

Former President David S. C. Kim Honored at Sung Hwa Ceremony in Unification Theological Seminary

November 10, 2011



Dr. Richard Panzer, at podium, reads the biography of President Kim at the chapel of Unification Theological Seminary.

More than 200 friends and family of Dr. David Sang Chul Kim said goodbye to a lion of the Unification Movement on Nov. 10, 2011 in Barrytown, New York. He was 96.

Dr. Kim, known by more than 1,000 graduates of the Unification Theological Seminary (UTS) as President Kim, was honored by True Father with a new name for his transition service: it is the first-ever "Sung Hwa (Heavenly Harmony) Ceremony."

"Since 1984, True Father designated the ascension ceremony for Blessed members as the Seung Hwa, but from today we will have Sung Hwa ceremonies," said Dr. Chang Shik Yang, the Continental Director of the Unification Church.



Guests who had known David Kim as President Kim, or "Grandpa Kim" packed the chapel on Nov. 10, 2011.

True Father said that Dr. Kim will go directly to the heavenly garden, which means the place in the

spiritual world that is like the “Garden of Eden before the Fall,” he explained.

Reflections on President Kim's unique contributions to the Unification Church were given by Michael Mickler, professor of church history at UTS, Dr. Theresa Stewart, former dean of UTS and Dr. Tyler Hendricks, former president of UTS.

Dr. Mickler and Dr. Hendricks explained that President Kim counseled students to anticipate what projects True Father needed before he articulated those needs.

"He advised others to be thinking leaders not blind following leaders," Prof. Mickler said.

After arriving in the United States as the second missionary in 1959 (following Miss Young Oon Kim), he set up United Faith, Inc., a group which foreshadowed several interfaith projects, explained Prof. Mickler. "While serving as president of UTS, he was the father of UTS' interreligious work," he added. President Kim helped establish the Assembly of world religions, the International Religious Service, and the New Ecumenical Research association.

Early in David S. C. Kim's life, he believed that it was his destiny to unite the world's religions, but after meeting True Father, who was five years younger, God told him that this younger man would carry out this mission. David S. C. Kim decided to subordinate himself to this younger man – “Not an easy thing for a Korean to do in 1954,” Dr. Hendricks said.

Program

<p>天曆三十一年十月十三日 祝 父母任祖國創建 忠孝大表者 金相哲入苑 2011.10.13</p>	<h2 style="text-align: center;">PROGRAM</h2> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Master of Ceremonies: Rev. Joshua Cotter Executive Vice President, Unification Church of America</i></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Welcome</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Master of Ceremonies</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cheon Il Guk Anthem</td> <td style="text-align: right;">"Blessing of Glory"</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Invocation</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><i>Rev. Bruce Grodner New York District Pastor, Unification Church of America</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Biography</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><i>Mr. Richard Panzer, President, Unification Theological Seminary</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Slide/Video Tribute</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Celebrating the life of Dr. David S.C. Kim</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seung Hwa Address</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><i>Dr. Chang Shik Yang Continental Director, HSA-UWC North America</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Musical Offering</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Mrs. Seiko Lee</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tributes and Testimonies</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Dr. Michael Mickler, Mrs. Therese Stewart, Dr. Tyler Hendricks</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Flower Presentation</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Closing Hymn</td> <td style="text-align: right;">"Song of the Garden"</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Family Greeting</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Mr. Sung Soo Kim</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Three Cheers of Eog-mansej</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><i>Rev. Ki Yeol Lee Director, Korean Evangelical Association</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Close of Ceremony</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Welcome	Master of Ceremonies	Cheon Il Guk Anthem	"Blessing of Glory"	Invocation	<i>Rev. Bruce Grodner New York District Pastor, Unification Church of America</i>	Biography	<i>Mr. Richard Panzer, President, Unification Theological Seminary</i>	Slide/Video Tribute	Celebrating the life of Dr. David S.C. Kim	Seung Hwa Address	<i>Dr. Chang Shik Yang Continental Director, HSA-UWC North America</i>	Musical Offering	Mrs. Seiko Lee	Tributes and Testimonies	Dr. Michael Mickler, Mrs. Therese Stewart, Dr. Tyler Hendricks	Flower Presentation		Closing Hymn	"Song of the Garden"	Family Greeting	Mr. Sung Soo Kim	Three Cheers of Eog-mansej	<i>Rev. Ki Yeol Lee Director, Korean Evangelical Association</i>	Close of Ceremony	
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Congratulations! Dr. David Sang Chul Kim entered the Garden of Heaven as a representative of loyalty and filial piety for the establishment of the Fatherland, centering on True Parents.

Letter from In Jin Nim



UNIFICATION CHURCH USA
THE HOLY SPIRIT ASSOCIATION FOR THE UNIFICATION OF HUMANITY

November 10, 2011

To the Family of Dr. Sang Chul Kim,

Dr. David Sang Chul Kim is beloved by our True Parents and True Family, as well as countless brothers and sisters in America and around the world. Their love is a testimony to his life of devotion. His loyalty and tenacity to serve God's will is etched in history.

The American movement is so grateful to Dr. David Sang Chul Kim. He poured out his heart to the brothers and sisters, teaching and guiding them. He was never afraid to sacrifice and because of his investment in this country, working alongside the other early missionaries to America, our True Parents could be received and our church could grow from humble beginnings to a nationwide church and movement that has shared the Breaking News, in every state. I am deeply grateful to his family, and especially his children, who have shared in that sacrifice. Through this loyal disciple, True Parents' message has been firmly planted in this nation.

