

The Argus

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Feeling Korean Traditional Culture by
the 'Heart'

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30th Anniversary of Global Campus



HANKUK UNIVERSITY OF FOREIGN STUDIES

The Argus

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In-depth on Campus

This month's In-depth on Campus takes a look at the safety-related issues of HUFs at night. For the Seoul Campus, The Argus tries to find out the problems of outsiders coming into the campus. For the Global Campus, focus is on the possible dangers due to its darkness and lack of people at nighttime. Possible solutions are provided in and outside of Korea on the issue.

T&C Tower

Have you heard about "Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD)"? Repeating certain kind of acts or being reminded of one thought are some symptoms of OCD. This is dangerous because not only the symptoms, but also the consequences accompanied by OCD can ruin your life.

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Main Issue

Today, more and more tourists are visiting Korea. This phenomenon might seem positive, but when we look closer at what is happening actually, it is not that pleasant. The Argus looks closer at Korea's tourism culture.

In-depth on Culture

Why is Korean tourism not featuring Korean cultural properties and districts outside of Seoul? In-depth on Culture looks closer on why this is happening and provides possible solutions to these problems.

Rendezvous

What is the real attraction of the Korean traditional style house, "Hanok"? If you have thought Hanok as a boring place to visit, Ahn Young-hwan can tell you a different aspect and beauty of Hanok that you did not know.


Dispute over Meaning of “Publicly Managed Election”

Election Commission for General Student Council (GSC) and Press Association of HUFS (Oedae Hakbo, The Argus, Oedae, and FBS) recently had a dispute over the meaning of “Publicly Managed Election.” The Election Commission (EC) sent an official document on Nov. 11, asking the Press Association to get every article related to the GSC elections reviewed before being released. The reason was clear: since HUFS Presses have an impact on the public, it is possible for the Presses to mislead the voters, making the election environment chaotic. However, the EC included the Press into the meaning of “Publicly Managed Election.” Isn’t it too hasty?

Direct reviewing of the articles on election is too hasty. It is true that the National Election Commission, actually, reviews the working of the press to a certain degree during election times. However, does the Commission preview the election-related news? No, it does not. It is okay that we do not apply all the rules of the real society to the university. Actually, the HUFS’ EC had already undergone confusion this semester resulting from the misleading of Press of HUFS. Therefore it is also reasonable to prevent such confusions from reoccurring. Nevertheless, it is still hasty to give a go-ahead to the suggestion of previewing articles.

Press is the key opinion leader, right, but checking the authorities is its role too. In other words, not only does the Election Commission have the responsibility to check, but also does the Press. As EC and HUFS Presses have not agreed on the question of who has the authority to check whom, it is not fair for the Commission to ask the Press to be under its authority.

Then, how can HUFS elections be fair? One civic group organized during last local election could be a solution. The Democratic Press Civic Group for Busan was responsible to watch whether the Korean Presses perform their responsibilities to lead the public in making a decision with reasonable judgments or not. The civic group aimed at preventing the Presses from misleading the public. Considering this example and democracy, the role of watching the Presses is acceptable and suitable for the common HUFSSans.

This incident between the EC and the Presses of HUFS revealed the lack of much needed communication. If the two had discussed the “Publicly Managed Election” fully, this situation would not have occurred. Luckily, the two bodies had a meeting after the official document, and made a decision for improved communication between bodies from next year and during the next election. 

Editor-in-Chief
Lee Kyeong-eun

Construction of HUFS Alumni Hall Declared



The plans of HUFS Alumni Hall Construction is explained at Westin Chosun Hotel

The Alumni Hall Construction Commission held the “Declaration of HUFS Alumni Hall Construction” ceremony on Nov. 16. This was held at the Grand Ball Room of Westin Chosun Hotel, with more than 500 participating alumni and faculty. The event had more participants than initially expected, showing the high level of interest among the alumni.

With former KBS announcer Shin Young-il presiding over the ceremony, the event began with a performance by the Jang’s Choir. This was followed by an opening speech given by Kim Hyun-wook, the president of the commission. Further congratulating messages were

then given by President Park Chul and other renowned alumni. Kim said, “It has been 60 years since HUFS was established, but we still do not have our own alumni hall. Many alumni have expressed support for the construction of one and it would be a great thing for both the alumni and for the further development of HUFS.” Park said in his speech, “It would be an honor for 110 thousand alumni to participate actively in this event, allowing the University to regain its reputation it once had as one of the top five universities in Korea.” The ceremony then proceeded from the briefing about the construction plans to the stipulation of funds, a banquet dinner

and finally, the photo sessions.

This declaration event was intended to raise funds in commemoration of the 60th anniversary of HUFS and to gather participants in the undergraduate, graduate schools and also the alumni from special programs such as the TESOL, MK-China CEO program and the Foreign Language Training Center.

By Choo Yong-wahn


New Student President Elected for Seoul Campus

The election of the 45th General Student Council (GSC) for Seoul Campus was held on Nov. 23 and 24. There were two candidate groups, 'Close Up' (candidate number one) and 'Butterfly Effect' (candidate number two,) each consisting of a student president and a vice student president candidate. 'Close Up' was represented by the former vice student president, whereas 'Butterfly Effect's president candidate was the former president for the College of Business and Economics.

'Butterfly Effect' won, making Park Won (International Economics and

Law-04) student president and Jeong Min-hyeong (Political Science and Diplomacy-05) vice president. They won by having 325 more votes, gaining a total number of 2,298 ballots. The ballots were focused on Park Won especially from the College of Business and Economics, where 92 percent of the students gave votes to number two. On the other hand, language majors except the College of English gave its support to 'Close Up.'

The newly elected GSC proposed various pledges. First is HUFStar, which is receiving and piling of small alumni

donations and using them as student scholarships. Also, it promised to be more transparent in terms of its financial status and decision making process. Park Won, former as student president of the College of Business and Economics, had gained reputation of making the student council transparent. Furthermore, it promised to enhance the double major, FLEX and tuition issues, which have not been fully solved by the past student associations. 

By Choo Yong-wahn

Ceremony Completion for “Humanities Course of Hope”

HUFS and the Seoul Metropolitan Government held a ceremony on Nov. 9 at Aekyung Hall to congratulate the first cohort of socioeconomically disadvantaged citizens who completed a newly inaugurated program in the humanities. This program extended from March to October this year and was run by HUFS and the Seoul Metropolitan Government. 316 out of the 414 students who initially enrolled completed the program. Its purpose was to support the re-empowerment of homeless people and low-income citizens as proud members of Korean society, restoring their self-worth by motivating them in education.


Normally, previous initiatives to empower the socioeconomically disadvantaged were one-sided in that they focused only on temporary

protections. By contrast, HUFS differentiated this project from previous ones by concentrating on the development of humanities-based knowledge and students' mental skills, and accordingly, this program was titled 'Wise Life, Happy Life.' The program was conducted through narrating history, philosophy, culture and art in a way that was tailored to the eye level of students. Courses were also offered on literature and writing. The curriculum included not only lecture courses in the humanities but also field trips to explore historic sites and watch musical performances.

Kim Won-myung, the Dean of the Department of Philosophy and also the director of this program, said that it was very worthwhile and was thankful when he witnessed the improvements in the



Students who have successfully completed the course take photos in the completion of ceremony

students. The congratulatory ceremony was divided into two parts, with the first part being led by Professor Jun Jong-sup, from the Department of Linguistics and Cognitive Science, and the second part consisted of traditional folk concerts prepared by HUFSans. 

By Sung So-yoon

President Park Chul Awarded Spanish Government's Highest Civilian Award



Strategy and Public Relations Team

President Park Chul(L) and the Spanish Prime Minister José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero(R) shake their hands

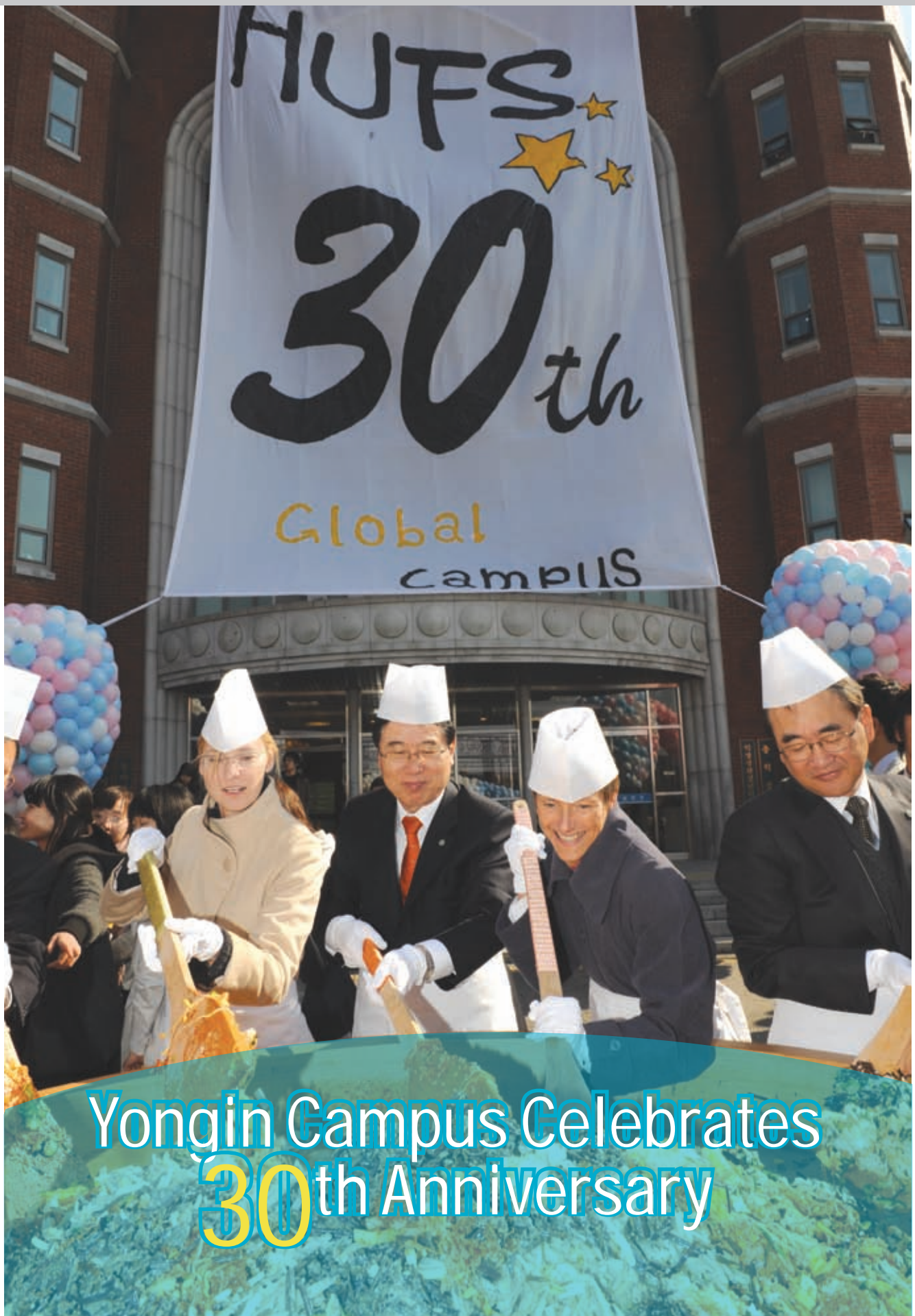
President Park Chul was awarded the Spanish government's highest civilian award by the Spanish Prime Minister José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero on Nov. 11. The award ceremony was held at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Seoul on the sidelines of the G20 Seoul Summit. Park was awarded the award in recognition of his contributions in boosting Korea-Spain relations. The award he received is known as the Order of Carlos III Collar Badge Grade (the Great Cross of Charles III,) which was initiated by King Carlos III in 1771 to honor those who made excellent contributions to Spain. The collar is presented by the country's prime minister in person.

Park was elected as a life member of the Real Academia Español (Royal Spanish Academy) in 2009. The Real

Academia Español has selected members of the highest academic caliber from Spain. In addition to that, the academy also elects some distinguished international scholars who have contributed significantly to the development and dissemination of the Spanish language in a foreign country.

Park also headed an academy on Cervantes in Korea. He published the first Korean translation for Don Quixote, translated directly from Spanish. [A](#)

By Lee Eun-ju



Yongin Campus Celebrates 30th Anniversary



HUFSans, President Park, and faculties make 500 bowls of bibimbab to celebrate the anniversary.



World Folklore Museum officials and President Park bury a time capsule.






