

The Japanese Unification Church's Plans Outlined for its New Hope Festival

Mieko Kobayashi
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May, 1974 Japanese Unification Church members gathered in a large park to hear Reverend Moon speak

Japanese Unification Church members, in the middle of a 61-day Little Angels run in Tokyo, began planning for the visit of the 360 members of the International One World Crusade, Korean Folk Ballet, and New Hope Singers International.

Unification Church vice president, Mr. Hideo Oyamada, heads the coordinating committee for the IOWC tour, which will open in Tokyo in mid-January at the Kudon Hall. This famous hall, seating about 1500 people, was the site of previous Unification Church events, including the prayer meeting for the Watergate Crisis and the rally on behalf of Japanese wives in North Korea.

The three-day event is being promoted as a Christian revival rally. The eighty-day "New Hope Festival" tour of Japan will spend the first forty days in Tokyo, holding three-day rallies in Yamaha Hall, Toshima Public Hall, and Budokan Hall. Budokan Hall is the largest indoor auditorium in Tokyo, seating 20,000. The 1970 World Anti-Communist League rally was held there.

After the February 13-15 Budokan Hall rally, the "New Hope Festival" will proceed to Sendai, a beautiful historic town in the northern part of Japan. The team will campaign for one week in several other Japanese cities, including Osaka, Nagoya, Kyoto, Hiroshima, and Fukuoka.

Preparations for the eighty-day tour are being organized in Japan by several departments: daily life, rally organization, public relations, training sessions, witnessing, media, and signs and equipment. Printing orders have been made for 52,300 posters, 196,000 pamphlets, and 624,000 tickets for the entire eighty days.

In addition, the Japanese Unification Church is preparing a booklet introducing the IOWC and the various aspects of the program, because many of the tour members will not be able to speak much Japanese. They plan to print 511,000 of these booklets and sell them for approximately \$1.00 each.

The experience gained through New York's Madison Square Garden campaign last fall is being applied in Japan. The television commercial based on the Madison Square Garden event is being duplicated with a Japanese announcer. Publicity in Tokyo will include radio commercials; ads in newspapers, including the Sankei newspapers and various Christian newspapers; ads in news magazines; and posters. In Tokyo plans are being made to paste posters on boards and hang them from trees and light posts.

Six buses with platforms on top and posters on all sides will be prepared for team members to sing and speak from in Tokyo. Each district has at least two such buses, which will be used in succeeding cities.

Beginning on January 4, 337 members of the Japanese Unification Church and 120 Tokyo members will be mobilized to prepare for the Budokan Hall rally. The forty-day campaign will also involve the 290

IOWC members when they arrive.

After each rally, people will be invited to attend three-day seminars. The Sugi Training Center near Tokyo will hold about 200 guests, but Japanese organizers are looking for an additional training center which will hold about 200 more. Two seminars will be held each week, the first Monday-Wednesday and the second Friday-Sunday, as well as a seven-day seminar.

The usual three-day seminar on the Divine Principle in Japan is very serious, with lectures from morning to night. But for this tour, the seminars will be more entertaining, featuring the New Hope Singers International.

An education team is being formed to travel and assist with the "New Hope Festival." About 150 Unification Church members who were being prepared to go to the United States sold tickets for the Little Angels tour this fall, and will now do follow-up work for the "New Hope Festival."

Col. Bo Hi Pak, Reverend Moon's translator and assistant during the American Day of Hope tours, will be the main speaker at the "New Hope Festival" rallies, and Reverend Moon may occasionally speak as well. The format of the rallies will be similar to the "Celebration of Life" programs in the United States last spring and summer. The seminar lecturer will be the Unification Church leader of the respective district.

Recently the Japanese Unification Church hosted the Third Professors World Peace Academy Conference involving scholars from Korea, Taiwan, and Japan. The theme of the December 19--22 conference was "For Asia Tomorrow." About sixty Japanese professors attended, including the observers.

