

FFWPU Europe and Middle East: Hoon-sook Moon's visit with Holy Mother Han

Knut Holdhus
November 24, 2025



Hoon-sook Moon speaking November 24, 2025 in Gapyeong, South Korea

"A small beginning can transform the whole just like one flower becomes a field": Hoon-sook Moon's message

Extracts from a message delivered by Hoon-sook Moon (문훈숙) at a prayer vigil in [Gapyeong](#), South Korea 24th November 2025. Translated from the transcription of the original Korean. Slightly edited.

See also [Mother Han: Prosecutors' Narrative Hard to Prove](#)



*Artistic impression of [Mother Han](#) in detention cell.
Illustration: Grok xAI*

It has already been 63 days since [True Mother](#) entered the facility [Seoul Detention Center], and November now has only one week left. Hoping earnestly for [Mother](#)'s swift return, I would like to share recent news about her with you.

[...] We entered the reception room first, and shortly afterward [Mother](#) came in by wheelchair. We offered our greetings.

Today as well, [Mother](#) looked peaceful. However, now that more than two months have passed, [...] and [Mother](#)'s hair had grown noticeably longer down her neck.

When the clock started, Moon Shin-chul reported that Moon Hoon-sook, Moon Shin-chul, Moon Shin-heung, and two leaders - Director Kim Eun-sang, Director Kim Jin-chul - had come.

Then [Mother](#) said to the two leaders,

"You've worked hard. You must be the witnesses and teach what the [Family Federation](#) has done so far throughout the life of the Mother of Peace, [Holy Mother Han](#). The people of this nation must know this. World-renowned figures have come to see me, haven't they? Everyone said it was not right that the Mother of Peace should be in such a place. So, for their sake at least, I must continue my work."

She also said, "You must unite and let the Korean people know that they are the chosen people."



*Kim Dong-yeon, here speaking
on October 26, 2025 in
Gapyeong, South Korea*

One of the leaders mentioned that at the Gangnam Church, Vice President Kim Dong-yeon (김동연) gave a lecture on [True Parents'](#) life course, and that senior blessed families were revived and 20 new members attended, all of whom were deeply moved.

[Mother](#) listened and then said,

"I've heard that many young people in Korea are unemployed. We must witness to them, educate them, and open their eyes to the world. For that, language is important. Korean must become a world language. Right now, English is the global language, but the entire world is becoming interested in our culture. If Korean becomes a global language, a peaceful world will come more quickly. Haven't I often said how important the Korean language is? We must plant in young people a dream for the world."

[...] Members, [True Mother](#) said that now that K-culture has become globally influential, if Korean also becomes a world language, then unemployed young people could be trained in Korean-language teaching methods and go overseas. That would solve unemployment, give them dreams for the world, and - as not only K-culture but even further our spirit, our K-spirit, spreads globally - the realization of a peaceful world would come more quickly.

Listening to [Mother](#), it was all about achieving three things at once,

"How can I help LGBTQ+ young people? How can I plant dreams in young people and open their eyes to the world? How can I hasten world peace?"

[Mother](#) is always thinking about this. Her mind and heart are always the same - always for the future generation's dreams and for world peace.



Recently, members, I read a poem that many of you may know. It is the poem "If I Bloom Alone" by Jo Dong-hwa. I will read from this short poem:

*Don't say,
"What difference would it make
if just one flower - I - were to bloom?"*

*If you bloom,
and I bloom too,
then in the end, won't the whole field of grass
become a field full of flowers?*

*Don't say,
"What difference would it make
if just one person - I - were to be dyed with color?"*

*If I am colored,
and you are colored too,
then in the end, won't the whole mountain
burst into a blazing glow?*

Members, as our [church](#)'s difficulties have continued for a long time, this poem deeply moved me. Its message is truly beautiful. A small beginning has the power to transform the whole.

One flower blooming seems to change nothing - but if two, then three bloom, eventually the entire meadow becomes a flower field.



One drop of water seems to vanish quickly - but if drops gather one by one, they become a great ocean.

I believe our faith and devotion are the same.

Will anything really change because I offer devotion alone? Can my one prayer truly bring meaningful change? As difficult times continue, such thoughts may arise. But the small devotion we offer to Heaven always connects, accumulates, and expands.

Each one of us is a microcosm - isn't that extraordinary? Each member's prayer becomes us, and we can move the universe. One person's tear, one person's gratitude, one person's dedication is surely added to the great flow of providence.

From a human perspective, my small devotion may seem insignificant. But when that small devotion awakens others, encourages others, colors others - then just as the whole mountain blazes when each leaf changes, our entire community will awaken warmly and powerfully.

