

True Peace

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JANUARY 2018





True Mother's Abundant Grace

By Bakary Camara



I am amazed and humbled when I think of the events that finally led to the success of the Africa Summit. For all of Africa, 2017 was indeed a special year. Heavenly Parent and True Parents cared for us and gave us abundant blessings. It is difficult to number them all.

Last year started like any other year. The first surprise gift from True Parents was the Extraordinary African Leaders Assembly in Zambia, in April. True Parents then shared their vision of a united and brilliant Africa. As that Leaders Assembly concluded, True Mother expressed her belief that Africa would offer the first Cheon Il Guk nation. She then announced her plans for an African Summit. It was the climax. All the leaders were astonished.

Then, the Academy of Heavenly Tribal Messiahship organized a seminar under True Mother's direct guidance. The participants showed new zeal for heavenly tribal messiahship. The results came quickly. Except in Zambia, Nigeria and Mozambique, we had had no victorious tribal messiahs in Africa. However, throughout 2017, we had breakthroughs in Benin, Kenya, Côte d'Ivoire, Uganda and Rwanda.

HJ Cheongpyeong's team tour to Africa in October 2017 also contributed to the success of the Africa Summit. This tour was a stepping-stone for the purification of the spiritual atmosphere through the liberation and Blessing of many ancestors. This was another of our Mother's strategies. I urged members to forgive, love, and unite, centered on our True Mother, and show their gratitude to True Parents for this special grace by investing more in heavenly tribal messiahship and in proclaiming True Parents.

In Côte d'Ivoire, Benin, Zambia and the Democratic Republic of Congo, members had spiritual experiences. Some testified about their ancestors' gratitude. Others saw True Parents' glory and were encouraged in their lives of faith. Many others were cured of diseases. HJ Cheongpyeong's team, led by Reverend Lee Gi-seong, did a great job. I thank again these truly loyal children of True Parents.

Finally, there was the International Leadership Conference in Kona, Hawaii, attended by some government ministers, traditional chiefs and religious leaders. Participants could see another aspect of True Parents' achievements and vision of technology sharing. All were delighted.


I would also like to praise the contributions of our members. The brothers and sisters offered many jeongseong conditions. Some fasted seven days or took part in chain fasts or chain prayers. Others did prayer vigils. Many also contributed financially.

I am grateful to the young people of STF-Europe and others who came at the right moment to help. Their support won the hearts of Senegalese people who saw the ideal of one world family that True Parents advocate. Together with their African brothers and sisters, they cleared streets, planted trees, renovated public places, including on Gorée Island. They won hearts by taking part in debates at Cheikh Anta Diop University. They also played soccer and had a cultural evening with the young people in the Village of Tivaouane Peulh.

Young people from around the world who took part in this summit, you have been wonderful. I pray that you may continue to show the fellowship you have shown before and during the Africa Summit. Thank you also to the European, Asian and American leaders. Your presence and contribution raised the level of the summit.

I also thank the members and the citizens of Senegal. You are indeed the "Land of Hospitality." Who would have thought that this country with so few members could surpass the "strategic nations"? Heavenly Parent does work in mysterious ways. I am grateful to Sheikh Mansour Diouf and to President Macky Sall and all the Senegalese people. The hospitality to Heavenly Parent's only daughter will be recognized forever.

Until now, we were talking about Cheon Il Guk, but very few people knew how this special nation would be established. Our Mother is great! She knows better than anyone else does what to do. As she says, if we unite with her, miracles will happen. Some miracles took place in the preparation for the summit. I saw many others in 2017.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank especially our Mother, for her faith, her love and her unending prayers for Africa. We have faith in her and in her leadership. At the price of our lives, we will follow her in order to save all humankind. Together we will build a new, bright and victorious Africa centered on Heavenly Parent and True Parents. The foundation stones of Cheon Il Guk were laid in Dakar. 

Reverend Camara is the chair of the Africa Regional Group.

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True God's Day 2001 Midnight Prayer

True Parents offered this midnight prayer at the Cheongpyeong Heaven and Earth Training Center at the start of the thirty-fourth God's Day celebration.



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2001년
元旦

The official version of the yearly mottoes are in *Chambumo Gyeong*. The motto for 2001 was "May the liberated Parents of Heaven and Earth, and children united as one in mind and body, fulfill the Will with true love, whose subject nature is absolute, unique, unchanging and eternal."

Beloved Heavenly Father! We have just welcomed the New Year of 2001, which concludes the two thousand years of Christian history and begins the third millennium. Father, here under the watchful gaze of heaven and earth, the two-thousand-year history of your will has gone by, during which all things in the cosmos yearned for the creation of your victorious kingdom of heaven on earth and in heaven according to their relationship with your love, Heavenly Father. Now we have gone through the age of indemnity and bitter sorrow, which has taken us beyond the First Israel, Second Israel and Third Israel. You promised the Messiah to the realm of the First Israel in order to open the path of attaining liberation and open the path of your will to establish True Parents on earth. From the very day that the Messiah was crucified, because the people failed to serve the Messiah as the True Parents, Christianity formed the lost realm of Israel on the global level and fulfilled the founding of the Second Israel, centering on United States, a Christian nation, which can connect the center of the nation to the center of the world.

Heaven and earth, East and West, every people, every nation and every individual in every family—all were divided in history. You worked to separate Cain and Abel on earth in order to fulfill your promise to send the True Parents. You sought to fulfill your will of liberation through the works of unification, which were brought about by the victory of the Christian cultural realm after the Second World War. The bitter and

sorrowful way of the cross materialized on earth due to Zechariah's and Joseph's families' failure to fulfill their tribal messiah mission to become one with one another, which was the goal of Jesus' thirty-three years of life. Because of this, Heaven was unable to obtain the foundation of a family that would have been the starting point for the ideal of a liberated heaven, which would not only have leapt but even soared, achieving victory over Rome. We know this historical event and failure led Jesus to walk the sorrowful course of the cross. Ever since that day, there was no way to liberate completely your sorrowful heart as it meandered for two thousand years through the countless bloody incidents of history. No one understood your anguished heart as the Father who endured for a thousand years, even two thousand years. No one understood your heart as you witnessed the changes of a sorrowful history, watching your children on earth nail their parent to the cross. No one knew your will to prepare new spring water of liberation in the midst of a world engulfed in a raging ocean of death. We were oblivious to the existence of your will and your completely sorrowful heart, burdened under historical circumstances, having to restore through indemnity what was lost through one man. In this world, where people waited for the Lord to return on the clouds, Christianity and all other religions persisted in conflict and having forgotten the unifying standard drove each other toward the path of death.

The history of Cain and Abel, which had been leading this history

of conflict, became the division of the physical and spiritual realms centering on the Second World War. Jesus went to the spirit world to fulfill his parental responsibility spiritually, while forming a unified world centering on the Parent on earth. Due to all this, True Parents were established as a foothold of substantial victory that can represent the perfection of the physical world through the standard created by the perfection of the spirit world. If Catholicism and Protestantism had united after the First World War, which had prepared the coming of True Parents and then united with the spiritual standard centering on Jesus and the Holy Spirit, inheriting it after erecting True Parents on earth, we could have created a victorious foothold on earth within seven years after the end of the Second World War. We would have restored you as the central being on earth and brought about your liberation, which we yearn for today.

We could have marched beyond the peak of sorrow that came about because human beings failed to become perfect. Then, together with the free authority of True Parents and their right to liberate you upon the foundation of having liberated the history of the individual, family, tribe, people and cosmos, True Parents could have restored all of your lost sovereignty, the basis of love's authority, everything that was lost due to the false parent, and welcomed the age of having perfected their mission. All this could have been completed fifty years ago.

In this year, we conclude the last two thousand years. It is now forty years since the beginning of the



True Parents sang the finale to the delight of the members celebrating God's Day together with them.

wilderness course that started with a sorrowful family, which after losing the opportunity achieved liberation of the family, tribe, people, nation, world and cosmos in 2000, centering on the True Parent that had reached the age of eighty. We have achieved the liberation of your homeland centering on the ideal of the cosmic liberation of heaven and earth, just as Moses did when he set out on his course to build the nation of Israel.

We have abolished paradise and hell in the spirit world, demolished all the barriers in the heavenly world and demolished all the barriers between heaven and hell centering on the realm of the eight stages of freedom—from the individual, family, tribe, people, nation to the world—thus paving the highway of liberation. We then indemnified the conditions to fulfill the wishes of all spirits who had eagerly awaited and yearned for that day of Blessing from the Parents, Parents who came into the midst of the sorrowful spirits who reside everywhere from hell to paradise in the spirit world. By doing so, the liberated realm of the Blessing of both the spiritual and physical worlds was attained and established at the same time.

Now both worlds, rooted in a single heart, can subjugate Satan. They can cross over to the liberated

world of freedom sitting atop the victorious authority of your absolute love, absolute life and absolute faith bound in your lineage. Beginning on March 21, 1999, when Satan surrendered, we hastened the reorganization of the spirit world and spent many busy days until the last day of the year 2000.

No one knew of your sorrow until the liberated realm of heart of the fourth Adam was declared. This came after the sorrows of the Old Testament, the sorrows of the New Testament and the sorrows of the Completed Testament—sorrows that are finally relieved on this New Year's Day, 2001, this occasion of welcoming a liberated world at the start of the third millennium. Through all this, this busy child has hastened his steps in accordance with your command. This child has not fulfilled the way of a devoted son, loyal subject, saint and divine child fully enough. Even so, please personally guide him, even though, as Heaven stands before him, he knows he risks being unworthy in Heaven's eyes.

On this glorious new beginning of the third millennium, please allow the Parents of Heaven and Earth and their children to become one in heart and essence together, not only with your liberated realm that came about

with the glorious victory opening the gate of the Completed Testament Age, but also with the liberated realm of True Parents. We are truly grateful for your hard work of fulfilling and going beyond the conditions for perfection, the hard work of the calling and of the responsibility to perfect your will, which is in the subject position, the hard work that realizes your desire for the world—your will, which is absolute, unique, unchanging and eternal, and the hard work that has pioneered this path that could connect the realm of liberation both on earth and in heaven.

Father, your children, the blessed families gathered here today, should know how fearsome this Blessing, which they have received, is. No one knew that you became God with a sorrowful heart who was utterly alone, with no one with whom to share your circumstances while embracing a history with tens of millions of years of bitter sorrow after losing your original will of erecting the family of True Parents, the family envisioned and wished for as your ideal for creation.

After having discovered your will at a young age, however, I followed a one-way path, regardless of whether people recognized me for it or not, overcoming hurdles to find myself today as having gone beyond the




A choir comprising second- and third-generation blessed children that were attending a two-week workshop at Cheongpyeong performed for True Parents in the evening of True God's Day 2001.

world's highest peak. By doing so, earth now connects to the spirit world, enabling us to transcend all nations and reach the liberation of earth directly. This day of family allows for the privileged blessing of liberation on a unified standard beyond the people, nations, religions and all denominations in the spirit world. This victorious position of authority cannot be opposed. It is complete both in heaven and on earth. We are truly grateful that you have allowed us to welcome this new year and begin the third millennium on a day like this. We proclaimed already that the day you can fulfill the liberation and perfection of your wish and goal will come only twelve days after today. Please accept this heart that prays that all blessed families of the Unificationist family and the blessed families in the spirit world that are offering devotion for this purpose can become one in heart and essence, breaking down all barriers and going beyond the final one that brings down all the walls in this hell on earth and that in this way can usher in the realization of a world under the liberated realm and victorious autonomy that spreads in all directions without anything blocking its path. We sincerely wish for you to allow this day to become the day on which we commemorate a new

beginning that will go down in history for a thousand years, a new beginning that starts the journey to the year 3000.

