

## This week in history, August 13-19:

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### August 13, 1985 PWPA Conference on "The Fall of the Soviet Empire"



*The Second International Conference of the Professors World Peace Academy (PWPA), scheduled for August 13 to 17, convened under the title "The Fall of the Soviet Empire."*

Despite its declining, even exhausted economy, in 1985 the Soviet Union still appeared as formidable as ever. At that time, True Father insisted that the Second International Conference of the Professors World Peace Academy (PWPA), scheduled for August 13 to 17, be convened under the title "The Fall of the Soviet Empire." Several prominent professors struggled with the title, considering it too extreme, but True Father refused to relent. During the conference, over 150 "Sovietology" experts and 100 international scholars presented 80 papers which resulted in four books. In the end, the conference was prophetic. Within a few years the Soviet Union began to crumble. One scholar, writing several years later in *The National Interest*, reported, "It is hard to believe

that ... [Reverend Moon] got it right when the CIA, Brookings, RAND, Harvard, Columbia and the rest got it wrong."

### August 13, 1996 True Parents Donate 29 Ambulances to Towns in Brazil

In 1995, True Father undertook an ambitious speaking tour of twenty-three Latin American nations, which included audiences with eight heads of state. In these speeches and meetings, he emphasized the region's "stunning and abundant potential." That same year he began investing in properties, centering on Jardim, a town in the Brazilian outback state of Mato Grosso do Sol, a land of "two million people and twenty million cows." There True Father established New Hope Farm and made it a focus of the movement's activity in the late 1990s. True Parents assigned UTS graduates from the Class of 1996 to 33 towns surrounding Jardim. When True Parents learned there were no hospitals in many of them, they donated 29 new ambulances to towns within a 200-kilometer radius of New Hope Farm and sent a medical team to each of them.

### August 13, 2012 True Father's Final Prayer



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True Father was admitted to St. Mary's Hospital in Seoul on August 3, 2012, due to cold symptoms that worsened into pneumonia. On August 12, after 10 days of tests and treatment, he insisted on returning to the Cheon Jeong Gung Peace Palace. After arriving, True Father went from room to room in a wheelchair, visiting the East, West, North and South of the facility. He touched the table at which he and True Mother sat during Hoon Dok Hwe and many other items, now and then saying, "Please be well." Those things he could not touch with his hands he observed with his eyes, holding True Mother's hand tightly and

repeating now and then, "Mother, thank you." The following day, True Father's condition continued to worsen. Nevertheless, he insisted on visiting Cheongshim Middle and High School, Chung Pyung World Peace Center and the Chung Pyung Training Center.

He then came to the sitting room in the Cheon Jeong Gung and asked for a digital recorder. He thought deeply for about ten minutes and then offered his final prayer:

Today, as I have returned the completion of the final perfection of the Father, I am aware that I have offered my whole life up to this moment to the Father. According to His Will, I am spending this time to bring my life to a conclusion, using this time to bring it to a close with Jeong Seong. ... Tribal messiahs have established a name that can represent the nation. I have accomplished all these tasks. I have accomplished everything.

Afterward True Mother took True Father to Cheongshim Medical Center, where his strength appeared to fail, and he was rushed back to St. Mary's Hospital in Seoul. He remained in the Intensive Care Unit there until August 31, when True Mother directed that he be returned to Cheongshim Medical Center. True Father ascended on September 3 (H.C. 7.17).

### **August 15, 1945 Japan Surrenders, World War II Ends**



*The Independence Day of Korea*

Imperial Japan surrendered on August 15, 1945, bringing World War II to an end. The war's end sparked nationwide rejoicing in Korea, which had been under Japanese occupation for 40 years.

Unificationists regard August 15, 1945 as the beginning of True Father's public ministry. According to True Father, "The end of World War II was a unique time in human history." It was, he stated, "the ideal time for the Second Advent."

At the same time, there were formidable challenges. Korea was occupied by new powers, the USSR in the North and the U.S. in the South. There was political chaos and social disruption as several million refugees returned. In addition, Korean churches were disunited, divided between those that had accommodated Shinto shrine worship under the Japanese and those that had resisted. Thus, while his countrymen shouted "Mansei" in the streets, True Father foresaw tremendous struggles ahead for Korea, and found it difficult to join in the independence celebrations.

### **August 15, 1948 The Republic of Korea Is Established**



*The Republic of Korea was formally established, with Syngman Rhee as the first president, August 15, 1948*

After Japan's surrender to the Allied powers, Korea did not gain its independence. Instead, the USSR and the U.S. established separate trusteeships divided at the 38th parallel. In effect, Korea was subjected to Soviet and U.S. military occupations. This fomented discontent, especially among Korean patriots.

