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The 55th Anniversary of the Unification Church Ministry in Japan, West Japan Rally

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"Get revived with God's spirit and truth, and be victorious!"



West Japan Rally Commemorating 55 years of Unification Mission in Japan

Japan, the nation of the sea, raised by God as providential mother nation

This series of the commemorative rally on the 55 years of the Unification Mission in Japan has come to an end in Kobe. The city had been blessed by True Father, who had revealed the name's significance as 'a God's gate'. Historically, Kobe was one of the earliest

port towns to import foreign goods into Japan.

It is said that in old days many foreign ships called the Kobe's port because of water there. The kinds of water as loaded in other places would become spoiled when ships pass through the equator, while water of Kobe remained fresh for quite some time, hence Kobe was favored by foreign sailors as 'City of

Water'.

The final rally taking place in Kobe cannot be a mere accident, given its history in Japan which is the Mother's nation or a maritime nation.

Water symbolizes life, as a human body contains water by nearly 70 percents of the body weight. Without water, life cannot sustain. Incidentally, among



True Mother speaking words of truth

many kinds of water, the sea exists in the lowest part on earth, accepting any other kinds of water into it. The Korean word of sea, 'Pada' originates from 'Pada-tourida' meaning 'to accept'.

In this respect, True Parents are likened as 'sea', serving people in the body of 'a servant of servants', embracing and accepting all mankind with parental heart and love like the sea. Accordingly, observing True Parents fishing in the ocean expanding far away, any member in the Unification Family must have felt that the ocean is the most suitable natural feature for True Parents.

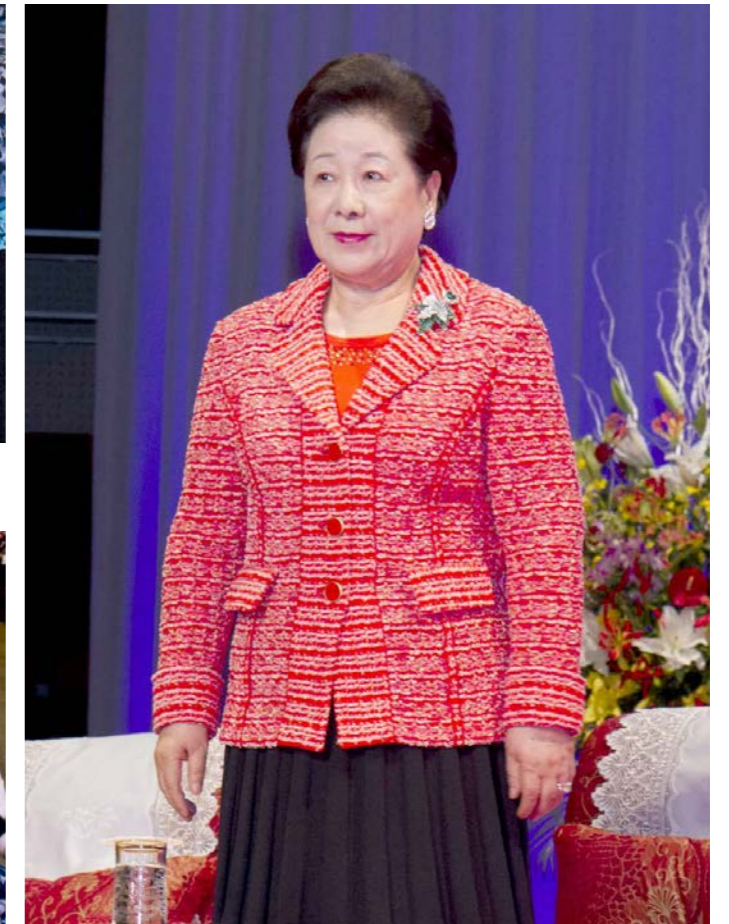
In a conventional notion, at the same time, the sea represents 'Mother', as it goes deeper than the the highest peaks on land, more vast than the continental land mass and preserving richer natural resources