We brought everything to a close on the last day of 2000, which was December 31, and a Sunday. May Heaven clearly draw the line so we can make a new beginning from Monday, this day in this new week in the new millennium. You have allowed us to welcome the age of blessing when we can establish victorious glory, victorious dignity and heaven's authority at the outset of this liberated millennium. We are truly, truly grateful for the grace you have bestowed upon us. Father! There are still many incomplete tasks left in the new millennium, and we now enter the age in which Heaven must take responsibility for these tasks. Your beloved True Parents, these children, have not been able to accomplish their responsibilities. Please forgive your son, who is ashamed for everything left unfinished, for it to be accomplished while relying on and yearning for Heaven's authority again. My sincere heart has never changed—and it will never change in the future.

I offer my pledge to you, together with the oath that we will humbly accept this path and that our heart of love to you as devoted children will

never change. Please lead us to the way you want us to go. We have decided to dedicate the next ten years to offer all our devotion for that day of victory when we can praise the liberation of your homeland and praise heaven on earth and in heaven through erecting the victorious authority of your sovereignty on earth. As blessed families from all nations who have gathered here today make this determination, we sincerely wish for you to accept it. During the rest of this millennium, Father, we will prepare the realm of unification from the deepest part of hell on earth, which came into being when heaven's glory was despoiled, to the highest place, including in the spirit world. Then we will march, march and march forward to establish heaven on earth and in heaven, the heaven of the liberated realm of freedom where you, Father, can stand in the highest, most glorious position, reigning over all nations and the entire universe. We promise this to you True Parents' name, and we sincerely report this to you here from the position central to all families and to the will. We proclaim in True Parents' name that this will shall be fulfilled! Aju! Aju! Aju! 

This is from Cheon Seong Gyeong, True Parents' Prayers, Chapter 13 Prayer 4.

Moving Toward Heavenly Africa

True Mother gave this speech at the Opening Plenary as the keynote address at Africa Summit 2018 on January 18 at the Abdou Diouf International Conference Center (CICAD) in Dakar, Senegal.



Respected President Macky Sall, presidents of national assemblies, distinguished guests from all across Africa, religious figures, traditional chiefs, members of IAPP:

Today we have gathered here to open a new chapter in history. You have gathered here at this historic and eternal moment when Africa will be revealed to the world as heavenly Africa, which attends God at its center. You know of the pyramids that rise towering over the desert near the Nile River, where ancient civilizations arose. Even with the technological skills we have today we cannot verify how four thousand five hundred years ago they were able to bring stones greater than 140 cm. high across the desert to create this stone structure. Why did they build such a structure?

Through the ceaseless use of their original minds, human beings instinctively want to return to God. More than they did their earthly life, they pursued the future and new life through rebirth and resurrection. This also becomes proof that humankind today is not taking the normal path. God created all things in heaven and on earth and then created the man

and woman who would become humankind's first ancestors. God gave them a time of growth so that through that time they would come to fulfill their responsibilities. In summary, they should have grown looking toward God, aligned with God like a sunflower toward the sun. They should have developed in this way until they could become humankind's first ancestors and receive the Blessing. However, during this period they were unable to do this. That is the cause of fallen humankind today. Yet God is an omniscient and omnipotent being. The beginning and the end must be the same. Therefore, God had no choice but to begin the bitter history of the providence of restoration through indemnity. How difficult and rough must that path have been that it took the long period of four thousand years to choose and then raise the Israelites until they had a national foundation for Heaven to send Jesus, God's only son! Yet what happened? The Israelites could not become the foundation for Jesus Christ. Jesus had no choice but to go the way of the cross. At the crucifixion, a thief was on Jesus' left and another was on his right. The thief on the left taunted

Jesus. Seeing this, the thief on the right said, We have been condemned justly; we are getting what we deserve for what we have done, but this man has done nothing wrong.

Jesus said, Today you will be with me in Paradise. Paradise! Jesus prophesied he would return. He said he would return to hold the marriage banquet of the Lamb. Why did Jesus go to Paradise? Paradise is not heaven. It is like a waiting room for going into heaven. This was why Jesus had to return. He had to return to meet God's only daughter and be in the position of True Parents. Fallen humankind cannot be directly in God's presence on their own. I am saying they must be resurrected and reborn through the True Parents. The two-thousand-year history of Christianity began with the Pentecost experience of the apostles. Rome accepted Christianity in AD 313 and it then crossed Italy and traversed Europe to the island of Britain. Thus, the Atlantic realm civilization began and people in the nations around Britain headed out to the world. They set off in the name of Christ. However, they did not know Jesus' essence. They did not know God properly.





At a UPF session, from left: Taj Hamad, v.p. UPF International; Robert Kittel, int'l president YSP; Dr. Sakeena Yacoobi, Sunhak Peace Prize laureate; Thomas Walsh, pres. UPF International; Kim Ok-gil, New Village Movement; Dr. Michael Glantz, assoc. member of ICUS; Prof. Oumar Ndongo, Cheikh Anta Diop Univ.; Nigerian Sen. Ibrahim Mantu

Therefore, in conclusion, they lived their lives not for others but lived lives of taking. I know that the place that suffered most was the African continent. Those who set off in Christianity's name did not educate the nations they colonized. In the end, they put their own benefit first and because of this, in conclusion, the curtain came down on the Atlantic civilization era. Heaven has prepared for the returning Messiah through a different people. That is Korea, the Republic of Korea, in Asia. There, God's only daughter, whom God could call "my daughter," was born after six thousand years. With that foundation and with Heaven's protection, in 1960, we became the True Parents.

Yet, Christianity could not create the foundation. Just as two thousand years ago, during the time of Jesus, Christians who have been waiting for two thousand long years know neither what they must do in the Last Days nor whom they were waiting for. In Genesis, it says, "And there was evening and there was morning—the first day." Christians are still in the evening. They have been unable to greet the morning. Those who have

been preparing for two thousand years for this moment, can you still not wake up from your sleep?

The result and problem is that they knew neither God's essence nor the Messiah Jesus Christ's essence. Christianity has made many mistakes during these two thousand years. From within the Christian realm many denominations arose and Communism emerged. This was because they did not know the center. However, now, through my revealing the truths of Heaven's providential history, Africa will become heavenly Africa that attends God, a proud nation that can stand in front of the world as a guiding lamp. Today, with the heart of a True Parent, as True Mother, I have come to eradicate Africa's past pain and begin a new history for Africa. This was why I chose this nation, Senegal. I have seen that Heaven has prepared and raised righteous people for this particular time. I pray that you can deeply feel that Heaven is with us. That is why, centered on Africa, I am opening a new era, the Pacific civilization era, which entails a revolution of the culture by the heart of filial

love. I pray that together we can go forward toward creating a happy kingdom of heaven on earth where all human beings attend Heavenly Parent as their center. Therefore, I am advocating a Peace Highway, which will travel from the south of Africa, from the Cape of Good Hope, through Africa, Europe, Eurasia, and Asia, connecting all the way to Korea. Through this, humankind will communicate and realize a kingdom of heaven on earth filled with freedom, equality, peace, unification, and happiness, in which there is no need for war and there is neither high nor low. Africa has much to do. I selected Africa as the priority. Today, when we look at the pollution and destruction caused by people's ignorance, we feel there is no hope for humankind's future, which is why I want Africa to return to its healthy state when God created it. Representatives from all nations, do you agree? I pray and ask that you go forward to the day when we realize the dream of one human family under God working hand in hand together with me and with all nations as brothers and sisters in front of God. 🙏

The True Parents of Heaven, Earth and Humankind's Blessing Ceremony for Heavenly Africa and their Prayer for Africa's Liberation

January 19, 2018, House of Slaves, Gorée Island




Almighty Heavenly Parent, until now Heaven has gone through so much pain and suffering to restore fallen humankind, but absolutely you had to complete the ideal of creation. Heavenly Parent! How many long days have passed as you worked hard and took a sorrowful course to find your son and daughter? We know of the history that has pained Heaven many times because of humankind's ignorance.

Heavenly Parent! Nevertheless, you never gave up on us. Thus, you were able to find the victorious True Parents, for whom you had wished for so long. When all the people of the world are reborn through the True Parents, there will be such happiness and delight on that day.

Heavenly Parent! The True Parents, True Mother, God's only daughter, has come here today. You sent Jesus to complete Heaven's providence. You embraced those who made it so that Jesus had no choice but to be crucified. Jesus prophesied that he would return and Christianity began through the Pentecost. Yet Christianity did not know your deep will or

'Jesus' essence and they left a sorrowful history here in Africa and on Gorée Island. Where did Jesus' words, "Love your neighbor as yourself," go? The missionaries who came as Christians forgot this essence when they came to Africa. How could they treat people in this way because of differences in skin color? Please remember the people of Africa who have endured and waited for more than five hundred sorrowful years.

Beloved Heavenly Parent! Today in the name of True Parents, I liberate the sorrowful spirits of Gorée Island and through a spiritual workshop conducted by Heavenly Parent, they can be resurrected as good spirits and return to earth and be with their descendants so that Africa can become a nation that can realize the dream of one human family centered on Heavenly Parent and become the light and lamp of the world. Let us cooperate enthusiastically to achieve a world of no more conflict, suffering, or war—one world of complete harmony and unification centered on Heavenly Parent. I liberate and proclaim this in the name of True Parents. Aju! 



A Call to Action to Begin the Year

True Mother gave this speech at the 2018 True Parents' Special New Year Gathering for Cheon Il Guk Leaders on January 5 at Cheon Jeong Gung.



Beloved blessed families and members from around the world:

The first step to realizing Heaven's dream of one human family centered on God is national restoration. As things stand right now, I cannot have conviction about many aspects of this. How can all blessed families around the world and all the world's 7.5 billion people know Heavenly Parent and True Parents and become filial children and loyal patriots that can realize their dream?

When we look at the things occurring around the world today, we feel there is no hope. People have tried very hard. They dreamed of a peaceful and happy world. However, the path to that was always out of reach. This was because there was no center. We are blessed families who have been reborn through the True Parents. We are blessed. Those who receive blessings have responsibilities. Those responsibilities are not for yourself but are responsibilities toward your neighbors, your tribe, your nation and the world. The basic step for that is the responsibility as heavenly tribal messiahs. How much devotion have you offered for that?

Time is of the essence

Only two years remain to reach our goal by 2020. As nations of model blessed families and nations that have fulfilled their tribal messiah missions—who not only know God but attend God—you must show others that if they follow in this way, Heaven will bless them too.

In the central providential nations, Korea, Japan and America, please think about how you will show and reveal to the world a Family Federation for a Heavenly Korea, for a Heavenly America and for a Heavenly Japan whose members have been successful as heavenly tribal messiahs. That is why I made the decision that we will look at Korea as a region and will divide it into five sub-regions. If the five leaders move as one, you will be able to be five times more effective. The sub-regions will take the form of a nation.

From five years ago, I told the Family Federation that you must go forward with the spirit and the truth. After Jesus went the way of the cross, Christianity began through resurrec-



tion by the Holy Spirit. Yet even after such a long time, Christianity, which has centered on people, does not comprehend the essence and has made many mistakes and has had many failures. When Jesus died on the cross, he prophesied he would return and hold the marriage supper of the Lamb. However, Christians today, even members of the clergy, still wait for the returning Messiah to come on the clouds.

Through the Creation, God made man and woman. A man alone cannot complete the providence. The man must have a partner—a woman! Christianity arose so that among humankind they would know this and prepare the foundation for it. However, for them it is still evening. They are unable to wake up from their slumber. The Bible says, there was evening, and there was morning—the first day. Their evening sleep was so long that when the time came for Christians to greet a new morning, they are unable to do so.

