

Launching of Youth and Student for Peace in Asia-Pacific in Bangkok, Thailand

Yun Ki Choi
June 13, 2017



Family Federation for World Peace and Unification-Asia Continental Director Chung-Shik Yong

[Newsis]

FFWPU-Asia Continental Director Chung-Shik Yong 'Launching of Youth and Student for Peace in Asia-Pacific: A Positive Impact for the World'

Over 15,000 people gathered at the Impact Arena in suburban Bangkok, Thailand, on June 13, making it the second largest convention center in all of Asia.

People are gathered from 35 nations from across the Asia-Pacific region to participate in the "Launching of Youth and Student for Peace in Asia-Pacific."

Political officials and key figures from across Thailand filled the arena to capacity. However, Deputy Prime Minister Marshal Prajin Juntong acted as a proxy in place of Prime Minister of Thailand Prayut Chan-o-cha, who was unable to attend, due to a Cabinet meeting.

In addition, among the key political officials from various Asian countries, most notably in attendance were Minister of Education of Sri Lanka Akila Viraj Kariyawasam, Minister of Information and Culture of Youth Affairs of Afghanistan Dr. Kamal Sadat, National Assembly's Legislative and Judicial Commission Chairman of Cambodia Pen Panha.

Deputy Prime Minister Prajin Juntong conveyed, "I express my sincere gratitude to Founder Hak Ja Han Moon, for allowing our government to hold this 'Launching of Youth and Student for Peace in Asia-Pacific' for establishing a healthy society through sexual purity. I hope that the International Association of Youth and Students for Peace will continue to exert a positive influence on youth and students to better enable them to form proper values. I pray for your success in building a network of youth and students."

On June 12, at the UN Asia-Pacific Economic and Social Committee Headquarters in Bangkok, over 1,700 people, including prominent figures, youth and students from nations across the Asia-Pacific Region, also gathered. The Minister of Education of Thailand, Teerakit Jareonsettasin, also attended representing the Thai government.

This was all done to encourage participation in the "Inauguration of the Network for Youth and Students for Peace in Asia and the Pacific."

Minister Jareonsettasin stated, "International Association of Youth and Students for Peace has done what even what the (Thailand) government could not do. Therefore, the government is working together with

the International Association of Youth and Students for Peace. I promise that the government will actively support your activities moving forward."

The International Association of Youth and Students for Peace has started to ignite heat throughout these nations and kick up a storm before the entire world. Overcoming national boundaries, race and region, it appears that the citizens, and even political officials, are responding to the world peace and purity movement lead by youth from around the world.

It is a mystery as to why they are fascinated by this movement.

Regarding this matter, we inquired Family Federation for World Peace and Unification-Asia Continental Director Chung-Shik Yong, who has successfully led this International Association of Youth and Students for Peace Founding Rally.

- What do you think are the reasons why Founders Rev. Sun Myung Moon and Hak Ja Han Moon's peace philosophy and activities are becoming quite a sensation throughout the world?

"Rev. and Mrs. Moon's peace philosophy and activities are not focused on political and economic propositions. Again, of course these are important, but they are merely secondary."



Family Federation for World Peace and Unification-Asia Continental Director Chung-Shik Yong is giving the welcoming address at the "Inauguration of the Network for Youth and Students for Peace in Asia and the Pacific," which was held at the UN Asia-Pacific Economic and Social Committee Headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand, on June 12.

The focus is, "establishing healthy families." Through this, you can see that everyone can take part in establishing peace.

In the family, children learn and experience that heart of parents that wants to give and give again. As a response to this, children return happiness to their parents. This is what Mrs. Moon refers to as, "Hyojeong." You can see that parental love is the first type of love children experience in their lives, and it is a love that lasts forever.

A heart of wanting to give affects a person's character. This heart allows one to grow as an individual with a public mindset in the family, a model citizen in society, a patriot of a nation, and a peace-loving saint in the world.

If a culture of filial piety is established, its influence will expand in scale throughout all of society, including economics, the environment, politics, education, media and religion. As the family is the place where an altruistic mindset can first be learned, the family becomes the essence of everlasting peace and continual development.

Although the love of husband and wife is horizontal, it has the same characteristics of that of parental love. In other words, it is the desire to bring happiness to the other. One's own happiness is secondary. They mutually think, "I hope my spouse can be happier than myself."

