Tolerance Philosophy of Social Healing Through Justice for Victims of Korea Jeju April 3 Tragedy

: Jeju April 3 Incident Investigation Report (2013 English Edition) and Acceptance of Logic of Social Healing of the Tragedy

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Abstract

The Jeju April Third Tragedy saw an estimated 14,000 and possibly many thousands more Jeju Islanders killed amid the political turmoil of a re-merging Korean state after the Japanese occupation. US troops were stationed on the island province before and during the Tragedy which lasted from 1947 to 1954.

The aim of this article is to present theoretical and practical issues of the unfinished business of reconciliation and social healing for the victims of the April Third Tragedy; for survivors, for family members, and for the memories of the deceased. This process requires the engagement of as many of the actors at that time, in order to conclude the story of April 3rd Tragedy.

Based on 13 years of collaborative efforts setting up a vision of Jeju as World Peace Island, there is now formal recognition of the April 3rd Tragedy event. We have hoped for a future beyond the trauma and tragedy of the Mass-killing of Korea Jeju Islanders during and after the US Peacetime Occupation (1947-1954). Even though it has taken 10 years to translate the Jeju April 3 Incident Investigation Report of 2003 into an English edition in 2013, I believe, it provides a cornerstone for Jeju islanders to open a new Age of Social Healing for the Mass Killing of Korea Jeju Islanders (the Tragedy) while under and then after US Military Peacetime Occupation (1947-1954).

Key words: Jeju April Third Tragedy, unfinished business, reconciliation, social healing, victims, Jeju as World Peace Island, Mass-killing, US Peacetime Occupation

1. Introduction: An Age of Social Healing of the Mass Killing of Korea Jeju Islanders (Jeju April 3 Tragedy) during and after US Military Peacetime Occupation (1947-1954)

Will reconciliation follow?

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First of all, it is essential for us to look at the meanings, implications and contexts of the Tragedy during and after the US Military Peacetime Occupation (1947-1954). This is possible through the analysis of the English edition of the Jeju April 3 Incident Investigation Report of 2013.

As a team leader of translating the 2003 report into English, below are some of our Translator’s Comments about the English translation of the Jeju April 3 Incident Investigation Report:

“...The fact that Jeju National University participated in the translation work of the Fact-Finding Report of the Jeju April 3 Incident is very meaningful. This means that the university has opened a new way of healing the scars from the tragic incident during the ruling of the US military government and leading the April 3 peace education and research. All the translators and proofreaders hope that this publication will help to solve and cure the past painful scares and memories and provide an opportunity to understand the historical lesson from the Jeju April 3 Incident in which a nation violated human rights in the Cold War years. Also, we expect that this English version will lay the foundations of enlisting the documentaries of the Jeju April 3 Incident as the UNESCO memory of the world (Ko and et al, 2013: 752-753).”

Secondly, based on the English translation of the Jeju April 3 Incident Investigation Report, we announce the composition of a Joint South Korea and United States Jeju 4.3 Task Force on Social Healing Through Justice in Jeju Island Korea in 2013.

On October 18, 2013, I was selected by participants as one of the representatives for a Joint South Korea and United States Jeju 4.3 Task Force on Social Healing Through Justice, presented and carefully discussed at Jeju April 3 Peace Education Conference: Toward Island Civilization Model of Social Healing of Mass Killing of Jeju Islanders of South Korea During and After U.S. Peacetime Occupation (1947-1954)” (October 18-19, 2013)” in Jeju Island, South Korea, with Mr. Moon Hyun Jung, Chair person, the Jeju April 3rd Victims’ Family Association, Korea, Dr. Eric Yamamoto, Fred T. Korematsu Professor of Law and Social Justice, William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawaii, U.S., Dr. Kunihiko Yoshida, Professor of Hokkaido University Law School, Japan. Together, we, the undersigned, agreed to approve the recommendation for a Joint Task Force in the Jeju April 3 Peace Education Conference Resolution as below.

“...The proposed for a Joint U.S. and South Korea Task Force is grounded in collaborations with Jeju 4.3 scholars and interactions with local officials and justice advocates as contributed to by the peace-promoting traditions of Jeju Island, which was designated as World Peace Island by the Korean Government on January 27, 2005.
In so doing, the undersigned and participants in the 2013 April 3 Peace Education Conference agree that there are several urgent issues of Unfinished Social Healing Through Justice to be addressed by Jeju citizens and the provincial government with input and support from the central government and from international communities, including scholars, researchers and justice organizations (Document, Jeju April 3 Peace Conference Resolution, 2013. 10.18).”

Acceptance of a Joint South Korea and United States Jeju 4.3 Task Force on Social Healing Through Justice: As we share that 'the 2000 National Committee’s and 2005 Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s work, although significant, has not yielded sustained Jeju 4.3 social healing. A Joint Task Force would serve as a crucial next step toward genuine reconciliation - helping implement unfinished recommendations, assessing the effectiveness of actions to date and recommending further concrete ameliorative actions aimed at comprehensive, systemic and enduring social healing" (Yamamoto, 2013).

Establishment of the Social Healing Research Center for Jeju April 3 Tragedy: We will establish the Social Healing Research Center for Jeju April 3 Tragedy with support of the President of Jeju National University in 2014.

Balanced Implementation of a short term action plan on with the long term vision of social healing of Jeju April 3 tragedy: We agree that we will make effort to practice some shorter term action plans such as the institutionalization of the Jeju April 3rd Peace Education Conference, Peace Island International Leadership Project and Jeju Peace Film and Art Festival in 2014 as linking-pin programs in the processes of social healing toward the establishment of a World Peace Island. (Document, Jeju April 3 Peace Conference Resolution, 2013. 10.18).

Thirdly, we can make an effort for completing unfinished business through a Joint U.S. and South Korea Task Force, Korean, and World citizens together. We, on behalf of all participants in the 2013 April 3 Peace Education on October 18, 2013, the undersigned, do hereby support the recommendations outlined above and look forward to actualizing these ideas into a reality of Jeju, World Peace Island in a future.

On 24th of December, 2013, World Environment and Island Institute of JNU and Jeju April 3rd Victims’ Family Association have a signature seeking campaign of one million people for summiting a petition of social healing of the Jeju April Tragedy to members of the U.S. Congress next fall, based upon the 2013 Jeju April 3 Peace Education Conference Resolution, which will be started on January 27, 2014 and during the memorial day at a memorial peace park, the Jeju April 3 Peace Park at outskirts of Jeju city. The Joint Task Force consists of 10 topics of “Unfinished Business” for opening a new age of social healing of the mass killing (we call it the Jeju April 3 Tragedy) during and after the US Peacetime Occupation from (from March of 1947 to December of 2013). It is noteworthy to learn about the achievements of social healing of US “Executive and Congressional Action” for Japanese American internees in Professor Eric Yamamoto’s book as a reference of social healing for the Jeju April 3 Tragedy.

