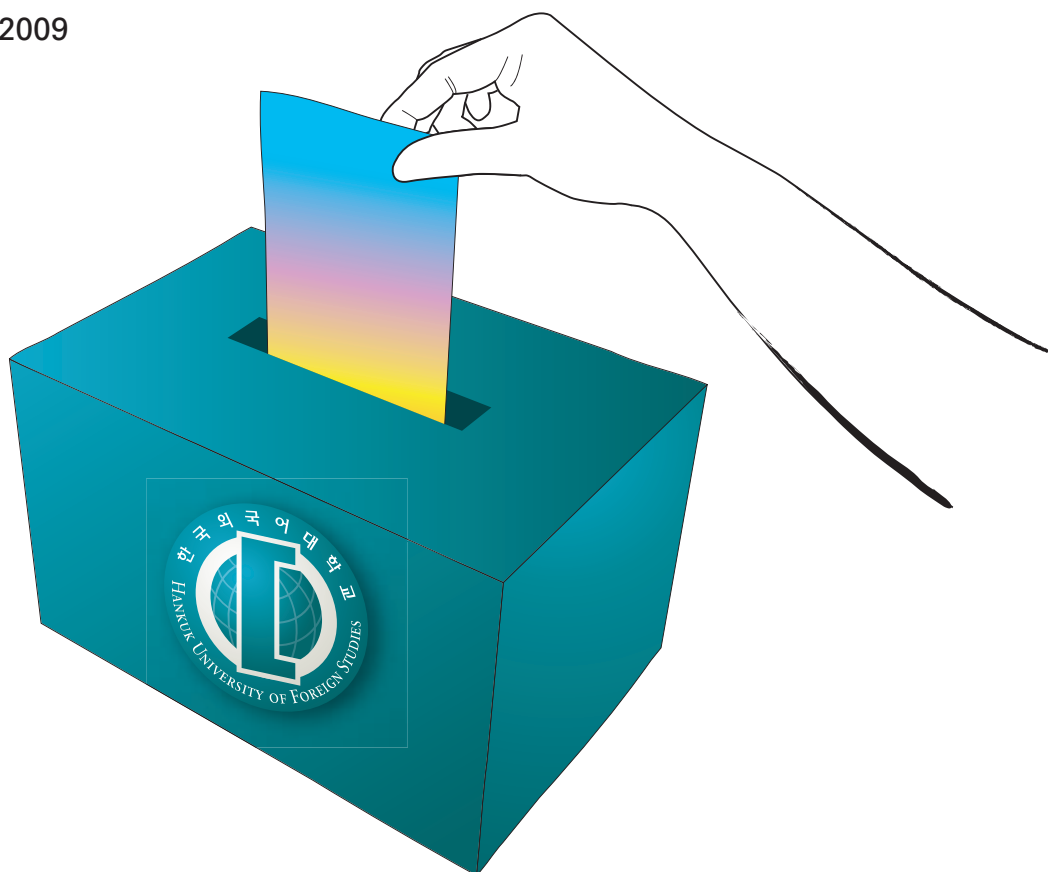


# The Argus

First Issue Published July 1, 1954

Vol. LV No. 427  
DECEMBER 14, 2009



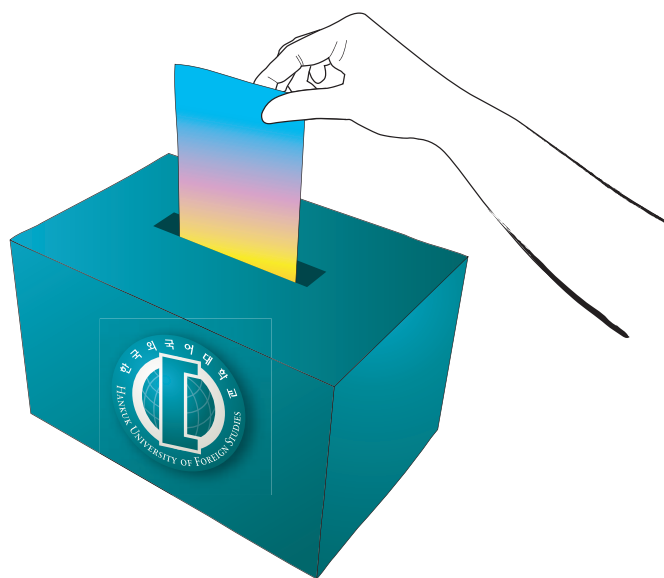
## The Election of New HUFS Leader

Interview with the Next HUFS Leader



HANKUK UNIVERSITY OF FOREIGN STUDIES

# Cover Story



## The Election of New HUFS Leader

Park Chul, who has been the president for the last four years, was re-elected as the next HUFS leader by securing the majority of votes. Park-chul was the first re-elected HUFS President since HUFS put under a public foundation in 2003. The Argus listen to the will of new HUFS President and his blueprint of HUFS.

Hankuk  
University of  
Foreign Studies

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- 2 T&C Tower** - People consider vaccines as one of perfect solutions for epidemics like the recent “swine flu” crisis. Voices, however, which oppose to use them, also exist. What are the reasons they refuse to the vaccination? The column explores the hidden dangers of vaccines.

## The Argus

ESTABLISHED 1954

Published monthly except the school holidays by and for students of Hankuk University of Foreign Studies. The Argus, the oldest campus English newspaper in Korea, pursues the highest standard of campus journalism.

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*Golden Saying* | Editor-in-Chief

# The very ink with which history is written is merely fluid prejudice.

— American author Mark Twain

The Institute for Research in Collaboration Activities, established in 1991 to study the activities of those who cooperated with Japan in its colonization of Korea, made public a list of names on Nov. 8. Two weeks later, a conservative non-profit group announced its plan to publish a list of names of individuals suspected of collaborating with North Korea. While both groups claim their lists were compiled impartially and aim to help uncover historical truths, Mark Twain’s line should give them pause. Without respect to the neutrality of history, these lists of alleged collaborators with the Japanese emperor or North Korea were written with mere “fluid prejudice.”




# The Way of HUFS President

December for HUFS is full of voting and elections for the student president and the university president. There were a total of eight candidates for university president, including Park Chul who has been the president for the last four years. Park was re-elected on Dec. 9 as the next HUFS leader by securing the majority of votes in the first re-election since HUFS was put under a public foundation in 2003.

Of course, other candidates criticized Park's administration during the election campaign. The council of professors, the central election management committee, also pointed out that the administrative structure could lend undue support to the re-election of the incumbent president. Although some critics say the HUFS president has been running an quixotic administration, others praise Park for making his efforts to improve the university's financial status. Also, he has signed various MOUs with universities outside Korea to enhance the school's global standing.

Before arguing the rights and wrongs about this presidency, we should step aside and first consider one thing. Why does the administration seem to be self-righteous? This is not because of the President, but because of the structural weakness in the school administration.

For HUFS, when electing board members, there is a recommendation committee where students, professors and school personnel can equally recommend a candidate for the board. Such a system could be applied to the presidential election. People hope a university to be a society within our society. As our society has become more democratic, our university should be so. 

*Editor-in-Chief*  
**Park Hyun-chul**



# FLEX Cannot be Future of HUFS without Immediate Improvement


**By Lee Jin-woo**  
*Editorial Consultant*

**H**UFS conducted its final language proficiency test on Nov. 1, the same day that many prominent businesses administer their own exams for prospective employees. The conflicting schedules between the University's Foreign Language Examination (FLEX) and the corporate exams highlight just one of the problems with the former. For some graduating seniors, sitting for the FLEX meant the loss of potential employment opportunities, which prompted the General Student Council (GSC) to collect some 30 cases involving students who experienced such a disadvantage as a result of FLEX's scheduling.

FLEX has in fact been a point of contention for students at all levels since it was adopted by the University as the major criteria for graduation. The issue came up in the 2009 GSC elections, with candidates taking a cue from the concerns of students and promising to look more closely at the debate over the exam. Heightening such concerns was the recent decision by all departments that from the second semester onwards, all graduating students irrespective of their admission's year must meet the standard criteria of FLEX. Prior to this decision, those seniors who did not have the necessary FLEX scores could take alternative tests.

Before making FLEX a prerequisite to graduation, the University must first address problems associated with the test. Among these is the fact that only four tests are administered per year, and given the difficulty of the tests and the use of an absolute grading system, students complain that they do not provide sufficient opportunity to accrue the points necessary to satisfy FLEX requirements. Another oft cited problem is the scarcity of prep materials and resources for FLEX.

Of course, HUFS has been making an effort to make FLEX a more effective test to equally measure the four basic language skills. The exam was developed as a standard tool to measure the general ability of foreign languages in 1999. The tests for Chinese and Japanese were authorized by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEST) in 2007, while the tests for French, German, and Spanish were given official approval by MEST in 2009.

On the positive side, the successful expansion of FLEX can give HUFS greater opportunities to stand out as the biggest university to teach foreign languages. On the down side, it could take a long time before problems with the test are sufficiently addressed to satisfy the needs of students. The University must therefore take into account the opinion of its students and work to improve the test. 

