

# The Argus

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HANKUK UNIVERSITY OF FOREIGN STUDIES

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

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# Stronger Stance to Protect from Radioactive Goods

In this Chuseok holiday, some changes in ancestral rites table may have been noticeable to many; seafood was nowhere to be seen. Indeed, after the 2011 meltdown at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant in Japan, sales in products that may have been exposed to radiation, especially fish, have decreased greatly in Korea. The government has been slow to take actions and thus the radiation scare has continued to grow.

Back in March 2011, a hurricane, Tohoku, hit Fukushima in Japan; a nuclear power plant lost its ability to cool the plant and leaked radioactive material into the ocean. Two years after the accident, 300 metric tons of heavily contaminated water was found to be leaking from the plant's storage tank. The incident is said to be the second most hazardous event since the Chernobyl disaster of 1986 in Ukraine.

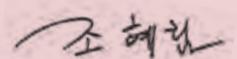
Adjacent countries, China and Taiwan, were fast to ban imports of fish, dairy, and vegetable products from Japan in 2011. Complaints and worries on radioactive-exposed products arose in Korea. However, it is only this September that the government banned the imports of all fisheries from Fukushima and seven other nearby regions.

The radiation scare did not calm down. Voices arose that already around 8,000 tons of imports have made it to Korea since 2011. No restrictions or guidelines control the importation of processed goods from fisheries and vegetable products. The 'thorough' radioactivity check of the imported goods that Ministry of Food and Drug Safety mentions is only enough to check the level of cesium and iodine, leaving out others such as strontium and plutonium. Given this situation, Japan is now pressuring Korea to lift the import ban and demanding for an 'acceptable' explanation. They also plan to file a complaint with the World Trade Organization.

The slow and weak management of the government has lost the trust of the people. To take control of this chaotic situation, it is important that the government provide clear explanation of the situation to help the understanding of the citizens and hold a strong stance against Japan; though the frayed diplomatic relationship may be worrisome. This problem is related to the whole future of the nation's health and protecting people's basic human rights, which includes the provision of the necessities of life. 

**Jo He-rim**

*Editor-in-Chief*





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**Real or Fake**

As the number of reality shows increased, its form to catch viewers' eyes also changed. In this volume, The Argus looks into the changes in the world of show business and finds what makes the shows popular.

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A Breath in the Midst of a Crowded City

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Engaging Students in Learning than Just Studying History



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## HUFS Leads Eurasian Forum on Diplomatic Security

The Eurasian Policy Forum titled, ‘Economic Cooperation between Korea and Eurasian Countries,’ was held on Sept. 12, in Millenium Seoul Hilton at the attendance of Ambassadors of various countries.

As the host of the forum, HUFS Institute of Russian Studies (IRS) and Maeil Business Newspaper invited Ambassadors from seven countries in Eurasia, including Russia, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Ukraine, the Azerbaijani Republic, Kyrgyzstan, and Belarus.

This forum is meaningful in that it is the first time for the seven nations that were once Soviet Union to gather to discuss cooperation with Korea. In the forum, the ambassadors stressed the practical cooperation in the economy sector.

Konstantin Vnukov, the Russian ambassador said, “We should get rid of the barrier that is in between the two countries to encourage active investment and exchange.” Other ambassadors

also mentioned the connection with the Korean’s diaspora as well.

Park Jin, the HUFS chair-professor presided over the forum and the delegation suggested various ideas on the Korean Peninsula Trust Process, which is part of President Park Geun-hye’s North Korean Policies. Different policies regarding peaceful cooperation system of Northeast Asia were also discussed.

The forum aims to build overall economic cooperation and reinforce diplomatic relations with various nations.

President Park Chul of HUFS delivered a keynote address in the event. Also present were Director of IRS Hong Wan-suk, Chairman of the Maeil Business Chang Dae-hwan, Chairman of the parliamentary committee for foreign affairs and unification Ahn Hong-joon, Vice foreign minister Cho Tae-yeol, and some 200 businessmen and scholars. 📷

## CAMPUS Asia Program Agreed Between Univ. Presidents in Korea and China

University presidents from Korea and China gathered at HUFS Seoul Campus for the Korean-Sino University Presidents Forum on Aug. 31. On Sept. 1, they agreed on expanding the ‘CAMPUS Asia Program.’

This forum aimed to discuss ‘Opening the New Era of Korea and China by Promoting Higher Education Cooperation.’ The ‘CAMPUS Asia Program’ is a student exchange program aiming to establish higher education network among Korea, Japan, and China.

“This forum is very meaningful as it is the first forum to be held since President Park Geun-hye’s visit to China last June,” said President Park Chul of HUFS.

32 Korean university presidents, 80 Korean faculties and 25 Chinese university presidents and 70 Chinese faculties participated in the forum. Also present were HUFS President Park, Education Minister Seo Nam-soo, President of the Korean Council for University Education Suh Geo-suk, and the Chinese Ambassador to Korea, Zang.

The event was hosted by the two education ministries of Korea and China, and led by HUFS. It is an annual event, held both in Korean and Chinese Universities. 📷

By Jo He-rim



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## Brazil Experience in Brazil Day Festival

The 'Brazil Day' Festival was held on Oct. 7 in the Minerva Complex of HUFS. It was hosted by the Embassy of Brazil in Seoul and organized by the Alianca Cultural Coreia Brasil.

In the festival, the participants enjoyed a traditional Brazilian performance of a photo exhibition on Brazil culture, and Carnival costume displays. Before the event, HUFS president Park Chul and Ambassador of Brazil, Edmundo Fujita discussed future plans for bilateral cooperation between Brazil and the Department of Portuguese in HUFS. 📷

By Jo He-rim

▲ The participants of the event are posing for the photo shoot.

## HUFS Rank Eighth Among Korean Universities in QS

HUFS was ranked the 431st in the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings 2013 by QS, making it one of the top eight universities in Korea. QS is an institute which publishes annual rankings of world universities.

HUFS was especially shown to have extra merits in International Faculty, Faculty Student, and Graduate Reputation ranking of between 100 to 200.

Celebrating its tenth anniversary, the QS World University Ranking has been publishing rankings on different categories according to region and subjects. 📷

By Jo He-rim

## HUFS Appointed as the Univ. of Quality in the Accreditation

HUFS obtained certification in the accreditation system for universities merging their campuses in 2013. HUFS was also nominated a university of quality for its educational program training top-level human resources specializing in global attitude.

The recent certification is meaningful in that HUFS will start its management combining both campuses from 2014. It can be seen that HUFS gain official recognition as a university that merged its campuses.

The accreditation system was adopted in 2011 and aims to enhance international mobility. 📷

By Kim Min-jeong

## Special Lecture 'Meet the EU' Seminar Promotes EU at HUFS

On Sept. 25, a special lecture, 'Meet the EU,' was held in Minerva Complex, co - hosted by HUFS - Hyundai Research Institute (HRI) EU Centre and Istituto Italiano di Cultura, an Italian cultural center.

The seminar was organized to promote EU and to celebrate the publication of 'The Korean Miracle' by Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development's (OECD) economist, Andrea Goldstein.

A presentation in the event discussed the economic development of Korea from the European point of view. The heated discussion included more than 100 students. 📷

By Kim Min-jeong



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## HUFS Gains Academic Connection with Air Force

HUFS and the Korean Air Force signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Oct. 10. Its purpose is to train professional manpower on different languages and educate those assigned to Overseas Diplomatic and Consular Missions in the Air Force.

By Jo He-rim

## IRS Workshop on Korean Studies for Russian Educators

Institute of Russian Studies (IRS) and Korea Foundation (KF) organized a Korean studies Workshop from Aug. 19 to 28, in the cities of Seoul, Gyeongju, and Busan. 15 educators from various Russian education institutes and schools were invited.

