

WORKING IN AMERICA

1971-1975: GROWTH AND SUCCESS

In 1971, Rev. Moon expanded his ministry to the world level by moving to the United States. He hoped that success in America would have global repercussions. On arrival, he first took care to express gratitude for America's role in liberating his homeland. But he knew that God expected much more from a land that had been so richly blessed. In an early sermon he said America had drifted from its original ideals.

When I first came to America, I went to New York and stood on Fifth Avenue during the rush hour. Suddenly tears began pouring down my face. I looked at the wonder of the Empire State Building and the magnificence of the new Trade Center — the tallest buildings in the world. But I asked myself, "Does God dwell in those buildings?"

New York is becoming more and more a city without God. It is a city of crime. Such a beautiful city is now crumbling. I can see so much immorality and so many signs of godlessness in that city. It was shocking to my eyes as I stood watching during that rush hour. I could see so many things at once that are all intolerable in the sight of God.

Just a few months after arriving in the United States, Rev. Moon began the "Day of Hope" revival tour on February 3, 1972 at the Alice Tully Hall at the Lincoln Center in New York. Though he spoke almost no English, with the aid of an interpreter he went on to seven major US cities, and then to all 50 states with the goal of reviving America's traditional Judeo-Christian values. He spoke in twenty-one cities on the theme "Christianity in Crisis: New Hope." A third speaking tour covered thirty-two cities.

We must be humble. We must initiate from this moment the greatest movement ever on earth, the movement to bring God back home. All of your pride, your wealth, your cars and your great cities are like dust without God. We must bring God back home.

In your homes, your churches, your schools and your national life, our work for God's purpose must begin. Let's bring God back, and make God's presence in America a living reality.

In early 1972, the Unification Church had church centers in ten states. Rev. Moon crisscrossed the United States by bus and van, often driving many hundreds of miles per day to speak at evangelistic gatherings around the country. By the end of the year missionaries were sent out to the forty remaining states to establish more Unification Church centers. Next, Rev. Moon set up the *One World Crusade* evangelical teams with young members from the United States, Britain, Germany, and Japan. Bus teams went state by state in a membership campaign, and before long thousands of young people had accepted his message and dedicated themselves to the Unification Church.

On December 18, 1973, Rev. and Mrs. Moon's sons and daughters, Ye-jin, Hyo-jin, In-jin, Heung-jin, Un-jin, Hyun-jin, and Kook-jin, moved to America.

In early 1974, Rev. Moon was thrust into the national media spotlight when he came out in support of beleaguered US president Richard Nixon at the time of the Watergate scandal. He urged the President to come clean with the American people, and called on all Americans to "Forgive, love and unite."

Rev. Moon met President Nixon and encouraged him to declare a national day of fasting and prayer. He warned President Nixon that if he failed to take this action, he would lose his office and cause irreparable damage to the office of the President. Worse, America would likely lose the war in Vietnam, which would fall into the hands of the communists.

Virtually no one at the time was willing to side with an unpopular president on the verge of impeachment. Rev. Moon's appeal was met with scorn, even though his "Forgive, love and unite" message embodied the essence of Christian practice.

Shortly after President Nixon's resignation, Rev. Moon began a fourth national evangelical tour that began with him speaking to an overflow crowd of 25,000 in New York's Madison Square Garden on September 18, 1974. In the weeks before the campaign, hundreds of volunteers had blanketed New York City with colorful posters proclaiming "September 18th could be your re-birthday," and the preparations were featured in evening news bulletins.

By now, this publicity effort and the fallout from the "Forgive, love and unite" appeal had made Rev. Moon one of the most recognizable people in America. By the time the program began, on the evening of September 18th, every seat at Madison Square Garden was taken.

Some had come to listen to the new message from the East, and others had come to voice their opposition to what they saw as a threat. The crowd inside was noisy, and hecklers interrupted Rev. Moon when he was about to begin his address. He became silent, and then started singing a song. The hecklers quieted down, and Rev. Moon began his two-hour speech. Heated demonstrations continued outside protesting the rally, and the security officers had a busy night.

The tour continued to Philadelphia, Washington DC, Atlanta, Chicago, Seattle, San Francisco, and Los Angeles. In the course of the year, Rev. Moon spoke to thousands of society leaders in all fifty states.

