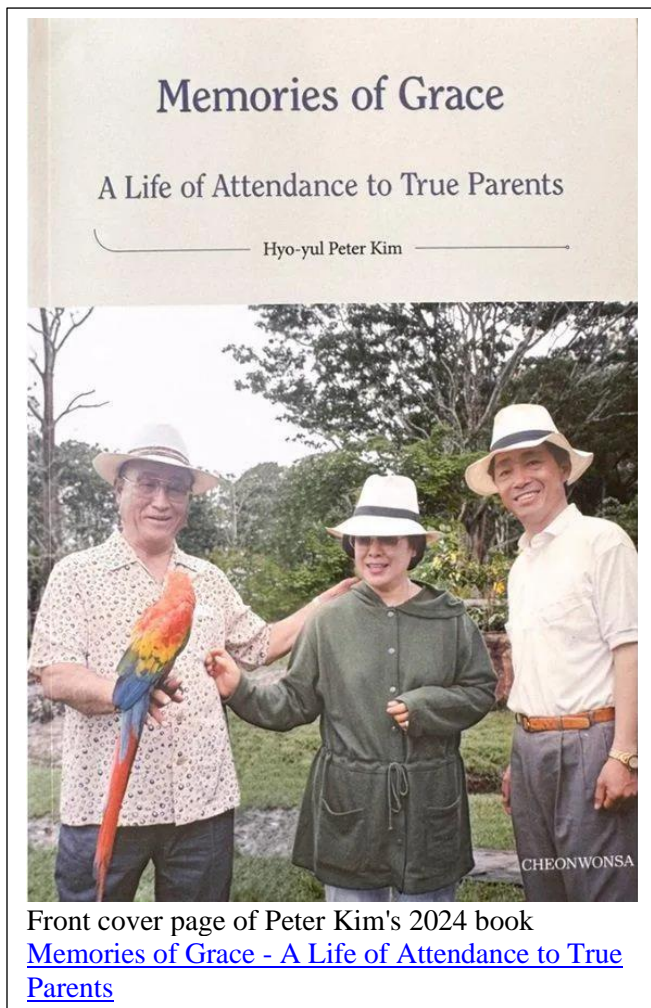


FFWPU Europe and the Middle East: David Hanna on Peter Kim's *Memories Book*

Knut Holdhus
December 12, 2024



Dr. David Hanna's reflections 4th Dec. 2024, on the recently published book by Peter Kim titled "[Memories of Grace - A Life of Attendance to True Parents](#)"

A speech Dr. David Hanna, head of the North European subregion of the [Family Federation for World Peace and Unification](#), gave at an international prayer meeting on Zoom 4th December 2024. Slightly edited.

Greetings from all of us here in the North Europe region. [...]

I've just been reading the recently published book by Dr. Peter Kim. It's called "[Memories of Grace - A Life of Attendance to True Parents](#)".

This collection of stories about his life close to the [True Parents](#) begins with their visit to North Korea and meeting with Kim Il-sung. That took place at the end of November 1991, which is exactly 33 years ago.

He speaks of how frightened both he and Dr. Bo-hi Pak were when [True Father](#) spoke so loudly, strongly and at length, thumping the table as he exposed to the top aids of the President the flaws in the North Korean Juche

ideology.

Dr. Pak and Dr. Kim had arranged this meeting, and now their hosts were extremely upset. These two were held back and forced to apologise profusely while the others went off for another tour of a memorial honouring the Kim dynasty.



[Father](#), though, had no fear. He was not interested in seeing North Korean sights, and it wasn't even a priority for him to visit his family. Rather, he felt he was there to do [God's](#) will and that meant to speak out. This might be the only opportunity for him to do so.

You also get in these stories the impression that [True Mother](#) was calm and felt no fear. Peter Kim recalls how she could on occasion make some joke to diffuse the understandable tension in [True Parents'](#) party. One time she called them all to her room early one morning to speak to the [True Parents](#). She was playing music on a cassette player that she had brought with her,

deliberately and wisely doing that to make their conversation difficult to follow for those North Korean agents who had planted listening devices in all the rooms.

As well as speaking out when necessary, [True Father](#) also advises the others to be compliant and go along to watch yet another North Korean propagand film, and one time very early in the morning.

In the end, they are the guests, and they have to respect their hosts. And this they did, even though it tested them to their limits.

My overriding feeling or realisation when reading Peter Kim's account is twofold. Firstly, that our work is real. The work we are called to engage in at this crossing point of good and evil is real. It's real and

absolutely necessary.

Now that has not changed and it's something that we can all unite around without fear.



[Father](#) and [Mother Moon](#) with Kim Il-sung in Hungnam, North Korea Dec. 6, 1991

Secondly, and related to that, is that through our [True Parents](#), [God's](#) will is made known to us. Responding to and fulfilling [God's](#) will is what I or we should focus on with clarity and determination.

