



# 재 독 한 인 총 연 합 회

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To  
The Chancellor of Germany  
Angela Merkel  
Willy-Brandt-Straße 1  
10557 Berlin

Oberursel, April 30, 2007

Respected Chancellor Merkel!

Allow me please to introduce myself shortly at first: My name is Young-Kook Ahn. Just as approximately 35.000 fellow Koreans I am working and living with my family here in the Federal Republic of Germany. As chairman of the "Federal Association of Koreans in Germany" I am intensely involved with matters of integration and I support the cooperation between the people of our two countries in many different ways. Quoting the words of the German ambassador to Seoul Dr. Norbert Baas: "We feel closely connected to the Republic of Korea through common values and interests." I can assure you that this applies accordingly for us Koreans in Germany in the same way, too.

Since decades, my fellow Koreans feel good about living in Germany and we appreciate many aspects of the German society and culture.

However, all the more we are dismayed that the Federal Republic of Germany refuses two Korean citizens, the couple Dr. Sun Myung Moon and his wife Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon since more than a decade to visit this country. While any German or Korean citizen may visit the other country without visa and without any difficulty, the Federal Republic of Germany has imposed a ban on this couple, treating them as if they were criminals. Based on my own experiences and research I can assure you that Mr. and Mrs. Moon will in no way pose a threat to public safety and order in Germany, as it is wrongly asserted from state institutions here.

Mr. and Mrs. Moon have initiated various associations fostering peace and understanding and reconciliation worldwide. They have committed themselves intensely to overcome the division of Germany in peaceful ways in order to eliminate the great dangers that existed at that time because of the split between the power blocks. They are working in just the same way today for the peaceful reunification of Korea so that the threat to world peace by North Korea will be brought to an end. Another organization founded by Mr. and Mrs. Moon is, for

example, the “Middle East Peace Initiative (MEPI)”, contributing to dialogue and cooperation among the religions.

Central themes of emphasis expressed by Mr. and Mrs. Moon are always the need for reconciliation and to love the enemy as well as the importance to live for the sake of others.

Mr. and Mrs. Moon have held hundreds of public events in Korea, in Asia, in America and in many European nations during the past few years. As far as I know, there were never any reports about special incidents. Therefore, a visit of Mr. and Mrs. Moon in Germany will not bring any adverse effect at all to this country.

We, the Koreans living in Germany, never ever would want to inflict damage on your country and we prove it daily. All the more are we distressed to notice that apparently state institutions allege wrongly that Mr. and Mrs. Moon harbour such kind of bad intention.

This still existing ban is not only unjust and unconstitutional. Particularly with regard to the great age of Dr. Moon, we consider it as unworthy and, please forgive the straight term, as really inhuman. Therefore, we would like to ask for your help to have this ban lifted swiftly.

We know that you are not in a position to make a direct decision on this matter. But we are deeply convinced that your efforts can advance the realization of law and justice in this case.

I am gladly at your disposal for further information or for a conversation.

Yours respectfully

Young-Kook Ahn  
Chairman  
Federal Association of Koreans in Germany