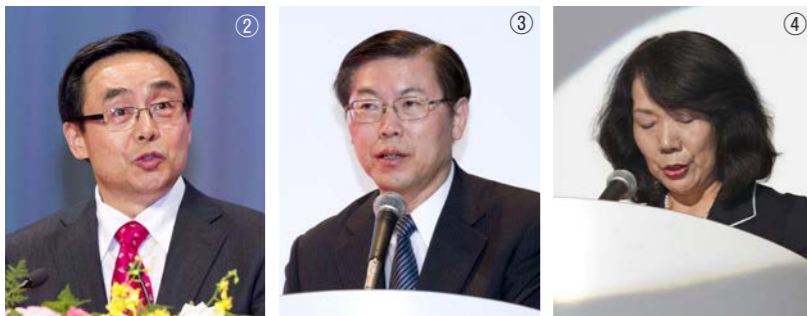
Rev. Yuk offering a banquet of flowers



Audience giving passionate applause to True Mother



True Mother, acknowledging the applause



- ① Participants waving their flags welcoming True Mother
- ② Rev. Song addressing welcome remark
- ③ Rev. Tokuno as the rally's emcee
- ④ Mrs. Matsubara offering a report prayer

Have confidence in the identity of 'Providential Mother Nation'

than the land, symbolizing the infinite love of a mother. In a nutshell, the sea is akin to a mother's infinite bosom.

The Chinese character of 'sea' is composed with a character of 'mother', while a French word for 'sea', namely; 'la mer' is short of 'e' out of 'la mere' which means 'a mother' but in the identical pronunciations. For both the Orientals and the Occidentals, the sea connotes a warm bosom of a mother accepting everything into it.

Incidentally, the sea also reminds us of 'an island', especially significant as True Parents designated and cherished the island nation of Japan as 'Eve nation' or the providential mother nation. Japan is surrounded in its four directions by the sea, as if it were confined by the sea. But Heavenly Parents and True Parents have blessed people of Japan, in particular, the Blessed

Families and the members of the Unification Church, with warm motherly hearts and embrace to children through the sea.

Our perception on Japan may vary a lot, either in focusing on 'the island' or on 'the sea'. Korean people in general have considered Japan as an isolated island country, but True Parents perceived the sea like a motherly bosom first.

It has been 55 years since the True Parents' truth was introduced into Japan. Throughout this period, as the providential mother nation, Japan has taken many hardship and sufferings of the world providence and raised the world with the motherly heart and love like the sea. What is amazing is that the Japanese Unification Church and its members have never boasted about their endeavors and contribution of the mother nation to the world providence. Rather, they

feel inadequate and unworthy in front of the children like a humble mother, quietly keeping their tasks day in and day out. This is the very reason Heavenly Parents and True Parents cannot but love Japan.

Why have Heavenly Parents and True Parents loved Japan that much? Probably because, as the sea represents True Parents most, Japan as the mother nation has the common heart of Heavenly Parents and True Parents who love the world. Following the True Father's ascension, True Mother has been pouring her dedication and love to Japan most. It is assumed that True Mother, as the mother of mankind, shares sympathy with the mother nation of Japan.

Through the latest nationwide tour by True Mother, we should be thankful to True Mother as we could re-discover the providential mother nation

that is Japan. We could learn Japan's strong points deeply. The better we can recognize ourselves, the stronger and more formidable we may become. Also, acknowledging our own identities is very vital.

True Mother preached that we should have a pride and confidence on our identity as 'Providential Mother Nation'. In the West Japan Rally held in Kobe, Japanese members could discover the mother nation's identity through the truth of water and the sea related to Japan.

Through these rallies, we could feel to our bones that True Parents put absolute trust on Japan's Blessed Families and church members to silently and ceaselessly put into action the true love of giving and forgetting, as demonstrated by True Parents.

On September 18th in the CIG first year by the heavenly calendar, corresponding to October 22nd



Three cheers of Og mansei with determination for Vision 2020

West Japan Rally gathered 7,000 people Live webcast throughout the world

(Tue) by the Gregorian calendar, the rally was opened at 1:00 o'clock PM to nearly 7,000 people including the blessed families, church members and Ambassadors for Peace in the 9th, 10th and 11th Regions at the Kobe Internatinal Hall.

Before the main event, three cultural programs were performed with Mr. Kazunari Sasaki, Nara Parish Director, acting as the emcee. The first was a chorus of the original composition 'Tears' based on True Father's prayers, performed by the West Japan Joint Choir Group. It was followed by a passionate solo of 'Time to say Goodbye' by Miss Yumi Cho, soprano singer. Finally, a dynamic group dance entitled 'Loyalty and Filial Piety' combining a Japanese traditional dancing and a contemporary one was performed by middle and high school students belonging to Nara Parish Students Section.

