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SPECIAL ON TRUE PARENTS

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Advancing Forward in 2024: Embracing Change and Progress

By Song Yong-cheon, President of FFWPU International



Warm greetings, respected Cheon Il Guk leaders and beloved family members. May the Blue Dragon's energy in 2024 inspire the realization of new dreams and objectives for our respected Cheon Il Guk leaders and our beloved blessed families.

On May 7, 2023, True Mother conducted the dedication ceremony for the 'Cheon Won Gung Cheon Il Sanctum' during her 80th birthday celebration. Subsequently, on May 9, she launched a new era with significant organizational restructuring and personnel changes, heralding a fresh chapter for the Family Federation. Moreover, True Mother established the International Headquarters along with the First and Second Secretariat

Offices, aiming to unite the dispersed Family Federation organizations worldwide and foster synergy.

During this time, the International Headquarters unveiled seven policies for an innovative leap in 2023. I wish to highlight three key policies:

The first is about the, "world tour for strategic assessment and planning". Following True Mother's guidance, the International Headquarters embarked on a tour of 12 countries across five continents over three months, starting with Heavenly Europe. This journey allowed us to visit providential sites globally, listen to urgent field reports, and engage in open-hearted strategic dialogues. These efforts have deepened our heartistic connections and led to the implementation of 'continuous communication and sharing,' as promised during the world tour. This includes monthly continental conferences and one-on-one meetings with the national leaders from 161 nations.

The second policy is "re-establish and educate on the Heavenly Parent's Holy Community culture of heart centered on True Parents." This policy is in progress through the development of educational materials for the 'Theology of True Parents in the Era of Cheon Il Guk.' True Mother asked that we do research for teachings appropriate for the Cheon Il Guk era, develop suitable presentations for the establishment of the Cheon Il Guk tradition, and promote education that fully engraves and establishes the essence of Heavenly Parent and True Parents, and the value and identity of the blessed families.' We have also been instructed to 'promote culture of heart education that establishes the essence of the Heavenly Parent and True Parents, as well as the value and identity of the blessed families. Following these directives, the International Headquarters launched the True Parents' Theology Research Committee that is made up of professors of theology from Sun Moon University and Sunhak UP Graduate School, and it began an intensive study.

The International Headquarters, in accordance with the recent words of True Mother and in response to the providential times of completed testament age, plans to meticulously enhance the educational materials. This is to ensure we can comprehensively educate about the stature and value of the True Parents, aiming to compile the contents and create a thorough and well-rounded, Cheon Il Guk textbook.

Understanding the urgency as expressed by True Mother's words 'time is of the essence,' the International Headquarters, along with the First and Second Secretariat Offices, FFWPU-Korea, and the theological faculty, have united. Together, they are deeply discussing and communicating all aspects, thereby enhancing the completeness and quality of their work."

The third policy focuses of nurturing capable people for the future and setting up a talent database system. In line with True Mother's recent directive, "Second-generation members should spearhead the restoration of nations and the world," the International Headquarters is prepping the 'Heavenly Top Gun' program for second-generation members. This initiative, starting in 2024, will see around 60 Sun Moon UPA cadets, including Shin Chul and Shin Heung, embarking on international missions' post-graduation. We are coordinating with continents worldwide to facilitate these overseas assignments for UPA cadets and second-generation youths worldwide.

Esteemed Cheon Il Guk leaders and blessed families, the International Headquarters remains committed to fostering tangible church growth and achieving the vision of national restoration. We follow True Mother's unwavering path, continually progressing and unifying across continents. In this light, your dedication throughout 2023 has been extraordinary.

Looking ahead to 2024, we aspire for all blessed families globally to embrace 'The Value of True Parents from the Viewpoint of Heaven's Providence,' as imparted by True Mother. Together, let's unite in our resolve and dedication, bringing great hope Heavenly Parent and the True Parents. 

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The Role and Mission of the Messiah

Cheon Seong Gyeong, Book 1, Chapter 4 Section 1

God's purpose in calling the Israelites to the land of Canaan was to have them complete a victorious foundation as one people. Upon that foundation, they were to build a kingdom in Canaan under Heaven's sovereignty and prepare the foundation for the coming of the Messiah. The people of Israel were to attend the Messiah as the central person who would rule over their country. Then they were to defeat Satan's world and complete God's providence of restoration together with the Messiah. Although that was their mission, the people of Israel and their religious leaders did not know it.

In those days, there were those among them who thought that when the Savior came, they would automatically become the nation that could rule the world. They did not grasp that they had to complete the history of restoration by first gaining victory on the level of a people and then on the level of the nation before they could achieve a victorious worldwide foundation.

Unless individuals attain perfection, they cannot form families with a new and higher awareness. And without such new families, a new people and a new nation cannot emerge. Therefore, the Unification

Church has come forth with a focus on bringing about the perfection of individuals through True Parents. God longs to complete the restoration of the individual. It has taken six thousand years, until today, to substantiate one perfect man. God has been toiling with the goal to bring forth that one perfect man; this has been the whole purpose of His providence of restoration, transcending time. Then, by centering on the one perfect man, God's intention is to recover one woman and form the model for the perfection of the family. This is the messianic teaching. God desires to conclude the providence of restoration by setting

up the bridegroom and the bride according to this messianic teaching. By doing so, God plans to lay the foundation for all of human life. The way of life and the teaching that the Messiah brings are the eternal standards that all human beings need to follow.

Another formula in God's providence of restoration is that before sending the Messiah, He works to set up one central religion and one central nation. God called the Israelites and Judaism. God planned to send Jesus upon that foundation and then expand that realm of goodness by having all humankind unite with him. In this way He would restore the world and realize the ideal of the kingdom of heaven. If the Israelites and Judaism, which God had prepared over four thousand years, had received Jesus, united with him and upheld the one Will in a sacrificial way, then Jesus would have united the Arab world and Asia, connected them to the Western world, and spread the Will quickly to the ends of the earth. In that way, Jesus could have established the kingdom of heaven on earth under God's sovereignty.

Adam possessed the seed of true love and true life. After God lost Adam, He had to recover the Son, a

man having the new seed. This Son has to be a man having no condition for Satan to accuse. Just as God made Adam first at the time of creation, in the providence of restoration, which is the providence of re-creation, God has to first set up a Son who has nothing to do with the Fall. This is the root of the messianic teaching. The Messiah is the true man with the new seed of life. He guides people of the fallen lineage to deny their life and then engrafts his new seed onto them. Even though the Messiah is rooted in God, as the second Adam he must clean up what Adam did. This is the reason God cannot send the Messiah as a superman having God's almighty power.

The Savior is God's representative who can dissolve the bitter sorrow in God's heart, the sorrow that was brought by the first human beings' failure to fulfill God's love in accordance with His Will. Because they never realized God's love, all people are in despair and filled with bitter sorrow. The Savior is the one who dissolves this bitter sorrow and brings God's love to fulfillment. He comes to help people attain this original love. The Savior does not come to feed those who are hungry physically. He comes to liberate God. A man is liberated when he has a wife of true love. When a man has a wife

who loves him and remains with him eternally, there is no imprisonment. He is free. Does God, the original central being, enjoy that kind of freedom? He is a sorrowful God, who, while searching for love and investing His love, had to forget how much He invested, only to invest again.

God, by all means, has to restore the ideal of true love and peace that He has held onto since the beginning. God's providence of salvation is the providence to restore that original state; in other words, it is the providence of restoration. For the providence of restoration, God set up religions and expanded the realm of goodness. The Messiah Whom God sends is responsible to complete the providence of restoration. Therefore, the Messiah must come as the True Parents and quickly recover everything, starting from the root. Jesus, who came as the Messiah, had the mission of the True Parents. He came with true love to give rebirth to all humankind and to restore them as true individuals and as true husbands and wives, so that they too could become true parents. Unfortunately, he could not complete this mission due to the disbelief of those on earth, and he departed with the promise to return. He must come again as True Parents in order to restore completely God's ideal of creation. ㄸ





The Role of Blessed Families in the Era of Cheon Il Guk

*Excerpt from True Mother's Address at the Prayer Rally for the Salvation of the Nation and the World
Changwon Convention Center, November 26*

What is the role of Christianity, the Korean people, and those of us in the Cheon Il Guk era, in the context of divine providence?

