

Unification News

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Happy Birthday



**Father and Mother celebrate their birthday on
January 22 in Washington DC.**

Speech story and pictures start page 2

TRUE PARENT' BIRTHDAY

The Path for America and

by Rev. Sun Myung Moon

This speech was given during the birthday celebration at the Washington Hilton and Towers Washington, DC January 22, 2000.

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to all of you, as world leaders representing many walks of life, for gathering to congratulate and celebrate my 80th birthday. In particular, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to God who has been my constant companion throughout my life. To Him I offer all the glory and honor given me.

During the course of my life, I have totally committed myself to the salvation of humankind centered on God's Will. As a result, I came to realize that God is not sitting in the throne of glory and honor, but is a God of suffering, grief and lamentation, endeavoring to save His children suffering in hell as a result of the fall.

Ever since I understood the Will of God and His heart, I have lived my life with a single minded goal to accomplish God's Will, transcending time and space and forgetting everything else.

When I reflect upon the 80 years of my life, filled with misunderstandings and persecution, it is just amazing that I can be with you today. I believe that it is entirely thanks to God. On this day of such great significance, in order to understand human history and the world from the perspective of God's providence, I would like to speak on the topic, "The Path for America and Humanity in the Last Days."

When viewing human history as God's providence of salvation, the "last days" is a turning point when the evil history of Satan concludes and God's good sovereignty begins. Accordingly, the last days are the time when everything is brought to fulfillment.

Thus in the last days, individual perfection is to be realized,

family perfection is to be realized, the perfection of a people, of a nation, of the world and finally, the complete fulfillment of the cosmos is to be realized.

Whenever the time of the last days was heralded in God's providence, God led humankind to a God-centered ideology, but we failed to fulfill our responsibility to stand in the position of good-

ness and eradicate evil history. However, God is eternal, unchanging, absolute and unique, and God's Will is also eternal, unchanging and absolute. Therefore, through the true individual, true family, true society, true nation, true world and true sovereignty, God will surely build the world in which He can live, freely traveling and acting both in Heaven and on Earth.

Then, what is the original world for which God is seeking? It is a world that is centered on the True Parents. However, due to the fall, we lost the True Parents of humanity and the true world from the very beginning. Therefore, nothing in the world, not the land where we are living, human ideology or anything else, can connect us directly to the True Parents. Therefore, we ourselves should first be restored to truthfulness. By so doing, when true parents, true husband and wife, true children, true people, the true creation, the true sovereignty and true cosmos are born and can communicate with God in heart, the evil world will eventually come to an end.

The last days is the time when such an ideal will be realized. It is the time when the Second Advent will occur. Accordingly, in the last days, there will be no external catastrophic phenomena such as judgment by fire, the destruction of the earth or people levitating into the air. Instead, it is a time when the history of evil entangled with countless tragedies will be untangled.

This is established through sacrificial conditions offered on every level, those of the individual, family, society, people, nation, world and ultimately cosmos. Thus, it is the time when all of these levels that have lost their vertical connection with God will be restored. We have been longing for such a day, and that is the final destination at which we all should arrive.

However, the individual, the family and the nation have been estranged. Moreover, all kinds of problems such as air pollution, food shortage, religious struggles and racial conflicts are constantly arising throughout the world, causing disputes and

even wars. Who, then, is going to take responsibility for this world? This is a serious question. Communist countries in the past could not transcend their own nationalism. Nor can today's super-power nation, America, transcend the idea of Americanizing the world. When a nation places its self-interest first, it will not be able to lead the world. Therefore, we need a people or a nation who are willing to sacrifice for a higher purpose and strive to build or become an ideal nation that embraces the entire world.

With this view, in response to the call of God, I came to this country, the United States of America. I have been making my utmost effort to revive America, by educating the youth for a country that is faced with a moral crisis and declining Christianity.

You might be curious about what I am teaching to them. It is actually simple. First, it is "to live for the sake of others." More specifically, my teaching is that the individual lives for the family, the family for the society, the society for a people, a people for a nation, a nation for the world and the world for God. Then, God will come to us.

In the family, parents are to live for children, children for parents, husband for wife and wife for husband. Anyone who lives for others more than his or her own self will become a central person on the side of goodness.

Second, I am teaching people to "love your enemy." God Himself sacrificed Jesus, His own begotten and beloved son, for the salvation of humankind. Since God did this in order to save the children of His enemy, Satan could not exercise his full authority and power before God. Even Satan cannot help but surrender voluntarily before the God who loves Satan's children more than His own. Satan's pattern is always to strike first but lose in the end, and God's strategy is to win in the end by taking the first blow and initial loss. Living with faith in such a heavenly law is the very secret explaining the foundation that I could lay, dispatching missionaries to 185 nations throughout the world despite fierce persecution and misunderstanding.

Even when looking into the history of Christian missionary activities, we can discover that theirs was a path of persecution and martyrdom, hindered by enemies. On such a way, during the course of a 2,000-year history, this trail of blood became the fertilizer in the foundation for a powerful democracy to develop. Today, however, Christianity, which once was the source of power and strength for democracy, is facing a crisis. Christian nations have lost the right direction; they deny God, Jesus and God's providence. Now, we even hear voices asserting, "God is dead" or "God does not exist." Looking at them, how does God feel? God's heart has been searching for His children, sacrificing everything that He has, with hope that He could see a great day like today.

Ladies and Gentlemen: for whom has God been sacrificing Himself so

CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 2000

- 1 Day of the Opening of Heaven (1985)
Shin Gil Nim's Birthday (12/26/87)
- 5 Hyo Jin Nim & Yun Ah Nim's Blessing (1999)
Hoon Sook Nim's Birthday (1/1/63)
- 6 Inter-religious and International Federation for World
Peace Established (1999)
- 7 Yeon Jin Nim's Birthday (1/3/81)
360 Million Couples' Blessing (1999)
- 8 1800 Couples' Blessing (1975)
- 10 Father's Birthday (1/6/20)
Mother's Birthday (1/6/43)
- 11 Choongmo-nim's Ascension (1/7/68)
16 Couples' Blessing (1978)
- 20 In Jin Nim & Jin Sung Nim's Blessing (1984)
Heung Jin Nim & Hoon Sook Nim's Blessing (1984)
Shin Jung Nim's Birthday (1/16/83)
- 21 74 Couples' Blessing (1977)
- 22 430 Couples' Blessing (1968)
- 23 Day of Victory of Earth (1977)
- 24 Kwon Jin Nim's Birthday (1/20/75)
- 27 Shin Sook Nim's Birthday (1/23/84)
Declaration of Parents of Heaven and Earth (1998)
- 28 One World Crusade Established (1972)

MARCH 2000

- 15 Shin Won Nim's Birthday (2/10/88)
- 23 Jin Sung Nim's Birthday (2/18/62)
- 27 New Ecumenical Research Association
(New ERA) Inauguration (1980)
- 31 Hyun Jin Nim & Jun Sook Nim's Blessing (1987)

APRIL 2000

- 1 Shin Chul Nim's Birthday (2/27/92)
- 5 True Parents' Day (3/1/60)
Sung Jin Nim's Birthday (3/1/46)
- 7 42 Couples' Blessing (1989)
138 Previously Married Couples' Blessing (1989)
57 Single Blessing (1989)
- 10 1265 Previously Married Couples' Blessing (1992)
Women's Federation for World Peace Established
(1992)
Family Federation for World Peace and Unification
Established (1996)
- 11 Un Jin Nim & Jin Hun Nim's Blessing (1986)
- 12 36 Couples of the Second Generation Blessing (1986)
- 15 Shin Hwa Nim's Birthday (3/11/88)
- 16 Kwon Jin Nim & Hwa Yun Nim's Blessing (1995)
- S Un Jin Nim & In Sup Nim's Blessing (1995)
- 17 Day of the Resurrection of Shimjung (1960)
Day of the Resurrection of Substance (1961)
- 20 True Parents' Blessing (3/16/60)
- 22 Noticias del Mundo Established (1980)
- 29 Jin Hun Nim's Birthday (3/25/63)

COURTESY OF KATHERYN COMAN

TRUE PARENT' BIRTHDAY

Humanity in the Last Days

far? It is not for America, nor is it for Christianity. But it is for each of us, in other words, for "you" and "me" as individuals. Likewise, the reason why Jesus was crucified was also not to save the Messiah, himself, but was to save each one of us, "you" and "me."

Since the fall began on the individual level, salvation should also begin on the individual level. Accordingly, a representative of humankind should come and proclaim, "I will take full responsibility as a representative of all humankind. I will pay off all the debt that man has incurred during the entire course of history and I will become a person who will make God indebted to me instead." Without such a realization and determination, restoration is impossible. We should not be only conceptual or theoretical. On behalf of God, unless we are willing to experience miseries more than the one who is undergoing suffering in the world, we cannot reach God's heart.

Have you ever prayed in desperation for the 6 billion population of the world, with a feeling that your own children are dying? How much heart have you invested to save a family, a tribe, a people, a nation and the world, with a willingness to sacrifice yourself for them? I believe few people are confident to give a positive answer to that question. However, the Lord of the Second Advent comes to the world with such an absolute standard as the representative of all humanity.

God, who has been leading the providence of salvation, found Abraham 2,000 years after the fall of the first human ancestors. God made his descendants the chosen people, Israel, by multiplying them on every level, as a new family, a new tribe and a new people. Because the Israelites were called as the chosen people to receive the Messiah, based on the victorious foundation, they became the central people to receive the substantial Messiah who was to come in the future. If you go to the central core, you can understand that the standard and ideology that the first human ancestors, Adam and Eve, should have reached and fulfilled, need to be restored. This is the thought of the Messiah. In it, the believers stand as "bride." Therefore, the ultimate purpose pursued by Christianity is not to build the Kingdom of Christianity or the world of Christianity. Its most important mission is to make preparations to become a qualified bride to receive the bridegroom.

Despite the significance of their mission, because of the crucifixion of Jesus the Israelites could not carry it out and pass on this tradition. Therefore the Israelites, although called by God as

the first Israel, flew away. Christianity, called as the second Israel, arose to carry out the mission instead. God led the 6,000-year providence centered on this one purpose: Christianity was the bride prepared to receive the bridegroom. We are now in the final stage of the providence.

Then, what is the core of the Messianic thought? It is a thought to save the world; it is a teaching that can unify the world and build an ideal family, and its main purpose is to restore the posi-

America is recognized as the superpower of the world, but unless it stands straight on the providential line of God, it will not continue to prosper. Let us look at the history of civilization. Ancient civilizations were born mainly in the tropics and subtropics. Examples include the civilizations of the Mayas, Incas, Egypt, Mesopotamia, India and China. Yet the sphere of civilization moves from place to place.

Had we not fallen, civilization would have begun in the warm zone, corre-

As we can see from this movement of civilization centering on rivers and coastlines, the center of civilization is not fixed but is always moving to different parts of the globe. Human civilization began to develop around the Tigris and Euphrates and the Nile Rivers. The center of human civilization then shifted to the Mediterranean, especially focusing upon Greece, Rome, Spain, and Portugal. The center of human civilization then moved to the Atlantic, focusing upon Britain and the United States. Ultimately it has born fruit in the Pacific Ocean civilization of the United States, Japan, and Korea. Thus, as viewed in this way - from the perspective of the history of cultures - the Korean Peninsula occupies a very important position. To the north of Korea lie the ultimate points of the cold region civilization that link Russia and China. To the south lie the ultimate points of the cool region civilization that link the United States and Japan.

Thus, it is consistent with the Providential viewpoint that Korea gives rise to a warm region civilization representing the spring season of world history and having the capability to digest both the cold and cool region civilizations. From this aspect, the fact that Rev. Moon - who has dedicated his life to solving the North-South problem and the East-West problem - has come from Korea can only be described as the summation of God's providence.

In fact, throughout my life I have transcended race, ideology and national boundaries to pursue a movement for one world under God. It is because of God's providence that I have traveled this path. This is the principle of providential history - not a theory that I specially devised. I was enlightened regarding the will of Heaven, and rather than letting this remain as an idea alone, I have worked to bring God's concept to reality. Externally, there is no place in any region of the world where I have not been active. I have inspired evangelical and business activities in Alaska, in Antarctica, and in the countries of the former Soviet Union, in the 33 countries of South and Central America and throughout Asia and Africa. We are making preparations to solve problems that humanity will face over the coming millennium, such as environmental pollution, hunger, and disease. In recent years, I have worked centering on the Pantanal and Amazon regions of Brazil to lay a substantive foundation to protect the Earth's environment.

On the other hand as regards the internal aspects, I have worked through the International Holy Blessing and the Pure Love movement. Some 430 mil-

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GRAEME CARMICHAEL

tion of the True Parents that was lost by the fall of the human ancestors.

By looking into the teaching of the Old and New Testaments, one can understand that the Messiah comes with the authority of the father, meets a substantial bride, who represents the power of the Holy Spirit, and restores the position of the True Parents. Therefore, Christianity is in the position of a bride to the coming Messiah. The bride and bridegroom in the "feast of the lamb" prophesied in the Book of Revelation refer to the stage of becoming the True Parents by first becoming a true husband and wife.

Jesus came with this mission. However, when he lost his people and nation, due to their faithlessness, he offered his life for the sake of the world and the Kingdom that God wished to build. The path of Jesus suffering on the cross was the same path of tribulations that God Himself walked. In such a situation of trial and tribulation, Jesus desperately prayed, "Please forgive them for they know not what they do." Even in the place of death, he forgave Rome and the group of people who opposed him, waiting for victory in the future. Therefore, the life of Jesus did not end at the age of 33. With God's help, Christianity inherited his spirit and became one of the four greatest worldwide religions in human history.

Ladies and gentlemen: currently,

responding to spring, and moved to the cool zone, corresponding to autumn. This is the warm-zone civilization centered today on the free world, the western civilization. In general, when viewing the equator as the center, nations such as America, England, Germany and so forth, linked around the latitude of 23 degrees north, are the developed countries of the west.

With the end of the cool zone civilization of autumn, the cold zone civilization of winter comes for a short time. This is the appearance of Communism. Many intellectuals may think that the cold war system disappeared after the dissolution of Soviet Union, but materialism and atheism are still prevalent throughout the world. They manifest in two major ideologies, democracy and communism, both of which are gradually losing power.

God's ideal of creation should have begun in the warm zone of spring, but due to the fall of the first human ancestors, it started as the tropical zone civilization. Now, the civilization of the true spring that we have been seeking from time immemorial will appear, overcoming the crisis of tropical zone civilization and the threats of cold zone civilization. Who will be able to melt the block of ice frozen in the heart of God? And how will he do it? It is impossible with power, money, science or knowledge.

TRUE PARENT' BIRTHDAY

continued

lion couples around the world have participated here, adding further impetus to the building of the Kingdom of God on Earth that God has longed to see for such a long time.

Ladies and Gentlemen: up until now, countries possessing superior power politically, militarily, and economically have controlled the world. However, no country can exist eternally unless it is in line with God's providence. The fall of the once glorious Greek and Roman civilizations are good examples of this.

The United States, which today stands tall as a super power, is in the same position as Rome was in the past. The fall of Rome occurred more as a result of the internal cause of moral corruption than from any external invasions. Moral corruption caused Rome to lose the support of heavenly fortune.

In recent history, political forces favoring dialectical materialism and the materialistic view of history went so far as to take control of over one third of the world's population and two thirds of its land area, including the former Soviet Union and China. That expansion, however, could not stand forever.

The time will come when religious leaders who speak for the Will of God will rise to prominence. Religious leaders are prophets. They must stand in the place God wills, declare God's will, and point the way that humanity must go. However, the splintering of denominations and the struggles among religious groups that we see today serve no purpose other than to hinder God's providence. That is why I have for years devoted 90 percent of our church's budget to activities that reach out to other denominations and other religions so as to contribute to the resolution of inter-religious conflict.

I also founded the Inter-Religious Federation for World Peace for the following three purposes: to facilitate harmony and unity among religious groups, to contribute to resolving the conflicts that are going on in many areas of the world, and to help bring about world peace. Most recently, I founded the Inter-religious and International Federation for World Peace, and this body has held seven international Hoon Dok Hae conferences.

All people should go beyond racial and religious differences, understand God's providence to bring His ideal world of creation into reality, and ultimately unite with God's heart. It is heart that will bring faith, hope, and love - which humankind have been pursuing - to their ultimate conclusion.

We must recover the heartistic relationship with God that we lost as a result of the human fall, and recover

and hopes of all humankind. They are the final fruit of the victories wrought throughout human history.

The Unification Church has worked to disseminate this tradition throughout the world through the International Holy Blessing Ceremony. The fact that black people, white people and yellow people are able to come together as brothers and sisters - beyond their differences of ethnicity, race, or skin color - to form loving married couples is

children. It is only then that the path to true happiness will be opened.