This workshop focused on promoting Korean and providing opportunities to learn the Korean culture.

Such efforts by IRS and KF have been made in 2008, inviting about 20 educators every year. The program includes over eight lectures on different topics such as history, education, economy and the society.

By Jo He-rim

## Tie between GCC-KOLAC and AMECIP

The Korea-Latin America Green Convergence Center (GCC-KOLAC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Asociacion Mexicana de Ciencias Politica (AMECIP) in an international scholarship contest at Guanajuato University.

Through the MOU, GCC-KOLAC established a vast network of experts in local ecopolicy about international cooperation preparing for climate change.

GCC-KOLAC was able to enhance its position through participating in the contest and with this as the momentum; it is expected increase its information and personnel exchange in drafting policies against climate change.

By Kim Min-jeong

## Global Job Fair Held to Aid Young Applicants

The HUFS Global job fair was held in September in both campuses of Seoul and Global.

In Seoul Campus, the job fair took place in Obama Hall from Sept. 3 to 4. It was organized by the Office of Student Affairs, Career Development Center, 47th GSC in Seoul Campus and Keddisco, a company specializing in job consulting.

Up to 70 Companies participated in the fair and held job interviews including recruits consulting. Other events such as free resume photo shoots, make-up classes, lectures on writing job applications were also held.

In the Global Campus, 'Job Party' was held in front of the Student Hall on Sept. 10. Companies met various students studying foreign languages and also those of College of Natural Sciences. Also, a talk concert was held in the Engineering Building where human resources managers from major companies, job consultants, and movie director Jeong Cho-sin gave speeches.

President Park Chul as well as the Dean of Career Development Center attended while students had a meaningful time sharing their hopes and worries with recruiting experts.

By Kim Min-jeong



▲ A student is listening to a recruiting expert.

# News Briefing

By Jeon Seong-jin  
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## Gift Cards vs. Parcels

About 705 out of 1,633 people (43.2%) answered that packaging gift cards during the week of “Chuseok,” the Korean Thanksgiving Day, is the best part time job according to a survey that was conducted by the Alba Cheonguk. It was revealed that the job pays part-timers about 50,000 KRW per hour. On the other hand, about 696 survey participants (42.6%) answered that the worst part time job is at a delivery center for department store parcels.



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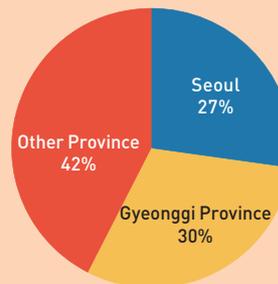
## Bundang Protest

About 1,500 people protested near Seohyeon station in the Bundang-gu area of Gyeonggi Province. Without any notice, the government moved a probation office into a central area of Bundang where young students usually visit and spend their times. Most of the people were parents and they worried that their children are exposed to the parolees who have criminal records. On the other hands, some people say it is a Not In My Back Yard (NIMBY) phenomena of selfish citizens.



## Ideological Season

Assembly member Lee Seok-ki of the Unified Progressive Party was arrested on Aug. 5 after the National Assembly passed a motion to issue a warrant for his arrest. Lee is suspected of treasonous behavior connected to a revolutionary organization.



©Research by the Ministry of Security and Public Administration

## Multicultural Country

- The total population of Republic of Korea: 50,948,272
- The total number of foreign residents: 1,445,631 (2.8%)
- Seoul: 395,640 out of 10,195,318 (3.9%)
- Gyeonggi Province: 440,735 out of 12,093,299 (3.6%)



# Government and Press Drove Chae Out

By **Kim Su-young**  
*Editorial Consultant*

**P**rosecutor General Chae Dong-wook suddenly offered to resign on Sept. 13. Chae's announcement came almost immediately after the Justice Ministry declared its intentions to investigate the top prosecutor over reports that he has an 11-year-old illegitimate son.

This ministry's investigation into the chief prosecutor is regarded as an unprecedented attempt to pressure an official to retire. "I want to make it clear once again that the reports are groundless," Chae said in a statement. The vernacular conservative 'Chosun Ilbo' newspaper first reported that Chae had a lovechild on Sept. 6 which Chae denied. It is lamentable that Chae resigned during his term for unconfirmed problems in his private life. It is doubtful that the conservative pro-government press is working with the government to drive prosecutor general Chae from his post. There is something unusual surrounding Chae's resignation and we have to get to the bottom of it.

It is not clear as to what prompted investigations into chief prosecutor Chae Dong-wook. He has already taken steps for immediate resolution such as sending a file for correction to the court in opposition to a report from 'Chosun Ilbo' which accused him of having an extramarital son. Aside from filing the suit, Chae is also looking into taking a paternity test as soon as possible to resolve any doubt.

Who issued the instruction to investigate the top prosecutor behind the scenes? Even though the 54-year-old woman identified by her surname Lim sent a letter to liberal newspaper 'Hankyoreh' later, 'Chosun Ilbo' just wrote an article without even considering Lim's testimonies. Why did they feel the need to quickly publish this issue? They should have waited to write this report after checking to see if it was true.

After all, what we need to clarify is which national institution leaked groundless information regarding Chae's private life to 'Chosun Ilbo' and caused social dislocation. Most people think National Intelligence Service(NIS) is deeply involved in this case. Yet there is no tangible evidence. Thus what has to have been resolved immediately is whether the NIS was involved in the case, not the problem of Chae's alleged illegitimate son.

Finally, the government might rejoice at driving Chae out of the prosecutor's office. And the Blue House that was unsatisfied with the prosecutor general 'whom the Lee Myung-bak government designated' might look forward to a prosecutor general designated by the Park Geun-hye government. However, this would not only be a regression to 'political prosecutor' but also a national misfortune for the government. 

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# Welcome to Classes in USA



**By Park Ji-yeon**

*Overseas Correspondent*

**H**ow is the beginning of a new semester in the U.S.? Unlike Korea, the academic year in U.S. begins in the fall. This semester, here in the U.S., many students are returning to their universities or beginning their freshman year. The Argus met four students among them, who go to the State University of New York, College at Oneonta(SUNY Oneonta). Each of them being a freshman, international or exchange student, they are from diverse backgrounds. The Argus hopes their stories of school life in the U.S. may be of a matter of interest for the readers.





# COLLEGE AT ONEONTA

***The Argus: Please introduce yourselves.***

**Spriha:** Hi, I'm Spriha Sanjay from New Delhi, India. I am 18 years old so I just graduated high school back in India. Being a freshman here, I will be graduating SUNY Oneonta in 2017 with a degree.

**Jason:** Hello! My name is Jason Anthony Bartlett and I'm 20 years old. I am from Long Island, New York. And I am a junior here.

**Ai:** Hi, I'm Ai Machinaka from Fukuoka, Japan. I'm 21 years old and I don't have a year here because I am here as an exchange student for a year.

**Ye-rin:** Hello, my name is Ye-rin Lee and I'm from Incheon, South Korea. I'm 22 years old. I attend HUFs and am an exchange student here, but only for a semester.



**Before coming to SUNY Oneonta**

Almost all of the students here live on campus in the school dorms. For most of the freshmen and international students, it is their first time to leave home and stay somewhere else for an extended period of time. Hence, they try to spend their time wisely before coming to the campus; spending time with one's family and friends, getting stuff for their dormitory rooms, ordering textbooks and such. Also, some international students come to U.S. before the official semester starts in order to give them more time to adjust to the new environment.

***The Argus: How did you wrap up your previous semester and get ready for the new one?***

**Spriha:** My previous semester was my last high school semester in India.

After I graduated high school, I traveled around India to see the many landscapes and cherish them during my stay in the U.S.

I also read as much as I could about the school; the school website, the Facebook page, and so on.

**Jason:** After the finals were over last semester, I worked as a counselor in a Drama Camp for children. I also tried to keep up with studies of my major and learned some Korean too. And before I came here, I spent a lot of time with my loving friends and family as I won't be seeing them for a while.

