

SIX SOUTH KOREAN MISSIONARY SECTS

Familiarize yourself with some of the most aggressive cultic groups from Korea:



WORLD MISSION SOCIETY CHURCH OF GOD (WMSCOG / Elohist)

Current Leaders: Zahng Gil-ja (“Heavenly Mother”) and Kim Joo-cheol (“general pastor”)

www.thecenters.org/searchgroups.aspx?groupid=188

www.watchman.org/WMSCOG.pdf



GOOD NEWS MISSION (International Youth Fellowship / Mahanaim Bible College)

Current Leader: Ock Soo Park

www.acfar.org/groups.aspx?groupid=212



SHINCHEONJI

(Church of Jesus, the Temple of the Tabernacle of the Testimony / Heavenly Culture World Peace Restoration of Light)

Current Leader: Lee Man-hee

www.thecenters.org/searchgroups.aspx?groupid=210



JMS / PROVIDENCE (Christian Gospel Mission)

Current Leader: Jung Myung-seok

www.apologeticsindex.org/416-jung-myung-seok



FAMILY FEDERATION FOR WORLD PEACE AND UNIFICATION

(Unification Church)

Current Leader: Hak Ja Han (formerly: Sun Myung Moon)

www.thecenters.org/searchgroups.aspx?groupid=33

www.watchman.org/profiles/pdf/unificationprofile.pdf



MANMIN CENTRAL CHURCH (Manmin Chungang Sungkyol)

Current Leader: Jaerock Lee

www.thecenters.org/searchgroups.aspx?groupid=199

Characteristics often seen in South Korean missionary sects

- the group presents itself as an especially unique or exclusive form of Christianity
- the group claims to have doctrinal insights or deep truths not available elsewhere
- the group is God's main vehicle of salvation in the world today
- the group's main leader is singularly important in God's worldwide plan
 - he or she is presented as an almost unparalleled example of human virtue
 - his or her photo is prominent in almost every possible setting—especially as the convert is drawn more deeply into the organization
- the group portrays Korea as a kind of spiritual “promised land”
- the group employs dubious and deceptive recruitment practices, including...
 - aggressively targeting vulnerable young adults
 - not disclosing the group's official (or most commonly known) name; instead, various misleading “front” names/identities used
 - presenting introductory indoctrination sessions as “Bible studies”
 - offering young people travel to international conferences/camps sponsored by the group—sometimes packaged as educational or service-oriented experiences
 - offering young people opportunities to learn more about “K-pop” (i.e., Korean popular music, dances, etc.)
 - use of highly trained choirs, dance troupes, and other entertainment to raise interest
 - discouraging potential converts from discussing the group with their friends and family, or seeking background information on the group from non-approved sources (such as blogs and online news reports)
 - strong emotional/peer pressure is applied to visitors to make them convert as quickly as possible, and in some cases abandon (or drastically reduce) time with their families and their university studies so they can serve the group
 - severe pressure is exerted on converts to remain in the group—even when they have serious doubts