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## Kim Hyeong-ho Elected New Leader of Yongin Campus



Lee Jun-su / Oedhakbo

New President-elect Kim Hyeong-ho (R) and Vice President-elect Kim Tae-su pose after the close of elections at the Yong-in campus on Nov. 18.

**K**im Hyeong-ho, majoring in Thai Interpretation and Translation, has been elected to head the 31st General Student Council, while his running mate Kim Tae-su, a Czech and Slovak studies major, was elected its vice president in voting at the at the Yongin campus on Nov. 18.

The pair received 1,872 votes, or 55.57 percent of the 3,369 votes cast by fellow students. Turnout came in at 50.53 percent, higher than last year's 48.2 percent. "I will try to make our student council an open arena, communicating with as many students as possible," said the council's new head. His VP added, "We saw good results despite some unfortunate incidents during the election. I will do my best to keep our promises."

The three-day election period began on Nov. 16, several days after its scheduled start on Nov. 11 after the No. 2 candidates excused themselves from the running for using illegal campaign ads that were abusive of rival candidates. Allegations that another candidate assaulted a student with a glass bottle also marred the election process.

"I think the Election Management Committee obscured the standards for the election process," said one freshman on condition of anonymity. "They must let all students know what they did in trying to collect our opinions."

**By Cha Eon-jo**

## Lee Geun-woong Gets 44th General Student Council in Seoul



Jeong Jin-kyeong / The Argus

GSC's new leaders for 2010 -- President Lee Geun-woong (L) and Vice President Jeon Chan-woo -- pose for a photo on Nov. 25 after the election.

**L**ee Geun-woong and Jeon Chan-woo have been named by the 44th General Student Council Election Commission (GSCEC) as the new leaders of next year's Seoul GSC.

The announcement was made on Nov. 25, following the close of voting that came after a two-week campaign period in which two teams competed for the post. Voter turnout for the election came in at 50.34 percent, or 3,865 of a total 7,678 students.

Lee, a senior majoring in Public Administration, and his running mate Jeon, a junior majoring in Chinese, took 2,301 of the total votes. "During the campaign period, we felt the school and students' desire to evolve," said Lee after the announcement was made. "The new GSC will work hard to reach our goals, such as creating a commission to oversee tuitions, a school reform system and preventing the loss of the Jagokdong site in cooperation with university authorities."

"Even in difficult surroundings, many election campaigners who worked for their candidates did their best. I hope the electoral commitments of the new GSC, including introducing double majors and addressing the Foreign Language Examination (FLEX) can be accomplished," said Choi Yoon-sik, a losing presidential candidate with the Change the HUFs FUN campaign.

**By Jeong Jin-kyeong**

# HUFSans Get Back Raised Tuition Fees



Kim Young-woon / GSC

Freshmen stand in line to receive gift certificates, given as part of compensation for a tuition fee raise, from GSC members at the council's office on Nov. 5.

The Seoul General Student Council (GSC) began distributing the refund of the differential increase in freshmen tuition fees, one of its goals, by giving students gift certificates since Nov. 4.


An agreement had been reached

between HUFS President Park Chul, GSC President Chu Seong-ho and GSC members about the abolition of the differential tuition fee hike on April 24, by virtue of efforts which comprise three-steps-one-bow, fasting for four days, news conference, and a signature-seeking campaign,

HUFSans who entered the school this year receive certificates worth 85,000 won -- with half of the fee resulting from the differential increase -- in the GSC room from Nov. 4-7. University authorities announced that the remaining half of the amount of the differential increase would be used for student affairs, the construction of the second library building, and so on. The GSC explained that the addition of 5,000 won to the refund was in consideration of the discounted rate due to the purchase of

massive numbers of certificates.

After Nov. 7, the Student Affairs Team began to issue the refunds. Students requiring this refund go there with their own photo identification cards. With the exception of students receiving scholarships covering all expenses, the refund is a boon to all second semester registrants.

GSC vice president Choi Bu-yeol said, "In the previous discussion, the GSC achieved its objective, although there was a big difference in opinions between the university authorities and GSC. It was certain that the management would sustain a loss of 0.5 billion won in income. In any case, starting in 2010, the differential hike in freshmen tuition fees would not exist anymore." 

By Jeong Jin-kyeong

# HUFS Accelerates in Russian Studies

The National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF) chose the Institute of Russian Studies (IRS) of HUFS as one of the institutes which operate overseas area study, supported by the Humanities Korea (HK) project.

NRF announced three institutes for humanities, four for overseas region research -- two for heavier works, two for lighter ones -- on Nov. 11. On the screening, HUFS IRS was selected for the heavy project which can get budgets of 69 billion won, with the agenda of "Reconstructing Dimensions of Russian Humanities: A Korean Perspective."

With the selection, the institute got the opportunity to study social, linguistic, political issues of 83 federal subjects --


including republics, autonomous states, and so forth -- of Russia.

The HK project, which started in 2007, is promoted to expand the domain of humanities and construct its research infrastructure. The project supports the selected institutes for 10 years, divided institutes into two fields -- humanities for the long-term research and overseas region research based on regional traits.

Jeh Sung-hoon, research professor of HUFS IRS, said "HUFS continuously challenged to be selected in the project since 2007, and finally got the triumph this year. Area study is really important to know other countries, which will lead to global cooperation and good relationship. As well as IRS, other



institutes did their best well to be chosen as promising institutes. Institutes in HUFS constantly attempt to be the leader in area studies."

HUFS IRS started as the institute for research of communist countries in Eastern Europe including Soviet Union and North Korea in 1972. With the collapse of Soviet Union, it changed into "Institute of Russian Studies" in 1993 to serve as the leading research institute about Russia and adherent regions. 

By Jang Ho-jun

# HUFS to Develop National English Test

**H**UFS has been selected to take part in a consortium formed by the government and tasked with developing a national English language proficiency test.


The Korea Institute for Curriculum and Evaluation, and the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology announced the consortium in November. Led by the Korea Chamber of Commerce & Industry, the group also includes Seoul National University, Korea University and Sookmyung Women's University.

"The decision provides another chance to prove the credibility of HUFS's Foreign Language Examination (FLEX), following the acquisition of national certification for FLEX this September," said an official from the school. "Before long, FLEX will represent Korea and will be accepted as an authorized test of foreign languages."

The education ministry anticipates that the synergy generated by the consortium will help lead to the creation of a nationwide exam to substitute existing tests, such as the Test of English for

International Communication and the Test of English as a Foreign Language.

The new exam will consist of three separate levels, divided by difficulty and usage. The consortium will be responsible for developing the first of the three levels, which will then be used as a gauge to determine its performance in formulating the exam.

The consortium has until Feb. 2010 to develop the exam. The ministry plans to administer the first test from 2012 after preliminary preparations are complete. 

**By Jang Ho-jun**

# HUFS, UAB ink MOU to Establish Pharmacy College



HUFS President Park Chul (R) and Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB) President Ana Ripoll Aracil pose after signing a pact on academic exchanges at HUFS on Nov. 16.


**H**UFS and Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB) signed a pact on mutual cooperation to gain government approval for pharmaceutical college at Yongsin

campus.

The pact, signed between HUFS President Park Chul and his UAB counterpart Ana Ripoll Aracil, called for mutual exchange of information,

academic materials, and students if HUFS gained government approval to establish a pharmacy college.

UAB, founded in 1968, boasts a world-renown research in the area of medicine, bio-technology and nanotechnology. The university consists of approximately 40,000 students and 3000 professors with more than 50 high-standard advanced laboratories for these purposes. Highly interested in Asia, it is also the first university in Southern Europe to establish Asian studies as one of its majors.

HUFS has stepped up efforts to promote its plan for the new college since an announcement in June by the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Family Affairs that will raise its quota of pharmaceutical students to 16,000 in 2011 from the current 1,210. 


**By Lee Yeong-eun**

# Interview with the Next **HUFS** Leader

**By Lee Kyeong-eun**  
*Reporter of Campus Section*

**P**ark Chul, who had been the president for the last four years, was re-elected as the next HUFS leader by securing the majority of votes. He was the first re-elected HUFS president since the University was put under a public foundation in 2003. What made Park succeed to be re-elected? How does he think about the development of HUFS? The Argus interviewed him.





“My blueprint is Hufs will become the training school of talent in globalization.”

**Argus:** *The board of directors in Hufs foundation elected you as the ninth Hufs President on Dec. 4. The Argus thinks that your leadership made you be re-elected. How do you think about your leadership?*

**Park Chul (Park):** The core of my leadership is establishing the principle. When I was elected as the eighth Hufs President in 2005, Hufs faced up to the strike of officials in the University. I worried that the strike would interrupt the education of students. My first principle is to consider students. I think that Hufs could be developed when I make a policy for students. Policies for students are to improve the ability of students. Second is to love my school. If I didn't love Hufs, I couldn't be the Hufs President. These principles made me re-elected as the next Hufs leader.

**Argus:** *In your last four years, what was the most important policy?*

**Park:** My goal in period of the president is to become a prestigious private university like Yonsei University or Korea University. To accomplish my goal, the policy of education is the most important policy. So, Hufs has made a various policy to improve the students' ability. For example, the University has made an effort to step-up the quality of Foreign Language Examination (FLEX), the test to evaluate the ability of English or other foreign languages in Hufs. In the result of the effort, FLEX could be recognized as an official test by government. I think that the policy, such as the effort to step up the quality of FLEX, could be the foundation of my goal.