**Ye-rin:** It was my first trip to the U.S. and I had always planned to come as an exchange student since high school. So I was excited since the beginning of the semester. Some people attend private English academies in Korea before coming as an exchange student, but I didn't do that. I chose to travel around Korea and meet all of my friends before I left.

***The Argus: What did you do before you came to live on campus? That is, before you left your friends and families?***

**Ai:** It is the first time for me to live in a dormitory away from the people I am used to. So for the three weeks before coming to the campus, I met up with a lot of friends and tried to spend most of my time with them.

**Jason:** I met up with friends back home before coming back to the campus as well. However, I had to return earlier in order to receive some training as a Resident Assistant(RA), whose job is to assist other students with their daily lives in the dorm.

**Spriha:** I have never been apart from my family except for short camps, so I spent a lot of time with them before I left India. I visited my relatives and had a lot of Indian food because I was sure I would miss them here.

**"Welcome, new and returning students!"**

There are a lot of exciting activities that take place on the SUNY Oneonta campus during the semester; dormitories, orientations, classes, club activities, etc. They are quite different from the ones in Korean universities.



***The Argus: When was the moment that you realized the new semester had really begun?***

**Ai:** As an international student, I had to arrive on campus a week before the official start of the semester to attend programs for international students. There were a lot of new faces on the campus when the classes began. Those new faces made me realize that a new semester had begun.

**Spriha:** Like Ai, I am an international student too. For me, making new friends in a new environment such as in the classes, dorm and international students' orientation is what made me realize the beginning of a new semester. I love that there are many opportunities and events for me to new people here!

**Ye-rin:** As for me, it was when I had to carry all of the heavy textbooks from the school bookstore to my dormitory room. Also, the fact that I had a class schedule to follow made me realize that a new semester had begun.

**Jason:** I agree with Ye-rin. The six page report that I had to hand in on the first week of school hit me hard that school had started, along with the fact that I am now a junior here.

***The Argus: What kind of role do you think dormitory life has here on the campus?***



▲ Students are 'passing through the pillars.'



involved in the school. Now that I come to think of it, most of the new semester events in Korea just drew out passive attitudes from the students.

***The Argus: What did you learn from these cultures up to now?***

**Spriha:** The common factor in all these various events here is that you are required to do many things by yourself, making friends on your own, figuring out the school life by yourself, and so on. There are no supervisors to tell you when to do what and how to do it. I definitely learned how to become independent because I used to rely a lot on my parents like my other Indian friends.

**Ye-rin:** I also learned how to become more independent. As for me, I got to become more active in school events than I was in Korea. Also, I'm learning a lot from the diversity in school. I met a lot of friends from diverse backgrounds which really makes me feel like I'm in the melting pot.

There are many universities in the world and an even larger number of university students. Among these students and schools, there are places that share similar cultures with Hufs and also those that are drastically different. In SUNY Oneonta, students from diverse backgrounds and nationalities all contribute to the lively atmosphere of the campus with their colorful stories. The Argus hopes its readers could have a taste of these various stories and perspectives of an American university.



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**Ye-rin:** First of all, there are many events that take place in every residence halls. I was surprised that there were Hall governments, floor meetings, hall meetings, and parties for the residents to get to know each other. Living in the dorm was the first opportunity for me to blend into school life by making connections with new people and enjoying the new semester.

**Jason:** Ye-rin is totally right. If you don't like your dorm life you won't like university life. Daily interactions happen in dorms and they influence your day because it is your living space. So I consider it to be like a domino; dorm life affects your relationship which in turn influences your life and even how other people treat you.

***The Argus: Which event do you think represents the new semester?***

**Jason:** Maybe because I am an RA, I think that the move-in day is the typical picture of a new semester. Students arrive on the campus with their families and loved ones, and say farewell to them. I think this is when the students bid their past goodbye and embrace their future life in the campus.

**Spriha:** The move-in day was awesome

as it was the day I met my roommate and neighbors next door. As for me however, the Club Expo was the event that truly marked the beginning of a new semester. Signing up for school clubs and looking into the various school activities was a great way to connect to people and the university. What's more, I could find an area of my interest and meet people sharing similar interest thanks to the Club Expo.

**Ai:** It's hard to choose one from all of the great events, but I should say that Passing through the Pillars is surely one of the specials of SUNY Oneonta. In this event every freshman wears the red SUNY Oneonta shirt and goes through two large pillars that represent the school's history. Returning students, school faculties and professors greet the freshmen, which really made me feel like I was a part of the school community. These kind of festive events don't take place in Japan; all I can remember is a formal entrance ceremony with everybody wearing black suits.

**Ye-rin:** I've got to say I totally enjoyed all of these great events. When I was a freshman in Korea, I can recall getting some goodies from the General Student Council, but there sure weren't activities or events that students could really get

## *“Reality Show, a Camou. age of Reality”*

**By Kim Min-jeong**

*Associate Editor*

**R**ecently, a celebrity named Clara provoked a controversy by making untruthful comments while on the air. She said that she enjoyed eating fried chicken with beer watching baseball games on the radio, but she also said that she did not like these things on another public television program. In addition, she commented, “I have never learned yoga before,” on a chat show, which was proven to be an overt lie based on her learning yoga on another program in the past. After the controversy, she justified her answer through Social Network Service (SNS), but most netizens gave a skeptical response about her falsehood saying, “You were casted on a chat show, not on a play completely based on a script. You should have said things based on truth even though your exaggeration was for fun.”

Through this example, it can be seen that Korean society is asking for truth from broadcast programs and their casts. Accepting consumers’ demands, the Korean broadcasting world has moved towards the reality. However, the early representative programs called ‘real variety’ present a great contrast to recent genre examples. The entertainment world has changed its approach to become more truly and genuinely sincere. Then, were the former reality programs totally fake, based only on scripts? How truthful are the more recent reality shows?





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### *Reality show?*

The reality show is a genre of television program that shows various situations without a script and is acted out by performers. Domestically, reality shows are often positioned with variety shows that include diversified formats and contents. In the past, variety shows could be divided into three format types which concentrated on talk, games or both. However in 2006, a program called 'Infinite Challenge' on MBC appeared as a new genre real variety show and gained popularity by its performers' sincere reactions. Building on this momentum, many other programs soon appeared or changed their format to be more real. Examples of this change can be seen in shows like 'Two Days and One Night' on KBS, 'Running Man' on SBS and so on. Reporting on this phenomenon, a news media source said, "The appearance of 'Infinite Challenge' marked the beginning of a new era for reality programs."

### The ways things change

There are three ways in which entertainment programs can be categorized. First, some shows are organized with a specific person as a central figure. This differs from the direction shows have taken in the past. Regarding the changes, 'observation' has become the keyword in the entertainment world to show performers' distinctive characters through their actions in reality. Production crews minimized their interventions. Also, set-up and directions were minimized. The show creators hid their cameras and even tried to be natural in working the cameras in order to extract a certain amount of spontaneity from the cast members. Free of artificial manipulation in their relationships and the role creation with the actors, producers seek to create a sense of naturalness in performers and emphasize their true colors. Observation in entertainment program stresses this real life approach. Focusing on figures and their endeavors to forge links between people, producers arouse viewers' interest. There are now almost ten reality programs that focus on observation with 'The Law of the Jungle' on SBS, 'Where are You Going, Daddy?' on MBC, 'The Human Condition' on KBS. On MBC especially, their entertainment program on Sunday evening is composed of two observation reality shows, 'Where are You Going, Daddy?'

and 'A Real Man (Korean Army).' In the case of the program 'Where are You Going, Daddy?' it has captured 18.5 percent of the viewing audience and is judged to be a great success that saved MBC from falling into the last place of entertainment show broadcasters on Sunday evening. A writer on the program said, "There are no scripts except for the producer's comments and no predictable situations. This helps the program progress naturally."