"President Ronald Reagan signed the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. The Act created the Office of Redress Administration to administer the reparations program. It also committed the President to a formal apology and authorized reparations in the amount of $ 20,000 for each surviving internee who was a U.S. citizen or legal resident at the time of internment(Yamamoto et al,2013 : 319)."

Unfinished Business: A Joint United States and South Korea Jeju 4.3 Tragedy Task Force to Further Implement Recommendations and Foster Comprehensive and Enduring “Social Healing Through Justice” (Eric K. Yamamoto, Miyoko Pettit and Sara Lee, September 25, 2013.)
2. Acceptance of a Joint South Korea and United States Jeju 4.3 Task Force on Social Healing Through Justice as the Result of the Jeju April 3 Investigation Report

Implication of the Jeju April 3 Investigation Report

The Jeju April 3 Investigation Report summarizes its implications, context and logics of Background of Fact-finding Investigation briefly as follows:

"On January 12, 2000 "The Special Law for Fact-finding of the Jeju 4.3 Incident and Honoring Victims" (hereafter referred to as “the Special Law”) was promulgated. The objective of this law is to conduct an official investigation of the Jeju 4.3 Incident (hereafter referred to as “the Incident”) and honor the victims and their families. The death toll of the incident reached the second highest toll in modern Korean history after the Korean War. Through the enactment of the law, the incident has finally been reevaluated by the government fifty years after the incident took place(Ko et al, 2013: 39)."

"The Jeju 4.3 Special Law would be a monumental landmark in the process of democratization, showing clearly that Korean society puts human rights ahead of anything else. The history of fact-finding about the Jeju 4.3 Incident advanced slowly but steadily, running parallel with the stream of democratization in South Korea (Ko et al, 2013: 44-45)."

"In other words, the law is intended to carry out a thorough investigation into the Jeju 4.3 Incident and restore the honor of the victims and their families, considering the fact that many innocent people were killed in the battle between the armed guerrilla units and the military and the police and their family members suffered hardships from the guilt-by-association system. In short, the law aimed to exonerate the innocent dead from all charges of being reds and their sympathizers and heal the wounds from the ideological conflicts through reconciliation and contribute to the improvement of human rights, democratization and national unity."(Ko et al, 2013: 48)."

Professor Yamamoto evaluates highly that 'it reveals fresh insights into salient facets of the Tragedy, its consequences and the extent of United States responsibility both for past individual and communal harms and for present-day social healing' as below.

"Summer 2013 marked the publication of the English translation of the National Committee’s 2003 Investigative Report on the Jeju 4.3 Tragedy. The translated version is momentous. For the Korean populace, it exposes to vast new audiences a startling and horrific “peacetime” chapter of South Korean history. For English readers, in entirety, it reveals fresh insights into salient facets of the Tragedy and its consequences – far beyond those recited in the earlier translated and regularly cited “Conclusion” section of the Report. In particular the Translated Report as a whole sheds brighter light on the extent of United States responsibility both for past individual and communal harms and for present-day social healing (Yamamoto et al., 2013)."

Mr. Kenneth says his special experience relation to the Jeju April 3 Tragedy in his essay, “Marrying into a 4.3 Family” (Comment paper, October 18, 2013).

“As a resident on Jeju since 2002, I’ve become acquainted with many, but not all the facets of “Sa-Sam” (In Korean, Sa means 4, and Sam means 3; or April 3). My first impression of the “event” was how limited the discussion or even memorial tributes were for such a large
scale killing ground. I was largely unaware of the event until a university professor had mentioned how significant the effects were on the Jeju people. It was around this time that the Jeju Memorial Park was being built and official recognition by the federal government was made.

It was also around the time I married my wife in 2004, and I attended the memorial ceremony at the Sa-Sam Peace Park. There, we paid tribute to my father-in-law’s father, and sister, who had died during Sa-Sam. The father was murdered and the sister had died of disease while the family was interned. The memory I will always carry with me is the guilt and pain my father-in-law endured to his family honor. It was imperative to attempt to undo the pain and reconcile such wrongful deaths. How many thousands of others feel the same to this day?

It begs the question of how to heal this tragedy and set free the descendants and actors in this event. It appears that there are at least two major considerations in my own view: immediate family and victim support, and the formal involvement of all the parties present during the massacres to take responsibility for their actions.

The first element, victims support, requires the decency to provide whatever counseling, treatment (physical/mental), monetary or other needs to victims or families severely affected by Sa-Sam. I was shocked to learn that even today, there are victims who require mental counseling, or physical therapy due to injuries sustained during the conflict. These are often people crippled economically.

The second element of taking responsibility requires cooperation at all levels, from the individual to government and even the military. Assigning blame should not be the goal of this stage of reconciliation, but rather the recognition that Sa-Sam was a wrongful event, and that the appropriate apologies be sincerely made. Perhaps monetary compensation is possible, but if my family is any indication, it is vital that the true victims’ honor be restored.

So, what benefits? Now that the main report of the Jeju April 3 Incident has been translated into English, there are numerous opportunities between the US and Korea, while a healing and reconciliation process proceeds for the victims of Sa-Sam. Victims and their families can conclude their quest for reconciliation and focus on the future. The fact that responsibility has been taken to heal the tragedy sets a powerful example of social responsibility to the youth of today and tomorrow. A wealth of information could now be utilized for scholars to research within Korea and collaboratively internationally. And perhaps, as an unintended side-effect, the truth of Sa-Sam can now be widely disseminated (in English) internationally.

The candle is now about to flicker out on many of the surviving victims of Sa-Sam. We must yield a substantial amount of understanding and even sympathy to victims for the delays of the Tragedy to fully come forth; given the historical events in Korea, and the restrictions on the freedoms of speech in the country’s recent past. Many survivors and families have carried a hidden burden of anger, despair, guilt and pain since the 1950’s. I believe this suffering will remain until such a time when victims and actors in the Tragedy have had a forum to discuss the events, recognize the tragedy as the massacre it was by all parties involved, receive professional counseling and support, and even pursue compensation. A healing process to the tragedy will ensure a light remains lit for the victims in history.”