Until now, democracy has called for "human freedom" and "human liberation." In contrast, we must call for "God's freedom" and "the liberation of God." When we succeed in relieving God's sorrow, human liberation and the recovery of human freedom will follow automatically. Each of you should realize that you were born to liberate God and to liberate the world.

Ladies and Gentlemen: there is profound significance in the fact that I am discussing God's providence today in Washington D.C., the capital of the United States. In many ways, the United States is a country prepared by God's blessing. The forefathers who built this country were the Pilgrim Fathers, who risked their lives for the sake of the freedom of religion and came to America seeking a land of freedom.

For the sake of their search for true religious freedom, these people left behind their parents, brothers and sisters, and homelands. They were even prepared to cut their ties to their home country as they crossed the Atlantic Ocean at the risk of their lives.

When the Mayflower arrived in New England in November 1620, it was already late autumn. While they endured their first winter, more than half of the 102 people who first arrived died of the cold and hunger. What was particularly remarkable about them was that many died refusing to eat the precious seeds reserved for planting the next spring.

The Puritans strongly believed in serving the will of God in every aspect of their lives. After taking in their first harvest, they offered thanks to God. They first built a church and a school, and it was only after that they set about to build houses where they themselves would live.

In the course of their pioneering, the Pilgrims began every activity with prayer. This was true whether it was plowing a field or fighting a war. When George Washington was at Valley Forge during the War of Independence,

he must have prayed with great desperation. In a battle fought for the sake of God's will, God sided with America. In England, the king and the people were united in fighting that war, yet in America, it was fought by God and His beloved sons and daughters. Isn't this how the United States came into existence as a country advocating freedom of faith?



Presentation of the Rudolph Nureyev Award for Excellence in the Arts



the positions of parent and child as God originally envisioned them to be. Thus, the Last Day that God has promised to us is the day when True Parents come. In other words, it is the day when the multitudes of people in the world, who lost their Parent as a result of the fall, will again be able to meet their original Parent. Thus, the True Parents are the final fruit of the desires

among the most significant factors in accomplishing God's will. Today, through beginning to realize the blessed family tradition, humankind is beginning to recover the relationships of brother and sister, husband and wife, and parent and child as originally envisioned by God. Ultimately, we must go as far as to liberate God, who has been in the depths of sorrow ever since He lost His

GRAEME CARMICHAEL

TRUE PARENT' BIRTHDAY

Even now, the United States Congress opens with a prayer. When the President is sworn into office, he places his hand on the Bible as he takes the oath of office, and a member of the clergy blesses him. America even prints the words "In God we trust" on its money. America is unique in the world in the level of importance it attaches to God. This is how the United States has come to occupy a unique position as a mainly Protestant country with worldwide influence.

What about America today, though? Prayer in public schools is officially banned. The theory of evolution is given preference to the theory of creation in education. The divorce rate of around 50 percent is completely obliterating the sanctity of the family.

In 1971, I left my family and homeland to come to America, because I heard the voice of God sharing His concern about the current state of affairs here. Upon arriving here, I cried out that I had come as a fireman to a house that was on fire and as a physician to cure America of disease. Even then, I discovered that God was leaving America. It should be possible to find God everywhere in America, but God was departing from the hearts of people, from the families and from the schools. It seems like only yesterday that I stood on Fifth Avenue in Manhattan and wept openly as I held on to God to keep Him from leaving America. Unfortunately, America has persisted in going the way of moral deterioration, as I predicted.

Ladies and Gentlemen: I would like to ask you this. Why do you suppose Rev. Moon continues to cry out to Americans in spite of all the opposition and suffering he endures? It is because I know better than anyone the blood, sweat, and tears that God shed in the course of establishing this country. During the past thirty years in America, I have not spent so much as a single day in comfort.

Who is the master of America? It is neither white Americans nor black Americans. The true master of America is the person who loves America as God does. Also, I continue to plead with you because God has chosen America as the first son, the nation representing the elder son realm in building the Kingdom of God on Earth. Even now, Jesus is spiritually present mainly in America, and is offering earnest prayers that his purpose will be accomplished in America.

In 1982, in accordance with the will of God, I founded The Washington Times here in Washington, D.C. Ever since

then, this newspaper has led American public opinion as a conservative news medium showing the path that America must follow. Also I have pursued a strong movement for national and world salvation through the true

patriots who have lived in America's history.

Ladies and Gentlemen: the new millennium that has just begun is the time period in which God's six thousand-year salvation providence is brought

is established in Heaven and on Earth.

The transition moment of the start of a new millennium marks the completion of the New Testament Age, the point at which the promises of the Old Testament and New Testament are fulfilled. The future will be a time when God's realm of direct dominion will become apparent through His omnipresence and omniscience. It is an age when the East and West will come together centering on the Parents of Heaven and Earth as "one universe under God" so that a grand family of humankind is formed on Earth. This means the perfection of the Completed Testament Age, in which the promises of the Old Testament and New Testament will be fulfilled.

The time has come. The time has come when America must awaken once again. It is time for the country as a whole to create a new movement to build true parents, true families, a true country and a true world centered on God. In this way, America must keep God from leaving, and again become a society that attends Him. God worked a thousand years to establish America. If He leaves America, where can He go?

If America attends God properly, all America's problems - the family problems, moral problems and racial problems - will be solved naturally. When America becomes a place where people of all races can live together in harmony, it will be a model for the Kingdom of Heaven on Earth.

It is time for us to unite together and open the path that humankind must travel. It is time for America, as the elder son nation, to take the lead in attending God and to complete its mission as the helmsman that brings the nations of the world to God. I ask you to stand with me in accomplishing this his-

toric task.

Again, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to you distinguished guests for your presence here. I would like to conclude by expressing my hope for the beginning of a new millennial Kingdom overflowing with peace, freedom and justice in Heaven and on Earth.

May God's blessing be with you and your families. Thank you. ❖



Presentation of the Forty Years Foundation Award



family values movement and the pure love movement for young people. I have invested in America in expectation that this country would stand upright before God's providence.

When I visited America in 1965, I blessed an area near the White House as a holy ground, and even today many people gather there and pray for America through the night. I hope each of you will open your hearts and that you will be able to hear the earnest desires of the Pilgrim Fathers and the many

to an end and God's ideal of creation is realized throughout the cosmos. This period is also the time when the lamentations of creation, which lost its true masters as a result of the fall, are finally over. This is the time when the Parent and children who have been long-separated meet again. The new Earth and new Heaven, where there are no tears, are to be established. It is an age when there is free communication between the spirit world and the physical world, and when God's Kingdom

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TRUE PARENT' BIRTHDAY

Celebrating True

by Rev. Philip Schanker—Washington, DC

When the idea was first presented for a uniquely American celebration of True Father Rev. Sun Myung Moons 80th birthday, the response from some was less than enthusiastic. As the plans progressed, a constant stream of competing events and projects diverted the staffs attention, while changes in strategy and approach taxed the flexibility of all involved. The huge cost was a challenge to members and departments alike; the program was dangerously long, and last moment confirmations caused a scramble by too many people for too few seats. But the look of deep joy, genuine pleasure and surprise that spread across our Parents faces throughout the evening of their birthday party made every bit of the struggle and sacrifice seem worth it. In the airplane returning to Korea afterward, Father watched video highlights of the event with great interest. Upon arrival there he immediately called National Messiahs and international leaders to Han Nam Dong to watch the tape with him. Asking copies to be made for each nation, Father encouraged everyone to hold a similar celebration, using the American event as a standard. Deep in our hearts we knew that somehow, we had achieved a true victory of elder sonship in the new millennium. But how did it all come about, and what in fact was its significance?

Unificationists around the world generally, and Blessed Couples in particular share the great blessing of having received and attended the True Parents at the close of the 2000-year New Testament era, being those whom the Book of Revelations describes as those who were redeemed from the earth as the first fruits for God and the lamb. [Revelation 14:4] Amazingly, we also have the opportunity to enter a completely new providential age together with Father and Mother. The fact that the opening of the new millennium and new era coincides with the 40th Anniversary of True Parents holy wedding and True Fathers 80th birthday makes this year all the more meaningful. As members across the nation prepared to usher in the New Year, we considered how to express our heart of love and gratitude to True Parents for their investment in America, and how to make Fathers 80th Birthday an eternal source of joy and comfort to them.

The original vision for an American celebration of True Fathers 80th birthday was planted in the heart of Dr. Chang Shik Yang not long after his arrival in Washington, DC as Regional Director in 1996. As Dr. Yang and hundreds of Washington leaders and members began nightly prayers at the nation-

al Holy Ground adjacent to the White House, that vision took shape, inspired by a sense of the presence of Washington, Lincoln, King and other patriots, and the guidance of Heung Jin Nim, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Seeing the demoralized state of current American leadership, and considering Rev. Moons 40 years of investment since the arrival of the first missionaries in 1959 and 1960, we felt that some expression from the heart and soul of this nation was called for.

The anointing of America as the elder son nation, meant to care for its siblings and set an example of attendance toward God and True Parents, further sharpened the focus of the proposed celebration. Fathers renewed challenge to America and Christianity, and the special, spiritual role of Jesus in Americas restoration deepened its meaning. If Jesus had reached his own 80th birthday on earth in his lifetime, it would

ers who could testify to the substantial contribution which Father and Mother have made to history and society. Plans for the event solidified when Dr. Yang was appointed by Father to be Continental Director of North America in the summer of 1999, together with a new cadre of youthful leaders here and around the world. Through suggestions and inspirations from many sources, 2 simple goals were crystallized. The first was to express genuine honor and gratitude to True Parents from the heart of the America they have loved and invested so much in. To accomplish this, we endeavored to bring people from all walks of life and from throughout the country who had been deeply touched by True Parents people who would want to be there to say thank you from their heart. From Dan-

ments, or communicate the depth of his suffering and commitment that we, his disciples can appreciate. Our goal was to describe Rev. Moons life, thought and contribution in terms of a few simple themes that define him in a way that can be universally understood and appreciated. The overall theme of the event became the central principle of Fathers teaching and example: Living for the Sake of Others.

Though we intended this program to be our heartfelt offering to True Parents, not Fathers direction to us, his input and inspiration inevitably shaped the program and its goals. Upon first hearing that we intended to make such an offering, Father was extremely happy, noting that the entire birthday celebration should actually have been in the elder son nation of America. His

first comment was: Why not hold it at the U.S. Capitol? From that point we felt the importance of Americas political leadership acknowledging Rev. Moons continued investment in this country despite rejection and persecution, and planned a congressional reception as part of our celebration. When we suggested a 3 day conference on the theme Rev. Moons Life, Thought and Contribution, to document Fathers lifelong work in a critical and scholarly way, he extended the providence of international Hoon Dok Hae conferences in Washington, DC from the original 3 to 7, with the final gathering being on the very weekend of our birthday celebration. More than 300 distinguished participants from nearly 100 nations at this final conference joined the birthday celebration as well.

Later, Father inaugurated an additional series of Hoon Dok Hae conferences specifically for America, to help this nations leadership appreciate the depth and insight contained in his teaching. In response to this suggestion, the organizers of the very successful American Leadership Conferences expanded their discussions of Freedom, Faith and Family with American legislators and policymakers to include sessions highlighting the fundamental teaching and ideal of the founder. In this way, they provided an opportunity for American civic and religious leaders to consider how the wisdom contained in Rev. Moons thought might enlighten public policy. Participants in the second of these newly designed conferences also joined the birthday bash, including state legislators from throughout the country. In addition, Father asked specif-



have meant the overcoming of the peoples faithlessness, the fulfillment of his Adamic mission and a completely different history for humanity. But the religious leaders of his day rejected him as a heretic and a false prophet. Their conspiracy against him placed him in the hands of Roman political authority, which crucified him without hesitation. Jesus died the death of a disgraced and lowly criminal, crushed under the heel of the mightiest nation on earth. America was born as a Christian nation, religiously free and diverse yet built upon Judeo-Christian values, to restore this historical tragedy and create the foundation for the Kingdom of Heaven on earth.

To accomplish this, it became increasingly clear that we should gather religious leadership who genuinely appreciate Fathers lifetime of service to God and humanity, as well as national and international scholars and civic lead-

bury co-inmates to Korean War veterans to former presidents and prime ministers many, many old friends eventually came to say Happy Birthday.

The second goal was to lift up True Parents in front of an America that has never known or appreciated them by testifying to all that they have substantially accomplished. Through involvement in the celebration by the highest-level leadership, as well as letters and proclamations from across the nation and around the globe, we planned to document the appreciable impact of Fathers life and work. In presenting his achievements, our intention was not to try to inspire religious awe by testifying in a mystical and grandiose way. We planned instead to document by factual, journalistic means the undeniable impact that this man has had on 20th century history. We did not intend to try to convey the mind-boggling array of all of Fathers achieve-

TRUE PARENT' BIRTHDAY

Parents' Birthday

ically for the pioneering work of the International Education Foundation in Russia, Mongolia and China to be presented at the celebration.

Not all were excited and supportive of this event initially, however. Many leaders and members were justifiably concerned that it was just one more banquet, event, or campaign which would cost precious hundreds of thousands, sap the severely taxed time and energy of our members and produce little meaningful result. In addition, great pains needed to be taken to time the American birthday party in coordination with the Korean celebration and Blessing 2000, making sure that our wholehearted tribute did not disrupt or interfere with these important events. It became impossible to hold our celebration early enough to avoid disturbing the February 8-14 WCSF in Korea, while at the same time late enough to include a reception with members of Congress, who were beginning their sessions just shortly before those dates.

In a timely and heroic fashion, The Washington Times Foundation planned its own tribute to its founders 80th birthday, by doing what it does best: recognizing those throughout the country whose contribution to their community has exemplified the founders spirit of freedom, faith, family and service of others. The American Century Awards program on Capitol Hill drew some 120 senators and congressmen to honor the awardees, the values they exemplified and the uplifting contribution of The Washington Times, its National Weekly edition and the Washington Times Foundation. But the appreciation and respect of all present turned warmly to Rev. and Mrs. Moon as the Foundation presented its Lifetime Achievement Award to the new octogenarian. He responded by challenging all present to live for the sake of others, end Gods sorrow and restore the cosmos as humanity's hometown through true love. The moving evening ended with a huge cake, a heartfelt rendition of Happy Birthday, and photos of the award recipients together with the founders. More information on this inspiring program, the awardees and the stellar guest list may be obtained in a more appropriate venue. [editors note: or from The Washington Times Foundation]

All of these plans and events made it possible to restore the failure to honor and uplift Jesus 2000 years ago, to express the heart of the elder son nation toward True Parents, and to comfort the heart of Heaven. The stage was set for the January 22nd program: America Honors Rev. Sun Myung Moon on his 80th Birthday. Ambassadors and diplomats from some 40 nations joined former U.K. Prime Minister Edward Heath, founding President Dr. Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, representatives from numerous American universities, institutes and societies, state legislators, international scholars and government ministers, and more than 3000 people from across America and more than 100 countries worldwide. Representatives from most of the worlds

major faiths also participated in the gala and festive event. At 5:00 p.m., while the lobby of the Washington Hilton and Towers swelled with the excited participants, Father, Mother and their family greeted many of the most distinguished dignitaries at a special VIP reception. Dr. Kaunda read a 6-page poem he wrote in Fathers honor. The lobby was so full, and the lines so long with last-minute registrants, some ambassadors were unable to find the reception! But by 6:15, the packed ballroom and nearly full overflow room buzzed with anticipation. Elegant programs designed by Pierangelo Beltrami highlighted the evenings events and performers. The booklet included birthday greetings from Washington, DC Mayor Anthony Williams and a City Council resolution detailing Fathers contributions to the District of Columbia, America and the world, proclaiming Live for the Sake of Others Day in his honor. A moving pictorial and written summary of Fathers life and work was also included.

While huge video screens displayed the events specially designed logo and a visual collage of Fathers life, a fanfare called the room to attention. The evenings Master of Ceremonies, Rev. Philip Schanker, brought everyone to their feet as our guests of honor entered the beautifully festooned ballroom with their children and grandchildren. Invited to the stage, Father and Mother received lovely bouquets and cut a huge, 8-tiered cake, representing his 80 years and 8 stages of cosmic victory, while an already tearful audience serenaded them with Happy Birthday to You! Our Parents greeted friends and followers warmly, and Father enveloped Mothers clasped hands, embraced and kissed her. As our honorees returned to their seats, Father Lawrence Feres from Detroit, Michigan offered a simple, heartfelt prayer thanking God for True Parents life and ministry, and for all present to inherit their ideals and example.

