

# One Family Under God: The Vision Behind the Universal Peace Federation

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## Introduction

The vision of "One Family under God" lies at the heart of the work of the [Universal Peace Federation](#) (UPF), which is an international NGO dedicated to peacebuilding, dialogue, and ethical leadership.

This simple but profound idea expresses a universal truth: humanity shares a common origin in a loving Heavenly Parent, a shared dignity, and a collective responsibility to build a peaceful and just world together.

In a time marked by geopolitical tensions, economic inequality, and cultural division, the concept of One Family under God offers a powerful framework for cooperation, mutual respect, and shared responsibility. It calls individuals, communities, and nations to move beyond narrow interests and recognise the deeper bonds that unite the human family.

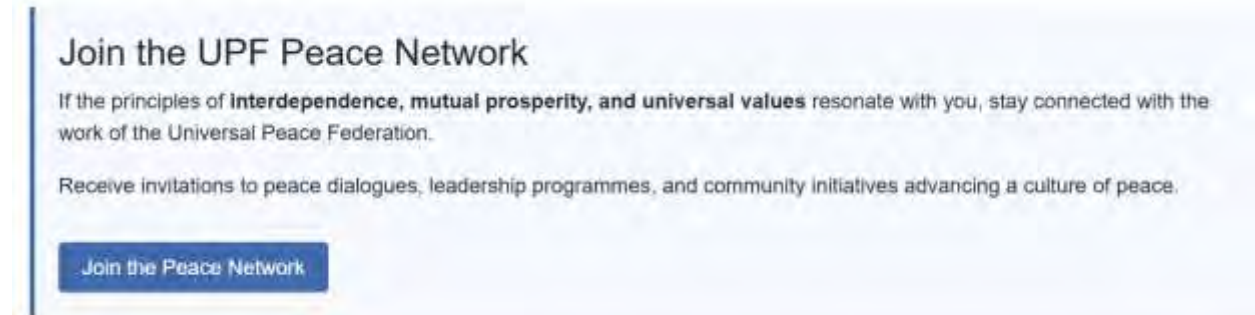
The founders of UPF, [Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon](#) and his wife, [Dr Hak Ja Han](#) articulated this vision as the foundation for a culture of peace - one grounded in universal values, loving families, and responsible leadership.

## Key Takeaways:

The vision of One Family under God recognises the shared dignity and interconnectedness of all people.

It calls for cooperation among cultures, nations, religions, and generations.

The vision is expressed practically through the principles of interdependence, mutual prosperity, and universal values.



The Universal Peace Federation advances this vision through dialogue, leadership initiatives, and [partnerships](#) aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

### **What Does "One Family Under God" Mean?**

The phrase One Family under God expresses the idea that all human beings share a common spiritual origin in a loving Heavenly Parent and therefore belong to a single global family.

This vision does not erase cultural, national, or religious differences. Rather, it recognises diversity as a source of richness within a larger human community.

Just as members of a family may differ in personality and perspective while remaining bound by shared identity and responsibility, humanity can embrace diversity while recognising its deeper unity.

#### **The concept encourages:**

- respect for the dignity of every person
- recognition of shared, sibling responsibility for the wellbeing of others
- cooperation across cultural, religious, and national boundaries
- a commitment to peace and mutual flourishing

This vision stands in contrast to ideologies that emphasise division, competition, or domination.

Instead, it promotes a culture of heart - a culture rooted in empathy, responsibility, and service to others.

### **Why the Vision Matters in Today's World**

The challenges facing humanity today are global in nature.

Climate change, economic instability, armed conflict, migration, and technological transformation affect societies across borders. No nation can address these challenges alone.

The vision of One Family under God encourages a shift from competition to cooperation. It recognises that the wellbeing of one community is linked to the wellbeing of others.

This perspective aligns closely with the goals of the international community, including the [United](#)

[Nations' Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#), which call for collaboration across nations, sectors, and cultures.

By recognising humanity as a single family, leaders and citizens alike are encouraged to pursue solutions that benefit not only their own communities but the wider global society.

### **The Peace Principles: Interdependence, Mutual Prosperity, and Universal Values**

The vision of One Family under God is expressed practically through three guiding principles, [Interdependence, Mutual Prosperity, and Universal Values](#), that shape the work of the Universal Peace Federation.

#### **Interdependence**

Interdependence recognises that individuals, communities, and nations are deeply interconnected.

Economic systems, environmental challenges, health issues, and security concerns transcend national borders. Cooperation and shared responsibility are therefore essential.

Interdependence encourages

- dialogue between nations and cultures
- partnerships between governments, civil society, and faith communities
- shared learning and innovation for the common good

Through conferences, educational initiatives, and international networks, UPF promotes collaborative solutions to global challenges.

