

THE REV. MOON'S CONCEPT OF NEW CULTURAL REVOLUTION

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Introduction

I am sure you remember that the theme of the International Conference on the Unity of the Sciences from the 13th meeting up until now has continued to be "Absolute Value and New Cultural Revolution," and that, during this time the Rev. Sun Myung Moon has referred to the "New Cultural Revolution" several times in his keynote speeches.

Therefore, those participants in this ICUS meeting who wish to understand more clearly the prospectus and nature of this conference promoted by the Rev. Moon, may need to correctly grasp the concept of the New Cultural Revolution which the Rev. Moon has in mind. For those who wish to do so, I have tried to collect and arrange what the Rev. Moon has spoken concerning the new cultural movement and I would like to introduce it to you for your reference.

In order to understand properly the Rev. Moon's concept of the New Cultural Revolution, I think it may be necessary for you to understand the present situation of the worldwide Unification movement promoted by the Rev. Moon and its providential significance, as well as several points concerning God's creation. Therefore, I would like first to briefly examine the

present situation of the Unification movement.

A. Present Situation of the Unification Movement

In introducing the present situation of the Unification movement, I would first like to clarify the fact that the Unification movement is being carried out as a third method for solving the present-day confusion.

1. Present-day Confusion and the Unification Movement

The Rev. Moon has expressed his concern and anxiety about global confusion almost every time in his keynote speech. And this confusion has persisted without showing any sign of improvement. International conflicts, terrorism, kidnaping, destruction, arson, social crimes, injustice, corruption, irrationality, the increase of the gap between the rich and the poor, moral degradation, depravity of women, drug abuse, alcoholism, break-up of the family, etc. not only persist, but continue to get worse.

These social ills can be seen as deriving from the general loss of a guiding direction in the fields of politics, economy, society, education, justice (law), philosophy, art, religion, ethics, morality, etc.

The situation has reached such a level that no existing methodology can cure these ills. Neither democracy nor communism can manage this confusion. Neither can religion nor philosophy do so with their current methods. Thus, human culture is surely on the verge of destruction.

The Rev. Moon began the Unification movement as the third path for managing the confusion and saving our unstable human culture. I am sure all of you are already informed that the

Unification movement is a movement to build the Kingdom of Heaven on earth, the world of God's ideal of creation, by means of God's Word and love.

God's Word here refers to truth, while God's love refers to an infinite love that can embrace everyone and all things, even enemies. The Rev. Moon undertook this movement and continued it, overcoming many criticisms with the above-mentioned love and truth. It is because of the help of God and the cooperation of the spirit world that the Unification movement has managed to survive and grow without falling down in spite of persistent hindrances.

Why has God helped the movement? The Rev. Moon's answer to this question is as follows. Because firstly, the Unification movement is indeed God's movement. It is the movement to achieve the Will of God on earth by means of God's love and truth, namely, the movement to build the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. Secondly, because if this movement should end in failure, God's providence for six thousand years would end in failure, too. Thirdly, it is because the doctrine of love which the Unification movement employs has corresponded with God's law (the way of Heaven) as well as the law of spirit world. Since one's right mind cannot help responding to God's truth and love, everyone who is not ill-intentioned has been attracted to this movement.

For that reason, all past opposition and persecution against the Rev. Moon, whether intentional or unintentional, has been due to misunderstandings. Therefore, when these misunderstandings come to be resolved, the opposition is destined to disappear.

Next let me introduce the present situation of the

Unification movement concretely.

2. The Current Status of the Unification Movement

The Unification movement, which the Rev. Moon is carrying out on a worldwide scale today, includes: first, various forms of religious movements (including mission work); second, the movement for the unity of thought, and thirdly, the movement for Victory-over-Communism (including CAUSA activities).

Furthermore, academic research activities through various seminars and symposiums, cultural and artistic activities, media activity centering on the Washington Times, international security conferences, etc. are also being promoted. Such activities are primarily the mental and ideological side of the Unification movement, but the Unification movement is being actively carried out on the economic and geographical sides as well. In this respect, many sorts of industrial enterprises, such as machinery, shipbuilding, pharmaceuticals etc., are being carried on, and the equalization of scientific technology between the advanced and developing countries is being promoted.

In addition, a movement to establish a new world bank to stabilize the international financial situation is being promoted, and a plan for establishing regional communities in which economic cooperation is to be realized among the countries of each region (ex. the AULA movement for Latin America) has been set up or is being carried out. Ultimately the framework for economic cooperation involving the entire world is intended to be built. The first step in this is the International Highway Project, which will connect Korea, Japan and China into a single sphere of economic cooperation. (The building of the Highway has already begun.)