It began with one flower but became a whole field. It began with one drop but became the sea. What began as the devotion of a few in early morning prayer has now become a time of devotion shared throughout the world. Through tonight's vigil, I hope that we can go beyond individual devotion and create one great flow of devotion together.

May today also be a time in which we love our Heavenly Parent, love the [True Parents](#), love one another, and offer devotion in return.

Even now, thinking of our [True Mother](#) enduring the cold weather, let us be grateful for the precious daily life given to us and live with a heart of appreciation.

Wishing peace and happiness always upon your families, I will conclude here.

Thank you.

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Mother Han: Prosecutors' Narrative Hard To Prove

• November 22, 2025

• Knut Holdhus



South Korean media: Signals from the court that unclear statutes on political giving by religious bodies weaken key pillars of special prosecutors' indictment of Mother Han

The South Korean news agency **YONHAP NEWS AGENCY** issued on 21st November a report which, if translated into English, would carry the headline "Unification Church Leader Hak Ja Han's Full Trial Begins 1st December ... Bail Hearing Also Scheduled".

See also *It Began with One Flower But Became a Big Field*

The upcoming trial of **Hak Ja Han** (한학자), the leader of the **Family**

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Artistic impression of **Mother Han** in wheelchair at preparatory hearing. Illustration: Grok xAI, Oct. 2025

Solicitation and Graft Act.

Her indictment sits at the intersection of religious organizations and politics and more recent allegations that the Yoon Suk-yeol (윤석열) administration maintained overly close ties with the **Family Federation**.

On 1st December, **Mother Han**'s full criminal trial will begin at the *Seoul Central District Court*. The case has attracted extensive media attention not only because of **Hak Ja Han**'s prominence but also due to the involvement of various key figures, including former **Family Federation** World Headquarters Director Yoon Yeong-ho (윤영호), a former governing-party lawmaker, and individuals connected to the former First Lady.

The special prosecutor leading the inquiry – often referred to as the “Kim Keon-hee (김건희) Special Prosecutor”, named after the First Lady – has positioned the case as evidence of systemic political interference by powerful religious groups. The defense teams, meanwhile, argue that the prosecution is making aggressive or overbroad interpretations of political giving, lobbying, and religious organizational autonomy.

At the center of the legal dispute is a cluster of charges concerning the alleged transfer of 100 million won (around USD 75,000) in early 2022 to then-*People Power Party* lawmaker Kweon Seong-dong (권성동). Prosecutors contend that **Mother Han** and her associates made the payment to secure future government support for **Family Federation** initiatives. Additional allegations include the delivery of expensive luxury gifts – such as a necklace and a Chanel handbag – to individuals close to the First Lady, interpreted by prosecutors as attempts to influence policy outcomes relevant to the **Federation**. Layered on top of this is the accusation that the **religious organization** engaged in what is known in Korea as “split donations.”



People Power Party lawmaker **Kweon Seong-dong** (권성동), here 23rd Dec. 2024. Photo: 국민의힘 TV / Wikimedia Commons. License: CC Attr 3.0 Unp. Cropped

In Korean political finance, “**split donations**” (“**쪼개기 후원**”) refer to a tactic in which a large sum of money is divided into smaller increments and donated under the names of multiple individuals, sometimes without the donors’ genuine involvement or consent. This tactic is used to circumvent statutory limits on political contributions or to mask the actual source of the funds. For instance, if an organization wishes to contribute beyond the legal limit or hide its involvement, it might route contributions through members, employees, or proxies.

In **Mother Han**'s case, prosecutors allege that **Family Federation** funds totaling 144 million won were broken down and distributed to lawmakers through intermediaries, technically appearing as multiple unrelated donations but originating from a central pot of religious-organization money.

Another important procedural issue is **Mother Han**'s request for bail. In South Korea, bail is often granted under specific terms – known as “**conditions such as a bond**” – which typically include paying a specified sum as a security deposit to the court, promising to comply with court summons, and accepting additional restrictions such as travel limitations.

Hak Ja Han, who recently underwent eye surgery and temporarily received a suspension of detention, is now seeking continued release while awaiting trial, arguing that remaining in custody restricts her

Federation (formerly and by some still called the **Unification Church**) represents one of the most politically sensitive legal confrontations in South Korea in recent years, intertwining issues of religion, political funding, prosecutorial authority, and constitutional interpretation.

Hak Ja Han, also called **Mother Han**, head of a large and influential religious movement, stands accused of orchestrating illicit political contributions, offering valuable gifts to high-profile political figures, and improperly using **Family Federation** funds in ways that allegedly violated the *Political Funds Act* and the *Improper*

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ability to participate fully in her defense. The prosecution, however, has not supported her release, citing the seriousness of the allegations and the potential risks of evidence tampering.