In his Welcoming Remarks, FFWPU National President Dr. Tyler Hendricks noted that at 80 years Father is still: ...more vital

than any man half his age, with more enthusiasm for life than any budding teenager, more appetite for adventure than an astronaut and more surprises than the greatest Hollywood film. Young children filled the stage, displaying just a few of the nearly 2000 birthday letters and proclamations that

The first video, The Roots of the Movement, simply displayed scenes of the early days in Korea, Japan and America, accompanied by the New York City Symphony, under the baton of Mr. David Eaton. It was followed by Victory for Freedom, a 3 minute overview of Fathers life-long struggle with atheistic communism, revealing his central role in its demise, and his historic encounters with Russia's Mikhail Gorbachev and North Koreans Kim Il Sung. Dr. Thomas Ward offered his testimony to the life-changing power of Fathers critique and counterproposal to Marxism, and presented evidence of Rev. Moons unrecognized, behind-the-scenes impact on communism's defeat. The following video, The Power of an Ideal, was an unexpected surprise for many guests. Diplomats, scholars and religious leaders alike were amazed to see how the seeds planted by Father Moons embrace of former enemies had blossomed into the dramatic values education program inaugurated by the International Education Foundation throughout Russia, Mongolia and China.

Fathers contribution to the unity of religion was the next theme highlighted. World Peace through Religious Harmony briefly conveyed the appreciation and respect that many American religious leaders and scholars feel for his commitment of time, energy and resources to this cause. Baptist theologian and pastor Dr. Hycel B. Taylor chronicled Fathers lifetime interfaith work and praised him as truly called by God, placing him in the company of Moses, Jesus and St. Paul. A beautiful musical interlude featured budding singer and actress Mzuri singing Amazing Grace, the New York City Symphony performing Mozart's Divertimento in F Major, and offer-

see BIRTHDAY on page 9



we received. The Right Honorable Sir Edward Heath pointed out the economic convenience and family savings due to the happy coincidence of Father and Mothers birthday being on the same day. Noting all that they have achieved, he eloquently led the room in raising glasses of Ginseng Up to toast the past victories and future success of True Parents lives. Following dinner, a chronicle of True Parents life, thought and contribution to America and the world was presented through brief, theme-oriented videos, testimony and performances.

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Baltic Sea Waves the Jedi Return

by Gunnard Z. Johnston
—Vilnius, Lithuania

Our nation of Lithuania was given certain goals for the Blessing, and we have been investing all our energy to meet these expectations of True Parents and Dr. Seuk. The entire Northeast Continent has the goal of 50,000,000 Blessings by the end of the year of 1999; our country had the goal of 700,000.

We have four full-time native members, plus myself and my wife and our seven-year old son (he's given Blessings, too!). We did a forty-day witnessing campaign this past summer where we went to the busiest town in the country on the coast of the Baltic Sea. There we all did street lecturing and witnessing for twelve hours a day! (Summer days are LONG in the Baltics! Gotta take advantage of 'em because the nights are equally long in the winter!) We used a portable chalk-board and placed it right on the busiest road leading to the beach. After about a week, the mayor himself came over and told me to move, and I said if he made us move I would have no choice but to contact my Senators, Congressman, and the US State Department section on Religious Freedom. The mayor gave us an even BETTER place to witness and lecture.

Yes, the Jedi had returned. We had been to this seacoast town the previous two summers for Blessings, and the powers that be had opposed us on several occasions, often stimulated by people associated with the Catholic Church. Now, however, the atmosphere was changed. Forever. It was due to the indemnity paid by our True Parents and faithful brothers and sisters all over the world.

About 10,000 people a day would pass by. Many would stop and listen for a few minutes, some for an hour, and some sat down on the street and listened for three days! Our members are three lovely beautiful young sisters and one dogged stubborn brother. The youngest sister joined only ten months ago. She is strong and comes from good stock: her mother is a local judge(!), and her dad is the headmaster of a school (they do all 12 forms—or grades—over here) which just

became a "gymnasium", which is the top level of school; most graduates go on to college ("gymnasium" has really nothing to do with sports).

These parents of our youngest sister have been to our center several times, at first with very stern and worried looks on their faces, since their only daughter had just committed to joining our movement as a full-time missionary. But now they have seen their daughter giving lectures on Pure Love and True Family, and going out to meet people all over the country, so they are very relieved. They understand we doing good things,

joyous relief. (Thank God and Heaven!)

Since September we've been completely focused on making our rather substantial goal of 700,000 Blessings. With our limited number of workers, it has required some creativity, and long steady hours of time invested. We now give the Holy Wine Blessing Certificate — Four Blessing Vows on one side plus the Pure Love Pledge on the other, with an introduction that all this comes from our True Parents, Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon. We put this in every mailbox in the country. We also mention that the Family Federation was founded by True Parents in Washington in 1996, with Presidents Bush and Ford with their wives in attendance. So far so good. Some

negative newspaper articles and twisted television has appeared, but God's power is stronger than Satan's.

Upon the completion of our goal of 700,000 Blessings, we began to prepare for the Blessing ourselves. We have this one young sister and one brother (two of the above) who wanted to be Matched by True Parents. Of course, these days national messiahs, usually the Father nation (Korean), suggest the Matchings and then Father gives the final approval or not.

Our young sister was especially concerned that Father himself give the Matching, so I was particularly anxious to find the best possible Match for her. She has worked so hard, with so much faith, I didn't want her to be disappointed. Because our Korean National Messiah has been unable to be with us for over two years — they have six children, four of

whom are still students — it fell upon me to find the Matches for these two wonderful young members. I felt unqualified, really, for such a responsibility, so I asked Rev. Shin Jae Park, the vice-director of the Northeast Continent under Dr. Joon Ho Seuk, and he suggested I speak with the Korean NM of our Belarus neighbor, Rev. Kwon.

We are like brother and sister nations with Belarus, and I had several good experiences dealing with Rev. Kwon and his sons in Belarus, so it seemed a good idea. The fateful day came just before Christmas. I went to Minsk to see what kind of Matching Rev. Kwon would suggest. He and his son and daughter-in-law first treated me to one of the finest Korean breakfasts I have ever had! (I wish Matchings would come more often!) Then he pulled out a stack of photos, with about fifty young men and women members from Belarus. He asked me to choose the best young woman for our brother and the best young man for our sister. To say I was shaking inside would be accurate, I was!

After what seemed like an eternity of looking and looking and thinking and praying internally, I selected the two I was leaning most toward as matches for our two young members, but I did not say which ones. I asked Rev. Kwon which HE thought were the best. He then held up the EXACT SAME TWO that I had silently chosen! I was very happily shocked — and very quickly relieved. He gave his reasons for choosing the two and immediately I realized he had given both a very great deal of thought. The brother for our young sister is five years her elder (26), is accomplished in three different trades — has licenses in all three — and is a full-time member, as our sister. The sister he chose for our brother is also a full-time faithful sister whose character was that of a real mother, very soft and warm. She, too, is a student who wants to teach mathematics (!), as she is very logical and orderly, a perfect compliment to our stubborn, often disorganized, but very faithful brother.

Matches made in Heaven! It's the only way I can describe them.

We are now looking forward with great anticipation for the journey to Korea to be with our beloved True Parents on their Birthday, and the most glorious Blessing in all of human history. Behold! God's Kingdom is at hand! Rejoice! With hard work, faith, and God's love power we shall overcome all doubts and build His Kingdom of Heaven on this earth at this time! ❖



Pure Love lecture at a local church



Summer workshop in the Lithuanian woods



Left, Summer School students taking a break during a Pure Love lecture and, right, attending a local church

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TRUE PARENT' BIRTHDAY

BIRTHDAY from page 7

ing one of True Mothers favorites, Song of April, in honor of her birthday. To highlight the next theme, Fathers investment in America, a video, Renewing the American Spirit, reviewed his thankless investment in this country, from speaking tours to Danbury to the True Family Values Ministry, to be followed by a testimony from Neil Salonen. Though time constraints kept them from the evenings program, both were included in the video highlights, and reportedly moved Father deeply.

The final theme, Building True Families, chronicled True Parents fundamental work through the Blessing. Representing all Blessed Families in America, more than 50 members of our second generation, joined by some of their parents, offered a special thank you in song. Then Pastor T.L. Barrett from Chicago warmly testified to True Parents, and called Father to the stage for his keynote address. After the two men embraced, Father looked out to the audience and thanked everyone for spending their entire evening for him. Reflecting on his 80 years of life, he thanked God that he could pass through it all and stand there before everyone. In his message, The Path for America and Humanity in the Last Days, he explained the meaning of living for others, explained Gods love and purpose for America and challenged this nation to fulfill Gods will.

Father concluded his message to thunderous applause, as major religious leaders representing the True Family Values Ministry and ICC mounted the stage to present the World Reconciliation Award to Father. Then Sir Edward Heath and Dr. Kenneth Kaunda were joined by American state legislators and representatives of World

Peace organizations founded by Father, to present him with the Peacemaker of the Millennium Award. Founding American Unificationists, together with current and former church presidents, honored Fathers investment in our country with the Forty Years Foundation Award. Father and Mother responded to each presentation by offering a newly printed set of Hoon Dok Hae material to each of the presenters, announcing

ing that the very same gift from True Parents was prepared for each of the evenings guests. Washington Times Editor Wesley Pruden then presented Father with the framed printing plates for the first edition of the Times in the new millennium.

The program was topped off by a command performance of the Universal Ballet

Company and the Kirov Academy of Ballet, both founded by True Parents. The highlight was the performance of the Adagio from Swan Lake by Universal Ballet General Director Julia H.



GRAEME CARMICHAEL



Moon and Principle Dancer Dragos Mihalchea. As the stunning finale came to a close, Dr. Bo Hi Pak joined the entire company on-stage to present a shimmering, glass-enclosed statuette to the ballets founders: The Rudolph Nureyev Award for Excellence in the Arts. As

confetti showered the room, the audience of 3000 plus sent True Parents off with boisterous cheers of Mansei!

By now, highlights of this joyful occasion have been viewed around the world. We have already moved on to numerous other projects and important events. But everyone who attended had a truly rich and unforgettable experience. Without question, January 22nd, 2000 is a night that we will remember for-

ever. So many diligent brothers and sisters contributed to the great success of this celebration. The Chairman of this event was Dr.

Chang Shik Yang, whose vision for this offering never wavered. Vice-Chairman was Dr. Tyler Hendricks, who made himself available to do any job, however humble, to make the evening a success. Though it is not possible to acknowledge everyone, the stunning videos produced by Simon Kinney and Stewart Diamond with input from many sources, the VIP invitation process led by Karen Smith in New York, Susan Fefferman and Antonio Betancourt in Washington, and the overall event coordination by Mike Leone made the birthday celebration possible.

Several media covered the story, and newspapers and wire services picked it



up worldwide. Many viewed the program via internet webcast, in fact highlights can still be seen at trueholysday.com. While international media coverage was respectful and positive, more important was what we could feel from True Parents. It is clear that our America Honors Rev. Sun Myung Moon on his 80th Birthday program genuinely gave our True Parents a night to remember. ❖





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The International 'Hoon



by Dr. Thomas G. Walsh— Louisville, KY

The series of International Seminars, convened in Washington D.C., concluded with the seventh seminar, on January 20-23, 2000. Well over 200 participants from approximately 80 nations participated in the final seminar, and joined the great celebration of True Parents 80th Birthday on the evening of January 22nd.

The International Seminars began on July 29. The dates of the seminars were as follows:

- Seminar I July 29-Aug. 1, 1999
- Seminar II Sept. 17-20, 1999
- Seminar III Oct. 10-13, 1999
- Seminar IV Oct. 29-Nov. 1, 1999

- Seminar V Nov. 27-30, 1999
- Seminar VI Dec. 10-13, 1999
- Seminar VII Jan. 20-23, 2000

Altogether the seminars were attended by approximately 1500 participants from more than 100 different nations. The seminars were sponsored by the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace, the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification, the World University Federation and the World Media Association.

Participants were invited based on recommendations from IIFWP and FFWPUI representatives in the field, who had been directed to send high-level contacts in the fields of religion, politics, academia and the media. In this way, each participating nation had the opportunity to

develop their foundation by cultivating leaders through direct contact with Father's word. Those nations which were able to fully participate throughout the entire series of seminars now have a core of well-informed, and in most cases, genuinely inspired allies in the work for world peace; evidenced by this sampling of participant responses:

"I found it stimulating and soul-reaching. The major concepts of Unificationism are all new to be and inspired me simply because of their closeness to the fundamental principles of most religions." Selwyn Liburn, St. Kitts

"I was very inspired by the special presentations on the Pure Love Alliance and the Religious Youth Service because they are very relevant to the situation

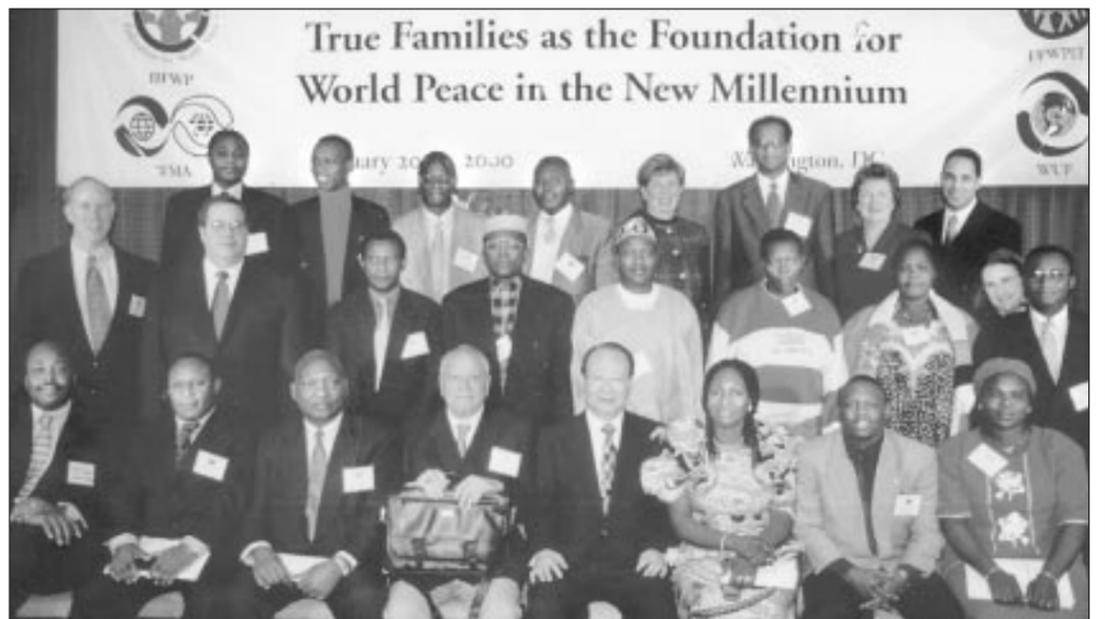
in my country." Corrine McKnight, Trinidad and Tobago

"I plan to immediately put the contents of this seminar into action in working in the poverty-stricken areas of Quezon City." Erlinda Pelim, Philippines

"Because I am both Asian and Roman Catholic, I can fully accept the contents of this seminar." Dr. Chao Chin-Chi, Taiwan

"As a politician I need this kind of teaching." Ichiadi Moyo, Congo

"The seminar led to a renewal of my faith. I now believe that the family is the pillar of a new society and that true love will guide us to be better parents, better children and better citizens to build a better world." Rollo Setka Sadal, Panama



ASIAN CONVENTION FOR WORLD PEACE

Visionary Convocation Draws High-Level Interest

by Genie Kagawa—Manila, Philippines

Held at the historic Manila Hotel, which Gen. Douglas MacArthur used as his Asia Pacific Command Headquarters during World War II, the Asian Convention on World Peace consisted of three concurrent conferences: the 26th International Conference on World Peace (ICWP), with the theme "Projections for an Asian Community," the first Asia University Federation (AUF) Annual Conference on "University Networking for Asian Community," and the 11th International Symposium on Unification Thought discussing "A New Vision for the Coming Millennium and Unification Thought."

Over four hundred participants from 22 countries, including Korea, Taiwan, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Thailand, Singapore, Nepal, India, Cambodia, Malaysia, Vietnam, the United States and Germany, convened in Manila from Nov. 22 to 26. Among the participants from overseas were 19 university presidents and six university vice presidents, plus members of the diplomatic community. The Filipino delegation consisted of 317 eminent scholars and dignitaries, which included: the Vice President of the Philippines, the Secretary of Education, Culture and Sports, the Secretary of Science and Technology, UNESCO Asia and Pacific Regional Director, Senators, Congressmen, 14 non-governmental leaders, 51 university presidents, 24 university vice presidents, 65 deans and 51 professors, plus many leaders from the Unification movement.

True Father gave his deep sincerity and attention for this convention. He sent Dr. Bo Hi Pak as his special emissary. Because of True Parents' love and depth of concern, this convention became an historical landmark and a remarkable success.

The first event was the welcome din-

ner on Nov. 22, hosted by Hon. Andrew B. Gonzalez, Secretary of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports of the Philippines, and the Organizing Committee. In his congratulatory remarks, Victor Ordonez, Regional Director of UNESCO in Asia and the Pacific, commended PWPA and Unification community for promoting similar goals for peace as the United Nations.

