

Japanese Archipelagoes Under Siege by God's Power

With 12 overseas crusades, handkerchief crusades in many nations, the Global Christian Network (GCN), and literary mission, Manmin Central Church has accomplished approximately 7,800 branch churches and made every effort to the salvation of that one last soul. At a time in history when the spreading of the Gospel is achieved even to the remotest part of the earth, we have examined in Manmin's mission work in Japan. <Editor>



Current Status of the Mission Work in Japan

- Ida Manmin Church (Rev. Seung-Gil Ryu)
- Nagoya Manmin Church (Pastor Miyako Tokikuni)
- Beppu Manmin Church (Rev. Isao Kato)
- Yamagata Manmin Church (Rev. Gang-Sup Jang)
- Asahikawa Manmin Church (Pastor Miki Komatsu)
- Osaka Manmin Church / Maizuru Manmin Church (Rev. Marco Gun-Tae Kim)
- Tokyo Tabata Manmin Church (Rev. Kyeongtae Jung)
- Matsumoto Manmin Church (Rev. Masaaki Ito)
- Kawasaki Manmin Church (Pastor Sang-Soo Kim)
- Okayama Manmin Church (Rev. Yasuhiro Tokikuni)
- Yachiyo Manmin Church (Rev. Hisanao Aoki)
- Hokota Manmin Church (Bro. Masaru Iitsuka)
- Tokyo Manmin Church (Pastor Byung-Ran Choi)



Even though Japan is a country with a history of more than 460 years of Roman Catholicism and 146 years of Christianity and abounding with the blood of the martyrs, it is a spiritually corrupt nation filled with idol worshipping and pantheism, which annually give birth to over 100 such heretical and new religious as Aum Shinrikyo and the Unification Church.

8 million gods in Japan?

In Japan, religion is more of a pattern of life than faith, and it is said that there are "8 million gods" in this country. Yet, the figure "8 million" symbolizes infinity. Anything and everything, such as the Sun, the Moon, animals, dolls, and even dogs, can be gods. Drenched in polytheism, people in Japan do not bind themselves to a specific religion and say they can believe in the Emperor of their nation, Buddha, and God altogether alike. Some even establish churches within shrines built for their ancestors. They are also very much focused on the present life and are thus not too interested in the afterlife. They place a heavy emphasis on prosperity and blessings in this world.

Manmin branch churches in Japan on a highway to growth

It is not easy for such people of Japan to accept Christianity; most consider Christianity as a religion based in the United States or as a current of Western culture. For that reason, many older Japanese insist on holding fast to their national religion Shintoism or Buddhism, an Asian religion. Perhaps that is one of the reasons the population of Christians in Japan does not 1% of the whole population. The reality is that many Christians who do attend church still have Buddhist altars or kamidanas (a type of miniature

shrine for ancestors and the like, placed or hung high on a wall in Japanese homes). Despite such conditions, the United Holiness Church of Jesus Christ of Japan (Rev. Seung-Gil Ryu, Chairman) is actively carrying out mission work with 14 branch and associate churches, including Ida Manmin Church, distributed throughout the Japanese archipelagoes (please refer to the "Mission Work in Japan" map).

Ida Manmin Church, founded in 1994 and serving as a foundation of mission work in Japan, has grown to become a congregation of 120 registered members as of July 2008 (in Japan, a congregation a size of 100 or more is considered a "large" church). In addition, Ida Manmin has also established Tokyo Mission Center with such programs as pastors' seminars and "IT Mission" for a systematic spread of the Gospel.

Driving force? The gospel of sanctification and manifestation of God's power

It is easy to associate "mission work" with providing relief and aid to people in need. In Japan's case, however, a conversion and diversification of concepts that transform perspectives on mission work are required. While it is one of the most economically prosperous nations in the world, in Japan the "rich-get-richer and the poor-get-poorer" condition is very obvious and thus many people live without any hope. Also in this spiritually corrupt nation, a staggering 40,000 people choose suicide each year.

The focus of mission work lies in affirming the life-transforming messages and manifesting the living God

to those who are worshipping idols and spiritually wandering.