Global Campus creates the Olle pathway to boast its natural environment.

Global Campus, formerly referred to as Yongin Campus, celebrated the 30th anniversary of its founding on Oct. 28, and held diverse events to celebrate. The events began with ceremonies in the open-air theater and the grass plaza. Also, HUFS President Park Chul, HUFS Vice-President of Global Campus, Chong Il-young, and students and faculty of Global Campus made 500 bowls of bibimbap. The photos covering 30 years of history of Global Campus were displayed in front of the Student Center and the Academy for Global Education.

At this event, school officials buried a time capsule. Also, a celebration by

the orchestra of Hankuk Academy of Foreign Studies was held at the Student Center and at the Academy for Global Education. HUFS President Park Chul spoke of his aspirations for Global Campus' 30th anniversary. He said that he will pursue various policies making HUFS become a top global university based on Global Campus' 30th anniversary. As part of this leap at Global Campus, the second dormitory is under construction and will add to the attractiveness and convenience of the campus. The dormitory will be able to accommodate about 1,670 students and 80 apartments for the foreign professors. The new dormitory opens in the second

semester of 2011. Meanwhile, HUFS also made an environmentally-friendly roadway to make the best use of the unique natural environment of Global Campus. The total length of the roadway at Global Campus is 4.85 kilometers and are divided into four parts. Each course boasts a unique natural setting of each season. In particular, the students feel the autumn flavor in Myeongsudang Pond and forests next to the Pond. The environmentally-friendly roadway around Global Campus is expected to offer leisure activities to the students, school officials, and local residents. 

By Lee Ho-je

Power to the People?

By Lee Yeong-eun

Editor of Culture Section

I have to admit that I am disillusioned with democracies. What once seemed like the greatest gift to mankind by the West, now appears to be a poisoned chalice. Yes, the ideological framework behind democracy is sound, but like all ideals, it is a murky reflection of reality.

With alternatives being the cold regimes of communism or the seemingly harsh Shariah laws of the Middle Eastern Islamic states, it seems insane to reject democratic rule, for the past three decades was a golden age. The good times have covered up the cracks of the past. For you see, democracies do not guarantee to uphold the promise of “Liberté, égalité, fraternité.”

Ideally, giving power to the people will ensure that every citizen is entitled to fundamental human rights. For it is natural for a person to wish to be granted such rights, the collective desire of everyone will manifest into a social contract that will guarantee the providence of such entitlements by constitution. Unfortunately, how humans perceive reality is twisted by their biased views and such prejudices can become law even till today. As xenophobia sweeps through Europe, parliaments are debating the merits of imposing restrictions on foreign immigrants. Who can protect the victims if almost everyone is the bully?

Corruption is still rampant. The problem of blessing the power of management over people is that it can become corrupt and oppressive. Once placed in positions of power, some are tempted to abuse their authority for their own private gains. No matter what their nationalities or backgrounds are, it seems inescapable that some people look after their own self-interest first at the expense of those they serve. Perhaps it is an inherent flaw of democracy that everything hinges on the integrity of the leaders. Sure, there is the judiciary to hopefully keep in check the elected leaders. But recall how members of parliament can get away with their corruption for many years before being caught, or how legally elected dictators can get away with acts of evil such as genocide before being disposed of. Is it wise to give so much power and hope to a few?

This is not an attempt to malign both democratic ideals and the people that they seek to protect. In fact, as a female, it is doubtful I would even be typing now, criticizing the very institution that protects me and gives me this right if not for the enormous leap in liberties gained during the struggles for democracy. However, just as how human rights were first fought for and earned, there must be continued and active attempts to maintain democracy. We must use the utmost vigilance in our civic responsibilities and be open-minded to prevent freedom from being hijacked by malicious influences that seek to spread prejudice and partiality. ☹

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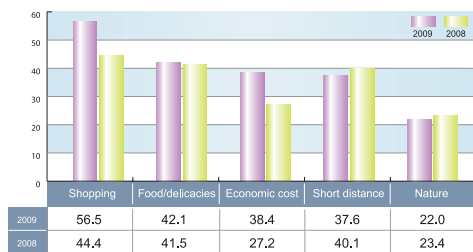


Jung Hyun-jun

Korean Tourism, Is That All?

By Choi Eun-sil
Reporter of Culture Section

The factors tourists visit Korea
(multiple answers allowed)



The Visit Korea Year Committee selected 2010 to 2012 as “Visit Korea Year” to enhance the international competitiveness of Korean Tourism and to raise the value of Korea’s national brand. The various colors of the emblem illustrate Korea’s progressive spirit, and each letter contains its own meaning. “K” of KOREA represents that Korea moves forward into an unlimited future. “O” demonstrates Korea’s culinary culture, “R” shows the status of Korean B-boy, which represents dynamic sense of Korea, “E” stands for “Nongak,” the traditional Korean music performed by farmers, and “A” for a pleasant shopping trip.

Are these all that Korea can show? According to the “2009 International Visitor Survey” published by Korea Culture and Tourism Institute (KCTI), foreign visitors to Korea selected shopping as number one factor when considering a visit to Korea. Shopping represented 56.5 percent, followed by food and delicacies at 42.1 percent, and economic cost at 38.4 percent. As you can see, these results do not show cultural properties. Not only that, districts other than Seoul do not get many visitors.

Categories that did not fare well - cultural properties

Many internationals travel Korea through tour packages which mainly contain entertaining elements instead of Korean cultural properties. Some travel agencies had tour packages such as “Seven-days-five-nights in Korea.” These packages included Everland, Phoenix Park Resort, Blue Canyon Water Theme Park, Dongdaemun, Myeongdong, and other such venues. Some packages even had an “Everland Theme Park Full Day Tour,” “Special Night Tour,” including Namsan Seoul Tower, Dongdaemun Market, and Itaewon. This indicates that many tourists come to Korea just for shopping or to enjoy amusements.

Then what about our rich cultural heritage? Below are some examples unveiling indifference on Korean heritages. Recently, there was a crack on the wooden signboard at Gwanghwamun, which had been restored about three months ago. The government made their position clear that it is no surprise that a wooden sign would crack since it is a natural phenomenon. However, there have been opinions that the signboard was not made properly and that it was made in a hurry.

Changnyeong County in South Gyeongsang Province is a region of historic culture and has a variety of cultural properties, so much that it is known as the second Gyeongju. However, due to lack of care of Changnyeong County, Youngsan Eupseong's (Eupseong is a castle to protect citizens) stones came off and crumbled to dust and weeds grew thickly around them. There is less than two meters of rampart left of what used to be more than 80 meters and this damage is accelerating. The restoration has been delayed due to budget deficiency. Also, because of farmland exploitation and the construction of new buildings, asbestos and all sorts of other building materials are covering up the castle. This Eupseong was left alone until 1995 when it was covered with concrete due to the erosion from the brook. Hwasung Fortress is an important cultural

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Daily City Tour



Home > Package Tour > Daily City Tour

T-44 Full Day Shopping Tour

Course	Hotel Pick up - Duty Free Shop - Department Store - Ginseng Center - Lunch - Starwon Shopping area - Yongsan Electronics Market - Anethol Factory - Wandaeun Traditional Market/Dongdaemun Market - Arrive at hotel
Time	09:00 - 17:00
People	Minimum 2 people
Price	₩150,000 per person

- ▲ Full Day Shopping Tour Package
- ◀ The emblem of Visit Korea Year
- ◀◀ Poster advertising shopping

property that has been selected as a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) cultural heritage site. However, the roof tiles are cracked, and the picture on the surface of the wall has deteriorated which is hard to recognize.

On the contrary, we can see many examples of well-cared heritages from abroad. One of them is Leaning Tower of Pisa in Italy. In recent years, it has tilted more than four meters and it was predicted that it would collapse in 2030s or 2040s. However, there was careful work done to correct the foundation on the north side of the tower. As a result, the tilt of the tower is less than 48 centimeters than it was before and the Tower will be stable for the next 300 years.

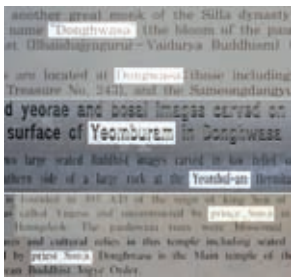
The Taj Mahal in India is also a good example of preservation of a cultural property. In India, the Taj Mahal is near the industrial city of Agra. Because of Agra's severe air pollution, acid rain caused by sulfurous acid gas from lots of cars, and also from pigeons nesting on its dome, the marble of Taj Mahal became discolored. These factors also caused the beautiful sculptures and marble designs to erode. Since these problems threatened the Taj Mahal itself, India's government, environmentalists, and archaeologists took strong countermeasures. They put to use Ayurvedic measures, a traditional beauty treatment of Indian women putting mudpacks on themselves called “Mutanimitti” on Taj

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▲ The cracked signboard of Gwanghwamun



◀ Different marks on each information boards at Donghwasa

Mahal. The mixture containing terra alba, cereal plants, milk, and lime was applied to the Taj Mahal's interior, gateway, and spire for 24 hours. After that, the mixture was cleaned off with lukewarm water. When this process was done, the corrosive impurities came off the surface of the marble wall. It is said that this method was found from manuscript of the sixteenth century Mogul.

Here in Korea, we are neglecting our precious cultural properties. However, we can still save them. If we make the most of our cultural properties, they will make the most for us by bringing many more tourists to Korea to see them.

Reasons that cultural properties do not stand out

Why are our cultural properties in such sad shape today? One reason could be our lack of awareness and sense of responsibility of our own cultural properties. According to Hwang Pyeong-woo, the director of the Korea Cultural Heritage Policy Research Institute, said "There is not even basic philosophy on the value of the Suwon Hwasung Fortress and on how to make good use of preserving and administering cultural property."

In Europe, there is the world's largest restoration school, Ecole du Louvre, and Center for Research and Restoration of Museums of France. The school teaches not only practical skills of restoration, but before that, the students learn about the historical and cultural background

of the sites. This means that the school is concentrating on cultivating cultured artisans. As you can see, France is proud to keep its cultural properties preserved. By comparison we lack this attitude.

Another reason is that it is hard for the internationals to sightsee in Korea. For example, a tourist attraction in Daegu called "Donghwasa" has different names in English on the map boards posted around it. One direction board had different marks for "Simjideasa," and "deasa" meaning a Buddhist Grand Master, one as "prince Simji," and the other as "priest Simji." The mark of "Daewoongjun," the main temple, showed both "Main Hall" and "Grand Hall" to mean the same thing. Even "Donghwasa" itself had different marks; "Donghwasa," "Dongwasa," or "Donghwa-sa Temple." These are just few examples of mismarked names that confound international visitors.

A possible solution

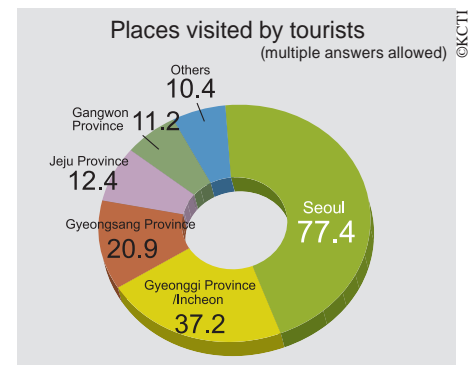
What can we do to prevent these things from happening? Yoon Dae-sson, a professor of Tourism Management at Kyonggi University, said "Even Koreans prefer overseas trips to domestic trips. Koreans should acknowledge the importance of Korean cultural properties first." He continued with, "In other words, we should foster the self-respect of Korean cultural properties first in order to improve our tourism culture."

Also, according to a thesis, "A study on the Value and Promotion as Cultural Properties of Mungyeongsaesjae, Korean Old Roads" by Jeong Eun-young of The Korea National University of Cultural Heritage, it is better to have an information board with pictures, graphics, and historical photos rather than a board with only text, since pictures and graphics evoke people's curiosity. Moreover, the board should be made considering unity and distinction

and have a logo that symbolizes the region to provide convenience and enhance the region's value.

Areas that did not stand out - districts outside of Seoul

According to the "2009 International Visitor Survey" published by KCTI, the percentage of tourists who came to Korea visited Seoul 77.4 percent, whereas Gyeonggi Province/Incheon, Gyeongsang Province, and Jeju Island made up most of the rest. This shows that tourism focuses mainly on Seoul. Furthermore "Annual Report on the Trend of Tourism in 2009" by Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Tourism shows the present condition of tourism administration in Seoul included 299 people, whereas other districts only had about 20 representing them. This shows that the tourism administration is concentrated in Seoul.