Awaken the world

What must we do then? We must reveal the truth! We must wake them up from their sleep and in this new era, we must give them the love that will contribute to completing the providence centered on True Parents. That was why I said you should reveal the truths of history. While you were hesitating, I myself went out and proclaimed, "I am God's only daughter." What was the result? Members of America's clergy, ACLC, welcomed me. They asked, How did we not know this truth?

What are you afraid of? The world has reached its limit. In this situation, there is no hope for humankind nor hope that we can remain living on Earth. Many scientists are concerned

about what will happen to the planet in the next few years. Can humankind survive if there is no Earth? If we just watch when we are in this situation, we cannot ensure the future of our descendants or future generations. Therefore, each of you, each of your families, must all do the work of a hundred people and be victorious. You must teach people the truth.

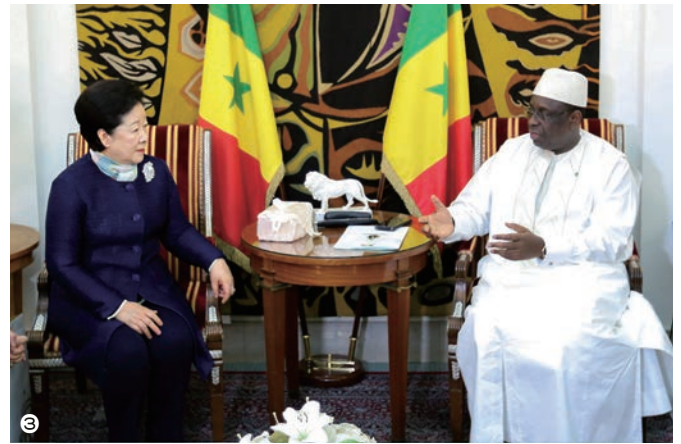
Therefore, I also decided to do this in America. There is no doubt that America is a large nation; it has fifty states. America will be a region divided into five sub-regions. They made the determination that no matter what, they will become a nation that fulfills its responsibilities. The three central nations will unite under one system, one organization and help one another to advance toward our goal! The three nations will form a trinity, communicate with one another and share their results.

I felt we must have an organization that can be 120 percent effective during the remaining time we have. Therefore, today I am looking at Japan as a region and have divided it into five sub-regions. By doing this, I believe that Japan too will move quickly towards national restoration. By doing this, all the work I have been doing since Father's seonghwa will be in order. Now you are heavenly [shin] tribal messiahs! You must become tribal messiahs in which the "shin" does not mean "new" but means "tribal messiahs that attend God." Therefore, we are building the Cheonbowon [Genealogy Center] so that your devotions and hard work can be reported to Heaven and you can leave behind a record of your results. I pray that all of you here today can become filial children and loyal patriots that can enter into the records there. 7

Africa Summit 2018



- ❶ True Mother giving the keynote address at Africa Summit 2018 in Senegal at the Abdou Diouf International Conference Center (CICAD) in Dakar, Senegal.
- ❷ A view of the stage and the film crews; Africa Summit 2018 was broadcast live throughout Senegal and covered by news crews in neighboring countries.
- ❸ True Mother speaking with Senegalese President Sall at the Presidential Palace.
- ❹ True Mother and UPF International President Thomas Walsh present President Sall with the Good Governance Award, which came with a monetary prize, which the president announced would be donated to two specific projects.
- ❺ Sheikh Mansour Diouf, a leader of the Mouride Brotherhood; True Mother, President Sall, Thomas Walsh, Dioncounda Traoré, president of Mali 2012–2013
- ❻ Dr. Thomas Walsh, president UPF International; Dr. Robert Kittel, international president of YSP; Dr. Sakeena Yacobi, CEO, Afghan Institute of Learning; President Sall of Senegal, the host country of Africa Summit 2018
- ❼ The Little Angels traveled from Korea to support this pivotal event by providing gracious music and their youthful enthusiasm.



True Mother on Gorée Island



- ① Augustin Senghor, the mayor of Gorée presents True Mother with a Pilgrim Award, recognizing her efforts in teaching universal values in pursuit of a "world united in spite of diversity."
- ② True Mother with Yeon Ah Moon and Julia HJ Moon standing in the "Door of No Return" a symbol of the largest deportation in history through which millions of Africans were forcibly taken from their homelands and cast into slavery that lasted generations.
- ③ A plaque to remember True Mother's visit to Gorée; it is on a short wall along with only those of Nelson Mandela, President Félix Houphouët-Boigny of Côte d'Ivoire, President Barack Obama of the United States, Henri, Grand Duke of Luxembourg; Jean-Baptiste Belley, a native of Senegal enslaved in the French West Indies, who rose to become a member of the lower house of the French legislature; and Pope John Paul II.
- ④ True Mother came to Gorée Island to pray for those that had suffered from slavery and to liberate them.
- ⑤ True Mother with the Little Angels on Gorée Island





The Victory Celebration in Korea



- ❶ True Mother cutting the cake
- ❷ Bakary Camara and Kathy Rigney presenting flowers to True Mother
- ❸ *Speakers:* Wonju McDevitt, Kim Ki-hoon, Tokuno Eiji, Yun Young-ho, Lee Gi-seong
- ❹ Kim Ki-hoon, vice-president of FFWPU-International, and Wonju McDevitt, chief of staff of True Mother's Secretariat present a gift to True Mother
- ❺ Kim Seog-byeon, president, Hyo Jeong Global Unification Foundation, and Lee Gi-seong, president of FFWPU for a Heavenly Korea, present a gift to True Mother.
- ❻ Tokuno Eiji, president of FFWPU for a Heavenly Japan, and Lee Gi-man, planning director of FFWPU for a Heavenly Japan present a gift to True Mother
- ❼ True Mother enjoying her granddaughter's performance
- ❽ True Mother's granddaughter, Shin Yuh nim (Hyo Jin nim's and Moon Yeon Ah nim's daughter) sings while accompanied by Shuji Hata, a jazz guitarist
- ❾ Cheers resound through the hall to conclude the celebration of the victory attained through Africa Summit 2018





Guidance for Youth Ministers and Young Leaders

On January 13, Sun Jin Moon, FFWPU international president, spoke to eighty-five young leaders at the International Peace Education Center (IPEC) in the US city of Las Vegas, Nevada. To start, she read a list of questions they had sent to her, covering deeply complex issues. After hoondokhae ("Leaving Behind a Legacy of Love," in chapter 5 of True Father's autobiography) she answered several questions. This excerpt begins thirty-six minutes into her talk, with the third question. She goes on to speak of ethical guidelines associated with yoga that constitute a life outlook helpful in dealing with the situations the young leaders' questions covered. Afterward, she answered questions from the audience. This is the first of two excerpts we will run.

What helps you to have clarity and strength to do what you do?

That's simple; we just did it today. We did hoondokhae. This is the route to Heavenly Parent and True Parents. I am no greater than anybody else in this room. Everything good in my life has been gotten from hoondokhae, prayer and meditation. Anybody can do this. Don't miss the chance to bring this into your life every day as a daily practice, just as you brush your teeth and comb your hair—hoondokhae, meditation and yoga are what I do.

I think I sent the yoga principles to you guys. Did you have a chance to look them over? It is interesting, right? Good. I can get into that, because when I was growing up in the movement, we didn't have the completion stage yet. It was still the indemnity phase. Mother was still indemnifying Eve. Everything wasn't completed and liberated. A lot of what we were taught was what not to do. The culture we grew up in was scary—fighting all the time. Satan's attacking you! You always had to be on the defensive. You were constantly in a state of fight or flight. It was like cortisol [a hormone similar to adrenaline]. Crazy! It is not good for you.

True Mother said True Parents have completed everything. The indemnity phase is completed. We are now in completion and liberated from indemnity. This is the stage where we should be creating a culture of heart. What is that? One where we live with joy and love, and peace is our mission.

Transformation at a price

I went into my first yoga training when True Father passed away. I was asking Father after he had passed away to guide me. Guide me! I have to help Mother and I have no clue what to do. I am so unworthy. I need guidance. Then, I prayed and of course cried all night and the next morning I got an email about a yoga teaching opportunity exactly at a time I had free before Mother was going to come to Hawaii after Father passed away. I thought, Maybe this is a sign. When you pray or have a dream or something, God is talking to you; when you have these moments, take them.

I took it. I enrolled myself in two weeks of yoga, two hundred hours of yoga in two weeks; that's over ten hours a day. From the break of dawn, about 5:00, until 10 PM we were doing yoga, meditation, teaching, postures and other things for two weeks straight. I completely turned vegetarian because



The atmosphere was that of a family meeting where an older sister invested herself, intellectually and emotionally, in helping young brothers and sisters seeking answers.

they wanted you to detox and spiritually center yourself and be committed to the course. It was a shock to the body. We grew up in a meat-eating, McDonald's family. [She laughs] Imagine not eating meat and detoxifying. It was an amazing experience. Those crazy things that are hard to do transform your life. When you can get out of a way that wasn't working for you, to find a way that is working for you, do it. Do it. Embrace it. Share it with other people; share ways that you find helpful. This is one of the principles. The first thing you learn in yoga—before you do all of the funny poses that you all know from watching TV or reading fitness magazines—is that the most important thing is centering the mind and the intention. These ten principles are the *yamas* and *niyamas* [in Sanskrit, the liturgical language of Hinduism]. They help you focus on individual perfection—how you can unify mind and body to be at peace and centered with God at all times. That is the first step. When I started learning these, I realized that they connect in many ways with True Parents' teachings. This was an "Aha" moment.

Graciousness

The first one is "ahimsa." Does anybody know what that means? "Non-harming." What can we relate that to in DP? [The third blessing] Yes. Non-harming means loving everything, because it means not to harm any thing or energy—whatever. You need to have absolute unconditional love for all things in creation and for yourself. Not to harm anything is like loving everything—loving everything with that kind of energy and heart. That's the first principle. Ahimsa is non-violence and non-harming. Because what is the opposite of love? Hate; when you hate, you harm. The opposite is non-harming, loving everything.

Honesty and fairness

The next one is "*satya*," "truthfulness." This is important. I think everybody has to be true to her heart. Like Father says, only you can polish your heart, but you need to think about it with the first principle: How can you be true to yourselves without harming anyone else? This means, [as came up in one of your questions] how can I be a true, principled person to someone who is homosexual? Be truthful in your belief and your cause, but in being truthful, do not harm. Do it in a loving way. These are simple ways to guide you to balance your mind, your thinking, to always stay on the path of love and not omitting, being truthful, keeping that consciousness balanced in love. You might



Naokimi Ushiroda, director of the Youth and Young Adult Ministry for the US movement, introduced Sun Jin nim; Myoyeon Yu was one of several people who asked a question; the group, seen here meditating, comprised members of Youth Ministry, Young Adult Ministry and CARP.

want to be truthful to your parent that has hurt you or someone in the movement that has hurt you or some leader but in a way that you do not do it as an act of hate or aggression but as some way to love or heal. These are ways, tools with which to think, to help you navigate whatever comes your way.

The third one is “*asteya*,” which means “non-stealing.” This doesn’t just mean monetary stealing. Of course, Father says stealing public money is the worst thing you can do, but you could steal someone’s heart. You could steal someone’s time, energy, space—all these things. So how can I be conscious of others at all times and not take more than what is given to me or what I have earned? That’s a good thing to do; it’s a fair practice.

Self-control

The next one is *brahmacharya*. In the yoga tradition, the only people who did yoga were male Buddhist monks. Women weren’t allowed to do yoga because they weren’t clean, but now that era is transcended! [She laughs] ...because Mother is opening the door to a balanced world. “Brahmacharya” is in the same line as when Father says “absolute sex.” Why, for all those in the first generation, was everything—Don’t drink, don’t smoke, don’t do this or that? We have to be absolutely clean, pure and free from all sensory things that bother our ability to connect with a higher consciousness.