Also, as reality programs have progressed with a specific person as a central figure, 'chat shows' also have become widespread. In the past, the 'Seo Se-won Show' and 'Yasimmanman' were known as popular talk shows, but these days, there are many chat shows like 'Healing Camp' on SBS, 'Radio Star' on MBC, and 'Taxi' on tvN. These programs are focusing on showing celebrities' real lives and giving viewers enjoyment. The programs do not just show the celebrities' real lives, but also remark on current scandals that tries to be covered up and kept as secrets. For instance, Kim Gu-ra, an MC on 'Radio Star' directly remarked about a scandal involving the female singer, IU. Through

the openness of hosts and the sincere reactions of guests, audiences feel a more vivid pleasure. That is, while revealing the daily lives of

celebrities, the program have caused the audience interest to rise which results in an increase in the number of chat shows. Through this trend, the number of performers who freely talk about current issues has grown.

The second way that change has appeared is in performers' attempts to reveal their 'true colors' and be free from any mystique. As reality shows concentrate on the humane aspects of cast members, their attitudes are also changing. A celebrity named Mun Hee-jun said on a chat show, "I never did get out of a car except for rehearsal while I was in H.O.T." His remark shows how much celebrities considered mystique to be important in the 1990s. In the past, a celebrity was the object of admiration for ordinary people, but not anymore. Recently, a member of an idol group 2PM, named Chan-seong said, "I am the fastest aging man in our group." It shows a definite difference between celebrities in the 1990s and today. As their manners change, the broadcasting world encourages a cast member's frankness as a way to get a better sense of realism. As frankness is considered to be the main element of shows, there tends to be a preference for male performers because it may be a burden for female actresses to disclose their private lives. For example, a program named 'I Live Alone' on SBS, documented performers' daily lives. It shows male celebrities' private lives using a documentary-like technique and tries to form a bond of sympathy between performers and viewers based on the social trend, 'single household.' Nam Seung-yong, a producer from SBS, said, "Honesty is the key for a celebrity to be popular. As media develops, there is no awe of celebrities these days." Changes in an entertainer's manner seem to strengthen the reality elements in many show programs.

The third change is that celebrities are



©imbc

not the only cast members anymore. Not only celebrities, but producers and **ordinary citizens** can be seen as performers on the television screen. Producers and production crews can directly appear on the screen or show their own thoughts through subtitles. In the case of MBC's 'Infinite Challenge,' its subtitles were welcomed due to their uniqueness and were considered to be another element providing pleasure to viewers. Producers' subjectivity, shown through subtitles, is thought to be the same as viewers' since it delivers reality by closing the distance between celebrities and the audience. Ordinary people can also become performers as well. Programs have started to deal with stories from ordinary people from the show's beginning to the end as well as display these individual's talents. A chat show, 'Hello, Counselor' on KBS and Mnet's 'Superstar K,' a program showing the survival of ordinary people, can be examples of these programs. Viewers can express their sympathy for the common people on television and who share a lot in common with the watchers.

### Are you real or not?

Then why does the audience glow with enthusiasm about the 'real' things? One answer might be because of the developments in media like SNS, which has influenced the expectations of the general public towards the contents they encounter. Some people seem to have become bored and do not express the same level of interest in the existing information on the internet. In other words, famous celebrities' lives and the predictable, previously created scenarios no longer attract the public's interest anymore because this information is already on the internet and the public can easily find it. Seo Byeong-gi, a pop-culture reviewer, said, "Revealing comments with incendiary, sexual

remarks were popular in the past but are not anymore." The public now wants celebrities to experience things from an ordinary person's position and share their true sensitivities. These experiences cannot be found in other media.

Another reason that people are delighted to see 'real' things on television is that they want sincere laughter. In comedy, actors have said that sincere laughter comes from the situation itself. People have started to agree with this idea. According to the comedians' reasoning, it can be said that telling jokes to make an audience laugh is no longer flourishing. As Steve Johnson, an author of the book 'Everything Bad is Good for You,' said, "What makes people shudder in reality shows is that they feel 'It is really happening.' In a world full of untruthfulness, people are fanatical about the fact that their facial expressions on television are sincere."

Consumers are now more concerned with the formation of sympathy while watching television programs. Watching mysterious celebrities doing the same things as ordinary people allows people to have good feelings towards that performer by watching them play the fool. Kim Gyo-seok, a culture critic, also said, "Reality shows these days are based on how the celebrities feel and how their daily lives are. People watch those shows for making emotional interchanges with celebrities through reality rather than killing their time." It shows that the public wants celebrities to talk about real things so they can be sympathetic to the actors' situations. Thinking of a celebrity as an ordinary person who is recognized as a special allows the public to shout in joy in that an entertainer is not different from an ordinary person. For instance, a recent comedy show named Saturday

Night Live (SNL) Korea reflects this trend and is becoming popular through a set-up based on reality by discussing current issues that vary from politics to entertainment. A notable example that mirrors this trend is SNL Korea's 'Yeoido Teletubbies.' Using characters featured in the existing 'teletubbies' TV show, production crews and performers figuratively show current political situations. While reflecting the reality, they function as a comedy at the same time. Through the format and content, they attract the public's gaze and gain popularity.

### Doubt on reality programs

When it comes to the degree of truth in reality programs, some questions can be raised on whether the program really reflects the reality and completely not bases on a script. In the past, reality shows were considered to be distortions of reality that were meant to provide the audience with fun entertainment. If a program presented reality as it was, it would not be an entertainment show, but a documentary. However, as the public's interest grows in truthfulness on reality shows, using a script while hosting a show is being debated. In the case of 'We Got Married' on MBC, a spot was caught up in controversy because the script was so detailed that it seemed like the performers were depending too much on it. It was quite different from the



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scene the viewers had imagined. Also, the program, 'The Law of the Jungle,' had been issued due to its manipulation of a situation. It was not a real jungle which broadcasters visited, but, in fact, a tourist spot.

People also say that the existence of cameras hinders the veracity of shows and their performers, so the show cannot be real. They say that cameras can be a monitor that makes performers have self-censorship and celebrities are conscious enough of cameras. Due to this, there is a doubt that celebrities are acting out to be nice and in the end, they shed tears for the sole purpose of improving their images. In the case of 'Healing Camp,' people once considered the program to be a celebrity's indulgence because the program showed only the good aspects of a star even though they had done bad things in the past. Viewers became doubtful about the program's sincerity.

It can be said that reality shows are a paradox of the broadcasting world. It means that there is no ordinary person on a reality show. As there is no way for sufficient verification of ordinary cast members, the number of people who are trying to use reality shows to become famous has grown. For instance, a KBS show 'Hello Consultant' was embarrassed because it had cast a professional actor as an ordinary citizen. The person's story was revealed to be fake the next day by netizens and the production crew had to apologize for their insufficient background check. This incident has not been the only case. Superstar K on Mnet presented an ordinary cast member who presented a fictitious life story. The cast member claimed that he was a complete stutterer except for when he sings, but this soon turned out to be false. On this matter, Kim Heon-sik, a culture critic, said, "Real, ordinary people are being kicked out of reality shows." As the number of people who want to be famous by being on the air increases, there are

fewer ordinary people who can be put on camera by producers.

### Dark side of reality shows

Except for the instances above, having normal people on air can be damaging for a long time. Not only are the normal people from reality shows targeted, but even shows in which people only appear for a brief time, some people are injured for the simple reason that they were just on the air. Those people's personal affairs are exposed through the internet by force. Although they are not public figures, Korean society tends to take their right to expose performers' identities for granted. 'Jak,' an SBS program in which performers search for a real life partner is a representative case that can show the potential damage ordinary show participants can suffer. A day after being broadcasted, their actors' identities are open to the public. Kim, the critic, said, "It can be sharply criticized, but in fact, there is no system for preventing the damage. So at this point in time, only the attitude of internet users can be emphasized." In the case of 'Where are You Going, Daddy?' the children of celebrities are actually ordinary kids, but as they become famous, people start to recognize them and even take pictures of them. Due to this, some netizens even said, "Let's pretend not to recognize the kids."