United States Engagement in Jeju 4.3 Social Healing Through Justice

It is an impressive and reasonable idea
that Dr. Eric Yamamoto suggested his application of Social Healing Through Justice to the Tragedy

“Healing for Jeju 4.3 survivors and families progressed significantly after the work of the 2000 National Committee and 2005 Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Acting on these investigatory organizations' recommendations and many Jeju residents' expressed desires, the South Korea government began a healing process that included a presidential apology, a government-sponsored museum and an extensive public memorial and gravesite for known victims and individual (albeit very limited) reparations... Moreover, South Korea's political leaders have yet to demand U.S. participation in the reconciliation process – seemingly giving the United States a free pass from accountability. Unlike the South Korea government's demand that Japan participate in reparative justice for the Korean Comfort Women (Japanese military sex slaves), there has been no demand or even formal request that the United States engage in the extended Jeju 4.3 social healing process. Realpolitik considerations about continued U.S. military support may be a motivating factor. Yet as the United States “pivots toward Asia” for international security while expressly reiterating its commitment to human rights, and as the South Korea government builds a naval base on Jeju against the protests of many residents, the time may now be ripe for re-charting a fresh strategic approach to Jeju 4.3 reconciliation involving South Korea, the United States and the Jeju people... More specifically, the essay highlighted the “two instances the United States acknowledged its gross civil and human rights abuses through an apology and steps toward reconciliation – the World War II Japanese American internment of 120,000 innocent Americans in concentration camps [on U.S. soil], and the 1893 illegal overthrow of the sovereign Hawaiian nation.” It then focused broadly on the United States' partial though significant role in the 4.3 Tragedy and for its present-day responsibility for engagement in further reconciliation initiatives...The United States grounds its global moral authority as a democracy in its stated commitment to human rights. But a genuine commitment entails acknowledging and actively repairing the damage caused by its participation in human rights atrocities – even decades ago. Its legitimacy as a democracy depends upon doing so – after two damaging wars the United States needs to bolster its moral authority internationally. If America under President Obama, with its security pivot toward Asia, is to reclaim full legitimacy as a democracy committed to human rights, if there is to be complete social healing for the Jeju 4.3 survivors and families and for the Korean government and people – if the ‘han,’ the deep sense of suffering from injustice, is to be lightened—then the United States needs to mutually and actively engage in the reconciliation process. The time is now (Yamamoto et al, 2013).”

Dr. Yoshida, in his article, The Challenges in Pursuit of Reconciliation of Jeju Historical Injustice: Some Observation on Taxonomy of Reparations and the Process of Reconciliation, suggested “the Jeju April 3rd massacre as one of the Asian reparations cases ... we are facing relating to this horrifying historical injustice in the 1940s-50s in this peaceful Jeju island. First, international as well as domestic reparation cases will be surveyed in depth... Political fractions are still divided and confronted with each other regarding Jeju mass killing even after President Roh's apology. The grave infringement on the basic human rights of many Jeju people and the need for the redemption of their honor is a universal matter of moral conscience. ... In this international pressure movement, we should note that many Japanese people, especially Korean residents in Japan related to Jeju Island, are worrying internationally about the oppressive political structure on the Jeju
mass killing, still continuing in the 21st century. When Presidents Park Geun-hye and Barack Obama internationally and reasonably identify the North Korean human right abuses and the Japanese political inaction about comfort women issues, logically from the same ground of reparations theory, they should also self-critically reconsider the aftermath of the grave human rights infringement during the Jeju mass killing. Both presidents might acknowledge and pursue historical reconciliation and social healing for the many wounded Jeju islanders (Yoshida, 2013)."

It is true that Jeju islanders have a higher expectation to the activities of A Joint United States and South Korea Jeju 4.3 Tragedy Task Force to Further Implement Recommendations and Foster Comprehensive and Enduring “Social Healing Through Justice”, “because its goals would be clearly: to build upon the two past inquiries (which were completed several years ago and without United States participation) by updating and by filling any gaps; to assess the completeness of the National Committee’s recommendations particularly in light of new and updated information (and a full assessment of U.S. responsibility); to assess the efficacy of actions already taken (and not yet taken) to repair the damage (singularly and as a whole); in light of #1, 2 and 3, to recommend further concrete next steps for implementing the National Committee’s recommendations and to suggest follow-up steps as part of a larger integrated justice plan to engender comprehensive, systemic and enduring social healing for the Jeju people and for South Korea society and, to an extent, the United States; and to do these things to foster reparative justice in ways that assure accountability and enhance the legitimacy of both South Korea and the United States as democracies committed to human rights (Yamamoto, 2013)."

It is worthwhile, in responding to asking of A Joint United States and South Korea Jeju 4.3 Tragedy Task Force, Jeju National University support cooperation for social healing for Jeju 4.3 through a research group at the World Environment and Island Institute in December of 2013, which would collaborate domestically and internationally.

3. Establishment Issue of the Social Healing Center for Jeju April 3 Tragedy

Jeju National University is ready to establish the Jeju 4.3 Social Healing Center through collaborations with A Joint United States and South Korea Jeju 4.3 Tragedy Task Force at the World Environment and Island Institute in December of 2013 if it gets funding or a budget from central government.

Members of the Jeju April 3rd Victims’ Family Association are very interested in Dr. Yamamoto’s explanation of Social Healing Through Justice during his visit to the Association.

“The Civil Liberties Act of 1988 is An Act to implement recommendations of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representation of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

The purposes of this ACT are to -
(1) acknowledge the fundamental injustice of the evacuation, relocation, and internment of United States citizens and permanent resident aliens of Japanese ancestry during World War II;
(2) apologize on behalf of the people of the United States for the evacuation, relocation, and internment of such citizens and permanent resident aliens;
(3) provide for a public education fund to finance efforts to inform the public about the internment of such individuals so as to prevent
the recurrence of any similar event;

(4) make restitution to those individuals of Japanese ancestry who were interned;

As for RESTITUTION in General shall, subject to the availability of funds appropriated to the Fund of such purpose, pay out of the Fund to each eligible individual the sum of $20,000, unless such individual refuses, in the manner described in paragraph (4), to accept the payment."

SEC. 105.RESTITUTION.
(a) LOCATION AND PAYMENT OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS.—
(1) In GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (6), the Attorney General shall, subject to the availability of funds appropriated to the Fund of such purpose, pay out of the Fund to each eligible individual the sum of $20,000, unless such individual refuses, in the manner described in paragraph (4), to accept the payment (Yamamoto et al, 2013; 321-322).