Anything that takes your energy away from God’s conscious energy is a disturbance. You want to moderate that. Have you ever listened to loud, angry music? What kind of head-space does that put you in? Everything affects you. Can anyone think of another sensory [input]? Smart phones! Our attachment to interconnected devices... You could be on one all day and not be focusing on your children, your pets, your school, your congregation. Does anybody play video games here? How much time does that take from you? It’s a full-body experience. Nothing can remove you from the game. Video games aren’t bad. iPhones aren’t bad. Devices aren’t bad. Chocolate cake isn’t bad in itself. A loving relationship with your blessed partner is not evil or bad. It’s how you use it, how that energy is balanced to do good.

Has anybody ever been on a diet? If I tell you, Don’t eat chocolate cake. Don’t eat sugar. Don’t drink coffee: What are you going to do? Exactly! You’re going to crave those things. Instead of that say, Have a good relationship with all foods. If you eat food with fear, it doesn’t help digestion. You are not getting the nutrients, physiologically. You are harming yourself.



Sun Jin Moon and a portion of the crowd that day

Live within limits

All these things are interconnected. Don't harm yourself. Have balance. Be truthful and stay in the non-grasping, non-stealing area. The fifth one also goes into that. "*Aparigraha*" means "non-grasping." To want things in life is natural. Everybody wants something. Has anyone ever gone shopping, wanted something badly, bought it and about two weeks later, you don't even notice it's there? You bought an iPhone you really wanted and then a new one comes out and you cannot even like your own phone any more, you just want the new one. It is dissatisfaction 24/7.

How can you practice non-grasping? If you're not attached to it like that, it can't traumatize you. [Laughs] It's true. How do I let stuff go? Do I really need this stuff in my life? Would I rather spend that money saving dogs in Korea from dog meat farms and donate it to the ASPCA [American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals]? Think about it. You could be doing a lot of good. It's a mind-shift. When you start becoming conscious of these practices, you will notice your mind starting to change and wanting to do better things. In yoga, we call it good karma, doing positive good acts.

Pure water

The next is "purity;" it's called "*saucha*." This is like we have in the Principle. We want to purify. When Mother says all those in the second generation are pure water; many acts of indemnity and restoration had to go into our being able to be here today. In that same way, we want to purify and maintain and thank and appreciate that previous generation that helped get us to this point. From this point, we want to broaden and build more joy, more purity a better world a more peaceful world.

The next one is "*santosh*," which means "contentment"—finding joy in just being. Has anybody ever felt like that? You're just complete in your being. You're grateful in your being. You're just OK. When I get to that place is usually when I welcome God into my heart and everything is complete.

This one goes with the next one, "*tapas*," "the right effort." It means doing the work. Doing the good karma in your life, because none of these things is automatic, as Father said. Everything has to be done by doing good. So when we're to plant one tree, we are going to invest extra effort to plant two or three trees. We want to have this heart.

"*Svadhya*" is "self-study," so you are not going to learn anything or you are not going to have transformation and change unless you do the work, you put in the practice. This is where you do it—in the hoondokhae, in the workshops in your daily life, in your daily practices.

The last one is "*ishvara pranidhana*." That is the big one. It is the tenth principle but it's actually the biggest principle—"surrendering to God." That might be a hard, when you think about it, surrendering your entire being to God. The reason that is the tenth principle is because when you practice all the nine others you are slowly starting to understand walking in the ways of God. You realize that through all these conscious steps of how to live your life—with love, with goodness, with right effort and right speech for everybody—you are walking in the way of God, creating peace, creating love and creating joy. When you realize that you have the ability to do this and act on it and create it every day, this last principle becomes true. Because you are Heavenly Parent. You are the divine representation of Heavenly Parent on earth. You choose to express him or her, Heavenly Parent, in your life. That is the important principle. Many people think that God is separate, somewhere beyond, like there, True Parents in a picture. It's in you. When you surrender to the God in you, Heavenly Parent in you, the divine light in you, you realize you have all the power, like a super hero. [She laughs] It's true; you can do anything. You can overcome anything. You can love anyone. I hope that that was helpful. These are practical ways to figure out how to love people. We hear all the time that we should love people but no one gives us practical A-B-C, ten steps, how to do it. ☯

True Mother's Reorganization to Achieve a Heavenly Africa

Yun Young-ho, deputy chief of True Mother's Secretariat, announced True Mother's plans to restructure our movement in Africa. Mother's depth of thought and her heart for Africa are both apparent in the text below. This transcription is from the simultaneous translation.

By Yun Young-ho

T rue Mother did not just recently prepare for the Africa Summit, but just as Rev. Bakary Camara, Dr. Walsh and Mrs. Rigney reported, she has been preparing over a long period of time. It is not just one event. It is the fruit of countless efforts and it is the start of a new history. As we prepared for the Africa Summit, we could have selected Nigeria or South Africa. When we shared this with Mother, she said we have to do it in Senegal.

There are two reasons for this: The first one is because we need to lay a foundation of having Mother accepted as True Mother in a Muslim country. The other reason is Gorée Island. We need to liberate Africa's painful past. That is why she said, I want to have the Africa Summit in Senegal.

Leaders in Senegal

In addition, centered on True Mother, we have been victorious. It is not our victory. It is True Mother's victory and Heavenly Parent's victory. After the victory of this rally, Mother did not sleep because after the Africa Summit, Mother decided on a new restructuring of Africa.

Mother really has been working in three areas: witnessing, creating an environment for witnessing and raising future leaders. She has been leading the providence. Regarding witnessing in Africa, we will have the headquarters of the Family Federation for Africa here in Senegal, and because the Family Federation headquarters will be in Senegal, Rev. Bakary Camara will now relocate to Senegal. The full-time national leader of Senegal is Abdou Gaye. He's a very smart leader and Mother appointed him national leader.

Regarding creating an environment for witnessing, the UPF's African headquarters will be in Senegal. This is Mother's decision. Mrs. Kathy Rigney is the chairman of UPF Africa and IAPP. We have launched IAPP in 70 percent of the nations of Africa and on that foundation, we could launch IAPP-Africa through the Senegalese president of the National Assembly, his excellency Moustapha Niasse. Many nations have launched IAPP in Africa and the headquarters of IAPP in Africa will be in Senegal. This is an amazing blessing.

As a sister organization to UPF, the chairman of IAPP Africa is the former president of Mali, his excellency, Dioncounda Traoré. Every month, President Traoré will come and he will personally lead the IAPP headquarters.

Tribal chiefs

In one other area, we have the chiefs' association, which has already been launched in countless nations and countless religious chiefs are working in their tribes through tribal messiah activities. In Africa, the head office of the Tribal Chiefs Association will also be in Senegal. This is an amazing blessing. We will also launch the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development here. This is not just a peace movement. This is made up of religious leaders who are doing tribal messi-



ah activities. Therefore, the IAPD headquarters will also be in Senegal. Regarding IAPD, the IAPD chair will be Bishop Ndanga. He has already blessed two thousand bishops and they are preparing for a blessing of forty-thousand. He is preparing religious leaders. Let's give a big round of applause for Bishop Ndanga. Sheikh Mansour Diouf is also doing victorious tribal messiah activities in a Muslim nation.

We have not yet announced this officially, but the secretary of IAPD will be Prophet Radebe of South Africa. He is in charge of four million people in South Africa. Mother gave him an important mission and the headquarters of all these organizations will be in Senegal.

A central point emerges


Let us give another round of applause to our beloved True Mother. During the opening ceremony, Mother spoke about the international peace highway project. Already countless heads of state, Speakers of the House and other major leaders have agreed and signed MOUs. The person in charge of the International Peace Highway, Peace Road, in Africa is Kathy Rigney and this headquarters also will be in Senegal. The International Peace Road Foundation will be in Senegal. In other words, centering on UPF, all headquarters will be in Senegal.

What's most important is raising future leaders. Mother is focusing on raising future leaders. These are talented young people. Mother wants to establish the Sun Hak Educational Foundation in Africa. The headquarters of this will also be in Africa.

People are applauding so much, because today there are many blessings for Africa. In addition, YSP, Youth and Students for Peace, the Women's Federation and UPF should work together for national restoration.

More depth to her plan

The president of YSP is African and the headquarters will be in Africa. Philbert Seka is the new president of YSP Africa. For all of these projects, True Mother wants to do a coffee project. Two-thirds of Africa is in the coffee belt. Just the sale of coffee here yields more than 100 billion dollars. Two years ago, Mother spoke to us about it and we've been researching it. Here in Africa, even with just one project, Mother wants to share technology and make a franchise. Mother has planned everything. Mother had a successful Kona International Leadership Conference. There is going to be a coffee union. It's like a cooperative for coffee and that foundation will be in Senegal. So that's another great blessing.

All these headquarters will be in the heavenly headquarters building and this building will be purchased by True Mother in Senegal. We are going to work with the Senegalese government to have a new Africa. It's going to be an amazing day of blessing for Africa. 

The Journey to Dakar

This is what Kathy Rigney said at the Special Banquet to Celebrate True Parents' Victorious Return from Africa Summit 2018 on January 24 at Cheon Jeong Gung.

By Kathy Rigney

Our beloved True Mother, it's so hard to find the words to say thank you for what you have done in Africa over the last few days, but with all of my hart and all of my soul, Thank you, Mother. When I first joined the unification movement in 1969, I secretly studied our True Mother every day. When I would look at pictures of True Parents, I always wanted to look at Mother. I thought she was the most beautiful woman in the world. I watched the way she walked and the way she talked and the way she handled each and every situation. She was my idol. Of course, I loved our True Father completely, but as a woman, I really needed to have someone I could follow and someone whose heart I could understand and that was our True Mother. The Africa Summit began, as Dr. Yun Young-ho said, back in April of 2017. That was the time it was announced that the Africa Summit would take place. True Mother had made that decision and we were very excited about the possibility of holding a regional Africa Summit. So, in our little minds, in our little hearts, without really having the heart of Heaven, we thought of the easy way of having what we thought would be a victory. To have it in a nation that was somehow developed like South Africa and to hold it with a few high level people coming and a couple heads of state. But when True Mother sent to us her mandate, she asked us to bring all the heads of state in Africa. She asked us to bring people from the fifty-four countries of Africa, all of the highest-level leaders that we could find and to bring them not to South Africa, but to Dakar, Senegal.

When I first heard this, my heart was nervous and afraid, because I knew that his was not something that was simple, but ever since our True Father ascended in the year 2012, like all of you and especially our True Mother, I felt so heartbroken. Mother stood up and she said, We're not going to stop; we're going to go. We're not going to walk. In fact, we're going to run. We're going to continue to the end, until this world is restored.

For me, that moment was pivotal; it was a life-changing moment and I was determined, no matter what, to follow our Mother. No matter what she said, no matter what she said to do, I wanted to follow her 100 percent, even to die wouldn't matter. As Rev. Lee said in his prayer, what would matter would be not to be successful or to disappoint Heaven, to disappoint our True Mother.

On that road, we started to walk. Every day, our True Mother pushed us. Every day since April 2017, our international headquarters the Cheon Jeong Gung staff called us on the phone—and pushed. Not in a pushy way; they pushed in a heavenly way, in a loving way and in a clear way—[they told us] what our objective was, what our goal was and what we needed to do. So, it was only their guidance, actually, that pushed us to do what was done over the last few days. If it had been left



up to me or to Rev. Camara, I'm sure our result would have been very small. But through our staff here at Cheon Jeong Gung, our True Mother taught us what we were supposed to do. Mother taught me many things over the past few days. I have been studying our True Mother, as I said, for many years, since I joined, but I learned so much from her over the last few days.