Many districts try to attract foreign visitors through festivals. However it does not seem to be working well. Why is this so? Let's look at the situations.

The "12th Annual Yeongdeok Snowcrab Festival" was held last March at the estuary harbor in Yeongdeok. The festival started with pungmul band, which is a Korean traditional percussion band, and after that, a snowcrab auction, a B-boy performance, the embarkation, fireworks, and many other performances. However, after only ten days, the "2009 Ulsan International Crab Festival," took

place with virtually the same activities.

Also the souvenirs are not distinct. 40 meters before the entrance of Nakan Eupseong, one of the attractions in Sunchun, there are many souvenir shops. However, the souvenirs include such mundane things as back scratchers, straw hats, and even Chinese goods. These souvenirs are easily found throughout the country, so they do not attract tourists. On the other hand, the United States for example, has different shaped magnets as souvenirs in each state.



▲ Different magnets as souvenirs of each states

Reasons for neglecting districts outside Seoul

“A study on the evaluation and ways to improve Korea’s local festival (2007)” by KCTI points out that one of the reasons for the poor attitude of Koreans on our local festival is the lack of our citizen’s voluntary participation, and the lack of discussion about ways to participate. Also, because of the local festivals’ globalization strategy, the involvement of local residents decreased, and this caused the festivals to run into political troubles.

Furthermore, there has been a deficiency of support in each district. Take the “Boryeong Mud Festival” as an

example. This festival uses its mud flats to make mud cosmetics and also uses it for its festival, and today, it has grown into one of the most visited festivals in Korea by foreign visitors. However, since this festival has been selected as a “representative festival” for three years, its support, including government expenditures of eight hundred million won and province expenditure of one thousand two hundred million won is stopped by a policy of the Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Tourism. In relation to this treatment, Boryeong-si has to hold the festival only with their budget, and this is going to cause the festival to reduce itself to its basic programs. A person from Boryeong-si said that Boryeong-si is trying to get many measures such as getting a sponsor or establishing a collection or entrance fee. He also said, “It is necessary to reduce the budget support gradually rather than to cut support all at once so that local support can build up gradually.”

Possible solutions


Professor Yoon was a director of promotion for the Anyang Citizen Festival, and according to him, he tried hard to come up with ideas that would encourage the citizens of Anyang to come to the festival and the festival attracted five hundred thousand people. He also said that, “If we keep improving these festivals, someday there will be a world famous festival. Rio Carnival Festival was not a world famous festival in the beginning, it was first enjoyed by local people and then became world famous as more and more people showed interests.”

According to Lee Young-joo, a research member of the Research Institute for Gangwon, the reason why districts do not attract tourists is that the marketing did not consider the characteristics of each province. To improve this situation,

there should be convenience and the development of foods using regional products, thus making the festival more characteristic of the region.

Local residents can make their homes more attractive for sightseeing. Handemy Village is an eco-village school in North Chungcheong Province that prospered in the regional economy. It has mutual relationships between farming experts and residents to establish programs including the traditional culture.

The Snow Festival at Sapporo, Japan, also is a successful example that works between the local residents and the government. This festival first gained momentum when high school students built six snow statues, but it developed as a snow festival as a result of efforts between local residents and government.

In relation to the “Research on the Marketing of Japanese Tourists in 2007” report, Korea’s negative image included the “City atmosphere which is similar to that of the Japan’s,” and “Insufficient attractions.” There is a saying that things that can show Korea at its best should be the most global. In this spirit, we need to develop our cultural heritage locally to attract visitors from all around the world. 

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Rendezvous

Feeling Korean Traditional Culture by the 'Heart'

By Cha Eon-jo

Associate Editor of Culture Section

How much do you know about the traditional Korean style house, “Hanok”? Do you know the difference between “Hanok” and traditional houses of China or Japan? Have you ever thought that the traditional house is boring to visit, for everything looks almost the same? If so, you would have difficulty answering the question, “What is the identity of Korean culture? A Chinese house is big and spectacular, and Japanese house has a very delicate and detailed architecture. Then, what is a distinct feature of the Korean house?” Ahn Young-hwan, CEO of “Rakkojae,” found

the answer. He graduated from HUFs, majoring in Persian. In 1994, he also promoted the beauty of “Hanok” through his package tour program in Andong, North Gyeongsang Province, which is famous for Korean traditional houses and artifacts. The answer that he found is the reason why he made Rakkojae. It is a boutique “Hanok” guesthouse opened in 2003, and the meaning behind it is where one can enjoy the transitions of past times and also have a relaxing vacation. Rakkojae is operated in two areas, Seoul and Andong. In the house, guests can experience not only “Hanok,” but also Korean cultures such as dining, mud sauna, and music. Ahn said that many internationals have already been fascinated by Rakkojae. He revealed that the secret of success is the Korean affection for harmony with nature. When The Argus



© Rakkojae



© Rakkojae

Photos of the bedrooms taken from inside and outside

visited the place in Seoul, we were captivated by the atmosphere, which was peaceful, relaxing, but hard to capture in photographs. Ahn told us his thinking about the identity of Korean traditional culture, telling us that, “You can understand it not by seeing it, but by experiencing it.”

Argus: You majored in Persian at HUFS and also studied computer science in the United States. These are not related to your current job, CEO of the guest house. What got you interested in Hanok?

Ahn Young-hwan (Ahn): I came back to Korea from the United States in 1991 after ten years of living there. Till then, I worked as a system engineer for about six years, after majoring in computer science. I got bored with the mechanical labor, so I decided to find new work, regardless of my father, who wanted me to come back. In Korea, I entertained foreign marketers in the business world. However, what they told me was almost always the same, that they could not find real Korean culture. Their appraisal went something like this, “Its scale is

smaller than that of China, while its delicacy and elegance is inferior to that of Japan.” Their points seemed to be, “Korea does not have valuable cultural remains.” This made me think deeply for several months about how to help them understand Korean culture. When I visited a “Hanok” in Andong admiring the scenery, and the moon in the night sky, I got a new idea. I realized that understanding Korean traditional culture is from experiencing, not just seeing. It should be felt by the heart. This got me to put together a package tour program in Andong, which was my first attempt to promote Korean traditional culture. The response has been pretty good. After eight years, I bought one old “Hanok” that scholars named “Chindan Society,” built in 1934, and had been lived. It is now Rakkojae, restored to its original style.

Argus: What do you think is the difference between “Hanok” and Chinese or Japanese houses? They look similar in that the three countries have cultures much in common.

Ahn: Chinese traditional houses were built on a big scale. The corners of the eaves and ridge of the roof are bent a lot and are very showy. Also, their style overwhelms nature, like digging the ground and making a lake. The lines of Japanese houses are simple, straight, and controlled, and the Japanese brought parts of nature into their houses. For example, they made small artificial streams in a garden.

The features of the Korean house, however, are different from the two styles in that it is more natural. The house is made of raw trees, soil, and rocks, so it has natural curved lines. Also, Koreans did not try to overwhelm or bring nature into the house. What

they did was to just go into it, which means that they built their houses in natural settings. The walls of a “Hanok” is low, under 120 centimeters. That is why people can feel harmony with nature in a house, and why I thought and still think that it should be felt by heart, not just seen with the eyes. This is what fascinates internationals called, “Pung-ryu” in the Korean language.

Argus: It is said that internationals are impressed by experiencing “Pung-ryu.” What do you think it is?

Ahn: “Pung-ryu” is a unique Korean feeling, so it is difficult to translate directly into English. However, it can be described as “harmony with nature.” This is common daily life, such as studying, drinking, eating, and listening to music, but based on the nature. In Rakkojae, we make fire in the furnace with an oak, to make the sauna room warm. People feel warm not only by their skin but also with their eyes, nose, and heart, for the smell of burning oak is very good. That is a kind of harmony with nature in the common life.



Cha Eon-jo / The Argus



Cha Eon-jo / The Argus

The fireplace and wooden floor of Rakkojae

Argus: Is there another thing that impresses internationals when they come to Rakkojae?

Ahn: There is not just one thing that impresses internationals at Rakkojae. Not only “Pung-ryu,” but Korean’s affection, “Jeong” is also a significant element in impressing them. It is different from common kindness. For example, if you need another electrical outlet with different voltage, the owner just brings it to you, and you do not have to pay for it. That is why many internationals who visit Rakkojae say it feels more like home than their real home. I think the two things “Pung-ryu” and “Jeong” are the key points that Korea has, and with them, “Hanok” has its own uniqueness.

Argus: Have internationals felt complained of any inconvenience while staying in “Hanok?” How do you compensate for this?

Ahn: The weakness of “Hanok” is that it is cold in winter, so heaters are installed on the ceiling. I also made modern bathrooms in each room. Japanese, who account for most of the tourists, do not adapt fairly well to the environment because they also have a life-style of sitting on the floor. By contrast, internationals take a little longer getting used to it. However, they are apt to respect the culture of the country where they visit, so they do not complain. Most of them are artists, professors, or scholars, so they try to understand the differences in culture.

Argus: Who is the most memorable visitor at Rakkojae, and why do you think so?

Ahn: I remember the a famous color designer from France highly praised Rakkojae. He lodged here for three days, and he said the colors of trees, roof tiles, and red clay walls harmonized wonderfully.


Also, the directors and actors stayed here during

their promotion in Korea.

Argus: What makes you delighted or happy about operating Rakkojae?

Ahn: Getting the visitors’ letters after they leave here. In the letters, they thank us and tell us that they felt “Jung” when they were here. It is impressive in that over half of the visitors send us letters, and people hardly write any letters to say thank you to regular hotel owners. Especially, among them, one Japanese expressed high praise for Rakkojae, saying was his favorite place to visit in his 40-year of travel.

Argus: What is your dream and next plan?

Ahn: I have six projects going on right now. First is Rakkojae in Seoul, second in Andong, which is a thatched house. Also, I built one more “Hanok” on the third floor of a building in Myeong-dong, and a three-storied “Hanok” palace in Yongin. “Hanok Hotel” and “Rakkojae in Japan” are my next dreams. I want the hotel to have a distinct feature of “Hanok,” such as a furnace with firewood. The reason why I am planning to build a new rakkojae in Japan is that there are already many Japanese people who visit Korea, not to travel around, but to stay at Rakkojae. What makes me think of these projects is the fact that “Hanok” has its own strong attraction and power that appeals to people. 

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Hushing up Snowballing Corruption




By Yun Ji-hun

Editorial Consultant

Whistle-blowing is the raising concern about unethical behavior that has occurred in an organization. It aims to prevent and eradicate organizations' unscrupulous behaviors by encouraging public monitoring and disclosing these behaviors, including the violation of particular regulations, direct threats to the public interest, and corruption. As the public's social trust in an institution falls, this may translate into a loss of profits, and so an organization that becomes the target cannot avoid embarrassment. A large number of private corporations, civic groups, and government organizations tend to consider this as a serious breach of trust. They take unfair measures to put whistle-blowers, whom they regard as traitors, at an enormous disadvantage, such as curtailing their pay, or even, firing them. It is a problem not only in Korea but in other countries as well. In the United States, where laws protecting whistle-blowers from their organizations are well established, unfair measures towards them have prevailed for a long time despite social agreement that this is unjust.

Three years ago, attorney Kim Yong-cheol divulged corruption at Samsung: creation of slush funds, legally expedient succession to management rights, and an unlawful corporate lobby. Since this disclosure, a social discussion over whistle-blowing has been promoted, and understanding it has progressed. Nevertheless, more understanding and attention needs to be promoted among the public. If people have to choose between publicizing and acquiescing to internal corruption, more would still tend to choose to acquiesce to internal corruption. This is precise because they feel that they would be stigmatized by society for making an honest confession, and even laws that were enacted to protect whistle-blowers seem partially effective or totally ineffective. Consequently, it is essential and urgent to build a social atmosphere of regarding whistle-blowers not as traitors but as democratic citizens with a sound conscience. In Korean society, a complete about-face of viewpoints on whistle blowing would not occur all at once, but people could reach a social consensus of opinion about respecting whistle-blowers if they recognize its true value.

This October, Transparency International, the global civil society organization leading the fight against corruption, announced the corruption perceptions index of 178 nations. Korea ranked 39th and scored 5.4 on a ten-point scale, which does not deviate considerably from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) average of 6.97. This means that corporations and government organizations should improve their transparency of management. As organizations where power and interest are deeply and intricately involved are prone to corruption, public monitoring must be tightened through whistle-blowing. In this context, it is inspiring that the Ministry of Employment and Labor has adopted help-line system to allow people to anonymously report internal corruption.

Whistle-blowing may damage the reputation of an organization for some time, but it is a shortcut to realizing a fair society. Therefore, everyone in society should try to build a desirable whistle-blowing culture. 