#### **Mutual Prosperity**

Mutual prosperity affirms that true prosperity should benefit all members of society.

Economic development that leaves large segments of society behind creates instability and social fragmentation.

The principle of mutual prosperity encourages:

- inclusive economic development
- fair access to education and opportunity
- ethical economic practices that serve communities

This vision aligns with international efforts to reduce poverty, strengthen social cohesion, and build sustainable economies.

#### **Universal Values**

Universal values provide the ethical foundation for peaceful coexistence.

Across cultures and religions, societies recognise core values such as:

- respect for human dignity
- honesty and integrity
- compassion and responsibility
- commitment to justice and peace

UPF promotes character education and ethical leadership as practical ways to cultivate these values within individuals, communities, and institutions.

Together, these three principles - interdependence, mutual prosperity, and universal values - provide a practical framework for realising the vision of One Family under God.

### **Applying the Vision: How UPF Advances a Culture of Peace**

The Universal Peace Federation advances this vision through a wide range of initiatives that bring together leaders from many sectors of society.

These initiatives include:

dialogue among religious leaders promoting interfaith cooperation ([Interreligious Association for Peace and Development - IAPD](#))

parliamentary engagement through international networks of legislators ([International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace - IAPP](#))

character education programmes encouraging ethical leadership (Nigerian Character Education)

art and cultural programmes drawing upon diverse cultures ([International Association of Arts and Culture for Peace - IAACP](#))

youth leadership initiatives and service projects (Religious Youth Service and IAYSP)

'Peace Road', a vision of an international highway network connecting the world. ([Peace Road](#))

Through these efforts, UPF works to translate ideals into practical action that contributes to peace and sustainable development.

### **A Global Movement for Peace**

Since its founding in 2005, the Universal Peace Federation has convened conferences, leadership dialogues, and global forums dedicated to advancing peace and cooperation. Its initiatives bring together policymakers, scholars, religious leaders, civil society representatives, and youth leaders to address shared challenges and explore constructive solutions. These efforts aim to foster a culture of peace grounded not only in diplomatic agreements but also in ethical leadership, strong families, and responsible citizenship.

The vision of One Family under God provides a moral compass for these efforts, reminding humanity that peace begins with recognising the dignity and value of every person.

### **Towards a Culture of Heart**

At its deepest level, the vision of One Family under God calls for a transformation of perspective.

It invites people to see others not as strangers, competitors, or adversaries, but as members of a shared human family.

Such a perspective encourages empathy, cooperation, and a shared responsibility.

A culture of heart - a culture rooted in compassion and service - creates the social foundations necessary for lasting peace.

Through dialogue, education, and partnerships, the Universal Peace Federation continues to promote this vision across nations and communities.

## Frequently Asked Questions

What does "One Family under God" mean? The phrase expresses the idea that all people share a common spiritual origin from a loving Heavenly Parental figure, and therefore belong to one global family. It emphasises human dignity, unity in diversity, and shared, sibling responsibility for peace.

Who introduced the concept? The concept was articulated by the founders of the Universal Peace Federation, [Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon](#) and [Dr Hak Ja Han](#), as a guiding vision for global peacebuilding.

How does UPF promote this vision? UPF advances this vision through international dialogue, leadership education, interfaith cooperation, youth programmes, and community service initiatives.

How can individuals contribute to this vision? Individuals can contribute by promoting understanding, strengthening families and communities, and supporting initiatives that encourage dialogue and cooperation.

### Be part of building a culture of peace

If this message resonated with you, take the next step:

<b>Join our Peace Network</b> Email updates with thoughtful insights, invitations, and ways to serve.	<b>Become a Monthly Supporter</b> Help sustain our long-term peace initiatives and leadership development.
<b>Become an Ambassador for Peace</b> Join a global network of ethical leaders and bridge-builders.	<b>Get Involved in our Work</b> Interfaith cooperation, youth leadership, gender equality, community service.

### Most relevant next reads

Continue exploring how peace, dialogue, and ethical leadership are shaping a more just and harmonious world:

[UPF Principles of Peace October 4th 2025](#)

[Strengthening Communities Through Volunteer Action](#)

[100 Days of Harmony and Hope](#)

[Should we Mourn the Demise of the International Rule of Law or Find Another Way](#)

Broader UPF context

[UPF Celebrates 20 Years of Global Peacebuilding](#)

[Dr Hak Ja Han - Mother of Peace, A Life Dedicated to Unity, Family, and Global Peacebuilding](#)

[Universal Peace Federation Declares Spiritual Unity and Religious Freedom](#)

[Honouring a Legacy of Peace - Rev Dr Sun Myung Moon](#)