True Mother's priorities

As you've heard—I'm sure you've heard many testimonies—we met forty-three heads of state and we witnessed to them directly about our True Mother, about our True Parents. But, it stops right there. What do I mean? I mean I want to be nice to the head of state because I want to go back and because I want him to do what I want him to do. So, I'm very nice to him. I try to think of things he wants to hear and I try to say those things so that he can feel happy to see me.

But when True Mother arrived in Senegal, on the sixteenth of January, the next day, the seventeenth of January, we had a meeting with President Macky Sall at his Presidential Palace. True Mother went there and Macky Sall received us. He greeted Mother and we all sat down. He then said, Welcome to Senegal. I hope everything is OK. I hope you are enjoying yourself. And True Mother said, Can I speak? And President Macky Sall said, Yes, of course. Go ahead. And Mother spoke for forty minutes.

She didn't say, Hi, I'm so happy to meet you, but she started to talk from Adam and Eve until today in God's providence. She educated him on every single level. I was thinking, Oh, Gee... I hope he's not going to cancel tomorrow's meeting. Oh, I hope he can digest this as she clearly talked about God's providence, about True Parents and about God's only begotten daughter being born on earth and sitting in front of him today.

But Mother wasn't afraid of anything. Mother didn't come to make a friend. Mother came to educate her son. Mother came as the True Mother of all mankind and she treated him with that heart. Macky Sall, by the way, was very receptive and after Mother explained everything, from A to Z, for forty minutes, Macky Sall said, In order to build peace, we need people who believe in God, and everybody believes in God in a particular way. So, to build peace, we need to understand each other, listen to each other and respect each other. So thank you very much for the education that you gave me today.

He was not at all offended. In fact, he was charmed by our True Mother. He couldn't stop looking at her. He had four members of his staff sitting with us and they were supposed to take notes, but



Kathy Rigney speaking at Cheon Jeong Gung: What she said made a deep impression on the audience. Members were talking about it, and Rev. Choi Gwang-gil incorporated a portion of it into his Sunday service at Cheon Bok Gung.

they stopped taking notes. They were looking at Mother with their eyes wide open. I watched them the entire time. They couldn't take their eyes off of her. They couldn't stop listening to what she was saying. So I learned. I learned from True Mother. We have to speak the truth. We can't just be friends with the head of state. We can't just be their good pals, but we have to teach them about God's providence.

Mother's keynote address

The next day, the historic January 18, in front of 1,200 of the highest level VIPs that we have ever gathered in one meeting in Africa, our True Mother again proclaimed God's providence and proclaimed her position as the True Mother of all mankind. I wondered, How will this Islamic country receive this news?

Afterward when I went around the room one by one to visit the VIPs that were present, I asked them, So what did you think about Mother Moon's speech? And without exception, everybody used the same word. Her speech was so moving. Not just interesting; not just a good speech, but her speech was moving. It moved my heart.

So wherever she goes, Mother is not afraid of any circumstance. She proclaims God's will completely, absolutely. She never hesitates. The reaction of people to Mother when they see her, when they listen to her, they fall in love with her. And that's the truth; therefore, I realized that I have to learn about courage from our Mother—not just being friends with high level people but rather teaching those high level people about God and about God's providence.

What is love?

The second thing I learned from Mother during this—it was actually a ten-month period, but during the time that Mother was actually in Senegal, was about love, true love. Since I became a missionary in 1975... Actually, before I joined the church, I used to work with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in America for the cause of civil rights for black Americans. When I was then selected to go to Africa by True Parents as a missionary, I felt it was providential because the situation and the suffering of African Americans was something I had to repent for as a white person. When I went to Africa and we started to witness, we met people and they joined our church.

The same question was asked repeatedly over these last forty-three years: Why has Africa had to suffer so much? Why has Africa gone through this course? Do True Parents love us? What are True

Parents' feelings about Africa? Mother came. This was not her first time coming to Africa. She has come many times. But this time, she didn't just come and give love, horizontal love. Mother gave the truest kind of love that any human being could ever give to someone else. Mother liberated Africa. Mother took the pain and the suffering and the oppression of Africa and she threw it up in the air and she liberated all of Africa. This wasn't our idea. We never suggested to Mother to go to Gorée Island. This was Mother's idea. Mother said, When I come to Africa, I have to go to Gorée Island. I have to liberate all those people who lost their lives in the terrible, terrible experience of slavery. So I learned about what love really is, what true love really is from our True Mother.

A righteous man

Next, I learned from what Mother said when our Father went to the spiritual world. Mother said, Believe in me. If you believe in me, miracles will happen. And she also said, There are righteous people all over the world. Find those righteous people and advance quickly! I really believed that when I heard Mother say that. I didn't just think those were nice words but I felt the desire to look for righteous people. But I'm not the one who found them.

Again, it was True Mother. True Mother, through the World Summit in 2017, held a spectacular event and during that time, one of the ministers from the Senegalese government saw our True Mother standing onstage on the day of True Parents' birthday and everybody was applauding, everybody was loving our Mother. Mother was standing in front of all of us and Minister Diouf came and said, Who is she? Who is this woman that everybody loves so much? Please, I need to know what is going on here. I need to understand.

Minister Diouf took us to meet Sheikh Mansour Diouf and Sheikh Mansour Diouf is a righteous man. Through Mansour Diouf, we were able to advance the providence in Senegal. We were able to meet President Macky Sall. We were able to break down the opposition one by one as it came upon us and we were able to move forward because of one righteous man, just as our True Mother had said. So we just have to look for righteous men all over the world who are waiting for us to come and to make much bigger victories than the victory that was won in Senegal.


The last thing that I learned from our True Mother was to follow up. In other words, we cannot sit here and think, Oh, what a great victory we had, but we have to think of everything that needs to be done from this moment forward. Mother doesn't want to sit round and think, Gee that was such a great victory, wasn't it?

Mother is thinking about tomorrow and beyond tomorrow. What to do with Sheikh Mansour? How to go forward, how to educate Macky Sall and how to bring this result in many lands across Africa? She doesn't sit and gloat in the victory of this event; rather Mother is thinking about how we can keep on running faster than we do now. To go forward until we can finally restore this world is what our Mother is thinking about. That's what she's feeling.

An invitation

I learned a lot during this time. I also saw the transformation of very important people, like Chief Mandela. There was a survey taken by one newspaper, worldwide—I think it was an American paper—that tried to find out who is the most beloved person in the world in recent times. Their survey came to the conclusion that it was Nelson Mandela. He's loved by all the world. He's loved deeply in Africa, but the world loves Nelson Mandela. To this summit came the grandson of Nelson Mandela. He's the inheritor; there are no other men above him. He's the one who inherits directly from Nelson Mandela.

Right after he came, the first thing he did was to put out a press release to the South African Press about True Mother's speech at the opening plenary session. Later, he said, Kathy, please come to South Africa. Please bring Mother Moon to South Africa. The home that Nelson Mandela was born in and the place where he is buried today is in the Mandela Kingdom. That Mandela Kingdom is for you. Please tell Mother Moon she can do as she likes in the Mandela Kingdom and we support her with everything we have behind her. I believe that through the Mandela Kingdom and the support and love that people have for Nelson Mandela, our True Mother can emerge as the True Mother in a very real sense in all of Africa.

The stories are endless. I could talk all day long, but I shouldn't do that. I am just so grateful to our beloved Mother, who puts her life on the line at every moment of every day. Wherever she is, she does everything so meticulously, it's so well thought out, so well planned out—perfectly in order, not to bring glory to her as a human being but to bring glory to Heaven, to bring glory to True Parents, to bring glory to God's only daughter, who is sitting right here in front of us. I don't know if we can ever thank God enough. Thank you so much our True Mother. We love you with all of our hearts. 

Kathy Rigney is the president of UPF-Africa.

The Eye of the Storm

Conference work during Africa Summit 2018

This is a transcript of a presentation at Africa Summit 2018 on January 20. It was given from a podium on the side of a stage that True Mother was at the center of, seated on a sofa. Various dignitaries and many young volunteers were in the audience.

By Thomas Walsh

Good morning, brothers and sisters. This is the morning of a true victory celebration, not just in name alone, but what we have been participating in is more than a church gathering or some denominational group; this is a world shaking, world transforming moment in history centering on our Heavenly Parent and our True Mother. The new Africa! It is amazing that we've heard True Mother, True Parents, talk and often guide us about the history of God's providence, the Creation, the Fall and restoration, the movement of civilizations as God works to realize the ultimate ideal through ancient civilizations on through the development of the Christian and Atlantic civilization and then the move to the Pacific civilization. But when I heard True Mother speak on this stage here, for the first time for me, within that grand, providential narrative of God's work through history, we see clearly the role of Africa. The highway of providential history has come to Africa at a critical moment so that God's providential power and energy is present here. Beginning with our True Mother's presence, Africa will be renewed and reborn.

They say a day is like a thousand years. I kept feeling each day was truly like a thousand years. It was a whirlwind in a hurricane, but in the midst of this whirlwind and this hurricane, there was a certain eye or center point, where somehow God worked. The program of this Africa Summit was truly blessed by God.

True Mother's arrival

True Mother was welcomed like a head of state at a private airport, with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs sending a delegation. The next day, True Mother had a private meeting in the Presidential Palace with President Macky Sall. True Mother does not engage in, let's say, ordinary chit chat, but just speaks directly the truth and speaks in a way that is not in the evangelical fervor style. It is just clear, and straight and firm and in some ways simple and yet contains these nuggets of golden, diamond-like truths that are on the one hand somewhat shocking but delivered so gracefully.

The president listened for thirty or forty minutes and responded so graciously and warmly. You all saw the opening plenary the next morning; it was truly magnificent on this stage. About this venue, we felt, Rev. Camara, Mrs. Rigney, we felt almost as if this venue and this Radisson Hotel and the road here from the airport—and the airport itself—[He laughs] were created for our True Mother's visit. Truly amazing!

True Mother's message was the highlight and throughout the remainder of the conference, every speaker that got up paid respect, of course, to President Macky Sall, of course, to [ex-] Prime Minister



Niasse but to Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, to our True Mother and to her message, again and again and again from every speaker.

Essential conference efforts

This was not a conference of just theoretical ideas. This was a conference of action. We covered a lot of ground in a short time. We had programs that addressed the New Village Movement (the *Sae Maul* movement) from Korea. We had Sakena Yacoobi, a laureate of the Sun Hak Peace Prize who developed schools in Afghanistan for women and girls, speaking as a Sun Hak Peace Prize laureate and a moving video about the Sun Hak Peace Prize that introduced her. We had a representative of the International Conference on the Unity of the Sciences talking about Climate Change and how to address the impact of changing climate realities and their effect on air quality, water quality and food security. These issues are increasingly effecting humanity. We had speakers talking about the International Peace Highway, this concept that True Parents have been promoting since 1981 of an international network, a global Silk Road, not just for trade or commerce but for bringing the whole human family together as one family under God.

We had speakers talking about Hyo Jeong Education and Dr. Kittell's Character Education program. We had the IAPP meeting centering on the president of the National Assembly, who took direct responsibility for the IAPP session. Right, Sheikh Mansour? We sat in his office with Sheikh Mansour Diouf. Please stand up and be recognized. This is the man who led the Steering Committee and as you know, when you work for God with all your heart and soul and you work for True Parents, it's the greatest blessing in the world, but also we meet challenges. Sheikh Mansour also had to navigate, very, very carefully, so many dynamics involved to make this possible, working with all sectors of society. He's a brilliant man of God but also a brilliant navigator of the complex territory of life and reality as we seek to build the kingdom of God on earth. Sheikh Mansour Diouf!