The series of rallies which began on October 16th in Hokkaido was to be concluded in the Kobe rally, which was thus webcast via internet not just

throughout Japan but all over the world.

Under the guidance of its emcee, Rev. Eiji Tokuno, President of Japan's Unification Church, the 7,000 participants waved flags of the FFWPU and the Unification flags in welcoming True Mother. Following the bowing to True Parents, a bouquet of flowers was presented to True Mother by Rev. Yuk Tae-ho Hyogo Parish Director, and Yukiko Tsuchiya, women's representative.

The anthem of CIG was sung in unison, then a representative report prayer was offered by Mrs. Junko Matsubara, Wakayama Parish women representative. She offered sincere gratitude by saying that, since the ascension of True Father, True Mother has been the great source of hope and courage for the entire Unification Family, committing everyone to marching towards the Vision 2020 by inheriting True Parents' legacy through the rally.

Some guests of honor were introduced. They included Mrs. Choi Yeona nim representing True



Middle and high-school students performing a dynamic group dance

Family and social leaders such as politicians, scholars, executives of the Korean Residents Association.

A video entitled 'True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind and the Unification Church in Japan' was shown to the audience, who could renew their recollection of the past half a century of the Unification Church in Japan, reflecting on what they need in order to brighten the Japanese church and the society at large.

One of the guests, a former member of the House of Representatives (Lower House of Japan's Parliament), referred to the Victory Over Communism Movement as advocated by Rev. Moon. He said: "Japan's Unification Church offered the wise national direction and effective solutions to Japan's predicaments." "I wish Japan's Unification Church will greatly contribute to the future of Japan in variety of fields."

Likewise, some congratulatory cables were reported to the audience. Then, a congratulatory song was dedicated by Mrs. Reiko Sakai, soprano singer, with a piano accompaniment by Mrs. Kayo Nagata. As they played a sentimental piece 'Violet Mugunhwa'

describing True Mother's life of faith, while the center screen showed images of True Parents, many in the audience made sobbing sounds and shed tears.

A welcome address was given by Rev. Yeon Chong Song, General Chairman of the Blessed Families Federation of Japan. He said that, following the Foundation Day, the CIG era is when the truth and True Parents should be testified thoroughly to the world, while the fruits of Blessed Families must be harvested extensively.

He also emphasized that through the rally, the Unification Church of Japan must re-launch its campaign so as to receive sympathy and respect from the people and the nation. Rev. Song pointed out that the very seeds and fruits of truth and blessing sown on the soils of Japan are indispensable not only for the church and the society at large but beyond its boundary. The world is absolutely in need of True Parents, he stressed.

He elaborated that, just like True Father forgave Japan, the enemy nation, 55 years before in offering love and blessing, in the substantial CIG era True Mother has paid an official visit to Japan first to endow blessing.



West Japan Choir performing a chorus of 'Tears'

Unification Church should contribute to Japan's future

At the same time, in order for the Unification Church to re-launch its nationwide proselytizing campaign, Rev. Song appealed, we have to succeed the elder Blessed Families' passion and practices with which they were reborn in God's spirit and truth in the early church community and engaged in the spiritual battles to 'restore even one more life' - to the thunderous agreement from the participants.

He concluded the welcome address by saying: "Opening the doors and gates of heavenly fortune out of Kobe, let us march forward with ultimate determination and total dedication. Let us go ahead in building the CIG beyond the Vision 2020."

Subsequently, a video entitled 'We are happy people!' compiling True Mother's public messages endowed to the Unification Family after True Father's ascension, was shown.

The audience reconfirmed that True Mother stands in the providential forefront and marches on without interruption to realize her aspiration of completing the

CIG, which had been the ideal of Heavenly Parents and True Parents. The participants thus committed themselves to implementing an explosive witnessing campaign by the solidarity under the Vision 2020 so that Japan will appreciate the truth and accept the Blessing.

Finally, True Mother stood on the stage, beginning her speech by calling to the invisible audience across Japan and all over the world connected via the internet webcast. First, True Mother stressed that we need to feel grateful for the endeavors of Heavenly Parents and True Parents in preparing for this rally behind the scenes.