**Argus:** *Hufs President Park Chul is often considered as Don Quixote. Since the firm self-belief of the President and propulsive power in working are the very images of the President, the byname as Don Quixote*

*sounds reasonable. Sometimes such faiths, however, are criticized to be self-righteous. How do you think about it?*

**Park:** I agree on my characteristic as Don Quixote. Actually the title of my autobiography is “Dreaming to be Don Quixote”. But, I think it’s more adequate to associate me with the second version of the character, say, the knight who has the self-belief, propulsive power, and, the strong and steady willing to overcome the hardships, not the knight who is crazy and megalomaniac. As I had majored in Spanish Literature, I had a chance to see him in a different view. Even though the main explanation of the knight has been the insanity, I think the real values of Don Quixote are the second things. Instead of relying on the aristocratism and the transmissions by heredity, he kept in mind overcoming the adversities of the life with his own efforts.

Because I have these firm principles, it is the priority in deciding the multiple things according to the principles. It would be very dangerous if I had set the principles based on my own ideas, but I always try to listen to the others’ opinions and judge things after enough contemplation. I do not care whether the critics blame or not.

***Argus:** Do HUFSSans at Yongin campus still apply the differential increase in freshmen tuition fees? And moreover, the tuition fee of some colleges at Yongin campus is rather expensive in comparison with Seoul campus. How do you think about the opinions to down the tuition fees of Yongin campus?*

**Park:** I already know that many students are opposed to the differential increase. The system, actually, is reasonable considering the gaps between the grades in having the benefits such

as usages of new buildings. But if the students cannot accept the system, I would not compel the system.

The opinions which maintain that the tuition fees of Yongin campus is more expensive than that of Seoul Campus overlook the truth that the campus includes the heavy majors like the Information Statistics Major and Bioscience and Biotechnology Major. Such majors, of course, demand high tuition fees, therefore, the rather expensive fees are reasonable, I think. Moreover, if the tuition fee is expensive, there is counterpart of benefit. For example, the students of Department of Interpretation and Translation of any languages have bigger number of classes resulting from the trait of the major. I think many students do not try to understand the system of the school.



Lee Kyeong-eun / The Argus

***Argus:** Let’s talk about the scholarship. Some opinions claim that HUFSS gives small number of scholarship comparing with other universities. How do you think about that?*


**Park:** Half and half. The University, itself, is always trying to give scholarships to students; therefore, we set the scholarship financial rate up to 15 percent out of the whole financial. Actually the rate hits the top second of the universities and 33 percents of HUFSSans have benefits from the scholarships -- including the system of 7+1, the internship of KOTRA, etc.

The shortage results from the external scholarships. Frankly speaking, if the University hit the top 10 from the ranking of universities, the institutes like enterprises and foundations are willing to donate their money in name of the scholarships. After my becoming the President, HUFSS has induced lots of external scholarships, such as Dong-won and Saessak Mentoring.

***Argus:** Most HUFSSans think that the dual major and FLEX are a burden on their graduation and getting a job. What do you think about this opinion?*

**Park:** About this opinion, I think that students misunderstand the purpose of the education system in HUFSS. The purpose of education system is to make talent. Sometimes the education system like FLEX could be a hard course. However, if they didn’t overcome this course, students have difficulties to work in any organization they want. Our education system makes students get the ability required by other various organizations.

***Argus:** Do you have any blueprint of HUFSS?*

**Park:** The slogan of HUFSS is “Come to HUFSS, meet the world.” The slogan shows the property of HUFSS. The property is that students could study both various foreign languages and expert knowledge in HUFSS. It is the merit to HUFSS to become the most prestigious university in globalization. Also, the students in HUFSS could have fluent foreign language skills and expert knowledge. Those abilities are the cores to succeed in globalization. My blueprint is HUFSS will become the training school of talent in globalization. 

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# Scenes of HUFS President Election on Nov. 20

by Jang Ho-jun

*Associate Editor of Theory & Critique Section*

The election of HUFS President, who will manage the University four years from 2010, held in Aekyung hall in the International Building. Through the two votes, the election ended with the victory of Park Chul, who took the helm twice. All HUFSSans wish him to do his best for the development of HUFS, which will stretch its arm toward the world as the leading university.

*All photos by Lee Kyeong-eun*



Professors of HUFS cast their votes.



The chief of the Professor Council announces the result of the election.



Park Chul, one of the candidates, puts his ballot paper on the box.



Park Chul, the re-elected HUFS President, expresses his feeling on his triumph.



Members of the Professor Council open the ballot box after the voting.



# Do What You Can, *Believe* What You Want

*Argus: Would you tell about your campus experience and a turning point if any in your life?*

**Kim Jun-seong (Kim):** In high school, I was mad with playing guitar and arranging music. I dreamed of a career in music industry. When attending HUFs, I lived near the campus, usually playing guitar. So my room became sort of a base camp for my fellow guitar players from various universities. Guitar was very much a part of my life then. At times I went to cafes in downtown Seoul and played a few numbers. Once I entered a jazz cafe and there too I did my usual thing. Suddenly, in the middle of my performance, music came to a halt. I was momentarily startled, but the cafe manager came up to me and said that my play was much better than the sound of an LP, asking me to play more with applause.

My Spanish wasn't great, but it actually helped me a lot especially when I needed to understand gypsy music. At that time some guitar pieces contained Spanish lyrics or playing techniques, therefore I had a big advantage in understanding the feel of gypsy music or the original meaning of lyrics I played.

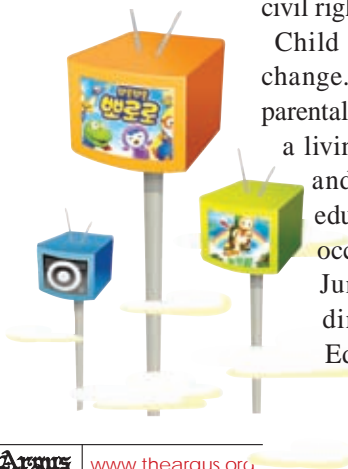
Regarding turning points, I must confess that I was jobless for one year and a half although I did odd jobs as a music instructor for various institutions, making 40 to 50 pieces of music for students preparing for SAT. Then I got hired by a broadcasting corporation to do

**By Jeon Seong-jin**

*Associate Editor of Campus Section*

The world of fast pace is creating wholly new and various lifestyles among people. Typical forms such as gender role, social status, or family background are undergoing rapid change, so people naturally have to accustom themselves to new transformations. Take the Korean society, for example, which now is vastly different from what it used to be during the Chosun Dynasty with respect to family size, sexual identity, civil rights, or weekend recreation.

Child rearing too is undergoing a radical change. TV programs are replacing direct parental care as couples go to work to earning a living. The television is a most powerful and efficient tool of socialization and education. This time, The Argus had an occasion to lend an ear to alumnus Kim Jun-seong (Dept. of Spanish-82), the director is the director of EBS Infant Education Team and a producer.



things that I did part time as a student. It was an excellent job for me because it allowed me to do what I wanted to so passionately.

**Argus:** *Then, what have you been doing so far? And what about now?*

**Kim:** On this job I first participated in making and composing programs related to music, culture, or public performance. One of the musical programs I was engaged in at EBS was “The Center of Art” that eventually became my major activity in this industry. I worked there for ten years collecting data directly or broadcasting the programs referred to. I also composed “EBS Space Gonggam (Shared Feeling)” and arranged the space for musicians to play and perform. Now I am on the Infant Education Team, but still my principal duty is playing music, discussing issues related to music, and creating space on which to play music in earnest. People call this work a producer’s job. In this capacity I am responsible for the whole range of program development and coordination including compositions for Pororo, Rocket Boy, or Ding-dong-dang Kindergarten.



**Argus:** *What is unique about EBS journalism?*


**Kim:** People can think that every press center should follow the stereotyped rule of journalism; Fairness, justice, and criticism. It is a general concept of press, but those rules ought to be applied to programs which treat news, reporting, or current issues. As its name has suggests, EBS has a educational role as a form of press in Korea. That’s a unique trait, compared to other forms of mass media. EBS provides space for viewer comments about the issues we cover. If something happens, other media can provide the information in an exact, clear way, explaining what

has happened while EBS provides the information with room for viewer opinions. This in turn leads to an even broader for viewer participation, inspiring others to create think, discuss, and critique. This is our biggest aim.

**Argus:** *What about the programs for infants? As Korean society gets fast-paced, the number of working couples seem to be on the rise and the role of television is thus becoming a huge subject as an educational tool. What is the ultimate goal of your programs?*

**Kim:** In the past, programs for infants were fairly easy to develop because they did not have to terribly sophisticated. Now the situation is totally different. My team has to consider two different types of audience simultaneously, namely, one for children and the other for parents. Parents, of course, want their children to watch educational programs, and children want to watch interesting fun programs. Over time we have developed a formula to satisfy both. The trick is how to combine educational contents and fun.

