

## FamFest 4th Edition - Shin Albania: Family as a School of Love

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It has been five years since True Mother declared Albania a Heavenly Nation at the Tirana Summit 2019 (October 25-28). Also, on October 30-31, 2005, we were blessed by True Parents' visit during the inauguration tour of UPF.

Our desire was not just to celebrate these special occasions but to find a way to let the broad public know about Heavenly Parent's and True Parents' eternal dream and make them part of building a heavenly nation, and giving them the chance to recognize this particular golden age we are living in, together with our WangOmma. A way to do so was through a unique Family Federation - Shin Albania project, started in 2022, called FamFest, a Family Festival similar to a campaign on True Family Values with the theme "Family, the School of Love."



After going through a "battle" to receive permission from the city hall, mainly because of the municipality's internal struggles, we finally managed to get the official document just five days before the event. We successfully organized the FamFest in the seaside city of Durres. About 1500 people gathered together, including families, young and old, leaders from different fields, friends, and relatives, to celebrate and entirely focus on family, our Heavenly Parent's institution. Besides many jeongseong devotions offered by the community, we truly felt and realized in every step of the preparations how



Heavenly Parent prepared everything ahead of us. One of our leaders even dreamed that True Mother would come to the square and offer prayer and devotion by the seaside before the event.

During the program, the MC and the speakers shared freely about True Parents, the hopes of True Mothers for Shin Albania, and the importance of commitment to building healthy and happy families.



The FFWPU national president's couple recalled the trust and conviction of True Parents in the blessed families of Shin Albania to make this nation a model nation for Europe. It encouraged the crowd to advance our life journey in the four spheres of love to contribute to a flourishing society and a strong nation.

The local UPF chair gave heartfelt messages, which were well received by the crowds.

Durre's city leader and one HTG missionary, representing the young people, touched the crowds with their sincerity. They shared how grateful they are to their families for raising them and determined to continue the tradition of living for the sake of others.

In addition to the messages given, we had performances by a young couple of famous singers who advocate traditional families, HTG missionaries, and young talents. We continued marching on the city's main boulevard, enthusiastically cheering and promoting True Family Values. FamFest concluded with a lantern festival, where we could symbolically send our prayers and wishes for healthy families and a model nation to Heavenly Parent by releasing the lanterns into the sky.

We offered a photo booth for all families to take pictures, organized games and entertainment for children, and displayed True Parents' autobiographies and other publications.

The local media covered [the event well](#) and significantly impacted the people.

The [invitation post also went viral](#), reaching more than 36K views.

Members and blessed families didn't hesitate to contribute. We are tremendously grateful to them, UPF, and local businesses that joined forces to make the event successful.

I am praying for True Mother's good health and hope for more news to come in the future. Thank you!

Manjola and Gabor Vasmatics  
President of FFWPU - Shin Albania