The United Holiness Church of Jesus Christ of Japan's secret to revival is found in the gospel of sanctification and the manifestation of God's power through handkerchiefs.

At "The Nagoya Miracle Convention with Rev. Dr. Jaerock Lee" in September 2000, a wondrous incident in which 7 of the 13 deaf-mutes in attendance began to hear and speak by the prayer of Dr. Lee and such works of God are evident in the background in which branch churches have been founded.

When a married couple who was unable to conceive for 5 years received a blessing of pregnancy after they received prayer from Dr. Jaerock Lee, another infertile couple received his prayer and became pregnant, and this was how Yamagata Manmin Church was founded in January 1998.

In June 2005, Maizuru Manmin Church was founded by devoted efforts of Ms. Akiyo Hirouchi (66), whose 3-month-old granddaughter had been diagnosed with an atrial septal defect with a 4.5-mm puncture in her heart but was healed by Dr. Jaerock Lee's prayer that transcended time and space. Mr. Iitsuka (65), who had long been desperately searching for the true Gospel, was evangelized through a copy of *Manmin News* and healed of anthropophobia and founded Hokota Manmin Church in October 2007.

Taking place many monthly or occasionally at Manmin branch churches are handkerchief meetings. Through the handkerchiefs on which Senior Pastor Dr. Jaerock Lee prayed, many brothers and sisters in Christ in Japan have received God's answers to their prayer and healing of a variety of diseases. This is a very important aspect of mission work in Japan that plainly attests to the works of the living God to most churches in Japan that deny the works of the Holy Spirit.

Until the day all of Japan rises up by the gospel of sanctification, we expect the toils of missionaries to bear great fruit.

Volunteers' Association: A Cradle of Community Service

For a Japanese people who are mostly unfamiliar with Christianity, Ida Manmin Church established the Volunteers' Association in 1998, an opportunity for natural spread of the Gospel through community service.

The Church has spread the Gospel by engaging in a wide range of activities including puppet shows, worship performances, and charity events for the welfare of the elderly and proper guidance of the youth.

When such charity events were covered by mass media, Ida Manmin Church received a citation of thanks from the Ida City Government and this led to many souls' receiving of the Lord.

Volunteers' Association is currently expanding its community service activities to the youth and Ida citizens at large and at the request of the Ida City Community Welfare Committee, it is working towards the operation of a welfare facility for the elderly



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ARISE, SHINE, (ISA 60:1)

MANMIN NEWS

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2008 Vacation Bible School

"Time of Joy for Tomorrow's Future" Nurtured by God's Love



A somber image of a child in prayer Under the shade of God's grace, the students are coming forth as the children of faith

The Children's Sunday School's (Rev. Sung-Shik Jang, Principal) "2008 Summer Vacation Bible School" took place under the theme "Space" (Genesis 1:1) at Manmin Central Church, July 20-23, 2008.

Through times of the Word, praise, "Prayer Meeting to Be Filled with the Holy Spirit," special activities by grade, recreation, and gazing at the sky, the students fathomed the love of God and their hearts intensified with a hope for heaven.

"The 1st Manmin Children's Performing Arts Festival" took place with 15 competitors who made through an initial tryout and gave glory to God by displaying their talent in praise, dancing, and musical performances. "The Grand Prize" was awarded to Joo-Sun Jung, who is 6 years old, while "The Gold Prize" was awarded to the "Morning Dew," a group of sixth-grade female students.

Puppet shows "Pinocchio's Redemption" and "Children at Manmin" prepared by the counselors for the students garnered thunderous applause.

After the Summer Bible School

"I hope we can have Summer Bible School everyday!"

The messages by the speakers that began amidst the passion of friends' praising and dancing the way David had done compelled me to resolve in my heart to become a good person.

I repented and cried during the viewing of "The Passion of the Christ" and saw the way in which the Lord was afflicted. I was so delighted to see many different shapes of clouds and angels in the sky.