Reality shows on television do not completely reflect the real world and there is a possibility for the audience to experience escapism and pessimism about their real world situations. A program named 'We Got Married' shows an ideal married life, but the reality may not appear this way. Considering the fact that the range of the audience is varied from teenagers to the married, it can have a negative influence on them. The more the television program tries to be realistic, the more easily people can feel pessimistic about the program which is close to the reality, but still not

completely real.

On televisions, most entertainers are public figures and have enormous influence on society. So what if they do not act like public figures with social responsibility? For example, an entertainer named Park Myeong-soo appears on the program, 'Infinite Challenge,' which has fans all over the country. However, he is always losing his temper and acting aggressively towards his colleagues. It raises a concern that the show's child audience might emulate his behavior.

### Prospects for reality shows

As demonstrated above, changes in entertainment shows identify their emphasis on reality. To be more realistic, production staff will continually try harder. According to a remark by Kim, it is expected that more normal people will appear on reality programs as viewers want to see more reality on the television. With the appearance of ordinary people, the broadcasting world has tried to overcome its previous limitations in terms of the freshness that its programs have not had. But as the change occurs, the public also needs to change their attitudes of only seeking for fun. People ought to reconsider the dark side of reality programs and their need to watch reality entertainment shows based on reality, not just seeking for fun, but also for thinking about the influence those programs possess. People can be the wise audience when they consider the purpose of a making a reality program, while pursuing fun at the same time. 📺

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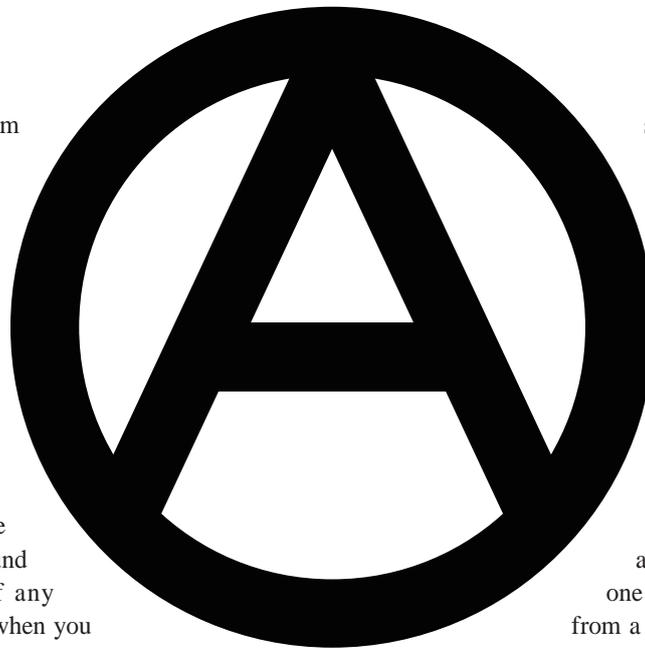
# Anarchism, the Art of Living Together

By Jeon Seong-jin  
Editorial Consultant

Does the word anarchism sound unfamiliar or even unpleasant? There seems to be a semantic discrepancy between how people usually understand anarchism, and what the word itself really means. Though anarchism clearly has some meaning, is it easy to define what anarchism is? The Argus would like to give readers an opportunity to become aware of the historical background of anarchism, and get rid of any strange feelings you might get when you hear the term by providing you with actual examples from daily life.

## A very unfamiliar concept

Anarchism can be defined as a theory which indicates a political orientation based on the status of society where hierarchy does not exist. Unlike other ideologies however, anarchism is hard to define in a sentence. This is because it is not easy to set a clear boundary between anarchism and other ideologies or social values. You might ask a person who



supports anarchism, “How can you deny the existence of our society when you are also living in this cradle which is made and protected by the society?” or “Are you really into heavy metal? It seems like people who love rock music on television shows sometimes yell at people something about anarchism.”

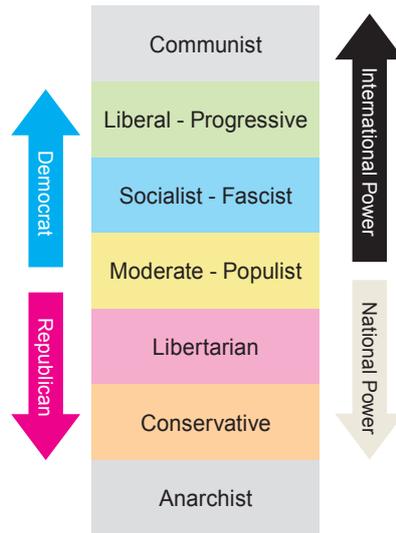
Even on a university campus, it is a rare opportunity to hear about the term anarchism. When one considers that the ideology came from a world where various societies are co-existing, anarchism itself can be connected to philosophy, economics, or politics more than any other studies or fields of research. But still, it seems that the curriculum of most colleges does not provide some lectures directly connected to anarchism. In most cases, people just hear the term on a live concert transmission or they may have never heard of it. Sometimes this ideology can cause people to be confused about understanding what the concept is precisely, and why it is important to understand it.



### Anarchism, valuing variety and activeness

Although the term anarchism has not accurately spread to people’s minds and ways of thinking, this idea has its beginnings in every movement in the past that involved the proposal of protest as a means of change. According to Wikipedia, the concept was a primary focus in protests such as La Commune de Paris in 1871, or the Spanish Civil War from 1936 to 1939. Various types of protests and wars have their own causes and anarchism can be seen as a fundamental driving force in the cause or main factor in any revolutionary process.

It is important to note that anarchism is not a concept related to terror or any potential factor that could harm the formation of society. It is not an exaggeration to state that every anarchist philosophy begins by stressing the importance of living together without discrimination. In other words, this concept is not exclusively made by those who would like to start a war or destroy everything without reason. Rather, this idea pursues the importance and the necessity of communal society where its members are rational beings. It was studied by even ancient philosophers – even though the thinkers in the past did not label this concept with the term “anarchism” – though the term became especially popular with societal activists in the 21st century with their movement that opposed neo-liberalism, criticized the power of government to intervene in market principles to regulate the market, and valued the importance of individuals’ liberal action. Recently, this movement is growing and the concept of anarchism is used to emphasize all the irrationalities in a society, a group, or an organization. The reasoning behind the necessity for anarchism is an assumption that there is a problem or inherent flaw when people gather, form a group and make some regulations to accomplish something. Such accomplishments could



▲ As the national power decreases, anarchism increases. Anarchist seek for better ways to develop society where its members are rational enough to solve problems by themselves.

be economic growth, developing the country side or even a very ordinary issue like how to make a company and make its members work in a more efficient way.

Certainly most people are aware that not every member of a society or every process can function perfectly without some flaw. Just like anarchism itself can be divided into three major types; social anarchism, individual anarchism, and environmental anarchism, the society in which we live has some situations which need problem solving, Walking by a crowded street, you could encounter a person holding a small picket sign in front of a building. Some protesters could be a person who got fired from a company without a reason or some might be a bunch of people who demand that the government make more facilities which consider the rights and safety of disabled people. Society embraces various values but at the same time cannot guarantee every type of rights for all perfectly. There, anarchism can be a way of finding a good solution for many current issues.

Now it is possible to say that laws, rules or regulations cannot always protect

actions of people, especially when this article is talking about anarchism. The main agenda of anarchism is forming a community via its members’ spontaneous participation. Unlike nihilism, which denies every sort of social organizations or laws and offers no alternative to destruction, anarchism values the importance of community the most. In this way, people who argue for the necessity of anarchism strongly believe that people with various character traits, values and beliefs can gather together and find a better way to solve societal problems.