Balanced Implementation of short term action plan on with the long term vision of the Social Healing Through Justice for the Jeju April 3 Tragedy

The Long Term Vision of the Social Healing of Jeju April 3 Tragedy Through Justice Dr. Yamamoto suggested 13 tasks of Unfinished Business of the Social Healing Through Justice for the Jeju April 3 Tragedy Through Justice by A Joint United States and South Korea Jeju 4.3 Tragedy Task Force to the public officially; It handles 3 tasks of Convening a Joint South Korea and United States Jeju 4.3 Task Force on Social Healing Through Justice in the first stage, 5 works of Recognition of the Harms and the Long-Term Consequences— Responsibility for Disabling Constraints and for Social Healing Through Justice in the second stage, and 5 tasks of Reconstruction and Reparation efforts in the third stage.

Let me permit to introduce and summarize 13 tasks of Dr. Eric Yamamoto’s proposal in the next 4 pages below:

“ A. Convening a Joint South Korea and United States Jeju 4.3 Task Force on Social Healing Through Justice

As the International Center for Transitional Justice aptly observes, truth commissions are only a step toward reconciliation. Reconciliation is a long-term multi-faceted social process fraught with potential for incompleteness or even regression. The 2000 National Committee’s and 2005 Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s work, although significant, has not yielded sustained Jeju 4.3 social healing. A Joint Task Force would serve as a crucial next step toward genuine reconciliation – helping implement unfinished recommendations, assessing the effectiveness of actions to date and recommending further concrete ameliorative actions aimed at comprehensive, systemic and enduring social healing.

1. Bringing International Actors to the Reconciliation Table

As developed in the prior essay, mutual engagement does not come easily. All responsible in some fashion for Jeju 4.3 – whether through direct action, complicity, receipt of benefits or as members of the community – need to engage in the interactive enterprise of social healing. The Joint Task Force might therefore urge that the South Korea government request, even demand, direct United States engagement in further redress efforts.

2. Hearing and Preserving the Voice of the Jeju People

Mutual engagement, of course, also entails meaningfully integrating individual Jeju survivors and the collective Jeju populace in assessing and acting upon next steps. Crucial to this effort is the availability of the two national investigative bodies’ final reports along with the testimonial
transcripts upon which the reports were based.

3. Promoting Research on and Illumination of the Jeju 4.3 Tragedy and Its Impacts

In related fashion, mutual engagement lays the foundation for a credible Joint Task Force request for continued and expanded government support for research and publications (scholarly and popular). That research and writing would not only coalesce the events, actors and harms into a Jeju 4.3 narrative, it would also systematically and fairly address the social and economic consequences of the 4.3 Tragedy for Jeju residents, the South Korean populace, South Korea and the United States.

A. Recognition of the Harms and the Long-Term Consequences – Responsibility for Disabling Constraints and for Social Healing Through Justice

Apt starting points are recognition of the collective trauma and persisting long-term damage to communities, along with acceptance of responsibility for the human suffering and disabling social structural constraints and for the United States’ participatory role.

1. Recognizing the Collective Trauma

The South Korea government partially recognized the damage to the Jeju people and its role in the Jeju 4.3 Tragedy. The government made admirable efforts through presidential apology, participation in annual public memorial services, sponsorship for a museum and support of local commemorative and scholarship work. The government also provided limited reparations to a few survivors.

2. Acknowledging Devastating Long-Term Consequences

In addition to a clear Joint Task Force acknowledgement of the collective trauma to Jeju communities and the very social fabric of island life, recognition would entail an acknowledgement of the persisting damage. The Jeju people suffered government-sponsored and U.S.-supported violent suppression – a scorched earth operation that destroyed over half of the island's villages and killed many residents.

3. Acknowledging Roots of and Responsibility for Disabling Constraints

The Joint Task Force might coalesce several of the Translated Report’s findings into an express determination that the trigger for the military and police violence and the long-term disabling constraints was not a Jeju “communist insurgency.”

4. Acknowledging the Extent of United States Responsibility for the Jeju 4.3 Tragedy

As developed in the prior essay and by other scholars, research to date reveals significant U.S. involvement in the Jeju 4.3 Tragedy. The records show that the United States, in light of serious concerns about communist influences, sought to promote democracy domestically and worldwide. Yet U.S. actions abroad, in response to often legitimate risks, sometimes extended beyond acceptable boundaries into the realm of abuse of power.

5. Accepting Responsibility for Social Healing

The United States thus far has not acknowledged its role in the Jeju 4.3 Tragedy even as the first step toward addressing its responsibility for repairing persisting damage. Acceptance of responsibility entails recognizing the full extent of past and continuing harms and acknowledging misuses of power contributing to the 4.3 Tragedy. It also entails transforming acknowledgments into acceptance of responsibility for and commitment to social healing actions.

B. Reconstruction and Reparation

Reconstruction and reparation efforts often overlap with acceptance of responsibility. The South Korea government’s reconstruction and reparation efforts, like its acceptance of responsibility, have reflected significant partial
steps. But those steps overall have been limited. And the United States has made no apparent effort at all. Neither government has yet to actualize the kind of reconstruction that builds productive enduring relationships among participants.

1. Fairly Characterizing the Jeju People
   At the heart of the South Korea government's wavering acknowledgment of collective trauma – and what is needed to address it – is high officials' at times continuing mischaracterization of the Jeju people killed, maimed, tortured and displaced. To justify the atrocities, some United States and South Korea government leaders directing peacetime operations wrongly labeled the entirety of Jeju people “communist or communist sympathizers.”

2. Rebuilding Through Detailed Sincere Apologies
   Another important and related way to productively reconstruct relationships is to demonstrate the sincerity and completeness of formal apologies. The 2003 presidential apology for the South Korea government's role in the Jeju 4.3 Tragedy was significant because the government's highest leader expressed deep regret. At the same time, as described below, the apology statement was incomplete because it only vaguely acknowledged undefined harm to Jeju islanders and accepted only some unclear government role in causing that harm. It also did not reflect meaningful change in the government's original "communist insurgency" account of the Jeju 4.3 Tragedy.

3. Supporting Jeju as an “Island of Peace” by Institutionally Empowering Jeju Communities to Deal with Naval Base Impacts
   Another potential step toward reconstructing relationships may be meaningful support of Jeju as an “Island of Peace.” Jeju holds yearly peace forums, is constructing a peace education center and is establishing itself as a base for international peace relations. And the South Korea government already designated Jeju the “Island of World Peace” in 2005. Yet peace on the island is illusive. “[D]eep trauma in the minds of the people” persists.