Our Creator, Heavenly Parent, created all things in His image. He created a man and a woman to be humanity's ancestors. He allotted them a period of growth, hoping they would mature and attain perfection. However, their failure led to the humanity we know today.

The course of human history has been marked by continuous wars and conflicts. Today, we remain divided, plagued by religious disputes, ideological wars, and ethnic conflicts. Additionally, our Earth, originally healthy and created by Heavenly Parent, is now suffering due to human neglect.

The Creator, having initiated this creation, is bound to conclude it. The reason Almighty God had to wait until now is because He endowed humans with a unique part of responsibility. Consequently, God had no



choice but to carry out the strenuous task of the providence of salvation and restoration through indemnity. He chose the nation of Israel as His chosen people, and it took 4,000 years to establish a lineage that Heaven could connect with. We know this well through the Old Testament.

But what did they do with Jesus Christ, the only begotten son sent by Heaven as the Messiah? In the end, Jesus had no choice but to take the path of the cross. Therefore, Jesus said, 'I will come again.' The inception of Christianity was founded on the wait for Jesus Christ, who promised to return, and has continued for 2,000 years through the saints inspired by the Holy Spirit. Why did Jesus say, 'I will come again'?

Originally, the Creator made a man and a woman to be the ancestors of humanity. Through these perfected beings, the Creator dreamed of living a heavenly life on Earth. However, Jesus Christ, as a single male figure, could not fulfill such a providence. Since the birth of life comes from a mother, Jesus had to

return to conduct the prophesied 'Marriage Supper of the Lamb'.

In preparing for the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, whom Heaven has said 'will come again,' the first task was to establish a foundation for the birth of the Only Begotten Daughter within a Christian context. Only with the birth of the Only Begotten Daughter can the providence of the Second Coming Messiah be fulfilled.

Cheon Il Guk is the nation that attends the Heavenly Parent. In this light, today we must understand the truth of the providence, the truth and essence of Jesus Christ, and become one with the Only Begotten Daughter.

This is the only way to resolve the 2,000 years of pain endured by Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son, and to fulfill his wishes.

I hope that today marks the beginning of this process. I pray that everyone gathered here will exert their leadership and ensure victory in this mission. *✚*

Christmas Special Luncheon Hosted by the True Parents of Heaven, Earth, and Humankind

December 25, 2023
Cheon Jeong Gung





“All of you leaders gathered here should be absolutely one with me, and act in one heart and one will with me to expand the environment whereby Heavenly Parent can work freely, beginning from this country and expanding to the world. The first, second, and third generations must mobilize. The time for the completion of the providence has come, and the True Parents whom people have yearned to see for so long, have finally appeared on earth. This is why we must educate and inspire people. This way can there be hope for the future of humanity and the future of the Earth.” – True Mother

Namyangju Grand Church's True Love Festival for North-South Unification

The Namyangju Grand Church, attending the True Parents of Heaven, Earth, and Humankind, successfully hosted the True Love Festival for the Unification of North and South Korea. The grand event took place on November 19th at the Namyangju Grand Church Grand Hall.

More than 650 people participated in the service, including leaders from Cheon Il Guk, families from the Namyangju Grand Church, and citizens committed to peace. The festival had a diverse program. It highlighted the importance of True Mother as the Only Begotten Daughter and the Substantial Holy Spirit. The event also acknowledged the six-month commitment spearheaded by Rev. Yong Chung-sik, the Pastor and Chair of Namyangju Grand Church. Furthermore, it involved sharing the True Parents' message about addressing global crises. Additionally, the festival served to unify the families of the church in their devotion to the Heavenly Parent and True Parents.





During the event, Mother gave a blessing, saying that in our unwavering effort to fulfill the desires of the Heavenly Parent, we continue to find hope in difficult situations, like searching for a needle in a sandstorm. She prayed for the Namyangju Grand Church to prosper, firmly grounded in the True Parents, and to flourish as a beautiful representation of the Heavenly Parent, in collaboration with senior members and blessed families.

Song Gwang-seok, President of FFWPU-Korea, underscored the day's importance, stating that this historical event embodies True Parents' dream of rejuvenating the Korean Family Federation and initiating remarkable growth in the church, while also preparing for the reunification of North and South Korea. He expressed his hope that the blessings on Namyangju Grand Church would extend to all churches in a Heavenly Unified Korea.

Rev. Yong, the Church Pastor, reflected on the successes of the Namyangju Hyojeong Peace Service Corps since it started in 2019. These achievements have earned significant accolades, including awards from the Governor of Gyeonggi Province, the President of the Korean Volunteer Association, and the Chairman of the Gyeonggi Provincial Assembly. He emphasized that, united under the Heavenly Parent and True Parents, they are in a strong position to move towards a Heavenly Unified Korea and a Heavenly Unified World, building on their providential foundation.

The congregation united in their determination to realize the ideal of one human family under God, our Heavenly Parent. They pledged to accomplish 'Vision 2025', which involves completing the roles of the Heavenly Tribal Messiah and CheonBo Blessed Families. This vision also includes nurturing future youth leaders and promoting church growth through service activities that embody true love and selflessness. Their commitment was focused on achieving restoration at both local and national levels. The service reached its peak with a unifying cheer of 'Eog Mansei,' led by Kim Sung-tae, the Director of the UPF branch in Namyangju.





Reflections

Choi Jeong-chang and Lee Yang-suk Family (Elder Pastors)

We are deeply grateful for True Mother's healthy and elegant presence. Seeing church Chair Yong Jeong-sik and Vice Chair Park Yang-myeong work in harmony and unity with church members, we really felt supported by the Heavenly Parent and True Parents. True Mother started the Namyangju Grand Church ten years ago. Since then, we, the senior pastors and church members, have grown together, following True Mother's guidance. We promise to keep following her lead and send our love to her.

Park Yang-myeong, Pastor and Vice-Chair of Namyangju Grand Church

I am deeply thankful for the incredible blessing True Mother, the Only Begotten Daughter, the Substantial Holy Spirit, has brought to Namyangju Grand Church. This year in May, we welcomed Yong Chung-sik as our Pastor and Chair, then on June 18, we launched a six-month intensive witnessing campaign. Our nine-year dream has come true. We are dedicated to leading the way in achieving North-South unification, registering blessed families as CheonBo Families, inheriting the faith tradition, attending and witnessing about True Mother, the Only Begotten Daughter, and Substantial Holy Spirit.

Kim Hyo-seok, Youth Pastor of Namyangju Grand Church

Just thinking, 'True Mother is really here in our church,' made me tear up with deep emotion. Her visit feels like a huge gift from Heaven, like a dream becoming reality. I am truly thankful to True Mother for making this wonderful day happen.

Yoon Ji-nam and Park So-jung Family

We are grateful for the precious opportunity to experience True Mother's presence fully, the Only Begotten Daughter and Substantial Holy Spirit, the True Mother of humanity, and , the Mother of Peace, Wang Omma with all our hearts and mind. Today, we all felt her love

deeply and were able to engrave the heart of the Heavenly Parent and True Parents. Namyangju Grand Church will lead the effort to restore and dedicate Namyangju City, Gyeonggi Province, and South Korea to the Heavenly Parent and True Parents. We are committed to our mission of unifying North and South Korea, national liberation, and our roles as Heavenly Tribal Messiahs. Thank you, Heavenly Parent and True Parents of Heaven, Earth, and Humankind. Aju!!!

Lee Seung-gyeom: Youth, Namyangju Grand Church

As a child, I was amazed at the prospect of meeting the True Parents. Today proved that with efforts dreams can become reality. Despite uncertainties about my future, I am inspired to contribute to the church and the Heavenly Parent and True Parents. I'll grow alongside the church, giving my best effort. Thank you, True Mother.

Nam Young-hee: Youth, Namyangju Grand Church

I'm a 4th-year UPA student about to go on an overseas mission next year, prior to today's rally, I was really nervous and unsure. But hearing True Mother speak today helped me understand her better. It was a moment for me to grow and see that I am really needed. The time listening to her went by so fast, but I'm very thankful to True Mother for being here with us and for making this event happen.