True Mother emphasized that we should not forget the elder blessed families and those who had suffered and devoted themselves in the fields of the providence until the church has developed to this level today. She also pointed out that the special blessing was granted by True Parents to Japan so as to create an environment to take care of over 40,000 second



long lines of participants

Seeds of heavenly truth to be nurtured and harvested throughout the world

and third-generation children, the future stars of the Unification Family.

Through these messages, True Mother indicated that the past and present are inter-crossing through the current Unification Church centering on Heaven. True Mother then elaborated the process in which God found and raised the True Parents as they are now. Referring to God's agony, grief and pains in the salvation providence of fallen humanity, she elaborated that the cause of God's agony was the humanity's failure in abiding by God's words and their link through blood lineage with Satan.

Moreover, she explained that the Messiah is the one who reveals heavenly words of truth, multiplies the lineage of goodness and becomes True Parents, realizing the ideal of oneness between Heaven and mankind as cherished by God.

Subsequently, True Mother solemnly told the story of God's providence of restoration: the chosen people of Israel was raised through their 4,000-year course

of God's sorrow and sufferings until the Messiah was sent; people like Zacharia, Joseph and Maria could not prepare an environment to attend Jesus properly; Jesus was crucified because of faithlessness of the Israelites. Furthermore, True Mother elaborated the movement of civilizations, through which Christianity was transferred from Rome to Europe to the island empire of Britain, then to America.

True Mother clarified that the objectives of God's blessings upon these providential nations were not merely for these nations or countries but for erecting the heavenly sovereignty together with the coming Lord, stressing how vital for us to share God's heart and knowledge of God's dispensation.

In particular, True Mother strongly stated that, behind the shift of heavenly blessings, from Britain to America to the island nation of Japan, God entrusted responsibility that these nations were supposed to unite with the Messiah, take responsibility to embrace and live for the sake of the world.



Mrs. Cho passionately singing 'Time to say Goodbye'



Mrs. Sakai singing 'Violet Mugunhwa'



Four cheers of Og mansei concluding West Japan Rally

Japan-Korea Unity can tackle with global challenges

On the other hand, God had to leave the blessed nations if and when they could not appreciate the heavenly providence of restoration properly, indulging into egoism, self-centered nationalism, ideological confusion and destruction of families, notably in the cases of Britain and America.

In other words, she pointed out that these nations could not keep their earlier commitments with Heaven and shifted their orientations. True Mother reiterated: "Eventually, an individual or a nation, if they indulge in self-centeredness, they will deviate from the path of God, causing all kinds of problems." She once again clarified in simple but clear terms the harsh courses in which God had sent the Lord of the Second Advent and he became True Parents.

God's history of restoration providence can only be concluded with the emergence of True Parents, she said. Therefore, True Parents have the definite responsibility to clearly teach the humanity on how to

live and unite with God.

Besides, she explained that in order to establish the heavenly sovereignty with which we can attend God as the Parents of humankind beyond the national boundaries on the worldwide or even cosmic dimension, True Parents have paid all the indemnity conditions, putting Korea as the providential father nation and Japan the mother nation. True Mother stated: "Just like a loving family can be achieved when father and mother are in harmony, the father and mother nations together embrace all the children of the fallen world and bring them back to True Parents.

Then, we have to find the homeland which God has desperately longed for. Where is His homeland? It is exactly the homeland of True Parents. Accordingly, Japan and Korea as one tread the path of unifying the homeland, namely the unification of north and south." "This is the only path on which Korea and Japan can stand as the central nations in front of 7 billion people

on earth, the path to find out the solutions to many difficult challenges facing the humanity."

In conclusion, True Mother said: "Blessed Families and Unification Church members in Japan first deliver the words of heavenly truth and Blessing to people of Japan, then make them united with True Parents, so that Japan can stand high and receive respect and love from Asia and the world."

After the speech, True Mother accepted a commemorative gift from some representative guests and took photos with them. The rally was concluded in excitement with three cheers of Og Mansei, led by Rev. Seo Yong-woon, Director of the 9th Region.