In October, Rev. Moon gave an invitational address to the United States Congress under the title of "America in God's Providence," and on the following year he went back to Capitol Hill to speak on "God's Plan for America."

1975-1976: GLOBAL EXPANSION

After this series of remarkable successes in the United States, Rev. Moon returned to his homeland of Korea to continue his Day of Hope Festivals accompanied by a Global Team of hundreds of young followers from America, Europe and Asia.

Starting with a banquet at the Choseon Hotel on January 16, 1975, the Day of Hope Festivals drew a total of 500,000 people over the span of nine cities: Busan, Daegu, Seoul, Incheon, Jeonju, Kwangju, Daejon, Cheongju, and Chuncheon. After concluding the tour in Korea, the team moved on to Japan. Overall, 300,000 people in seven cities attended these meetings. The Unification Church had truly arrived on the world stage.

In May 1975, with churches already established in Korea, Japan, North America, and many Western European countries, Rev. Moon sent out international missionary teams to countries in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Latin America and Oceania, bringing the total number of nations with Unification Church representatives to 120.

The missionaries reached out people of their assigned country with the *Divine Principle*, Rev. Moon's new teaching about God and His ideal, but that was not all. They also worked through the International Relief Friendship Foundation (IRFF), a non-profit relief agency that was established in 1975. IRFF offered humanitarian relief to individuals and families devastated by poverty, illness, natural disasters, wars and conflicts. It provided food, medicine and clothing supplies in Africa, South America, Asia and Oceania. It has continued to sponsor schools and education in Africa. More recently, it also helped provide food, medicine and emergency supplies after the 9/11 attacks on New York, the tsunami in Indonesia and Hurricane Katrina in the southern United States.

The World Rally for Korean Freedom, held at Yoido, Seoul, on June 7, 1975, addressed the increasing communist threat in Asia. With Saigon and South Vietnam having fallen to communism on April 30, the rally

was held to encourage the Korean people to awaken to the real and imminent threat they were facing from the further spread of communism, including the possibility of another attack from the North. Rev. Moon delivered the main address, entitled "Korea in the World" to an audience of over a million people including 1,000 representatives from sixty nations. It was the largest gathering ever held in Korea at that time.

Returning to the United States, Rev. Moon founded a graduate school, the Unification Theological Seminary (UTS) in Barrytown, New York. Rather than concentrating solely on Unification theology, he wanted its students to learn philosophy, psychology, world religions and homiletics, as well as the histories, theologies, and scriptures of Judaism, Christianity, Islam and other world religions.

Interfaith dialogues at UTS encouraged Rev. Moon to launch the New Ecumenical Research Association (New ERA), and invited Christian ministers to join him in his work. At the first Assembly of the World's Religions, he spoke of the need for inter-religious discussion, understanding and cooperation to solve the problems of poverty, war, injustice and breakdown of the family. It was an early example of the type of interfaith work common today.

Today, UTS has become a fully accredited graduate school offering Doctoral and Master's Degrees in Divinity and Religious Education. UTS is an interfaith seminary and its faculty members have always belonged to a broad range of religious denominations.

On June 1, 1976, during America's bicentennial year, Rev. Moon began yet another evangelical tour with a speech at Yankee Stadium in New York. With heavy rain and high winds just prior to the start of the program, it looked for a moment as if the string of successes was about to come to an end. But somehow, the audience dauntlessly stuck it out and just prior to the event, the rain stopped and the sun began to shine.

In his message that evening, "God's Hope for America," Rev. Moon said that America would only be able to keep God's blessing as an advanced country if it is united with God. He called America a microcosm of the world, a model of an ideal transcending nationality and national boundaries.

In His Providence God anointed America with oil; He poured out abundant blessing upon this land. In a short 200 years, God raised this nation to be the mightiest nation on earth.

But blessing never comes alone; it comes with responsibility. If one forsakes the responsibility, one also forsakes God's blessing. Inevitably the blessing of God will leave, and the nation doing this will decline. Is it not true that the signs of such decline are already apparent in America today?

In what was to become a familiar theme, he then urged Americans to turn back to the spirit of the founding fathers, who came seeking religious freedom. They built their churches and schools before building their own houses and before looking to their own well-being. If that spirit could be revived in America, it would be possible to solve America's many racial and social problems, he said.