Yoon Yeong-ho, here 6th Dec. 2020. Screenshot from Peacelink TV

According to [Yonhap News](#), the attorney of Yoon Young-ho (윤영호), a key witness, stated during the preliminary hearing that **Yoon intends to exercise his right to remain silent**. His live testimony might have provided concrete evidence about how the alleged political funds or gifts were handled, who approved them, and what role [Hak Ja Han](#) played.

By remaining silent, he withholds first-hand narrative or admission, which could have been a cornerstone of the prosecution's factual case. Without his own testimony, the prosecution may have to rely more on documents, third-party testimony, internal church records, or forensic financial trails. These can be powerful, but they may not carry the same persuasive weight as a person under oath explaining or confessing.

Tensions between the defense and the special prosecutor escalated during the second preparatory hearing on 21st November. A central point of contention involves **evidence admissibility** – that is, which documents, communications, and records may be entered into the formal evidentiary record of the trial. The special prosecutor has submitted a broad collection of materials, including text messages and internal [Family Federation](#) documents.



The building housing Seoul Central District Court. Image: Grok xAI, Nov. 2025.

[Mother Han](#)'s defense team has refused to consent to the admission of many of these materials, which is their legal right; however, the prosecutor argued that the blanket refusal appeared to be a deliberate tactic to delay proceedings. In Korean criminal procedure, a defendant's consent to evidence can expedite the trial, whereas non-consent forces the court to examine each item more closely, which substantially slows the process. The defense, for its part, objected strongly to the suggestion of delay tactics, framing their refusal as necessary to challenge what they see as **overreaching investigative methods**.

The court also raised constitutional and statutory questions about whether Korean law explicitly criminalizes political donations made by religious organizations. While the Constitution mandates the separation of church and state, this principle does not automatically mean that every form of financial interaction between religious groups and political actors is prohibited. In fact, the *Political Funds Act* primarily regulates who may donate and how much, but its **language regarding religious bodies as entities** – rather than private individuals acting within religious communities – **is somewhat ambiguous**.

Some legal scholars argue that because religious organizations are not explicitly authorized as political donors, donations made with organizational funds could be treated as unlawful. Others maintain that, barring explicit prohibition, such donations may fall into a gray area unless linked to other crimes such as embezzlement, coercion, or illegal lobbying. **The court asked the special prosecutor to clarify which statute specifically penalizes political contributions originating from religious-group funds and how such an offense should be distinguished from simple political engagement by private citizens who happen to belong to religious communities.**

Additional complexities arise from embezzlement charges lodged against certain [Family Federation](#) officials involved in distributing funds. Under Korean law, to convict someone of embezzlement, prosecutors must prove



“intent to illegally obtain benefits” (“불법 영득의사”). The court questioned whether such intent can be established when the underlying act – namely, political giving by a religious organization – may not be clearly criminalized. **If donating church funds to political recipients is not itself a crime, then using those funds for such donations may not satisfy the requirement for embezzlement either.** This issue could significantly influence the trajectory of the trial.

As the trial approaches, the court has decided to proceed at a pace of approximately one and a half hearings per week – a compromise between the prosecutor’s request for twice-weekly sessions and the defense’s argument that such a schedule would hinder client consultations, especially with [Mother Han](#) detained. The court appears intent on balancing efficiency with due process, mindful that the case carries political sensitivity and intense public scrutiny.

In sum, the forthcoming trial raises key questions not only about the conduct of a major religious leader but also about the boundaries of political influence, the responsibilities of religious organizations, and the interpretation of laws governing political finance in South Korea. The courtroom deliberations may help clarify unresolved areas of legal doctrine, particularly concerning the legality of political contributions by religious bodies and the standards for admitting various forms of digital and organizational evidence. As proceedings begin, the case promises to remain at the forefront of national conversation.

See also [It Began with One Flower But Became a Big Field](#)

Text: Knut Holdhus, editor

Featured image above: Artistic impression of South Korean court hearing. Illustration: ChatGPT 22nd nov. 2025

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Chief Special Prosecutor Min Jung-ki (민중기), who is himself *sought investigated* for financial misconduct, insider dealings, and abuse of power. He summoned *Dr. Hak Ja Han* and Pastor Son Hyun-bo for questioning and asked for their long-term detention. Min is the head of a huge team of special prosecutors with extensive investigative powers. Image generated by Chat GPT September 2025.

Democracy Must Serve Heaven”

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