Kim Ga-young: Youth, Namyangju Grand Church

While getting ready for the True Love Festival, Rev. Yong reminded us how crucial it is for our Namyangju Grand Church to come together and to think carefully about how we speak and act towards one another. During the Hyojeong cultural performance rehearsals, I realized that being united was more important than showing off my skills. We wanted to make True Mother happy. With that goal, we all worked as one team. Thanks to this, we could show True Mother the result of our teamwork in the performance. True Mother, we are committed to keep working hard for the goals of Vision 2025 and the successful establishment of a Heavenly Unified Korea, keeping the spirit of today alive.

Moon Hwa-sik: Elder, Namyangju Grand Church

In my dreams, I saw a lot of people really I saw people inspired by True Mother's words, making resolutions, and feeling happy. This dream was a message, urging me to prepare with sincerity for today. I've had a tough time because my family didn't agree with my faith. But I kept going, trying to unite my family under the Heavenly Parent and True Parents. Today, my whole family came and it was a very special experience for them. True Mother, I'm committed to making your hope for our church to lead in national restoration. I'll give it my all. 



2023 Heavenly Unified Korea Leaders North-South Unification Prayer Meeting in Changwon

Interdependence, Mutual Prosperity, Universally Shared Values for Happy Families! Resolution for Peace and Unification of the Korean Peninsula

In celebration of the 78th anniversary of Liberation and the 70th anniversary of the Armistice Agreement, the '2023 Heavenly Unified Korea Leaders North-South Unification Prayer Meeting in Changwon' was grandly held on November 26 at the Changwon Convention Center. The event was jointly organized by the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification, the Universal Peace Federation (UPF), the National Alliance for the Unification Movement of North and South Korea, the Korean Religious Council, and the Heavenly Unified Korea National Alliance of Gyeongnam Elders Council. It was a significant gathering attended by True Mother, Cheon Il Guk leaders, blessed families, and over 6,000 peace citizens from Changwon, Masan, Dong Changwon, Jinhae, and other regions of Gyeongnam.

On that day, True Mother highlighted in her speech, themed 'Our Responsibility as Seen Through the Heavenly Providence', the notion that human history has been marred by significant problems among different religions, ideological wars, and national conflicts, all of which have led to wars and discord. She spoke on the current situation in Korea and the journey towards a Heavenly Unified Korea, emphasizing the need to shift focus from human-centered approaches to those that center on the Heavenly Parent. Additionally, she stressed the importance of uniting with the True Parents to guide hundreds and thousands towards victory with effective leadership.





Below are some excerpts from the speeches of dignitaries on the day:

Park Young-bae, Chairman of the Organizing Committee

With the recent increase in wars and disasters, there is a growing sense of insecurity, and the foundation of society, the family, is being shaken. It's time for Changwon citizens to lead the peace and unification efforts of the Korean Peninsula and to foster happy families. If we unite and pray with one heart, the fortune of unification will open, and the day of unification will come, initiating the era of global peace from Changwon.





Kang Ki-yun, Member of the National Assembly of Korea

Peace in the family leads to peace in society and the nation. The philosophy emphasizing the importance of family, filial piety, and righteousness is the cornerstone of world peace. I sincerely welcome today's prayer meeting for national salvation.

Cho Myung-rae, Deputy Mayor of Changwon City

Establishing the identity of free democracy and the right spirit of the times is crucial for peaceful unification at this moment. This prayer meeting is very special and meaningful in raising the correct understanding and forming a consensus about unification among the local people.

Kim Yi-geun, Chairman of Changwon Special City Council

Through today's prayer meeting for national salvation, I hope it will serve as an opportunity to present a vision for the unification of the Korean Peninsula and to implement peace, based on the spirit of Interdependence, Mutual Prosperity, and Universally Shared Values.

Yang Chang-shik, Chairman of UPF International

If South Korea's world-leading technology combines with North Korea's resources, valued at over 600 trillion won, and the hardworking labor force of 20 million people, our unified country could become a G2 alongside the USA in terms of culture, economy, and military power within ten years after unification. The True Parents have declared VISION 2025 as a 'momentum' for both the North and South to lay down their guns and swords and open the path to a great unification with the heart



of a mother embracing both sides.

Song Gwang-seok, President of FFWPU-Korea

The unification of North and South Korea cannot be accomplished solely through human actions. It will become possible only when we join forces with the True Parents attending and uniting with the Heavenly Parent. By praying earnestly to the Heavenly Parent with a deep desire to help our North Korean brothers and sisters, our sincere hopes will be realized.

The prayer ceremony was led by religious leaders from various faiths, including Lee Ki-seong from the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification, Christian Pastor Kim Sung-su, Buddhist Monk Cheongjeong, Confucian Chairman Kang Yong-su, Tae Shin-mo Heo Gwi-suk of Daejongism, and Cheonri Gyo Church Chairman Kim Dong-hak. They united to offer a prayer for peace, and Lee Ki-seong Director of Cheonshimwon also read a letter of gratitude to Heaven.

Participants from different religious backgrounds came together with a shared goal of contributing to the unification of North and South Korea and promoting world peace. The event reached its peak with a collective prayer from more than 6,000 attendees. They committed to working together towards the day of unification, marked by enthusiastic three cheers of 'Mansei.'

In addition, several prominent figures, including Member of Parliament Kim Young-sun, Choi Hyeong-du, Lee Dal-gon, Yoon Han-heung, Gyeongsangnam-do Governor Park Wan-su, Gyeongsangnam-do Council Chairman Kim Jin-bu, and Gyeongnam Superintendent Park Jong-hoon, sent videos and messages congratulating and celebrating the success of the event. 

Acknowledging Six Months of Progress: A Tribute to Growth and Effort

Special Briefing by Song Yong-cheon,
President of FFWPU- International

2023 was a year in which we achieved truly amazing providential results amid the blessings of Heavenly Parent and the grace of True Parents.

Our most important event took place last May, when we celebrated the dedication of Cheon Won Gung and the Cheon Il Sanctum in celebration of True Mother’s 80th birthday—an event unprecedented in history. On this day, Mother prayed earnestly asking Heavenly Parent to accept the dedication with joy. She said, “Glory be in Heaven. On earth, the exhilarated and joyful voices of the people of Cheon Il Guk resound throughout the world. Please hear this stirring and exciting sound of joy and exultation!” After thus entreating God, Mother exclaimed with joy, “Now the voices of the people of Cheon Il Guk will resound with praise for our Heavenly Parent.” We have ushered in the era of the providence when Heavenly Parent dwells on earth.

Therefore, True Mother restructured our organization in light of this new era and called for a new beginning. True Mother first declared that we must move forward in Spirit and Truth, and she established a dual system of Cheon Shim Won and the Family Federation.





Following her directives, a Cheon Shim Won chapter was established in each regional headquarters and a special prayer hall in each church. This was done to expand the spiritual environment in which Heavenly Parent can guide us daily. Today, having completed more than 900 prayer vigils, we are seeing some amazing results as we approach the 1000th vigil.

During the past six months, the Family Federation and UPF have also restructured, and have conducted extensive activities to pioneer the environment for Heavenly Parent. In these six months, the International Headquarters, in resonance with True Mother's heart, has also invested continuous efforts, resolving to build unity with all regions and nations, and to bring success. Therefore, I would like to thank you all for your significant efforts, dedication, and hard work, despite the many challenges, to achieve national restoration based on your outreach efforts and through the actual growth of the church.

Furthermore, the International Headquarters has been engaged in nurturing talented young people and leaders for the future. In September, 130 second-generation members from Heavenly Europe met with True Mother. They experienced her love and experienced rebirth. In the same month, 6,000 second-generation members from Heavenly Japan met with True Mother in complete unity with her. In October, 1,200 second-generation young people and leaders in Heavenly USA also met with True Mother and received her love. More than any other year, I can say this was a year that ignited the hearts of our second-generation members.

Explanation of International Headquarters Policy

Respected Cheon Il Guk leaders, beloved family members!

As part of this new beginning, the International Headquarters has striven to understand True Mother's deepest thoughts and dreams. Based on True Mother's messages, we arrived at four points to be aware of during this time, three key objectives, and seven key policies.

