

True Mother's Wholehearted Investment in the African People -- Coffee Training

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We have just concluded, here in Kona Hawaii, a truly an amazing conference; more than a conference, this was an International Leadership Conference that was initiated by True Mother. It convened twenty-one leading leaders from Africa. Ten nations represented -- Uganda, Zambia, Liberia, Cameroon -- West Africa, East Africa, Southern Africa -- Malawi, Senegal, Burkina Faso, Equatorial Guinea, Togo.

Among these leaders there are Members of Parliament, representatives of government ministries, religious leaders, clergy, tribal chiefs, royal leaders and rulers that we refer to as his majesty or her majesty -- a great gathering. Our theme has been dedicated to entrepreneurship and moving toward sustainable development in Africa.

This conference was unique in that our founder, True Mother, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, wanted not only -- let's say, education and core values and principles, which are the roots of building a good society, a good nation -- but wanted to deal with practical realities and how we can transform societies. One way is through building an economic

foundation -- finding jobs for young people and especially, developing industries.

The world's best coffee

This conference, here, in Kona focused on African delegates who came here to learn specifically about the coffee industry -- about the production of coffee, the processing of coffee and the creation of the world's best coffee, Kona coffee which takes place right here in Kona, where they have the soil and the rainfall and elevation and climate that are conducive to making the best coffee in the world.

We are stimulating these African leaders with the potential for creating these economic entrepreneurial activities in their countries. The response has been overwhelming positive and enthusiastic -- 13 beyond our expectations. We arrived here not entirely knowing how this would play out, but on the opening day after people traveled thirty hours to come here... Flights from Johannesburg take over sixteen hours to reach Atlanta Georgia, from there to Los Angeles, add six hours, from Los Angeles to Kona another six hours -- people traveled thirty hours to be here. They felt there is something important about being here and we could feel that deep in our hearts and in our minds as we came together. It seemed as if the people had been handpicked for this mission and purpose.



Into the fields



We visited the Hawaiian Queen Coffee Farm, which was established by True Parents. We learned about the coffee business through the managers, Mr. Adler, Adrian with Mr. Farley Jones and Bruce Brown. They were so inspired to see the coffee trees with the red berries and to learn about how True Parents had invested here in Kona, in Hawaii and this center. We refer to it as a holy ground in the Asia Pacific.

They came away very stimulated. We then went on to visit and to see King Garden and Queen Garden, our True Parents' residences, our True Parents' training centers, if you will, where leaders have gathered from throughout the world. They'd come here to this -- the middle of nowhere on the one hand and on the other hand, the middle of everywhere--the center of the Pacific Ocean, the center of the Asia Pacific era. They were so inspired. We also went to the heart of Kona coffee processing, where the beans are collected and dried and washed and saw quality control of the highest standards, which exist to produce the world's very best coffee. We had hands-on experience, not just theoretical experience. We heard presentations on the New Village Movement, the Sae Maul Movement in Korea, which transformed Korea starting in the sixties and seventies, and which our True Parents initiated and that led to the economic miracle of Korea. The World Bank has acknowledge that, and many African countries now are looking at this model, so we emphasized the potential of this New Village Movement, it's applicability. We are seeing through this conference the applicability of True Parents' vision and core principles and values to real life situations.



Youth need opportunities

One participant, just this morning, in her reflection said, "Think now, what is going on right now. Hundreds of thousands -- millions -- of young Africans are fleeing to the north to try to enter Europe because they feel there are no jobs or economic opportunities in Africa. Many of these people have had their hopes dashed. There is no great opportunity waiting and they live suffering and difficult lives." She said, "If we can take this vision that we have learned here -- the principles on the one hand that we learned from Family Federation and UPF together with some practical business development, some entrepreneurial project, such as the coffee industry, which we can use to create economic vitality and dynamism, that will help Africa, help the world.



Africa is truly rising and True Mother has somehow recognized this. That is why she has initiated, through UPF, the Africa Summit in Senegal and this special conference that has been convened. We felt the hand of God here. We did not just feel that we are at a business meeting, although that was part of it -- we heard from business experts, professionals of the highest levels. We also heard from deeply faithful, religious spiritual and moral persons and we are bringing these two together to create a new kind of vision in society, in the world. This was a truly amazing conference and each participant is now proposing that we must do this again. They are

saying, We want this done in our country of Cameroon. We want this done in our country of Malawi. We want this done in our country of Cote D'Ivoire, because they can see its value and importance.

Again, these are people that have come here with the encouragement and the blessing and in fact -- the appointment -- of their head of state. These are high officials and they have all conveyed passionately that when they return they are going to take what they have learned, share it at the highest levels, and begin the process of implementation. We will work with them in that ongoing process. I cannot say enough about this great experience here. It truly bodes extremely well as we move forward with our work through UPF centered on our founder and leader Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, True Mother. Thank you.



We will move forward, work together to build this world of lasting peace, and to promote sustainable development and build the world that God, in the original ideal of creation, envisioned. Most of all, what can I say other than to thank our True Mother, our beloved True Mother. We stand here on your foundation. We are amazed at your insight. Truly, we can see the will of Heaven working through you and your providential wisdom, because this was not an ordinary conference. So, truly from the bottom of my heart and on behalf of all these participants who again and again thanked our True Mother and who understand that behind this initiative and the blessing that we receive through this initiative is our beloved True Mother, I wish to say, Thank you. So we send our love to you, True Mother. These participants are transformed because of you.