**Argus:** *Please tell HUFSAans dreaming to become a producer like you in the journalism industry.*

**Kim:** First, I want to emphasize that you find out what you really want to do above anything else. Discovering your own path to what you would enjoy doing is as important as getting high GPA scores. Ask yourself what you want to do, what you really want to concentrate on. Second, I strongly suggest that if there is something that you want to do, go for it without hesitating. I believe in the youth and young, pure power it has. Your fresh youthfulness can make everything possible. Meeting people in various sectors will enrich your life and help you achieve what you most sincerely want to. 

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# Blue Ocean in Russia, Sakha

Get the chance of the Potential Land

**By Park Hyun-chul**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

**D**o you know Republic of Sakha? Sakha, which is the self-governing state in Russia Federation, possesses a land which is as much as one fifth of Russia Federation. Though the state is located in the east Siberia, which is one of coldest local, Sakha has more abundant resources than any other self-governing state in the Russia Federation. Kang Duck-soo (Dept of Russian-72), who is professor of Department of Russian at HUFS, has promoted various cooperation programs with Sakha for 15 years after knowing the potentiality of this state. How did he get tie with Sakha? Why is it important to relate with Sakha? The Argus reveals his wisdom and insight as global talent of a HUFSan.

**Argus: How did you get the relation with Sakha?**

**Kang Duck-soo (Kang):** First of all, I would like to tell an episode to have me tied with Sakha. In 1994, a Korean resident in Sakha visited me to request support for building Sakha Korean School in Sakha. When I heard his requirement, I was embarrassed. However, after knowing the situation of Sakha Korean School, I decided to help the establishment of this school.

Yakutsk city, the capital of Sakha, helped a Korean professor, who was majoring in cultural anthropology, to study Siberia tribes' history, as a condition to help establish Korea school in Sakha. However, they didn't meet him when the Sakha government officials visited Korea to require to the professor to help establishment the school. To help their project, I dispatched a graduate student and two undergraduate students to Sakha Korean School to teach Korean. This made me have various relationships

with Sakha.

**Argus: Is there any exchange program between Sakha and Korea?**

**Kang:** There is an exchange program for selected 15 students of Sakha Korean School through the support of Yakutsk city. The program provided them with cultural and historical experiences of Korea, after picking up some students of department of Russian in HUFS as a voluntary teacher. Through this program, selected students visited Korea historic sites like the city of Gyeongju, and east or west seashore as cultural experiences. The purpose of this program is to inform students of not only Korean but also culture of Korea. Also, every summer, the Pacific Asia Society has dispatched youth volunteers to Sakha to teach Korean, Korean traditional martial art "Taekwondo," and Korea folk music "Samulnori." In addition, Korea Agency for Digital Opportunity and Promotion has a program to dispatch volunteers who teach Information Technology.

**Argus: Is there any cultural differences with Sakha people and Korean. Also, How about characteristic of Sakha?**

**Kang:** There is no sharp difference between Sakha and Korea. Sakha people are racially similar with Korean as their ancestors were a northern race. Most Sakha people are minority race, such as Yakut. Most Sakha people believe shamanism and they have a folk music like "Pansori," which is one of the Korea folk music.

In the case of climate, Sakha has the terrible climate. As Sakha is located in the east Siberia, the hottest day is at 40 centigrade while coldest day is minus 70 degrees centigrade. However, since its weather of summer is dry, it is more

untroubled to live there rather than I think.

**Argus: How do Sakha people think about Korea?**

**Kang:** Sakha people have a feeling of closeness towards Korean. As their Language and culture is familiar with Korea's, they don't feel the cultural difference. Though natives in Russia or Korean residents in Russia Federal have a negative feeling about Korean, Sakha people didn't negatively feel toward Korean.

**Argus: What do you think about the relationship with Sakha and Korea?**

**Kang:** Though Sakha is the barren local and there is climatic hardship, this country is one of the locals which have abundant resources. Actually, the ratio of diamond reserve is 80 percent and 50 percent in the world. Also, oil, natural gas and various metal resources are abundant in this local. In addition, the mines in Sakha have an economical efficiency as most mines in this local are open mine.

Though Sakha has weak points, such as insufficient infrastructure, underpopulation, and climatic difficulty to invest this potential land, Korean government and corporations should consider value of this country. Especially, the cooperation and exchange between Sakha and Korea is important not only for cultural exchange but also economical exchange.

**Argus: Why did you enter the Department of Russian?**

**Kang:** When I was a high school student, the novel of Tolstoi and Dostoevskii gave me an impression to me. At this time, I felt that literary style and description of their novel was very wonderful. If I enter the department of Russian, I want to know more Russian, its literature, and its culture. So, I decided to major in the Russian. Also, I had a firm belief that the Russian would become the important language. In these days, I think that my conviction is right.

**Argus: Did you join in any club or learned society in HUFS? Also were there any episodes in your campus life?**

**Kang:** After entering HUFS, I was interested in


the Russian literature. So, I joined various club or learned society related with literature. Especially, when I joined in Oedae literature club, which is general literature club in HUFS, I translated many Russian literatures. The translation of Russian literature in this club gave me a chance to gain a prize. When Oedae Hakbo, one of the HUFS newspapers, held an exhibition of illustrated poems, I was awarded translated-literature prize.

**Argus: What is your life motto?**

**Kang:** My life motto is freedom. I think that most people live on the basis of freedom. Since every people has own freedom, they could plan and endeavor to achieve what they want. However, we should consider that everyone has their own freedom. It means that people have a conflict of each freedom. So, we should respect the freedom of others. Also, the fact that every one has own freedom means that we should have a relationship with others. For example, we could have relationship with nature, society, and other people on the basis of freedom. To keep up the good relationship with others, we should always consider that every one and every thing has own freedom.

**Argus: What do you think about globalization?**

**Kang:** I think that globalization doesn't mean the integration of world. The real globalization, I think, means that each country or cultural area enhances their own identity. Most people think that the globalization is the integration, which means the all of the world people have same culture pattern. However, this globalization, most people think, nearly has the various cultures.

In other hands, each country enhances their cultural identity to make the abundant and various cultural globalizations. Of course, each country or cultural area should respect each other. 



These photos show the efforts of Kang Duck-soo to reinforce the relationship between Korea and Sakha.

All photos by Kang Duck-soo.

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# The Season of Arrangement

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He checks errors in an article

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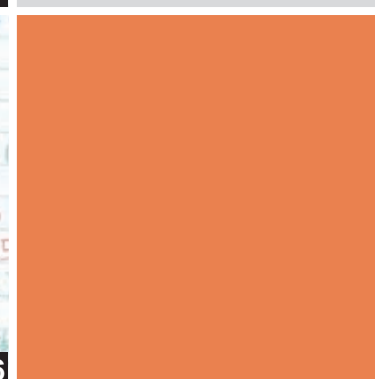
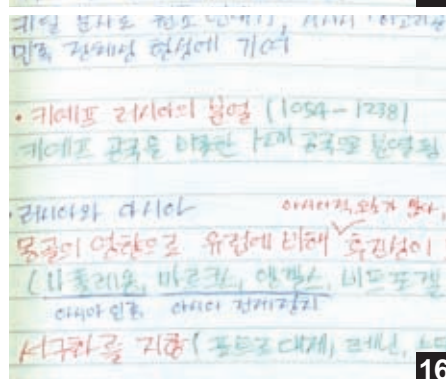
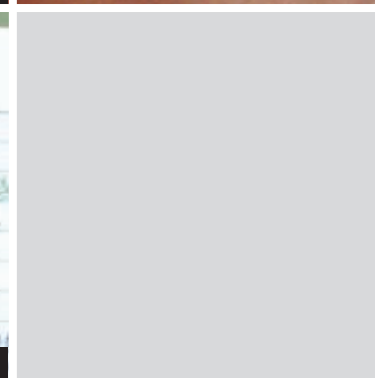
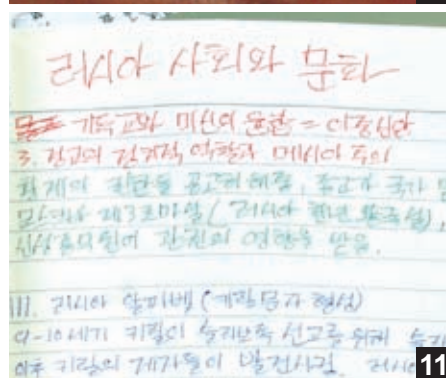
It is time to arrange what you've learned

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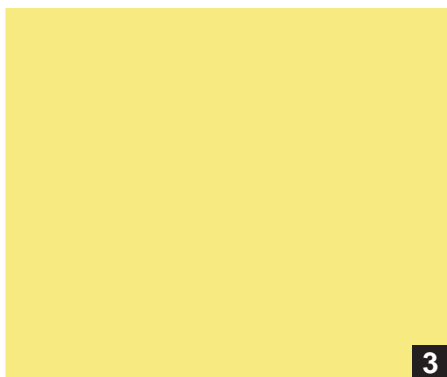
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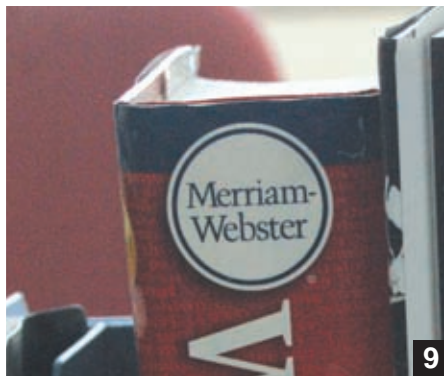
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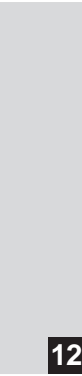
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# Dream an Alternative Life, Educo Village

By Kang Hye-rim

Associate Editor of Culture Section

In a building located in Seoul's posh Samcheong neighborhood is a branch of a civic organization named Educo Village, which aims to establish facilities including eco-friendly villages and alternative schools. Located in a narrow, cafe-lined alley, three men lecture on aesthetics beneath a small light bulb to an audience seeking a respite from the competitive life in cities. One rainy Friday night, The Argus met Jo Tae-yeong, planning director of Educo Village, who aims to recover the withering beauty of urban life.