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Are You Obsessive Compulsive?

By Lee Eun-ju

Reporter of Theory & Critique Section

John (anonymous) has many difficulties in his everyday life because he has compulsive behavior and unknown anxiety. He repeatedly checks whether he has locked the door and turned off the lights before going to bed. He constantly worries about them although he has checked them just moments ago. If this kind of behavior persists and gets worse, we can suspect that the person probably has Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD).

Some degree of obsession is needed in modern society

According to Kwon Jun-su, professor of Department of Neuropsychiatry at Seoul National University Hospital, all Koreans share some degree of obsessive symptoms even though they are not severe to go to hospital. The Korean society is an obsessive society. Also, all people have some degree of obsessive thinking about something and it is needed to live in a modern society, because it can be a source of enthusiasm. Unless the symptoms begin to affect one's daily life, it can be quite harmless.

People with OCD have certain thoughts continuously present in their minds and these thoughts develop even further into more thought, making them repeat a particular action against their will. Constant rise of discomfort or anxiety is called 'obsession,' which refers to the adhering to an idea so stubbornly that the person cannot but only think about it all the time. Repeated actions are called compulsions that are too unnecessary to spend time and effort on. Stress worsens these symptoms.



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'Obsessive' has a negative meaning

Kim Jong-woo, professor of Department of Neuropsychiatry in Kyunghee University Medical Center, explained that the meaning of 'obsessive' originated from pathology but can be useful if it does not affect everyday life. However it affects life in reality, it becomes a problem.

OCD can come in various forms. Half of the OCD patients are obsessed with cleanliness so they arrange things over and over again because they feel disorganized and take showers five to ten times a day. Apart from the general OCD, there is Obsessive Compulsive Spectrum Disorder (OCS), which is very similar to OCD and can be treated with similar treatment. Other related conditions include Body Dysmorphic Disorder (BDD) and hypochondriasis.

What is Body Dysmorphic Disorder?

BDD is a condition when a person thinks obsessively

about their appearance and considers a normal part of their appearance as a defect. People suffering from BDD consider minor issues as big problems, which interfere with their daily lives. The patients do not know they have the disorder, so they visit a dermatologist or a plastic surgeon with their perceived defect. They try to fix the parts that they consider defective and they exhibit obsessive behaviors like looking at the mirror for several hours, comparing themselves with others, applying heavy make-ups, asking people about their appearance and so on.

If the cases become worse, they inflict harms on their own body. About two to five percent of patients who go to plastic surgeons are said to have this disorder, but a high proportion of them think that their appearance has not changed even after the surgeries. Also, they have an exaggerated feeling about their appearance and are over sensitive. They spend a lot of time checking their appearances and finally lose confidence because they think that they are being disliked by others. Because of BDD, they have a delusion that people ridicule them. This condition can result in severe depression, self-abuse, and even suicidal attempts.

What is Hypochondriasis?

Hypochondriasis is an emotional condition that a person thinks that she has a severe disease or illness despite being medically fit. People suffering from hypochondriasis also tend to be overly obsessed with their health-related issues.

They get stressed unduly about simple, minor, and treatable conditions like night sweats and cough. Even though medical test results do not indicate any serious illnesses, they consider it as a misdiagnosis or think that the doctor is hiding the truth about their medical condition. Therefore, they do what is known as 'doctor shopping,' visiting several physicians and repeating expensive tests.

Conditions accompanied by OCD

Masked depression

OCD sometimes accompany depression. Among various kinds of depressions, 'masked depression' is the deadliest type. According to Lee Hwa-young, professor of Psychiatry in Korea University Hospital, people with masked depression have the tendency to veil depression so that it mostly goes undetected not only by the patients themselves but also by others. It manifests itself with physical symptoms like fatigue or anorexia, so the real symptoms remain hidden. Therefore, if one wants to detect it, one has to pay attention to the physical symptoms. Simple and seemingly harmless



symptoms like tired eyes or palpitation may be an indicator of masked depression. In addition to that, lack of enthusiasm and reclusiveness can be also due to it.

Social anxiety disorder

OCD also leads to social anxiety disorder which is the tendency to avoid social situations resulting in social disfunction. The patients have an excessive fear of getting harmed, embarrassed and humiliated in social situations. Thus, they remain reclusive, seldom go outside and avoid contact or interaction with people. They even have fear of having eye contact with someone. Also, when at work or school, they experience high tension shaking hands with others and they sweat a lot. Therefore, they always have little confidence and difficulty in dealing with people.

According to the American Psychiatric Association's diagnostic criteria, if one has at least an hour of discomfort due to these symptoms in a day, he or she can be said to have OCD. Patients suffering from OCD do repetitive activities to relieve anxiety. Those activities seem like a habit and are hard to distinguish from normal habits. Compulsive behavior and thinking is not limited to a few kinds. Again, OCD is not a mental illness, but a dangerous neurosis that may lead to depression, sociophobia and anxiety. Therefore, if you perform an action repeatedly and specific thoughts occupy your mind, it is time you get tested for OCD. 📌

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Making HUFS Where We Want to Go at Night



Choo Yong-wahn/The Argus

By Ahn Jung-hyun

Choo Yong-wahn

Reporters of Campus Section

Currently, there is no fence around the Seoul Campus of HUFS. This has been the case since 2004, when Lee Myung-bak, then mayor of Seoul, led a campaign called “campus without walls.” Along with other universities such as Korea University and Chung-Ang University, HUFS also participated in the campaign with financial support from the metropolitan government.

Although it brought positive effects of providing nearby residents with access to greenery and a place to exercise, security issues have been brought up recently. Teenagers living in the neighborhood of Imun-dong are gathering around the campus and using it as a place of defiance. The General Student Council (GSC) has acknowledged this problem and begun to come up with their own security guards.

Also, Global Campus (formally referred to as Yongin Campus) has its own problems at night, too. Some places are so dark that students would need to use flashlights (from their cellphones). During the General Meeting last month, a proposal was made to form a student security group to make the campus safer at night.

Would it be difficult to make HUFS’ campuses safe to visit at night without worrying?

Seoul Campus

The issue of outsiders coming into our campus

Universities can and do make a positive contribution to the society. Up until today, HUFS has been providing liberal arts courses to the homeless, helping them to get back on the right track. Simply opening our fences to enhance the lives of people in our neighborhood makes a contribution to the society. Elementary school students can use our school to take shortcuts to their homes. Also, families can bond closer through exercising together, using the university facilities. However, allowing outsiders, especially teenagers, to make use of the campus in irresponsible ways runs contrary to HUFS' fulfillment of its social responsibilities. It is therefore our duty to discourage such adolescents from misusing campus facilities and help them develop a sense of responsibility for the consequences of their conduct as they take their first steps into adulthood.

Problems (Current stance)

The main problems lie in the discomfort of HUFSSans, who make up the majority of the university community. Especially for female students, there can be threats to their personal safety at night. For instance, an anonymous female student from the Journalism and Mass Communication Division said, "I am currently staying at GlobeeDorm, and I try to avoid going around school by myself at night."

In addition, when outsiders loiter on campus, it often disrupts the studies of HUFSSans. On HUFSLife, the university web portal, students

complained about middle and high school students loitering and being disruptive. "I think HUFS has become a place for teenagers to do whatever they want. They even smoke, drink, and litter." This was a posting that was uploaded in October, and similar complaints have come up many times. Students have complained about outsiders making noise in front of the main library. Even though the noise from school events and the activities of university organizations are understandable, students questioned why they should have to put up with the noise made by outsiders. Moreover, since most of the customers of the school's convenience store are young adults, there are cases in which teenagers take advantage of this, in order to buy cigarettes and alcoholic drinks despite being underage.

Trash is often thrown in forbidden places, and some of the school's equipment and facilities, such as the chairs behind the main building, are damaged or vandalized. This leads to stresses among HUFSSans and the custodians who clean the school.

Reasons for the current situation

Taking down the fence around campus in 2004 has allowed neighborhood residents to use the school facilities without much restrictions. It had positive effects at first, but today, many outsiders, especially teenagers, use the university facilities in improper ways. Also, the neighborhood of Imun-dong does not have public parks, with only the closest one to a park being the royal tomb of Uireung where people have to pay to visit, with no entry allowed at night. Kyunghee University, which is also nearby, keeps locks on its entrances and also has security guards



Choo Yong wahn/ The Argus

Although CCTVs have been installed, they do not fully cover the campus

patrolling at night. These measures make it much more difficult for outsiders to enter these places late at night.

Possible solutions? Enhancing security

For now, there is a private security company called KT Telecop that provides security at HUFS. However, it is difficult for the company to cover every part of the campus, and most of the security work is done unmanned. The GSC acknowledged this fact and began to run its own patrol. They recruited undergraduate students, providing an hourly pay of 5,000 won, to serve as school patrol officers. This began in Oct. 18, with two patrol officers. However, the coverage is still limited and some students are



Carnegie Mellon University has its own "Campus Police" to protect the students

dissatisfied with the fact that GSC is taking these measures only at the last minute of their term.

At other universities, there are examples of more robust efforts to safeguard their students. For example, Chungnam National University in Daejeon has a self-patrol unit, consisting of students or faculty who have expertise in martial arts. This provides more safety to students who have to walk around school at night. Moreover, Yeungnam University, located on the outskirts of Daegu, has spent seven million won on security, installing 12 CCTVs monitoring systems around campus. According to the police in that area, the crime rate in the nearby area has decreased by 30 percent following the school's improvements. Looking abroad, Carnegie Mellon University has its own "Campus Police," which consists of 24 armed officers and 37 security guards who look after the campus for 24 hours. With professional training, uniforms and patrol cars, they provide many services to the students.

Global Campus

Current situation and possible risks

There are some major safety issues on HUFS' Global Campus since there are few people around to keep an eye out for suspicious activities. Since the campus becomes very dark at night while Global Campus students have to walk long distances between their dormitories and classes, they might face a serious risk such as being hurt in the darkness. This year, there was just such an incident in which a female student was put in danger at the beginning of the school term. Recognizing this problem, Global Campus' GSC gave top priority to the problem of safety among items on the agenda of the regular general assembly, and plans to put measures into practice to address the problem concretely starting from next year.

There are 379 streetlights on the Global Campus. In comparison, Korea University has 850 streetlights. Since the land size of Global Campus is 228 square kilometers and that of Korea University being 108 square kilometers, the number of streetlights at Global Campus is woefully lacking. It is indeed very uncomfortable to walk on the street from the main building to crossroad at the main entrance since there is little lighting and students feel nervous due to the dark streets.

Car accidents also occur frequently because of the dark streets. Since

the street from the Humanities and Business Building to the Language and Literature Building is situated in the inner part of the campus, there should be CCTVs installed to prevent danger such as hit-and-run, but currently there are no CCTVs. According to the president of GSC, there have been car accidents steadily and a student was seriously injured because he drove into a wall at night on Nov. 11.

Lastly, because there are not enough security guards or patrols, students are at risk in the field of reeds, construction sites, and streets at night at Yongin. Currently, many HUFSans have been complaining about this shortage of patrols and guards. In fact, another anonymous student in the French Department said, "Since our campus has very dark street, it is not that easy to walk around the roads at night, even for men. On top of this, I have never seen patrol guards out at night."

Are there solutions to this problem?

(1) Enhance the lighting

"More and brighter night-time illumination brings down the crime rate." This posting summarizes the research conducted by Korea National Police University. This research result


demonstrated that if attention and effort are devoted to this problem, it will produce great effects and positive results. In fact, additional illumination will undoubtedly lead to improvements. In the case of the state of Florida, one research study showed that when a neighborhood was 50 percent more illuminated at night, the crime rate then dropped by 65 percent. Isn't this a breathtaking result? For this reason, HUFs needs to invest in more and brighter illumination on campus. Recently, the University of Toledo in the state of Utah installed streetlights in all areas of its campus. The surrounding community, which supported a secure college campus environment, suggested this agenda, and the college recognized it had student security problems. Thus the

HUFs installed LED lamps, it would be very convenient and practical because this type of lighting is very environmentally-friendly, since it consumes less electricity than conventional lamps. Moreover, it is cost-effective because of its long life span. Recently, the streetlights in front of the Social Science Building of Seoul Campus were converted to the LED system. Kyungwon University recently renovated its campus with the help of Alain Guilhot, a renowned light artist who has carried out spectacular lighting projects in the Eiffel Tower as well as the Petronas Towers in Malaysia. Likewise, illumination projects have now become a means not only to enhance students' safety but also to improve the school's competitiveness.