B. The Unification Movement Is the True Cultural Movement

What I have just mentioned are the main elements of the Unification movement which the Rev. Moon is undertaking on a world-wide scale. This movement is one whose intention is to save mankind from sin and pain, and to build the Kingdom of Heaven, filled with true love, true peace and true freedom. But from the cultural point of view, the Unification movement is intended to establish true culture, original culture. It intends to realize true culture through providing new and correct direction to all fields which have lost a guiding direction, including politics, economy, society and education.

What is the true culture like? It is the culture of Adam. Adam's culture is the principled or original culture which God planned to realize on the basis of His Word and love through Adam at the beginning of history. Adam's culture is the original culture, principled culture and unified culture. This is culture based on Heart or love.

Here I would like to briefly introduce the relationship between Heart and culture. What is Heart? Heart is the emotional impulse to joy through love. Heart is the core or essence of mind, and the motive power of the three faculties of the mind: intellect, emotion and will. The three faculties of the mind bring forth three types of activities: intellectual, emotional (aesthetic), and volitional activities. Intellectual activity is the pursuit of truth, emotional activity is the pursuit and realization of beauty, and volitional activity is the practice of goodness. Therefore, intellect, emotion and will in the mind and truth, beauty and goodness in value correspond with each other respectively. The achievements of

intellectual activity are the fields of learning such as science and philosophy; the achievements of aesthetic activity are the arts, including painting, music, sculpture, dancing, poetry, etc.; the achievements of volitional activity are religion, ethics, education, etc. From the viewpoint of Unification Thought, the totality of the achievements of those human activities is culture itself. That is to say, the totality of the achievements of man's intellectual, emotional and volitional activities is culture. Therefore, politics, economy, society, education, science, art, philosophy, religion, literature, media, etc. are all included in the concept of culture. For that reason, when politics, economy, education, art, etc. are established on the basis of Heart or love, then the culture which consists of those elements will be true culture, or Adam's culture. True culture is the culture of Heart, or the culture of love.

The Unification movement, which the Rev. Moon has been conducting up to the present, is the movement to try to establish this very culture of Heart, or culture of love, on earth.

C. Culture of Heart and the Unity of Religion

A culture of Heart is truly a culture in which the ideal of God's creation has been realized. Since culture of Heart is a culture based on God's love (absolute love), it is also a unified culture. This is because love is the power which operates for unification. If man had not fallen, the unified culture, based on God's love, would have been established and would have lasted to this very day. Due to the Fall, man's mind has become self-centered and thereby culture has been divided.

Then, later, religion appeared to teach the way of love for the salvation of mankind. However, since doctrines differ, their directions of love do not coincide, and the unity of culture has been difficult. Accordingly, in order for a true unified culture to be established today, the unity of religion has to be accomplished first. In order for the unity of religion to be accomplished, the unity of love, in which people abandon their own selfish way of thinking and try to live and act for the sake of others, has to be accomplished. We know that all religions emphasize the realization of love in their own way.

Christianity emphasizes love more than faith and hope; Islam emphasizes the love of Allah; Buddhism stresses mercy, and Confucianism, jen (仁) or benevolence. The followers of each religion try to love one another. Nevertheless, they do not practice love between the different religions. For example, Christianity fails to love Islam, and Islam opposes Christianity. Each religion often disdains or even hates other religions; so, we have sometimes seen cases in which religious conflicts had taken place. This is because the religions have different founders and different teachings. However, in order for a unified culture to be established, no matter how different the founders and their teachings may be, different religions have to love each other.

For that sake, the unity of love has to be attained. This is possible by showing God's love through action, while clarifying the fact that the founders of all religions were set up by God the Creator, who is the absolute being, to guide the people in each particular region toward the direction of goodness, and that the essence of the teachings of those founders is the same. Without the Fall, men would have been

able to practice such unified love long ago. The Rev. Moon is now developing the movement to carry out such love.

D. Culture of Heart and the Unity of Thought

Next I would like to speak about the unity of thought according to the Rev. Moon's teaching. In order for a culture of Heart to be established, the unity of thought should be accomplished together with the unity of love (unity of religion). Then how can the unity of thought be attained?

As love taught in different religions, which is in a relative level, can be united through absolute love, so the relative truths of existing thoughts can be united by absolute truth.