The Opening Plenary Session the following morning saw three keynote speakers outline the goals and themes of each of the concurrent conferences. Over lunch, Sen. Rene A.V. Saguisag, notable human rights legal counsel, expressed his views on how to construct a society or community of nations based on moral values, free of corruption. As legal counsel for the Unification Church, Sen. Saguisag has become a close friend of our community through his principal role in clearing unjustified charges filed against the Unification Church by the Philippines Department of Justice. At another luncheon, Amb. Pacifico Castro, former Secretary of Foreign Affairs, expressed his belief that the Unification movement held the key to bringing world peace because of its thrust in unifying major religions which have been historically at odds with each other.

The deliberations of the ICWP conference were lively and exciting. Notable among the main committee speakers was the Secretary of Science and Technology, Secretary Filemon Uriarte, Jr. Under the chairmanship of Dr. Kyung-June Lee, President of Sun Moon University, the Asia University Federation conference, composed of 60 Asian university presidents and administrators, had many round-table discussions on issues of vital concern for Asian universities in this new global era, such as, the setting up of an Asian accreditation body, and the organizing of common curricula, cross-cultural studies, centers of excellence, centers for promotion of foreign languages, and exchange programs between faculty and students.

The Unification Thought Institute Symposium, headed by Dr. Sung Bae Jin, addressed crucial issues related to the revival of family morals and the establishment of the Christian ideal of the Kingdom of God on earth.

The highlight of the convention was the Gala Dinner attended by more than 350 distinguished guests, including members of the diplomatic corps and government officials. The banquet was graced by the presence of H.E. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, Vice President of the Republic of the Philippines, who gave an insightful speech about the relationship of the Philippines to the Asian community. She mentioned that she was no stranger

to our organization as her father, former President Macapagal, had attended our conferences in the past, and respected our global activities. Dr. Kyung-June Lee, President of Sun Moon University, presented a donation to the Vice President for her street-children rehabilitation programs in Manila.

Former chairman of *The Washington Times* Dr. Bo Hi Pak gave a powerful lecture about the Family Federation and True Parents. Using slides, he confidently lectured about our work in the fields of media, business and anti-communism, concluding with the blessing as our main program and activity.

A very beautiful and entertaining cul-



Dr. Pak welcoming VIPs.

Philippines, being very close to the ordinary people as well as the elite. It is our hope that she will remain connected with our movement so we can work together for the ideal of world peace.

Amb. Pacifico Castro, who was introduced to us through the activities of the Inter-religious and International Federation for World Peace, has agreed to become the president of IIFWP in the Philippines. He is former Secretary of Foreign Affairs, and has a sterling career in the diplomatic and government circles.

The testimony of Dr. Bo Hi Pak about True Parents made a tremendously positive impact on the 400 con-

vention delegates and guests. Some of the administrators of university campuses are not merely supporting, but already openly promoting our student and professors' activities. Moreover, as a result of the convention, many universities are willing to open their campuses for our activities.

The convention also revived many of our old PWPA friends who became inactive because of our period of persecution in 1996-98 and the temporary suspension of PWPA activities.

Media coverage of the convention was extensive, with articles about the convention published in major national daily newspapers in the country. This was a wonderful boost for our cause. More than 13 other articles were published in the daily broadsheets.

The convention has thus helped give an entirely new image to our community, one which can command respect and acceptance. Until now, the Family Federation had been viewed as a group which is perpetually mobilizing participation for the Blessing. Now, the public can also see us as an organization which is gathering intellectuals and motivating them to contribute toward the goal of world peace.

The convention greatly assisted us in creating a foundation to welcome True Parents to the Philippines and in our efforts for restoring the country.

Genie Kagawa is our Regional Leader for South East Asia.. Reprinted from Today's World. ❖



tural show followed, presenting the Filipino tradition of fiesta, featuring the National Bayanihan Dance Troupe and renowned soprano singers.

After the following morning's Committee Sessions, the Closing Plenary Session summarized the conclusions of the entire convention. Reports were rendered from each of the different committees, followed by a very lively discussion. It was proposed that deliberations of the convention be published and made available on the Internet. Amb. Castro urged that the results of the convention be book-bound and communicated to the UN through Secretary General of UNESCO Victor Ordonez as the "Manila Declaration of Peace and Unification," so that the UN could take note that such a conference for world peace took place. Hansung University president Dr. Rhee Seong Kang observed: "I never imagined that the Unification Church in the Philippines was working at this level on a national scale, and is welcomed by the government and VIPs. I am truly amazed to see this kind of international convention."

The Asian Convention for World Peace has left an indelible imprint on the providence in Asia. Vice President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo has once again become close to our movement and is at present willing to cooperate with us in mutual projects. Previously, she stood at some distance from our movement when we were facing unjustified legal charges from the Department of Justice. The Vice President has great popularity in the

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Pure Love in the Cameroon

by Michael Lamson—Limbe, Cameroon

Pure Love Alliance proved to be an amazing tool recently in Cameroon. Youth Week this year was celebrated from the 6th through the 11th of Feb. 2000. This years theme was "The Moralization of Youth" and PLA was almost the only program that fit. In Africa the youth are leaving this world

due to HIV infections. A river of tears has been left behind as friends, family and the nation struggle with the loss. Only programs like PLA that can effectively change the sexual behavior of the youth can stop this terrible loss. The Ministry Of youth and Sports asked us to lead a debate at the Hilton Hotel on the theme and the CLUE curriculum was used to promote responsible sex or "Absolute Sex". The debate

went very well and many in attendance expressed desire to have the program in their schools.

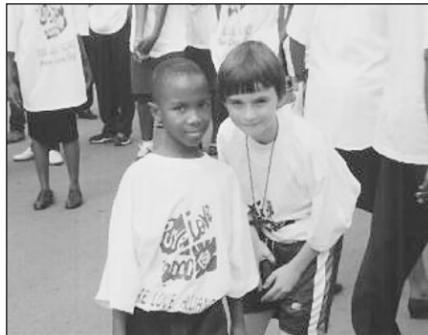
We also held debates in schools where the student body would make two teams one that supported the concept of free sex and condoms the other using PLA material and promoting abstinence and responsible sex. The debates were well organized and it was not an easy task to change the concepts of many youth. From the debates we could find ways to make constructive changes in the material we are using and in the way we present it.

On the 11th at 11:30 PM we marched through the center of town in our PLA T-shirts carrying our PURE LOVE 2000

banner with so much pride. There were 97 young people in our group marching while many handed out PLA pamphlets. The march was covered by the National Television and Youth week made a great start for our activities this year.

We are planning many workshops in Limbe to train youth leaders that can start PLA clubs in their schools and will also be hosting the 17th International AIDS Candlelight Memorial in May.

Father has given us many tools (FFWPU, WFWP, YFWP, CARP, IRFF and an ever growing list) lets all work together and use these tools to create heaven. ❖



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We will discuss topics that are indispensable for successful marriage building, such as drafting a marriage vision statement, spirituality and intimacy in marriage, listening skills, negotiating disagreements, how to honor your spouse, sexual fulfillment and lifelong commitment and faithfulness. Bring your spouse, a friend, your ideas and a heart that is ready for change. It will be a small group setting (first come, first served) in a friendly and supportive atmosphere. Counseling will be available. All religious backgrounds welcome.

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Please call for reservation asap Elisabeth Seidel
(914) 758 4137

Seminar fee (includes lunch):

\$50. - for individuals, \$70. - for couples

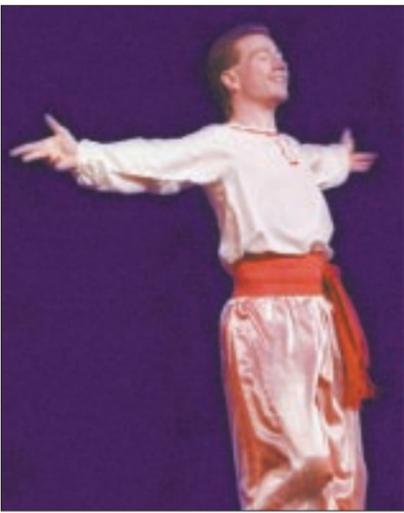
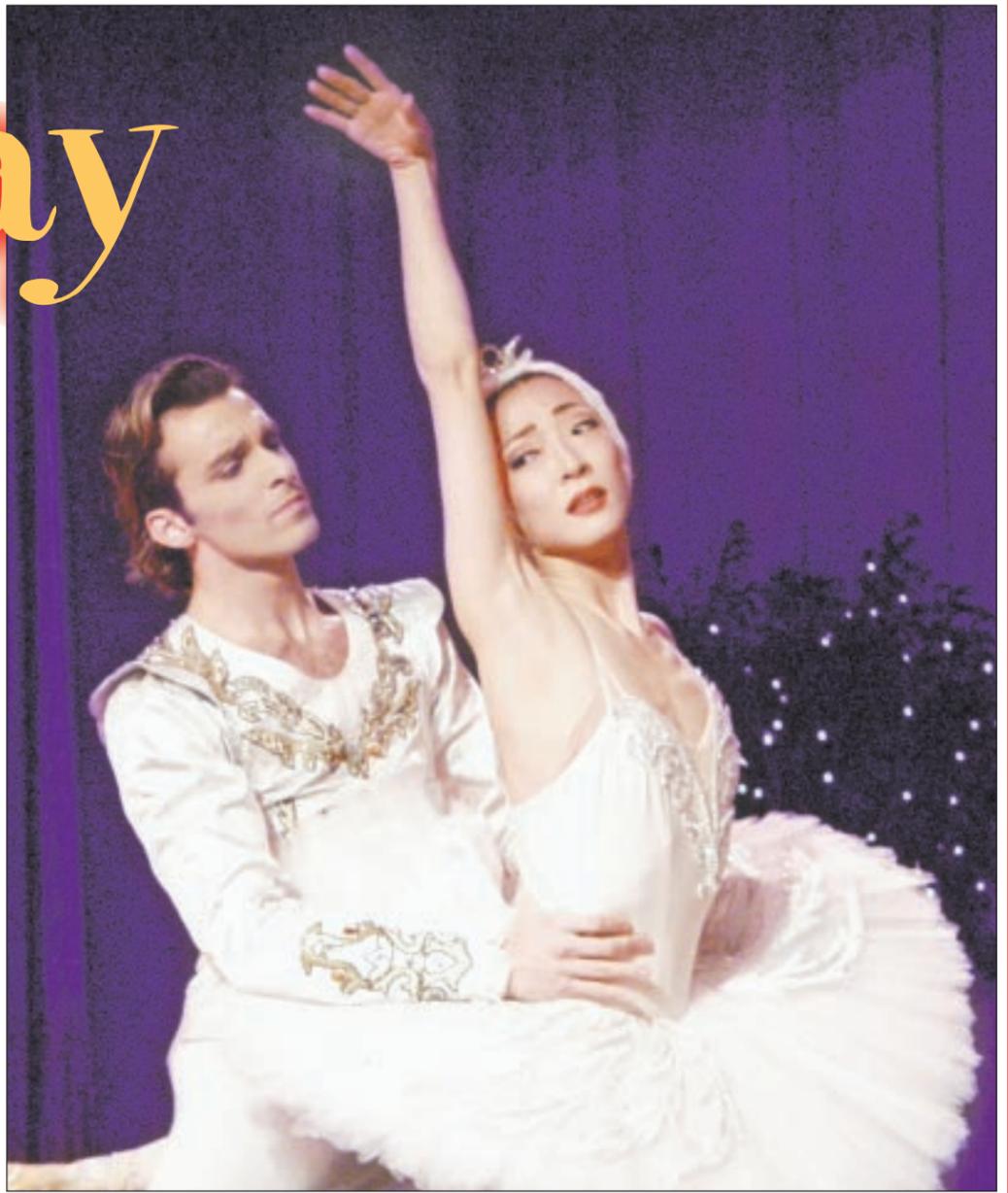
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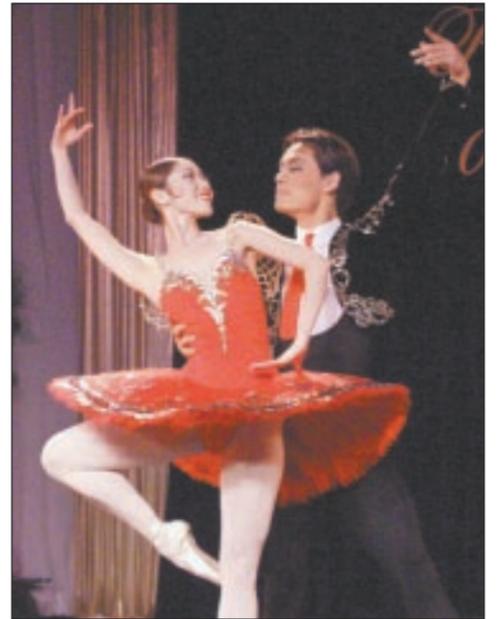
Happy



Birthday



Photos by GRAEME CARMICHAEL



TRUE PARENTS' HISTORY FOR CHILDREN

The Early Blessings

by Linna Rapkins

In Korea, it wasn't unusual for young people to be matched by their parents, but it was unusual to be matched by their teacher and spiritual master, and for all of them to be married in the same ceremony was unheard of.

Of course, the news soon got out. Once again, all those critical, negative people from the newspapers came knocking on the door.

"We heard about a group wedding," they asked none too politely. "Is this true? What's going on?"

"Please don't bother us," answered the members. "This is a private affair, and we don't really want any publicity."

But they wouldn't go away. To make matters worse, the parents of the couples heard about it, too, and they came pounding on the door. Most of these parents were very critical of Father.

"Moon took my child away. He made her drop out of school. He ruined her life." They always talked this way, accusing, accusing.

As they demanded information, their voices became louder and more shrill. "Is it true? Is my child to marry someone chosen by this crazy man? Talk to me!"

Mr. Eu and others tried to explain things to them. "Yes, your daughter will be married. Yes, your son has been matched with so-and-so. Sorry, we are not inviting outside people to this wedding."

"OUTSIDE PEOPLE?" they shouted in rage. "Do you call mothers and fathers outside people? Let my child come and talk to me in person!"

"Bang! Bang! Bang!" Their fists continued to beat upon the doors.

"Alright," answered Mr. Eu. "We'll try to find your sons and daughters. Hold on." And off they went.

Some of the sons and daughters were out. Others sent back messages. "I don't want to see you because you are so angry. I'm afraid you will try to drag me away."

Or "You disowned me when I joined the church, so now you are not welcome at my wedding."

Some parents gave up at that point, but it only made others more angry and more determined. They remained in the courtyard, clamoring for attention. Some

yelled nasty words, and some even threw garbage at the door. "We're calling the police," they threatened. "And we'll interrupt your ceremony if you don't listen."

The newspapers wrote their stories. "Church members forced to marry. Parents banned from their own child's wedding." By this time, practically everyone in Seoul had heard about it.

Some of the daughters and sons did speak with their parents.

"Please, let me come to your wedding,"

those parents begged. "We are hurt that you joined such a group and didn't let us select your mate for you, but we still want to be there for your wedding."

"Well, it's kind of difficult for you to attend, because we don't have room for all the parents," their daughter or son would answer. "Besides, no one can be admitted unless they are wearing all white clothes."

Meanwhile, the police had decided to investigate the strange events at the Chongpadong Church. They began calling for Teacher Moon. Father talked with them, but they didn't seem to be satisfied. They apparently planned to continue harassing Father. And every day they did.

The morning of May 15, 1961, arrived. The members gathered in the main meeting room of the Chongpadong Church wearing their white robes. Suddenly, the doors opened and in walked several parents—all dressed in white! They had managed to find white clothes. No one asked them to leave.

The ceremony began with the first twelve couples walking in together. Amidst the noise of the shouting people outside, they walked slowly toward the front, taking seven steps and bowing, taking seven more steps and bowing, and then taking seven final steps and bowing in front of True Parents. They were concentrating on walking through three periods of history—the Old Testament Age, the New Testament Age, and the Completed Testament Age. Father and Mother sprinkled them with holy water, and Father blessed them in marriage.

They had to hurry through the ceremony, because the noise outside was getting louder. The feeling in the air was heavy—like something was pushing down on them and preventing them from moving. Then policemen opened the door and told Father to come along.

"Everyone just wait until I return," instructed Father. He changed into street clothes and went off to the station for some questioning.

Finally, after what seemed like an eternity, Father returned. "Quickly, quickly," he said. "We must finish the ceremony."

The second group came in and was blessed, followed by the third group. It still felt like a chaotic day,

but gradually the shouting and rude activity around the building quieted down.

During the celebration meal, everyone had a chance to relax a little, and to sing and be entertained. Finally, it felt more like a wedding.

These were the couples who would represent True Parent's family and protect them—the foundation couples, they were called.

**The 72 Couples are Blessed**

Another whole year flew by. The church members were so busy, they almost forgot time. They hardly noticed how quickly the hot summer and the cold, cold winter passed by. Now it was spring again—spring of 1962.

When Father announced another blessing, it came once again as a total surprise. You would think, by this time, they would have been expecting it. But no! They had taken it for granted that there would be only 36 couples blessed. Surely, everyone else would be blessed in spirit world when there was more time for such things.