They also help female students get home safely and deal with threats to certain students' dignities.

Chonbuk National University has similarly started up its own "Campus Police," since its Student Council's patrol activities were focused only on certain buildings and had limited features. As a solution, the university set up a campus police office inside the campus and hired 11 police officers to patrol the school with police cars, motorcycles and there is also a call center. The school is special in that it has partnerships with a nearby police station, fire station and hospitals to quickly identify and resolve dangerous situations on campus.

Raising the issue of outsiders coming on campus might seem selfish and inconsiderate. However, the current situation creates problems in that it provides a place for teenagers to smoke, drink, and cause trouble, and others who wander through campus distract HUFs in our campus lives. Therefore, it is time that people become aware of these problems and make the necessary changes to address them.

For Global Campus, solving the current problems will not only help address the security issues on campus, but will also make the campus much more appealing as an academic institution. Since many other universities are trying their best to improve their conditions, HUFs should also recognize this fact and provide better and safer conditions for its students. 



Middle and high school students walk along HUFs during night

proposal for better illumination was accepted and the system was installed. Patten Wallace, the Dean of School Affairs, said that if the streets become brighter, the criminal's minds would also change. Therefore, he thought very positively of the idea of installing more lights around the school campus.

This university installed LED illumination, which is energy-efficient and also very long-lasting. If

(2) Student patrol system

Pukyong National University launched a school patrol called the "Campus Guard" in 2009. Students who had expertise in martial arts or first-aid and fire protection licenses were recruited for this. They do things such as keeping an eye on areas near campus, especially crime-ridden areas, and also watching out for the speeding of cars and motorcycles.

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By Sung So-yoon

Reporter of National Section

Park Se-sang is a student of Chungnam National University majoring in Naval Architecture and Ocean Engineering. He is also the representative of the social enterprise called “I’m Goong.” I’m Goong is special from other social enterprises not only because it is a social enterprise founded by university students, but also because of what it has accomplished. Its members transformed an old, run-down business neighborhood called Gung (Gung-dong, after which the enterprise is named), in the district of Yuseong in Daejeon, into an active university town. This enterprise started out as a small student organization founded by three students at Chungnam National University. Today, I’m Goong attracts a lot of interests from other people thanks to the accomplishments they have achieved. However, this enterprise is definitely special for consisting of people who pursue their dreams with perseverance and dedication as well as its notable achievements. Hence, The Argus decided to meet the representative of I’m Goong, Park Se-sang an enterprise full of true dreamers.

Argus: How did I'm Goong start?

Park Se-sang (Park): I've lived near Chungnam National University in Gung-dong, spending most of my daily life in Gung-dong. It is the place where I can meet my friends to eat and play everyday. However, one day when I visited Hongik University area in Seoul, I was shocked and amazed. The university town was very active and vivacious, and it had its own distinct character comparable to that of Gung-dong. I became jealous of Hongik University neighborhood. I wanted to turn Gung-dong into a place that had its own character too. Furthermore, my goal was to make Gung-dong not only into an active university town but also into a place that could be productive. I wanted it to become a place where the students and the neighborhood's residents alike could have fun and be happy by building a network between them.

Argus: What were the difficulties you encountered when you decided to start the project of changing Gung-dong?

Park: I had many difficulties. First of all, many students asked whether I was a General Student Council (GSC) member. Even the administration of Chungnam National University rejected my project. During this process of changing Gung-dong into an active university town, I was rejected countless times. Making the progress would have been much easier if I was a GSC



Park Se-sang



The whole map of Gung-dong designed by I'm Goong

member, but I did not give up because even though my proposal was rejected ten times by many people, some people encouraged me to try once more. I got my energy and motivation from these people and whenever they cheered me on, the picture of my dream became more specific. However, I think the most important thing is that I was not afraid of these rejections and did not give up. Many people just dream about the thing they want to achieve in their minds and sometimes fall into despair, but I challenged myself because they think that they cannot achieve it, despite the difficulties and persevered to the end. This is most important because I think, in your twenties, you are able of anything since you have nothing to lose.

Argus: How does Gung-dong look like these days, compared to the past?

Park: I would not say that it changed dramatically, but it is surely changing

steadily. I think that it takes long time to change a neighborhood, perhaps three to five years. The goal of I'm Goong is to change the software of Gung-dong, not the hardware on which it happens to be running, to put it in one way. Here, the software of Gung-dong means its true identity, through the relationship among its students, residents, and businesses. The ultimate goal is to change the perception of Gung-dong residents, but this cannot be fulfilled through a short-term project. Therefore, Gung-dong is still undergoing a change. To put it in specific numerical terms, on average, more than 400 students a month use the Night Bus and the return rate of the coupons on which we have publicized our project is approximately 15 to 20 percent. Based on these figures, through a consulting business, a store can make 300 percent growth in sales in one year.

Argus: Your coupon program has been the very first part of

your project and it has produced remarkable results in helping Gung-dong. What do you think of this?

Park: This coupon program is different from the others for a number of reasons. First of all, the members of I'm Goong wanted to make Gung-dong a place filled with culture, music, and youthfulness. We wanted to share the message by letting the people of Gung-dong know that we are embarking on a project to change Gung-dong into a true university town. Thus, on the back of the coupons, we put our message to publicize our project. On the front, there is a coupon for something you can get for free at another store. For instance, if you drink coffee in one store, you get a coupon that lets you get a free muffin in another store. This is the concept of exchange of labor which we adopted from our ancestors in agricultural society. 80 thousand coupons were printed and about 15 percent were returned, helping the neighborhood's stores increase in sales.

Argus: Weren't there any obstacles implementing other projects such as the Night Bus service and cultural performance program?

Park: The Night Bus service was started to bring more students to Gung-dong. The dormitory of Chungnam National University had been expanded but the students who lived in the dormitory had to walk about 30 minutes to get to Gung-dong. The floating population of Gung-dong was already



Park Se-sang

declining. To revive it, we had to try to make people come to Gung-dong. That is how we thought of the Night Bus service. This bus runs through the night for a small fee, shortening the time that it takes for the students to get to Gung-dong. This is very popular among the students, and many of them have sent me text messages thanking me.

I'm Goong also wanted to make Gung-dong a place where culture can be enjoyed. We persuaded many student organizations not through money but by connecting with their dreams. They had dreams to show their performance to a lot of people and have a good time with them so we persuaded them by putting on concerts in Gung-dong. The reactions from their audiences were also terrific.

Argus: How did you manage the budget in all these undertakings?

Park: We started with no money. However, there was some prize money we earned in an idea contest. We used it in our business, and reinvested some profits from Night Bus service toward other parts of our project. These days, there are a lot of supports coming from other companies to help I'm Goong.

Argus: You changed your name to Se-sang (World, with the intention), to change the world, how specifically, and what is your ultimate goal?

Park: There are tons of ways to change the world. But I think that if I start changing myself, then the people around me will change too, and step by step, things will change steadily. I do not want to change a huge outline of world only by political means. I just want to change the world bit by bit, starting by changing myself. There are about five university towns in Daejeon and 400 university towns in Korea. I think if I change Gung-dong, then it will be possible to change all of these university




① The Night Bus run by I'm Goong

② The Restroom in Gung-dong designed by I'm Goong

towns and this in turn can influence neighboring countries, and the whole world eventually. My ultimate goal is to make a village whose members can be happy by living there and establishing solid networks among them. In addition, I want youth to feel that they should keep challenging themselves to make dreams come true in that place.

Argus: What advice would you offer to students who may be hesitant to put their plans into action to fulfill their dreams?

Park: I would say that they should first of all contemplate what they really want to achieve, balancing success and happiness, and what image they earnestly want. Once they have decided what these are, they do not need to hesitate to take the first step toward achieving their goals. I want to say that they should immerse themselves deeply in the thing that they want and not just dip into it shallowly. 

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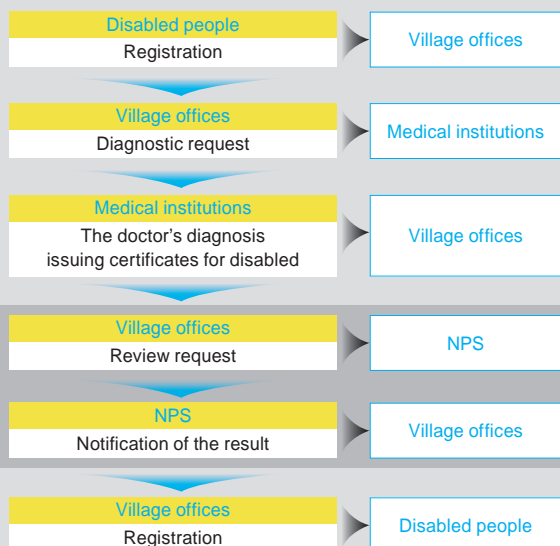
Better Systems for the Disabled



By Lee Ho-je
Reporter of National Section

The issues about a rating system for disability came under controversy in the parliamentary audit and inspection of the Ministry of Health & Welfare. According to the rating system, degree of disability is determined by a medical center followed by an assessment by the National Pension Service (NPS) reviewing the first-line medical center's rating of the degree of disability. It went into effect only to be applied to disability allowance seekers from April 2007. From this year, the rating system also included a new disorder diagnostic criterion. The system also aims to track down people who falsely registered as disabled. However, it is not enough to help the disabled in order to live as a normal member of the society. These systems make the disabled people live with a scanty livelihood, with the benefits depending on the disability rating.

Disabled people's registration process



The present condition

Lax disabled person registration system

Disability judgment and registration is based on the diagnosis by a disability specialist

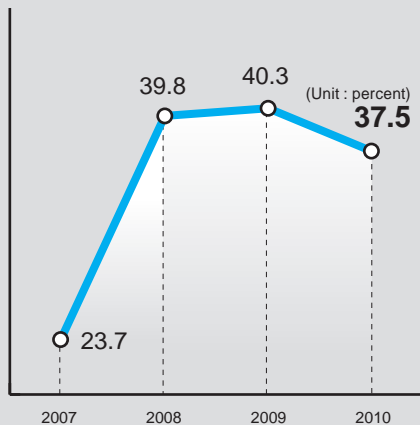
At present, if medical doctors mistakenly diagnose a disability or illegitimately issue certificates, it is difficult for the government to track the fact. Therefore, some doctors in collaboration with some brokers, issue forged certificates for people, with false disabilities listed or with false degree of disability. Lately, the head of an orthopedic hospital in Daegu issued 180 false disability certificates conspiring with 12 brokers. Kim Bong-sik, an official of Greater Daegu Metropolitan Police Agency, Criminal Investigation Squad, said it is a financial burden on the nation or on the local government as the disabled obtain welfare benefits amounting up to

four million won. Experts estimate 200 billion won each year from the welfare budget for the disabled is misappropriated. Lee Kyeong-seok, a policy director of Korean Academy of Medical Sciences, said, “We are looking at more than 30 percent of the welfare budget for the disabled being misappropriated.”

In fact, some government agencies discovered some cases of issuing false disabled certificate by some doctors. The National Police Agency and the Board of Audit and Inspection found 302 false disabled registers with forgeries such as false diagnoses in orthopedics. Also, the prosecution discovered 23 cases of false hearing disabilities.

Lax supervision in disabled person registration in village offices

Decline of the Disabilities of Brain lesion



Through the years, more disabled people have faced downgrade in their ratings.

If a person applies to register himself as a person with disability in the appropriate government office, it is a rule to seek the opinion of a medical institution that can diagnose the disorder. However, if a person goes to the village office to register, the office only checks the paper to see whether

the person has a disability or not. Then, it receives the applicant's disorder diagnosis issued by the hospital and registers him as a disabled person.

The government introduces a new system

A rating system for disability

Unlike the previous registration process, where people could register as a disabled person with the village offices armed with a doctor's diagnosis, the new system takes the opinion of several medical specialists before rating people's disability. This system was in force to prevent false disabled registration and biased disability rating. The new system of disability rating came into effect in Apr. 2007. After that, one hundred thousand records of disability were reviewed. Many cases were identified where people wanted to receive higher disability rating by misusing their personal connections to the doctors. Therefore, for the sake of fairness, the rating system for disability was expanded to more disabled people from Jan. 1 2010.

Representative Won Hee-mok of the Grand National Party said, “As a result of the reviews conducted on disability records, it was revealed that 24,915 of the 79,116 people falsely applied for severe disability benefits in the last three years. This number is 31.5 percent of all applicants.”

