

## Manhattan, New York celebration of the Seonghwa of Rev. Sun Myung Moon

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### Family Federation, Special Peace Rally in Madison Square Garden, New York



Going to for a field coverage

"On September 7 holding the 5th Anniversary of the Seonghwa of Rev. Sun Myung Moon and the Hyojeong International Marriage Blessing Ceremony"

- Dr. Hak Ja Han, emphasizing on God's providence through human civilization and America's mission
- The Family Federation is currently taking a new leap centered on Dr. Hak Ja Han" (Family Federation Korea President Kyeong-Seuk Lu)
- America's mission's turning point of victory and defeat is at the New York Madison Square Garden Rally in 1974

The Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU) emerged into a full-scale of congregation expansion after the marriage ceremony of Rev. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon on April 11, 1960 (March 16 by the lunar calendar). Through the Japan mission (1958), the overseas mission gained a foothold, and later extended into the United

States (1959). At first, they were not welcomed. It is because the missionaries came from a country that was supported by the United States. The turning point of the victory and defeat of the United States mission was during the New York Madison Square Garden rally. On September 18, 1974, during the 4th World Tour, the "Day of Hope" event was held as one of the eight major cities touring lectures in the United States, and more than 30,000 participants gathered in the New Yorker Hotel Grand Ballroom. As the 25,000 reserved seats filled up, an additional 5,000 seats were installed. The media, including 6 TV stations in the United States, as well as the press, covered these events.

On this day, Rev. Moon said in his speech, "During the past time, I received a special request to notify God's new Will to America, and went through hardship and I have come to this place." God has sent me to deliver a new revelation to this country, especially to save the decadent American youths and to lead the young people to become future leaders. It is absolutely necessary to eradicate Communism, which denies God. The war with Communism is, in fact, a matter of "God or no God." God chose Americans. Hearing the story of Rev. Moon, the Americans cheered and Communism eventually collapsed.

Family Federation for World Peace and Unification North America Continental Director Ki-Hoon Kim said, "The Madison Square Garden is like a place in the Roman Square of our day, a place where the world's five ethnic groups meet. From there, global races heard the same voice of God. Following the success of the speech on this day, the American mission has been making great progress."

FFWPU-USA President Michael Balcomb commented on the American Family Federation congregation, "Currently there are 100,000 members in the United States, and about 400 Family Federation churches in

major cities, and in each states, including New York, Los Angeles, Chicago and Washington, D.C."



### **The heat is as it was 43 years ago**

July 15, 2013 at 3:00PM the Family Federation held a special peace rally at Madison Square Garden in New York, USA, with the theme "Peace starts with me: A modern solution to our divided culture." Nearly 30,000 participants gathered. A long time has passed, however, the heat was the same as it was 43 years ago.

The rally began with the welcoming remarks of Archbishop George Augustus Stallings, co-director of the American Clergy Leadership Conference (ACLCL). ACLCL is a coalition of interfaith, interracial pastors. It is promoting the value of family and rebuilding communities. Rev. Sun Myung Moon and Dr Hak Ja Han founded it in 2000. Stallings, who studied theology in Rome, served as a Roman Catholic priest in the Washington, D.C. area for 15 years, from 1974. Then in 2001, he received the marriage blessing through the Family Federation. His spouse is Japanese, with whom Rev. Moon and Dr. Han blessed in marriage. They have two sons. Their names are "Shin-Young" and "Young-Pal," which Rev. Moon chose specifically. He said in his greeting, "If you see me, you will know who they are. What they (Rev. Moon and Dr. Han) are trying to accomplish is the eternal peace. True Parents are at the top of world religion," he said.



2009년 1월 30일 문선명 총재 구순 때 모습. 옆에는 한학자 총재다.

Paula White, the evangelical adviser in President Donald Trump's administration in the United States, took the mic after a magnificent performance by the interdenominational 2,000 voice choir. She is a

successful businessman and is well-known for evangelizing President Trump. The moment came to bear all fruit. The moment has come to merge. God said, "You are my child. I will be with you. There are no barriers for us now. The people who are gathered here today represent the whole world and declare that we have no barriers between us now."