Now a blessing was coming for some of them, too. Quickly, they tried to prepare their hearts. Father said, "You should be willing to be blessed with anyone I choose for you. Don't worry about how good-looking or how nice your husband or wife might be. These things are not so important. Maybe I will match the most handsome man with the least attractive woman. It wouldn't be good for your children to have two ugly parents, would it? You should think only about how you look to God."

A big flurry of activities began. Hundreds of men and women were called to be interviewed by Father. By the time he had finished, there were 72 couples matched, exactly twice as many as the 36 couples.

There was the same pattern of matchings, indemnity conditions, wine ceremony, and preparations for the wedding ceremony.

"Again, the men will wear robes," said Father, "and the women will wear new white chima chogoris."

Then he turned to the wives from the 36 couples and added an unexpected direction. "You women all had long lace veils at your blessing, and I told you to save them. Now, I want you to bring them to the church, and we will cut them in half and make new short veils for these 72 brides. It will be a great honor for

them to be able to wear the veils of their elder sisters."

The now traditional national flags were hung from the ceiling and beautifully painted scenery and signs mounted on the walls.

The day of the wedding arrived—June 4, 1962. This ceremony was quieter and more joyous than the last one. At the same time, there was a deep feeling of seriousness. Much of the room was filled with the brides and grooms, and many guests had to stand outside, peering through the open windows.

Once again, Father and Mother sprinkled each couple with holy water and blessed them in marriage. In his prayer, the couples could really feel how much Father cared for them.

"... Father," he said, "their fathers and mothers did not receive them. Their intimate friends turned away from them. Their whole society despised them. Fellow Christians condemned them. . . . However, you have raised them up and led them with your most loving care. . . . I now dedicate these 72 couples to You, Father. With them I will lay a foundation and make a new start. If you wish us to endure more suffering, we shall do so. We are determined. . . . I am now closing this ceremony. Father, remember this day, June 4, 1962. Please liberate all angels, the 24 elders and all saints, and let them sing and dance with joy because of this day. Amen"

As they followed the ceremony with a nice meal, the couples had dual feelings. They felt the heavy responsibility that had been placed upon their shoulders, but they also felt the joy of Heavenly Father as he sang and danced with them at their wedding.

The 124 Are Blessed

Six months after the Blessing of the 72 couples came the new year—1963. There was no God's Day yet, so Father gave a New Year's Day speech.

"The past three years were especially difficult," he said to the members. "I'm sorry you had to suffer so much, but because of your suffering we were able to achieve many things. For the next four years we will have the same motto—'Let us be victorious rulers.' Do you know how to be victorious? As you already know, it is usually by suffering. You have to experience the same things I did. That's the only way your heart can become like mine."

"Last year I gave prizes to one man and three women among the blessed couples who were especially good examples. They will open the way for the first generation. All of you are the first generation. So it is very important for you to unite with those who received the prize. Then you will do well, also."

"Now, I have an announcement to make," he said. "This year, I want to bless approximately 120 couples who are pure and dedicated people who were never married before."

Their eyes opened wide in surprise. Would he never cease to amaze them? 120 couples! That's 240 people! Just

see **BLESSING** on page 17

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DIVINE PRINCIPLE STUDY

GOD'S GOAL FOR HUMAN HISTORY

Volume 4 • Part 3

Divine Principle points out that if history had started from a source of goodness, it would be eternally good as God is eternal good. Therefore, this history would have no end. However, because man fell away from God human history began apart from Him and thus, as it is, has no eternal foundation. In some way, the history we know must eventually end. Such a time is known in the Bible as the Last Days.

Seeing the Last Days only as an end, however, is to miss the point. The Last Days of one era are simultaneously the first days of a new one. It is not a literal end, but a time of transition.

A historical example may illustrate this point. It is commonly said that in 410 A.D. the Roman Empire fell. To state that the vast empire collapsed, however, is not to assert that the land and its people were destroyed but rather to point out that Roman power and governmental authority had come to an end. The nation itself continued under new rule.

By the same token, the destruction of Hitler's National Socialism and the Third Reich in World War II did not mean the elimination of the German state. Germany today, succeeding Nazi totalitarianism has become a leading member of the democratic alliance. In the same way, even though the world will go through a radical transformation in the Last days, when this period ends, it inevitably will be succeeded by a New Era.

As we have indicated, since God has been working to restore humankind back to goodness, humanity's history will progressively be a history of goodness. That this is the case is due both to the fact that God has labored for this ideal and to the fact that we ourselves seek it.

In the Last Days, then, a tremendous change from the satanic domination of humanity to the beginnings of the Kingdom of God on earth will develop. Instead of expecting a string of frightening, cataclysm, physical events, including annihilation of the earth, we can instead anticipate a new age with great joy and hope.

Reflecting this reality in symbolic terms, the Book of Revelation promises the magnificent, ultimate union of heaven and earth, of God and man:

"And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband; and I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'Behold, the dwelling of God is with me. He will dwell with them and they shall be his people, and God himself will be with them'" (Rev. 21:2-4)

Last Days Past and Present

The coming transformation of human history will not be the first time that such endeavor, change in all areas is the pattern rather than the exception. Both geological and historical records reveal peri-

ods of great transformation. Geologically, the ice age, for example, altered the entire landscape of the earth and affected our global climate. Earthquakes and volcanic eruption have had similar effects.

Because of His heart and love, God has constantly worked for a transformed world. However, to accomplish this goal two things are necessary: God must do His part and His children must do theirs. Unfortunately, each time God has ventured a try to a new history, human beings have failed to complete the effort. Since God's purpose can never be fulfilled by Him alone, history has continued in its tragic ways. To achieve the goal of a just and loving society, God needs our cooperation.

The Bible tells us how times that divine efforts toward radical alterations of society were frustrated by human foibles. The first involved the massive flood reported in Genesis. Here we are told the Lord "determined to make an end of all flesh" (Gen. 6-13), but spared Noah and his family to "establish [His] covenant" with them and inaugurate a new beginning.

Through Noah, God sought a new world. Obviously, since evil and tragedy still flourished thereafter, something went awry with the plan. God's hopes were disappointed by man's actions.

The second Biblical account of God's struggle for a new beginning lies in the

story of Jesus. Approximately, 400 years before Jesus came, the prophet Malachi prophesied of events to take place with the coming of the Messiah:

"For behold, the days comes, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble: the day that come shall burn them up" (Mal. 4:17).

Such was the purification Jesus was to bring. Evil was to be eradicated and a new era was to dawn. Indeed, the "Kingdom of Heaven [was] at hand" (Mt. 4:17).

Jesus was coming to separate good from evil and to inspire a world in which the good might prosper. Yet when he came, he was crucified by the very people whom he hoped to transform. Coming with a revolutionary vision, he was seen as a blaspheming against God, as violating the Mosaic law, and as undercutting traditional Hebrew morality.

Threatened by the power of this young upstart, the established religious powers, the scribes and pharisees, united against him and had him killed. Again God's efforts were frustrated by the failure of His children.

Since Jesus was unable to bring about the end of history, he promised another "Last Days" when he would return to accomplish his original purpose.

Historically, then those of the Christian faith have awaited another—and final—"end". For Divine Principle, as we shall see, society is now approaching that end which is at the same time a beginning.

Next month—Biblical Prophecy ❖

BLESSING from page 16

think of the size of such a wedding! Nothing like it has ever been attempted. The last wedding was crowded. Where will he put 120 couples?

Their attention was brought back to Father as he continued, "Because there are around 70 nations in the United Nations," he said, "I could only bless 72 couples last year. Because they still don't have 120 nations, I will just match and engage 120 couples for now. Later, the blessing itself will take place."

Thus, the beginning of 1963 began with a matching. There were 124 couples matched this time—120 plus 4. Only when the actual wedding date was announced almost six months later did they begin the preparations for the ceremony.

The wedding robes were sewn by the women of the church. Decorations, food and refreshments were prepared. This time the newly built civic auditorium in Seoul was rented for the occasion. Everyone would be able to see the wedding—the members, their parents, and other guests.

On June 24, 1963 (by the solar calendar), the 124 couples put on their white gowns. Hundreds of people were arriving at the big auditorium, and this time it was a much more polite and interested crowd. Police were outside in case too many people tried to push their way in.

Mr. Eu opened the ceremonies. "Ladies and gentlemen," he said to the 3500 people in the audience. "I welcome you all to this great occasion. I will begin by explaining a little about the history of

our church and the meaning of this wedding."

He talked to them for about 30 minutes. Then Father and Mother entered and proceeded to the stage, dressed in their white robes and shining crowns. Most of the members had never seen them like this before. The audience was dazzled. Two little girls followed after them, carrying two bowls of perfumed holy water.

Next, came the 124 couples, and each couple walked by True Parents to be sprinkled with holy water. Then they lined up in the middle with twenty-four couples from the earlier blessings standing on either side. Father asked four questions of the couples.

"Do you promise to take responsibility for any thing you do that is not God's will?"

Everyone shouted in unison, "NE!"
"Do you promise to be faithful to God and obey His will?"

"NE!"
"Do you promise to become true forefathers worthy of respect?"

"NE!"
"Do you promise to become victors over Satan and bear yourselves in dignity as lords of creation?"

"NE!"

After Father's prayer, gifts were exchanged. Each groom gave his bride a golden ring, and each bride gave her groom a seal with his name on it.

Father pronounced them married as husband and wife before God. He didn't say, "Til death do you part." Instead, he said "for eternity."

One couple gave a wreath of flowers to True Father and True Mother. This was followed by speeches of congratula-

tions from two government officials. Then telegrams were read from church members from around the world—29 from Korea, 22 from Japan, 8 from America, and 2 from West Germany.

After True Parents left the room, Mr. Eu greeted the audience once again, "We are very happy you could be here today. Now, the couples will go on a tour of Seoul. We invite you to stay for refreshments and when the couples return you will be able to talk with them. We also invite you to return for entertainment this evening."

Outside, cars were waiting for True Parents, their children, the older couples, and the 124 couples. Soon, a caravan of 150 cars, complete with police escort, drove through the streets of Seoul. They waved to the people who had come out to see them. Everyone in Seoul, it seemed, had heard about the wedding.

When they returned to the auditorium, there were many greetings and bows and hugs.

"Now that I've seen it, I wish I could have been married this way," said one parent.

"This Teacher Moon must be pretty special to be able to marry so many couples," said another. "This is his fourth wedding. And their marriages seem to be turning out better than the ones we parents arrange."

"True," agreed others, "They really take their marriages seriously."

The day ended with entertainment. The children of the church sang and danced. The Korean symphony orchestra performed. In conclusion, the telegrams from around the world were read once again. The celebrations closed with three loud cheers, "Long live the brides and

grooms! Long live the brides and grooms! Long live the brides and grooms!" Even people outside could hear the shouts and feel the excitement.

These couples had gone through cold, hunger, and ridicule. They had given their blood, sweat and tears for heaven. But today they could celebrate victory with heaven!

Father explained to the 124 couples, "Your blessings are all very important. The 36 couples represent the first generation, the 72 couples represent the second generation, and the 124 couples represent the third generation. I need all three blessings to protect my family. Do you realize how important you are? Please pledge to take on this responsibility."

The couples so pledged.

"There's more," said Father. "Try to understand that you also represent the world. The blessing of the 36 couples made it possible to set spirit world free. The 72 couples represent the races and nations, and they made a foundation to save Korea. The 124 couples represent the family, nation and world. Do you think you understand all this?"

"Yes, Sonseng-nim," they responded.

"Furthermore," he continued, "you are spiritual children in the position of Cain. You must try really hard to make unity with my own children—care for them, pray for them, love them, protect them. Ye Jin-nim and Hyo Jin-nim have been born. There will be more. Can you take responsibility for them?"

"Ne," they answered. "Che-son-ul, Ta Ha Gae sumnida." (We will try our best.)❖

**ADVERTISE IN THE
UNIFICATION NEWS**

by Diesa Seidel—Red Hook, NY

The Needs of Children

For any successful child development effort, it is important to be fully aware of the needs of the child. Meeting those needs is like the fertile soil in which the seed of guidance and instruction can bear good fruit. There are basic needs which all children have at all times; however, there are also more specific needs to be met depending on the age, situation and disposition of the child.

One can distinguish essential internal and external needs in raising children. External needs include adequate nutrition (food, vitamins and water), ample sleep and sufficient exercise. Moreover, the internal requirements for productive child development outweigh in importance the external. Society often tends to concentrate on the physical aspects of development, and overlooks some of the critical internal, mental conditions the child goes through.

The most important internal requirement for a child is a loving atmosphere. The child's parental unit should primarily provide this atmosphere. By creating this comfort zone, the child may develop a sense of security and harmony in its new world. This atmosphere is one ingredient which should remain potent throughout the dura-



tion of the child's development.

Psychodynamic theories emphasize that development is a product of the child's responses to life's challenges. According to Erikson's psychodynamic theory of Eight Stages of Psychosocial Development, a loving atmosphere should be established during the first year of the baby's life. Erikson refers to this preliminary stage as one of "trust versus mistrust." As long as the child's caregivers are always guided in their child-rearing efforts by a strong desire to provide that loving atmosphere, surely they will succeed.

Further internal needs which contribute to the child's well-being are to provide encouragement (especially for a sense of independence) and praise for their good deeds.

With a positive outlook provided for children, they will be more inclined to take charge themselves and develop a healthy self-esteem later on. Erikson stresses these points in his psychosocial theory during the second and third stages ("autonomy versus shame and doubt" and "initiative versus guilt"). These two stages of growth occur between ages one and six years. During this phase, providing good role models for the child would in return instill a sense of security for their direction in life. If the caregivers are persistent and dedicated to providing their children with strong emotional support during their

early years of life, then I believe that they will become likelier to grow up secure, stable and socially healthy individuals.

Guiding children to have a sense of freedom and responsibility is yet another factor in child development. Often our society confuses the two, or does not associate them with each other. With freedom comes responsibility, and with responsibility comes freedom. To some extent, Erikson incorporated these points into his theory of the adolescent years of maturation. "Industry versus inferiority" and "identity versus role confusion" (the fifth and sixth stages) both emphasize that the child should acquire an understanding of himself or herself and where he or she stands in the social hierarchy of society. Establishing a concept of what they can accomplish alone or with the help of others allows

them to gain a degree of respect for themselves. This paves the way to implement a sound recognition of their identity.

The last stages that Erikson discusses deal with the later years (adulthood through old age). These stages are all directly related to the preliminary stages discussed previously. The eighth stage, "integrity versus despair," is directly associated with all the introductory stages of life maturation. This is considered to be the last stage of life where one reflects on one's past actions and contributions. If children have been brought up in a secure, loving and peaceful environment, it seems more probable that they would have a nourishing adulthood, charitably pass their knowledge and experience on to their children, and feel they have lived a memorable, worthwhile life. ❖

This atmosphere is one ingredient which should remain potent throughout the duration of the child's development.

ADVERTISE IN THE UNIFICATION NEWS

Operatic Double-bill in New York City

by Francesco Santelli—Clifton NJ

The Henry Street Opera will present a double bill on March 25, 26 and April 1 and 2. The operas are: *Suor Angelica* by Giacomo Puccini and *I Pagliacci* by Ruggero Leoncavallo. The operas are double-casted. The production is fully staged with orchestra and chorus; the performances will be at the Abrons Arts Center (in its 25th Anniversary Celebration Year) in lower Manhattan at 466 Grand St. For the March 25 and April 2 performances, the *Pagliacci* cast is: Deborah Anne Faw (Nedda), James Guthrie (Canio), Peter Schroeder (Tonio), Nanette Bevelander (Suor Angelica); for March 26 and April 1, the performers will be Marjorie Leake (Nedda), Alejandro Olmedo (Canio), Bill Burges (Tonio), and Deborah Longino (Suor Angelica); Ivan Crespo (Silvio), Dante Fiore (Beppe) in *Pagliacci*, and Leslie Middlebrook (La zia Principessa) in *Suor Angelica* are in all performances, Francesco Santelli is the conductor and Robert Stivanello the

Stage Director.

Of *Suor Angelica* Puccini said that he would give up all his other operas to save this one which he loved the most and it actually is an opera where spirituality reigns sovereign in the highest degree in this heavenly drama in a cloister of a convent near Siena in the 17th century. *I Pagliacci* is the major and only universally acclaimed success of Ruggero Leoncavallo who wrote also the libretto, the power of the human emotions and the beauty of the melodies come through the entire opera; he could never match with his subsequent works the success of *I Pagliacci*.

UC members and guests from the NYC metropolitan area are invited to attend this production. For tickets and directions call (212)598-0400 or (973)472-3755. This production is funded in part by the National Endowment of the Arts, the New York State Council of the Arts and the Dept. of Cultural Affairs of the City of New York.