Above all, I was touched by the love of the counselors who embraced each of us in prayer and my heart felt so light after I became filled with the Holy Spirit and rent my heart in repentance by the grace of God. "The Performing Arts Festival" in which from the Toddlers' Group to sixth graders participated was also very splendid.

I hope we can have Summer Bible School every day. I thank all the counselors for their hard work and vow to be transformed and diligently march towards heaven.

Chan-Yeh Hong (fifth grade)



"The 4 days we spent together at Summer Bible School... you have no idea how happy we were."



Were we not happy together throughout the Summer Vacation Bible School and see the unusually many dragonflies in the cool weather? In your eyes were anticipation and desire to meet God and our hearts fluttered in anticipation of His grace.

We received so much grace from you guys as you listened attentively to many speakers, jumped in praising, and clenched your hands in tears and prayer.

We were delighted to hear your applause to our puppet shows we had prepared to please you and "The Performing Arts Festival" for which you prepared late into the night made us feel as though we were watching a performance in heaven.

The 4 days we spent together at Summer Bible School at which we praised, prayed, and gave thanks... you have no idea how happy we were."

Young-Mi Park (Counselor)

2008 Summer Retreat

July 28 ~ 30
Chinese Parish, Hearing-impaired Mission, Foreign Parish
July 28 ~ 31
Students' Sunday School

August 4 ~ 6
Nationwide Men's & Women's Missions
August 4 ~ 7 Six-Mission Joint Retreat (College, Canaan, Young Adults, Paul's, Mary's, Light & Salt)

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Confessions of Faith

1. Manmin Central Church believes the Bible to have been written in the inspiration of God and is the accurate and errorless Word of God.
2. Manmin Central Church believes that the Triune God - God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit - exists as one and works with each other
3. Manmin Central Church believes that only the

- atonement blood of Jesus Christ forgives us of our sins.
4. Manmin Central Church believes in Jesus Christ's resurrection, ascension, and the Second Advent, and the eternal heaven.
5. Members of Manmin Central Church confess "The Apostles' Creed" whenever they gather and believe in it verbatim.

MEMO





Senior Pastor Dr. Jaerock Lee

Heavens

"You alone are the LORD You have made the heavens,
The heaven of heavens with all their host, The earth and
all that is on it, The seas and all that is in them You give life to all of them
And the heavenly host bows down before You" (Nehemiah 9:6).

is not everything in existence.

Therefore, while there is a fleshly heaven that is visible to our naked eyes there are also heavens that belong to the spiritual world. Here, the term "heavens" is an expression that enables people in the three-dimensional world to easily understand the four-dimensional spiritual space. By the same token, we use the expression the "heavenly kingdom" because it facilitates our understanding.

2. The Fleshly Space and the Spiritual Space

In the beginning, there was only one space in which God existed. At the time of His choosing He devised a plan to accomplish the cultivation of mankind. He planned to create man, find children who will have taken after Him in their free will, and share love with them for eternity in gladness. The first phase of this plan called for the division of the space in which He dwelt alone into a fleshly space and a spiritual space.

What, then, is the difference between the fleshly space and the spiritual space? On the one hand, the fleshly space is a realm in which fleshly beings, i.e. man, animals, birds, and fish, exist, grow old, and decay with the passing of time. It is visible to people in the flesh and deteriorates with the passing of time. On the other hand, the spiritual space is a realm in which spiritual beings exist and visible only when spiritual eyes are opened and other spaces can exist within that space.

Thus, the first heaven – a fleshly space in which there are all the worlds and the universe – and the spiritual space – the second, third, and fourth heavens – were created.

The first half of 1 Thessalonians 4:17 tells us, "Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air." Here, "the air" refers to the second heaven that belongs to the spiritual space.

In the second heaven is the Garden of Eden into which Adam the living being was led after having been created by God (Genesis 2 & 3). This is a spiritual space God created for Adam the living being. However, after committing the sin of eating from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, Adam and Eve were no longer spiritual beings and thus no longer allowed to stay in the Garden of Eden and were driven out from it.