4. Supporting Jeju as an Island of Environmental Sustainability
   Social healing encompasses more than repairing relationships among governments and people affected by the 4.3 Tragedy. It also involves rebuilding the relationship between the people of Jeju and the island's environment. The 4.3 Tragedy devastated both Jeju's people and the island's environment and resources. Although Jeju has come a long way towards its communities' collective goal of becoming an environmental hub for those interested in sustainability practices, the Joint Task Force would be primed to make powerful recommendations for the South Korea and U.S. governments to assist in the process through funding, research and education on eco-development and stewardship.

5. Promoting Economic Justice for the Jeju People
   To better demonstrate their stated commitments to civil and human rights, South Korea and the United States, in parallel or in partnership, need to better promote economic justice. Economic justice, as a key aspect of social healing, entails redressing the material wounds of historic wrongs – the livelihoods of individuals and communities in terms of funds for daily survival and the economic wherewithal for promoting education, entrepreneurship, health and spiritual well-being. These material wounds inflicted through systemic discrimination, denials of self-determination, violence and culture suppression persist over generations. Economic justice thus encompasses empowering survivors and their families through access to basic financial resources and work and business opportunities.
If we can make an effort to complete the unfinished business through a Joint U.S. and South Korea Task Force, Korean and World citizens together, I believe, can pave the way looking forward to actualizing these ideas into a reality of Jeju’s vision of becoming a World Peace Island in the future.

4. Balanced Implementation of short term action plan

We agree that we will make an effort to practice some shorter term action plans, such as institutionalization of Jeju April 3rd Peace Education Conference, Peace Island International Leadership Project and Jeju Peace Film and Art Festival in 2014 as linking-pin programs in the processes of social healing toward establishment of a World Peace Island (Document, Jeju April 3 Peace Conference Resolution, 2013. 10.18).

Creation of Peace Island Forum in 2001

Dr. Ko created the Peace Island Forum, which not only celebrated the enactment of “The Special Law for Fact-finding of the Jeju 4.3 Incident and Honoring Victims” in January 2000, but also succeeded in the spirit of truth-finding activities of Jeju islanders since 1980’s at a local level.

“Let’s look back to what the association and the institute have done so far. On April 1st, 2001, with support from the Jeju Provincial Council, the association and the institute held a seminar with the theme of “Can the Jeju April 3rd Uprising Sow New Seeds of Island Democracy and Peace?” and brought up a topic of the new assignment of the Jeju April 3rd Incident for the 21st century and raised an issue for developing a more civilized Jeju Island Governance Model. More specially, in 2003, at Harvard University, we held the Jeju April 3rd Conference and laid the groundwork for suggesting US government’s acknowledgment and acceptance of its roles and responsibilities and engagement in promoting social healing for trauma of Jeju people. Now the seeds which had been planted more than a decade ago have become matured trees. We are going to find out how much have the trees grown at the Jeju April 3rd Peace Education Conference held at Jeju National University on October 18th, 2013... In October 2012, the World Association for Island Studies, the World Environment and Island Institute, and University of Hawaii William S. Richardson School of Law held the Jeju April 3rd Colloquium on “Social Healing through Justice: Mass Killing of Jeju Islanders of South Korea During and After U.S. Peacetime Occupation” on Hawaii. The participants discussed the US roles and responsibilities during the Jeju April 3rd Incident and its Social Healing.” (Ko, Greeting Message, October 18, 2013 at “the 13th Peace Island Forum: 2013 April 3 Peace Education Conference).
a leader in his or her living community. Following the main principles and recommendations of the UN Resolution A/RES/53/243: Declaration and Program of Action on a Culture of Peace (October 6th 1999).

The program is accredited by Jeju National University, which also issues the Certificate Diplomas (Master Diplomas in 2015). All courses are taught in English by leading specialists in their field from around the world, including Maurice Strong, the founder of the academic discipline of World Environment Studies.

It is supposed to be annually launched in July at Jeju Nat’l University under the framework of the UNESCO NATURAL HERITAGE Program in the island. WEII on behalf of Jeju National University in the last four years - developing courses and education activities related to Culture of Peace; Peace Education; Peace and Tourism; UNESCO Heritage; Public Servants and Educators formation on Citizenship and Peace concepts with cooperation of the Asia-Pacific Centre of Education for International Understanding under the auspices of UNESCO - APCEIU, based in Seoul. Additionally we will start a course titled as “Island Governance and Social Healing Through Justice” under the framework of Peace Island International Leadership Project with participation of the University of Hawai’i William S. Richardson School of Law and Hokkaido University. I believe it would be useful and promising for both institutions to start a collaborative link in order to plan possible joint activities in the future (WEII, 2004 Peace Island Leadership Project).

Some students of Jeju National University and students from the law school at Hokkaido University participated in the Global Peace Bultuk Assembly on November 21, 2013 on Jeju. Like these activities, we want to develop a band of sympathy for social healing for the victims, survivors and the bereaved of the Jeju April 3rd Incident originated from Jeju Haenyeos’ Bultuk Assembly by youth over the world (WEII. 2013 Peace Island Leadership Project).

5. Independent Movie ‘Jiseul (2012)’ and Jeju International Peace Film Festival

Mr. Kyung-hoon Park, Chairperson, the Jeju People Artists Federation, evaluate the independent movie, ‘Jiseul (2012)’ by director, Muel O bring ‘New Viewpoint about 4.3’ to the public along with other achievements in his article, ‘Jiseul’.

“...Jeju 4.3 work was initiated by literature. It started from ‘Aunt Suni’ of Writer Hyun Ki-young, which was called the revival signal of 4.3. From that point, many poems, novels, plays, and artworks followed it. ‘Jeju People’s Uprising Exhibition’ of Artist Kang Yo-bae and the annual ‘4.3 Art Festival’ of Tamna Artist Association are good cases. Also, there are tens of ‘4.3 Outdoor Theatricals’ of Hallasan Performance Team. However, regrettfully, many people only remember 2 things; Hyun Ki-young and Kang Yo-bae’s works. The rest are simply other works on 4.3. It’s because there are not many excellent works that surpass the first 4.3 works. The fact that only two artists are remembered means others can’t exceed their artistic achievement. Moreover, these days, people are just repeating the same works. Maybe, the productivity of 4.3 art is stalled.