For many of us, we best remember Dr. David Sang Chul Kim as President Kim. He nurtured our True Parents' vision for the Unification Theological Seminary (UTS). Our graduates remember him fondly as someone who was so much more than a seminary president; he was a spiritual guide, mentor and friend who sparked in their hearts and minds a desire to serve God and True Parents.

Dr. David Sang Chul Kim's heart of devotion is reflected in the extraordinary things he did in his lifetime, even in the last few years of his life. He is truly an example to us. His passion to honor True Parents did not wane with the passing of time. His final project was to build a large monument inscribed with The Letter from God to True Father, given in 2001. He fundraised personally through IOWC Publications and designed the monument, with Korean on one side and English on the other. In 2010, he dedicated the setting of this monumental stone near the Founder's prayer rock at UTS. Such is the spirit of this truly devoted disciple.

On this glorious day in which we celebrate the victorious life of Dr. David Sang Chul Kim, I send my greetings to your family, together with the gratitude of the American movement.

May God bless you.

Rev. In Jin Moon
President and CEO, Unification Church USA
Senior Pastor, Lovin' Life Ministries

Biography



David S. C. Kim in Oregon in the early 1960s.

This interview, the first and only televised interview of True Father, took place in 1972 with the columnist and broadcaster Al Capp. It is also a great illustration of David Kim's voice and style, as he was translating for True Father.

David S. C. Kim was born in 1915 in Seoul, Korea, as the only child to a father of Christian background and a mother of combined Buddhist and Confucian background. His grandmother was a devout Buddhist follower who was spiritually sensitive; she was associated with many religious groups in Korea. Looking back, he believed that this interfaith-oriented background in his family helped him to research higher truth not only from Christian churches but also from other religions. He reflected that, "I know now that God prepared me to help God's dispensation."

His wife, Eui Hong Kang was a teacher at the Presbyterian Church school in Kunsan. They met at that same Presbyterian Church (where he served as deacon and choir director) and married on January 6, 1942. They received the Blessing as one of the 36 Couples in 1961.



President Kim organized "chapels" in several cities in the Northwest, but he did not call his organization a church.

In February, 1954, he accepted Rev. Moon as the *Messiah* to come, as prophesied in the Old and New Testaments of the Bible, as the *Second Coming* of the founders of the major world religions in other non-Christian sacred books; and as the *Righteous Man*, Chung Do-Ryung in the book called *Chung-Gam-Rok*. He accepted Rev. Moon even before he met him in person and before hearing the lectures of the Divine Principle from the late Mr. Hyo Won Eu. He testifies that he heard God's voice solemnly say:

“Listen, dear Sang Chul! I have been training you for 30 years since the age of 9, for your search of the truth through various religious experiences and groups. The time has now come and this is the place I wanted to lead you to. Unconditionally surrender. From now on your new name is David, after King David who destroyed Goliath in the Old Testament. You will be going overseas for pioneer missionary work for this group.”

From that moment he followed Rev. Moon with unwavering faith and dedication. On May 1, 1954, centering on Father a trinity was formed including Mr. Eu, Mr. Sang Hun Lee, and David Kim, who pledged to follow Father and his truth. The next day he became one of the five charter members of the Holy Spirit Association for the Unification of World Christianity.

As his revelation from God stated, he was sent overseas as the first pioneer missionary to the West, first to England and then to the United States. He arrived in Oregon on September 18, 1959.



President Kim and Mrs. Kim at UTS in the mid-1990s.

He and Mrs. Kim received the Blessing simultaneously: Mrs. Kim in Seoul, Korea and he in Portland, Oregon. After hiring a lawyer and fighting against the immigration authorities, his wife and five children were finally able to join him in 1965.

He was chosen to be a leader for the International One World Crusade that traveled through many states. In 1975 Rev. Moon asked him to take the helm as the first President of Unification Theological Seminary in Barrytown, where he served until 1994.

During his tenure, the Seminary convened ecumenical conferences, which attracted top scholars and religious leaders from a wide range of denominational backgrounds. Building upon these, UTS organized a number of interfaith initiatives including the Global Congress of the World's Religions (1977) and the Youth Seminar on the World's Religions (1982) and the New Ecumenical Research Association (New ERA), begun in 1979. New ERA developed as an interfaith community of theologians that brought together hundreds of religious scholars for wide-ranging discussions, many of which resulted in publications. Several additional interfaith organizations arose from New ERA, among them the

International Religious Foundation (IRF), Religious Youth Service (RYS), the Council for the World Religions (CWR), and the Inter-Religious Federation for World Peace (IRFWP).

In 1980, the seminary added a three-year Divinity Program, which reflected its commitment to prepare theologically trained ministerial leaders. In 1986, UTS received a provisional charter from the State of New York, and on January 17, 1990 it was granted its Absolute Charter.

In 1994, David Kim stepped down as President of Unification Theological Seminary after 20 years at the helm. He remained active in interfaith work and served faithfully as President Emeritus on the UTS Board and as IOWC president until the final months of his life. In his later years he became known affectionately to those around him as Grandpa Kim.

From 2004 through 2010 he devoted himself to monthly interfaith events, and freely shared internal and external guidance. In 2010 he founded the "Hoon Dok Hae Club" and named his residence as the Hoon Dok Hae Clubhouse. The club meets on the first Sunday of the month. It was after the November meeting that Grandpa Kim's last words, uttered to those surrounding him in his home, were "Hoon Dok Hae!"

Above excerpted from testimonies published in *The Words of David S.C. Kim: Let Us Learn from the Past* edited by Jennifer P. Tanabe (2009) and *The Ideal Family to Be or Not to Be: Testimonies of a Life of Faith* by Jennifer P. Tanabe (2010).