceremony was full of restlessness and excitement as if the couples were trying to take in each other's faces. Among the couples were many second generation members of FFWPU Blessed families. One second generation groom named Hyo-Joo Song (24, England, 2nd year at University College of London) shared, "My parents matched us. We want to have four sons and daughters." His wife, Reimi Nakata (21, 2nd year at Tokyo University) expressed, "We want to create a happy family and support the realization of a global society living as one family." Second generation couple Ki Young (21, Rwanda) and Eunice Basol (21, Zambia) bashfully stated, "We met through a matching in Africa. We will start a family after focusing on our studies for a while."

First generation bride, Olga (26), explained, "I joined the FFWPU because I was moved by the teaching of 'living for the sake of others.'" Her groom, Sergei (29, Russia), emphasized, "Although our relationship is difficult because my wife is from the Ukraine, we hope to become a good bridge for our nations."

... Former U.S. Congressman Dan Burton, who had received the Blessing with his wife last year, stood on the stage with his wife as he expressed, "Since receiving the Blessing, our family's relationship with God and our marriage has strengthened, and we have become inspired to build a better world. Not only that, but my wife also says that I have become a better husband after receiving the Blessing."

Referencing chapter 19, verse 5-6 of the Book of Matthew, he stressed, "All of you who have received the Blessing have promised before heaven to be faithful to one another and never separate." He then congratulated the couples by reciting an original poem entitled, "One in Heart," explaining that two people can create a happy family when they are one in heart. His wife, Samia stood beside him with a gentle smile, nodding at his every word.

... Various cultural events took place before and after the Foundation Day Ceremony. Before the ceremony, the La Strada ensemble performed "Stay Strong in This Belief," the FFWPU Multicultural Children's Choir made up of second and third generation performed "Charming," and the international students performed "Youth! Hope 2016!" After the ceremony, the musical "Butterfly" was performed.

The musical depicted the decisive role of the FFWPU missionaries who risked their lives to spread the truth in Communist Eastern Europe from 1970 to 1980. Footage of the Austrian capital of Vienna in the 80s where "Mission Butterfly" began and students of the World Carp Association for the Research of the Principle who rallied at the Berlin Wall at the World Carp Rally moved the hearts of the audience members. Although some members were martyred at the end of the mission, Communism collapsed years later.

The musical included a clip of Rev. Sun Myung Moon reflecting, “I couldn’t escape the guilty conscience of losing one of my disciples, but I had a dream that the martyred missionary became a butterfly and comforted me.”...