In the sight of God, there is no black; there is no white; there is no yellow. We must look at the human race as God sees it. America must return to the true founding spirit of the nation, to the ideals which her ancestors sought to establish with sweat and blood. America must return to Godism, an absolutely God-centered ideology.

Due to the publicity surrounding the rally at the time, the world's media were eager to feature the rally as their lead story. *Newsweek* magazine's cover story at the time, for example, was an appraisal of the history and current situation of the Unification Church, and featured one of the only public interviews that Rev. Moon has ever given.

The Embodiment of Korean Confidence

Chan-Kyun Shin, Editor in Chief, Segye Times, Korea

The first time that Korean media began reporting on Rev. Moon's activities in earnest was in connection with his rally at New York's Yankee Stadium on June 1, 1976, and his address on September 18 of the same year at the Washington Monument, titled, "God's Will and the World."

One Korean journalist who covered the event in Yankee Stadium commented, "He really is the first Korean to have moved the world." He told me that the venue was filled with people, and the event was a great success. He said that he went to the stadium filled with some fifty thousand people and discovered Ameri-

cans there singing "Omayá Nunnaya," a popular song in Korea at the time.

He said he was dumbfounded to find such a large gathering of people singing a Korean song. This was at a time when Korea had barely emerged from the ruins of war, and Koreans still suffered from an inferiority complex that made them wonder, "How is it possible that a Korean could do this?"

It is without a doubt, therefore, that the sight of Rev. Moon crisscrossing the world as the embodiment of Korean confidence contributed to Korea's developing to the position it holds today.

On September 18, 1976, 300,000 people attended the Bicentennial God Bless America Festival at the Washington Monument. Rev. Moon's hoped that the rally would bring God's blessing to America and enlighten the nation about its important mission in world history.

In his speech, *America and God's Will*, Rev. Moon said that God had chosen America as a model for the establishment of the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. The Unification Church and America should cooperate to fulfill God's goal of the providence of salvation, the establishment of the eternal Kingdom of Heaven on earth.

Rev. Moon called upon America to fulfill its blessing as one nation under God, and to create "one world under God." He referred to himself as a "doctor," a "fire fighter" from the outside that has come to help America. He proclaimed that the Unification Church with its "absolutely

God-centered ideology" had the "power to awaken America, and raise up the model of the ideal nation upon this land."

Ladies and gentlemen, at this crossroads of human history, we must listen to the calling of God. God prepared America for 200 years. This is the time for awakening. America must accept her global responsibility. Armed with Godism, she must free the Communist world, and at last, build the Kingdom of God here on earth. God has chosen America as the flag bearer. America must rise up today. Tomorrow may be too late!

In 1978, Rev. Moon spent four months in Great Britain. He called members from around the world to come to work in the United Kingdom. He sent them around the country in a grass-roots community service initiative called "Home Church," a strategy not so very different from the way the church had grown fifteen years earlier in Korea. Each member was to choose an area of 360 homes and serve the people and be examples of God's love.

1975-1985: RISING OPPOSITION

Rev. Moon's appeal for a Christian renewal of America was initially welcomed. However, this receptivity began to diminish soon after he made the controversial Watergate message, "Forgive, love and unite."

The rapid growth of the movement in the United States was another source of public concern. Public reaction varied from positive response to outrage and opposition, with illegal assaults, in the form of forcible kidnappings and psychological assaults or deprogrammings, on adult followers who had decided to join up with the revival work of Rev. Moon.

In an atmosphere approaching hysteria, the enthusiasm and idealism of his young followers were interpreted by some as "brainwashing." Rev. Moon himself was portrayed as a hypnotist and an agent of a foreign government. Some of the previously discredited gossip and wrongful allegations from Korea were dug up and re-hashed.

Inevitably, some politicians came under pressure from voters alarmed by the bad press about Rev. Moon and the Unification Church. The United States government launched an onslaught of official investigations of Rev. Moon involving nearly twenty federal agencies. Hearings were conducted on Capitol Hill to warn of the dangers of new religious movements.

In 1978, the House Committee on International Organizations held hearings at which the Unification Church was accused of spying for the Korean government. Chaired by Democratic Congressman Donald Fraser, the Committee called Col. Bo-hi Pak, one of Rev. Moon's closest assistants, to testify.