At the east of the Garden of Eden is a space allowed for evil spirits for the purpose of the cultivation of mankind (Genesis 3:24). Ephesians 2:2 reads, "You formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience," and "the air" in this verse refers to a space in which the enemy devil and Satan dwell and wield authority. Thus, in the second heaven are territories of darkness and territories of the light.

The third heaven is a space in the kingdom of heaven in which the saved souls will dwell eternally. In 2 Corinthians 12:2-4, the apostle Paul confesses, "I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago ... [he] was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible

words, which a man is not permitted to speak." The Apostle Paul was led up to the third heaven and saw Paradise within the kingdom of heaven and we can gather that the heavenly kingdom in the third heaven is not one space but is divided into many.

The fourth heaven is the space in which God had existed alone in the beginning. It is a space where He existed as the light in which the sound was embedded, harbored all universal spaces in His heart, and ruled them. While the passing of time at different paces exist in the first, second, and third heavens, in the fourth heaven, such expressions as "time" or "space" are meaningless. When something is harbored in the heart, it is accomplished as the time and space are transcended here.

3. The Work of the Transferring of Spaces

The fleshly space and spiritual space overlap. We read in Acts 8:39-40, "When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; and the eunuch no longer saw him, but went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he kept preaching the gospel to all the cities until he came to Caesarea."

When the Spirit of the Lord led Philip, in an instant he was from the wilderness and moved to a distant Azotus. As Philip was transferred through the spiritual space that overlaps with the fleshly space, he could disappear in a moment and appear at a different place a few moments later.

Instances of the manifestation of God's power that made use of the spiritual space are recorded throughout the Bible. However, this is possible only when one accomplishes whole spirit and completely controls, subdues, and rules over the fleshly body.

1 Kings 18:45b-46 tell us, "And Ahab rode and went to Jezreel. Then the hand of the LORD was on Elijah, and he girded up his loins and outran Ahab to Jezreel." When "the hand of the Lord" wrapped Elijah's body in God's power, the prophet could ride the current of the time in the spiritual space.

John 20:19 tells us, "When the doors were shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, 'Peace be with you.'" The reason Jesus could appear in one moment and disappear in the next and could enter a room whose doors were shut was because Jesus' movement made use of the spiritual space. The same can be said of the time He walked on the water.

We also witness countless manifestations of God's power in Exodus, i.e. the appearance of an innumerable number of locusts that covered the surface of the land, the manna and quails, the Israelites' crossing of the Red Sea, all of which took place using the spiritual space.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, as Jesus tells us in John 4:48, "Unless you people see signs and wonders, you simply will not believe," our times demand the manifestations of God's power. Therefore, may each of you come forth as a blessed child of God opening the space of the heavens and always experiencing His power, in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ I pray! ✝

Dragonflies



With more than 5,000 different breeds around the world and with approximately 100 found in Korea, dragonflies usually prey on such insects as mosquitoes and flies. Superb hunters with a huge appetite, it is said that a dragonfly must have about 200 mosquitoes a day to feel satisfied.

As of late, members of Manmin are rejoicing on account of these dragonflies. They hear from around Korea, Japan, the United States, and Africa of the appearances of dragonflies. Whether at church, workplaces, courtyards of their homes, dragonflies fly around Manmin members and sit on their hands, forehands, and noses, while pesky mosquitoes have become yesterday's news.

Smiles hang on the faces of Manmin members when they see dragonflies flying in groups. Could it be that they are returning to their childhood, to a time when they have at least once stayed out well into the evening in desperate and sometimes futile attempt to catch those dragonflies? To Manmin members today, however, dragonflies have become their good and intimate friends. On Wednesday, July 9, 2008, countless dragonflies flew down from the Sun's perimeter for about 2 hours and delighted Manmin members. After that incident, hundreds and even thousands of dragon flies are found above the church grounds and elsewhere.

How can all this be explained?

While reading Exodus, we come across a scene in which Moses leads the Israelites across the Red Sea on foot (Exodus 14). God "swept the sea back by a strong east wind all night" (v. 21) and this is possible with a strong gust when winds blow from both directions, split the seawater left and right, and form walls on either side. This means that while some 2 million Israelites including children and elderly and all their livestock crossed the Red Sea, these gusts kept blowing.