Francesco Santelli is the Music Minister of the FFWP of NJ. ❖



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Search - A - Word

The words in the word list are hidden in the diagram of letters. Find them by reading forward, backward, up, down and diagonally, always in a straight line. Some of the letters in the diagram are used in more than one word and some are not used in any words. If two forms of the same word (RICH and RICHEST, for example) are in the word list, they will be found in different places in the diagram. When you locate a word in the diagram, draw a loop around it. Cross out the word you found in the word list.

**This month's topic:
Family Pledge Numbers Five**

**Advance, Centring, Day, Every, Love, Object, Partners,
Physical, Spirit, Strive, Subject, True,
Unification, World**

A	B	P	A	R	T	N	E	R	S	D	I
N	O	L	J	I	E	C	F	E	L	C	O
A	M	K	S	V	H	G	E	R	S	D	E
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Compiled by Wendy Stovall—Salt Lake City, UT

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR SOLUTION

Article removed in Internet edition



Search - A - Word
solution

A	B	P	A	R	T	N	E	R	S	D	I
N	O	L	J	I	E	C	F	E	L	C	O
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Rev. Moon's Numerous Contributions to Society

by Rev. Michael Yakawich—Billings, MT

This was first published as an op-ed in the Billings (Montana) Gazette, Thursday, Feb. 10, 2000.

He was born to a poor family in a small village in what is now North Korea. This month he will turn 80 years old. He has been vilified, attacked, beaten, arrested and imprisoned in three countries, including 2 1/2 years spent in a communist concentration camp. He also has accomplishments that spawned a movement with millions of members in over 180 nations. A religious leader, businessman, prophet, devoted husband, father and grandfather, his name is Rev. Sun Myung Moon.

Born to Presbyterian parents, he was called to ministry at the young age of 15. His ministry came to Montana in the early 1970s. He visited the state in 1975 and spoke in Missoula. His wife of 40 years, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, spoke at the Sheraton Billings Hotel in 1993. Their son, Kook Jin Moon, gave a public talk in Billings in 1995. The Unification Family Church established a church building at 501 S. 29th St. in Billings, in 1987, which has provided clothing and food services, youth

programs, neighborhood functions and traditional church programs.

Despite all the controversy that has surrounded his movement, many people still do not yet know the magnitude of his accomplishments in America and around the world, some to which I can personally attest. In 1975, Moon established the Unification Theological Seminary in upstate New York. In 1985 he began the Assembly of World Religions to foster and promote unity among the world's faiths. He has funded certified colleges in Bridgeport, Conn., and South Korea.

In addition, Moon has begun many other organizations to promote greater cultural and religious understanding and to promote world peace. The Interdenominational Conferences for Clergy was established in 1982. The Women's Federation for World Peace, begun in 1995 by Rev. Moon and his wife, has held numerous events to bring together women from different races, cultures and nations to overcome the problems of past hatreds. WFWP International has been recognized by the United

Nations and was granted the status of a non government organization consultative body, the highest honor that it can accord a private organization.

Among his humanitarian efforts are the International Relief Friendship Foundation formed in 1976 with the

His commitment has been to establish the True Family movement as a way to create God-centered families as the foundation for world peace and to break down the walls which divide us.

purpose of helping to alleviate poverty, malnutrition, and disease in the developing world. It is an organization that promotes programs in agriculture, technical training, health care, and emergency disaster relief in Africa, South America and Asia; established hospitals in Cambodia and Vietnam; distributed medical equipment in

Uganda and Kenya; and distributed food in famine areas. The Tokyo-based Isshin Hospital annually sends out medical teams to rural areas to provide health care to those who would otherwise be without it. Recently, Moon donated 30 ambulances to South American cities in need of emergency vehicles.

Other projects include the Religious

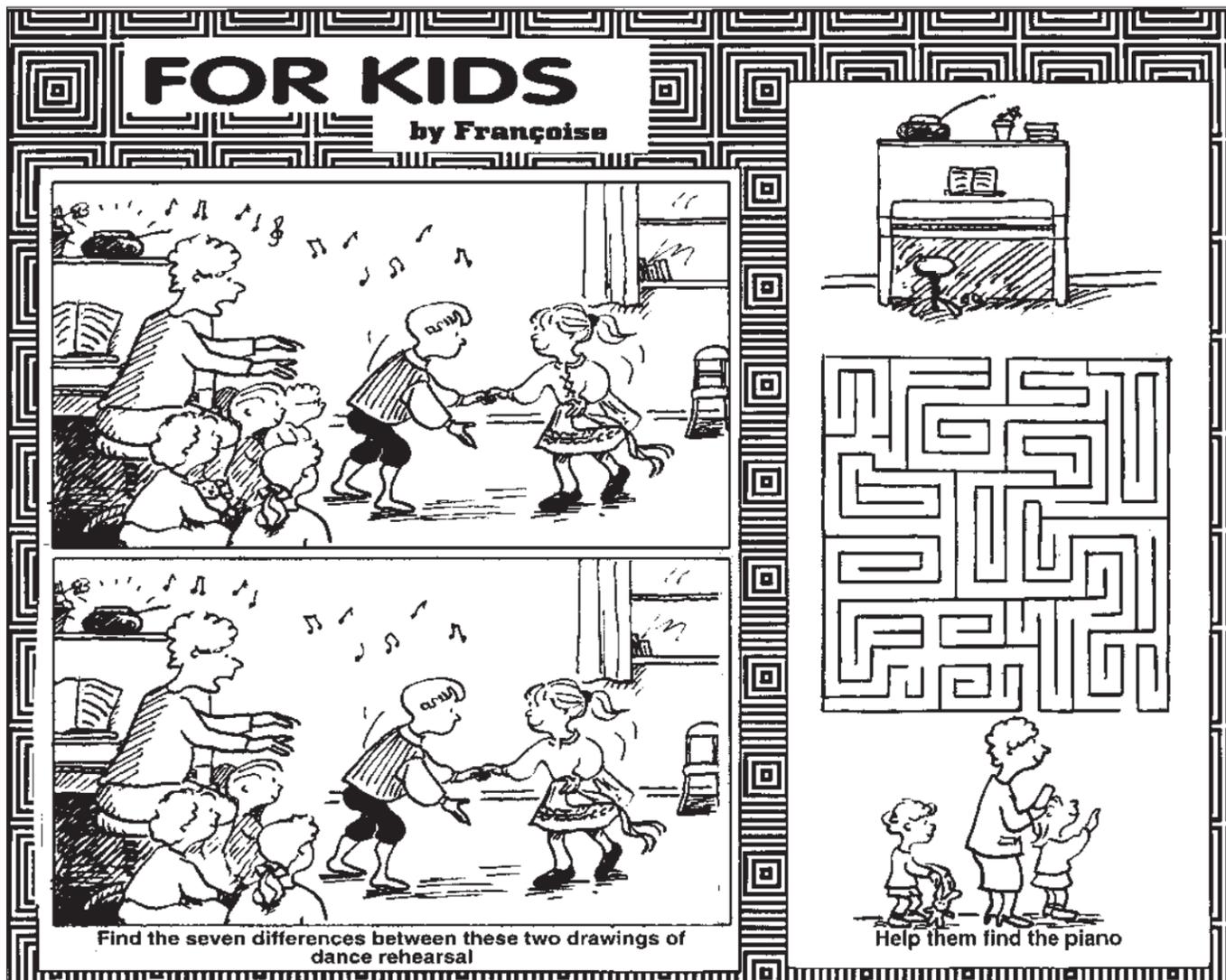
Youth Services which have accomplished over 187 projects for relief, such as building and restoring public buildings as schools and health facilities, and recently establishing a refugee camp in Croatia. More recently, the International Relief Federation for World Peace was instrumental in stopping the riots in New Delhi, India, in 1993, and facilitating dialogue with the Muslim leadership during the Gulf War preventing that war from becoming a religious Jihad.

In the cultural arena, Moon founded the Washington Times Corporation in 1984. The Universal Ballet Academy opened its door in 1990 in Washington, DC.

Both Rev. and Mrs. Moon hold honorary doctorate degrees from Argentina's La Plata Catholic University and Shaw University in Raleigh, NC.

In conclusion, through all his life, Moon's commitment has been to establish the True Family movement as a way to create God-centered families as the foundation for world peace and to break down the walls which divide us. His motto, "With the heart of a father, in the shoes of a servant" remains his life's goal and to be True Parents and to encourage all people to be True Parents. ❖

Article removed in Internet edition



New Hope for Dialogue with NCCC

by Chris Antal—Boston MA

Chris is a junior in the Religious Education Program at Unification Theological Seminary, Barrytown NY.

Last November I attended a major ecumenical conference in Cleveland, Ohio, commemorating 50 years of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States (NCCC-USA). The purpose of this report is to inform the Unification community about my experience in that conference. As Unificationists, committed to unifying world Christianity, this conference has special significance. For myself, as a seminary student enrolled in the Unification Theological Seminary, an institution founded to "revive Christianity and save America," I was particularly concerned with the NCCC-USA and the recent activities of mainstream American Christians. To put this conference in an historical context, I will begin with a brief background of the organization. I will also include in this account the historical relationship between the NCCC-USA and HSA-UWC in America.

From Nov. 28 to Dec. 1, 1950, 29 Christian denominations participated in the inaugural "Constituting Convention" of the NCC. In the 49 years since its founding, the NCC has been involved in many relief, development and social justice issues. The council is perhaps best known for strongly supporting civil rights legislation, helping resettle thousands of refugees in the United States and sponsoring two influential Bible translations which have sold nearly 70 million copies.

This year, 50 years after the inauguration, the Council is composed of 35 Christian denominations with more than 50 million members. However, interest and participation in the Council is down in recent years. Only 757 church members registered in advance for the Cleveland convention, though

the council had anticipated over 2,000 participants. Three tour buses were hired to transport people from local hotels to the convention site, but one driver told me he only had seven passengers over the course of an entire day.

From the viewpoint of Unificationists, the NCC has played a mixed role. On the one hand, the NCC has helped protect members of new religious movements and helped undermine the practice of religious kidnapping in America. On Feb. 28, 1974 the NCC Governing Board adopted a resolution on "Deprogramming" which affirmed "religious liberty for young people" and denounced "kidnapping to compel religious deconversion" as "criminal." In Feb. 1984, the NCC was among groups filing a "friends of the court" (*amici curiae*) brief with the U.S. Supreme Court in defense of True Father. That brief expressed alarm at "the complete disregard of Rev. Moon's First and Fifth Amendment rights." When True Father was released from Danbury prison, many NCC ministers rallied in support of the "God and Freedom Banquet."

On the other hand, the NCC has (in the words of one Unificationist theologian) engaged in a "theological witch-hunt" against the Unification Church. On June 21, 1977 the Commission on Faith and Order released to the press and other interested persons a "Critique of the Theology of the Unification Church as set forth in the Divine Principle." According to Dr. Jonathan Wells, this critique "distorts the Divine Principle by quoting it incorrectly, quoting it out of context, and interpreting it in ways which Unificationists and other scholars reject. It also judges Unification theology unfairly by applying standards which some traditional Chris-

tians and some of the NCC's own members do not meet.... The critique misrepresents Unification Theology."

Wells provides evidence that the NCC continues to distribute the bogus critique in the knowledge that it is damaging to members of the Unification Church and their friends. He concludes that "the NCC is engaged in the deliberate and malicious propagation of falsehoods."

Despite this, True Father told Dr. Seuk 10 years ago that HSA-UWC

should become a member of NCCC-USA. Then Dr. Kathy Winings took on the mission as ecumenical officer and began contact with the NCCC-USA. Prior to 1990, Dr. Winings said, HSA-UWC "did not have the time for NCC." After True Father gave a clear direction, Dr. Winings began to create a relationship with various NCC officers through a "series of private meet-

ings" in order to create a "genuine, ecumenical relationship."

On June 12, 1991, during a leaders meeting at East Garden, True Father once again emphasized the importance of the NCC: "We have to bring NCC in and all the other organized powerful groups for reviving the Christian churches in this country."

From her experience, Winings concludes that "the orthodox will not let us in." By orthodox she refers to the ecumenical officers who represent the ten orthodox churches in the NCCC-USA. From their viewpoint, UC is not Christian. Rather, we are an "anathema." As for the future, Dr. Winings will continue to pursue a deep and genuine relationship with NCC churches. As to what form and on which terms that will be, Dr. Winings is continuing to consider.

The future of the NCC is uncertain. As America in the new millennium promises more cultural and religious pluralism than at any previous time in history, mainstream Protestant church members dwindle in number. The NCC no longer reflects the diversity of religious traditions in America. Further, it doesn't represent the broad spectrum of America's Christian landscape. Realizing this, the NCCC plans to venture beyond ecumenism into the realm of interfaith dialogue. This means new hope for relations between the Unification community and the NCCC. Amb. Andrew Young, the president-elect of the NCCC-USA, seems committed to this vision. Better later than never. They seem to have finally reached the point True Father was at Sev-

After the recent breakthrough with Christian ministers in Chicago, Unification Church Vice President Michael Jenkins boldly proclaimed that "the time has come for Christianity to welcome the Lord."

eral decades ago.

During the Cleveland conference, Mr. Shunsuke Uotani, International Coalition for Religious Freedom-Japan, and I met with several NCCC leaders regarding the attitude and behavior of Japanese ministers toward Unification Church in Japan. We presented a report to Rev. Oliver Thomas, Special Counsel on Religious Liberty of the NCC, which gave a detailed account of some of the more than 300 religious kidnappings which occur each year. We also met with Rev. Victor Hsu, Director of East Asia and Pacific Office of the NCCC-USA and Rev. Eileen Lindner who seemed responsive and willing to help correct the deviant behavior of certain Japanese Christian ministers.

After the recent breakthrough with Christian ministers in Chicago (True Father was warmly welcomed at a ministers conference in that city), Unification Church Vice President Michael Jenkins boldly proclaimed that "the time has come for (American) Christianity to welcome the Lord." If the new millennium has indeed brought us to this level in the dispensation, then this is the year to forget their unwarranted attacks, forgive with the heart of our True Parents, and embrace our brothers and sisters of the NCCC-USA. In order to save this nation, our families must work together with mainline Christians. Through a united effort we can realize God's hope for America. ❖

Invitation to join the Japan-IFA e-group

by Nick Bikkal—Tokyo, Japan

Dear International blessed couples. Recently we created for the IFA (International Family Association) members in Japan—an e-group to which all and any Japanese - non-Japanese couple can join. It is meant to be a dialogue. We are over 150 strong living in Japan. We know also that there are countless such other couples world wide. Maybe some would like to hear about the members in situations similar to theirs in Japan, or in other parts of the world.

It's also free. We are also inviting couples who have some special affinity to Japan.

I believe it's been well received, and is giving people who have little or no contact with others in the same situation as yours a channel to express yourselves, hear what others have to say, etc.

Here's how to join:
Send an e-mail to:

Japan-ifa-subscribe@eGroups.com. This will send the computer the request. I will get it and sign you up. That's it. You'll be told how to surf the site.

There is no need retrieve the letters that are passed around. They come to you. When and if there is a desire to write you are welcome to do so. We also would like to receive news directly from the field far and wide. It's just another channel of information. There is no censoring of the letters as no gets to receive it before others. We therefore ask that you not make this a complaining source, but a source of information-giving for all others to read and grow with. We are following the spirit of True Parents.

Before joining please send me a brief explaining who you are, your Japanese interest and a little of what you're doing. Write to me, Nick Bikkal, at nbikkal@path.ne.jp. I will send it out to the rest of the IFA membership.

Hoping to hear from some of you, My e-mail address is: <n-bikkal@path.ne.jp> ❖

Loving Her at Second Sight

(to Andy Compton and our Japanese sisters)

"Well, now, Happy Valentine!
Are you the true love of mine,
Or the lady out of hell—
Who can tell?"

Saw her walking down the mall
Pretty face and legs and all,
And her deep-blue eyes so bright:
This must be love at first sight!"

"Love is not just love for fun;
Take her o'er to Keiko-san!
Keiko senses, can find out
What her heart is all about."

"Only in God's family
Can you find true unity;
Love is not a state of yearning
But of growing and of learning.

This will make your match just right:
Loving her at second sight.
Happy end, gold-setting sun:
Bless you in 2001!"

Ina Conneally

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**PAUL
CARLSON**

Mr. Carlson is involved with marine aspects of the Providence in the Bay Area

Opposing Forces

This month we'll look at the fight against sin, on both the individual and social levels. In order to highlight several hot issues, this article takes a deliberately contrarian view. An earlier version appeared in January 1993.

We're now in the midst of Last Days. Unificationists and many others are confident that God's Providence is taking place, right on through to its inexorable conclusion.

Conscientious people, from Noah's day on, have resisted the world's sinful ways. So far this fight has only been moderately successful, as a look any newspaper makes clear. Why have things come up short?

The Principle explains that fallen people are a mixture of good and evil, with bad tendencies emerging more easily than good ones. Happily, it also clarifies which individual actions are good, and which are evil.