In 1981, an Internal Revenue Service investigation brought an indictment against Rev. Moon charging him with evading income taxes nearly a decade earlier, as well as conspiracy. Rev. Moon and his lawyers correctly argued, but unfortunately in vain, that the funds in question belonged not to Rev. Moon but to the church.

All churches in the United States are given tax-exempt status. The charges against the church leader from Korea, therefore, represented selective prosecution of a then-unpopular religious leader. The lawyers produced evidence to show how Rev. Moon had invested millions of dollars in the United States, but their argument was to no avail. In 1984 Rev. Moon was sentenced to prison in Danbury, Connecticut. It was the sixth imprisonment of his life.

Many Christian leaders who never knew or cared about Rev. Moon before began to realize that the government had made a serious and very rare assault on religious freedom. Christians, including the National Council of Churches headed by Rev. Dean Kelley and non-religious groups representing altogether more than 160 million Americans, came to his legal defense.

Letter to Judge Gerard L. Goettel

Hak Ja Han Moon

The proceedings of the recent trial were very difficult. Although I was in the final months of my pregnancy, I chose to sit by my husband's side every day. During each break we were joined by elder members of the church in the small waiting room.

We were all amazed that my husband continued to inspire us with messages of forgiveness and compassion. My husband would not allow any of us to harbor any hostility toward the government, the prosecutors, or any of the witnesses.

I can honestly say that, even though this is entirely what we could have expected from him, we were awe-struck by his commitment to his ideals.

Immediately after the conviction my husband gathered all the church members because he felt the need to minister to them and encourage them. He knows how sad they all feel because of this recent conviction and does not want them to be discouraged. The message which he shared on that day, and in every sermon he has given since, continues to be about love and forgiveness.

I believe that I have had the most blessed life of any woman who has ever lived in being married to my husband. He has totally dedicated his life to the service of God and humanity. As the head of our household, he has

provided an example which has inspired each of our children to live noble and virtuous lives that we can be proud of.

In just the same way, as the head of our church family, he has provided an example which has led millions of people throughout the world to live good and holy lives.

As you may know, many people have said hostile things to and about my husband. I have never once heard him say one hostile thing back to anyone, or ever say one hostile thing about anyone.

Many times when I believed that my husband was being unjustly persecuted, I expected that he would express some negative response. Instead, I would find that every time he would give the church members a sermon about love and forgiveness. The message that Christ taught about loving your enemy has always been a central theme which he has emphasized.

Our own children have been so moved to see their father speak and teach a message that they could also be inspired by. It has never been easy for them to know that there has been a great deal of negative publicity about their father.

Mrs. Moon wrote this heartfelt letter to Judge Gerard Goettel, who sentenced Rev. Moon to imprisonment in 1984

A US Senate Subcommittee chaired by Senator Orrin Hatch later examined the case and concluded Rev. Moon had been badly mistreated.

We charged a non-English-speaking alien with criminal tax evasion on the first tax returns he filed in this country. It appears that we didn't give him a fair chance to understand our laws. We didn't seek a civil penalty as an initial means of redress. We didn't give him the benefit of any doubt. Rather, we took a novel theory of tax liability of less than \$10,000 and turned it into a guilty verdict and eighteen months in a federal prison.

I do feel strongly, after my subcommittee has carefully and objectively reviewed this case from both sides, that injustice rather than justice has been served.

On August 20, 1985, Rev. Moon was freed after completing thirteen months of imprisonment. Upon his release, prominent Christian civil rights leaders, including Rev. Jerry Falwell of the Moral Majority and Rev. Joseph Lowery of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, held a press conference decrying the persecution and imprisonment of Rev. Moon and to welcome him back.

Rev. Dean Kelley said: "The whole appalling story of how Sun Myung Moon was framed by the government of the United States ... should be read by every American who values religious liberty and wants this miscarriage of justice never to be repeated."

There was one unexpected positive outcome from the Danbury case. From that moment, American Christian ministers—and later leaders of other faiths as well—started to make common cause with Rev. Moon. Several clergy associations were formed to tackle social problems, and Rev. Moon donated more than 200 trucks to help start a food bank. As the cooperation deepened, the American Clergy Leadership Conference was established, and thousands of ministers, imams and rabbis have supported Rev. Moon in his peace tours and other initiatives.