**Argus: Educo Village has created diverse business models for an alternative lifestyle. What is the aim of the establishment of this organization? And what does an "alternative life" mean?**

**Jo Tae-yeong (Jo):** We established Educo Village after seeing children suffer from competition for high-level schools, people obsessed by the law of the survival of the fittest and those obsessed with money and capitalism.

Nowadays, our community manages a village that promotes sustainable living in Yeongju, a city in North Gyeongsang Province. The place

‘저기 아가씨, 술 하나 주세요’

섬을 씹듯 씹듯 아가씨의 입술이 뜨겁고 차가워

잔을 걸치는 그 세시가 무언가  
잘못되었던 사실의 연이 끊어지  
뒤를 돌아보자 거칠었던 계절은 사라지고  
아우성상으로 가득한 신반 사이의 풍경은 아찔했  
그 너머에는 아무것도 감추어진 것이 없고

아무것도 감추어진 것이 없고

아무것도 감추어진 것이 없고

is filled with ideas, including a toilet using leaf mold and a pond that purifies sewage. The village, however, is just a part of our broader work at Educo Village.

**Argus: Is there any specific plan the organization has for an alternative life?**

**Jo:** There are three main concerns for those who wish to resume agricultural pursuits: income, education and loneliness. What we want to do is to resolve these worries by introducing, as an initial step, solutions through various programs.



Jo Tae-young, a leader of Educo Village, gives a lecture on aesthetics at "Sai."

**Argus: Educo Village places a great deal of weight on educational problems. What is Educo Village's alternative to the current education system?**

**Jo:** In line with the ideas presented in "World to class; All things in the world are our teachers," Our plan is to make a special place that breaks from routine education. Einstein, Edison and Bill Gates are perfect examples of that. We plan to hire individuals that can coordinate a system of learning the end goal of which is not simply enrollment in top-tier universities. One part of this is our study abroad base camps. We have dispatched members to the Philippines and China to establish an Edu Village in those countries.

**Argus: What's the difference between Educo**

**Village and standard studying abroad programs?**

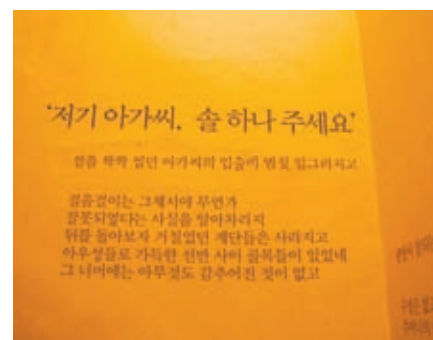
**Jo:** Educo Village seeks to give students the opportunity to learn about the culture and society of another country. We hope to create the foundation for a true globalization where people around the world share values, not a globalization aimed at just the accumulation of riches. Our group is set to create "Peace Road" for children in our ecological village and is also in the process of researching a fair supply system linked to the learning base camp.

**Argus: What sort of educational programs does the Seoul center offer?**

**Jo:** Every Friday, I give a seminar on humanities and a lecture on aesthetics. Through these programs, every participant can share their own opinions. I think this way of lecturing would be an excellent method for college classrooms. Through discussions and activate lectures, I would like to set up an alternative college in the middle of the city in the future.

**Argus: Finally, could you summarize the goal of Educo Village?**

**Jo:** I want to stress that if people live in graceful way, then the world can be beautiful naturally.



A poem by a student activist of civic body Educo Village is written on the wall of the bodies the Seoul center "Sai."

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# Vaccine Might be the Seed of Disaster

**By Jang Ho-jun**

*Associate Editor of Theory & Critique Section*

**F**ear of the Influenza A (H1N1) virus, alternately called “swine flu,” swept the world recently, and without exception hospitals in Korea have been filled with patients anxious over whether they have been infected with the flu. Responding to the pandemic, officials began selling massive amounts of the antiviral agent Tamiflu, while the Ministry for Health, Welfare and Family Affairs starting widespread vaccinations on Oct. 27.

Prior to this, the police arrested two high-school students who spread horrible rumors via cell phone messages about the vaccination and its side effects of vaccines. “We will die if we take the vaccine that the government gives,” one message warned. And while it is easy to dismiss such fears as groundless

paranoia, they are fueled by more than just rumor.

Around the world, many people reject vaccines over concerns about their potential side effects. Medical workers in Albany, New York refused mandatory H1N1 vaccinations. “Receiving the vaccine doesn’t mean you’re not going to get the flu,” said one of the nurses. Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk, meanwhile, declared that his country would not buy vaccines that have not been properly tested or from producers who will not take responsibility for possible side effects. What are the reasons behind these and other moves to reject the vaccines? The Argus looks into the origins of vaccines and their potential pitfalls.

## Origin and effects

A vaccine is a biological agent that enhances a person’s immunity to a particular disease. A vaccine typically

contains a small amount of an agent that resembles a microorganism. The agent stimulates the body’s immune system to recognize the agent as foreign, destroy it, and “remember” it, so that the immune system can more easily recognize and destroy any of these microorganisms that it later encounters. People usually confuse vaccines and antiviral drugs like Tamiflu, despite their differences. A vaccine enables the human immune system to make antibodies against viruses, but an antiviral drug slows the spread of a virus between cells in the body by stopping the virus from chemically cutting ties with its host cell -- median time to symptom alleviation is reduced by 12-24 hours.

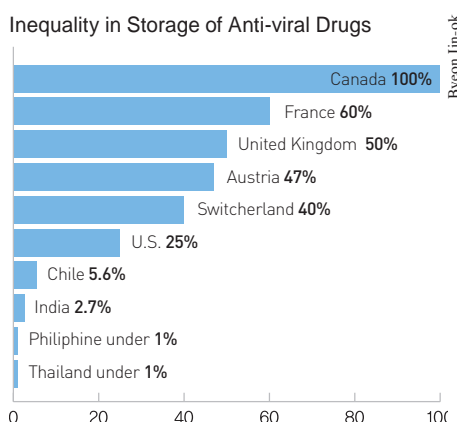
Certain medical skills involving the production of antibodies have existed in the Middle East since ancient times. During the 1770s, British doctor Edward Jenner discovered a way to prevent the fatal disease smallpox by

injecting patients with cowpox, which has a very mild effect in humans. Later, French microbiologist Louis Pasteur generalized Jenner's idea by developing what he called a rabies vaccine -- now termed an antitoxin, and in the 19th century vaccines were considered a matter of national prestige. Compulsory vaccination laws were soon passed, while the 20th Century saw the introduction of several successful vaccines, including those against diphtheria, measles, mumps, and rubella.

### Critics of vaccines

The reasons people give for questioning the safety of vaccines vary. Some insist that vaccines contain hazardous materials such as thimerosal, an organomercury compound (approximately 49 percent mercury by weight) which is used as an antiseptic and antifungal agent. It is also used as a preservative in vaccines and many other products. Unlike earlier vaccine preservatives, thimerosal does not reduce the potency of the vaccines that it protects. Although experts insist that a small amount of thimerosal is harmless to humans, critics suggest the possibility of autism, developmental disabilities and nerve damage if the chemical is accumulated in the human body. In accordance with such criticisms, thimerosal is no longer used as a preservative in routine childhood vaccinations in the United States, countries in the European Union and a few other affluent nations.

Another material regarded as potentially dangerous are immunologic adjuvants, agents that may stimulate the immune system and increase the response to a vaccine, without having any specific antigenic effect. An increasing number of vaccines with adjuvants, including squalene, MF59 and phosphate adjuvants, are being tested on humans. Some have linked squalene to



Gulf War syndrome, citing the presence of the substance in an anthrax vaccine given to military personnel during the 1991 Persian Gulf War. One study found that such veterans were significantly more likely to have antibodies to squalene -- 95 percent -- than Gulf War veterans who displayed no such symptoms.

Vaccines have also been blamed for causing fatal diseases. The 1976 swine flu outbreak was caused by a strain of the H1N1 influenza virus. The outbreak is most remembered for the mass vaccination prompted in the United States. The strain itself killed one person and hospitalized 13. However, side-effects from the vaccine caused 500 cases of Guillain-Barre syndrome and 25 deaths.