Today, when a hurricane or a tornado sweeps by houses and buildings, they fly

away into the sky. How, then, could Moses and the people of Israel freely walk through the rough winds?

This is possible if God opened up an invisible spiritual space and placed Moses and the Israelites therein. In other words, if He placed a transparent "glass tunnel" in the split Red Sea and the people of Israel crossed through that tube, this may be understood more easily.

In His righteousness, God placed in an instant the people of Israel who trusted and followed Moses and allowed them to walk through freely and easily through the strong winds. The Egyptian army chasing them, however, did not trust and follow Moses and thus could not enter his spiritual space. In other words, as they remained in the fleshly space, they were unable to experience God's power and ended up drowning in the Red Sea.

The same principle applied in Joshua 3:14-17 when the Israelites attempted to cross the overflowing Jordan River. When "the feet of the priests carrying the ark were dipped in the edge of the water," we find that "the waters which were flowing down from above stood and rose up in one heap, a great distance away at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan; and those which were flowing down toward the sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, were completely cut off."

In addition, God manifested inexplicable works of His power through the spiritual space with the star that led the magi from the east (Matthew 2:9); the Plague of locusts on Egypt (Exodus 10); manna and quails in the wilderness (Exodus 16:13-14); Elijah's outrunning of a king's chariot (1 Kings 18:46); and Philip's sudden disappearance after he preached the gospel to an Ethiopian eunuch (Acts 8:39).

Our God, who is the same yesterday, today, and forever, is testifying to the fact that He is alive today by protecting Manmin members from car accidents in which vehicles are totaled, clouds that appear and roll up in disappearance just as suddenly, with the movements of stars, and with dragonflies.

An endeavor in which something is created out of nothing is possible not only in Biblical times but for all eternity to all of God's children who wholly believe and trust in their Father.



MISSION

Testimony from Mission Work in Kenya

Pregnancy and Effortless Delivery by the Handkerchief Prayer

A sister in Christ who had had a problem in her fallopian tube and thus been unable to have child recently gave birth to a beautiful daughter after receiving the handkerchief prayer (Acts 19:11-12).

After giving birth to her first child in 2001, the 28-year-old Nicole learned that something was wrong with her fallopian tube. She had one of them removed and had been unable to become pregnant afterwards.

Upon learning about this, Elder Muhindo (business partner of Nicole's husband), shared with the couple the gospel of sanctification and the news of Senior Pastor Dr. Jaerock Lee's manifestations of God's power. When they heard of God's power manifested through the handkerchiefs on which Dr. Lee had prayed, the same as in Paul's time when "handkerchiefs or aprons were even carried from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out," the couple began to have faith.

In July 2007, when I left for "The DR Congo Pastors' Seminar and Handkerchief Meeting" in July 2007, Nicole asked me to pray for her to have a child again. I prayed in earnest with the handkerchief of God's power, beseeching Him to give Nicole a blessing of pregnancy.

When Nicole went to a hospital the following month, she was told she had become pregnant.

This past June, just before she was to give birth, Nicole went to the hospital for a routine checkup and was told that the umbilical cord had been wrapped around the fetus' neck and that she would need to go to a larger hospital in Nairobi for an operation; she was told the same at that Nairobi hospital.

As she had received the blessing of pregnancy from God, Nicole came to Nairobi Manmin Holiness Church and sought to receive my prayer with the handkerchief of God's power. Nicole demonstrated her faith, confessing that she could give birth without an operation once she



received prayer.

I prayed for her with the handkerchief and on June 8, Nicole gave birth to a beautiful daughter without any operation and some three weeks later on June 28, the entire family, including its newest member, visited the church and expressed their gratitude.

Such things have become commonplace in Africa by the handkerchief of God's power but I am amazed each time to witness God's power at work and manifested through Dr. Jaerock Lee. I give all thanks and glory to God.

Bishop Dr. Myong-Ho Cheong
(Nairobi Manmin Holiness Church, Kenya)