



Vernissage of the Exhibition on Occasion of the Centenary of Rev. Sun Myung Moon's Birth

Prague, Czech Republic, August 2020

By Juraj Lajda

Almost 40 people participated at the vernissage of the exhibition with the title „Legacy of the Eternal Love“ at the Peace embassy in Prague on Thursday 6th August 2020.

The exhibition was organized by the Universal Peace Federation in collaboration with the Women's Federation for World Peace and Youth and Students for Peace in the Czech Republic. 15 panels presented the life and work of Rev. Moon as we celebrate this year the centenary of his birth.

In the opening speech Dr. Juraj Lajda, president of the UPF in the Czech Republic mentioned the most important moments in Rev. Moon's life. Afterward 3 VIPs gave a laudatio.

Rev. ThDr. Mikuláš Vymětal, evangelical pastor and pastor for the minorities spoke in his video message about the spiritual dimension of Rev. Moon. He appreciated his effort to promote the interreligious dialogue and cooperation and especially he highlighted the World Scripture publication which is a very good instrument for understanding and respect among the world religions. Rev. Vymetal in his speech was reading the story how Rev. Moon had an encounter with Jesus as it is described in his autobiography.

Next speaker was Dr. Roman Joch, director of the Civic institute in Prague and also the director of the Research Institute for Labor and Family in Slovakia. He emphasized especially Rev. Moon's fight against communism in the early 70s and 80s in the last century. Rev. Moon was on the right side at that time, said Dr. Joch.

The final laudatio in a written form was presented by Rev. Dr. Jiří Vaniček, pastor of the Czechoslovak Hussite Church who summarized the significance of Rev. Moon in 3 areas: First Rev. Moon was a man who searched for God's truth. He lived in another culture but it is said that „according to their fruits you will recognize

them.“ The family was for Rev. Moon sacred. He pursued for the restoration of the good relationships. When Rev. Moon used the word „peace“ it was not an empty political phrase. Rev. Moon was inviting all people from different cultures, religions and colours to create peace on earth.

Second Rev. Moon established an interreligious platform where everybody could express himself or herself in his own way how he or she praises God. This platform was opened to everybody and gave a space for Christian prayer and Christian credo.

Third, Dr. Moon knew that any kind of socialism or communism is a disaster for the humankind. He supported democracy and freedom, concluded his contribution Rev. Vamněček.

After a short song there was an explanation of the panels which was followed by the individual tour. People were amazed and surprised about the scope and extent of the different activities of Rev. Moon. The last panels of the exhibition showed how Dr. Hak Ja Han continues in the work and mission of her husband.

In the end all participants were invited to watch the Rally of Hope which was scheduled on the coming Sunday, 9th August 2020. Several participants expressed their will to participate directly in the audience with other people.

Upon departure all the participants received the Autobiography of the Rev. Moon. These are some of the thoughts of the participants as expressed in the Book of Guests: „Meetings of Rev. Moon with the world politicians was a big success“.

„This exhibition brings people to think more deeply about the values“. „We are amazed how the movement develops and reaches more and more people in the world“.

The vernissage of the exhibition was the first step to provide people with the view at the life and work of Father and Mother Moon in the year of the centenary of his birth and 60th anniversary of their Holy Wedding.



Participants of the vernissage



Participants of the vernissage watching the message of the Rev. ThDr. Mikuláš Vymětal



Dr. Juraj Lajda explaining the content of the panels



Mrs. Ernestína Lajdová and Mrs. Veronika Trinklová da Costa singing a song



The speech of Rev. ThDr. Jiří Vaníček read by Mrs. E. Lajdová



Participants listening to the opening speech



Opening speech by Dr. Juraj Lajda



Hospitality at the beginning of the vernissage



Exhibition room



Exhibition room



Exhibition room



Explaining the content of the exhibition by Vicky Masnerova, YSP leader



Participants during the exhibition