### **Heaven's Providence and America's Mission**

Soon after, Dr. Hak Ja Han stepped up to the podium to give her keynote speech. Participants gave great applause. Especially remarkable was the sound of young students who was dressed up all wearing t-shirt written "Hyo-Jeong", who gave a special shout out. These youths are the 2nd generation who were born from the 2,075 couples marriage blessing held in 1982 at Madison Square Garden who were matched and blessed in marriage by the founder of Family Federation for World Peace and Unification, Rev. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han. Hyo-Jeong means the filial heart to God. An official from the Family Federation said, "Hyo-Jeong is a tradition, through which Rev. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han have served God, as well as inherited for the salvation of mankind."

The theme of the keynote speech was "The Providence of Heaven and the Mission of America as Seen in the History of Human Civilization."

"In the 1970s, the United States faced a predicament where we could not see the future of because of its individualism, family breakdown and youth problems. The nation was also being threatened by Communism. When the United States became ill in 1971, Rev. Moon (founder of the Family Federation Rev. Sun Myung Moon) came to the United States. From there, Rev. Moon took the lead to heal and resolve all the problems in the US. Many righteous people and young people then began to follow him. If this were not True Parent's mission, Rev. Moon did not have to come to the US. But because he was the True Parent, he had to save the US and thus, lead the world to God. For 40 years, he had shed blood, sweat and tears in the US. The US is a blessed nation in God's providence. The US must fulfill its responsibility."

"As many youths started to follow Rev. Moon, some American politicians tried to drive Rev. Moon out of America. The result was Danbury." Dr. Han looked back on many hardships and struggles the Family Federation had to endure to put down roots in the US.



김기훈 가정연합 미국 회장.

The story of Danbury was told vividly by Dr. Han. She explained that Rev. Moon was sentenced to 13 months in prison for \$7,300 in tax evasion charges, and was released in 1985. According to the Family Federation, Rev. Moon was merely the position of a trustee, since the interest is a property of the church, so he had no obligation to pay taxes and therefore, did not declare it as such. Ralph Belter, a US Justice Department criminal and tax evasion expert, also reported to the Supreme Court that he was not guilty of tax evasion; but Deputy Assistant Secretary Gilbert Andrews ignored it and ordered for Rev. Moon to be prosecuted. Even though it was not a deliberate tax evasion because he was in Korea at the time, there was no obligation to go to trial unless he had to re-enter the US, as he was not a US citizen. Even the US Department of Justice has been interested in such a proposal. However, Rev. Moon rejected the decision and went on trial. It is said that as a captain, to save the US ship, it is impossible for him to abandon the ship to escape and to run away.

Dr. Han continued with her speech. "It took me over 50 years to overcome the inexplicable difficulties in the United States and to stand here today. If Jesus came as the only begotten Son, and if the only begotten daughter was born at that time, Jesus would have been able to become the True Parents who could fulfill God's dream. But that did not happen. The 2,000-year history of Christianity is the history of the providence in finding both the begotten son and daughter. In the meantime, the Family Federation has created blessed families in more than 120 countries. When these blessed families overflow in this country and overflow into the world, God's dream, mankind's dream, True Parents' dream and the dream of mankind as one family will be realized."

"Jesus, the only begotten Son" could not realize "God's dream" because he could not establish a family; and the family values, which are emphasized by the Family Federation, that is, "God's Providence" will be realized through the union of the only begotten son and only begotten daughter. It is an explanation that all the religions that exist in this world are the means to achieve family values.

### **"It is the United States that raises the Family Federation as worldwide religion"**

After Dr. Han finished her keynote speech, Grammy Award-winning Gospel singer Pastor Hezekiah Walker's performance followed. The Grammy Awards recognizes excellence in performing and recording, and winners are selected by the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences for excellent records and albums produced within a given year. After the Hezekiah Walker's performance, US Congresswoman Yvette Clarke responded to Dr. Han's keynote speech.

Congresswoman Clarke said, "This rally has become a truly amazing festival supporting peace. As in 'Where there is no justice, there is no peace,' 'Inequality and injustice are the cause of destroying peace,' let us continue to receive and act on Dr. Han's vision. And from now on, let us make a resolution together and move forward to the point of realizing peace."

"We are living in a difficult time with the threat of intercontinental ballistic missiles and nuclear weapons," said former US Congressman Dan Lee Burton, co-director of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP). He said, "We must strongly advocate for peace in order to prevent war and keep peace," and emphasized, "Peace is the power."

