

European 1st Generation Matching System

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Originally "The Improved System for Matching 1st Generation Blessing Candidates"

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In 1995 when True Parents 'globalised' the Blessing people began coming to the ceremony with far less preparation than those who had been Blessed before that time. This led to by no means all, but many relationships ending in what came to be called the 'breaking of the Blessing'. I began counselling members who had experienced one, two or even three matchings and Blessings which ended in tragedy! It was greatly troubling for me, not to mention the pain of broken hearts for those going through this! I have also been very concerned that the dignity and value of the Blessing itself was being eroded and damaged.

So in 1998 I began doing two things:

1. Searching for spouses for those who had experienced this heart-break so they can find happiness.
2. Working to make the qualifications for the Blessing a better standard for the candidates to reach for, so they would be better prepared for the challenge of restoration in the Blessing course, and value what they have been given; thereby protecting the value and sacredness of the Holy Blessing.

Up until August 2008, six couples who had been introduced personally by me have received the Blessing. Quite a few others have been introduced to each other by friends or spiritual parents and also come to experience deep happiness in Blessed Marriage. These have been arranged in a way that people were encouraged to take adequate time to know each other and decide seriously before uttering those sacred eternal Blessing vows. Since then 21 couples have gone through this process and 10 more are going through what we have come to call their 'heavenly courtship', to prepare for Blessing Ceremony in 2011.

From time to time up until August 2008, I reported the progress of all this to Tim Read (UK National Leader at the time), who supported and encouraged this effort most generously. Since the founding of the Eu-BFD (October 2007), I have continued the work, and Geros Kunkel as the European BFD Committee Chairman was very keen for us to make it more official, and wider known, so that many more can reach this goal of happiness in the Blessing.

In February 2008 at the European Annual Assembly Tim Miller encouraged me to advertise for someone to help develop the IT side of a better system, and quite soon we had received the great volunteering response from Grahame Bennett who is working on that side of it. This was launched in February 2009 at the European Annual Assembly in San Marino.

Early in June 2008 I reported to a gathering of Eu-Regional and National leaders with Dr. and Mrs. Song about the progress we have been making. We asked him at which stage of the process he would like to approve the matchings. He replied by asking Geros Kunkel and I to take the

authority of matching the 1st Generation matching candidates, and to report to him before they are Blessed. It means that I hope you will entrust the task of recommending suitable candidates into our hands as we continue to build a great network of liaison people in many countries. With my husband's deep support, this is a work of incredible joy. Since Rainer Fuchs became the Eu-BFD Chairman in February 2009 (and Geros has been focussing on the Youth Department and 2nd Gen Blessing Department) I continue the work under Dr. Song's direction and with Rainer Fuchs's encouragement.

So, the process is like this:

Fulfil the qualifications, which are:

Standards for the 1st Generation Matching

(as discussed at the 1st Annual Meeting of the Eu-BFD October 2007)

- 1. At least 1 year of active membership before applying - that means sexual purity for all of that time.**
 - 2. Studies of the Divine Principle; up to 7-Day DP level**
 - 3. Regular attendance to at least one FFWPU or UPF program (e.g. Sunday Service, WAIT, IRFF , SFP etc.)**
 - 4. Regular tithing or financial contribution.**
 - 5. Demonstrating good character, which includes enough maturity to be a responsible spouse with self-discipline, and unselfish life-style (e.g. responsible studies and/or employment).**
 - 6. Attendance to the Blessing Preparation Workshop.**
 - 7. Being connected to a community of other Blessed Families.**
 - 8. Filling out all the forms which require a health check and an advocate's Recommendation.**
- **Introduction** ...organised personally through Eu-BFD staff and liaison Blessing Department staff around the world.
 - **'Heavenly Engagement' for 7 months: 21-Day Communication Phase** after which they receive this email:



... and **25-week Courtship Phase**... At any stage in the 7 months the couple can choose to say 'no'. After the 21 days communication they can say 'no', and return to the Matching candidate group, or say 'yes' and take the 25 weeks to consider:

1. Prayer and actions to introduce yourself to and get to know your engagement partner.
2. Prayer and effort to win the heart of your engagement partner.
3. Prayer and reflection to understand if you want to make an eternal commitment to build a Blessed Family with and to cherish your partner with deep devotion and care.
4. Effort to make a decision about your commitment to keep heartistic and sexual fidelity in the Blessed Marriage.
5. Make an absolute commitment to raise any children you have in an environment of true love, following the traditions of a Central Blessed Family, centering on God and True Parents.
6. Think about making your commitment to growing together as a beautiful and dignified Couple, and to take responsibility for any difficulties you face along the way of restoration.