God's Love Is Greater Than God's Law

Hafiz Farid, fellow inmate with Rev. Moon at Danbury Prison, USA

I had seen how religious people, people such as Martin Luther King, Jr., were sent to prison. In Danbury, I had a chance to meet Rev. Moon face to face. I knew right away that it was a magnificent opportunity—in fact a great opportunity.

One has to be very strong to be a true servant of God. One has to make sure in this world that one has high moral excellence, uncompromising standards, and no weakness. But on the other hand, he has a loving aspect, a compassionate aspect. I'm sure his pictures convey this. He is a very loving man, and a warm man, but he is also very stern, firm, and strong.

Upon learning that I was a Muslim, Rev. Moon asked me a question. He said, "Do you think God likes to see Muslims killing Christians, Christians killing Muslims, Jews killing Christians, or Jews killing Muslims? God does not like that."

I could find no reason not to accept that truth. It was basic to my own teachings and I think true of all religious teachings. In Islam, we believe there is one God, the father of all humanity. And the prophets are a line of messengers sent to preach to the people. The ultimate aim of all people is to return to God. So the teachings of Islam are compatible with Unification thinking.

Rev. Moon said that he had recently sponsored a world tour for young people to visit all the religious centers of the world. I was amazed. In our religion, in Islam, for a man to sponsor a trip to send people on a religious pilgrimage around the world would be one of the greatest acts of charity that could be done. To go yourself would be a great act of obedience, but to send other people at your expense would be an act of devotion that would please God immensely.

I'll never forget the day I left Danbury. I wanted to say goodbye to him. When I told him I was leaving that day he just smiled from ear to ear, with genuine happiness. Usually when someone is getting ready to leave you can feel the negative vibrations, anger and jealousy among the other inmates. But I really felt Rev. Moon's warmth. He reached out and embraced me and he said, "Always remember one thing, Farid. God's love is greater than God's law."

That very profound statement really kind of summed up all the conversations we had had. No matter what dogma you follow, no matter what particular faith you have, if you don't have love—God's love for humanity, for people and for creation—then the law doesn't mean very much. God's love is greater than God's law.

1985-1991: THE END OF COMMUNISM

In 1982, during the worst days of the US government investigation, Rev. Moon founded *The Washington Times*, as an alternative voice to the left-leaning *Washington Post*, the only other daily newspaper in America's capital. Throughout the 1980s, the paper was a vigorous and outspoken critic of Soviet communism and a strong supporter of United States efforts to make peace. On its 10th Anniversary Celebration, the *Washington Times* was recognized by President Ronald Reagan as a key factor in bringing about the demise of communism and the end of the Cold War.

Rev. Moon founded the World Media Association (WMA) which challenged American and Soviet journalists to visit each other's countries on no-holds-barred fact-finding tours—almost unheard of in those times—to see for themselves the differences between the two systems.

While he was still imprisoned, Rev. Moon asked the Professors World Peace Academy (PWPA) to hold a conference in 1985 on the "Fall of the Soviet Empire" in Geneva, Switzerland. With Europe still polarized by the Cold War and divided by the Iron Curtain, the bold declaration seemed to fly in the face of reason. The conference organizer, Professor Morton Kaplan of the University of Chicago, said, "When he made a prediction that the Soviet system would collapse in five years, I was astounded. When many invitees refused to attend because of the title, Rev. Moon was steadfast in urging that the title be retained."

Also in 1985 Rev. Moon convened the first Assembly of the World's Religions in McAfee, New Jersey, USA, bringing together 800 faith leaders from more than 70 nations and every living faith.

At the end of 1985, Rev. and Mrs. Moon returned to Korea for the first time since his release from Danbury prison. Two hundred dignitaries from the religious, political, financial and academic worlds visited Korea to welcome him home and express their continued support. The welcom-

ing banquet was attended by 2,300, including former prime minister of the Republic of Korea, Il-kwon Chung.

Rev. Moon used the occasion to speak again of his belief that the Cold War and the evils of communism were about to come to an end. He reminded the audience of his systematic ideological critique and counterproposal to communism, which he had promoted throughout the world. He next established the Citizens Federation for the Unification of the Fatherland based on the desire to unite North and South Korea.