The International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP) is an organization founded by Dr. Hak Ja Han in February, 2016, with the goal to overcome various conflicts that continue to threaten peace throughout the world, and to build a world of everlasting peace. During the opening ceremony, 800 former and active prime ministers and members of Congress from 120 countries including the United States, Germany, Switzerland and Italy, attended the ceremony.



도널드 트럼프 정부의 복음주의 자문위원장 폴라 화이트 목사.

The Chairman of Family Federation, Ki-Hoon Kim, who is a living witness in the history of the North American mission said in his welcoming remarks, "On July 4, Independence Day, I thought of God's blessings for America as my friend showed me around the American monuments, the Statue of Liberty and the Hudson River," and also said, "Rev. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han's nation of faith is Korea; however, the two hope to raise the Family Federation as a worldwide religion in America."

America should never forget that God has blessed this nation." In 1977, when Dr. Kim was 25 years old, he moved to the United States and settled in Chicago for his mission.

The event, which lasted for about three hours, included Pastor Paul White, Evangelical Advisor of the Trump Administration, US Congresswoman Yvette Clarke, Former US Congressman Dan Burton, Former Special Envoy for Six Party Talks Joseph DeTrani, Family Federation International Chairman Sun-Jin Moon, Women's Federation for World Peace World International President Yeon-Ah Moon (wife of the eldest son, Hyo-Jin Moon) and many religious interfaith leaders representing Christianity, Judaism, Buddhism, Islam, Hinduism and Native American spiritualism attended. An official from the Family Federation explained, "This is the fourth large-scale peace rally with more than one million participants following the events held in Korea, Japan and Thailand this year."

The 5th Anniversary of the Seonghwa of Rev. Moon and the Hyojeong International Marriage Blessing Ceremony will be held on September 7 at the Cheongshim Peace World Center.

On July 16, in the morning on the day after the special rally, I found East Garden in the outskirts of New York City. I was there to cover a victory celebration hosted by Dr. Han. East Garden is an estate Rev. Moon and Dr. Han purchased during the early years of American mission and sanctified as a holy ground. Rev. Moon has been staying at East Garden for over 30 years since the early 1970s. Part of the building was decorated like a private museum honoring Rev. Moon.

On this day, Dr. Han said, "Jesus died on the cross, and gave the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven to Peter," and also said, "Life on earth is important. You are lucky people. You have been blessed by True Parents, and also newly-born by True Parents. You must live your life with joy and passion every day in front of God," Dr. Han emphasized.

After the celebration, I was able to meet with the Family Federation-Korea President Kyeong-Seuk Lu, and hear about the future plan of the Family Federation. Mr. Lu said, "The Family Federation is now taking a new leap forward, centering on the Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, who is the head of the Family Federation," and continued saying, "In order to inherit the traditions and accomplishments of Rev. Moon and Dr. Han, Dr. Han has compiled the Three Great Scriptures of Cheon Il Guk, and has also enacted the Cheon Il Guk Constitution and established the Hyojeong World Peace Foundation, enacted the Sunhak Peace Prize and established the IAPP. Through these new accomplishments, we are actively promoting future leaders, as well as the settlement of peace in the world.

*The following are interviews with him:*

- What are "The Cheon Il Guk Three Great Scriptures?"

"There are 615 books on the contents of the sermon left by Rev. Moon while he was living. Dr. Han also traveled the world and gave about 700 public speeches. These are a compilation of the scriptures containing the words of the life of the two people, and the main contents are composed of three volumes, which are called the Cheon Il Guk scriptures. We have been actively working on translating and publishing the Japanese and English versions, as well as versions in other foreign languages."

- You mentioned about enactment of the Constitution? Is it a Constitution that applies to Family Federation?

"It is referring to the Cheon Il Guk Constitution. First of all, Cheon Il Guk is an ideal world which all humankind has hoped for. You can understand it by thinking of this as a law that is presenting the direction towards the ideal world. This Constitution is in compliance with the highest priority of the Family Pledge, which summarized the true love of God and the thoughts of Rev. Moon. We are aiming toward the settlement of a world of the culture of heart through the ideal family, while living with God, transcending barriers between national boundaries, race, sex, culture and religion building a culture of heart through true love."

- It is the 5th Anniversary of the passing of Rev. Moon. Do you have any special plans?

"The commemoration of the 5th Anniversary of the Seonghwa of Rev. Moon will be held. 30,000 participants from 194 countries are expected to attend at the Cheongshim Peace World Center. It is expected to broadcast live around the world via the Internet."