The UN General Assembly called for a UN-supervised general election, but this was rejected. A general election for a Constitutional Assembly was held in the South, a constitution was adopted, and on August 15, 1948, the Republic of Korea was formally established, with Syngman Rhee as the first president.

Less than a month later, a communist regime, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, was proclaimed under Kim Il Sung in the North. The division of Korea during the years 1945-48 was a political and providential failure. True Father traveled north in 1946 to avert this. In the end, he was arrested and spent nearly three years in a North Korean labor camp, liberated only after the outbreak of the Korean War, which resulted in a death toll of over 1.2 million.

**August 15, 1957**

**Wolli Haesul Is Published**

Wolli Haesul (Explanation of the Principle) was the first official publication of Unification Church doctrine. It is based on True Father's core revelation and teachings and was written by Hyo Won Eu, the church's first president, under True Father's direct supervision. It followed Wolli Wonbon (Original Text of the Principle), True Father's handwritten text which circulated in copied manuscripts from 1952. Wolli Haesul was the standard Principle text until 1966. At that time it was superseded by Wolli Kangron (Discourse on the Principle), which expanded the text's content and served as the basis of English translations Divine Principle (1973) and Exposition of the Divine Principle (1996). Wolli Haesul was instrumental in the church's expansion during the 1950s and early 1960s.

**August 18, 2000**

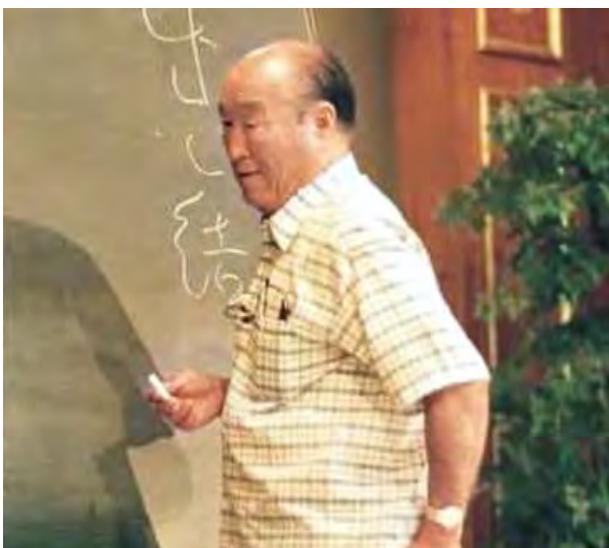
**True Father Proposes Interreligious Council at the United Nations**



The United Nations convened a Millennium Summit, from September 6 to 8, 2000, which was the largest gathering of world leaders in history to that date. It resulted in the UN Millennium Declaration and UN Millennium Development Goals. Prior to that meeting, the Unification movement convened Assembly 2000 from August 17 to 19 at the New York headquarters of the United Nations. It was co-sponsored by the Permanent Missions to the UN of Indonesia, Uganda and Mongolia under the theme "Renewing the United Nations and Building a Culture of Peace." More than 400 world leaders from over 100 nations attended, including Oscar Arias, former president of Costa Rica and Nobel Peace Prize laureate; Robert Dole, former U.S. Senate majority leader and Republican presidential candidate; the late Sir Edward Heath, former prime minister of the United Kingdom; Kenneth Kaunda, former president of Zambia; and Richard Thornburgh, former UN undersecretary general and governor of Pennsylvania. The centerpiece of Assembly 2000 was True Father's August 18 keynote address, ["Renewing the United Nations to Build Lasting Peace."](#) True Father made three proposals. The key one called for the establishment of "an interreligious assembly to serve as a senate or council within the United Nations," requiring that "each nation, in addition to its current ambassador, send a religious ambassador ... to serve as a member of the religious assembly or U.N. senate." A second proposal called for the creation of "peace zones in areas of conflict ... governed directly by the United Nations" with a special emphasis on North and South Korea. The third called for an official commemorative day to uphold the ideal of the family, "Specifically ... that True Parents' Day be established as a day of global celebration." True Father's proposals launched the Unification movement's Ambassador for Peace and Abel UN efforts.

**August 18, 2001**

**First Workshop on Unification Thought and VOC for the Worldwide Leadership**



The first Workshop on Unification Thought and the Theory of Victory over Communism for the Worldwide Leadership was held at Jeju International Training Center from August 18 to 31, 2001. Around 500 leaders, including leaders of mission countries, national messiahs and heads of domestic organizations, were in attendance. At the opening ceremony True Father emphasized, "Starting from the individual to the family, we must be decisive in this era of God's sovereignty." True Parents supervised and personally taught participants during the 14-day workshop. (Materials provided by the FFWPU History Compilation Committee.)