South America was another area of the world which experienced the problem of Marxist-Leninist expansion. Between 1980 and 1990, CAUSA International, an educational foundation with the mission of providing a critique and counterproposal to communism, conducted more than 250 major educational conferences in 40 nations. Most of these conferences lasted for three to four days and they were attended by over 60,000 government officials and civic leaders. These programs mobilized the support and participation of Latin American Presidents, Vice Presidents, cabinet officers, senators, and other high-ranking officials. By 1985 CAUSA conferences were even being conducted clandestinely inside communist-controlled Nicaragua.

In 1988, the Olympic Games were held in Korea. After successive boycotts of the previous Moscow and Los Angeles Olympics, it was the first time in almost a decade that the whole world was once again involved in the Olympics. Rev. Moon mobilized his followers to reach out to the athletes from communist nations at the Games and to establish a hand of friendship with the nations still under Marxist rule. Just one year later, the Berlin Wall came down, and Rev. Moon's audacious 1985 prediction was about to come true.

In 1990, Rev. Moon organized a major conference of news media leaders and former heads of state in Moscow. This fulfilled a pledge he had made in 1976 that he would one day organize a 'great rally for God in Moscow.'

During this conference, Rev. and Mrs. Moon met with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. Through several interviews, televised and in print, he gave a message of hope to the Soviet people, urging them to turn toward God. A strong opponent of communism, Rev. Moon expressed his belief that the ideology was mistaken but that he still loved the people in communist countries.

The two men became friends, and in the early 1990s thousands of Unification volunteers traveled to Russia and the new states that emerged after the breakup of the Soviet Union. They met with Russian teachers and created a character-based educational curriculum, *My World and I*, to help sweep away the remnants of Marxist ideology. In return, more than 7,000 Russian university students and professors were hosted for education and friendship programs in the United States.

After the fall of the Soviet Empire, Rev. Moon funded numerous activities to assist former communist countries in their transition to democracy and freedom. He was a significant early foreign investor in China, providing extensive funds for the Panda Motors Corporation even after others turned away from China after the 1989 Tiananmen incident. Later the International Education Foundation was to offer character and family values education to schools throughout China.

In December 1991, Rev. Moon made a crucial step towards the peaceful reunification of North and South Korea. He traveled to North Korea and met with President Kim Il Sung, under whose regime he had been tortured and sent to the Heungnam labor camp, where he barely escaped from being executed.

His purpose was to seek ways to bridge the gap between the two countries. The North Korean ruler, who had suppressed religion for forty years, met and welcomed Rev. and Mrs. Moon. Rev. Moon set aside the painful and vivid memories of his years of persecution in North Korea, demonstrating the principle he had proclaimed in the US, to “Forgive, love and unite” with someone in the enemy position.

Since the demise of the Soviet Union, he has been an ardent supporter of reconstruction in post-communist societies and has invested heavily in the development of North Korea with a goal to bring about the permanent and peaceful re-unification of the Korean peninsula. Most recently, the Universal Peace Federation's latest Peace Convention Center was opened in Pyeongyang, one of the very few buildings in the North Korean capital that is not under direct governmental control.

OCEAN CHURCH

Throughout his life, Rev. Moon has had a profound love of rivers and oceans. He has often said that the oceans, occupying more than two thirds of the world's surface, are an incredible and beautiful resource created by God for His children.

When he arrived in the United States, Rev. Moon started fishing for striped bass each year in the Hudson River. Before long he was catching blue fin tuna, and set the record one year. Each summer hundreds of young people came to Gloucester, Massachusetts, to learn how to be skilful fishermen and to appreciate the fragile environment. Rev. Moon always supported sustainable use of the ocean's resources.

He created the 'Ocean Church' program as a way to bring the experience of ocean training to people who might otherwise never have left dry land. Over the previous decades, hundreds of Christian ministers, religious leaders, disadvantaged and at-risk youth, and young people looking for new direction have participated in the Ocean Church tradition, which has spread to many nations around the world.

Looking into the future, Rev. Moon has established businesses and foundations that are actively looking for ways to solve the problems of world hunger by better use of ocean resources. He developed the 'Good Go' line of small fishing boats known for their stability and efficiency and is engaged in other shipbuilding enterprises.



Departing for on the World Tour 1965. Rev. Moon visited 40 countries altogether during this trip. In each country he consecrated a 'Holy Ground' as a place of prayer



In the United States, Rev. and Mrs. Moon shared with the young members and their love was a practical model of how to build a God-centered society.