The four points to be aware of now, in this time, are: active and substantial attendance, the pursuit of the original essence, a loyal heart that transcends filial love, and presenting the results of our witnessing





efforts. They are the four core values of Vision 2025. These values are substantiated through the three key objectives, which include accomplishing actual national restoration through strong and genuine witnessing results, realizing a heavenly unified Korea through a step-by-step process and the division of organizational roles, and completing Cheon Il Guk with transparent and efficient organization.

Under these three objectives, the International Headquarters embarked on an international tour with the aim of better understanding the current situation of the regions, helping them establish strategies, re-establishing and educating on the culture of heart centered on True Parents, igniting a “new creation” movement around the world through the Spirit and Truth, seeking ways to secure economic independence and transparency, evaluating ways to standardize practical growth and witnessing results, garnering support for a heavenly unified Korea through the solidarity of our peace movement worldwide, and discussing how to build a databank system to cultivate talented people and leaders for the future. Centered on these seven policies, the International Headquarters communicated with each regional headquarters, collaborated with other organizations, and continued to advance.

Reporting Results

Due to time constraints, I would like to briefly review the progress made on two of the seven major policies. First, I will mention our policy to “re-establish and educate on the Heavenly Parent’s Holy Community culture of heart centered on True Parents.” This policy is in progress through the development of educational materials for the ‘Theology of True Parents in the Era of Cheon Il Guk.’ True Mother asked that we do research for teachings appropriate for the Cheon Il Guk era, develop suitable presentations for the establishment of the Cheon Il Guk tradition, and promote education that fully engraves and establishes the essence of Heavenly Parent and True Parents, and the value and identity of the blessed families. Following these directives, the International Headquarters launched the True Parents’ Theology Research Committee that is made up of professors of theology from Sun Moon University and Sunhak UP Graduate School, and it began an intensive study.

To respond to True Mother’s urgent call and deep heart, the committee studied the subject matter day and night. They completed and reported their first study to True Mother. Mother was very happy and





gave the following instructions: “Compile these contents in a textbook and give presentations on this as soon as possible.” Based on this directive, in-depth lectures were presented to all of Heavenly Korea’s public leaders in November, and to Heavenly Japan’s public leaders in mid-December.

Mother entitled the textbook: “The Value of True Parents from the Viewpoint of Heaven’s Providence.” Going forward, we will continue communicating with you and make any necessary revisions so that we can deliver the content to our members worldwide as soon as possible. In this way, we promise to convey the truth about True Parents and the truth about the providence to all humankind, thereby permitting Heavenly Parent to be understood from the highest perspective.

My second report will be on the policy of nurturing capable people for the future and setting up a talent database system. True Mother expresses her deep interest in our youth missionaries, and in October she said, “The second generation must take the lead in restoring nations and the world.” Therefore, Sun Moon UPA cadets will be assigned to missions starting this year—including cadets Moon Shin-chul and Moon Shin-heung, True Parents’ grandchildren. Furthermore, the International Headquarters would like to combine the various “youth leader training programs” in the regions into one official young leader training program.

Currently, the International Headquarters is putting everything on the line to train future leaders to lead Cheon Il Guk. No effort will be spared in providing support so that the seeds you have sown throughout the world can flourish into a giant forest. Please show great love and interest in our younger generation!

Respected Cheon Il Guk leaders and beloved members,

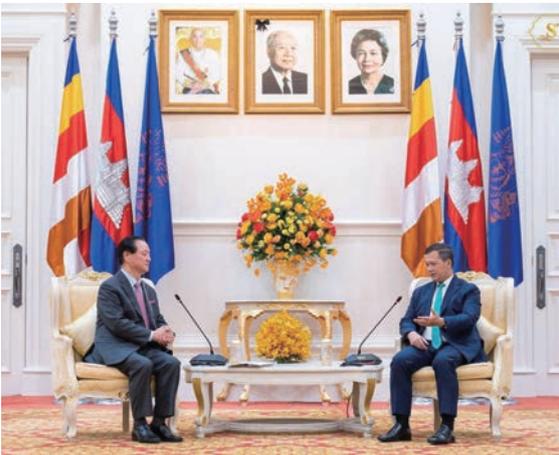
As the International Headquarters looks forward to 2024, we promise to build upon the accomplishments of 2023 and to pursue our goals “without pause,” with renewed hope and vision. Just as 2023 was the springtime of the providence, I am confident that 2024 will be the harvest time of the providence.

I would like to thank you again for your effort and hard work in 2023. Please accept my sincere gratitude. I hope you all inherit greater heavenly fortune in the Year of the Blue Dragon. I also hope that you will become true children who bring glory to Heavenly Parent and joy to True Parents. May this be the year you report the greatest accomplishments of your life, and may your family, hometown, and nation be filled with God’s immense grace. Thank you very much. 

Yang Chang-shik, Chairman of UPF International, Makes a Diplomatic Visit to Cambodia

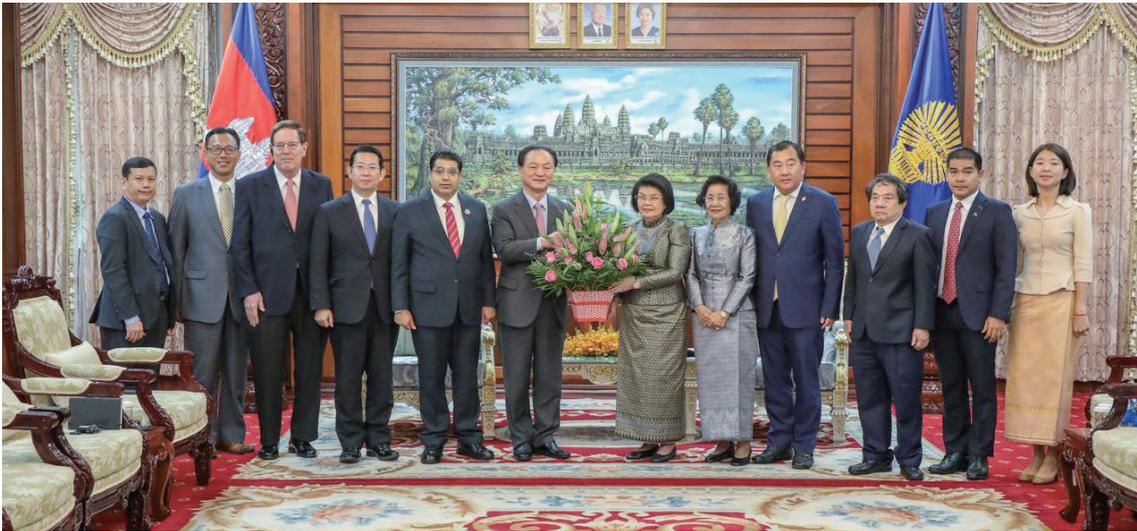
Yang Chang-shik, the Chairman of the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) International, undertook a diplomatic visit to Cambodia from November 17th to 21st. His agenda included meetings with several prominent Cambodian leaders, including Samdech Khuon Sudary, President of the National Assembly, and Prime Minister Samdech Hun Manet.

Yang Chang-shik, Chairman of UPF International Meets with Cambodian Prime Minister Samdech Hun Manet



On November 20th, Dr. Yang met with Prime Minister Samdech Hun Manet at the Phnom Penh Peace Palace. He delivered a congratulatory message from Hak Ja Han Moon, the Co-founder of UPF, celebrating the Prime Minister's inauguration. Dr. Yang acknowledged and commended Prime Minister Hun Sen's efforts in advocating for peace and opposing war, noting that Cambodia's journey could serve as a model for conflict-ridden nations globally. He sought the Prime Minister's continued support for UPF's global initiatives, including peacebuilding efforts and the promotion of unity on the Korean Peninsula. Dr. Yang emphasized UPF's commitment to enhancing the wellbeing of Cambodians and stimulating the local economy. In response, Prime Minister Hun Manet expressed appreciation for the congratulatory message and assured ongoing governmental support for UPF's activities.

Yang Chang-shik, Chairman of UPF International Meets with Samdech Khuon Sudary, President of the National Assembly



On the same day, Dr. Yang discussed with President Khuon Sudary strategies for strengthening collaboration and communication between the Cambodian government and UPF.