The recent 4.3 work is not fresh. As the truth of erased history came to light, curiosity, anger, freshness, and enthusiasm about history have broken up. Is it done? New cultural events on 4.3 are not created any more. As usual, there are repetitive ‘History Lectures’ by Peace Foundation, ‘4.3 Seminar’ by only professors, and the annual memorial ceremony of the bereaved. In this 4.3 art field where there is nothing new, ‘Jiseul’ makes us think what 4.3 is.
A fresh young director, who has neither experienced 4.3 nor demonstrated for 4.3, challenges with his 4.3 movie. However, the challenge is not ignorable. In this repetitive 4.3 art field, he seems to show his unique style saying, “I created 4.3 this way. How is it?” Most previous 4.3 works focused on the restoration and recording of the truth. Meanwhile, his temperate scenes and attempts to break from the traditional style of period movies are fresh although it could be criticism based on the result from various situations. Moreover, it shows another artistic achievement compared to existing 4.3 works.

It’s been 60 years since the incident but settling 4.3 hasn’t reached any breakthrough resolutions. At this juncture, ‘Jiseul’ seems to ask about the present of 4.3. ‘What is 4.3?’ The director gave his answer. He implied his answer through the symbolization of tears of both parties in the acrid smoke. The previous 4.3 works didn’t give this kind of answer (Park, 2013).

If we invite Jeju International Peace Film Festival for sharing cultural contents of the Tragedy with world citizens upon new perspective of ‘Jiseul’, it will be a big opportunity for islanders to spread cultures of April 3 peace to the world.

6. Conclusion: Toward Peace Island Process through Tolerance Philosophy

To Jeju islanders, it will be a dream to complete the ‘Three Stage Project of Peace Island Processes of Tolerance Philosophy’ that Submitting a Petition of a Joint South Korea and United States Jeju 4.3 Task Force on Social Healing Through Justice to Unites States Congress at the first stage of Social Healing for Victims of Korea Jeju of April 3 Tragedy, Institutionalizing the Social Healing Center for Trauma of Jeju April 3 Tragedy at the second stage of the Tragedy, and Balanced Implementation of short term action plan upon long term vision of social healing of Jeju April 3 tragedy at the third stage of the Tragedy through Reconstruction and Reparation (Yamamoto, 2013).

It is important and essential for Jeju islanders to let Jeju not become another Okinawa:

“... No one here forgets the revolt that broke out on April 3, 1948, and raged for more than two years. Far more people were killed in the battle of Okinawa, well over 200,000, more than half of them civilians, than on Jeju, where at least 30,000 died, most of them civilians cut down in army massacres. The difference in casualty figures, however, is no guarantee that Jeju could not in some regional cataclysm become a battleground similar to Okinawa. … If Okinawa proves anything, it is that bases are magnets for attack. One base needs another and another. For those fighting construction of any new base, the lesson is, ‘Don’t let it happen here.’ That argument probably won’t stop completion (Kirk, 2012).”
I hope we are pursuing a more civilized Island Governance Model such as a World Peace Island or Capital of World Environment based on our joint projects conducted over the last 4 years in Jeju Island as Dr. Yamamoto emphasizes on “Supporting Jeju as an “Island of Peace” by Institutionally Empowering Jeju Communities to Deal with Naval Base Impacts.”

It is often said that the UK established democracy and Japan planted the roots of constitutional monarchy and these two models are often referred to as island civilization models. However, these two nations have historical wrongs of occupying other nations. In contrast, Jeju Island, which is not a nation of course, has had a system in which democratic practices are carried out on a daily basis. Jeju people wish to make their island into a place where environment, peace and marine culture are harmonized and merged into a new type of island democracy in the 21st century. This can be a new civilized model of Jeju island governance model.

We already propose a plan for establishing a world environmental city and setting up and operating a world environment university to the Jeju people in order to support the policy of making Jeju an international World Environment Capital by 2020. This, in part, will fulfill a proposal from Maurice Strong, former UN Secretary General. He proposed “establishing a World Environment University on Jeju and turning it into a UN agency” at the Rio 20 Earth Summit. We are thinking about producing a model which can combine setting up an Asia Pacific Education Center for UNESCO International Protected Areas APECUIPA with a World Environment University for laying out the logical basis of an agenda proposed at the 2012 Jeju WCC for consolidated managing of UNESCO International Protected Areas and conservation sites.

References


A Joint United States and South Korea Jeju 4.3 Tragedy Task Force to Further Implement Recommendations and Foster Comprehensive and Enduring “Social Healing Through Justice” (presentation paper at 13th Peace Island Forum : Jeju April 3 Peace Education Conference on October 18, 2013 at Jeju Island Korea)

3 Peace Education Conference on October 18, 2013 at Jeju Island Korea


McLeod, Kenneth (2013). "Marrying into a 4.3 Family" (Comment paper at the 2013 Jeju April 3 Peace Education Conference, October 18, 2013).

Appendix 1:
Special Law for Truth Investigation about the Jeju April 3 Incident and Honoring Victims
Enactment 2000. 1. 12. Law no. 6117
Revision 2007. 1. 24. Law no. 8264
Partial Revision 2007. 5. 17. Law no. 8435

Article 1

The law investigates the truth of the Jeju April 3 Incident and honors the victims and bereaved, harming human rights, the progress of democracy and the unity of the nation.

Article 2

The law uses the following clauses.
1. "The Jeju April 3 Incident" refers to the incident causing civilians' sacrifices in the process of armed conflicts and the suppression operations beginning March 1, 1947 to April 3, 1948 through September 21, 1954.
2. "Victims" refers to civilians rendered deceased, missing or with a post-event disorder by the Jeju April 3 Incident, or imprisoned and designated as "victims" as per Article 3, Clause 2, Section 2 of the law.
3. "Bereaved" refers to spouse of the victims (including partner) or lineal ascendant and descendant. If none of these exist, then the bereaved is the brother or sister of the victim, or those who are designated as the bereaved according to Article 3, Clause 2, Section 2 among collateral blood relatives who perform ancestral rites of the victims or take care of graves of the victims.

Article 3

Reporting Committee for Investigation of the Jeju April 3 Incident and Honoring Victims

1. National Committee for Truth Investigation about the Jeju April 3 Incident can investigate the Jeju April 3 Incident and is supervised by
the Prime Minister, commissioned to investigate the truth and find the victims and the bereaved. (Hereinafter referred to as “Committee”)

2. Committee can decide on the following.
1. Collect and analyze data related to the Jeju April 3 Incident from home and abroad
2. Evaluate and determine the victims and the bereaved
3. Honor the victims and the bereaved
4. Produce an investigation report and form an exhibition hall
5. Establish a memorial grave yard and a memorial pagoda
6. File suggestions regarding governmental positions on the Jeju April 3 Incident
7. Draw up a ‘family relationship registry’
8. Other acts decided by President for Investigation the Jeju April 3 Incident and honoring the victims

3. Committee consists of 20 members, including 1 chairperson. The Prime Minister serves as chairperson and appoints, within Presidential Decree, Committee members including Governor of Jeju, involved public officers and well-experienced members of the bereaved.