A heart that acts for the sake of others is the very foundation of sustainability. When there is the mutual heart of wanting to give without ceasing, intimacy deepens, and a harmonious and everlasting relationship is formed. This is the opposite of selfishness, in which there is the mutual heart of wanting to receive. Thus, selfish relationships cannot last.

"Mrs. Moon is making efforts to establish, 'One family society under one God' that transcends nationality, religion and denomination, centering on true love. I would say that many people throughout the world feel the same regarding this great philosophy of true love, and are thus joined with us in these efforts."

- Mrs. Moon founded the International Association of Youth and Students for Peace on February 23 this year. What does Mrs. Moon intend to achieve through this association?

"Founders Rev. Sun Myung Moon and Hak Ja Han Moon have founded numerous organizations regarding youth and students throughout their lives, and (even after Rev. Moon's passing) Mrs. Moon has continued to support these organizations.

These organizations are contributing towards allowing youth throughout the world to have a sense of calling, overcoming the barriers of race, religion and ethnicity, and to make increasing efforts for individuals, families, nations and the world.

A recent example of such an organization is the International Association of Youth and Students for Peace.

We can learn four types of love in the family. These are 'parental love,' the love that parents give to their children, 'filial piety,' the love that children return to their parents, 'sibling's love,' the love between siblings and 'conjugal love,' the love between husband and wife.

Youth and students are therefore responsible for two among these types of love, those being filial piety and sibling's love.



Family Federation for World Peace and Unification Founder Hak Ja Han Moon and Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand Marshal Prajin Juntong are hitting a gong in celebration of the founding of the International Association of Youth and Students for Peace at the "Launching of Youth and Student for Peace in Asia-Pacific," held at the Impact Arena located in suburban Bangkok, Thailand, on June 13 (present time).

The strongest force that guides youth and students to protect one's sexual purity is filial piety. This is because one cannot misuse love if one lives a life of practicing filial piety.

Not only is the importance of the role of youth and students in continually building a culture of peace a self-evident truth, but their role is indispensable.

With the Launching of Youth and Student for Peace in Asia-Pacific in Thailand as the starting point, Mrs. Moon will continue to carry out activities throughout the five great oceans and six continents.

Therefore, Mrs. Moon will invest her full efforts and devotion towards youth and students in successfully carrying out the leading role in building a culture of peace of the future."

- I heard that the founding ceremony of the International Association of Youth and Students for Peace that was held at Thailand was a tremendous success...

"That is correct. The conference held on June 12 was a tremendous success, with over 1,200 people in attendance, including over 800 people from Thailand and over 400 people from thirty other nations.

Notably at this event, the Minister of Education of Thailand, Dr. Teerakiat Jareonsettasin, was the host, and ministers from Sri Lanka, Afghanistan and Cambodia, along with deputy ministers from Malaysia, were also in attendance. With two former ministers, seven current National Assembly members, five governors, four vice-governors and twenty-six university presidents in attendance, government representatives and politicians from all across the Asia-Pacific nations clearly expressed their interest in activities led by the International Association of Youth and Students for Peace.

Although it was originally anticipated that 12,000 youth and student from the Asia-Pacific Region would participate at the June 13 founding ceremony, it became a vast sea of people, exceeding the original estimate by 3,000 participants.

Although naturally most of the participants were youth and students from Thailand, over 1,300 participants came from other countries. The largest representing body was from Cambodia with over 700 people, then from Malaysia (150 people), then from the Philippines (120 people), then from Nepal (100 people) and then finally from Singapore (62 people). 90 South Korean religious leaders also were in attendance. Excluding the VIP's who attended the conference held yesterday, six top government officials, fifty-five university presidents, 220 principals, four military officials, sixty-six regional leaders and fifty-seven NGO leaders, all from Thailand and other Asia-Pacific nations, were also in attendance.



The congratulatory address of Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha is being read by Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand Marshal Prajin Juntong at the "Launching of Youth and Student for Peace in Asia-Pacific" held at the Impact Arena in suburban Bangkok, Thailand, on June 13.

Most notably, Deputy Prime Minister Prajin Juntong, who gave the congratulatory address in place of the prime minister, did not leave his seat until the end of the 3-hour event divided into two parts. Deputy Prime Minister Juntong was happy in witnessing the positive impact that the purity movement and the series of activities we initiated left on Thailand.