### Community, a better way to find a good solution

To introduce an example in real life, the center for ‘Seoul Maeul Gongdongche’ (Seoulmaeul) is a good case. Members of each community gather of their own free will and any form of a community can ask for support from the Seoulmaeul center. They provide a wide range of lectures which can be helpful for finding a way to make a village into a better place to live or to solve a problem happening in the town through the ideas of a member of that community as opposed to an expert from the outside. Even for those who would like to start a new business with the purpose of providing a public service can be supported by the center as well. Also in Seongbuk-gu area in Seoul, “Seongbukgu Co-operative Union” is a meeting of any citizens who are interested in making cooperative forms of community. These examples show that even in our lives near us, anarchism does exist in various ways and people have already started to find a better way to solve problems with their bare hands when the government’s help cannot solve their problems. In this way, citizens can participate in the process of forming a good village. 🇰🇷

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# Oldest Tree in Asia Stands Next to You

By Ma Ria  
Guest Reporter

Vivid yellow leaves, blue sky, green grass and translucent stream. All of these things are in perfect harmony to lift people from the burden of stress. There is a place called Yongmun which means “Two Dragons in Front of the Entrance” in Yang Pyeong, Gyeonggi-do. Yongmun Mountain is certainly one of the landmarks of Yongmun, with its collaboration of nature. The new subway line connects people of all ages to this beautiful landmark. Gray-haired couples, elementary school students on excursions, families with babies and young lovers are just some among the visitors heading up to the mountain.

## Legend has it that...

A huge ginkgo tree stands in front of Yongmun-sa Temple. Having been standing guard of the temple for nearly 1,100 years, it is more of a cultural essence of Korea. It is not only the oldest tree in the Eastern Korea, but also the tallest one in the entire country, reaching up to 40 meters. It is designated as a natural monument by the Korean government.

Numerous legends are associated with this Asia’s largest ginkgo tree of Yongmun-sa Temple. According to one legend, the tree had been planted by Maui, the crown prince of Silla and the son of the last ruler of this dynasty. According to some others, the tree had grown out of a walking staff planted on the ground by Supreme Buddhist Priest Uisang of Silla.

During a period of its existence, this ancient ginkgo tree was referred to as ‘Cheonwangmok,’ or the Tree of the Heavenly King. During the Choseon Dynasty, in the reign of King Sejong, the tree was even bestowed with a high court title. In 1607, the invading Japanese Forces set fire on Yongmun-sa, as the Buddhist temple had served as a base to

the voluntary civilian army to contain the Japanese army’s northward progress towards the capital. The temple was burnt down to the ground, but the ginkgo tree managed to stay unscathed.

According to another local legend, a man once tried to cut down the tree. When he positioned his ax on the trunk, blood began to seep out of it and deafening thunderclaps were heard in the sky. It is also said that when an imminent disaster is about to strike the country, the tree would make loud noises to alert the people. Another legend has it that a large bow of the tree suddenly broke off when King Gojong of the Choseon Dynasty passed away.

## A place to calm your mind

Yongmun-sa Temple is an excellent place for both Koreans and foreign tourists to

relax and learn Korean culture through temple stay. One of the tourists staying in the temple commented, “I’m learning a lot about the tradition and about food. I am also experiencing a complete harmony of physical and mental awareness. And Korean temples are much more colorful than those I have seen in other parts of Asia.”



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All photo by Ma Ria

Many people these days are absorbed solely in their daily lives. However, many young people still come to Yongmun Mountain and feel the pride of their culture. They are awed by the ginkgo tree's dignity and grandiose. One of the visitors stressed the importance of preserving this beautiful work of nature for the generations to come.

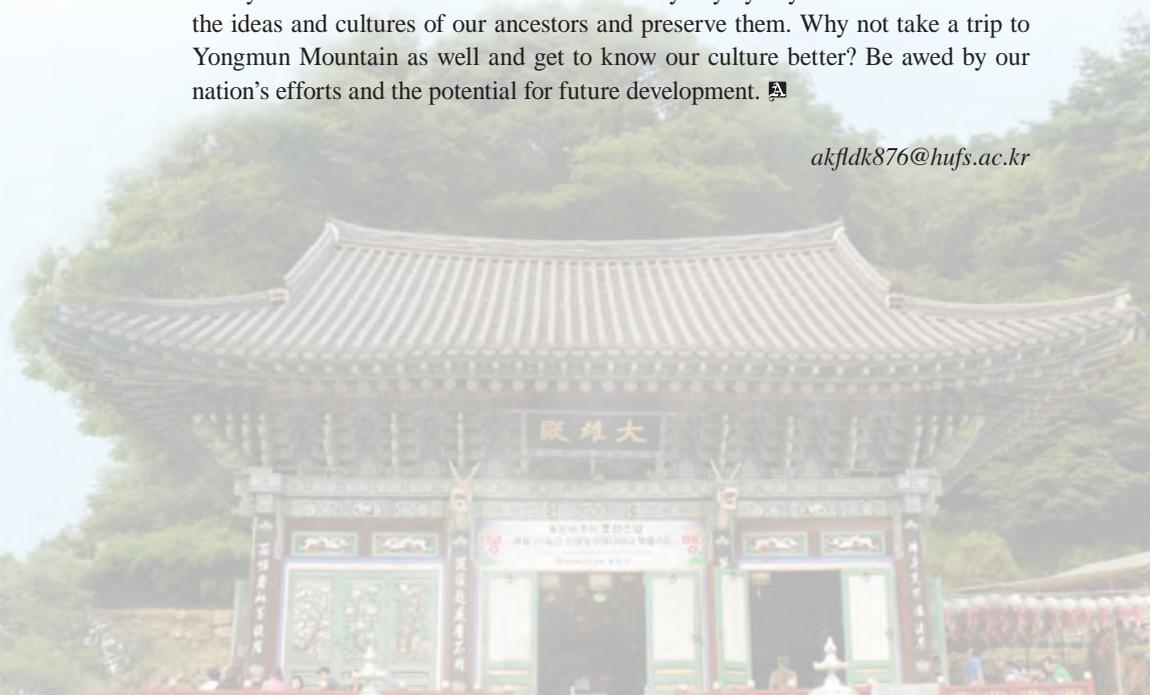
### Looking into our society

We are witnessing every day the rapid pace of globalization and integration into the international society. Such environment requires us to learn and value our cultural heritages. As the saying goes, "What is more local is more global." We should preserve our heritage and value them, while loving them from the heart. The Yongmun Mountain's ginkgo tree is a living proof of the effort that Koreans put into preserving their natural and cultural heritages. The locals have been caring for this tree since the day it had been planted.

There are also many children accompanied by their parents, who wish to show their children the beautiful scenery and tastes of the delicious Korean traditional food. They also hope their children can learn more of their culture and get to respect its values.

Understanding the new by exploring the old is the key to development. Korea today faces indiscriminate exposure to foreign, especially Western, culture. That is why our Buddhist culture seems to fade away day by day. We should remember the ideas and cultures of our ancestors and preserve them. Why not take a trip to Yongmun Mountain as well and get to know our culture better? Be awed by our nation's efforts and the potential for future development. 🇰🇷

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# Little Paganini, Kim Seul-ki



**By Kim Su-young**  
*Editorial Consultant*

**O**n a September evening, a skilled play of violin rang around the campus. Students started to gather around to hear the sound of the play which seemed to touch their minds. Kim Seul-ki, a freshman in the Department of Russian, showed his talent in electronic violin one day on campus and relieved many students' minds with his songs.