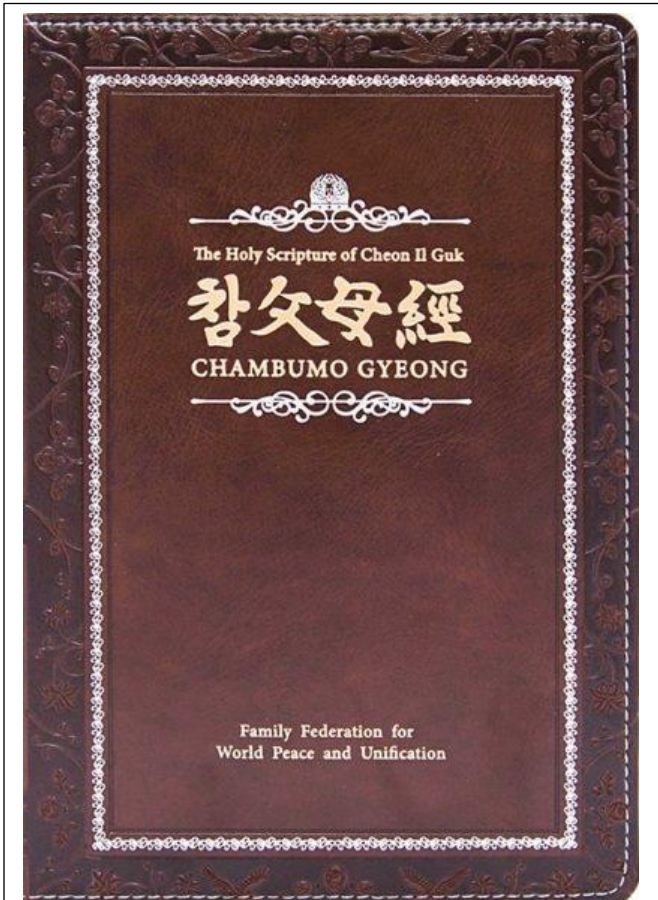
And that spirit of carpe diem, seizing the day or seizing the moment.

We can say that the North Korean ideology is a Cain-type ideology. Even if democracy is then the Abel-type ideology, these both are brother or sibling ideologies. [True Father](#) puts it this way in [Champumo Gyeong](#) Chapter 1, Section 4, and it's spoken in 1992. [Editor's note: incomplete source]

He says,

"Democracy is a sibling ideology. It is not parentism. Siblings compete and fight to get what they want. They fight because they have no parents to be centred on. That is why humankind must turn to parentism. [True Parents](#) need to come in order to solve the problems throughout the world that came into existence due to the sibling ideology."

It's clear from Peter Kim's account that the [True Parents](#) offered the proposal and had it in their minds to stand as the "parental mediators" between the North and South Korean leaders at the time. And they were ready to do that as soon as practically possible.



The Chambumo Gyeong (often translated as the "Holy Scriptures of the [True Parents](#)") is a significant text of the [Family Federation](#), which compiles teachings and speeches by [Sun Myung Moon](#) and [Hak Ja Han](#), the co-founders of the movement.

There was no opportunity immediately following the [True Parents'](#) life-risking journey into the heart of North Korea. But for sure there will be further opportunities for "parentism" to bring reconciliation.

Wherever there is conflict and a clash of ideologies, let us pray that our Heavenly Parent may grant true parental wisdom to those in a position to stand as peacemakers.

I wish you all the very best and may you have a truly successful week ahead. [God](#) bless you.

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• November 19, 2024 • Knut Holdhus



Panel exhibition reveals the horrors of persecution in Japan, the land of abduction, confinement, and forcible faith-breaking

Tokyo, 19th November 2024 – Published as an article in the Japanese newspaper *Sekai Nippo*. Republished with permission. Translated from Japanese. [Original article](#).

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Location of the city mentioned, located on the southern island of Kyushu.

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Confinement, and Forcible Faith-Breaking

by the editorial department of [Sekai Nippo](#)

A panel exhibition showcasing the reality of religious persecution faced by members of the [Family Federation for World Peace](#)

[and Unification](#) (FFWPU, formerly known as the [Unification Church](#)) was held on 17th and 18th November on the second floor of the south exit of Kokura station in Kitakyushu. The exhibition, titled "Abduction, Confinement, and [Forcible Faith-Breaking](#)", was organized by the "Kitakyushu Citizens' Association to Protect Human Rights and Religious Freedom". Many members of the association provided explanations of the panels to passersby, highlighting the horrors of abduction and forcible detention.

Among the panels depicting the intensity of the persecution was an image of Toru Goto (後藤 徹), who was [held in confinement](#) by his relatives in a single apartment room for [12 years and 5 months](#) but still refused to renounce his faith. The panel showed his emaciated appearance. One of the organizers said,

"When people saw the panel of Toru Goto, they were shocked to realize that something like this could happen so close to home. And when we told them about cases like a woman who developed severe atopic dermatitis due to her confinement and passed away at the age of 48, they listened attentively."

On Sunday, with many tourists and shoppers passing by, 750 flyers introducing the activities of the above-mentioned association were distributed. The person in charge said,

"We want people to understand our daily activities. Currently, there is an ongoing dispute due to the Kitakyushu City Council's resolution to sever ties with the [Family Federation](#). We want people to understand the details of that issue as well."



Photo used at the panel exhibition: Toru Goto in 2008, barely able to move after being held in forcible detention by his own family in league with professional faith-breakers for more than 12 years. Photo: Kazuhiro Yonemoto / [Japanese Victims' Association against Religious Kidnapping and Forced Conversion](#)

Featured image above: A panel exhibition on victims of abduction held at the south exit of Kokura Station in Kitakyushu City on the southern island of Kyushu, Japan on 18th November 2024. Photo: Kennosuke Teraguchi (寺口賢之介)

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