Partnerships form

We had a session with religious leaders. True Mother, Archbishop Ndanga spoke. He got up there and he started teaching, the Creation, the Fall, Restoration. He taught about the Fall and the four fallen natures that resulted. It was just straight from the Divine Principle. He was like True Father at the blackboard teaching God's word. We had to cut it short for his session; everybody had only about five minutes to speak and everybody wanted to speak. Archbishop Ndanga, Thank you. You really




True Mother speaking at the victory celebration in Senegal. "World Summit" is a reserved title, but World Summit Africa is how Koreans refer to the event, a milestone in the providential history of Africa.

brought God's word to this conference. We also had a breakfast meeting with about fifty government ministers, representatives of nations, particularly from Education and Agriculture Ministries. When True Mother asked through the international headquarters for us to create MOUs to sign at that breakfast, we thought, We'll try but you know it's not an easy thing to ask government ministers to sign MOUs on the spot. They will say politely and carefully, Well, I'll take this back to our country and we'll discuss it and let you know.

I think out of that breakfast we came away with fifty MOUs. These are partnerships. We also distributed the International Peace Highway MOU, but we had to do it late in the day and I don't yet have the results. I believe we will find we had many MOUs related to Peace Road development.

This was a magnificent conference. I wish I could cover it more. I wish I could show you the pictures. I would just say to all of you, and to our young brothers and sisters here, that you are part of the most exciting, the most challenging, the most powerful, world-transforming movement that the world has seen. And who do we behold here on this stage? She is leading us forward in a most mighty and powerful way.

We are much bigger than we seem at times and this was one taste of that. From this Africa Summit—and I think the leaders can testify—every spare moment, people were coming to me, to Mrs. Rigney, to Sheikh Mansour Diouf, to Rev. Camara—asking, How can we do this in our country? We need to develop IAPP in our country. We need to develop the religious leaders, the chiefs association, Hyo Jeong Education, Peace Road and on and on—the New Village Movement, coffee farming. All of this potential is there. So we need all of you and a hundred times more from each of you to take positions that develop as we are multiplying in these different areas.

The last thing I want to say is these are not just separate pieces. Even, you could see, the Little Angels were brought here. This is all part of Heaven's way, Heaven's strategy, Heaven's principle. The Peace Highway, Peace Road, bringing the world together on a macrocosmic level so that we are all interconnected from the tribal messiahship and the Interfaith Blessing, these are all part of one integrated, holistic, comprehensive system and the pieces and parts are coming together in a sphere of peace that centers on our True Mother at this time while she is alive and on earth. We will devote ourselves and we will change Senegal, Africa and the world. 

Dr. Walsh is the international president of the Universal Peace Federation.

Beautifying the Environment

An interview of a tribal messiah victor



Above: The writer with couples from villages in the Nong-ku Sub-District that came to the Blessing Ceremony.
Below: Rev. Kamol Thananopavarn, national leader of Thailand, and his wife, Mrs. Huang Shu-Chiung, offer the Blessing Prayer in their capacity as officiators and True Parents' representatives.



Please introduce yourself.

My name is Somsak Ngamdee. I am the assistant manager of the Environmental Hygiene Team, in the Facilities Management Department of Cheon Jeong Gung. I was born in 1975. My wife's name is Auschariya Keokrasem. She is also from Thailand. She was born a year earlier than I. I joined the Unification Church in March 1994. We received the Blessing among the 360,000-couple group on August 25, 1995, in Seoul's Olympic Stadium. From that year until 1998, I studied agriculture at Ratchapat Nakhon Pathom University in the Faculty of Science in Thailand.

What motivated you to bless 430 couples?

I was always thinking about and reminded of True Mother's goal for each person to witness to 430 couples and guide them to receive the Holy Marriage Blessing. Every year, I would set a goal to do heavenly tribal messiah work, but I had no chance to do it. I thought a lot about when I might have the opportunity and about our financial circumstances.

In December, I heard a speech by Dr. Young-ho Yun, deputy chief of True Mother's Secretariat, about True Mother's hard work for Vision 2020. He also spoke about the work



The writer with his spiritual mother, Mrs. Sangkom Netsopa

of tribal messiahs. Hearing him speak about tribal messiah work helped me have a strong mind and I began planning to do the heavenly tribal messiah mission. I felt the time was right; this was a very good chance for me to bring victory as a tribal messiah.

I felt determined and I went to pray in front of True Father's grave, "Father, I am so sorry because I couldn't break through my self to do the heavenly tribal messiah mission, but I am ready now to do it. Please come with me. I will return to Thailand. Before 2017 ends, I want to bring 430 couples and offer victory in the heavenly tribal messiah mission to you."

When I prayed at that time, I received more confidence and much energy. After that, I went to Jeongshimwon [the Cheongpyeong prayer hall] to pray and ask Heung Jin nim, Hyo Jin nim and Dae Mo nim and 210 generations of my ancestors to help me. I wrote a prayer wish paper for the success of the heavenly tribal messiah mission to bring in 430 couples. Then, too, I received much energy and increased confidence. I made a plan to spend a week in Thailand to do the heavenly tribal messiah mission work.

How did you do it?

First, I formed a trinity with my spiritual mother, Mrs. Sangkom Netsopa, and my spiritual



Blind Mr. Ken (79) followed his deceased wife's voice to the Blessing site.

brother, Mr. Ronnachit Phutthala, and we did a special prayer and worship condition to unite and to gain support for the heavenly tribal messiah mission. I asked my spiritual mother to help me and asked her how I should go about it. She guided me to contact the church in Nong-ku Sub-District within the Nadoo District, in Mahasarakham Province, which is in northeastern Thailand, and ask them to plan an Interfaith Peace Family Blessing. I stayed in contact with her through the message services MSN and Line.

Mr. Ronnachit Phutthala also provided support. He met the leader of the sub-district to set up the Interfaith Peace Family Blessing. I had only a week to visit Thailand, from December 21–27. At first, we had planned to hold the ceremony on December 25, but they had another event that week, so we ended up scheduling it for December 23. We had only a short time to prepare everything. Another FFWPU center also supported me; with their help, we were able to prepare everything by December 22. The next day was the Interfaith Peace Blessing Ceremony, to which 482 couples came to receive the blessing. Some came with a photograph of their spouse, so 732 physical people participated in the Blessing Ceremony that day.



Many people received the blessing with a photograph of their spouse.

Did you bless your relatives or others?

Actually, in December 2006, in my hometown, which is in Nakhonpathom Province, I had my wedding ceremony. I invited all my relatives to come to congratulate us at that time. So I asked the Family Department of the Thai national headquarters and the national leader, who was then Dr. Lek Thaveetermsakul, to do tribal messiah work and give the blessing to all of them. To the more than seven hundred people that attended, we announced who True Parents are, the meaning of the blessing and how important the blessing is. All of them drank holy wine.

How is it that you and your wife came to Korea?

I got a scholarship from our headquarters in Thailand to come to study the Korean language at Sun Moon University for two years. My wife was a missionary in the United States. After she finished, she moved to Korea and we studied the Korean language together. After finishing the two-year Korean class, we entered the Cheongshim School of Theology, where we earned master's degrees in True Parents Studies. After we graduated, we began working at Cheon Jeong Gung.

Thailand's national flower is the orchid. Can you grow them



The blessing group photograph: A Buddhist, a Muslim and a Christian leader, all seated in the front row, had prayed for the couples.

around Cheon Jeong Gung?

The orchid is the most popular flower in Thailand. In my hometown, many people plant orchids. I love orchids. I am glad to see and care for orchids in Cheon Jeong Gung. In Korea orchids can only grow inside a building because the temperature and environment is not the same here as in Thailand, so in Cheon Jeong Gung we plant potted orchids indoors.

In Cheon Jeong Gung, I have planted many types of flowers; I try to learn which ones True Mother likes or is familiar with so we can find and plant in them here to offer love and happiness to her.

How did you feel when True Mother addressed 12,000 people in Impact Arena in Bangkok in 2017?

At that time, I deeply thanked Heavenly Parent and True Parents for giving me an opportunity to go to Thailand to welcome True Mother. I know that all Thai members made a long condition (*jeonseong* in Korean) and they were waiting to experience True Parents' visit to Thailand like sons and daughters longing to see their parents. For a long time before that, we were so sad because we could not welcome our True Parents to Thailand because of a court case. For the sake of all our members, Dr. Thaveetermsakul and his wife and six other members had gone to

prison [June 1991–March 1993].

The first time we heard that True Mother would go to Thailand, I was very happy, in tears. Even when I only imagined True Mother being in Thailand, I could not stop crying. I cried and cried and I was happy to be there at that time and to help welcome True Mother. Thanks to Heavenly Parent, True Parents visited Thailand and gave a great blessing and liberation to Thailand in preparation for Cheon Il Guk.

Was it easy to get permission to go to Thailand to fulfill your mission?


I often go to pray at True Father's grave [named *Bonhyangwon*, roughly meaning "original homeland"] and every time, I feel True Father is there. Every time I pray there, taking care of the environment around the site makes me very happy—I plant a flower to make a beautiful, good environment to serve Heavenly Parent and True Parents. I always try to do my best, but one thing I was sorry about was that I had been unable to fulfill my responsibility by accomplishing the heavenly tribal messiah mission.

I asked True Father to guide me in how I can do that mission, and to come with me when I return to Thailand, because I wanted to fulfill my responsibility and offer victory to Heavenly Parent and True Parents

before the end of 2017. I also often pray for my trinity, so we together can have a great victory in the heavenly tribal messiah mission in Thailand.

I was confident about getting permission because True Mother says everybody—not should, but must—do this mission, not only me but all of us. During this time, I made effort and many times spoke about the heavenly tribal messiah mission with my team, and our team leader helped them understand my determination to do this. I made a plan and a schedule and wrote it out on paper for my team leader—what, why, when, where and how—and asked permission. My leader submitted a written report to Dr. Yun, who approved it.

Tell us about the spiritual phenomena that took place when you were giving the Blessing

Mr. Ken, a blind, seventy-nine-year-old man, walked about eight kilometers to attend the Blessing Ceremony. He said his wife called him from the spirit world to wait at the site where we held the blessing. Even though he cannot see, he followed her voice all the way to the blessing place. 

Laurent Ladouce, who works with PeaceTv and True Peace magazine, conducted this interview.

Family Festival for a Culture of Peace

Barcelona, Spain, December 10, 2017

By Maryvonne Jamois



A photograph with the regional president, his wife, newly blessed couples members and guests

For a few months, we had been preparing a blessing event with the Thai community in Barcelona. We have three Thai sisters, Mai, Kanyapat and Darune, in Barcelona and one, Chatiboot, in Andorra. As Chatiboot spent time in Thailand recently, she was inspired to do something in Barcelona, so we began to work together as a team with the Barcelona community. Kanyapat and Mai, who were already in contact with the Thai Association in Barcelona, began to look for some support. They contacted a monk from Norway, Phra Benjamin sae-Tia, whom the Thai Association already knows, and the event was set for December 10. Our place was too small, so we looked for a hotel or another place to rent. We eventually found a nice, large room for a reasonable price. We worked on the invitation, began to contact people and to prepare so that the event could be attractive for Thai people and others.

A few days before the event, the Thai Embassy in Madrid also supported us by putting our invitation on their web site. The ambassador could not come but she said she would send a representative from the embassy.

On Friday a team came from Madrid to bring the beautiful banner made by Armando, to help us and to support the event. On Saturday, within a few hours we were able to transform the room. Jose Manuel prepared a beautiful decor.

The expectation was great on Sunday morning; gradually guests were arriving. Around fifty guests came. Eighteen couples received the Blessing.

