

## Victory Celebration in Las Vegas as New York Prepares to Climb the 120,000 Mountain

Ken Doo, Tossa Cromwell, and Staffan Berg  
July 11, 2011



*True Parents sing and say good-bye at the conclusion of the gathering*

Our True Parents celebrated the distribution of 120,000 copies of our True Father's autobiography in Las Vegas on July 6, 2011 at the Palace of Heavenly Harmony. The early-morning gathering to read True Father's words on July 6, 2011 began with the cutting of a cake celebrating the victory of distributing 120,000 copies of *As a Peace-loving Global Citizen*, True Father's autobiography.

In New York City, Rev. Joshua Cotter announced at the pulpit of the Lovin' Life Service of July 10, 2011 that a similar campaign would be launched for the New York metropolitan area, to be followed by book distributions in other cities.

"I'm so inspired because we finished this 120,000 in Las Vegas," Rev. Cotter told a packed audience at the Manhattan Center. He added: "Is that all we've got to do? Brothers and sisters, Las Vegas is just a model for your city. Guess what? Today, July 10th, we are launching with districts Two and Three – New Jersey, New York, and Connecticut too, a campaign to give out 120,000 books here in New York in the Lovin' Life main area starting today. Can you do it?"

"In order to go along with those books what do people need to see when they come into the Lincoln Tunnel? Billboards: Wouldn't it be great when True Parents come into New York, the first thing they see is a beautiful billboard with Father's picture and the autobiography, and all of New York is consumed reading that autobiography. Whoa, I never knew this about Rev. Moon! So we're starting today."

At the celebration to commemorate the distribution of autobiographies in Las Vegas, disciples and members of the True Family heard the reading of the final speech in the 25th volume of the *Collection of Speeches* by Rev. Sun Myung Moon entitled "The Unification-Church-style Strategy for the Frontline of Restoration." After the reading and prayer were concluded, True Parents asked Dr. Chang Shik Yang to report about the distribution of True Father's autobiography. Dr. Yang reported that 121,085 autobiographies had been distributed in Las Vegas by July 4, 2011, which is significant providentially and even more meaningful because the distribution had taken place in Las Vegas.

Rev. Cotter has said that the distribution was made possible by the tireless efforts of scores of church members who made their way to Las Vegas to spend a weekend, a few days, or a few weeks. Mr. Jack Young of the San Francisco Bay area, father of Joe Young, musical director for Sonic Cult, gave out more than 4,000 copies by himself, he noted.

While True Father's autobiography is being distributed internationally, and especially in Korea, it is being reported as a bestseller in many nations. America is no exception; special distribution effort has been made in Las Vegas, where True Parents are residing. Rev. Won Geun Park, who has personally distributed more than 3,000 copies of the autobiography in Korea, was called to Las Vegas by True Parents to lead the active local members and Japanese missionaries who were working hard to distribute the autobiography. When 50,000 copies of the autobiography had been successfully distributed, True Parents held a special commemorative event on March 5, 2011 in Caesar's Palace Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas.

The mobilization of American volunteers to distribute books started during the preparation for the March 5, 2011 proclamation event in Las Vegas. Ten thousand books and a call from Rev. In Jin Moon kicked off a campaign for all members in America to support the distribution. After four months of effort, hard-working members from many states, Japan, St. Lucia, Honduras and other missionary locations, achieved the goal of 120,000 on July 4, 2011, the American Independence Day.



*Mrs. Kay Yamaguchi and husband, autobiography distributors in Las Vegas.*

According to a testimony by Kaye Yamaguchi, a local member in Las Vegas, the mother of a female student at Cheyenne Campus was reading the autobiography, and when her daughter asked if she could read it, the mother said that it would take her two weeks to read and that she had to be patient. When this community college student went to her part-time job, her boss was also reading a copy of the autobiography. When she was driving on Interstate 15 through Las Vegas, she saw the billboard with the picture of True Father and his book. Then, when she came back to her campus, she saw the large distribution display with autobiography displays. After seeing all this, she said that she was so happy she could get her own book.

Mr. Jack Young, reported the following testimony: "On one particularly warm evening, while I was working in the Wal Mart parking lot at 9:00 p.m., two very special customers drove in – Hyung Jin Nim and Yeon Ah Nim! I was so excited to see them! Yeon Ah Nim took a picture of us, and the next morning I shared it with the rest of the distribution team. The love and encouragement Hyung Jin Nim and Yeon Ah Nim extended to us infused our whole community with joy!"

Miriam Bratcher, from Cincinnati, Ohio, reported: "I met this young man of mixed race on the Henderson Community college campus who told me that one day when he was very bored he picked up the autobiography and started to read it. He only stopped at 3:00 a.m when he could read for no longer! He said that he cried a lot when he was reading it. He asked me for a hug and said this book is all about love! This young man was very grateful for the book."

Marianne Irwin, from the San Francisco Bay area, wrote: "I was amazed by the people who had already received the book and who came to tell me their stories. In one instance when one man couldn't decide whether he should take the book, a woman standing nearby turned around and said, 'Take it, it's a wonderful book!' Another lady said, 'I'm reading it right now, and I was amused how stubborn the author was as a little boy.' Another was amazed how True Father had met and talked to former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. One Albanian gentleman proudly showed me how his former president had written a comment on the book cover. These experiences were totally humbling. The books were flying out of my hands. I gave away 15 to 17 boxes of books per day at that spot in the market."