4. Presidential Decree governs the structure of Committee.

Article 4
(The Practical Committee for Investigation of the Jeju April 3 Incident and Honoring Victims)

1. The Governor supervising the Practical Committee for Investigation of the Jeju April 3 Incident and Honoring Victims delivers decisions of Committee and acts on entrusted items of Committee.

2. The Practical Committee handles the following.
1. Report of the Victims and the Bereaved
2. Investigations of the reported damage
3. Payments of Medical Aid and Living Aid
4. Other entrusted items from Committee

3. The Practical Committee consists of 15 members, including 1 chairperson. The Governor serves as chairperson and appoints members including involved public officers and well-experienced members of the bereaved.

4. Ordinance governs the structure and management of Committee
Article 4-2 (Prohibition of Divulgence)
Members of the Committee and the Practical Committee or those who held posts in the committees before shall not divulge professional secrets. [newly established on 2007. 1. 24.]

Article 5 (Forbids Unfavorable Disposition)

1. Everyone is free to testify about the Jeju April 3 Incident.

2. No victims or bereaved will hold an unfavorable disposition for being the victims or the bereaved of the Jeju April 3 Incident, nor will the victims or bereaved make further sacrifices.

Article 6 (Collecting and Analyzing of the Jeju April 3 Incident Data)

1. Committee must complete the collection and analysis of the Jeju April 3 Incident data within 2 years from the initiation of Committee.

2. Committee or the Practical Committee can request the needed data from government administration agencies for the investigation per Clause 1. (Hereinafter referred to as “involved agencies or organizations”) The Agency or Organization should comply with the request unless a clear reason for noncompliance is indicated.

3. Involved Agencies or Organizations should
offer any needed assistance to excavate (including to read) data related to the Jeju April 3 Incident.

1. Per Clause 2, Government must negotiate with foreign governments faithfully if the requested data is held by a foreign country.

Article 7 (Reporting on Investigation)
Per Article 6, Clause 1, Committee must complete the report of the April 3 Truth Commission within 6 months from the expiration date. The April 3 Truth Commission Report Committee is established to report on the investigation.

Article 8 (Memorial Project)
If the budget allows, Government can support the following projects to honor the victims of the Jeju April 3 Incident and provide memorial services. In addition, these projects will help the Government, and it should use the historic value of the Jeju April 3 Incident in the educational field of peace and human rights.
1. Forming of Memorial Grave Yard
2. Building of Memorial Pagoda
3. Building of April 3 Exhibition Hall
4. Forming of Memorial Park
5. Other projects

Article 8-2 (Contribution to Foundation related with the Jeju April 3 Incident)

Government can financially support a foundation which will be established to carry out projects to promote peace and improved human rights according to President’s instruction, including operation and management of the April 3 Exhibition Hall and the April 3 Peace Park and conducting additional investigations.

Article 9 (Medical Aid and Living Aid)
1. Government can support the victims with medical aid and living aid for those who require medical treatment and medical equipment.
2. The right to aid is non transferable and cannot be used as collateral or be sized for any other purposes.
3. Scope of aid and calculation and payment methods can follow the Presidential Decree.

Article 10 (Establishment and Informing of the Victims and Bereaved Reporting Agency)
Committee within 30 days from the enforcement date should establish a report planning group for the victims and the bereaved of the Jeju April 3 Incident for registration and overseas diplomatic offices and must notice all forms.

Article 11 (Drawing up Family Relationship Registry)
Committee can draw up or correct any family relationship registries that are missing or incorrect due to the destruction of family registries by fire during the Jeju April 3 Incident, regardless of any other regulations or laws.

Article 12 (Reconsideration)
1. Those who want to be designated as the victims or the bereaved can object to and request reconsideration of a Committee decision that did not designate the person as victim or the bereaved or denied funding for medical aid or living aid within 30 days after the notification of that decision.
2. Necessary reconsideration procedures for the above clause shall be determined according to Presidential Decrees. [Newly established on 2007. 1. 24.]

Article 13 (Committee’s Decision prior to Lawsuits)
1. Lawsuits concerning a decision to designate
the victims or the bereaved or provide medical or living aid shall be raised after the Committee’s decision on the issues. However, this clause is not applicable, if the decision was not reached within a 90-day period from the date of a report or application.

2 Lawsuits related to the above clause shall be filed within 60 days after receiving notification of the Committee’s decision (including decisions of reconsideration). [Newly established on 2007. 1. 24.]

Article 14 (Penalty)

Those who violate Article 2, Clause 2 shall be subject to imprisonment for not more than 2 years or a fine not more than 10 million Korean won. [Newly established on 2007. 1. 14.]

This law is effective 3 months after its proclamation.


1 (Enforcement date) This law is effective 3 months after its proclamation.

2 (Interim measures related with reconsideration) Article 12 shall also be applied to any decision to designated the victims and the bereaved or provide medical or living aid under the prior rules. In this case, application for reconsideration shall be submitted within 90 days after the implementation of this law.

Supplementary Provision (Law on Family Relationship Registry and etc.) <No. 8435, 2007. 5. 17.>

Article 1 (Enforcement date)
This law is effective from January 1, 2008.

<Provisions omitted>

Articles 2 through 7 are omitted here.

Article 8 (Revision of other laws) from 1 to 22 are omitted here.

23 The Special Law for Investigation of the Jeju April 3 Incident and Honoring Victims is revised as follows.
In Article 3, Clause 2, Section 7, “Registration of Family Registry” shall be changed into “Drawing up Family Relationship Registry”.

Article 11 shall be as follows.

Article 11 (Drawing up family relationship registry)

Committee can draw up or correct any family relationship registries that are missing or incorrect due to the destruction of family registries by fire during the Jeju April 3 Incident, regardless of any other regulations or laws.

From 24 to 39 are omitted here.

