

FFWPU Europe and Middle East: Health Fears for Holy Mother Han, 82 and being Detained

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November 8, 2025



[Mother Han](#) returning (in the black car) to Seoul Detention Center on November 7, 2025

Seoul prosecutors show no health concerns: Court denies 82-year-old detainee's medical leave extension, orders return to tiny detention cell

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Korea JoongAng Daily

The large newspaper Korea JoongAng Daily reported November 7, that [Family Federation](#) leader [Hak Ja Han](#), also called [Mother Han](#), has returned to detention after a Seoul court denied her request for a longer medical leave. The decision, announced on Friday, ended [Han](#)'s 3-day temporary release, which had been granted to allow her to undergo eye surgery. The Seoul Central District Court's Criminal Division rejected Han's plea for an extension, ruling that the medical treatment for which she was released had already been completed and that there was no justification for further suspension of her detention.



[Mother Han](#) being brought from Seoul Detention Center in a wheelchair November 4, 2025

The Chosun Ilbo reported 4th November that [Hak Ja Han](#) had been released that day. According to the JoongAng Daily this was on the condition that she refrain from contact with anyone except medical personnel during her hospital stay. After successfully completing her surgery, [Mother Han](#) applied to extend her temporary release until 13th November, arguing that she required additional time to recover from the operation. However, the court turned the request down and ordered her return to the Seoul Detention Center before the 4 p.m. deadline on Friday 7th Nov.

The JoongAng Daily writes that according to the Special Counsel Min Joong-ki's investigative team, which has been leading the probe into [Mother Han](#), her medical needs had already been met and did not warrant continued exemption from custody. The rejection of [Han](#)'s request underscores the court's strict stance on detention extensions and signals that her ongoing legal proceedings will continue without further medical delays. [Mother Han](#)'s brief hospital stay thus concludes amid heightened scrutiny surrounding her case and the broader

investigation into the [Family Federation](#)'s leadership and activities.



Demian Dunkley (Oct. 19, 2025)

Adding to this, Demian Dunkley, President of the [Family Federation](#) in North America, wrote from Seoul in The Monarch Report on X November 7,,

"82-year-old [Hak Ja Han](#) [...] underwent urgent eye surgery on 5th November for her end-stage glaucoma amid a brief suspension of pretrial detention. Facing embezzlement charges, [Han](#) risks permanent blindness without interventions every four months, yet her release - limited to hospital grounds - ends today, November 7,, mandating an immediate return to the detention center post-procedure.

Medical experts emphasize that recovery from such glaucoma surgeries, like trabeculectomy, requires 4-6 weeks in a sterile, low-stress environment: wearing eye shields, applying drops for weeks to months, avoiding bending, lifting, straining, or irritants to prevent infections or complications that could hasten vision loss - challenges amplified for elderly patients with slower healing and higher risks.

Detention centers, often overcrowded with limited medical oversight, are unfit for this delicate phase, potentially exacerbating her condition through restricted movement and exposure risks. Critics argue the prosecution and judiciary prioritize custody over humane health considerations, raising questions about pretrial practices in South Korea."



From the X-page of [The Monarch Report](#) Nov. 8, 2025

In another post on November 7,, Dunkley reports from Seoul,

"82-year-old Dr. [Hak Ja Han](#) - revered as the 'Mother of Peace' - is the oldest person ever in the world to be detained pre-trial. Dr. [Hak Ja Han](#)'s case at age 82 is exceptional not just in South Korea but worldwide.

Pre-trial detention (i.e., held in custody during investigation before a full trial) for political crimes like bribery or corruption is rare for individuals over 80 due to humanitarian considerations, health exemptions, and alternatives like house arrest or bail.

Globally, such cases often involve former leaders from countries with aggressive anti-corruption drives (e.g., Peru, South Korea, South Africa), but documented instances peak in the 70s, with [Han](#) holding the record for age. International norms (e.g., UN Mandela Rules) emphasize alternatives to detention for the elderly to avoid health risks.