Fighting Sin

Regarding evil, God's viewpoint is often stated as: "Love the sinner, but hate the sin." Rev. Moon said, "You may befriend people of all kinds, but never

compromise your standards."

Actions such as wanton murder, robbing or raping citizens, or shirking on military duty, have been crimes (and/or sins) since ancient times.

Slavery, plus drug and child abuse, only became crimes in the past century or two.

Recently this list has grown to include: spousal abuse, sexual harassment, discrimination, drunk driving, and much more.

No one advocates legalizing the worst crimes, but others are fiercely debated. The so-called "victimless crimes" remain common.

Society has mixed feelings about pornography, alcohol and tobacco, and consensual sex outside marriage, including homosexuality.

Legality

Illegality had not ended the drug problem. No amount of enforcement can do so entirely. Its very illicitness adds a certain spice, especially for rebellious youths. In the Netherlands, where drugs are legal, actual use is relatively low. Only ending the demand can solve the problem, and only the Principle explains its cause.

Cigarettes are powerfully addictive, yet remain legal. Several prisons gave up trying to ban them after seeing prisoners pay up to \$200.00 for a smuggled pack. In California, where taxes and lawsuits have boosted cigarette prices, the black market and Internet sales have boomed. Laws which oppose bad things can have unintended consequences.

Even so, tobacco use has declined over the past several decades.

Pornography wavers near illegality. The difference between great art and gross raunchiness seems obvious, until you try to define it by law. Either way, such imagery now fills broadcasts, publications, the Internet, etc.

Many people oppose pornography. Tellingly, *Christianity Today* magazine reported they'd "never seen so much skin" as when attending an anti-porn conference. Its attendees were trying to out-shock each other with the latest "awful smut" they'd collected. In contrast, no one "takes a belt" at an alcoholism conference.

Law enforcement alone cannot possibly eliminate pornography; anyone with a camera could see to that. Again it's a question of demand.

In the case of Internet porn, technology taps right into the instinctual male desire to spread one's DNA around. The hind-brain doesn't know that those women are only "on screen," and it craves ever more new females, in what psychologists have dubbed the Coolidge Effect. Under-

standing this, plus the spiritual and relationship aspects, can help men resist it.

Prostitution is illegal in America, and it has engendered many phases of corruption and reform. Read the *Autobiography of Lincoln Steffens* for a fascinating account. Steffens reports on an effort to "run the hookers out of New York City." The Police Chief answered, "Only if you permit me to put them all on barges and drown them in the Hudson. With your plan they'll just show up in Philadelphia anyway."

As the Stalinist Soviets later learned, actually doing such a horrific thing didn't eliminate the problem either.

Nevada's brothels remain low key, yet they have no shortage of workers or customers. Surveys report that almost all the "working girls" were sexually abused as children. Fallen men look there for satisfaction, but never find it. This was well illustrated in the popular movie *Splash*.

Sin Traps

Sin fighting sometimes turns out to be a real "tar baby." One hears tragic news of crusaders dabbling in, then getting caught doing, the very thing they were against.

Scandalous televangelists come to mind; also relapsed drug dealers. Darkest of all (though rarely), those who work with runaways can get mired in child sexual abuse.

Unificationists have long been warned to consider who to deeply relate with, or teach. Rev. Moon cautioned men: don't try to witness to prostitutes.

Many people oppose the homosexual lifestyle, especially the militant "in your face" variety. Please note that the suicide rate for gay teens is three times higher than the already terrible rate for other teens. Were strident anti-gay pressures to build, who knows how much this could compound? God is bigger than that.

At Danbury, Rev. Moon gave high praise to conservative leader J. Terry Dolan. They named each other "true Americans." Not long afterwards, Mr. Dolan died of AIDS. It was said he'd ceased acting gay when he directed his formidable talents towards the saving of America.

Fortunately, and despite fierce opposition, some therapists are helping homosexuals "straighten out" and have regular families.

Banned Or Free

Many nations oppose sin and crime by imposing severe—even deadly—penalties. Some even execute drug users. This practice has reduced, but not ended, that problem.

Certain societies deal with sexuality by draping their women with robes and veils. While they've make their streets safer, behind closed doors those nations still have plenty of illicit sex. Iran has stoned prostitutes, yet it allows temporary marriages. In the event, "temporary" is often fleeting.

Other nations, with Europe leading, have gone to the opposite extreme, legalizing just about everything. Concerning drugs, their legal "needle parks" brought much trouble.

Europe's nudists occupy resorts, German city parks, and French beaches. They can become quite relaxed

towards the sight of human bodies, but if they think this eliminates their fallen nature, they're in for a big disappointment.

The Netherlands has legalized prostitution. A Dutch man on welfare successfully sued for tax-paid sex visits! Such laws can have strange consequences.

Opposition

We must decide which things are worth opposing, and when and how. Banning "terrible things" can be a mixed bag. Many people think our own mass marriages are terrible. Do we want some banning bandwagon to roll over us?

Rev. Moon is no Victorian prude. He's spoken of "wearing natural fabrics, allowing healthy wind and sun on the skin." Our own *The World and I* magazine includes beautiful nude paintings.

Movie critic Joe Bob Briggs said it best: "When you're nude it means you don't have any clothes on. When you're naked it means you're up to something."

One's unspoken heart helps define each action's goodness in the eyes of God. Can it be displayed for the edification of young and old—or is it hidden? The conscience judges.

Communism had been successfully opposed. Many people were anti-communist, for various reasons and with differing purposes, even during Marx's lifetime. Many sacrificed their lives to defy it. However, Dr. Fred Schwartz pointed out that "being run over by a truck does not make one an expert mechanic."

Rev. Moon understood the engine of communism. He didn't shoot anyone, but he subjugated them—right in the Kremlin and in Pyongyang.

Conclusion

Famed missionary Irene Webster-Smith said, "Is it better to put an ambulance at the bottom of a cliff, or a fence at the top?" Good people are doing both, and we Unificationists are helping through our many service projects.

The Principle's Chapter One tells what is a part of God's intended creation—and what is not. That ends a lot of arguments right there.

Chapter Two reveals the cause of evil, and the tight grip of sinful behaviors. The rest explains how to restore these.

Rev. Moon's teaching and example will help us overcome temptation. We also have the guidance of our spiritualists and elders, and the input of our well-educated members, in addressing the complex situations mentioned above.

To this author it looks like a gradual thing; a tough and tenacious battle. True men and women can resist sin, teach their children and friends likewise, and also guide their societies in the right direction. Thus the fallen world will finally vanish.

Under God's heart and will we shall bring about the Kingdom of Heaven. This article is offered to help foster further discussion. ❖

Barrytown

In the Catskills winter arrives in autumn.
Flesh blood bones almost freeze
But spirits revive in frigid fields
And on the chapel's stone floor
Where knees complain teeth chatter tears flow.

Shivering in an old army field jacket
Threadbare jeans worn cowboy boots
A pilgrim from New York's seamy streets
Stands star-gazing in the snow.
One star dominates the sky.

The Magi's Christmas star
Led to something misunderstood.
They came saw left as ignorant as before
Unable to comprehend their mission.
Reading stars is no easy matter.

They brought gifts instead of their hearts.
Gold myrrh instead of lives of service
To one who could restore lives of value.
U-turn back to a dead dispensation
Secular kingdoms of illusive glory.

Whitman mourned demise of a "western star"
Nineteenth century magus who knew his mission.
Walt sang of April lilacs in dooryards
Mournful procession from DC to Springfield
While our songs of praise are icy signatures
Of a new dispensation.

In this juncture of sky fields mountains woods
river
And unblinking star
We see hear touch embrace God.
We will never u-turn
Never abandon this amazing grace.

Asa Ashanti (Paschal)

ADVERTISE IN THE
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UB NEWS



by Chris Corcoran—Bridgeport, CT

UB's Industrial Design Students Do It Again!

Hyun Chul Kim, a senior in Industrial Design, took the first place prize of \$10,000 for his camera design at Samsung's national camera competition earlier this month. Finishing in third place with a \$5,000 prize was his fellow UB student and award-winning designer Manuel Saez.

"The design department at UB is fun and progressive. I got a lot of attention and help from the professors," said the 23-year-old Kim, a native of South Korea.

Indeed, the design students have been on a roll, taking seven out of eight awards at the New York Auto show and taking first place and honorable mention in the National Housewares Competition.

Kim's winning camera design, aimed at the youth market, was a unique and fun camera with interchangeable lenses. "I want to be a teen forever," said the ever-smiling designer. His camera, called E Z Klik, shoots 35mm film and comes with a rotating, snap-on lens wheel which adds 12 color filters and various borders to the pictures.

Kim said he invested virtually every working moment during the past two months on the project. Profs. Roy Watson and Jim Lesko were advisors for both students.

Saez's camera design was a compact single lens 35mm that is waterproof. Kim plans to go to graduate school next year to study product design but



Hyun Chul Kim

has not yet chosen a school. He is currently an intern at Mark Steiner Designs in Stamford. Saez is a part-time employee with Anderson Design in Plainville.

In addition to the prize money and a \$2,000 gift to the school of Engineering and Design, Kim and Saez receive a free one-week trip to South Korea where they will visit the Samsung Camera headquarters and meet and work with the Samsung industrial design team.

Ten other schools competed in the contest, including Parsons School of Design in New York City, Brigham Young University in Utah and Purdue University in Indiana.

**COMMUNICATE WITH THE
UNIFICATION COMMUNITY
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UNIFICATION NEWS**

UN President Sees African Renaissance on Horizon

Freedom fighter turned statesman Dr. Theo-Ben Gurirab, the president of the 54th session of the UN General Assembly, spoke to an attentive crowd of 125 on the campus recently and outlined his hopes and dreams for both Africa and the United Nations.

"I am where the UN is and I am, in this new millennium, leading the UN, along with my brother and



Dr. Theo-Ben Gurirab and President Salonen

colleague (UN Secretary General) Kofi Annan, where it's going: towards a better, brighter and humane future for humanity," said Gurirab.

Gurirab said that former freedom fighters like himself are now at the forefront for social change and economic development in Africa. A native of Namibia, he received both his bachelor's degree and a master's degree in international relations at Temple University in Pennsylvania. Earlier this year he was awarded an honorary doctor of law degree from the University of Namibia.

In 1972 he became the UN representative of Namibia's national liberation movement (SWAPO), until 1986. He was also one of the leading negotiators of the cease-fire agreement, signed in March 1989, between South Africa's apartheid regime and SWAPO, which set the pace for the elections in Namibia and its transition to independence. In 1990 he became the independent Namibia's Foreign Minister, a position which he still holds.

Gurirab explained the catalyst for change in African countries is "African people themselves," and while he acknowledged many obstacles still loom, "the will and determination

of the people cannot be denied anymore — Africa's time has come. We are talking about a new beginning, which we are expressing in a form of an African Renaissance. I want to help transfer the dreams of the people into real and funded programs," Gurirab said. "Empowerment and practical knowledge are desperately needed for our people to benefit."

The continent of Africa has the largest bloc of United Nation member states. Among the core issues facing the UN as a whole include gender equality, the proliferation of small arms in Third Worlds countries, HIV/AIDS and financing of development, Gurirab said.

Gurirab's speech was part of the 2000 Distinguished Guest Lectures Series, sponsored by UB's New England Center for International and Regional Studies.

Student Team to Represent Kazakhstan at Harvard Model UN

The New England Center Student Council for International and Regional Studies at UB will be representing the Republic of Kazakhstan in the 46th Harvard National Model United Nations at Cambridge, Massachusetts this month. The preparation and selection of this group begin in the Fall semester of 1999 when an essay competition and a set of interviews determined the eight most eligible students for the delegation from UB.

The model UN of Harvard University is the biggest and most recognized of its kind and includes the participation of 2000 delegates from a hundred different schools from America and abroad. Each college or university represents a country and the student delegates debate world issues from the point of view of the country they represent.

Delegates gain insight into the workings of the United Nations by assuming the roles of UN representatives and by actively participating in the resolution of important global issues. Outstanding teams receive awards.

As preparation for the debates, the UB team visited the Permanent Mission of Kazakhstan in New York City where they held talks with the diplomats there. The UB students' presentation papers were cited as possessing the quality and veracity of true diplomats and the UN diplomats requested permission to use the papers as reference for their position papers during upcoming international meetings.

The names and nationalities of the delegates are: Ola Ogunye, from the USA; Ashok Regmi, from Nepal; Miya Attanassova, from Bulgaria; Bogdan Stamonan, from Rumania; Zlatin Ivanov, from Bulgaria; Jee Eun Lee, from Korea; Alejandro Gonzalez, from Ecuador; and Dinka Vantcheva from Bulgaria. ❖



The UB team preparing to be UN diplomats

PRAISE TO THE LORD—O GOD OF VISION

by Richard Ramras—New York, NY

Recently, a friend of mine mentioned his experience with a song during Sunday service in his Brooklyn hometown. The title and words didn't ring a bell with me, but we realized the tune was from Praise To The Lord The Almighty. Here are the new lyrics:

O God Of Vision by Jane Parker Huber:

1) *O God of vision far greater than all human scheming,
Gather us now in your presence, refreshing, redeeming.
Show us anew—Life in your breath-taking view,
Lovely beyond all our dreaming.*
2) *Pour out Your Spirit on all now assembled before You.
May our diversity here be a means to adore You.
Women and men—Young, old and youthful again,
Make us as one, we implore You.*
3) *Grant to us insight, O God, for this time of decision.
May we dream challenging dreams of both depth and precision.
Speak through the dark—Dispel by lightning's bright spark
Whatever clouds dim our vision.*
4) *Break the sun's rays into color, a rainbow around us.
Storm clouds, though real and near, are not enough to confound us.
Arched in the sky—Beauty and prom-*

ise are high,

Giving us hope to astound us.

I'm afraid I don't know much about Ms. Huber, the author of these new words, but they seem very much in keeping with trends of the closing years of the millennium—words like: rainbow, diversity, dreams, women and men. The traditional words are redolent less of the New Age wonders, struggles and triumphs of the latest decade than of the majestic, classical phrasing and intonation of previous centuries:

1) *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!*

O my soul praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!

All ye who hear—Now to His temple draw near;

Join me in glad adoration!

2) *Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth, Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!*

Hast thou not seen—How thy desires e'er have been

Granted in what He ordaineth?

3) *Praise to the Lord who doth prosper thy work and defend thee; Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.*

Ponder anew—What the Almighty can do

If with His love He befriend thee.

4) *Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!*

All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!

Let the Amen—Sound from His people again:

Gladly for aye we adore Him.

When I think back to the days I joined the Church, I remember not only such comforting and inspiring hymns as Praise to the

Lord the Almighty, Come Thou Fount Of Every Blessing (Teach My Heart To Sing Thy Praise) and Be Thou My Vision O Lord Of My Heart (Naught Be All Else To Me Save That Thou Art) but

"workshop songs," Dan Fefferman's, Sandra Lowen's, Joshua Cotter's and

California Family songs, as well as Holy Songs and Korean and Japanese songs. Such a wealth of incredibly wonderful music, all just waiting to enrich our thirsting spirits with Heavenly Father's Holy Spirit bounty of divine/human creativity and joy!

Then I recall my experience at Belvedere in April during the bright, sun-shiny day of our ancestral liberation ceremony. Grace Of The Holy Garden was our major musical anthem that Sunday, in order to dispel and

disperse all darkness from the spiritual atmosphere so that Heaven's purpose could be accomplished. We need to be cleansed and healed by all means; therefore, every Holy Song is appropriate to the need which brings it forth onto this battlefield of restoration. However, to keep us healthy and inspired on the daily path of accomplishment, we need to be open to the Spirit which "blows where it wills" and inspires not only music in all her radiant garb but the literary, plastic, dramatic, terpsichorean and even cinematic arts, as well.

No, I didn't have any "special" spiritual experiences during Dae Mo Nim's liberation ceremony, but as I read the testimonies of brothers and sisters who did, I'm grateful to have been a participant in the same process, same place. The poet John Milton tells us "they also serve who only stand and wait"; even if my fervor and seriousness weren't sufficient for an exciting testimony of spiritual experience, I can't let myself feel sorry for myself and use that "non-experience" as an excuse to keep slowing down, or to feel defeated. By maintaining the integrity of my commitments to those with whom I have regular give and take, by not giving in to the temptations, voices or counsels of despair, I can maintain faith with those who are further forward on the front-line than I feel I am, and I may have confidence that "he who endures to the end shall be saved."

And the music sure helps! ❖



UViews from page 25

democratic, clergyman or statesman of conscience! Here is the chance to dialogue with colleagues from around the world on topics reflecting the highest ideals, free of charge. Any scholar of conscience must consider world peace to be a worthy goal. From whom, other than God Himself, would come a free invitation to a conference to discuss and build a world of peace with colleagues from the world over? From whom, other than God Himself, would come a free invitation to work with colleagues beyond race, nation and religion on issues of responsibility and ethics in the media? From whom, other than God Himself, would come a free invitation to dialogue with the leaders of other religions on how to bring mutual understanding through dialogue and exchange? From whom, other than God Himself, would come a free invitation for students from North and South Korea to confer together, or black and white women to embrace on a bridge of peace, or scientists to discuss the value implications of their research, or statesmen to resolve international conflicts, or writers and artists to discuss how their craft might assist the world to achieve peace and freedom?