Introduction of a new criterion for judging disability

The new criterion for judging the disability was in force to make the rating of disability more transparent,

by means of composite indicators and the introduction of scientific rating instruments. For example, to rate the disability due to brain lesion was made by the Modified Bathel Index (MBI). The index rates the general degree of the disability on the basis of the patient's performance in daily activities such as having meals, dressing up, bowel movements and so on.

The rating system for disability depending on medical criteria



People protest on the issue of the new disability assessment system

The pension for person with disability is a social security system to guarantee the severely disabled person's right to live through support. The ones, who have first, second or third degree of disability receive a certain amount of pension every month. At present, they are being excluded from the economic activities as their activity rate is only 17.4 percent, and their employment rate is only 15.1 percent. Also, their monthly income is less than four hundred thousand won. It is less than people over the age of 65, who earn an average of 508,000 won. Therefore, they need to receive pension for their disability. To receive it, they have to

be rated for their disability.

However, it evaluates the disabilities of the disabled people only by the medical criteria. Also, it lacks objectivity. As mentioned earlier, presently, MBI judges the disabilities related to brain lesion. According to the changes in the disability rating by the Ministry of Health & Welfare, the number of downgrading of their disability ratings was 2,623 in 2009. After the introducing the MBI, the number of disability rating downgrading was 8,728 in August, 2010. Professor Kim Yoon-tae at Uijeongbu St. Mary's Hospital said, "In the past, the disabled people who could not walk or move without help and live by themselves, were declared as having first degree disability. The current rating system, however, considers severely disabled people as people who have difficulty to live without help as the ones with first degree disability." In fact, if Yang Yeong-hui, who has first-degree disability from brain lesion, receives a mock rating based on the MBI, her disability degree will be lowered to third or fourth degree. Even though she is qualified to apply for the pension for disabilities, she cannot do that.

Meanwhile, as a result of the re-



The downgrading of disability is threatening the disabled people's right to live.

evaluation of disabilities, 36 percent of the disabled people were downgraded. Also, according to Korea Differently Able Federation, 42,391 of the 120,121 disabled people had been downgraded in their disability degrees. However, the NPS had re-evaluated a total of 138,839 people. 5,662 people formally objected to the decision. Among them 1,297 people recovered their original disability rating. Representative Joo Seung-yong of the Democratic Party said, "This proves that the standards of disability rating are inaccurate. Many disables are affected as it is difficult for them to file a formal objection to the decisions."

Solutions

Professor Kim said, "The current disability assessment system seems to consider people who may recover with remedial exercise or who have improved to function, as a disadvantage. This system encourages the disabled people who have higher degree of disability. When we view the problem with a long-term perspective, a disability assessment system that can fundamentally guarantee the right of all the persons with disabilities has to be adopted.


In Japan, like Korea, medical disability assessment is important. Japan's disability grade is directly connected to the disabled people's service as in Korea. They firstly judge the disability assessment through a total of 106 degrees of disability. If a person in this disability assessment raises objections, committees in the city or in the village, which can provide a second judgment, give their assessment based on the reports of medical specialists. When the second



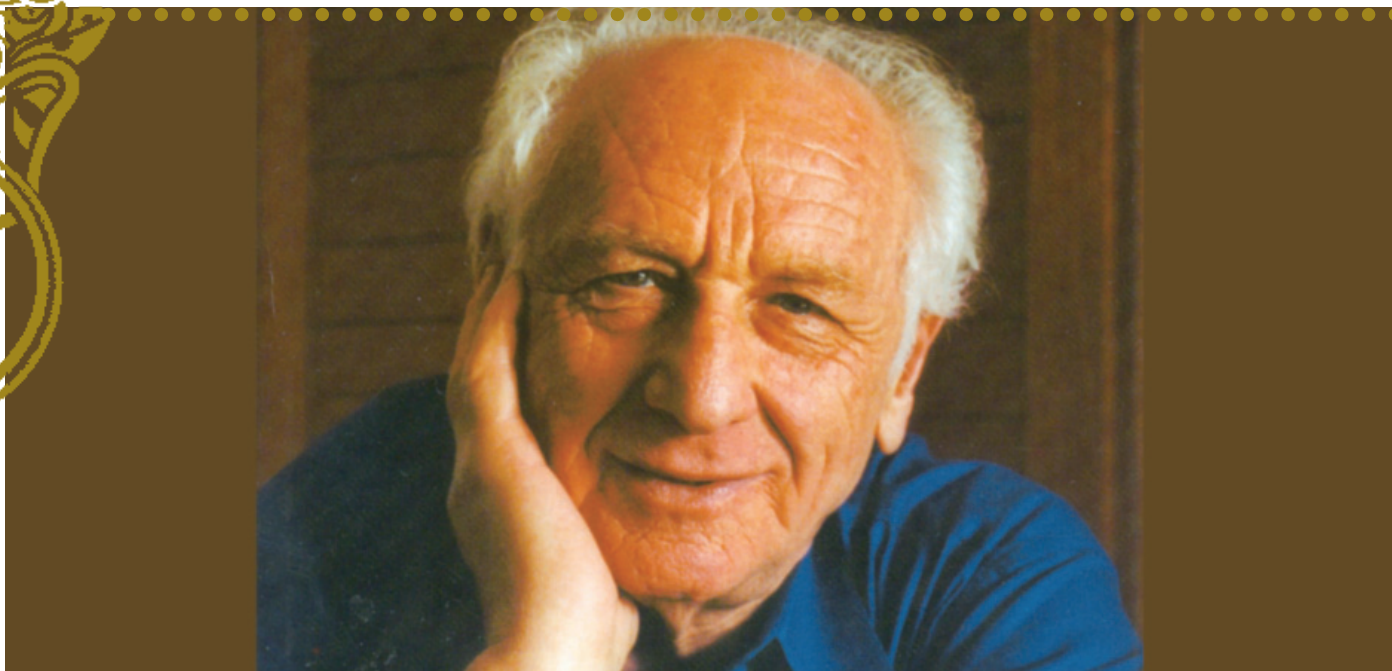
Disabled people can do anything like us.

judgment is provided, the personal situation of the disabled in the society is also considered. To do this, they directly visit the disabled person's home, and listen to their difficulties or special conditions.

In the United States, the Disability Determination Service is a special official organization which takes charge of the disorder judgment and review. When they judge it, they consider the professional side, the welfare demanding side, as well as the medical side. Also, when the disorder judgment is provided, social workers help the disabled to rehabilitate.

Nowadays, the countries that have disability rating systems are Korea and Japan. Professor Kim said other countries do not give benefits to the disabled by disability rating, but they give the benefits according to their needs. Also, he said that the necessary service to the disabled is accepted as an authority of them. "A nation has to guarantee disabled people their right to live as independent members of the society. Therefore, it has to guarantee that they receive the basic assistance services." 

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Czech Literature in Korea and at HUFS

By Dr. Ivana Bozděchová

Professor, Department of Czech and Slovak Studies, HUFS

Ask a Korean or any foreign reader about any Czech writer, poet, playwright or about any Czech book, novel, drama that he-or-she knows, and the answers you are likely to get are Jaroslav Hašek (and his novel, *The Good Soldier Švejk*), Karel Čapek (*Hordubal*), Milan Kundera (*The Unbearable Lightness of Being*), Bohumil Hrabal (*Closely Watched Trains, I Served the King of England*), Václav Havel (*Letters to Olga, The Garden Party*) or Franz Kafka (*The Trial, Metamorphoses*.) Some of these titles have already been translated into Korean, others into English and into other major languages. To give examples of the most recent translations from Czech originals into Korean, two names come up: Václav Havel's drama *Odchazeni* (*Leaving*), and Arnošt Lustig's short-story, *Štěpán a Anna* (*Stephen and Anne*.) *Leaving* has been


translated into Korean by Shin Ho (he studied drama at Prague Academy, Czech Republic) and the book was launched in the Czech Info-center in Seoul on Mar. 30, 2010 and followed by three performances of this drama (Apr. 2 to 4, 2010) at the LG Arts Center in Seoul by the Czech theater company, Divadlo Archa. The second title has also been presented here in Korea both by its Czech author and the Korean translator. The event was closely associated with HUFS, especially with its Department of Czech and Slovak Studies. Here are the details of this event:

Being invited by the Embassy of the Czech Republic in Seoul, one of the best and most popular living Czech writers, Arnošt Lustig (born in 1926 in Prague,) accompanied by Markéta Mališová, director of the Franz Kafka Center in Prague. They visited Korea on Sept. 12 to 16, 2010. During their visit, the East European and Balkan Institute at HUFS dedicated its 2010 Fall Conference on Sept. 15, 2010 on the Global Campus to commemorate 20 years of diplomatic relations

between Korea and the East European countries. Arnošt Lustig and Marketa Mališová participated in its round table discussion, Franz Kafka and his influence on Foreign Literatures. Franz Kafka (1883-1924) is the finest example of Prague Jewish literature at the beginning of the 20th Century and his writing reflects the mysterious and magic atmosphere of this beautiful city in the heart of Europe. He is a phenomenon attracting interest of scholars and readers from all over the world. A new exhibition Franz Kafka and Prague presented interesting facts, quotations, and pictures from his lifend was opened at the Czech Info-Center in Seoul by Markéta Mališová and the Czech Ambassador, Jaroslav Olša, jr. on Sept. 13 2010. Arnošt Lustig, who admires Franz Kafka and still remembers Max Brod, Kafka's friend, executor, and publisher (Lustig and Brod met in Tel Aviv in 1963,) tried to explain the great interest in Kafka by the fact that Kafka wrote about pain, anxiety, and fear that are understandable to all people.

It was not only because of the above-mentioned links with Kafka that Arnošt Lustig visited Korea, but also because of the very first translation of his work into Korean: his short story, Štěpán a Anna, appeared in Segjeui munhak (No. 137, Minumsa) in the translation of Professor Kim Kyu-chin from the Department of Czech and Slovak Studies at HUFSS. Thanks to him, Korean becomes the 19th language into which Lustig's writing has been introduced. His literature concerns mainly the Holocaust and events and stories from the period of the Second World War, since Lustig (as a Jew) survived the concentration camp and the Holocaust. His stories are very sensitive, powerful, yet optimistic and full of humour. They reflect the author's vivid personal character and good-hearted and joyful spirit. That is what the participants of the conference and HUFSSans of Czech language were able to experience during Lustig's visit to HUFSS.

Also, Lustig had the chance to listen to HUFSSans speak Czech and to see the monument to Czech writers, Jaroslav Seifert and Karel Čapek, which is located in the middle of Global Campus, close to the lake. Arnošt Lustig's visit impressed everyone. He met here with his deep life experience and knowledge as well as with his never-ending smile and also listen to his humorous stories.

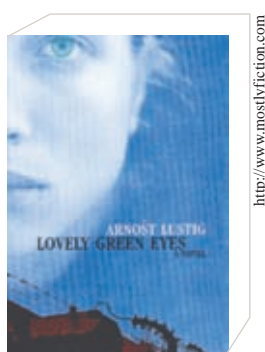
For more information about Lustig and other Czech writers, check out the website of the Embassy of the Czech Republic in the Republic of Korea: <http://www.mzv.cz/seoul/en/index.html>: SEOUL - YONGIN - Czech writer Arnošt Lustig on his Korean visit. 



Dr. Ivana Bozděchová



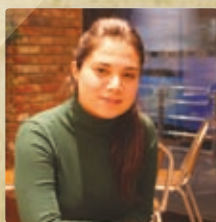
Dr. Ivana Bozděchová

<http://weekly.chosun.com><http://www.goodreads.com><http://www.mostlyfiction.com><http://www.ourphorum.com>

Brother Nation, Turkey

By Choo Yong-wahn
Reporter of Campus Section

Kebab, mosques, a brother nation... these are the thoughts that many Koreans have when they think of Turkey. This month, The Argus intends to give some useful information about Turkey, which has many similarities with Korea and characteristics of both European and Arabic culture.



Baltaci Fatma Gulsah
(Master's Program at HUFSS)

Master's degree at HUFSS. Her life may seem very smooth; however, she had to go through hard times in order to finally realize her dreams.

At first, Gulsah did not make it through the final

“Hearing “unni” (meaning sister Korean) from department store clerks was something I was used to back in Turkey.” Gulsah, a graduate from Ankara University, majored in Korean. Now, with a government scholarship, she is on her way to earn her

stage of the graduate school entrance examination. She was very depressed and worried about getting a job, which is very competitive just like it is in Korea. However, her destiny changed when her parents received a call from Korea. With the help of a HUFSSan majoring in Turkish, Gulsah's parents were able to tell the good news to their daughter.