All photos by Kim Su-young

## Dating on Sunday

### **Please make yourself known to readers.**

Hello. My name is Kim Seul-ki, a freshman in the Russian department. I was born in Korea but my family moved to Uzbekistan when I was 6 years old after suffering from international monetary fund (IMF) crisis. Even though I am Korean, I lived in Uzbekistan from age six until last year. I could have a dual citizenship, but my father wanted to let me go to army in Korea. So I am living as a Korean. I was able to come Hankuk University of Foreign Studies (HUFS) by being selected as a foreigner due to my living in Uzbekistan for 14 years.

### **Why do you play the violin outside of the Apple Lounge?**

This place is underground but it makes sound extend to the outdoors. Whenever I play the violin here, the sound is good because it reverberates within the space. So I often come. Of course, when I practice some musical programs for the first time, I usually practice in my home. But after I found the place, I come here to practice more. It is exciting. Once I start playing a musical program, I cannot stop and it takes more than 40 minutes. And now I am practicing for the Dae Dong Jae (HUFS Festival). I want to get through a preliminary test.

### **Your violin skills are amazing. When did you first start learning the instrument?**

I started learning the violin when I was 6 years old, moving from South Korea to Uzbekistan. I coincidentally came across an orchestra on television and I was so amazed by the violin that I asked my parents to help me learn the instrument. Fortunately, they gladly accepted by request. Thereafter, I started to attend a 7-year course music academy to learn violin after school activities. I've been practicing by myself even after coming to South Korea. I had practiced with the traditional violin for a long time but I changed it to an electric one last year. At first, my parents were extremely against that change, because they thought that the violin was more close to traditional one than the electric. Therefore, I had to get a part-time job in order to purchase my own electric violin. It was hard to earn 2 million Won, but there weren't many electric violins left in Korea at that time, so when I first purchased my electric one, it was certainly worthwhile.

In addition, the violin that I purchased had both electric sounds and the classic sounds within the instrument, so I could select whichever sound I wanted to play depending on the piece.

### **Did you come across any difficulty practicing when you were young?**

I started learning the violin when I was 6 years old, but my

little 6-year-old fingers made it difficult for me to learn the instrument. My fingers hurt from the strings of the violin and sometimes, standing for long-hours was very difficult for me. So I remember saying that I wanted to quit. Although, I was very cheeky back then, I still remember an instructor who helped me not to quit. One of the instructors, who taught me for 10 years, was an old Greek lady. She didn't go back to her home country because she wanted to teach me for such a long period of time. I've recently heard that she has gone back to Greece to spend the rest of her life there, only after I came to Korea. I keep in contact with her often and she comes to my mind regularly because she taught me the violin when I was young.

Another difficulty I had was that I was the only foreigner at school when I first moved to Uzbekistan; therefore there was some racism at school because my appearance was different from that of the other students. This was evident because students would say little things like 'why are your eyes so small?' and they would treat me like an outcast. Whenever I felt depressed, I would play my violin. The violin was always there and I started relying on it more and more. The violin was always there to support me whenever I had difficulties with communication and culture. Playing the violin helped me to forget my problems in life and the problems with racism as well. From then, I started improving my violin skills and was one of the first foreigners to participate in a national competition. I came in 2nd in the competition and I think that I was able to finish my Uzbekistani life off safely, all thanks to my violin.

*I always close my eyes playing and this helps me to forget about my worries, anxieties and nervousness.*

### **Can you remember anything particularly fulfilling you have done with the violin ?**

I have often volunteered at church by playing the violin and that is definitely something fulfilling. They usually have a platform for me to perform on and seeing the audience smile makes me happy. On the stage, I feel a very intense and encouraging power. I must be a stage type of person.





### 🎵 *Do you have any special technique of your own?*

I think it's more important for people to get used to the instrument instead of just memorizing musical pieces. I use a technique called the associative memory law when I study. I finished middle school as a top student and attended a medical high school. I remember an exam in high school where I only had a short period of time to study for it, so I had to memorize all the information before the test. If I tried to use my short term memory, I quickly found the information disappearing from my mind. If you need to learn particular terminology, it's important that you constantly use and get used to it in order to learn it. This is the same with instruments. It's crucial that the individual gets used to it. That's why I play without a music sheet. I listen to a track and remember the melody by ear in order to play that piece on the violin. I always close my eyes when playing and this helps me to forget about my worries, anxieties, and nervousness. This definitely helps me to calm my mind down.

### 🎵 *Do you have some musical philosophy or values unique to yourself?*

The genius violinist Paganini, who got the outrageous ability to play the violin in return for allegedly selling his soul, has many myths surrounding him. When he was young, his father was so stern. One day, his father scolded for not playing violin at all. Then, Paganini strongly fiddled some strings. Suddenly he felt it was a strangely awesome sound. Later in life, Paganini was arranging his violin concert, when someone who begrudged him cut 3 fiddle strings out of the 4 strings.

However, he finished his concert in style despite with having only one string. After all, I think having 'will' and 'wisdom' is the most important thing in life. And even though I may find myself in trouble sometimes, it can overcome that if I have some 'will' and 'wisdom.' So I am often saying myself, 'Do not despair whenever you are in trouble.'

And one more value I think is 'anyone can enjoy some music.' At the same time, musical instruments make us friendly. So I think anyone can play some instrument and enjoy that.

### 🎵 *Do you have a musical mentor?*

Paganini gave enlightenment to me with the words, "Even though you may be in trouble, you can overcome that with wisdom and willpower," while Vivaldi gave me inspiration in my youth. To this day, there is one piece I continuously practice which is the "Four Seasons-Summer." When I was in music school, I was the only student who could play this program. So I was able to practice with greater confidence. And I always think of Vivaldi because I think anyone feels they can play the violin should be able to play this program.

### 🎵 *What do you think are the most attractive aspect of the electronic violin?*

I think, the most attractive aspect of the electronic violin is the 'high-pitched tone' like the sound of a dolphin. The Violin is called 'the goddess of instruments' because the sound of it is so clear and has such a high-pitched tone like water flowing in a stream. Besides these merits, it can create various tones like Korean tones such as 'blossom day,' 'if I leave,' 'Arirang' even though this instrument came from Europe. Besides it also can be used in other genres like rock, dance, and so on. Thus the violin is a free instrument which has various sounds if I move a finger just a little bit.

And I feel pleasure whenever I play it. Though I do not play it every day, I keep playing it for more than 10 hours if I begin to play it. Also the violin is more attractive than a girl to me. Haha.

### 🎵 *Do you have a goal for the future?*

My goal is to have a concert. I have had this dream since I was young but I have not tried to realize this dream yet because of indecisiveness, fear and trepidation. So if I meet some partner who could play some other instrument, I want to have a concert like a street concert such as in hongdae or some subway stations. Someday, when I have my concert, please come to listen to my performance! 🎵

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# A Breath in the Midst of a Crowded City





By Jo He-rim

Maybe familiar, but not always welcoming, the buzz of the traffic, the sound of machines running during the day surrounds you. As you look out the window where rows of tall buildings stand, the craving of nature rises. Maybe some rest for your ears too. After a breathless day in the city, you feel as if you are destined to run forward. Get out, and see what is outside the window, the buildings, and the city. A break for you.

Photo Essay



J-bug Culture Complex,  
Ttukseom, Seoul.





# Societal Anxiety Sneaks in on You

By Jeon Seong-jin

*Editorial Consultant*

Summer was hot this year like it always is. The atmosphere of the Korean political community endured a similar situation. The National Assembly and its members passed a motion to issue an arrest warrant in the investigation of Assembly member, Lee Seok-ki, who had also been previously arrested on a charge of violating the National Security Law.

Considering the situation that the Korean peninsula is divided into two parts under a ceasefire, ideological issues still possess a very significant effect on the Korean society. The Republic of Korea is one of the leading countries where citizens deserve to be called guardians of the peace; however, life continues on in the country as well. The accused member of the National Assembly was supposed to represent the opinions of his constituents as a leader of society, unfortunately he seemed to focus more on valuing the opinions of the opposing side.