Then they receive another email to remind them that the 7 months is complete, and they need to make their commitment, or say 'no' and return to the candidate group. The email is like this:



Finally,

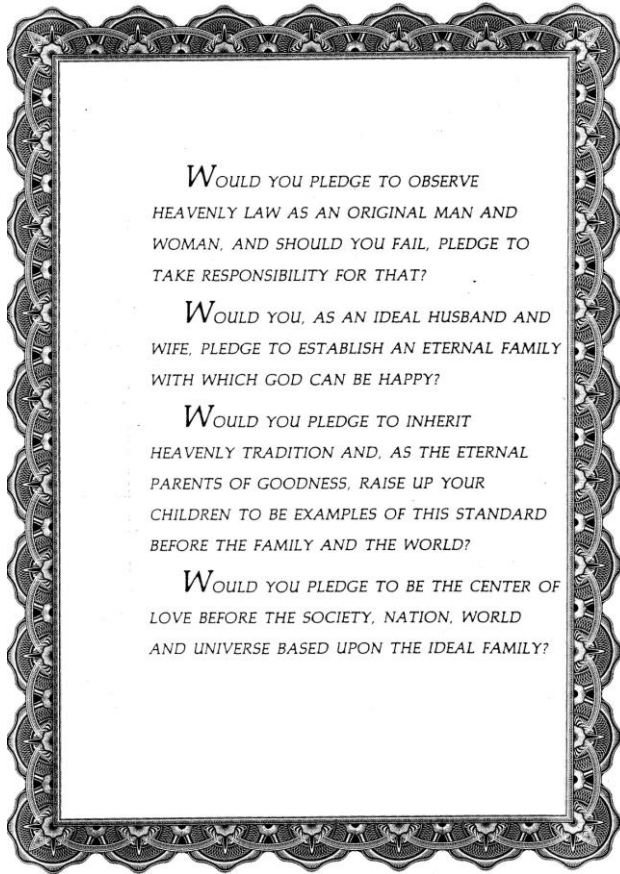
- **Acceptance and Report to Dr. and Mrs Song**

Preparation for the Blessing

Then they should attend a Blessing preparation workshop if they haven't done in the past 2 years. Before this, offer a 7-Day Fast and attend the next Blessing Ceremony. There they will

receive the Holy Wine, receive the Blessing prayer and do the Indemnity Ceremony. After the Blessing they enter the traditional 40-day Separation period. Then they can go through the 3-day Ceremony. Then the whole process of the Blessing is complete.

Although the vows may be expressed somewhat differently now, these are the fundamental vows a couple makes when they are Blessed. (See illustration below)



Then they begin their journey as a couple in the completion stage, helping each other to fulfil all the vows and restore their original nature as much as possible.

Our IT man Grahame Bennett has created a web-site section where candidates' details are placed, titled '1stGen Blessing'. Eu-BFD National Representatives, or National Leaders in countries as yet without a BFD Rep., and Liaison people outside of Europe will have access to this, and people wishing to be matched will need to be interviewed by them before their details can go onto the site. The Introductions will be done by communication between all these parties. We work very closely with the USA BFD Director Rev. Phillip Schanker and his team. A link to our web-site section is in their new web-site which is being launched in December 2010.

Testimonies from Three Couples Who Have Been Recommended for Each Other by Susan; two 1st Gen. couples and a Jacob Gen. Couple.

Temura and Mooi Eng Anania

The two were recommended for each other in 1998. Moi Eng was 39 years old at the time.

She is Malaysian Chinese, and he a New Zealand Maori who was a member in the 1970's and joined again in the 90's



The photo shows Temura (left) and Mooi Eng (right) with their two children during the Crosthwaite's visit (Susan in centre) to Australia in April 2007.

Temura wrote:

“For Mooi Eng, after some earlier disappointment, to reach a point of accepting a suggested matching is not an easy road. I had not been matched previously, but I did have my own "baggage", and no guarantees came with me. Our separation course, being a lot shorter than others I know of, had its trials, yet it was those that helped us keep connected.

We are very different people, culturally and mentally, and perhaps we will not always agree.

But we have grown to hear and respect each other, and even if our children drive us up the wall, they are our treasure. Our hope is that they can follow heavenly life, but I learn there are no guarantees there either.”

Jukka and Dorota Mutikainen

He is from Finland, and she from Poland. Both are in their second Blessing

Dear Jukka,

We are 'piloting' a system of matching 1st Gen. people these days which is similar to the way you and Dorota were matched. I wonder if you would be able to write a few words for me about your experience which I can use as a testimony to the value of this method - i.e. giving people time and freedom to make the decision their own. – *Susan, 22nd April 2008*



Photo shows Jukka (left) and Dorota in Korea, 2007. They were introduced in October, 2003, met in November 2003 and were Blessed, February 1st 2004

Jukka wrote: My "testimony":

Regarding matching, I felt very good that you did not try to push for a certain decision but gave time and space for own decision. It was important that I felt that you were ready to accept even if I say no. Actually, that helped a lot indeed to say yes.

The important thing was that I had space to really say yes or no without having to feel to be "a bad member".

Also you did your part based on heart and love, not based on duty in the first place. Also, not everybody has the level of heart you have. You were the right person for me to do the matching because you have gone through pain and suffering yourself. I think you also like what you are doing, you are on your own field. That is important because if you like what you do you can do more and produce better quality.

Finally, I think you have a good eye to see who fits together with whom. I would classify you as professional in matching area.