Rev. and Mrs. Moon invited young people from around the world to New York for a leadership training program in the early 1970s.



Rev. Moon taking a walk through the grounds of the Unification Theological Seminary with some members of his family and students.



Though at the time he spoke almost no English, with the help of an interpreter he embarked on a seven-city speaking tour of the US, here in Carnegie Hal in 1973.



A Day of Hope Rally in front of Federal Hall in New York City.



At an early meeting with former US President Eisenhower, Rev. Moon discusses the role of the United States in God's providence.



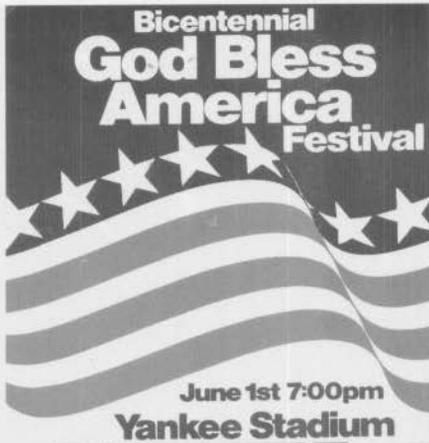
A Day of Hope Rally in New York City to promote the Madison Square Garden speech in September, 1974



He spoke to more than a million people at the World Rally for Korean Freedom in Seoul, Korea on June 7, 1975.



The annual ICUS conferences drew scholars from around the world to discuss issues of absolute values and underlying harmony among many fields of knowledge.



Reverend Sun Myung Moon Principal Speaker



The New Hope Singers International



The New York City Symphony Orchestra



The Korean Folk Ballet

In 1976, the year of the United States Bicentennial, Rev. Moon launched the "God Bless America Festival" with two large scale rallies. This postcard was sent to all New Yorkers inviting them to the first event at Yankee Stadium



At the Washington Monument in September 1976, Rev. Moon spoke on "God's Hope for America" in front of 300,000 people.



*He established the Unification Theological Seminary as an interfaith center of learning.
From the beginning, he wanted the students to have interaction with the
best scholars and professors from all the world's faiths.*



Rev. Moon, an excellent pool player, watching a competition at UTS in 1980.



Fishing is one of the great loves of Rev. Moon's life. He has caught bluefin tuna in the Atlantic, halibut in Alaska and dorado in Brazil, among many others. But the early days were much less glamorous, as this picture of fishing in the Incheon tidal flats shows.



In the early days, Rev. Moon visited the seminary almost every day. A keen fisherman, he showed the students and faculty how to mend nets to fish the Hudson River lagoons



In 1974, Rev. Moon encouraged President Richard Nixon to repent to the American people for the sake of the nation and in particular to avoid defeat in Vietnam. From that time on, many political enemies emerged.



In what became known as Koreagate, in 1977 US Congressman Donald Fraser falsely accused members of the movement of working for the Korean CIA.



In 1984, Rev. Moon was sent to prison at age 64 for allegedly not paying \$7,000 in taxes, despite investing millions of dollars in the spiritual and moral renewal of the US. He is seen here in the grounds of Danbury Prison in Connecticut.



Upon his release from prison in 1985, Rev. Moon was welcomed by Christian leaders from all over the US. More than 40 churches had supported his legal battles.



Rev. and Mrs. Moon with Dr. Morton Kaplan, Distinguished Service Professor of Political Science Emeritus at the University of Chicago. At Rev. Moon's insistence, Kaplan convened the "End of Communism" conference in Geneva in 1985



A group of Western journalists on a World Media Association fact-finding tour in the early 1980s prepare to travel from Moscow to Leningrad (now St. Petersburg).



Noted as a leading anti-communist for decades, Rev. Moon maintained a strong love for the people under communist regimes. He met Mikhail Gorbachev in Moscow in April 1990 and encouraged him to let Soviet youth learn about God.



In 1991, Rev. & Mrs. Moon were at last able to return to their homeland of North Korea. Meeting with then Premier Kim Il Sung helped begin a process of reunification.



Soon after Rev. Moon's historic meeting with Kim Il Sung in 1991, members of the Little Angels Korean Folk Ballet brought the message of peace and hope to Moscow and Pyongyang.



Mrs. Moon visiting an African school sponsored by the International Relief Friendship Foundation during the World Peace Tour, 2005