Many philosopher and theologians have appeared from ancient times until the present day, expressing many different thoughts.

They have dealt with a wide range of truths concerning the universe, life, history, cognition, art, etc. However, the truths which they expressed remain relative truths, not having been absolute truth. We have witnessed that soon after one particular thought has emerged, another thought dissatisfied with or opposed to the preceding thought has always emerged. This is because the truths inherent in the thoughts up to this time have not been eternal or universal, that is, they have not been absolute. The conflict between these thoughts brought about the division of value systems and eventually has given rise to a world of great confusion as we see today.

Accordingly, in order to control today's confusion, the unity of truth, namely the unity of thought is necessary. At the same time, for the realization of a unified culture also, the unity of thought is necessary. This is possible only with

God's Word, i.e. the absolute truth. The Rev. Moon calls God's absolute truth Godism.

E. God's Love and His Word

I have, up to this point, explained culture of Heart, the unity of religion, and unity of thought, as well as the point that God's love and God's Word (truth) are necessary for the culture of Heart.

Next, I would like to explain God's love and His Word more concretely according to the Rev. Moon's teachings. First, let me explain God's love.

1. God's Love

God created all things, especially man, as the object of His love. God's love refers to the irrepressible impulse of His mind to do things for the sake of His object. This derives from His Heart. To try to do things for the sake of one's object means to please it~(him, her) with a warm heart. Therefore, love can not come about without an object. God tries to please His object, because God seeks His own joy by sharing the joy of His object.

As I have mentioned, creation is His likeness. Therefore, like Him, all the created beings, including men, try to live for one another through the power of love.

Man especially is in His direct likeness; therefore, he should have established the ideal family, ideal society, and ideal world, by giving and receiving sincere love, seeking to live for his counterpart. But due to the Fall, man turned into a being which only thinks of living for his own sake, and tends to hate other people. Thus, the world has turned into one of

confusion, pain and sorrow in which various kinds of conflicts occur.

God's love is expressed in the actual world through man with definite forms and characteristics. First, I would like to mention the form. God intended to realize His love through the human family. Thus His love is expressed in the human family as the three forms of love: parental, conjugal and children's love. Parental love is the love which the parents bestow on their children; conjugal love is the love which the husband gives to his wife or the wife to her husband; children's love is the love which the children offer to their parents and to one another among the children. The children's love which is offered to the parents is called filial piety.

The love of the parent for their children and of the children for their parents is vertical love, while the love between the husband and wife and between children is horizontal love. The family is both vertical and horizontal, and orderly system of pairs of subject and object consisting of parents, husband and wife, and children. Through this system of love, basic ethics and virtues are established. Where there is no order, love cannot be established. Accordingly, no ethical norms can be formed.

The expansion of the family with vertical and horizontal order is society (a group of people, the workplace), the nation, and the world. Accordingly, in the workplace, the nation and the world, vertical and horizontal love based on the vertical and horizontal orders should come to be realized. Then the members will vertically and horizontally give and receive love with one another, feeling the impulse of Heart to live for one another. Such a society is the ideal society, such a nation is

the ideal nation, and such a world is the ideal world. One will be able to see that such a world will surely be realized if God's love is widely practiced.

Next let me speak about the characteristics of love. God's love is a strong harmonizing power and reconciling power, and a broad embracing power as well. When God's love is practiced, any kind of conflict can be turned into reconciliation, and any enemy can be embraced and be transformed into a friend. God's love is a tranquilizer which puts down resentment and hostility, and a soothing hand to appease any sorrow, pain or loneliness.

God's love is also the source of life. Thus it refreshes the dried-up life, and fills one's injured heart and soul with revitalizing hope. God's love is also an equalizing force, to even out all differences. Through God's love the gap between the rich and the poor, racial discrimination will disappear.

Thus God's love is stronger than any other force on earth, stronger than any political power, or any weapon's might. Only with such love will true peace be firmly settled, the unity of the world be accomplished, and the Kingdom of Heaven on earth be established. It was for the purpose of making man practice such love, unifying the world, and establishing the Kingdom of Heaven on earth that He has continued His providence of salvation throughout history. The Rev. Moon has promoted the many aspects of the Unification movement for the purpose of connecting this movement with God's love, and to fulfil ultimately His providential Will.