He expressed hope for ongoing cooperation in various sectors based on the long-standing trust between Cambodia and UPF. President Khuon Sudary highlighted Cambodia's engagement in international forums to foster peace and dialogue and outlined the government's economic goals for the coming decades.

In response, President Khuon Sudary highlighted Cambodia's active participation in international forums such as AIPA, IPU, APPE, APF, and ASEP, aimed at fostering peace and dialogue. She outlined the government's ambitious goals to elevate Cambodia to a middle-income country by 2030 to a high-income country by 2050. She welcomed UPF's support in attracting investors and tourists, as well as in providing educational and training initiatives to enhance public sector capabilities. Dr. Yang reaffirmed UPF's role as a key partner and strategic ally of the Cambodian government, expressing his hope for ongoing mutual support to further strengthen their relationship.

Visit to the Win-Win Memorial

The day before, on November 19th, Chairman Yang visited the Win-Win Memorial. This memorial, completed on December 31, 2018, by Prime Minister Hun Sen, commemorates the 20th anniversary of the end of the Cambodian civil war, symbolizing a significant historical milestone. 



UPF Asia-Pacific Region Co-Hosts Conference with Sri Lanka Parliament and Parliamentary Leaders

The UPF Asia-Pacific Region, in collaboration with the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace (IAPP) and the Sri Lankan Parliament, co-hosted a conference titled “Responsible Action: Fostering Transparency and Good Governance.” This event, held on December 6, took place at the Sri Lankan Parliament. It was attended by over 200 participants, including current members of parliament, government representatives, and UPF representatives from 12 countries, such as India, Malaysia, Indonesia, Cambodia, among others.

The event was jointly presided over by former Sri Lankan President Maithripala Sirisena, Chairman of the Asia-Pacific Summit for World Peace, and the Speaker of the Parliament. Ranil Wickremesinghe President of Sri Lanka graced the event by participating as a panelist and delivering a welcoming speech. Following a congratulatory message from Dan Burton, Co-Chair of the IAPP, Yang Chang-shik, Chairman of UPF International, delivered a keynote lecture. He emphasized the virtues, public consciousness, transparency, altruistic actions, and responsibilities that politicians should maintain, from a principled perspective.





In particular, Dr. Yang underscored the significance and goals of the Asia-Pacific Union (APU), initiated by True Mother in Nagoya in 2019, to foster regional solidarity beyond national borders, and exchanged views on various issues. At the conclusion of the event, Dr. Yang and the Sri Lankan Parliament discussed joint participation in an upcoming international event organized by UPF in May 2024 at the United Nations.

Sri Lanka holds special significance for the True Parents, as they made official visits to the country in 2005 and 2006, shortly after the establishment of UPF. During these visits, they were warmly received by the Sri Lankan government at the Presidential Palace. *TP*



Universal Peace Academy's Heavenly Top Gun Missionary Activities

1. Introduction to Universal Peace Academy

The Universal Peace Academy (UPA) was established in March 2013 as an institution dedicated to nurturing future generation leaders who will lead Cheon Il Guk in unity with the True Parents. Over the past 10 years, it has continued its legacy. True Mother established the UPA master's program (Senior UPA) as her first project after True Father's ascension, to cultivate leaders who will be central to future generations. In 2020, Sun Moon University was designated as the national university of Cheon Il Guk, and its theological department started anew as the undergraduate program of UPA (Junior UPA).

UPA aims to educate and train leaders who embody Hyojeong and are well-versed in ministry, missions, academia, and culture, resembling the True Parents. Cadets live in dormitories, establishing their inner discipline through basic routines like Hoon Dok Hae, physical and spiritual training, deployment ceremonies, roll calls, prayer meetings, and Jeongseong. Beyond this, they enhance their capabilities through various educational and training activities.

After a four-year undergraduate program followed by a two-year internship, cadets are officially commissioned by True Mother in a dispatching ceremony and become 'Cheon Il Guk Young Special Envoys,' engaging in public service activities around the world.





2. Heavenly Top Gun Missionary Activities

True Mother has been nurturing UPA cadets, including those of the third generation, with love and grace. Now, Junior UPA 1st generation cadets, including Shin Chul and Shin Heung, are finishing their education and moving on to overseas missionary internships.

True Mother has commanded these cadets to go to Christian nations to proclaim the substance of the Only Begotten Daughter True Mother and the truth of Jesus' essence and providence. She has bestowed upon Junior UPA cadets and accompanying young missionaries the title of 'Heavenly Top Gun.' The Junior UPA 1st generation cadets and future generations who have committed to missions will carry out overseas missionary activities in 2024 under the name of Heavenly Top Gun.

Currently, the International Headquarters is meticulously preparing for the mission country selection and deployment, focusing mainly on Christian and English-speaking countries in North America, Europe, and Africa.

These cadets' journeys will serve as models for future generations of the Unification Community to establish the public course and tradition of blessed families.



3. Cadets' Resolutions

1) Namgung Hwa-yoon, 1st Class Sun Moon UPA Cadet

With the overseas internship approaching, I naturally feel fear and worry. However, knowing that True Mother is devoting her attention and care to our internship, I am determined to continue and serve in public office. True Mother has given us much love over the past four years. While we have previously sought to bring her joy in various ways, I now aspire to maturely engage in the field and convey the love and will of the True Parents of Heaven, Earth, and Humankind to True Mother's beloved children and those who do not yet know her. We will return as true filial sons and daughters, bearing the fruits that True Mother desires. I love you, True Parents of Heaven, Earth, and Humankind. Thank you!

2) Choi Ju-heo, 1st Class Sun Moon UPA Cadet

There's a saying, 'Hope is not something you find, it's something you create.' As the 1st generation cadets of Junior UPA, we have completed our education and training process over the past four years, focusing on spirituality and truth to realize the substantial Cheon Il Guk, with the Only Begotten Daughter True Mother at our absolute center! The academy journey was far from smooth, filled with numerous internal and external trials and conflicts. However, we could triumph because True Mother was always with us, shining the light of true love on our path. In fulfillment of our duty of Hyojeong and the mission of 'Heavenly Top Gun,' we are determined to go wherever we are sent, clad in the full armor of the Heavenly Parent's true love and the Principle words, to proclaim the Mother of Peace, manifested as the Only Begotten Daughter in



substance, to the world, creating hope for the Unification Movement!

3) Moon Shin-chul, 1st Class Sun Moon UPA Cadet

We UPA cadets, myself included, are going to be on a mission for two years. And I'm sure each of us, each of our cadets, have concerns and fears and fears, and I know I do. But still, as we decided to walk this path for Heavenly Parent and the True Parents of Heaven Earth and Humankind, this two-year mission period will be the culmination of the four years of training we have received. As the result of all these efforts, each and every one of our cadets will do their best to make this mission period a fruitful one, so that we can show True Mother the fruits of our labor. True Mother, we love you. I love you, True Mother! 



5th North-South Unification Prayer Assembly and Inheritance of Heavenly Fortune Cheonshim Training

The 5th North-South Unification Prayer Assembly and Inheritance of Heavenly Fortune Cheonshim Training took place from December 12-15 at the HJ Heaven and Earth Cheonbo Training Center and HJ Cheonwon Complex, targeting graduates of Yongpyong and regional Happiness Principle Seminars.

The training, with 108 new members and 20 spiritual parents, focused on integrating new Family Federation members post-Yongpyong Resort education. Activities included True Parents' life course, Divine Principle education, Cheonbo special lectures, Chanyang, and Cheonshimwon prayer meetings.





The opening ceremony commenced on the first day. The second day featured the Happiness Principle and a pilgrimage to HJ Cheonwon Complex, including Cheonbo Garden and Aqua Garden. The third day covered True Parents' life course and a North-South Unification yut game. The final day included viewing of Bo Hi Pak's "I am a Proud Korean," followed by a series of lectures.

Song Gwang-seok, President of FFWPU-Korea, in his closing remarks, highlighted, "Our nation's unification is the most pressing task. What significance is there if we and North and South cannot unite?" He conveyed True Mother's message about the importance of educating and raising awareness among citizens.

Under main lecturer Lee Seung-il's guidance, new members concluded the event with a settlement prayer, resolving to center their faith around True Parents and engage in the North-South unification movement. 