"I am confident that this Asia-Pacific International Association of Youth and Students for Peace exerted enormous influence not only in this region, but to the world."

- What type of positive effect do you think International Association of Youth and Students for Peace will have on the Asia-Pacific Region going forwards?

"The family in Asia is much more stable than that of the West."

"The International Association of Youth and Students for Peace was established based on a foundation of Confucian values and pan-Asian family norms. If Rev. Moon's teachings pertaining to the importance of marriage and the family become grafted onto Asian culture, our hearts can become clearer and stronger than ever. It should be possible for cultural norms that support marriage and the family to be integrated into the legislative system, as well as the national education system."

"Elaborating further, we should be able to educate our children regarding the foundation of values. We should then be able to solve the numerous social problems that are caused by broken families and problematic families."

"From this perspective, it appears to me that the Asia-Pacific national governments and politicians and social leaders are acting in response to this point."

- Please introduce the purity movement in Thailand.

"Last year, the Ministry of Education and the central government of Thailand decided to carry out purity movement projects in cooperation with UPF and International Association of Youth and Students for Peace throughout twelve main provinces of Thailand."

"Through these efforts, we gave purity education to over 5,300 people in Buriram Province, over 2,700 people in Maha Sarakham Province, over 1,500 people in Surin Province, over 960 people in Nakhon Ratchasima Province, over 1,370 people in Khon Kaen Province, and over 880 people in Ubon Ratchathani Province. The target audience was students, professors, and government officials."

"Even now, these education efforts are being carried out all throughout Thailand."

- What sort of role will International Association of Youth and Students for Peace take on in the Asia-Pacific Region moving forward?



Family Federation for World Peace and Unification-Asia Continental Director Chung-Shik Yong is giving the welcoming address at the "Inauguration of the Network for Youth and Students for Peace in Asia and the Pacific," which was held at the UN Asia-Pacific Economic and Social Committee Headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand, on June 12.

"International Association of Youth and Students for Peace was established based on a foundation of Confucian values and pan-Asian family norms."

"The family in Asia is much more stable than that of the West. If Rev. Moon's teachings pertaining to the importance of marriage and the family become grafted onto Asian culture, our hearts can become clearer and stronger than ever."

"It should be possible for cultural norms that support marriage and the family to be integrated into the legislative system and the national education system."

"Elaborating further, we should be able to educate our children regarding the foundation of values. We should then be able to solve the numerous social problems that are caused by broken families and problematic families."

"From this perspective, it appears to me that the Asia-Pacific national governments and politicians and social leaders are acting in response to this point."

- What sort of activities does the FFWPU plan to carry out on the Asia-Pacific Region moving forwards?

"I was appointed by Rev. and Mrs. Moon on May 18, 2008, as the Asia Continental Director, and this year marks the tenth year since then."

"Excluding Korea, Japan and China, I oversee 19 Asian countries in total. If you sum up the population of these countries, you get a total of 2.3 billion people. You can see that this is equivalent to one-third of the world's population."

"In this region, the number of FFWPU members up until two years ago was merely just 300,000, but with rapid growth, we are now approaching the 1 million mark, and that number is continuing to rise."

"Under the motto 'Vision 2020,' centering on Mrs. Moon, the FFWPU will continue to actively expand its membership in Asia, as well, until the year 2020, the 100th anniversary of Rev. Moon's birth."

"Through God's tribal messiah movement, we plan on opening the era of 10 million members, and on forming 1 million home groups by the year 2020."

"In addition, we are on the course of expanding the current foundation of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace established in six nations in the Asia region to thirteen nations within this year to form closer ties with the UN by the year 2020."

"During this period, we plan on hosting National Assembly members with their spouses from seven core Asian nations to participate in the Asian Leadership Conference (ALC), and produce 10,000 Tong Il Moo-do missionaries, as well as 2,000 Top Gun leaders."

"With cooperation from the governments of the four strategic nations of Nepal, the Philippines, Thailand and Cambodia, we will transform all schools into purity schools."

"We plan on actively carrying out various activities, including those by second generation members, Collegiate Association for the Research of Principles (CARP) and International Peace Leadership Conference (IPLC)."

"I thank you for your sincere concern and strong support; and please look forward to great results."...