2. The Word of God

Next, I will speak about the Word of God. The Gospel according to John states in Chapter 1 that God created the

universe with the Word. This means that He created all things with truth. The truth here refers to the principle basic for all things to be created, exist and move. All things in the universe are created according to this principle, and exist, move, develop and change according to this principle. The appearance of each existing being according to this principle is the original image. In other words, all things (except man) are in accordance with this original image. However, man has lost his original image and his accord with the truth due to the Fall, having become a false image or non-principled image. Therefore, human society (the world) has also become a non-principled, evil world.

Creation is His likeness. That is, creation was formed in the likeness of God's attributes (His dual characteristics). Thus the idea that God created all things with the truth comes to mean that He created them in the likeness of His own dual characteristics. Therefore, God's truth (the Principle of creation) refers to God's thought (conception or plan) and Logos concerning the purpose of creation centering on Heart, Give and Take Action, Quadruple Base, reciprocal relationship between subject and object, etc. These are the elements of "God's Dual Characteristics." Thus we come to the conclusion that God bears the essence of truth in His dual characteristics. Accordingly, in order to know God's truth we have to know God's attributes, namely, His dual characteristics. With this truth the Rev. Moon has taught the original image of the individual, family, society, nation, and world, as well as Nature. This is Godism and Unification Thought. According to the Rev. Moon's testimony, the contents of Godism were directly received through revelation by God.

F. Love and the New Cultural Revolution

I have just spoken about God's love and His Word.

Next I will speak about the relationship between love and culture. It goes without saying that, in establishing the culture of Heart as the new culture, both God's love and Word (truth) are necessary. But of the two, practicing love is the more important. If one knows the truth and yet does not practice love, the New Cultural Revolution (the building of the Kingdom of Heaven) cannot be established. Rather, it can be said that the Kingdom of Heaven can be established if one practices God's love well, even though one does not know much of God's truth. In the creation of the new culture, the practice of love is indispensable. For the truth itself comes from love, and exists for the sake of love. In this section I would like to introduce love and culture in more detail.

I am speaking of culture, in the broad sense, meaning the total achievements of human activities in all social fields, such as politics, economy, society, law, education, philosophy, religion, art, science, speech (mass media), ethics, morality, and so on.

Reflecting back on history, many cultures, big and small, have risen and fallen, and we witness today that both Eastern and Western cultures are on the decline. Historically when an old culture perished, a new culture emerged. Today many people think that a new culture must rise. This means that the era of the Pacific civilization, so often mentioned nowadays, is drawing near.

Then, what will the coming culture be like? The Rev. Moon describes it as the culture of love and the culture of Heart.

In other words, it is culture based on love. Politics and economy will be based on God's love, and education, philosophy, religion, art, etc. will also be based upon love. This is because the future culture must be a culture of ever-lasting and unchanging peace, joy and freedom. Such a culture can only be guaranteed with God's love.

The core of God's love is Heart. Therefore, the culture of love is the culture of Heart. The culture of Heart is the culture of the Kingdom of Heaven which God will establish. Consequently, the movement for building the Kingdom of Heaven, which the Rev. Moon has been promoting through the Unification movement, is also the movement for building the culture of love, the culture of Heart. Thus, this movement must be connected even more closely with the movement of practicing love, and it is the hope of the Rev. Moon that as this Unification movement spreads in the future, the movement of love will also be rapidly spread all over the world. This movement is the movement to reform traditional cultures completely and radically. Therefore, the Rev. Moon calls this movement the New Cultural Revolution. The meaning of "revolution" here is different from secular revolution. Secular revolution involves physical force, but the revolution carried out by God's Will is a social reform movement in which those concerned fight with love and the Word of God, not with physical force.

The Rev. Moon has been carrying out this revolutionary movement amid severe persecution for forty years. Now this movement is approaching the time of its consummation. The Rev. Moon desires the cooperation of scholars and professors for the final success of this movement on the basis of the achievements hitherto attained.

The Rev. Moon deplores the fact that many scholars are often exploited of their scholastic achievements by those who hold secular power, or that the results of their research are often hoarded and given no public exposure. The theories and achievements of scholars should be utilized for the purpose of goodness, for the sake of mankind. The best way for them to do so, I believe, is for them to cooperate with God's providence seeking to build the new culture filled with love, peace and freedom on earth. The Rev. Moon's hopes for the professors also fall along these lines, I believe.

Lastly, one point which I would like to clarify is that I have not introduced this concept of the "New Cultural Revolution" to pressure professors and scholars assembled here to accept the Rev. Moon's thought, or Godism. I have explained it only because it will be helpful for you in understanding what the Rev. Moon is like. I hope there is no misconception on that point.

Thank you.