



Family Federation for World Peace and Unification

EUROPE & MIDDLE EAST

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March 30, 2020

Ascension Message for Mrs. Chizuko Abe

Today, our British and European Family joins our worldwide FFWPU community in sending a great saint and dearly loved elder sister to the Heavenly realm. Mrs. Chizuko Abe will always be remembered with affection for her love and devotion to True Parents over a long lifetime of service as sincere and down-to-earth teacher, missionary and mentor.

The Abes served for years as National Messiahs for Israel, where they played a leading role in such providential events as the "Coronation of Jesus" in December of 2003 at the height of the Second Intifada. Before that, Mrs. Abe served with her husband Mr. Masatoshi Abe for many years as National Leaders for the United Kingdom, leaving a lasting impression on a generation of British members for her wisdom, insight and 'tough-love' counsel. Fumiko and I will always be personally grateful to the Abes for their love, care and guidance during the early years of our blessing and marriage life together.

The last year has been a difficult time for Mrs. Abe and all her family as she battled to awake from a coma and the debilitating impact of her treatment and care. Today, she is indeed released from the bondage of physical suffering, and goes to take her rightful, eternal and peaceful place next to our True Father in heaven. Fumiko and I, and all British, European and Middle East members join together in offering thanks and appreciation to our Heavenly Parent on this important and holy occasion. Please know that we are with you in spirit, and we are offering our prayers for all the Abe family every day this week.

Thanks to our True Parents' teaching, we know that today is a happy and victorious day, not the end but a new beginning. True Father often reminded us that, just as the baby in the womb cannot comprehend the enormity of this world, we here on earth struggle to understand that life in the spirit world is indeed vast and glorious beyond our imagination. He went on to say:

The moment we enter the spirit world should be a time that we enter a world of joy and victory with the fruits born of our lives on earth. It is a time for those of us remaining on earth to send off the departed with joy. It should be a time for great celebration. We should be shedding tears of joy instead of tears of sadness. That is the way of the sacred and noble Seonghwa Ceremony, the first step the spirit of the departed takes toward enjoying eternal life in attendance of God, within His embrace. At the moment of death, our spirits should feel more excited and thrilled than a newlywed bride feels when she goes to her groom's home for the first time.

Mrs. Chizuko Abe, our dear elder sister, as you step forward now into this glorious and final phase of your journey to oneness with our Heavenly Parent, please know that our entire church movement are praying for you and offering you our love, respect and admiration. As you have so long been in the forefront of our European and worldwide Family, please offer greetings to True Father on all our behalf today!

With all blessings and love,

Sincerely,

Michael & Fumiko Balcomb
Regional Group Chair, Europe & the Middle East