It is the Messiah's responsibility to create this environment for his children. Then the whole question is that of humankind's response. If God can recreate the conditions of the Garden and if humankind can respond correctly this time, then God can claim us. He can say to Satan that Adam and Eve failed, but my children did not fail this time, and they are truly my children. Now, what are the various kinds of response True Parents have received to their confer-

ences?

The most common response is probably "I can't be bothered with it; it's not for me. I receive a dozen invitations to conferences every month and I have to pick and choose according to my field of interest. This isn't my field of interest, so I'll let it pass." This would be like Adam saying that he has found a lot of work to do in the Garden—for instance, building a bridge so that he can get at those bananas—and just doesn't have time for God, commandments, big visions about building a nation and so forth. Such an Adam has no protection against the temptation of Eve.

Another response is that of suspicion. What's behind this invitation? There must be strings attached. There's no such thing as a free lunch. This person refuses to believe that parental love exists, that someone truly and wholesomely wants to give to him or her without condition. Such a person cannot receive love with a pure heart. (As Jesus said, blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see the kingdom of God.) Lacking a pure heart, such a person imputes malice in the motivation of the one who is giving. What's behind this? Where does Rev. Moon get all this money? What's his real agenda? I know, it's to legitimate himself by buying off a lot of big names.

Underlying all of these responses is the failure of children's heart. This means the inability to accept an undeserved gift from a true parent who has our best interests in his heart. Our True Parents have to place themselves in that position in relation to the greatest people of the world.

Then we can consider the motives of those who do attend the conferences. There are those who believe that they deserve such royal treatment and, in fact, why don't the organizers treat them better? What, they say—only an economy

ticket? I have to share a room with someone? The hotel does not accommodate my dietary needs? My pick-up was late at the airport! This type seems to cast himself as God's gift to any conference and tend sooner or later to feel that they get the point and are free to go shopping instead of attending the afternoon session.

Then there are those who are truly and humbly appreciative, and God bless them. They enjoy the fellowship. They are stimulated by the dialogue and contribute the insights of their disciplines to the conversation. These are our friends and finest colleagues. They are the successful Adams and Eves, at least to a certain level.

What lies beyond that level is when participants receive persecution for attending the conferences, lose their job and suffer other disabilities, and still hang in there for the cause. This is the way some "pay" for the conference.

We have yet to see, however, a man arise who will inherit the parental role of Reverend Moon. We have yet to see someone who will catch the same vision and say, "What Reverend Moon is doing is absolutely right. I want to be a part of this. Here, Reverend Moon, I will contribute \$50,000 to this conference." The Pope hasn't done it; the Ford Foundation hasn't done it; no one has done it.

Thus taking the parental role creates a realm of judgment. The True Parents present to us the same environment and the same challenges that Adam and Eve faced in the Garden. It is a free gift; the only condition to receive it is to accept it. To accept it means that one accepts the love and authority of the giver. One thereby enters into a reciprocal relationship with the giver. When one accepts an unconditional gift, one accepts the unconditional love of the giver.

Sometimes this can be a problem. Beware, the saying goes, of Greeks bearing gifts. The human race is challenged to perceive the love of God. Our stance toward our given condition must be that it is the result of a beneficial giver, a giver who can be trusted.

What is the role of the market?

What I have described could be seen as pertinent to the task of restoration. What of the original ideal? Is it also a world of free conferences? Or will we start buying from and selling to each other? Economics does affect culture in a major way. I have always demarcated real commitment to the Unification Church by the act of joining the economic realm True Father has created. When one gives up everything to God, one is in the position to receive everything from God. And what God can give to us is far more than what we can give to Him, or to ourselves.

Adam Smith considered the market to be the theater of God's activity in the world. His worldview was part and parcel of the transition from monarchism to democracy. Beneath the wings of monarchs, as it were, the hurried busy-ness of the bourgeoisie—the shopkeepers, craftsmen, engineers, merchants and promoters—built the modern world. It is the world of brother-sister love, as True Father says, the world of the market. The market, after all, is the democratization of economy. Dollars act as votes. Heavenly socialism, it seems to me, whatever it might be, is not a democratization. And yet the Divine Principle calls it a democratization of the economy, referring, I suppose, not to the principle of "no taxation without representation" but rather to the equality of status that it is supposed to create. ... to be continued. ❖



DR. TYLER O. HENDRICKS

Dr. Hendricks is the President of the Unification Church of America

PARENTAL LOVE AND THE MARKET PLACE

A few years ago I became enamored of capitalism and the free market system. The more enamored of it I became, the more I was challenged to reconcile it with some of our Unification traditions. Kipling said that East is East and West is West and ne'er the twain shall meet. I was considering the unhappy prospect that his was applicable beyond the sphere of the British Empire. For instance, there is our Unificationist practice of inviting people to conferences and paying all their expenses.

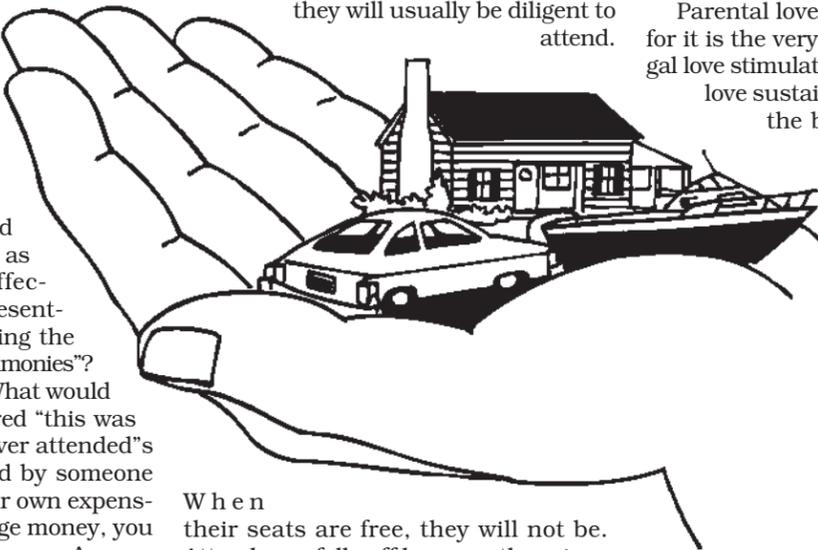
After all, there are numerous people who make their living putting on conferences. What they have to offer doesn't hold a candle to Unificationist thought. People such as Stephen Covey, Billy Graham and Tony Robbins are only the best known of hundreds who put on fine and inspiring conferences and charge people good money to attend. The participants don't think twice about having to pay their own way to the conference, cover their own room and board and pay a hefty conference fee to boot. In other words, the conference organizers are marketing the conference and its content. They are creating a product that people value. When people value something, they pay for it. Now, I thought, why can't we do that?

After all, by doing conferences using a market model, several good things are accomplished. For one thing, when one is offering something for sale, one is challenged to make it valuable. If we call a conference and no one comes, then we obviously have some work to do on the value of what we are offering. Thus, the market forces one to improve quality. Second, and related, the market serves as a means to gauge the effectiveness of what one is presenting. Is anyone really getting the message? Why rely on "testimonies"? Why not let money talk? What would you rather have, a hundred "this was the best conference I've ever attended"s or a hundred dollars paid by someone who is also paying all their own expenses? Third, when you charge money, you attract people who have money. Anyone wants to work with society's leaders. Society's leaders do not attend free conferences, as a rule. When they find something of value, they pay for it. The more they are willing to pay, most often, the more influential—or at least successful—the person is. Fourth, obviously, you are taking care of the problem of funding your activity. You can be self-sustaining. Fifth, and related, you are liberated from dependency upon a funding source.

Then why, to come back to the initial question, are we putting on all these free conferences? When one does a free conference, then one is, in a sense, in a position of a beggar. Please come to my conference, one is saying—I'll even pay you to come. One becomes an arbiter of human value also, when one is oversubscribed (as we have been lately). If one can support ten people to attend and twenty people are lined up, on what criterion does

one choose who should get in? No matter what criteria one chooses, someone is going to feel that they were treated unjustly. You are setting up a welfare mentality, an entitlement mentality. "Why," the recipient asks, "did you accept that person and not me?"

Further, one loses any standard by which to judge the effectiveness of the conference in putting across one's ideas. When one is giving people gifts, naturally the recipients respond with gratitude, irrespective of whether they really appreciated or grasped the contents. This point extends to the problem of attendance in one's sessions. When your audience has paid for their seats, they will usually be diligent to attend.



When their seats are free, they will not be. Attendance falls off because there is no intrinsic attraction to the content being presented, especially after lunch.

For example, in our conferences we usually provide an hour and a half for the free lunch, and people straggle back to the afternoon session. On the other hand, at a conference I paid to attend, we were given 45 minutes for lunch and we had to find a place to eat and pay for it ourselves. We rushed to our van, found a Burger King, wolfed down lunch and were back in our seats for the start of the next session. I followed this strategy for the first True Family Values Ministry seminar, March of 1996. I gave the guests, who had paid \$30 for the half-day seminar (\$20 for the second person from the same church), 45 minutes for lunch and they had to find a place to eat and pay for it. They were all back in their seats after 45 minutes.

And it surprised me even more at that conference when a minister came up to



me and asked me if I could present the material in his church. My goodness, I thought. This is what Father has always said we should do—teach the principle in Christian churches. I of course said I would be happy to come and teach. But his next question was even more surprising: "How much do you charge?"

Well, I never did speak in that minister's church. What happened was that True Family Values became providential. I had wanted to spend six months developing the material and associated marketing techniques, but instead I allowed myself to be swept off on a tour of the regions to instruct members on how to teach it. This was untested material, really the first draft. Then in the midst of that tour, True Father called for the education of 1,000 ministers within a month, with the first seminar to begin in about one week. All expenses paid, of course. We were off spending hundreds of thousands of dollars, and eventually millions of dollars, on the True Family Values Ministry seminars. While the conferences were going on, there was no time to develop the material. When the goal was reached and the money gone, the TFVM ground to a halt.

So you can see my dilemma. But I wouldn't even write all of this down unless I had come to at least a partial resolution. That resolution has to do with parental love.

Parental Love

Parental love is not easily dismissed, for it is the very essence of God. Conjugal love stimulates creation, but parental love sustains it. Were conjugal love the bottom line, God would surely have destroyed Adam and Eve after the fall. If brother-sister love were the *sine qua non* of God, He would have blown off the fallen Adam and Eve in a second. But since parental love is the essence of God, He could not destroy them.

Since parental love is His essence, He has sacrificed for aeons in order to bring us out of hell and into His bosom. It is through parental love that we stand in the image of God. Thus the Messiah's fundamental stance toward humankind is parental in nature and they are called True Parents.

So the argument for subsidized conferences strikes to the root of the nature of God. The market is a manifestation of brother-sister love. It has a place in the scheme of things, of course. But it is not the core. The core is parental love and the fundamental question is, "How does humankind respond to God's parental love?" To develop this, let us explore the nature of parental love a bit more.

Parental love leads the subject to want the object to surpass him. A parent wants his or her offspring to surpass him. To do this, the parent must allow the child freedom and responsibility. The parent

gives everything and the question is how the child responds, how the child, in essence, develops what the parent has given. Does the child appreciate what the parent has done? Does the child even recognize it? Is the child grateful to be alive in the environment the parent created? Does the child accept the conditions of existence? Does the child believe in the parent and in the parent's vision? Does the child recognize the potential inherent in what the parent has given him?

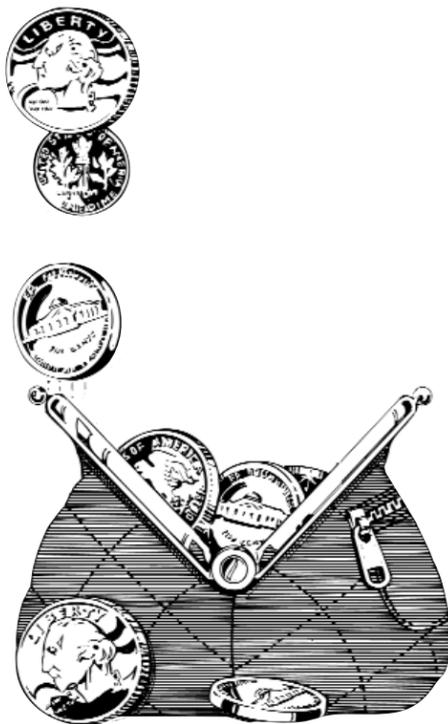
There is a German existentialist philosophy that views us as "thrown into" the world. We are here without our consent and we just have to make the best of it and construct our reality as we prefer. Kierkegaard viewed Adam's problem as the problem of dread. Adam felt a deep-seated fear of existence itself. Adam escaped this fear, this dread, by immersing himself in the sensuality of the fall. Both these thinkers saw the created environment given by God to be unpleasant, foreboding, anxiety inducing. Christian and religious thinkers as a whole, on the other hand, view the original environment as extremely pleasant, with the problem being our failure to appreciate it and, by extension, to honor the One who created it. Failure to appreciate means that Adam and Eve had no particular commitment to what God had done for them. Thus God's commandment carried little weight. There is also the view of the fall as rebellion against God—in particular by the angel. Somehow the angel held resentment against the One he saw as ruling over him unjustly. Another view is that Adam fell because of pride. In this reading, he appreciated the value of God but felt that he was as good as God and should have all the prerogatives of God without taking any of the responsibilities of God.

What I am setting up here is how the core problem of the fall can be viewed as the problem of the created being's response to the Creator's parental love. Looked at in this way, it is logical that a human Messiah would allow us to restore the human failure in the Garden by himself taking exactly God's position of parent. He would create an environment without cost, just as God created the Garden without cost to Adam and Eve, and just as our own parents created our home for us without cost. God and Satan want to see how human beings will respond to undeserved love. Will we respond as did Adam, Eve and the archangel? From this point of view, the principle behind this subsidized conference activity is—sorry for sounding so pretentious—to recreate the conditions of the original creation. The Messiah does not come as a businessman. He comes as a parent giving abundantly to His children. The only question is: how long will it take the children to respond? The corollary question is: how will the Messiah find the means to give so generously to an unresponsive audience? That is the responsibility of his co-messiahs, those who believe and take on the task of sacrificing for the sake of the world.

Considered from this perspective, the conferences appear differently. What a gift our conferences are, for any aca-

see **UIEWS** on previous page

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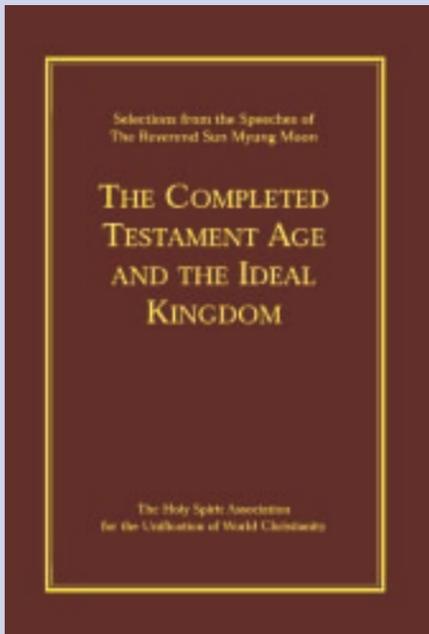
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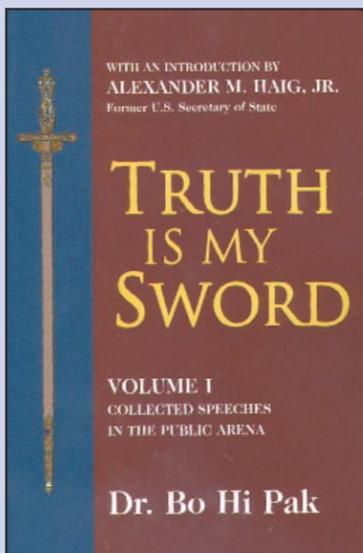
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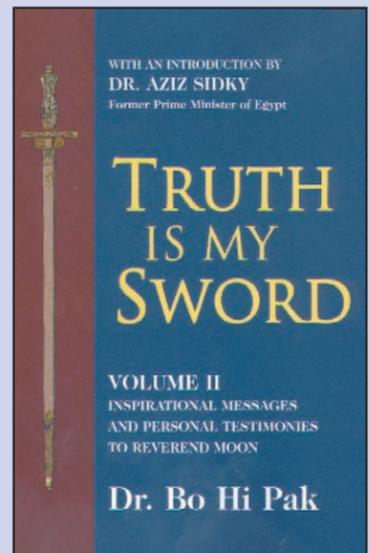
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