Reflections on Inheritance of Heavenly Fortune Cheonshim Training

Jeong Nan-ho, New Member, Eunpyeong Church, Northern Seoul

The three-night, four-day education was a transformative experience for both my body and mind. Overcoming initial hesitation, I'm grateful to Pastor Sung Hwan-deuk and all who guided me. True Parents Sun-myung Moon and Hak Ja Han Moon's lifelong struggle and boundless love have profoundly impacted me. Their love will lead to unification and world peace.

Kim Kyung-soon, New Member, Masan Church, Gyeongnam
(Chairwoman, Masan New Village Women's Association)

Inspired by True Parents' accomplishments after the Yongpyong training, I took leave to attend this four-day training. Completing the Happiness Principle, True Parents' life course, and the Cheonjeonggung pilgrimage, I hope others can also receive this education. Given another opportunity, I'll attend again. Thank you.

Lee Young-ae, New Member, Jongno Church, Northern Seoul

Initially, overcoming the heresy to participate in this education was difficult. However, after attending, I understood the Family Federation's purpose and was moved by the one year's Principle and life of faith education at Jongno Church. This training provided a new perspectives on my faith and life challenges.

Lee Woo-yeop, New Member, Jongno Church, Northern Seoul

Having been baptized in the Catholic Church and served as an elder in Protestant faith, I still felt unresolved frustration. The Cheonshim Training's three nights and four days healed my heart. I aim to contribute as a good missionary praying and working towards North-South unification. Praise and glory be to the Heavenly Parent, True Parents, True Father, and True Mother.

Yu Geum-yong, New Member, Dongducheon Church, Northern Gyeonggi

Learning about the Heavenly Parent and True Parents of Heaven, Earth, and Humankind has given me a significant life goal. I commit to living in unity with the Heavenly Parent's Will and practicing faith in my daily life. I resolve to emulate True Parents' life, embody their will, and fulfill my responsibilities and calling. Aju.



New Jersey Witnessing Guest Care Assembly

On December 3, CARP New Jersey hosted a Witnessing Guest Care Assembly with 48 participants including CARP members, parents, and core leaders. They discussed strengthening the witnessing strategy on 4 university campuses followed by a question and answer session. People left energized, determined, and hopeful. 



Heavenly Asia-Pacific: Living for the Sake of Others - Awards Presentation in Australia

The Universal Peace Federation (UPF) Australia hosted the Living for the Sake of Others event on December 2, 2023, to honor citizens who have significantly contributed to establishing peace within their communities. John Adamedes, President of UPF Australia, delivered the keynote address, emphasizing the importance of God, spirituality, and family in uniting humanity as one family dedicated to living for each other's sake.

The Living for Others awards recognized individuals who have made remarkable strides in peacebuilding within their communities. The 2023 award recipients included:

- Mr. Abulla Agwa, Mr. Gharib Al-Salehi, Mr. Safet Alispahic, Ms. Sainju Sarina, Mr. Syed Asim Raza, Dr. Thi Tuong Phan

The event also featured congratulatory messages from Yutaka Yamada, Chairman of UPF Oceania, and Sandhya Reddy, Deputy Mayor of Strathfield Council, alongside celebratory performances.

A key highlight was the appointment of new Ambassadors for Peace, an expanding global community dedicated to fostering lasting peace. These individuals, active in their communities and embodying peace principles, include:

- Dr. Andrew Theophanou, Mr. Saber Oujani, Ms. Ayesah S M Ahmed, Ms. Suha Gharib, Mr. Abulla Agwa, Mr. Gharib Al-Salehi, Mr. Safet Alispahic, Ms. Sarina Sanju, Mr. Syed Asim Raza, Dr. Thi Tuong Phan

Santosh Neupane, Vice President of UPF Australia, concluded the ceremony with closing remarks. This celebration of peacemakers reaffirmed the ongoing commitment to strive for true, eternal peace by living for the sake of others. 



Uniting for Peace: São Paulo Hosts Landmark Event Nominating New Ambassadors

On November 25, 2023, the Brazil Headquarters in São Paulo hosted a significant event for the Nomination of Religious Leaders as Ambassadors for Peace.

The event saw attendance from over 120 pastors representing numerous churches throughout São Paulo State. The continental director, Rev. David Dong Woo Kim, shared the providential vision for interreligious collaboration and discussed how the True Parents have worked to unite Christian leaders in America and across the globe. He also elaborated on the Heavenly Parents' vision for the Brazilian nation.

This event marked a crucial step in national restoration, engaging with Abel-like figures. Ten new Ambassadors for Peace were appointed, all of whom are pastors from various Christian denominations in Brazil.

During the meeting, religious leaders initiated plans for the formation of the BCLC (Brazilian Christian Leadership Conference). They also discussed organizing a trip to Las Vegas the following year to meet with leaders from the ACLC and WCLC.

The event was further dignified by the presence of over 100 religious leaders, adding significance to the occasion. 



Special Sunday Service: A Celebration of 1000 New Members in Brazil

On November 26, a Special Sunday Service was held to celebrate the achievement of welcoming 1000 new members, a feat made possible through the relentless efforts of all members and leaders.

The Heavenly Parent's Holy Community of Brazil dedicates itself to daily Jeong Seong in the Cheon Shim Won Prayer Room, aligning with the beloved True Mother's vision. This effort aims to foster miracles and unite the spiritual and physical worlds. Building upon this, Rev. Kim is leading Cheon Bo and Blessed Families to create a list of twelve guests, invoking each name a thousand times in the prayer room. This practice is believed to engage the spirit world, helping identify guests to whom video lectures should be presented. This condition serves to mobilize the spirit world to show what is the guest that we must approach and pass the video-lectures, the results of this dedication brought 1000 new members who have committed to the teachings of the Divine Principle and a lifestyle free from drugs, alcohol, and free sex. These new members are on the path to eventually receive the Blessing, becoming Blessed and CheonBo families.

Rev. Kim commended the hard work and dedication of all families, particularly during the three 40-day courses of witnessing for miracles, and encouraged everyone to excel in the fourth course.

Following Rev. Kim, President Koichi Sasaki, the National Leader of Sub-Region 1 – Brazil, underscored the importance of preparing the guest name list for prayer and congratulated each district on their achievements during this period of witnessing for miracles. Testimonies were shared, and the service concluded with Holy Songs and a shared lunch.

Members of Sub-Region 1 Brazil left the service deeply inspired and motivated to continue their efforts in realizing Cheon Il Guk in Heavenly South America. 



National Blessing in the Dominican Republic: Expanding the Blessing of True Parents

On November 19th, the Family Federation of the Dominican Republic hosted a significant event, the National Blessing Ceremony. This ceremony saw the participation of 320 individuals, with 100 couples receiving the sacred blessing from the True Parents.

The event was initiated with welcoming remarks by Leonidas Belliard, the National Leader of the Dominican Republic and Regional Director of the Heavenly Caribbean. This was followed by an invocation prayer led by Pastor Honoré from the evangelical church “Adelante con Cristo”. Pastor Jiménez, a prominent figure from Amazon Regency #5, delivered the greeting message.

The ceremony included a special lecture by Mr. Cesar Regalado, the Secretary-General of the Universal Peace Federation (UPF). His talk focused on the significance and value of the blessing, as well as the life journey of the True Parents.

The highlight of the event was the blessing ceremony, officiated by Reverend Takashi and his wife, Mrs. Teiko Kono, who are recognized as national messiahs from Japan.

The following couples were among those who participated in the event:

1. Mrs. Yoko Kikuchi and her husband Mr. Pascuale Lai.
2. Mrs. Aurenice Pereira and her husband Mr. Colón Valenzuela.
3. Mrs. Shaniella Petra and her husband Mr. Carlos Hernandez.
4. Mrs. Olga Chambilla and her husband Mr. Luis Sisa Nova.
5. Mrs. Mabel Flores and her husband Mr. Williams Caro.
6. Mrs. Arisleyda Hiraldo and her husband Mr. Rodolfo Espinosa.
7. Mrs. Beatriz Lopez and Mr. Luminado Pujols. 



How I Came to Understand God and True Parents on a Deeper Level

Eva Mackin, née Stüdemann
Thailand

Family Background

First, I would like to introduce myself. I was born in Bremen, Germany, in 1951.