### Violent drug companies

With the spread of swine flu, there are those who profit as well as those who suffer from the disease. A select few international corporations that produce vaccines and antiviral drugs, distributing them all over the world with licenses guaranteed by World Health Organization are an example of the former. "Their main markets are usually countries in North America, Europe and Japan," an article in the Korean language magazine Hankyoreh 21 explains. "As a result, the distribution of drugs follows the rule of 'the rich get richer and the

poor get poorer.' Companies such as GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) and Novartis manage most vaccine factories in the U.S., France and the U.K."

People in countries not capable of purchasing the costly vaccines, as is the case in large parts of Africa, suffer from a deficiency of the vaccines. Furthermore, the companies attempt to take advantage of governments when signing agreements. Korea was no exception, as the letter of intention (LSI) to purchase vaccines from GSK would not guarantee the rights to deliver complaints to the company. An organization named Korean Pharmacists for a Democratic Society strongly criticized the LSI format, blasting GSK for not agreeing to be responsible if troubles arise over the safety of the vaccines.

### Do not forget

"Vaccinations have been a disaster on the immune system. They actually cause a lot of illnesses. We are changing our genetic code through vaccinations," said Guylaine Lanctot, M.D. Vaccines have been one of the most common ways to prevent and eradicate diseases for a century, but evidence lingers pointing to their inherent dangers. 

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### Reference

- **Gulf War syndrome (GWS) or Gulf War illness (GWI)** is an illness reported by combat veterans of the 1991 Persian Gulf War typified by a range of medically unexplained symptoms. These include fatigue, loss of muscle control, headaches, dizziness and loss of balance, memory problems, muscle and joint pain, indigestion and skin problems.
- **Guillain-Barre syndrome (GBS)** is an autoimmune disorder affecting the peripheral nervous system, usually triggered by an acute infectious process.



# General Ahn on 'Peace in East Asia'

**By Jang Ho-jun**

*Associate Editor of Theory & Critique Section*

In 1909, General Ahn Joong-keun, a Korean independence activist, assassinated the first Prime Minister of Japan, Ito Hirobumi, at a train station in the city of Harbin, in northeast China. He was soon arrested and placed in Lushun Prison and later handed a death sentence. But instead of appealing the decision, Ahn requested that the court give him time to finish his writings before carrying out his execution. The court ignored his request, however, cutting short his work. "On Peace in East Asia" was one such essay that went unfinished.

Conventional analyses of the man have focused mainly on his assassination of Ito Hirobumi and on his efforts to secure the independence of Korea. Current scholars, however, have begun to reexamine the political theories of Ahn, who studied international relations seeking ways to establish peace in East Asia. Ahn emphasized Pan-Asianism as a means of freeing the region from the yoke of Western colonialism. He lays out his ideas in "On Peace in East Asia," concepts forged in the latter period of the Chosun Dynasty that reveal striking similarities to current relations among states in Asia since 2000. As Western powers still wield considerable influence in the region and conflicts continue between neighboring states, Ahn's work serves as a framework for solving lingering tensions.

## The value of Ahn's incomplete work

Of "On Peace in East Asia," only certain sections were completed, including the "introduction," "previous facts," "present conditions," "preparations," and "questions and answers." While incomplete, the work contains the essential elements of Ahn's analysis on East Asia. Taken with statements he made in court, a full picture of Ahn's theory on regional peace becomes possible and can be summarized as follows: "The aggressive war launched by the Japanese Emperor has broken Eastern peace. As the casus belli of the war was Japan's financial difficulties, a solution may have been found through such methods as acquiring the credit of neighboring countries. The cooperation of these three countries -- Korea, Japan and China -- is essential for the peace of East Asia."

Ahn's thinking raises several important issues that apply to the current East Asian context: a burgeoning material culture that lacks humanity, invasion in the name of peaceful coexistence and the absence of a united security and finance management system.

## Against Japan's propaganda

Ahn was not alone in advocating Pan-Asianism. At the onset of Japan's Meiji Restoration, launched in 1869, thinkers in the country

began to conceive of an Asia united in opposition to European colonialism. Ito was, ironically, a proponent of this view, emphasizing the need for coordination between East Asian states to ward off Western encroachment. Behind this thinking, however, lay a heavy strain on the innate superiority of Japan that was used to justify its external expansion. The “Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere” was a product of Japanese propaganda used during World War II to justify its colonization of Asia.

Ahn perceived this threat inherent in the thinking of Japanese bureaucrats including Ito, whose talk of peace obscured Tokyo’s aim of outright control. In his writing, Ahn celebrates Japan’s victory in the Russo-Japanese War of 1904, though he attacks its encroachment against Korean sovereignty. Critics have accused Ahn of being unduly influenced by his Japanese contemporaries, claiming that he placed too much trust in Japan before the war. But a review of his theories shows that he accurately pinpointed the fallacies in Japan’s justification for its imperialist expansion while laying out a model for peace based not on nationalism but on an assessment of regional relations.

His assessment carries significant lessons for the modern era, suggesting solutions to the problems that continue to vex relations between Korea, China and Japan. Since 2000, these countries have shown a definitive tilt towards increased competition in arms development and procurement, as reflected in China’s active intervention in the problem of nuclear weapons in North Korea and the reinforcement of Japan’s Self-Defense Forces. Historical disputes such as those between Korea and Japan -- involving the Dokdo islets, comfort women and Yasukuni Shrine -- and China’s ongoing Northeastern

Project also present obstacles to greater unity.

There are also those in Korea calling for the country to rely on the rising strength of China to repel Western domination, just as previous scholars called for reliance upon Japan a century earlier. “What Ahn intended,” says Makino Eiji, a professor at Hosei University, “was to elucidate the formation of a future-oriented community where diverse countries solved social problems while not being led by a single nation. Environmental problems, like the yellow dust that blows into Korea from China, should be solved through such an international network between East-Asian countries.”

### Blue print for peace of East Asia


Although Ahn suggested fighting against western superpowers through an alliance of countries in East Asia, it is not correct to say that he considered the world as a potential enemy. His proposals were aimed at the restoration of damaged relations in East Asia and sought to persuade Japan to modify its policies. These included establishing a neutral meeting ground at China’s Lushun Port in the municipality of Dalian, Liaoning province, where international conferences would be held among East-Asian countries. The site would also house a central bank set up and managed by these countries.

Ahn went so far as to urge friendly relations with the pope, ideas easily dismissed as a pipe dream yet brought to fruition with the creation of the European Union (EU), with an official currency, the Euro, and its first president, Herman Van Rompuy. The so-called euro zone has led to increased trade and economic growth across the region. The EU president allows the region to bring more influence in

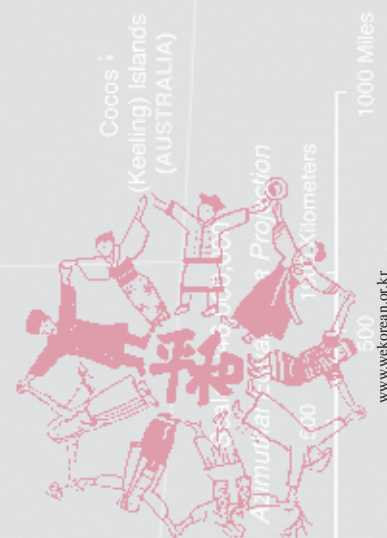
discussions of matters of global import.

“In East Asia, countries are still focused on military preparations,” said Shin Woon-yong, a researcher at the Ahn Joong-keun Foundation. “Although the Korean peninsula was divided into two nations, the circumstances are almost same as 100 years ago. If the nations created a united military and controlled nuclear weapons, we would not be fighting over nuclear experiments.”

### Insight for 100 years later

People in the 1900s did not welcome Ahn’s thoughts, considering his ideas unrealistic. However, his theories have a critical bearing on our modern globalized society where cooperation with other countries is crucial. Discussions about an “East-Asian Community” have been suggested by former South Korean Presidents Kim Dae-jung and Roh Moo-hyun, and current Japanese Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama. Although not an easy task, there is hope of a real Asian community. 

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# Are Your Prayers being Answered?

**By Lee Yeong-eun**

*Reporter of Culture Section*

Every year during the time of “Su-neung,” an important examination for high school students to get into universities, an annual pilgrimage begins in Korea. Throngs of parents visit their Buddhist temples with their offerings, praying for divine favor for their children’s examinations. Similarly, church attendance swells like never before, with pastors fervently heaping blessings on the devotees’ children. Even fortune-tellers become busier, as they dispense supernatural wisdom for anxious parents.

Mystical sects and organized religions



Students pray together for good results for their “Su-neung.”

have established a form of following in Korea since ancient times when Koreans turned to shamans to enlist help from the spirit world to better their lives. Koreans who sought divine solutions to their anxieties visited Buddhist temples regularly. Meanwhile, Christianity, which is a relatively nascent religion in Korea, has found a horde of fervent followers. Believers readily attend sermons to seek protection and blessings in life.