Altogether, including members, the event attracted almost a hundred people. At the entrance, the couples were invited to have a beautiful picture taken near a heart of flowers prepared by Jose Manuel and Antonio.

The program had two parts. After welcoming remarks by me, we had a presentation by Manuel Campillo, titled, "The Family is the School of Love." After a coffee break, we began the second part.


The monk guided everybody in meditation and gave his blessing for this ceremony. It was followed by Holy Wine, the sprinkling of Holy Water and a Blessing prayer.

Manuel, as the master of ceremonies did his best to create a nice atmosphere and conducted the ceremony of forgiveness and invited all couples to make a new beginning. They all embraced as couples in a very loving way. We then invited a Thai singer who delighted us with a Spanish song and a Thai song. Words of congratulations were given first by Giuseppe Cali, president of FFWPU for South Europe followed by some words from Mr. Bancha Yuenyongchongcharoen, the representative of the Embassy of Thailand, who received a certificate of appreciation for the ambassador for her support to the event.

One of our Thai sisters posted pictures on Facebook and the people who participated thanked us for inviting them and for organizing the event. It had been a wonderful day and some people who did not participate are interested in participating next time.

True Mother said recently, "What is God's dream? It is one human family. If you cannot perfect your family, you cannot go to Heaven. The Family Federation is a religion of True Parentism." God's love embraces everybody beyond our differences. To bless people is to help them feel and experience God's embrace and see that we are all members of the same family. When all our guests left, we gathered with Dr. Michael and Fumiko Balcomb. He asked everybody to express very quickly some impressions of the day. It was an emotive moment as many members were deeply thankful and impressed by this event and this gave them a lot of hope to do much more in the future.

The key to this event's success was the cooperation and unity of all brothers and sisters from the Barcelona community, the Madrid community and the Andorra community; everybody is needed in his or her own area, and we need each other so much.

I want to express my gratitude to all brothers and sisters, especially our Thai sisters and Hector and Dulce, city leaders in Barcelona, who worked very hard in the past weeks. Thank you also to Dr. Michael and Fumiko Balcomb (chairman of Europe, the Middle East and Eurasia) who took time despite their busy schedules to come to Barcelona and give us their support, and to Giuseppe Cali, regional president of South Europe. 

Rev. Jamois is the national leader of FFWPU-Spain.

UPF Austria Assesses and Moves Ahead

By Peter Haider

The Austrian chapter of UPF organized a meeting of ambassadors for peace in order to reflect on the events of the past year, and set a direction for 2018. Almost a hundred guests came to the December 9 event. The focus was on reports about the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development (IAPD), which has been founded in Seoul, Korea, recently, and on events connected to the founding of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP). Peter Haider, reminisced about the UPF conference at the United Nations on the theme of Interfaith Harmony Week, which was at the same time the founding conference of IAPP in Austria. All political parties of the Austrian government sent speakers to that conference, with altogether around two hundred attending, including numerous leaders of society.

An engineer, Abdalla Sharief, reported about the activities of the "Horn of Africa Peace Initiative." In one of their events, they introduced the nation of South Sudan; another conference was held about Eritrea's capital Asmara, which had gained the status of a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site; rounding out with a third conference, held on the topic of refugees and migration.

Ulrich Haider reported about Peace Road Austria 2017, which UPF organized in the district of Upper Austria.



Two new ambassadors for peace with Dr. Walther Lichem, a former Austrian ambassador to Chile, Canada and elsewhere, the writer and Mr. Abdalla Sharief, an engineer and past president of the Horn of Africa News Agency

Participating cyclists covered a distance of thirty kilometers. Their destination was the so-called "peace bridge," an actual bridge that young Palestinians and Israelis had built as a Service for Peace project, which a second-generation Austrian member and his family had organized. Several mayors from the area had participated in that project, which attracted media coverage from local newspapers.

Dr. Walther Lichem reviewed a UPF conference in Pristina, Kosovo; Mrs. Elisabeth Brandner followed with a report about the founding of Parliamentarians for Peace in Ljubljana, Slovenia, which she had participated in. Elisabeth, belonging to the Croatian minority in Austria herself, had been a missionary to Slovenia during the time of communist Yugoslavia, and has since maintained good relationships with people in Slovenia and Croatia.

Marlies Haider, representing Youth

UPF, reported about an event at Vienna University, which they had organized in early summer this year, on the topic, "Populism, Integration and the Future of Europe." More than sixty people had attended, many of them university students. Among the four speakers was a Syrian professor who is running programs for better integration of young foreigners in Vienna. Many of his students also attended that event.

With a performance of the Bosnian women's choir "Mimosas," the program officially concluded. Guests subsequently indulged in tasting Bosnian specialties and Christmas cookies, which gave them the opportunity to get to know one another and to deepen existing relationships. We all felt that 2017 was a very fruitful year, filled with Heavenly Parent's blessings and protection. *PH*

Peter Haider is the president of UPF in Austria.

Because I Wish Happiness for Everyone, I Shall Convey the Teaching of the Divine Principle

The article, which originally appeared in World Family includes the Japanese church practice of shosha, writing out a selection from True Parents' teachings.

By Yuka Totsuka

Mrs. Yuka Totsuka (center) enjoying tea with members she is close to after doing calligraphy in the Shosha Hall.



I have always wanted to build a loving home. I want to become happy, but somehow, I was suffering a series of sorrows. Five years into my marriage, I did not realize I had grown demanding toward my husband. We conversed less and we were growing apart in our relationship. On the one hand, I reckoned that I could not expect much from life, but then again, I also wanted to believe that there must be a way to become happy.

A year and a half ago, I learned the Divine Principle for the first time. Since then, I have learned about true love, about the role of a wife and about how I should serve my husband. Although I had never thought that I was the one to blame, through the *shosha* activity, I learned to reflect upon myself. I started practicing what I learned, such as thanking and comforting my husband when he came back from work and serving him with love. Gradually, we began to communicate more and go out together. This gave me a firm belief that the Family Federation is the only way for individual and family salvation. Its teachings are 100 percent correct and we cannot become happy without knowing them.

I was born the second of four daughters. When I met and talked with my sisters in August last year, I


realized that all of them were having difficulties in marriage and parenting. Since I had firm conviction that things will change through *shosha*, I recommended that they practice *shosha*. All of my sisters started *shosha* with their husbands last September and have practiced it almost every day. In imitation of their parents, their children also practice *shosha* diligently. I kept their writings and offered them at the monthly dedication ceremony on their behalf.

A while later, I wanted to invite my younger sister, who lives in Saitama, to visit but I hesitated to call her because it would take an hour and a half each way by train from Saitama to Takasaki. I found the courage to invite her to a Hyojeong Celebration, supposing it would be easier for her to participate if it was a single-day event. Each church in our Gunma District held a Hyojeong Celebration to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of True Parents' visit to Gunma; these were also one of their efforts to create a foundation for a ten-thousand-person rally in Gunma. The Takasaki Family Church held its Hyojeong Celebration July 16–17 with an opening service, cultural entertainment and a *shosha* dedication ceremony. Many families came and enjoyed the event. My younger sister enjoyed it with her seven family members.

Since I wanted her to learn True Parents' teachings in the future, I first contacted her to say, "How about offering your calligraphic writing at the Shosha Hall?" Since it has been more than ten months since she started practicing *shosha*, she readily agreed to follow my suggestion.

After the dedication ceremony, I went to the *shosha* café with my sister and members I am close to for tea. Usually, my sister is too busy with parenting, work and housework and does not even have the time to complain. However, that day, she opened her heart and told us about her problems at home. This gave me a chance to discover an unknown side of her.

When I said, "They will teach you what you must do to become happy here. Let's study together!" she said willingly, "I will! I will come and study once every week." That was how she decided to take the Divine Principle course.

I shall unite with Rev. Gyeong-seong Nam, the Gunma District leader, so we will be able to invite True Mother to Gunma by 2020 and return joy to Heavenly Parent and True Parents. 

A Guest Who Was Antagonistic toward the Family Federation Changed through Family Gatherings

This article, in which some names are pseudonyms, originally appeared in World Family, a publication of FFWPU-Japan, and is used here with permission.

By Yuka Sawaki

Mrs. Yuka Totsuka (center) enjoying tea with members she is close to after doing calligraphy in the Shosha Hall.

In response to the emphasis on family gatherings of the then chairman of the Japanese Blessed Family Associations, Rev. Song Yong-cheon, the leader of the seventh district, Rev. Yoshifumi Gotoda, and the Inuyama Family Church Pastor Akihiro Nakamura are pouring their energy into family gatherings. Although there is still a long way for us to go, I would like to introduce a testimony that arose during our attempts.

Ms. Hashimoto (in her fifties) is a guest who has been taking part in the Inuyama Historical Sites Tour Club, which the Inuyama Family Church has hosted for almost three years. Because she has participated in almost every site tour, held every two months, she is more like a staff member than a guest, and the friends she has invited to the club have already become regular members. Her spiritual mother, Mrs. Mizuki (in her fifties) has invited her to various events such as shosha activities and Divine Principle lectures, but the tour club was the only activity Ms. Hashimoto participated in.

It seemed as if she did not feel resistance against coming to the church for the tour club. She would often say, "I'm not a church member, but I like this place." However, Mrs. Mizuki was in dilemma because Ms.

Hashimoto strongly rejected her suggestions to study True Parents' teachings.

One day, Mrs. Mizuki suddenly fell victim to a serious disease. Mrs. Mizuki was a very devoted member and a leader of the Cheon Il Guk Witnessing Revival Team. Therefore, all staff members including the representative of the Women's Association decided firmly to connect Ms. Hashimoto to the church and made an appointment with her. We visited her house and appealed in tears, "Let's do shosha together. It is also Mrs. Mizuki's wish." Then, Ms. Hashimoto said, "Mrs. Mizuki has done a lot for me. Let me at least do shosha for her." This was how she started to take part in "Review Shosha Club" held in our church.

One day, on our way home from a historical site tour, Ms. Hashimoto said, "Mrs. Mizuki used to take me to family gatherings before, but I cannot go anymore because she's not here." She also said, "I feel resistance against joining a religion surrounded by bad rumors." However, she told me that she was interested in the good stories she heard at family gatherings. She said, "I tend to be cautious; I don't want to be rushed."

In response to this, the members of the area planned to hold a family gathering right away. Ms. Hashimoto



was pleased to participate, and even promised to take part in future gatherings. I think a large part of this was due to devotion offered by Ms. Hashimoto's spiritual mother, Mrs. Mizuki, but I was also reminded of the benefits of the family gathering. At a family gathering, we can testify about True Parents through light informal conversation and the guests can listen to such conversations in a very natural way. It seems as if Ms. Hashimoto is getting less influenced by rumors and less hesitant toward the Family Federation every time she takes part in a family gathering. She is also taking part in shosha activities now and is moving forward at her own pace. I feel that the scope of witnessing has expanded through the family gathering. 

Mrs. Sawaki is director of witnessing and education for the Inuyama Family Church in the North Aichi District.

True Parents Who Love Me As “My” Parents

This article, by a CARP member, originally appeared in the December 2017 issue of World Family, a publication of FFWPU-Japan in a series covering second-generation members in CARP-Japan.

By Ikumi Shinohara

My parents were blessed among the 6,500-couple blessing group. I was born and raised in Hyogo as the second oldest of four children. I have always loved my family and have cherished the time spent with them more than the time spent in school or with my friends. Since I deeply respected my parents, who lived devotedly for the providence and our family, I have a firm conviction that whatever they say is 100 percent correct. Therefore, I never harbored doubts about the church, and I participated actively in it. However, I did not quite understand about God or the Divine Principle, which my parents believed in.