Peru leads in prosecuting ex-leaders (5 of last 6 presidents implicated in Odebrecht scandal), but even there, ages top out at 80. In democracies like the US/UK, pre-trial detention for white-collar political crimes is uncommon regardless of age - bail is standard unless flight risk is high.

Even after her recent eye surgery which requires 4-6 weeks of recovery, request for extension on her temporary release was denied by South Korean government. Today is day 46 of her detainment."

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From a large demonstration rally in support of [Mother Han](#) near Seoul City Hall 2nd November 2025 organized by Incheon, Gyeonggi Northern Diocese of the [Family Federation for World Peace and Unification](#). The rally had the theme “One Heart, One Peace Rally for Religious Freedom and Peace”. It was attended by about 2,000 persons. Screenshot from video by PeaceTV

It all starts with my conviction.

What are we doing here? What is [Mother](#) doing here [in the detention center]? Is it right or not? If it's not right, then why?

And we can analyze all of the motivations and all of the issues, but right now, we have the [Mother of Peace](#) in the detention center and the Korean government, the Korean prosecutors are making a martyr out of her. Is that really a time to be quiet?

I'm telling you, when [Mother](#) says to us, “Don't worry about me, just worry about one another,” I'm telling you now as a man, as a brother, as a son, and as the chairman and president of the [Church](#) in America and Continental Director of the USA and Canada, I'm telling you, “This is not a time to not worry about [Mother](#)!”

In that sense, we should stand up and we should speak up. We should have our conviction. It starts with my conviction.



From a large demonstration rally in support of [Mother Han](#) near Seoul City Hall 2nd November 2025 organized by Incheon, Gyeonggi Northern Diocese of the [Family Federation for World Peace and Unification](#). The rally had the theme “One Heart, One Peace Rally for Religious Freedom and Peace”. It was attended by about 2,000 persons. Screenshot from video by PeaceTV

Who is she? If I'm clear who she is, then how on earth could it possibly be okay for her to be stuck in there [the detention center]?

It's not okay.

And yes, we should make our families and our communities loving environments, and we should, you know, go about our daily lives.

And you know what? Sometimes I'm thinking when I'm going about my daily life, which is constantly working on this situation, I'm sitting in a restaurant, or I'm sitting in a hotel, or I'm sitting back home and I'm eating a hot plate of food that [Mother](#) can't have.

And I'm thinking, “Demian, is it really okay for you to sit here and eat this meal?”

And what occurs to me is, yes, because you have to eat well, you have to rest your body because you are in the middle of a war. We are fighting a war.

But it's not just a war of guns and bullets, or it's not even a legal war. It's a war of ideas.

How is it possible that so many people around the world still do not understand the time we're living in and who she is?

I believe who she is. And I really have never been in this kind of situation. I couldn't imagine ever being in this kind of situation.



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From a large demonstration march in support of [Mother Han](#) from Seoul City Hall to Namdaemun 2nd November 2025 organized by Incheon, Gyeonggi Northern Diocese of the [Family Federation for World Peace and Unification](#). The march had the theme "One Heart, One Peace Rally for Religious Freedom and Peace". It was attended by about 2,000 persons. Screenshot from video by PeaceTV

But it starts with my conviction. [Holy Mother Han](#), the Mother of Peace, [God's Only Begotten Daughter](#), [True Mother](#), Dr. [Hak Ja Han](#), that same little girl that was barely six or seven years old when she risked her life with her mother and grandmother to cross the Korean border between north and south so that they could physically survive long enough, so that she could dedicate her entire life to preserving herself or her entire life to living for the sake of humanity.

Surely you can recognize she's that kind of a person.

So why is she here [in the detention center]? Is she the mastermind of some devious criminal idea to take over Korea through subversive acts? Really?

The only thing [Mother](#) is guilty of is loving [God](#) and being willing to risk her entire life to manifest that love, guilty of loving [God](#) and feeling and believing with all of her might [God's](#) dream and being willing to give her entire life to realizing that dream. She can't do it alone. She needs to do it with us.

And so those of us who have been touched by the [True Parents'](#) love, who have been touched by the [True Parents'](#) blessing, whether you're standing up in your nation, or whether you're coming here to visit and to pray outside the detention center, or maybe even have a chance to glimpse [Mother](#), we don't know how many days, how many weeks or even months – years maybe – this kind of situation can continue.