Even today, such mystical sects and organized religions still attract followers in contemporary Korean society. According to a population census conducted by the National Statistics Office in 2005, more than half (53.1 percent) of Koreans were affiliated with a religious organization. Compared with the results of the same census in 1985 and 1995, it appears more and more Koreans are flocking to religions. However, not only are religions flourishing, occult practices such as fortune-telling have found new believers. Today, there are hundreds of Korean fortune-telling websites and small stores and cafes being established. Also, fortune-tellers have seen an

increase in consultations with Koreans, especially with youth. It appears that Koreans, regardless of age and generation, are still mystified by faiths.

## **Belief: The pursuit of happiness**

Even as they are well-versed in natural science, why are Koreans still bound to the magic of the supernatural? Perhaps, the answer lies in a Korean horror film, *Bulshinjiok* or “Possessed.” In the film, where people are in the bleakest moments of their lives, they are more willing to believe in miracles. Not because they have become delusional, but because they need hope. People confronted by tough times when there appears to be no way out, the hope offered by religions or the occult seems to be too good to ignore. Therefore, Koreans are attracted to mysticism. They get a promise that any problem can be solved by supernatural means. Also, it is promised that happiness and peace are possible, no matter how dark the present appears.

## **A breather in life**

While their problems cannot be miraculously solved, the promise

of divine solutions removes a certain amount of stress in life. Unfortunately for Koreans living in today's modern society, they are besieged with a lot of stress, be it from education, career, or even relationships, as the demands of living in the modern world become greater and greater every day. Pent-up worries can be detrimental to a person's mental health. Religions can act as safety valves to release some of this stress. In Buddhist temples, Koreans, with a small fee, can choose to stay over in a temple stay-over program to escape from the realities and complications from modern city life. Similarly, Christian congregations offer people support groups with pastors soothing their followers' fears. Even Shamans provide their followers with some comfort by performing rituals to give a sense that everything will be all right. Therefore, while mysticism cannot keep its promise that everything will be okay, the solace people gain from it is invaluable.

Yet, despite the comforts that mysticism provides, Koreans appear to be disillusioned with both the occult and organized religions. According to the PEW global survey on people's attitudes towards religions in 2002, only 25 percent of Koreans feel religion is important. Similarly, in the Global Peace Index collated by the group Vision of Humanity, Koreans valued the importance of religion at a moderate three out of five in 2008. Perhaps, what initially drew Koreans to religion and the occult would be the exact thing that becomes a turn-off afterwards.

### When prayers are not answered

While the occult and religion promise to solve the problems of their followers often, such promises are meaningless. While Koreans may be comforted by the initial hope that their lives will be smooth-sailing again, their optimism can be dashed when the grim realities

that the problems persist eventually catch up with them. This gives them a sense of betrayal for being given hope when there is none in the first place. The pain of realities can be even greater, for not only do Koreans have to face the truth, but they are confronted by the fact that they had been misled. According to an interview conducted by David A.G Johnson Jr., from the Korea University Graduate School of International Studies, university students felt even more depressed when they discovered that the promise of fortune-tellers that they would get into a better university had been lies. Perhaps, Koreans' growing suspicions of the occult and mysticism stem from the pain of having been cheated.


### Turning a blind eye

However, the occult and religions can be distressing when followers persist in believing even though none of the promises promised to them are granted. Even when faced with the fact that the problems remain unsolved, some people prefer to just wait for a divine solution. They prefer to continue to believe in the lies because of their fear to confront the problems at hand. Therefore, they become dependent on mysticism as a means of escape, to run away from the grim realities. However, by doing so, they overlook that they are now the ones stopping themselves from a shot at happiness. How can a business flourish, when a Korean merely relies on shamanistic rituals to improve her-or-his so-called luck? How will a student improve his grades, when all he-or-she does is visit a Buddhist temple for divine help? Not only do the problems remain, but they are living in their own delusions. By turning a blind eye, they allow the occult and religion to create a false reality that deceives them, to feed them with unmerited hope that everything will be okay. Then it is no

wonder why people are skeptical about the usage an illusion will serve other than to deceive.

### Deceiving to controlling

In some more serious cases, followers may be manipulated by the occult or by religion. Living in false realities, followers are at risk of being manipulated to do extreme acts. When 23 Koreans were held hostage by the Taliban in Afghanistan recently, some Koreans were influenced by a fallible preaching to attack mosques and Muslims communal places in Korea. Certain cults and religions demand strict adherence to their rules and regulations and readily condemn to eternal damnation those who are unwilling to comply. Therefore, followers are now coerced into believing in some false hope or they are faced with the psychological trauma that what they had believed so far is false. Either way, it does not bring comfort but only more misery.

While Koreans can seek comfort in the occult and religion, they must not be blinded into believing that everything is okay and that these, and only these, can solve their problems. Koreans must still be grounded in reality and face their problems with their new-found spiritual strength and not idle for a divine miracle to bring them the happiness they want. Happiness is not god-given -- it is earned by effort. 

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# Green Designer

## Yoon Ho-seob



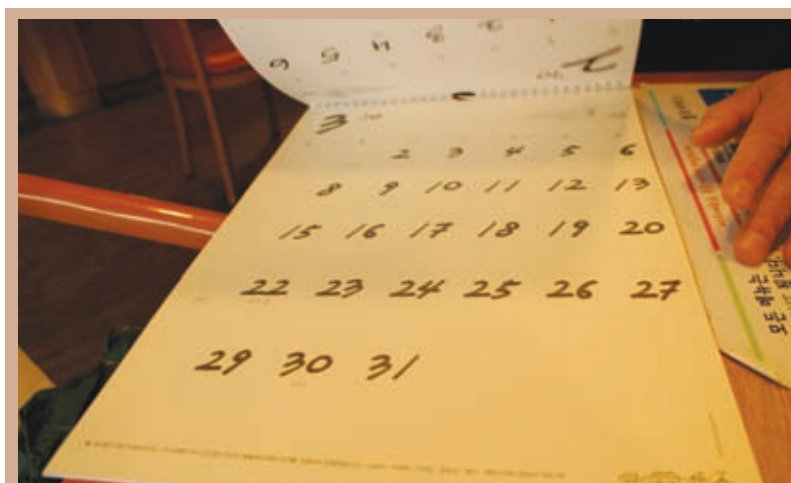
**By Kang Hye-rim**

*Associate Editor of Culture Section*

An old polar beaver entered the cozy cafe slowly, folding on his old umbrella on a rainy morning. His appearance betrayed his character. He hands a business card that says “greencanvas.com,” made of a recycle paper and written with soybean ink. This simple design business card belongs to Yoon Ho-seob, professor of Department of Visual Communication Design at Kookmin University. He got rid of car and refrigerator nine years ago. He had announced “energy independence.” Every Sunday, he painted a salamander, a dolphin and stars (emblems of nature) on his spare T-shirt draw with a green nature dye. He distributed the T-shirt in the streets of Insa-dong, central Seoul. So people call him “Insa-dong T-shirt Grandpa.”



Yoon Ho-seob explains an eco-calendar.



2010 Calendar, Designed by hand

- Made of eco-friendly wood-free paper
- Reduced cover page to one third size
- Soy-based ink used for printing
- Omission of cutting-off process for marginal area
- Mono color print on inside of calendar
- Empty space under Sundays and holidays for users to fill out



## Green canvas, design an eco-message!

He has been devoting lots of time and efforts to incorporate environment into education and design, since 1991 World Scout Jamboree. He has also been initiating his students of visual design into environmental consciousness for the effective environmental movement.

The creation of his artworks is based on using Green Environment Materials and recycling materials.

"I've been sticking chewing gums on a big hard board, a variety of tea bags. It's been about a year since I started to hang them up on a small tree withered in the flower pot. Bunches of disposable coffee packs and some of the fallen leaves -- they are all of my art works," he said. He said "Don't separate an environmental stuff and design. Environmental sink into the design." Yoon established a class named "The master's course Green Design" since the second semester in 2003 to cultivate designers who can save the eco-system of the earth within the eco-friendly design, acquiring both the associated

technologies and the spirit that could fundamentally settle the environmental problems.

## Practical eco-designer

He has set "Millennium eco love project" in 2000. He has started as an eco-loving designer. Since then, he does not go shopping and stop to decorating a house. Also, he never uses a refrigerator and does not drive a car, preferring to walk. Furthermore, his art working room is like a big recycling warehouse. In the middle of his lab, there is a stack of paint stuff, ink-cartridges, window envelopes, and so on. It is impossible to tidy the room up. The posters, which were for the reducing CO2 campaign, are blocking up the strong sun shine from outside the window. "I designed the number 2000 in heart shape, wishing the new millennium should be in the grace of love," Yoon said.

## His green design becomes known abroad

His eco-friendly spirit runs away through the U.S. "I had distributed

T-shirt drawing a bat to a white boy on Insa-dong performance art. A boy took a picture of my Insa-dong performance, and sent it to his father. The boy's father has lectured an ecology class in the U.S. for nine years. He showed interest in my performance. We still contact each other. This event paved the way for an exhibition at Brandeis University. I was invited from there. This exhibition opened through Feb. 8-13, 2009. The invitation title was 'Distinguished Visiting Practitioner.' I will introduce my exhibition 'Designer starts to get to reaction against global warming and environmental crisis' to him," Yoon said.