During my childhood, I often had to visit physicians and undergo frequent surgeries; this experience helped me develop compassion for people who suffer.

As a child, I enjoyed attending Sunday school at different Protestant Churches, and I had some spiritual experiences. Then, as a teenager, I started searching for answers to many questions regarding the purpose of life, but neither the people in my life nor the books I read were able to help me.

Meeting Our Movement

In 1973 I finally met my spiritual mother, who introduced me to the Unification Movement. At that time, I was a kindergarten teacher. It took me almost a year to become a full-time member since I knew from the beginning that this would require a lot of discipline and sacrifice. I always stayed in contact with my parents, even though they never understood my motivation for joining the Unification Movement. In 1974, I joined a witnessing team in Munich and worked in Karlsruhe for a while before all German members were called to a meeting at our training centre near Camberg. There I volunteered to become a missionary to Thailand.

The Beginning in Bangkok, Capital of Thailand — My Country

On 28th April 1975, I arrived in Bangkok, unprepared for my mission country's



language, climate, and culture. Somehow, in my broken English, I managed to tell a taxi driver that I was looking for an apartment to rent. At first, I could not imagine how I could survive in Thailand, after sweeping and scrubbing my apartment, I only wanted to sleep.

The temperature out-side was about 99 degrees Fahrenheit (37°C), and I only had a fan in my room. During my first three days in Bangkok, I mostly consumed just fruit and water. On the third day, my landlord introduced me to a Vietnamese student who could speak German. She took me on a tour to interesting places.

On 2nd May, I encountered the American brother, Jack, in the lobby of my apartment building. I was happy to meet him and learned that he had already joined our movement in 1970 and participated in the Marriage Blessing of 1800 couples in February 1975.

Political Situation

Jack and I were extremely concerned about the political situation in Thailand because Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos, and Burma (now Myanmar) already had communist governments. At that time, leftist students began to organise demonstrations in Bangkok.

We taught English and German at language institutes to increase our income. In this way, we were also able to take classes in the Thai language regularly because the majority of the population in this country was not fluent in English. In June, another missionary, arrived at our home and told us that he could not stay in his mission

country, Myanmar, because of the political situation. So, for the time being, he moved into our apartment and later stayed in Thailand for sixteen years. Every few months, he was able to travel to Myanmar as a journalist.

Visits by Other Missionaries and Joint Actions

Until the end of 1975, all missionaries, who were either unable to remain in their mission countries or stayed in Thailand just for a short time to apply for a new visa to re-enter their mission countries, came to Bangkok. That was a very chaotic period because everyone had their own agenda. The missionaries who had visa problems and could not stay in their country travelled to Thailand's Cambodian, Vietnamese, and Laotian refugee camps. Yet, they did not know how to help the refugees who had just escaped death and were not ready to join our movement.

Jack and I started to offer prayer and other conditions. For the most part, it was just the two of us. Yet, at times, other missionaries attended our meetings and activities. Even though, during one of our gatherings, all missionaries decided that Jack should be our central figure, nobody really adhered to this decision. Therefore, in November 1975, he concluded that we should separate for a while.

I rented a small room in a house, which was in a poor neighbourhood in Bangkok. This home belonged to a couple that rented out every room except the one they occupied. Kitchen and the bathroom were shared by about ten people, which meant that everyone was only given up to five minutes to wash. Fortunately, the toilet was in a separate location. We had to brush our teeth and attend to all other personal hygiene in our bedroom or at an outside sink.

How I Came to Understand God and True Parents on a Deeper Level

I remained in this house for a few months, which became one of the most challenging times during my mission in Thailand. Some people in the same building hearing me pray in my room made fun of me and asked: "Where is your God?" Furthermore, they did not believe that I sincerely practised an ascetic and celibate lifestyle. Therefore, they introduced me to different potential boyfriends. I always made an effort to witness, even when I felt that most people were not in the least bit interested in what I had to say. The positive aspect of living with people who did not speak English was that I



continuously had the opportunity to practice my Thai.

When an American couple invited me to their home, I slipped and fractured my right hip. The physician who performed the surgery inserted several screws so that my bones would heal faster. He instructed me not to put any weight on my right leg for at least three months and use crutches. Worried that I might have to return to Germany, I determined to continue praying and witnessing.

Unfortunately, I had to quit my job as a language teacher, so I could not continue with my Thai lessons due to a lack of funds because, for a while, the financial support from Germany did not reach me on time. In addition, it was impossible to use public transportation with my crutches and too expensive to travel by taxi every day.

For the first time in my life, I did not even have enough money for food. I decided to purchase one inexpensive meal per day and trust that God would provide more nourishment through other people. My landlady knew of my financial problems and invited me almost daily for dinner. She also said that I should not worry about my rent for the time being. My witnessing contacts often invited me to a meal. Even the physician who performed my hip surgery told me that I could pay him whenever possible. I experienced severe physical pain because, according to local custom, I slept on the floor. Moreover, I felt very lonely since I was not able to meet my brothers every day.

During this period, I had my first dream



of True Father. He told me that I could entrust all my problems to him. I felt overwhelming love as he listened to me. Looking back, I am infinitely grateful for the suffering I had experienced as it deepened my belief in God and True Parents immensely.

Unity in the Trinity and a New Beginning

In January 1976, Jack and some brothers, who were expelled from their countries due to visa problems, relocated to a house that became our second centre. In the end, we always cleared up our differences because both of us were wholly convinced that Thailand's future depended on our unity. I never sacrificed as much as during these pioneering years! We started organising weekend workshops regularly, and Jack encouraged me to give lectures in the Thai language, admitting that I was more fluent than him. I wrote the words of the diagrams in English and taught them in Thai because the Thai written language is much more complicated than the spoken one. Whenever I introduced the Divine Principle, I felt so much energy from God, and words I did not know before came out of my mouth. Strangely enough, it became more difficult to have simple conversations afterwards.

First Members, Political Tensions and Changes

Our first member joined us in December 1976. Four more members moved into our centre during the same year, but only Dr Lek has remained in our movement until today. He spoke fluent English and

translated the Divine Principle into Thai.

One of my spiritual children, Rungporn, was a woman who took three years to become a member; I met her in 1975 she listened to lectures, joined our movement, and later received the Marriage Blessing. Even today, we are in close contact.

On 6th October 1976, amid rising fears of a communist takeover similar to the one that had taken place in Vietnam, anti-communist police and paramilitaries attacked a leftist student demonstration during an incident that became known as the Thammasat University Massacre. According to official estimates, 46 students were killed and 167 wounded.

In 1977 we relocated to a different mission centre and kept this building for seven years. A German sister, Amala, came to Thailand to live with us. She met our movement in Sri Lanka but was unable to remain there due to visa problems. In 1978 we began to sell Ilhwa Ginseng and other products to finance our living expenses and projects without relying on financial support from the United States and Germany. The number of our members grew steadily.

Temptations, Protection and Reflections

During my first years in Thailand, I often felt lonely and occasionally made careless decisions. One night I was walking alone in Bangkok, not thinking about my safety; a young man appeared and said he would stay with me until I was ready to go home. I do not recall how long we were walking, but when we arrived at our centre, he told me



that he would wait in front of the house until I turned off the lights and went to sleep. I never saw him again and concluded that he was an angel. Sometimes I wonder how often God protected me in mysterious ways.

I experienced diverse temptations because, generally, the male population here felt more attracted to me than German men. Soon I faced the greatest trial of my faith; one day, while I was street witnessing, a handsome young man followed me and inquired about our movement. He declined my invitation to visit our centre and asked me to give him a lecture at a nearby coffee shop. I agreed, but during my presentation, I realised that he was not interested in the Divine Principle. He said he would like to meet me again, and we made an appointment a few days later. I was somehow attracted to him, yet I hoped that the second lecture would turn him around. However, that second meeting changed nothing. He said that he would call me later. At the centre, I entered our prayer room. While crying profusely, I admitted to God that I was seriously thinking of leaving our movement because I had not felt such an infatuation for a long time. Then I found myself knocking at the brothers' bedroom door, and Jack appeared. I told him about my experience, and he did not judge me at all. Instead, he replied that it was okay because now I could sympathise with my brothers on a deeper level since they had faced temptations many more times than I did. Afterwards, I had the strength to tell this young man that he could only see me at our centre, but I remained very sad for a few months.