So how long before we stand up, and we say, "Release the [Mother of Peace](#)!"?



Demonstrators protesting in support of [Mother Han](#) outside Seoul Detention Center 7th November 2025. Photo: Masataka Asaoka

Because this is completely incorrect, unnecessary overstepping, unfair treatment, unprecedented selective prosecution is called persecution.

And when it's towards a religious leader who's being stopped and blocked from leading a worldwide religious movement, that's called religious persecution.

And when members in this church, in this country feel unsafe to speak to the media or unsafe to speak to their neighbors about what's happening, that's the effect of religious persecution.

When individual freedoms and rights are suppressed, that's not called freedom. It's called repression when you're denied your individual rights to believe and to stand in your faith.

They're not saying, "You're wrong to believe what you believe. You just did this, so you're now having to pay this price."

No. But the result of their action is that our members in Korea are afraid. Our leaders are afraid.

So what will you do? What will I do? I'm telling you, as an American member and as the leader of the North American continent, I'm not going to be quiet. I'm not going to shut up.

I don't have to be rude about it. I don't have to be aggressive about it, but I'm going to be alive about it. In my conviction, this is not right. It's

got to change.

And
there



*From a prayer vigil outside Seoul Detention Center 20th
October 2025 for **Mother Han** to be released. Photo:
Masataka Asaoka*

should be none of us that are satisfied until this problem is solved. Yes.

In the meantime, we should eat. Yes.

In the meantime, we should love one another. Yes.

In the meantime, we should create sanctuaries in our church where
many people want to come. Why?

Because the more they push **Mother** down, the more we will rise up.
The more they try to shut her voice down, the more her dream and her
voice will be heard.

Because it's **God's** dream, which means it's your dream and my dream
and it's worth fighting for.

If it's worth her being stuck in that detention center, crawling on her
hands and knees, eating crappy food, if it's worth her, the **Mother of
Peace**, being in that to prove it, then what would it take for us to stand
up?

What is it worth for us? What is it worth for us to stand up and say it?

It starts with my conviction. It starts with your conviction.

Do you believe God? Do you feel the grace and love of **God**? Do you
believe that **Father** and **Mother** are people who have given their entire
lives to something that's worth fighting for?

Until now, when she is 82, almost 83, she is still fighting for it under
these circumstances.

So, yes, we should go about our daily lives and build our communities,
but not with some kind of attitude taht everything's going to be okay,
just let it go its course.

No, we need to build our communities because thousands and
millions of people are going to want to ask you, find you, because
they're going to be interested.

The more they push her down, the more people will be curious. The
more they silence her, the more **God's** voice will be heard.

So get your homes ready! Get your communities ready!

And in the meantime, yes, get online! Because we are an online
ministry now. We are online missionaries now. Not missionaries in
sackcloth clothing holding candles, in prayer only. We are out there like
warriors telling people the truth.

We are at war. And it's a war of ideas.

So what is your idea? It has to come from your conviction. It has to
come from my conviction. So we have to get our minds straight, get
our words straight and then speak up. Don't be quiet! Speak up! [...] I
don't know how many people are standing up.

Stand up! Stand up with me! Follow me! Let's create an online army of

missionaries who are fighting in this war of ideas!

It's a war of ideas, okay? And it's not about politics. It's really about, "Are we children of [God](#) or not? Are we willing to stand up for [God](#) or not? Not in an isolated way, but in a together way and in a beautiful, harmonious way!"



Rev. Demian Dunkley, President of the [Family Federation for World Peace and Unification](#) in North America, on 4th November 2025 outside Seoul Detention Center, South Korea. Screenshot from video by [FFWPU](#)

That's what I wanted to say.

Faith! Freedom! Peace! Release the [Mother of Peace](#) right now!

Featured image above: Rev. Demian Dunkley, President of the [Family Federation for World Peace and Unification](#) in North America, delivering his message on 4th November 2025 outside the Seoul Detention Center, South Korea. Screenshot from video by [FFWPU](#)

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