## Our movement saves the world

"I am willing to share the conviction that at least a small part of the environmental problem can be solved by designing and the indivisible relation between the environment and designing," green designer Yoon said. "If I change, it could change the world. Believe in yourself. And jump into eco-friendly moving."

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# Korea's Very Own Schindlers?

By Lee Yeong-eun

Reporter of Culture Section

Confucius urges his followers to recompense kindness with kindness. Traditional Korean society upholds a belief in the value of altruism. Koreans are encouraged to be selfless and warm to each other to create a warm and harmonious community.

## Schindler's List:

This critically-acclaimed movie revolves around a true story of a German, Oskar Schindler, and a list of Jews he saved from the horrors of the holocaust. An unsuccessful businessman, Schindler goes to Krakow, Poland to seek his fortune. Forming a partnership with Itzhak Stern, a well-connected Jew in Krakow, Schindler sets up a factory that employs Jewish workers. As his business flourishes, Schindler enjoys newfound status and wealth. Initially, Schindler protects his workers by bribing German soldiers in order to continue making money. However, over time, his humanity surfaces and he changes his agenda to save



as many Jews as possible. When orders came to send all the Jews to their doom in concentration camps, Schindler eventually forsakes his chance to leave with his wealth but instead spends a vast portion of his fortune to convince the German officials otherwise. Having already saved their lives, Schindler exhausts the remaining amount of his assets to ensure the safety of his workers till the end of the war.

While Schindler may have started out with the sole purpose of amassing wealth, he was later influenced by his instinct to be compassionate to others. From a strict business-like relationship with his Jewish workers, he warmed up to them and sacrificed all he had to ensure their safety. Similarly, human beings seem to be altruistic to one another by nature.

## Why are humans kind?

Humans are known to be kind for two reasons. First is the opportunistic nature to survive. Logically, kindness should be a zero-sum game. It is assumed the beneficiary loses as much as he gives. However, sociologists think otherwise. They believe that kindness is in fact a win-win situation. Socio-biologist Robert Trivers proposes that humans are kind to one another out of an evolutionary instinct to increase survival chances.

One is willing to be nice to another in order to build trust. He unconsciously assumes people are willing to reciprocate his kindness when he is in need of assistance. Therefore, kindness becomes a mutual game where people believe helping others will increase the likelihood of receiving aid, and thus increase their chances of survival.

Next is that Kindness is desirable habit. Recall growing up, when people were constantly reminded by their parents

to be nice to others. Kindness is seen as an ideal quality to have in society. Most major philosophies and religions, from Confucianism, to Buddhism, to Christianity and Islam, extol kindness as a virtue. They encourage their followers to be kind to others and treat everyone with compassion. The habit to be kind has been incorporated into most childhood education systems since early years. It is a routine taught to them during their growing-up years and is a

habit that sticks with them throughout their lives.

### Kindness, a living conscience?

However, while both points of view on why human beings are kind can be valid, the agenda behind Schindler's action fits into neither category. Certainly, Schindler did not benefit from his secret attempts to save the lives of his Jewish workers. Not only did it cost him his entire fortune, he risked the possibility of his life being forfeited if he were to be caught. Also, his kindness to the Jews cannot possibly be out of habit. In those times, the Germans were taught to hate the Jews. Years of propaganda had brainwashed the entire race to despise the Jews. Such intense hate is best captured in the film by showing how German soldiers mercilessly send innocent Jews to death. While Schindler flinched at such unjustified killings, the German officers and soldiers carried out such acts with no emotions. To them, they were clearing vermin. What this shows is that Schindler's kindness is like a spirit inhabiting in his mind. It communicates to him to do something selfless and noble. It is a living will of his desire to see the suffering of others end at the expense of his own. It is best captured at how the tears roll down his cheek near the end of the film, for not saving more Jews from the horrors of the war.

### Kindness in Korea

While Schindler's actions are noble, is Korea home to more "Schindlers"? Are there more people responding to their inner voices to save others from suffering?

Giving, in terms of money and hours, is an act of kindness. Certainly, Korea is doing well in these areas. The amount of donations has increased sharply over the years. Even during the tumultuous financial crisis of 2008, the amount



of donations in recent years collected is the highest so far according to the Community Chest. Also, the number of people volunteering has been steadily rising over the years and the length of service rendered has also increased. Koreans' kindness also goes beyond contributing to their community. The number of Koreans, volunteering to go overseas to help others, numbers at around 2,000 and is the third largest in the world. Korea's international aid has also tripled since 2001, to an astonishing US\$1 Trillion. So apparently, Koreans have become kinder.

### Genuine kindness?

While Koreans are doing well in such superficial indicators, are they really kinder now? While it is presumptuous to ask that everyone be like Nightingale, we can ask if Koreans help others because it is a mundane routine. Imagine with the advent of digital donating culture, donating to help others has become so easy. With just a click of a mouse, people can donate any figure of money. So, it is arguable if sincerity can flow readily from just clicking a mouse, or not. Also, while Korea's international aid may increase, the nation is still way below the UN standard. Even the UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-moon commented that for a country as advanced as Korea, more should be done to help others. Even the agendas of volunteers are questionable. Recently, there are universities receiving applications from students with evidence that they have done more than 200 hours of community service. While there is a question on the validity of such claims, the bigger question is whether students

are volunteering now out of sincerity like Schindler, or to serve their own self-interests. But really, does it matter that much?

### A more Schindler-Korea?

However, can we conclude that Korea lacks people who are like Schindler? The answer is no. Facts and figures may indicate whether a society is more giving, but it cannot tell us whether it comes from the heart. However, what is heartening is that there are incidents where Koreans have been selfless. Take the recent story of a 17 year-old high school student who jumped into the railway to save a child who had fallen onto it, or stories of how Koreans are now warmer and more helpful to foreigners living in Korea, a much better improvement over their hostile treatment. In fact, just like how Schindler restrained racial prejudice to help the Jews, there was a story of a Korean woman saving a Japanese stranger in Japan. While people cannot know whether there are more or less Schindlers in Korea, such stories do indicate that they still exist, and this should be heartening.

Schindler is an exemplary model for kindness, for the good deeds he had done were full of self-sacrifice and love for humanity. He acted the way he did because he was brave enough to listen to his conscience, to try to save the lives of strangers in those dangerous times. It is the ultimate example of the love for his fellow men. Koreans can be like Schindler too. As long as they listen to their inner voices, Koreans are capable of such love for others. Wouldn't this be an ideal pillar to build a society around?

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# Co-education Vital to Advancing Gender Equality

By **Hwang Jung-hyun**  
*Editor of Culture Section*

**H**igh schools for both sexes have gradually decreased to the disadvantage of the college entrance examination. However, co-ed schools are designed to advance the sound values of gender. The Incheon Metropolitan Office of Education (ICE) said, “In 1990, to promote gender equality and encourage students to have sound values about the opposite sex, we increased the number of co-ed schools. However, female students’ high school records are so good that male students avoid co-ed schools for reasons having to do with university entrance. Issues of providing male and female students with guidance about life was also raised. So now we are building more boys’ schools.” For this reason, the seven high schools which are to open in 2010 are girls-only or boys-only schools.


However, the question that has been raised about this situation is whether it is desirable or not. If we only look at the situation from the view of ability and talent, the situation is being addressed in the right way. However, for gender equality and the improvement of relationships between men and women, the most important factor is co-education, through which men and women may get to know each other better earlier and may thus get rid of prejudices about the opposite sex. Is this gender equality not most important in our lives?

In modern Korean society, women’s rights have advanced dramatically in contrast to the past. However, traditional Confucian ideas continue to restrict us by discriminating against women. In traditional society, the division of gender was very strict in regard to daily activities and attitudes.

However, because of Korea’s rapid social transformation into an information society, the presence of women in public affairs is rising. This shift necessitates changes in traditional norms and value systems that were once rigidly observed. In addition, the strict separation of gender roles disrupts individual lives and personal development.

Hence, in modern society, professionals with creative and flexible ideas who are free of gender bias are needed. For the development of Korean society, we need to foster gender equality by eradicating traditional, gender-biased beliefs and promoting a more progressive consciousness. We should look at gender equality not only from the view of human rights but also from the perspective of better social development.

Co-ed schools are, in this respect, essential. We must not allow ourselves to be obsessed with commonly-held ideas about gender roles. School education should actively support individuals to allow them to reach their fullest potentials.

In the educational field, we need to spread and plant the seeds of gender equality at home and in the broader society by eradicating prejudice and discriminatory acts and by setting up an educational foundation to promote gender equality. However, to advance co-education, we need tutors who can understand the system well. Co-education means preparation and practice for future problems that await resolution. 

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# The Ceremony of Building New Dormitories and English Village in Yongin Campus

By Park Hyun-chul / Editor-in-Chief

HUFS held a ceremony on Dec. 10 marking the start of building a new dormitories in Yongin Campus and English Village. The plan of building new dormitories and English Village is the one of plans HUFS has promoted.





Bird's-Eye-Views of English Village in Yongin Campus

# The plan of New HUFS in Yongin Campus

Bird's-Eye-Views of new dormitories in Yongin Campus





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