

12 City Hoondok Speaking Tours to Commemorate the Establishment of the Abel UN

Germany, 10 - 25 November, 2007

1. National level event in Goettingen



The national event concerning the 12-cities speaking tour in Germany took place in Goettingen as a distinct part of the 2nd conference of the National Peace Council. (For information about the conference see separate report.) Among the 75 participants there were 21 AfP, 4 new guests (who received their AfP certificate) and 10 2nd gen.

The program started with the CIG-anthem and was emceed by Dieter Schmidt. Christian Hausmann spoke the opening prayer. Amir Dr. Mohammed Herzog then reflected on what the Koran had to say about the title of the event "Heaven and Earth united in Search for God's homeland". Then Fritz Piepenburg read excerpts from the main speech.

The event closed with one more time singing the CIG-anthem and three cheers of Mansei.



2. Berlin

In Berlin, some 40 participants, including 5 AfP, gathered to commemorate the event within the frame of Sunday Service in the Neighborhood Center Berlin Schöneberg.

3. Bonn

The Family Federation and the Universal Peace Federation of Bonn jointly invited for an evening of peace, reconciliation and a new start in their local center. They followed the example of the 12 city tour of Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon and her son Dr. Hyun Jin Preston Moon who visited different cities in the U.S.A.

On Nov. 17 at 17.00 o'clock altogether 43 people gathered, among them were 12 guests and ambassadors for peace. Christian Haubold and Christina Begnaud introduced the program. Singing together the hymn of the UPF and Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" created a spirit of unity among the audience which represented many different nations and religions.

Prayers from different religious traditions were recited, followed by a TV-Film about the Stuttgart branch of the Family Federation. This film had been produced by Gospel TV and broadcasted on local TV. It gives an excellent impression of the work of the Family Federation.

Then the video "Quest for Peace" was shown and an explanation about the Universal Peace Federation and its founder, the Rev. Sun Myung Moon, was presented.

Georg Söhlke read key parts of the speech which Rev. Moon had given at the UPF-Assembly in New York on Sept. 23, 2007. The words of the speech were shown on a screen with a beautiful background picture of Rev. Moon. Listening to the reader and reading the words on the screen at the same time kept the audience really focused.

This was followed by a film about that assembly. Commenting on the video, Gregor Sattler explained about the vital role of the United Nations for world peace and Rev. Moon's work of creating an Abel-type UN by uniting conscientious people from all different faiths as ambassadors for peace.

Musical contributions by Bing Jie Chen and a Second Generation choir were much appreciated by the audience. It was amazing to see how everybody enthusiastically joined in the traditional Korean "Eog Mansei's" at the end of the program.

Lively discussions continued for a long time while everyone enjoyed the delicious buffet.



4. Braunschweig

We had 14 people at our meeting in Braunschweig on Nov. 17, 2007. Three were already AfP, and we awarded one more to the musician. Also, we gave Mr. Köhler one for his wife who could not attend.

We can be especially proud of our peace ambassador Gernod Kresse, who prepared everything. He was MC, gave an excellent introduction, and a testimony of his wonderful experiences in Korea. He was full of appreciation. An excellent John the Baptist! His friend, Herr Köhler, was also most friendly and kind and supportive. The musician Johann Rohr brought a touch of heaven through his excellent accordion playing. He is prepared to play for us any time!!



Our technician, Fred Schlichting, also made a very professional job. Detlef introduced the speech and read it with great dignity. Dieter Schmidt gave a very good talk about the vision of Father Moon and the goals of the UPF. He felt so "at home" that he expressed his sincere thanks to everyone for their hard work and dedication. It was a really cosy and happy meeting. The refreshments that Korena and Marcia prepared were another highlight of the evening. Well done!

A total of ten members and four peace ambassadors attended. It was a small, but very happy meeting. An evening with friends! Here I would especially like to thank Marcia and Lothar. They invested so much effort in planning and co-ordinating everything. Thank you!

5. Düsseldorf

We held our local UPF event in Düsseldorf on 17th. November. The participants were AfP (10), 2.G. (5), all together 40. We followed the guideline of the program. We will continue to hold our regular UPF meeting twice a month to discuss the progress of the projects.



6. Frankfurt

In Frankfurt, the event was held on November 17th, 4 pm in our new center. Around 50 people participated, among them 6 guests, representatives of the Muslim, Sikh, Scientology and Christian faiths. We were happy that a large group of 2nd Generation took part in this event.

The program, which was well received by our guest and all in attendance, started with opening remarks of the emcee, Claus Dubisz, and the Cheon Il Guk anthem. This was followed by the powerpoint presentation "The 5 Principles of Peace of UPF", given by Fritz Piepenburg, one of the Vicepresidents of UPF-Germany. Then the Video of the Abel UN Inauguration Event was shown. The main address, "A Providential View of the Pacific Rim Era in Light of God's Will" was read by Monika Kunde, the city leader of Frankfurt.