The first such conference was held last year in Seoul and the second in Taipei. The fourth conference will be held in conjunction with the Fourth International Conference on the Unity of the Sciences in New York this fall.

A number of Japanese professors have been very cooperative in such endeavors. One is Mr. Nobuyuki Fukuda, vice president of Tsukuba University, a new and innovative university. A physicist, he worries about the future of Japan and the future of the youth.

The conference chairman was Mr. Masatoshi Matsushita, president of the Professors World Peace Academy of Japan. A former member of the House of Counsellors (part of the Diet) and former president of Rikkyo University, he has no ambition for himself, he just wants to help others. He appreciates Reverend Moon very much and has found in the Divine Principle the hope for saving the world. He attends important meetings sponsored by the Japanese Unification Church and helps them in many ways.

A major project of the Japanese Unification Church this fall was the 61 days continuous performances of the Little Angels in Tokyo, from October 29 through December 29. Church members sold tickets for the twice daily performances, about \$15.00 for special tickets and about \$12.00 for general admission. The first twenty days went very well, but selling became more difficult later. Ambassadors of foreign countries were invited to the performances and then brought back stage co meet the dancers and have pictures taken. Through the Little Angels it was very easy to make associations with many kinds of people.

The Japanese Unification Church greatly emphasizes work with students. One group of Japanese students and three groups of Korean residents of Japan went to the United States for seminars last year. The first two seminars for Korean student residents were not notably successful, but the third was more so. Young Korean residents in Japan are very easily influenced by the North Korean Communist Party and many lean toward pro-Communist ideas.

Asian students in general have been invited to programs where the victory over Communism theory is presented, and films of Communist activities in North Korea and Vietnam are shown. Many of the students from Vietnam, Taiwan, and other Asian countries had an anti-Communist background at home but are easily influenced by Japanese leftist students. Several Japanese Unification Church members visited Vietnam recently, and were shown films and taken on tours of the country.

The South Vietnamese embassy in Tokyo supplied them with some films they first saw in Vietnam for education in Japan. The Vietnamese embassy would like to carry on such programs themselves, but they don't have the staff or budget. Japanese Unification Church members have the motivation and the people, but need the materials. Another aspect of their anti-Communist educational work is giving lectures to the younger members of the Liberal Democratic Party in each district and showing them films of Communist activities in other countries.

Communist power on Japanese university campuses is not as strong now as it was two or three years ago. Unification Church members don't confront Communists directly, but work with non-committed students. The Zengakuren is not as strong as before, and people who have the energy and desire to do things don't

quite know what to do.

Waseda University has the largest student membership. It has a reputation of being a loud tough university. Keio and Tokyo Universities are more refined, but students there study so much and have no ability to apply their knowledge and act. Japanese Unification Church members always have a clear purpose and goal, and work to achieve it. But students at Tokyo University find it difficult to act out such goals.

Some Japanese Unification Church members are selling ginseng tea to help build a Unification Church headquarters in Seoul. About six months ago there was a ginseng selling training session for wives. The highest seller was Dr. Kuniko Abe. Before selling tea she had studied victory over Communism theory and was inspired with a great desire to save Japan. When she started selling ginseng, she would pray, and the spirit world would help her and guide her which house to go to. At one house she prayed and discovered that the house was Buddhist. She knocked at the door and the woman there invited her in to talk.

Mrs. Abe told the woman, "When I prayed, some spirit told me this house is Buddhist." The woman was so surprised. They talked and talked. She also told the woman, "By inspiration I receive that you are troubled because of your husband, who is involved with another woman." The woman told Mrs. Abe about her situation and was so relieved to find someone to talk to.

"The only way to solve this trouble is to buy ginseng tea," Mrs. Abe said. So the woman bought a carton of six dozen boxes.

She opened a drawer and gave Mrs. Abe the money, saying "I am sorry I have so little money to give you."

This is but one of many amazing stories about selling ginseng. According to Japanese Unification Church president, Mr. Osami Kuboki, "In order to sell ginseng tea, we must be spiritual people."