



10th Anniversary of True Father's Holy Ascension

August 14, 2022

In Vienna, an Interreligious Service was held in order to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of True Father's Holy Ascension. Peace ambassadors and Elders of our Unification Movement gave testimonies about their encounter with Father Moon.

At the beginning, Elisabeth Cook, President of the Austrian FFWPU, recalled some of True Father's most memorable life achievements: how the *Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity* started in a small cardboard hut on a hillside of Busan, then spread throughout Korea and Japan, and starting in the 1960-is, in the USA. Among the many achievements of True Parents in the USA, she mentioned *The Washington Times* and the *Unification Theological Seminary* as well as the publication "*World Scripture*", which gives tribute to the many religions of the world. The Blessing movement and True Mother's world level activities concluded the overview.

Peter & Dominique Haider, Austria's UPF president since almost 20 years, were the next speakers. They shared some of their experiences with Father Moon, specially referring to UPF as an organisation, founded by Rev. Moon with the mission to foster world peace on all levels of society and between the nations. "What characterizes Rev. Moon the most is his total investment in all he undertook", Mr. Haider explained, and "for Rev. Moon, no mountain was too high to climb, no valley too deep and no place too dirty to go there and clean it up", summarized Mr. Haider his memories of Rev. Moon.

Mrs. Domnique Haider shared some personal experiences with Father Moon when, in her youth, she was part of an international missionaries' team working in the USA, in Korea and Japan. "Most grateful I feel towards Rev. Moon", Mrs. Haider concluded, "that he introduced my husband to me and that we could build a beautiful Family!"

Mr. Memet Zeki Metin, an author and founder of the organisation "World Citizens" was one of the Peace Ambassadors who attended True Father's speech in Berlin

2011, his last speech in Europe. He remembered his experience from that meeting: “I thought Rev. Moon is an old man, what does he have to say? But when he came on stage and started his speech, I realized that he was strong as a lion, and that he had the ability to change the atmosphere in the big hall so that I perceived it as a garden full of beautiful flowers! Rev. Moon is certainly one of the few men whom God chose for a great mission!”

Mr. Abdallah Sharief, President of UNCAV, a Journalists’ Association at the UN in Vienna, gave us insight how, through divine guidance, he managed to support Mother Moon’s entry to the UN in Vienna in 2015 with the help of a Sudanese diplomat so that she could deliver her speech in the UN, followed by the beautiful songs sung by the Little Angels.

Mr. Gursharan Sing Mangat, representing the Sikh community in Vienna, gave his reflections about True Father’s life on the basis of the speeches given before him, noticing that he would have loved to know True Father, a man chosen by God for a great mission. Also, he drew many parallels between Sikhism and Unificationism.

Finally, Mr. Johann Hinterleitner, former President of the Austrian FFWPU, recalled a meeting with Father Moon on the island of Jejudo in the south of Korea, which made him understand eternity, because he forgot the everyday life during the days he and other leaders from all over the world spent together with True Father.

As a beautiful closing, members of the Vienna Peace choir presented the song “Heal the World”.

An audience of more than 90 persons, among them Ambassadors of Peace and representatives of various religions, attended and enjoyed the event.

Elisabeth Cook