The music presentation of our new Frankfurt choir and Margaret Staudinger helped to create a good atmosphere. Afterwards, everybody enjoyed the buffet and our guests left us after a long time.



7. Gießen

On Sunday 18th of November we held a meeting with Ambassadors for Peace and guests to support True Parents' tour in the USA. We started with piano music played by Irion Hoffmann and then a short report about our National UPF conference in Goettingen. We then watched the film „A Quest for Peace“ our MC translating the main points into German.



Before the main speech Christian S. showed us a map of the world showing the Pacific and Pacific Rim area, he explained a little about the character of this area, the many islands and

the „Ring of Fire“. He also pointed out the Bering Straight and mentioned the Bridge/Tunnel project showing us a magazine article referring to Russia’s plans for a railway connecting the two continents.

Fritz Piepenburg, Vice Chairman of UPF Germany, spoke briefly and then read excerpts from the speech, World Peace and the Pacific Rim. The event was rounded off beautifully with a classic Italian song sung by Desiré Koertvelyessy (2nd gen.) and an invitation to our interreligious circle discussing the topic “Life After Death” next weekend. There were about 63 people in attendance including 2 Ambassadors for Peace and 2 new guests.

8. Hamburg

The Event took place in the Madison Hotel on Nov. 18. We were about 30 participants. 2 of them were PA's, 3 were guests. Dieter Schmidt gave a talk on UPF.



9. München

Following the 12 City Tour schedule of True Parents we realized our event in Munich on Saturday the 17th of November. We had invited several of our musicians, 1. and 2. generation of our UPF member families, so that an atmosphere was built up of a vivid peace festival. Saxophone and piano, guitar and violin players inspired the audience. After the video of the UPF Assembly in NY then True Fathers Speech was read.



Amongst the audience (13 guests and 40 members) were 2 senior pastors of the 7 Day Adventist Church, other representatives of different churches and religious communities in Munich and 3 participants of the ILC Conference in Korea in August. The sharing and discussions afterwards were very lively and guests didn't want to leave anymore our center. People appreciate the values and teachings of our True Parents.

10. Nuremberg

The event took place in our center with 30 people in attendance, among them 3 guests. Wolfgang Schimmel was emcee and started with a quote from speeches of previous peace conferences. The presentation that followed connected us well to the tour of True Parents in America and opened the hearts for the main speech. Our city leader Peter Haller gave an inspirational talk in the end to help us understand the time we are living in. Afterwards we had some lively conversations with coffee and cake, an opportunity we always appreciate.

11. Stuttgart

Inspired and challenged despite the small time frame we had to plan and organize the important local event parallel to the events in USA we started to send out invitations to our guests and members. The next step was to follow up on the guests by telephone and we could ask and win our dear AFP Samir El Midani to say a few short introducing remarks matched to the theme. Mr. El Midani is former chairman of the local Islamic Alliance and active member of our local Interreligious Roundtable since many years, he did a great job and proved that he is an honorable and skilled member of the "UPF- Peace council -family" so to speak. He also was the one who was often chanting happily "one family under God, aju" after coming back from the ILC conference in Korea last August. A total of six AFP attend the event. Special guest worth mentioning is Dr. Schmitt and his lovely wife from the local Bahai'i community

and vice chairman of Religions for Peace (WCRP) with whom we work together hand in hand in interreligious and peace matters more and more.



We started our event on the 18th of November with the hymn "Glory of Blessing", then we watched the DVD "Quest of Peace" about UPF, its activities and the founder Dr. Rev. Sun Myung Moon. AFP Samir El Midani spoke the introducing words, one young 2. gen. brother played a piece from J.S.Bach on the piano and afterwards the local family church leader Hubert Arnoldi read the incredible revealing peace message No.14 "The Pacific Rim Areas in the Light of the Providence", the essence of Father Moon's teachings and revelations from God, very clear and profound indeed! In the reflection time we listened to the song "One world of peace" sung by Mrs. Seiko Lee via audio tape. After a delicious buffet prepared by our hard working blessed families and hospitality crew and a round of introduction of everyone we joined hand in hand and sang "We shall overcome" to conclude a warm, wonderful and spiritually rich and hopeful event.

We had 9 guests among 41 participants in total, and we would like to thank everyone who came and brought the buffet, and everyone who could not come but supported the event with prayers and deep hearted loyalty, even though we had several events the day before and the weekend before with many more participants. What an intense time full of blessing, love and inspiration, let's carry on and comfort and heal God's heart, now is the time! AJU!

12. Hurlach

On Friday, 23 Nov., our three families organized the event in our living room. We were 15 people, 5 of them Ambassadors for Peace. Two AfPs read congratulatory messages, Manfred Schmid prayed and Stefan Schmid read Father's speech. Wolfgang Schmid made some remarks which made everyone laugh. In the end, Jae-Sook served delicious snacks, fresh Christmas cookies and the popular and beyond Bavaria's border well-known "Schmid-punch".