Reflections of participants

One of the Ambassadors for Peace attending the rally said: "The message of Mrs. Hak Ja Han Moon, I believe, is needed not just by the Unification Church members but by Japan's leaders and people as precious guidelines for the state administration or individual lives. Today, I could appreciate vividly why a great number of Japanese church members attend Rev. and Mrs. Moon as 'True Parents' amid severe

misunderstanding and oppositions of the society. It is because of true love. They care about Japan's future more than Japanese citizens.

Through today's rally, I also could realize that, on the foundation of forgiveness, love and blessing by Rev. and Mrs. Moon, the Unification Church of Japan is standing where it is now. As I am involved in the Unification Church more and more, I recognize certain attractions and capacities, stemming from 'love'. I would like to humbly offer my service, as an Ambassador for Peace, to unite with Korea, enhance peace in North East Asia and realize world peace, centering on the peace ideology of Rev. and Mrs. Moon.

Another church official expressed his reflection as follows: "Through True Mother who spoke in solemn but passionate manner, I could encounter the living Heavenly Parents and True Father. Also, I appreciated vividly that True Mother has the very identical heart, dream and vision totally along with True Father's aspiration. I felt sorted out about the world providence and Japan's directions thanks to the comprehensive perspectives of heavenly providence



Cosmos flowers in full bloom at Nunobiki Herb Garden



A commemorative photo after the rally was over

Final rally to commemorate 55 years of Unification Mission in Japan

All the exits are the entrance to somewhere

of restoration given by True Mother. I could recognize that True Mother is quite determined to dedicate the historical fruits of the CIG to Heavenly Parents and True Father through the Vision 2020. I, therefore, as a church official, would like to do my best to become an owner of True Mother's dream, a capable child to help realize the dream.

True Parents once spoke: "The root of mankind lies in life, whose root lies in love. Without love comes no life." The core of the Vision 2020 is for us, the Blessed Families and church members, to receive new spiritual life, raise heavenly children and make 'True Parents' ourselves through the Blessing, finally producing new Tribal Messiahs.

In order for the Unification Church of Japan to bear new lives and raise them, the potential spiritual parents, that is; Blessed Families and church members, have to be healthy spiritually and in faith. As True Parents blessed us "to become 'true parents' like

me!", we ought to be able to ask our spiritual children "to become like us!" without hesitation. Thus, we have to get resurrected in our hearts and revived in our faith.

Through the commemorative rallies, Blessed Families and church members as well as the nation of Japan have received infinite grace and affection from True Mother who is united with Heavenly Parents and True Father. How can we respond to their grace and blessing? To answer to this question, we must ponder "What would parents wish from their children?" The answers were actually indicated by True Mother.

Spiritual and physical health – Revival by God's Spirit and Truth

True Mother wishes spiritual and physical health in the Unification Church and Japan. In order to fulfill responsibility, we must arrange conditions and capacity to fulfill it. Therefore, True Mother gave a

word of truth: "You need to be healthy to get revived and united with God's spirit and truth!" The Vision 2020 will be achieved only when we, the Unification Family, and True Parents are united and become healthy spiritually and physically.

Both internal and external growth and development – creation of environment

If one cannot grow and develop properly during the time endowed, he or she is committing sin to the time. When a child cannot grow or develop oneself as anticipated by the parents, he or she is not performing filial piety. Japan's Blessed Families and church members must show ourselves growing and developing to Heavenly Parents and True Parents.

The growth should be not just an external growth but internal, spiritual, or qualitative growth among Blessed Families and church members and the church as a whole. True Mother emphasizes 'Creation of Environment' because it will be the condition for Japan's Blessed Families, church members, second and third-generation children, young members and students as well as all the citizens to grow properly

internally and externally.

Brothers and sisters love each other – "Once united, there is nothing we cannot achieve!"

Parents wish their children to love and harmonize with one another. Centering on Heavenly Parents, Cain and Abel are united into one, sharing the common dream and vision as well as hardship and fortunes. That is why True Parents desire that Blessed Families and church members share the truth and blessing endowed by Heavenly Parents and True Parents with people of Japan, testifying True Parents so that they will accept and unite with True Parents.

This is what has to be already practiced on the national dimension, as True Mother taught us this time. We need to put into practice True Mother's words that Japan may become a nation loved, respected and blessed by Asia and the world. She also encouraged us that "Once united, there is nothing we cannot achieve!"