People naturally cannot help being disappointed by a sense of betrayal caused by the societal leaders' untruthful attitude and fall from grace. This is not just a recent issue. Plenty of similar historic incidents have occurred, and new ideological proposals have also arisen in societies, applied to the masses, and are studied by philosophers. Not long ago, in the 19th century, existential philosophy emerged against positivism, which denies epistemological existence. This philosophical trend suggested a Copernican revolution and emphasized a focus on an individual's internal state such as feelings of anxiety, fear, nervousness, etc. During those times, people usually could not but worry about their survival, protecting themselves from war, social systems or any sort of threat. A similar case can be seen with literature. Certainly, literature and great writers are directly connected to the era or situation in which the authors were living.

Now that people exist in the 21st century, time moves on. It is true that the people of Korea are living in a democratic society and are protected from any foreign threatening gesture. This time, however, it happened inside of the country and has left people with a certain negative state of mind. People are feeling the same anxiety, fear, and nervousness that was predominantly famous in the 19th century. Then why do people still flounder in the old emotions? This article would like to stress that it is 'Social Anxiety' which makes you feel that way. If it is said that the people in the past felt mental fear, then societal anxiety can be a factor that gives people depressed emotions. Furthermore, society becomes another reason citizens feel fear.

The Assembly member who was arrested will be investigated and punished if he indeed committed something which is wrong from a Korean perspective. Some might declare what is right and wrong, however, valuing an opposing country's perspective is a clear threat to the citizens in the home nation. The suspicious figure of the member and his behavior was not only a violation of the Korean armistice, but also it makes social members feel anxiety again in a new way. Contemporary societal anxiety will continue unless the country's leading group has a high level of moral standards. Lastly, we all need to again consider where on earth this anxiety is coming from. 

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# Engaging Students in Learning than Just Studying History



**HUFS Affiliated Professor,  
Department of History**

**By Hriday Narayan**

**T**o me, teaching history is not just a teaching but it is stimulating because it allows me to continue participating in the learning process. Interacting with the students and often get challenged by their queries is a two way process to learn and teach. This approach makes me feel that teaching is integral to my personal and professional development. I believe that we are all lifelong learners and as such, I seek to develop my teaching skills throughout my career.

Studying history provides students with a chance to think about the world around them, to substitute critical thinking for acceptance of 'natural' social relationships, and to appreciate how diverse the human experience has been. Understanding how history 'works' is an important step in understanding the world we live in and the consequences of the decisions we as a society make.

It is easier to comment on how not to teach history than it is on how to teach it. I only have to recall the hundreds of negative reactions from adults when I told them I am a history teacher. "Oh! That was my worst subject," "I hated history," "History was boring," "Names and dates, that's all it was" and "I can't remember any of it," and so on.

I think that the first priority in how to teach history effectively is to develop learning strategies that arouse and engage the historical imaginations of our students. How we do that is by providing them with opportunities to do and to talk about history. We need to encourage students to take on the role of the historian in a creative and critical way. It is not by filling them with a narrative of names and dates for recall and test purposes but to learn it through involvement. I could not agree more with the results of a memory study conducted by Danielle Lapp of the University of Texas, which revealed, "we remember only 10% of what we read, 20% of what we hear, 30% of what we see, 50% of what we see and hear, and 90 percent of what we do and say."

I am a huge supporter of using debates and discussion methods to make the students to feel the live history in the classroom and at the same time, it helps to start a real interaction within the students and between students and teacher.

The other great advantage of this method is, it facilitates to create an environment to break the unseen boundaries lying among students. The concept is that groups of students brainstorm an issue and record the plus, minus and interesting aspect of an issue. The whole process of engaging the students in debates and discussions produce divergent thinking which leads to excellent critical thinking and thoughtful reflection on the past.

I have been teaching various topics related to Korean culture and Korean modern history to Korean students at different institutions for the last seven years. Initially, one of the biggest challenges for me, as a foreign scholar teaching Korean history to Korean students, was to get accepted by the students as any other Korean professors teaching Korean history, except the fact that I am a foreign scholar with my own perspectives on Korean history which could be a little different from other Korean scholars.

Korean students were a bit surprised to see the way Korean history was understood in other countries. Believing that Korean history had been misrepresented, they often felt offended at first. As time went by, they sometimes found it refreshing to learn about other ways of interpreting Korean history. At the same time, they shared the surprises that came with discovering new ways of understanding Korean history. In other words, it enabled them to think of Korean history as the history of Korea, rather than as the history of their own nation. It also gave them a chance to experience for the first time the way in which non-Koreans perceived Korean history.

What I have also learned by talking with students who enjoyed history was that they continue to study and learn history throughout their lives. The challenge for teachers of history is to get them curious, interested, and engaged. It is almost a case of, “do no harm.” Then they will want to learn history and enjoy it. Watching films or videos can help students to visualize an era or event. Too often, however, they are used as a passive process without any analysis of what is being presented, why it is being presented and how it is being presented. They may stimulate an interest but unless students engage in some questioning of the experience, we have to ask ourselves what the students are learning and if this is really an effective way of learning history.



## Change in the World Caught by The Argus

**B**orrowing its name from the legendary creature, Argus, The Argus in HUFS showed its 100 eyes completely open to the world. And having help from The Argus, I saw keyword in recent world changing. I could see the world around us change not only in the Cover Story, but also in other columns like Footstep and Easy Channel A.

Portal sites going beyond their original role as gates, Mulla-dong throwing out its reputation in the past as an ironworking place and showing another phase as a spot for art, Asexuality different from fixed idea showed diversity of society with change.

Not just for this, but I liked the volume in that it also showed Gwangjang market in Seoul representing traditional market place. Due to the contents like above, I could feel coexistence.

Though I am a student in another university, not a HUFSan, The Argus was enough to get my full attention with its fruitful contents and I look forward to get a volume also in November. In the next volume, I hope that there are a lot more visual contents that can act as eye catchers.

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## Twinkling Ideas from a Student Magazine

**I**t was my first time reading The Argus. I heard that the whole process of making the magazine is done by the student reporters and I thought it was interesting that the magazine could be so professional. The creative subjects they issue grab the reader's attention easily. The fact that the reporters actually meet all the people they interview is also surprising.

In the last September issue, they dealt with the changing trend in the news industry. Indeed, I am also an online news reader, and it is very difficult for me to take time to read a newspaper. So it made me think about the future of the newspaper. Another article I read was about a guesthouse for foreigners. Korea is now opening up more to the foreigners and reading about the tourists' thoughts and experiences that they have in Korea was new to me. I wish many readers take a look at The Argus and the reporters' twinkling ideas.

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## Historical War



*com.*

## One Afternoon 30 Years Ago...

Scanning a bulletin board, a classmate of mine uttered, “A campus English newspaper reporter. Sounds cool, huh?” Reserving my own judgment, I just followed her when she took the test, as I had nothing else to do that afternoon. She failed the test; I did not. - In fact, I took first place. - That was how I became an Argusian with my upcoming two years inseparable from the title.

As a cub reporter, I was mandated to go about my beats and receive various sorts of training. What I learned included but was not limited to how to plan ahead for monthly issues to be on time; ask the right questions to my sources; improve English writing and proofreading; think objectively and differently about the world; and develop interpersonal skills, all of which later turned out to be the keys to not only professionalism but also wholesome adulthood.

I now as a conference interpreter live on English language, which is part of my self-claimed cosmopolitan identity, a great tool to explore the world and a source of my sense of freedom and independence. Without absent-mindedly following my friend up to the door of the Argus 30 years ago, I cannot imagine what kind of person I might have become today.

**By Kim Mi-young**

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**The Argus**

[www.theargus.org](http://www.theargus.org)