Best wishes,
Jukka, 3rd June 2008

Jean Luc Ngama & Jana Rozehnalová

Congo (Refugee and now resident in the UK) and Czech Republic They are 'Jacob' children. Jean Luc had been matched twice before and had been a candidate for over four years.

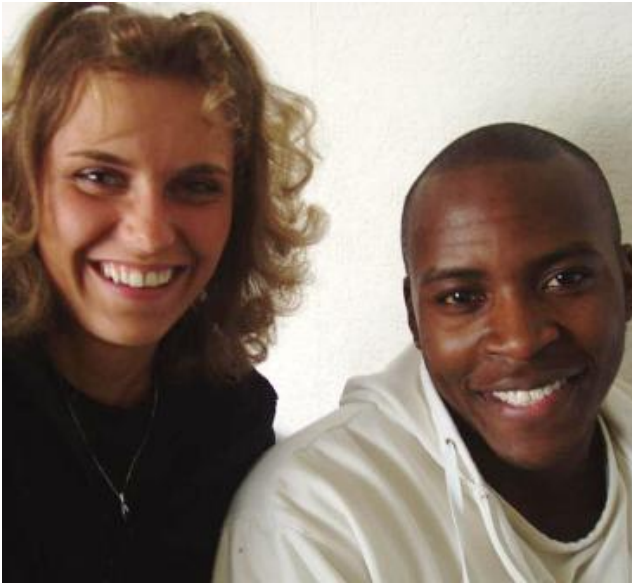


Photo shows Jana (left) and Jean Luc.

After their 21 days Communication Phase **Jana** wrote 2 pages of report. Here's just a little:

“I'm just very sure it's really special match! We are both very sensitive and we have incredible potential and I'm sure together we will be able to do a lot of good work! But the more important for God our matching is the more I'm sure Satan is interested in it as well...! He is always awake and I'm sure he will try to get us to his side! But we both are aware of this very well. We know we have to concentrate as much as possible to internal and spiritual growth of our matching and relationship. Our communication didn't stuck just on external level – to be honest it was something I worried a bit of... - and we are really trying to build strong relationship based on verticality! This is very important for me. We must have enough power to stand behind our matching no matter what happens because I'm sure otherwise we wouldn't be able to succeed.

“I found out our matching is one of the best ways of witnessing as well! Guess you know we have started with WAIT here. Almost all of Czech wait members already know basic things about the Unification church, Divine Principle and projects initiated by TF. – We don't mix WAIT up with the Church things but some of wait members just asked us. They were so inspired by my mum's work and they wanted to know what is behind it. They wanted to know where we (I and my mum) get such incredible power to keep going contrary to this corrupted society... So, we just told them all the things because of their personal interest. – All of them they already know about my matching too. I just simply explained them how it works and what meaning it has. I just asked them: “How do you think people are choosing their partners? Do they ask each other about some values when they fell in love or are they just act according to what their hormones are telling them?”

“After that I told them: „You know, people are so self-centered. They don't think about their spouse. They just want to satisfy themselves no matter whom they will use for the

purpose of the satisfaction. But you see, thanks to this matching I can – at least - be sure of getting someone who lives according to some values. I know this person is aware of great value of life, love, purity, sexuality and marriage and he wants to create good family based on these values. So, tell me what is more? Isn't this exactly something we're trying to promote through WAIT? Isn't it something all people are searching and looking for?

“Susan, you should have seen their reactions! They were soooooo amazed and they could realize the deep meaning of matching and blessing! And they also liked us as couple so much! They said we really fit together! :o) You know, the most powerful and moving point for them is that they can see how happy I am!”

And **Jean Luc** wrote:

“Hallo

“I thank God and true parents for the matching. i know it is a special one.

I am very happy i was matched with some one who is almost like me, it's really amazing at the moment.

“We are doing some spiritual conditions to help us and to set up a very strong foundation for this matching.

“I am planning to visit Jana and her family as soon as I finish my studies in June. I am so happy because our communication is really great. Thank you very much for your support.”

Jean Luc's mother wrote after their Blessing:

“Dear Suzan,

“I am writing to say thanks a lot for all the support care and love that you offer to my family. I am so happy that my son(jean luc) got matched and blessed now. I am praying that God can keep inspiring and strengthen as you are working hard in his providence.

“I am very grateful than words can explain, “May God bless you and your family. Fifi”

Jana's mother wrote (a small part of her email is copied here) to Geros after the matching, testifying to the great value of offering conditions to strengthen faith and bring spiritual guidance and protection as well as attending the Blessing Preparation Workshop

“Dear Geros!

“Greetings from Prague. First of all I want to thank you very much for inviting me and Jana for Blessing WS in March in Germany. Everything was sooo quick but I felt we have to go this time no matter what happens.

The things developed very quickly. For Jana the blessing WS was very important. She became absolutely unconditional opened to anybody, being matched or by EBD or by Father. She also started to do strong conditions for her matching, reading Hyun Jin Nim's orange book (she read it twice). She also decided to join STF. Things went quickly forward. In the end of April Susan Crosthwaite send the matching candidate to our national leader. We were praying together with national leader's family for three days before introducing the candidate to Jana.....Marcela”