“Learning Korean is not that difficult for Turkish people. Since the two are both Altaic, the grammatical structures are similar,” said Gulsah. However, she told us that whether to add the postposition “eun” or “neun” is still a very confusing decision for her to make while using Korean. Another similarity that she pointed out was sitting down to eat meals. Just as in Korea, though

many city dwellers now do not keep the tradition, it is a common scene in the countryside to sit on the floor to eat. Also, there is a shared oven in villages, providing a place to talk, just like a “bang-a-gan” in Korea.

Although there are a lot of similarities between the two countries, differences also exist. The willingness to learn English is much stronger in Korea, with even kindergarteners learning it. Moreover, since most universities are public in Turkey, tuition fee is much lower than it is in Korea, allowing students to graduate without debts. Moreover, going abroad to earn degrees is more common in Korea, whereas many Turkish are not even aware of the departure process in the

airports. In terms of fashion, college students in Korea seemed more fashionable, and Gulsah told The Argus that she began to wear high-heels after coming to Korea. One thing that Gulsah thought needed improvement in Korea was the attitude of the taxi drivers. Turkish drivers were more kind, lifting the luggage for the passengers, whereas Korean drivers do not do such favors.

Korea is a very close nation to Turkish people. The two cultures blend well, sharing many things in common. Gulsah plans to become a lecturer in her home university and teach Korean. Looking at her understanding of Korean culture and her language skills, we will probably see her achieving her dreams quite soon!



“Working for the government is also very popular among Turkish people,” Ku Na-yeong told The Argus about the environment of Turkey. According to Ku, engineering was the most preferred major among university students, since

many improvements were being made in the social infrastructure. Turkey may seem to be an odd place to go for a degree, but Ku told us that many Arabian students attend universities in Turkey in order to earn their degrees.


Another thing that Koreans misunderstand about the country is their food. Turkey is known to be one of the world’s top three nations in terms of culinary culture. Ku said, “People in Korea think Turkish people eat Kebab just as we eat rice, but it is not true.” Though various kinds of Kebabs do exist, with varying ingredients such as tomatoes, eggplants and yogurt, it is not their main meal in homes. Rather, people eat bread as their main meal, with olives and cheese. However, since Turkey shares its border with eight different countries, the kinds of bread also vary depending on the region. Some regions have baguettes, which have its origins in Europe whereas some places eat flat

bread originated from Arabic nations. The meal Ku recommends to Korean students is “kofte,” which is similar to the Korean “ttukgalbi” or the western meatballs.

Also, rice takes a significant role in much of the diet. Ku said she was surprised by the look of rice, which was quite similar to what we have in Korea, unlike the long and thin rice in South East Asia. However, the way of eating rice is different. The rice is seasoned with salt, chicken soup or olive oil.

The Turkish people Ku saw were quite liberal about social and religious norms and about half of the female students wore “hijab,” a cover used by Muslim females to cover their hair. She thought the younger and more educated a person is in Turkey, the more likely that she would have a western way of thinking.

Hallyu, or Korean Wave, is also strong in Turkey, according to Ku. Korean dramas portraying the Chosun dynasty are popular and shown in public television channels. Also, she was amazed that an elementary school student was a fan of Kim Nam-gil, a famous Korean actor.

Ku is in her final year of school. We are certain that her rich exposure to Turkish language and culture will make her future even better and brighter. 

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Do You Know the Taste of Football?

By Ahn Jung-hyun
Reporter of Campus Section

Did you ever imagine that you would see students wearing American football gear at HUFS? What do you think of football? Do you know that it is a form of vigorous and strategic exercise? At HUFS, Lee Hong-il (Arabic-05) is one leading, dynamic football player. He was the captain of HUFS football team in 2009 and a key player in the 2005 Seoul Cup, which is the championship of the largest domestic football tournament, in which most Korean universities participate annually. In addition, he earned the Most Valuable Player Award in the same competition in 2010. Currently, he actively exercises his skills as a HUFS football player. One late autumn day, The Argus had the pleasure of talking with him at a nice cafe near HUFS. He greeted the reporter with a smile.



Come to HUFS, meet the world of football!

Lee Hong-il's road to HUFS was through Arabic. Lee's father, having studied Arabic before him, recommended that he should also study the language especially at HUFS, which is acclaimed for its diverse language courses. As a result, he decided to enter HUFS' Department of Arabic in 2005. When asked whether he liked his major, he answered without hesitation. He would rather be engaged in a different activity but especially in football during experiencing university life. He admitted that "University studies never seemed perfectly suited for me. Searching for a special life, when I went to university orientation period, one of my upperclassmen advised me to have a good time playing football since it will be a good experience. This sparked my curiosity about the university football club, because I thought that it was a vigorous and masculine type of exercise. At first, I wondered what it would be like for me since I had never played football and I had never been on a steady movement. However, along the way, my upperclassmen gave me courage so I took up the challenge. People may think that this sport is not a big deal, such as handling a football. But for me, it was a major challenge in my college life, and football is also a fresh and energetic kind of activity."

From a beginner football player to a captain of HUFS football team

During first semester, Lee had trainings and football games every Tuesday to Thursday. On the next semester, in earnest he had played every weekend with other football teams. Moreover he had to think of a strategic analysis, which is very important to win a game. Football has a variety of positions and is a very strategic brain fighting exercise. The Argus wondered if his major study,



and so many games and exercises related to football at school has not been hard for him. Furthermore football seems to be a lot of energy consuming activity because its movements are vigorous. Smiling, he replied, "We enjoy every day even when there are no problems. Above all, I tried hard to manage my time for my major and other Arab language studies while just enjoying football, without feeling stressed." Finally, he took this attitude as the driving force as the leader of the football team.

The most brimful and difficult experience as a captain

Upon becoming a football captain, Lee thought the important factor is that he and his members should be in harmony with each other. "As the leader of the football team, my responsibilities and leadership increased dramatically. For myself, when the players believe and follow me, I feel proud. Personally, I was proud when I got the Best Player Award in 2010." The other way, the most difficult thing was that he didn't have both a coach and a manager. Therefore, he had to do everything. For example, he had to adjust exercise schedules of all the players.

Preparing football game and the most memorable football game

Unlike other sports, football players have to map out lots of strategies. For example, the number of attack strategies are over 100, so he prepared analyzing tactics of the opposing teams and had meetings to plan strategies. In addition, he began weight training three times a week and searched for variety of football videos. The Argus also asked Lee what was the most memorable football game for him, and Lee responded surely saying "I never forget winning the game in 2005. Since it was a very close victory, which had a bonus point that led the game to victory."


Attractions of football

Lee said "In Korea, also in universities, it is common situation that basketball, baseball or some specific sports had been popularized only. As this is the fact, everyone has experienced and heard of these common sports. Although football is a less popularized sport, this gives me great pride. Like I said before, one other attraction of football is that you should use your brain to win. I know this may seem like it is pretty strenuous exercise, but football has many different tactics for winning."

Final goals and dreams

Talking about Lee's future and goals as a football player, he said emphatically, "I think football is fulfilling my dreams. My goal was to win the Seoul Cup Champion and I got it. Also I got the best player award. My new dream to prepare to work in a sports-related activity. However I will always be a football player and will steadily play football."

Lee's life motto

Lee said, "I hope that HUFsians will see that doing my best, whether it is studying or playing sports, gaining two birds in a hatch will lead you to an enjoyable life. In short, enjoy your life and do everything you want. Sports, games, travelling or whatever." 

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Lee Hong-il plays football games

Proud HUFSSan / Roh Seung-whan

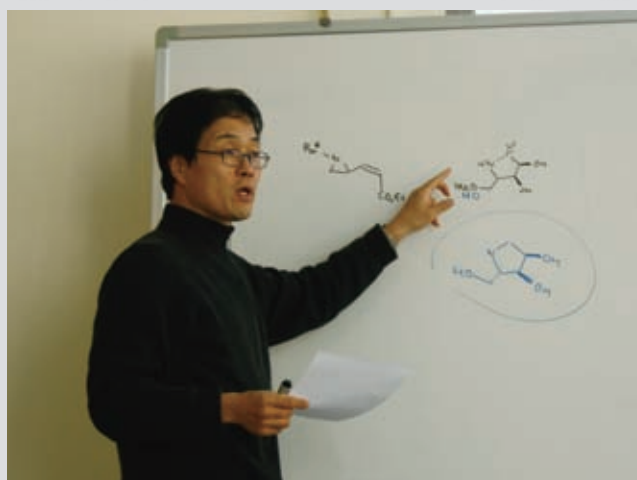
Proud HUFSSans of 2010



Proud HUFSSan is a new column that was introduced to The Argus just only this year. As the semester comes to a full-stop, we would like to look back on the nine outstanding people who have made HUFS proud one way or another and show our appreciation. They include distinguished professors, HUFS alumni and students. HUFS and HUFSSans are where we are right now due to these special people. Let us hear what these Proud HUFSSans have to say to our students.

YEAR **2010**
SEMESTER

ONE »



« Ha Hyun-joon

Professor of Department of Chemistry
at HUFS

“It is our duty as scientists to analyze and understand each organic material and learn how and why it changes. This will allow us to build many more advanced, diverse, and customized products to make life better for everybody on Earth.”



« Jung Chang-uk

Professor of Department of Physics at HUFS

“Semiconductors, cellphones, LCDs, and such items are the cash cow. These are what power the next-generation’s growth.”



« Kim Kwang-sup

Professor of Linguistics, Director at TESOL Center at HUFS

“There are three kinds of people who study: one who’s good at it, one who tries hard for it and one, like me, who has nothing else to do but studying.”



« Kang Seung-joon

Student currently studying at HUFS

“Just have a lot of experiences. Face difficulties. And when it flashes into your head that you’re desperate for something, you’ll figure out a way.”



« Kim Shin

Professor of Philosophy at HUFS

“The world is overflowing with vast amounts of information but it is hard for a person to distinguish the information she-or-he needs. We call the tool to do the ‘reasonableness.’ You compare information with another and then decide which is more valuable. Studying philosophy improves your ability to do this.”

YEAR 2010
SEMESTER

TWO »



« Noh Myeong-hwan

Professor Historian at Hufs

“If we are unable to get more experts and resources that is stacked in other nations, it will be much easier for us to foresee where South Korea will be heading.”



« Lee Kyu-ho

Professor of Department of Environmental Science at Hufs

“What my team is trying to do is ultimately focused on evicting them from the human body without harming the person. It sounds complicated but it is simple. Through quorum-sensing between germs, they can gain the strength to resist antibiotics.”



« Roh Seung-whan

Graduated from the Department of Thai at Hufs
Vice President, Samsung Electro-Mechanics Co. Ltd.

“People may think that starting a new business in a foreign country can be successful just by making an elaborate, long-term plan. However, my opinion was quite different. In order to obtain better results with high level of developmental quality, a corporation should consider efficient localized policies.”



« Muhammad Mukhtasar Syamsuddin

Ph.D from Hankuk University of Foreign Studies
Dean of Philosophy Faculty, Gadjah Mada University

“Philosophy is a science that demands a lot of rational and logical thoughts. Using the framework of the philosophers is the most appropriate method, for we can build our argument by considering the thoughts of others.”

Semester's Cover Stories

Each section of The Argus has worked hard all semester to produce a Cover Story for each month. Let us give a big applause to all the Argusians who made this possible!

Good job, everyone!



432 | Cover Story by Theory and Critique Section

When you hear the word 'Otaku,' what first comes to your mind? A person wearing glasses, covered with pimples and being overweight? Is this true? The Argus found out that Otaku exists in a lot of areas, not just in Japanese animations!



433 | Cover Story by National Section

A multicultural society? It is now a relevant idea to Korea society. It is predicted that 40 years later, approximately 10 percent of Korean population will consist of foreigners. The Argus looked into the overall Korean society becoming multicultural.



434 | Cover Story by Campus Section

Nowadays, we can see smartphone users easily around our campus. In order to fully use the functions of the new technologies, there must be improvements in both the hardware and software. The Argus looked at the IT systems of HUFS and sought advice from an application developer.



435 | Main Issue by Culture Section

Today, more and more tourists are visiting Korea. This phenomenon might seem positive, but when we look closer at what is happening actually, it is not that pleasant. The Argus looks closer at Korea's tourism culture.

Labor, the Only Hope

<http://bravovoy.tistory.com/828>



By Lee Eun-ju

Reporter of Theory & Critique Section

On Oct. 9, Ha Jong-gang gave a lecture titled “Labor is the only hope” at Hanyang University. He is the director of Hanul Labor Institute, a consultant on labor issues and was the guest editorial writer of Hankyoreh.