When I went on to college, I failed the entrance examination for the national college I had hoped to enter and ended up going to a private college. This made me feel apologetic toward my parents for having put great financial pressure on them. Even after I entered college, I felt sorry each time I thought about it and lost all my confidence.

In my first year, I started attending Kobe CARP because one of my older friends in the community invited me. While hoping for a chance to regain my confidence, I heard about a forty-day intermediate summer workshop and decided to take part in it.



Ms. Shinohara with her brothers and parents



CARP members deepen their relationships through a "Girls' Club." Ms. Shinohara is at the far left.

Arriving at a decision

After about ten days of the workshop had passed, I received a letter from my parents. Instead of reading it right away, I decided to read it when I felt as if I had reached my limit during the workshop. This happened on the morning of the last day of door-to-door faith training, when half of the workshop was over. I wanted to give up on everything because I was not able to produce good enough results no matter how hard I tried.

In the letter, my parents said that they loved me no matter what and that they were always praying for my happiness. I felt my parents' tremendous love as I read it. Ever since I failed the entrance exam, I felt sorry toward my parents for my being unfilial. However, they have always simply loved me no matter what.

Moreover, extreme joy filled my heart when I realized that God, who is our Heavenly Parent, has also wanted to make me happy. With that, the desire to return beauty for the love I received from God welled up within me. That day, thanks to spiritual guidance, I was able to reach a record.

When I was able to realize God's love for me, I started to think, "I want to know more about God throughout my life. I want to become a filial daughter to God and my parents by showing them my growth." That is why I decided to join Kobe CARP after the workshop.

Great love came to me through my relationship with True Parents

Gradually, I came to know God's love through my life of faith and CARP activities but I was not able to connect "me" with True Parents. Although I understood that True Parents were great figures, I could not find any connection between True Parents and me.


During the spring workshop, I had a counseling session with the group leader. I spoke openly and said, "I cannot feel True Parents' love for me." I used to think it was wrong or embarrassing for someone in the second-generation to think like that, but my group leader embraced my concern. She simply said, "True Parents' love for you is the same as your parents' love for you."

In that moment, the wall between True Parents and me broke down. I had never before thought of True Parents as my parents, but the group leader's statement instantly reduced the distance between True Parents and me. Realizing that True Parents' great love was actually very close and familiar moved me to tears. It gave me a firm conviction that True Parents were not just great figures, but were "my" parents. After that, I was able to experience numerous encounters with True Parents through the faith training. Every encounter inspired me, and my parent-child relationship with God and True Parents grew stronger and deeper each time I experienced their presence.

The autumn workshop I attended in my junior year of college changed my life. I participated with the mind of staking my life on it, because I wanted to face my life seriously and determine my course centering on the Divine Principle. When I was listening to the lecture on True Father's life course, I felt my heart shouting out, "I want to sacrifice myself for something precious like True Father did!"

Seeing the way forward

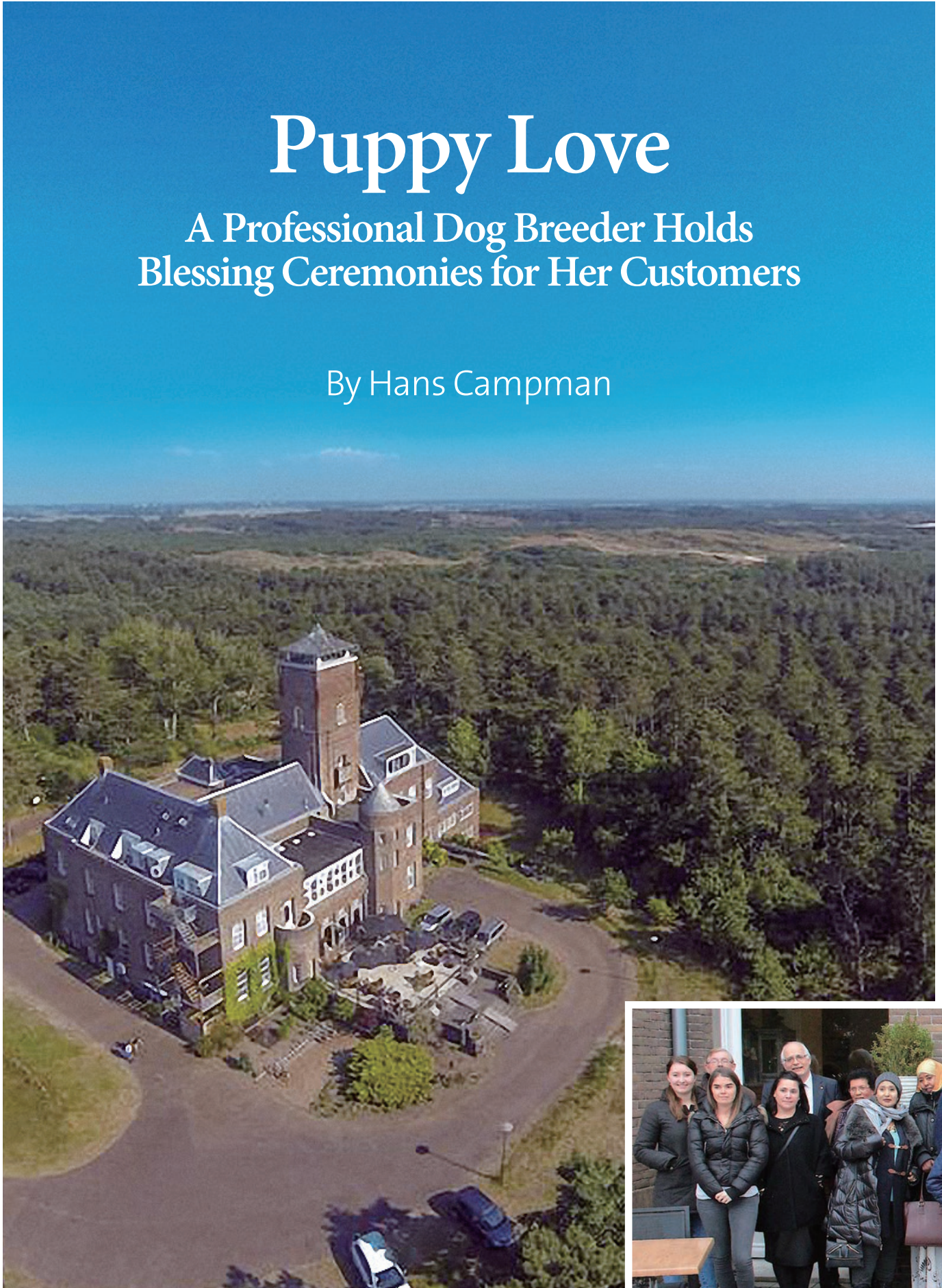
I realized what God's wish was for me through the forty-minute prayer I offered every day during the workshop. True Father's dream was to realize God's ideal world and he sacrificed his entire life in order to fulfill it. However, in reality, this dream has not yet come true on earth. I felt that because True Father no longer has a physical body, he would want to work on earth to carry on the providence through someone else's body and that he might be trusting in me. At that moment, I thought, from the bottom of my heart, "True Parents gave me my life. I want to live for them. I want to offer my life to realize their dream." That is when I decided to live devotedly for the providence.

Although there are many difficulties in carrying on a life of faith, I can also gain great joy through it. I would like to keep pursuing the way of the providence cheerfully in order to convey this inspiration to the people around me. 

Puppy Love

A Professional Dog Breeder Holds
Blessing Ceremonies for Her Customers

By Hans Campman



One blessed sister, in her early seventies, Mrs. Olga Hammett, has developed a special way to invite people to a Blessing Ceremony. Olga breeds dogs, golden retrievers. She sells the puppies to dog lovers, mostly to couples. In the weeks before buying a dog, clients usually visit Olga at her home once or twice to see the dogs. Olga will have a conversation with them and makes them an offer. She suggests that all the couples gather at one place on a certain date, so that they can all receive their dogs together. Olga explains to them that there is a vision behind the selling of the puppies, which is to promote good marriages and good families. Loving families are a benefit not only for parents and children, but for their pets as well. Puppies, just like people, want to dwell where there is real love. Olga asks her guests to attend a ceremony that promotes fidelity in marriage and harmony in the family. Good marriages and families benefit humankind, nature and all creatures that abide in nature.

In this way, she has held several Blessing Ceremonies in the past ten years. The program she conducts has four parts: first, there is an explanation of the meaning of the Blessing. Next, there is a Holy Nectar Ceremony. The Holy Water Ceremony comes next and recitation of the Blessing Vows concludes the ceremony. She usually holds the ceremony in her own home. Sometimes seven couples, sometimes nine and once twelve couples came.

The possibility arose to hold the ceremony in Glory House, a century-old guesthouse and national mon-

ument that we initially used as a center for interreligious conferences, but which is now a working guest-house. It is at Bergen aan Zee (Hills by the Sea) and is in fact on a hill near the North Sea. Derk van Dorsten, who is the caretaker of the venue, had discussed preparations in detail with Olga. One Saturday afternoon, the event took place. Indeed, there was a good turnout. Ten couples came, as well as four "singles" (people who came without their married partner) and a number of children. We held the program in the so-called sun-room, from where there is a nice view of the sea. Olga offered warm words of welcome. I gave an explanation on the meaning of the Blessing. I emphasized why it is so important that a new Blessing from God be bestowed on marriages of true love and fidelity.

Our guests participated with enthusiasm. All attendants drank the Holy Nectar, following the example of the representative couple, Derk and Gerdien van Dorsten. Then they confirmed the "Blessing Vows" (three in number) with a clear "yes." There was a very pleasant, harmonious atmosphere, which is probably due to various factors: The event had a spontaneous character; however, it was well organized. Olga's own children assisted her. Son Remi took photographs, and daughter Chantal and granddaughter Melissa helped with the distribution of Holy Nectar. They had offered coffee, tea, soft drinks and delicious cake to the people as soon as they arrived.

When it was all over, the dog owners sent many nice reactions to Olga. People had enjoyed the program a lot;

they gave particularly nice feedback about the musical performance of our sister Eleanor, who performed two medleys of Gospel songs. Another factor that helped make the event a success was that Olga had spoken to the people beforehand, so that they were well informed about the meaning of the ceremony. She had prepared them well for the ceremony and for a more-in-depth explanation. Additionally, people appreciated the warm, kind, relaxed atmosphere in Glory House. This special feeling can be seen as a result of the great effort which brothers and sisters have invested into the place in past years. External details were also appreciated, the beautiful interior of the house, the terrace and the beautiful view.

After the ceremony, the new owners received their puppies, couple by couple. These dog lovers were of course happy to receive their little dog, but this gladness had gained a deeper dimension based on the preceding program. Everything concluded with a group photograph on the terrace. A few other people participated, besides the group of puppy owners. Eleanor Klerkx had brought two women from a Muslim background. They appreciated the vision behind the ceremony, the notion that a marriage of fidelity is connected to God's will.

A young man and woman who have been long-standing members of our movement, received the blessing at this event. The sister is from Taiwan, the brother from Brazil. They had both stayed in Korea for several years for a mission. They intend to move to Taiwan to live there. They were happy to have their Blessing Ceremony with us in the Netherlands.

We congratulate our sister Olga for this success. At her advanced age, she has found a unique way to put her talents and passion at the service of Heavenly Parent and True Parents. In passing on the Blessing to people in this way, she reaches a particular audience. Perhaps, people with a heart for pets are slightly more open to embrace family values than are others. The next challenge, of course, is setting up a way to educate the people further. *TP*

To her customers, Mrs. Olga Hammett (center) explains the benefits of the Blessing in relation to her profession. In this way, she has been able to bless several groups of them.



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