One afternoon, when I was street witnessing for a short time, I met my third spiritual child, Woravut. I just wanted to distribute one more invitation to our lectures and immediately return to our centre, because we expected many guests. Most people who received our invitations just took them and disappeared, but Woravut was very intrigued and followed me on the spot. When I introduced the Divine Principle to him, he seemed fascinated; however, more with my presence than the actual lecture. Woravut visited us every day to see me, whereupon I said to him that God had already chosen a partner for each of us and waits for us to become mature enough to receive the Marriage Blessing. Woravut continued to listen to lectures every day without much understanding until I talked about Moses' providence. Suddenly a light dawned on him; he understood the contents of my words and asked if he could become a member. I shed many tears for him. Later he was blessed in marriage and now has two children as well as four grandchildren.

I cannot express how much joy I felt to teach the Divine Principle. Some guests wanted to hear the whole content in one sitting. Some of them stayed all night, and we consumed a lot of coffee to stay awake. I used the diagrams in my book for a while, but later, some Thai members created beautiful charts, making lecturing easier.

In May 1978, Jack was officially appointed national leader of the mission in Thailand; my responsibility was to be a foreign correspondent for our German and

American newspapers. I was also responsible for building an economic foundation for our movement in Thailand. Those directions came as a big shock for me since I had no experience in politics or economics. Nevertheless, I decided to follow the new directives to the best of my abilities. I told Jack that I would write newspaper articles two days a week and work on a business plan for another two days. During the remaining three days and every evening, I would continue giving Divine Principle lectures because Jack wanted me to, and I could not imagine giving it up.

Sometimes I visited refugee camps together with other missionaries and wrote about my experiences. Once I interviewed prostitutes to understand their motivation and to publish their stories. Soon the political situation changed once more, which provided important material for my journalistic activities.

Vietnam launched an invasion of Cambodia in late December 1978 to disempower the dictator, Pol Pot. Two million Cambodians had died at the hands of the Khmer Rouge regime, and Pol Pot's troops conducted bloody cross-border raids into Vietnam, Cambodia's historical enemy, massacring civilians and torching villages. Pol Pot fled ahead of the onslaught, and Phnom Penh was placed under Vietnamese control in a little over a week. During the rule of the Khmer Rouge regime, we learned about reports from Cambodian refugees through newspapers and personally interviewing them at a camp in Thailand. Jack and I shed many tears for the Cambodian people, and we were relieved when Pol Pot lost his power.

We started to build our Home Church in that area by visiting families and offering classes to the children.

In the fall of 1980, Tanet joined us. He had met our movement in London and just knew the address of our P.O. Box; every day, he visited the post office to meet one of us. He became a dedicated member who received the Marriage Blessing two years later.

In December 1980, Oliver, a young British man visited us. He had met our movement in his homeland but decided to travel the world before listening to the Divine Principle. Whilst still in Thailand, he changed his plan and tried to find our phone number. Through the Ministry of Education, he received the number of a journalist who specialised in religious movements. This reporter knew our number, even though we had not yet registered our organisation. Oliver became a

full time member; later, his brother Russell from England paid us a visit to convince the former to come home, but instead joined us as well. 1989 Russell received the Marriage Blessing and was appointed national leader of our movement in Greece in 2010.

Birthday of True Parents, Trinity, Matching and Blessing

When we missionaries were invited to the birthday celebration of the True Parents in February 1980 in New York, I felt that True Parents looked exactly as in my dreams and the photos I had seen. When True Father spoke, I was surprised by how much he understood our struggles and suffering. Many missionaries were shedding tears during his speech.

Amala, the German sister from Sri Lanka, and I took part in a Matching by photo on 30th December 1980.

In 1981, all missionaries and their spouses received visas as representatives of the International Relief Friendship Foundation (IRFF). We were elated because, for the past six years.

In 1982, a Professors for World Peace (PWPA) conference took place in the Philippines, and we were able to send a group of professors from Bangkok. Amala, as well as I, received the Marriage Blessing in July as part of the 2075 couples in New York, and six of our members joined a Blessing ceremony in October among a group of 6000 couples in Korea.

In 1983, my husband Tom and the wives of some Thai brothers arrived in Bangkok to start our families, and together we continued our mission. We were happy to sponsor a conference of the International Cultural Foundation in Thailand, and at the end of the year, some Thai professors attended a PWPA conference in Korea.

Progress in Our Mission

In 1984, the first conference of the World Media Association took place in Bangkok. Reverend Lee became the national leader of the movement in Thailand and later the regional director of twenty Asian countries. By that time, we had more than forty full-time members.

Jack and I had worked together for nine years on the national level; Amala other missionaries also supported us immensely for a long time. When Reverend Lee arrived, we only had a few pioneer centres in Bangkok and some other provinces. The Unification Movement was not yet officially registered because Jack and I were concerned about the political situation in Thailand. Furthermore, we knew that



Christian missionaries had been largely unsuccessful in converting the Thais, as 95 percent of the population is Buddhist, and we wanted to avoid any misunderstanding.

Since Reverend Lee was responsible for the mission in Thailand, Jack, others and I were working in pioneer centres. My husband and I managed three different centres successively, located close to the largest university in Bangkok. During that time, our daughter and son were born.

In 1986, when our youngest child was one-year-old, our family and a group of members were sent to Phuket in the south of Thailand to start a mission there. At first, we felt lonely because we were used to the many members and projects in Bangkok, but then we came to love this beautiful town close to the ocean. Our fundraising and witnessing efforts brought outstanding results. The worst experience in Phuket occurred when my husband Tom almost drowned, whereas the best one was the conception of our third child.

After one year in Phuket, we were assigned to Songkhla, another town in the south, and a year later to Chiang Mai in the north of Thailand.

In August 1988, a World Collegiate Association for the Research of Principles (CARP) Conference was held in Bangkok. For a few months, Tom assisted with the preparations. Most Thai members and representatives from many countries around the world participated in it.

In 1989, Tom and I returned to Bangkok because Reverend Lee wanted me to conduct 21-day Divine Principle workshops

and become the principal of a small school for the children of our movement.

In 1990, Reverend Lee encouraged my family to move to the United States, planning to assign leadership positions to native members. The missionaries were to stay in the background as advisors. I wanted to remain in Thailand at all costs, but my husband did not. I cannot express how my heart was torn apart at that time. This country had become my home, and I wanted to be buried here. At first, I could not imagine how I could ever be happy at any other place. With time I got used to America, but Thailand will always have a special place in my heart.

Reflections

When I first arrived in Thailand, I did not have the faintest idea of what was waiting for me. Jack became my closest ally, and I believe that our unity was the foundation for all the success in Thailand. We shed count-less tears and offered many conditions, including prayers, fasting and witnessing. Jack ascended to the spirit world in 2007; I know that he also loved Thailand more than any other country. Some Thai members told me that they often feel the presence of his spirit.

At the time of this writing, it has been 31 years since I left Thailand. However, I have always stayed in touch with some of the members. Especially since the creation of social media, I have shared a lot with my Thai brothers and sisters. In 2018, I stayed in Kalasin in the Northeast of Thailand for three weeks to participate in witnessing and preparing candidates for the Marriage Blessing. In 2019 I revisited Kalasin.

One year after our family moved to the United States, the Unification Movement in Thailand experienced severe persecution because one government official became very hostile towards our organisation due to misinformation. Our members were accused of attempting to abolish the Royal Family and Buddhism in Thailand. Eight of our leaders were arrested and imprisoned for 21 months, where they had to wear hand-cuffs and shackles. This group included Dr Lek and his wife Bai Hang from Taiwan. Some leaders of our movement in the USA were able to assist by hiring a good lawyer, but it took 21 years until we were completely vindicated.

Finally, in 2012, Dr Lek and his wife became the first Blessed family worldwide who fulfilled their mission as tribal messiahs.

Until this day, my family continues to support Thailand and our mission there. 

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남북통일기원
창원시 구국구세기도회



공생·공영·공익을 위한

소담동

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