Digest

A recent Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development(OECD) report shows Korean high-income group account for relatively lower portion of the entire taxation than OECD average; Korea is 15.3 percent whereas the OECD average is 31.4 percent. Most developed countries got this portion through labor movement because this was mostly registered when the social democratic party came to power.

In France, judges and lawyers also have a union, and there is a European Trade Union Confederation too. In South Africa, trade unions of soldiers were on strike, demanding increase in wages in 2009. The existence of trade unions in various areas means that they recognize themselves as workers. However, in Korea, most people have a negative image on workers and the labor movement.

In fact, the understanding of labor issues in Korea is the lowest in the world. Among the 30 OECD countries, labor indicators of Korea are quite low while the annual working hours for workers are quite high. The negative attitude towards labor organizations in Korea has something to do with the news coverage that only reports the negative sides of the organizations, such as strikes and agitations. Korean presses merely report about the inconvenience caused by the strikes in Korea.

On the contrary, in Netherlands, the workers’ viewpoints are covered equally. Europeans tend to understand the necessity of strikes. They think the right to strike as an essential social right that should not be violated.

Since the financial crisis in 1997, Korean corporations carried out restructuring of their organizations by laying off a lot of full-time workers and by switching regular workers to temporary ones, thus reducing wages. They also recruited temporary employees during new recruitments. Companies develop by generating maximum profits by using minimum labor forces. Companies have nurtured the competitiveness by saving workers, resulting in the current high unemployment rates.

The rate, at which employment in public enterprises and the 30 high ranked “Chebols” has declined much faster than any other companies. The stable management of big companies has

worsened the labor market. Some people say that the preference of the young people for the major companies is the major cause of youth unemployment. However, youth unemployment is a problem that is related to our social structure, not caused by young generation's high aspirations. Therefore, the government and the companies have to change their thinking about development and welfare by hiring unemployed youths, opening more public sector jobs and reducing long working hours.

There are many contradictions of capitalism in Korea. Statistics released by the National Statistical Office in June reported that 33 percent of workers in Korea are irregulars. However, this figure does not include employments such as day-laborers working on construction sites, drivers of ready-mixed concrete trucks, caddies, private tutors and so on. In other words, if they are included, the number may rise to about 50 percent. Even highly educated professionals cannot get a regular employment. According to International Monetary Fund (IMF)'s report of Korea economic key issues, 70 percent of the newly recruited are irregulars. The dual structure of the labor market, divided into regulars and irregulars, has become an impediment to South Korea's economic growth today.

Focus

The Article 33 of the Constitution of Korea says 'workers have the right of independent association, collective bargaining, and collective action to improve working conditions.' The three rights of labor were made to ensure a decent life for workers.

In other words, these three rights refer to the 'right to organize,' a right that can make the trade workers stand on equal footing with their employers for improving working conditions and economic status. The right to 'bargain collectively' ensures that the trade union can negotiate wages with their employers. The right to 'take collective action' entitles the workers to take collective action when there is a conflict between interest with the employers. Therefore, the right to strike is one of the workers' rights.

However, Koreans have a negative perception of the strike. You can easily know this if you see the newspaper headlines. There are headlines that report the damages incurred during a strike like loss of revenues, medical setbacks and discontinuation in production. Therefore,




Ha Jong-gang addresses the importance of labor

it is natural that people develop negative perspectives on strikes.

However, other nations' citizens do not regard strikes as bad. In 2008, the Writer's Guild of America (WGA) were on strike demanding increase in royalties on DVD sales and on contents sold on the new media, such as mobile phones and the Internet. Because of this strike, shooting of drama, film, and comedy shows were stopped and broadcasting was also discontinued in America. In Korea, the famous writers, producers, actors, and talk show hosts provided supports by participating actively in their strike. Since the actors had joined the strike, that year's Golden Globe Awards were canceled. Despite these difficulties, however, two-thirds of American viewers supported these strikes.

According to the dictionary definition for a worker, workers are the people who earn a living by selling labor. That is, most of the economically active populations in Korea are workers. However, many people still think that they have nothing to do with the labor problems. Ironically, people think that with disabled people and women's rights being expanded, our society is getting better and developed. On the contrary, they do not have much interests in their own right; rights of workers.

In France, they educate the youth about the labor issues since at young age. They provide opportunities to understand both workers and managers by discussing issues from the perspectives of the two groups. They also include a chapter about 'the struggles in the workplace' in their social studies books as most children, adolescents, and college students will become workers before long. That is the reason why we have to pay attention to labor issues and educate ourselves accordingly. 

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Goebbels, Propagandist for the Fuhrer and the Third Reich

By Jeong Jin-kyeong

Guest Reporter of Theory & Critique Section

Berlin, April 1st, 1945: Paul Joseph Goebbels, Reich Minister of Propaganda and new prime minister of the Third Reich replacing Adolf Hitler, committed suicide by poisoning his six young children, his wife and himself in the Fuhrer's underground bunker. The man who had Germany and world in the palm of his hand thus died a miserable death. Based on references by Goebbels, Ralf Georg Reuth, a German historian who specializes in the Nazi era, pursue this extraordinary life of this infamous creator of myths in his new biography of the man.

Goebbels' early life

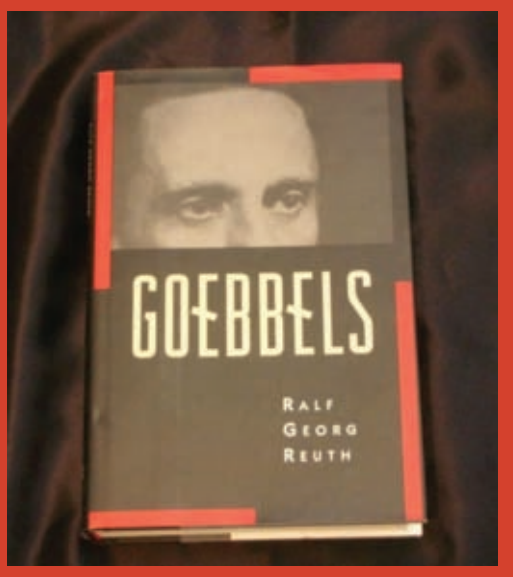
Goebbels was born in 1897 in Rheydt, Germany. At the time of his birth, German Kaiser Wilhelm II's empire had advanced rapidly following victory in the Franco-Prussian War. Due to childhood osteomyelitis, he had a deformed right leg. Goebbels studied hard to compensate for his weakness through intellectual superiority, so he could pass university entrance examination with excellent grades and graduate as a star student. Goebbels went on to college and studied literature and philosophy.

Joining the National Socialists

Goebbels first came into contact with the National Socialist (Nazi) Party and became a member in 1924. He was a Doctor of Literature and a sensible intellectual. This distinguished him from other Nazis, who frequently had a low level of education and were rough soldiers.

After World War I, the Weimar Republic which enacted some of the most advanced legislation in the world, had been newly established in Germany. But the country's politics and society were uneasy and economically it was experiencing a severe depression. In

the midst of this chaos, Goebbels chose to write his doctoral dissertation on 18th-century German romanticism and received his doctorate in 1921. Goebbels tasted failure and became all the more deprived, suffering from poverty. He



was driven to frustration and laid the blame for his unhappiness squarely at Jews' door. Meanwhile, he joined the NSDAP (Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei/National-Socialist German Workers' Party) and met Hitler upon inducement by a friend. Goebbels was charmed by the man and became an ardent follower. Hitler rewarded Goebbels for his loyalty by appointing him regional Gauleiter of the Berlin section.

As Gauleiter in the Berlin

On Nov. 7, 1926, the newly-appointed Gauleiter Goebbels arrived at the Berlin station with a firm resolution in mind. He was an excellent firebrand and activist who had experienced all sorts of hardships. In this position, Goebbels discovered his talent as a propagandist, putting his propaganda and oratory skills to full use in combating the local socialist and communist parties. Goebbels aroused his listeners to

ecstasy, not by relying on the passionate inspiration of the moment, but through sober psychological calculation.'

Putting his ability to good use for Hitler, Goebbels created heroes and enemies for union and strike with use of Nazi papers and handbills. The National Socialists claimed to be the political party of the working class and had a broad base of support among laborers. But, in his rise to power, Hitler meddled in Germany's institutionalized class structure and legalized getting support from the capitalists and the landowning nobility. Hence many former party executives and supporters opposed this policy, and their communist rivals, competing with them to represent the labor class, censured the Nazis as 'capitalist dogs.' The Nazi party was in danger of being split by this problem into two factions. But, encouraging the use of the Nazi propaganda machine, Goebbels firmly lined the Nazis up behind Hitler. Goebbels became one of its most prominent members by 1928.

In the regional and general elections, Goebbels and his propaganda machine contributed to Nazis' victory and seizure of power. He became a member of the Cabinet as the Reich Minister of Public Enlightenment and Propaganda.


Reich Minister and World War II

Having been elected as Reich Minister, Goebbels wanted to remodel public consciousness by centralizing all aspects of German cultural and intellectual life, including the press, radio, film, theater, music, literature and publishing under a Ministry of Propaganda. He organized a symbolic event for the establishment of Nazi cultural power. He controlled the media, ranging from the level of major nationally-known newspapers, publishers, museums, and orchestras to local newspapers, village choirs, and theaters through the RCC and closed down those which defied Goebbels'

command. Subsequently, Goebbels merged and purchased film companies to promote a positive image for National Socialism. With these measures, Goebbels sought to dominate German culture totally, banishing Jews and anti-Nazi personalities from all areas of German culture.

However, Goebbels's real worth became apparent during Germany's downfall starting in mid-1943. In particular, on account of his propaganda, Germans did not know their country was being defeated by the Allied powers who were advancing all around them. In addition to this, Goebbels took on the portfolio of Reich plenipotentiary. He worked for Germany's 'Total War', encouraging the public with his speeches and collaborating with other officials. So although Germany was bombed and defeated in battlefields, industrial production rapidly increased under his leadership. However, his efforts could not halt the Nazis' collapse.

Death in body but not in spirit

Goebbels' body was cremated and his ashes were scattered. But everywhere from commercials to political slogans and advertisements, Dr. Goebbels' legacy is still very much alive in our time. This is particularly true in today's information-oriented society, in which we are rapidly inundated with so much new information that it becomes extremely difficult to stay up-to-date and verify the reliability of our sources of information. Unlike the German public of the Nazi era, we must wisely protect ourselves by availing ourselves of reliable sources of information and guard against deliberate falsifications from the many modern-day Propaganda Ministers. 

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So Long, Farewell

My adventure in Korea started off with the four-week language course I took. With two-thirds of my class being Japanese, I rarely got to speak English. I missed using English, my first language, much as I find Korean language fun to learn.

When school officially started, I got more chances to converse in English, but it just wasn't the same as reading it. Then, I discovered The Argus. Having realized it was a magazine totally in English, my interest was piqued. The articles in The Argus covered a really diverse range of articles. For someone who knew little about Korea, I welcomed The Argus for the various information it provided. I recall, during Chuseok, I could recognize that the pink, green, white and yellow pieces of confectionery were called Song-pyeon

because I read the article about the history and meaning of Tteok. Having that nugget of information made me feel just that tad bit smarter, knowing the significance of Tteok when I saw them being sold.

Knowing this is the last issue of The Argus makes it part of the sad goodbye I will have to bid Korea when I leave for Singapore in December. I'm thankful to those who have contributed to it because it's no small feat compiling articles from so many various sources. I've enjoyed reading the articles and you guys have done a great job!

Goodbye Argus and goodbye Korea! 🇰🇷

Lim Mei Chuin Magdalene
(Exchange student from Singapore)

Diversed Knowledge through The Argus

The semester is ending soon and the weather is turning winter. This also marks the last The Argus magazine for this year. I was introduced to this English magazine by a dorm-mate and ever since, I have never missed collecting a copy of The Argus. It never fails to entertain me with interesting articles like "Diet Failure May Not Be Your Fault!" and "Boys, Be Pretty." It's always nice to take away learning points from each magazine I read.

In last month's issue, I felt strongly for the article written by Lee Yeong-eun, "Orwellian 21st." In today's society, I have to agree that individual's personal space is reducing and we no longer share the same privacy as before. Without a doubt, social networking sites

indeed bond us closer to one another in the virtual community and has made life more interesting. However, some users have also abused the functions of social networking tools. In the case of Clementi Tyler, he is an unlucky victim to be harmed by the abusers of social networking tools. I was shocked to hear the news. It seems, a person's privacy can be easily manipulated in a few clicks.

I would like to thank The Argus for producing such high-quality English magazines. With diverse topics addressed in every issue, I have become a little smarter! 🇸🇬

Tan Zhen Zheng Adeline
(Exchange student from Singapore)



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