Chang Hoon Ko
Appendix 2 : PUBLIC LAW 100-383-AUG. 10, 1988
102 STAT, 903
Public Law 100-383
100th Congress

An Act

To implement recommendations of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representation of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this ACT are to-

(1) acknowledge the fundamental injustice of the evacuation, relocation, and internment of United States citizens and permanent resident aliens of Japanese ancestry during World War II;

(2) apologize on behalf of the people of the United States for the evacuation, relocation, and internment of such citizens and permanent resident aliens;

(3) provide for a public education fund to finance efforts to inform the public about the internment of such individuals so as to prevent the recurrence of any similar event;

(4) make restitution to those individuals of Japanese ancestry who were interned;

(5) make restitution to Aleut residents of the Pribilof Islands and the Aleutian Islands west of Unimak Island, in settlement of United States obligations inequity and at law, for-

(A) injustices suffered and unreasonable hardships endured while those Aleut residents were under United States control during World War II;

(B) personal property taken or destroyed by United States forces during World War II;

(C) community property, including community church property taken or destroyed by United States forces during World War II; and

(D) traditional village lands on Attu Island not rehabilitated after World War II for Aleut occupation or other productive use;

(6) discourage the occurrence of similar injustices and violations of civil liberties in the future; and

(7) make more credible and sincere any declaration of cincern by the United States over violations of human rights committed by other nations.

SEC. 2. STATEMENT OF THE CONGRESS

(a) WITH REGARD TO INDIVIDUALS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY.-The Congress recognizes that, as described by the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, a grave injustice was done to both citizens and permanent resident aliens of Japanese ancestry by the evacuation, relocation, and internment of civilians during World War II. As the Commission documents, these actions were carried out without adequate security reasons and without any acts of espionage or sabotage documented by the Commission, and were motivated largely by racial prejudice, wartime hyateria, and a failure of political leadership. The excluded individuals of Japanese ancestry suffered enormous damages, both material and intangible, and there were incalculable losses in education and job training, all of which resulted in significant human suffering for which appropriate
compensation has not been made. For these fundamental violations of the basic civil liberties and constitutional rights of these individuals of Japanese ancestry, the Congress apologizes on behalf of the Nation.

(b) WITH RESPECT TO THE ALEUTS—The Congress recognizes that, as described by the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, the Aleut civilian residents of the Pribilof Islands and the Aleutian Islands west of Unimak Island were relocated World War II to temporary camps in isolated regions of southeast Alaska where the remained, under United States control and in the care of the United States, until long after any potential to provide reasonable core for the Aleuts, and this resulted in widespread illness, disease, and death among the residents of the camps; and the United States further failed to protect Aleut personal and community property while such property was in its possession or under its control. The United States has not compensated the Aleuts adequately for the conversion or destruction of personal property, and the conversion or destruction of community property caused by the United States military occupation of Aleut villages during World War II. There is no remedy for injustices suffered by the Aleuts during World War II except an Act of Congress providing appropriate compensation for those losses which are attributable to the conduct of United States forces and other officials and employees of the United States.

SEC. 105. RESTITUTION.
(a) LOCATION AND PAYMENT OF ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS.—
(1) In GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (6), the Attorney General shall, subject to the availability of funds appropriated to the Fund of such purpose, pay out of the Fund to each eligible individual the sum of $20,000, unless such individual refuses, in the manner described in paragraph (4), to accept the payment.

(5) PAYMENT IN FULL SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS AGAINST THE UNITED STATES.—The acceptance of payment by an eligible individual under this section shall be in full satisfaction of all claims against the United States arising out of acts described in claims against the United States arising out of acts described in section 108(2)(B). This paragraph shall apply to any eligible individual who does not refuse, in the manner described in paragraph (4), to accept payment under this section within 18 months after receiving the notification from the Attorney General referred to in paragraph (3).

SEC. 106. BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FUND.
(a) ESTABLISHMENT.- There is established the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund Board of Directors, which shall be responsible for making disbursements from the fund in the manner provided in this section.

(b) USES OF FUND.- The Board may make disbursements from the Fund only-

(1) to sponsor research and public educational activities, and to publish and distribute the hearings, findings, and recommendations of the Commission, so that the events surrounding the evacuation, relocation, and internment of United States citizens and permanent resident aliens of Japanese ancestry will be remembered, and so that the causes and circumstances of this and similar events may be illuminated and understood; and

(2) for reasonable administrative expenses of the Board, including expenses incurred under subsections (c)(3), (d), and (e).
Appendix 3

October 18, 2013

Jeju April 3 Peace Education Conference Resolution

As the result of discussions and related sessions of the 2013 Jeju April 3 Peace Education Conference: Towards Island Civilization Model of Social Healing of Mass Killing of Jeju Islanders of South Korea During and After U.S. Peace-time Occupation (1947-1953)” (October 18-19, 2013) in Jeju Island, Korea, the undersigned, agree to approve the recommendation for a Joint South Korea and United States Jeju 4.3 Task Force on Social Healing Through Justice presented and carefully discussed at Jeju April 3 Peace Education Conference.

The proposed for a Joint U.S. and South Korea Task Force is grounded in collaborations with Jeja 4.3 scholars and interactions with local officials and justice advocates as contributed to by the peace-promoting traditions of Jeju Island, which was designated as World Peace Island by the Korean Government on January 27, 2005. In so doing, the undersigned and participants in the 2013 April 3 Peace Education Conference agree that there are several recent issues of Unfinished Social Healing Through Justice to be addressed by Jeja citizens and the provincial government with input and support from the central government and from international communities, including scholars, researchers and justice organizations.

1. Acceptance of a Joint South Korea and United States Jeju 4.3 Task Force on Social Healing Through Justice: As we share that the 2000 National Committee’s and 2005 Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s work, although significant, has not yielded sustained Jeju 4.3 social healing. A Joint Task Force would serve as a crucial next step toward genuine reconciliation - helping implement unfinished recommendations, including the effectiveness of actions to date and recommending further concrete ameliorative actions aimed at comprehensive, systemic and enduring social healing.

2. Establishment of the Social Healing Research Center for Jeju April 3 Tragedy: We will establish the Social Healing Research Center for Jeju April 3 Tragedy with support of President of Jeju National University in 2014.

3. Balanced Implementation of short term action plan upon long term vision of social healing of Jeju April 3 tragedy: We agree that we make an efforts to practice some shorter term action plans such as institutionalization of Jeju April 3rd Peace Education Conference, Peace Island International Leadership Project and Jeju Peace Film and Art Festival in 2014 as linking-pin programs in the processes of social healing toward establishment of a World Peace Island.

We, on behalf of all participants in 2013 April 3 Peace Education, the undersigned, do hereby support the recommendations outlined above and look forward to actualizing these ideas into a reality of Jeju, World Peace Island.

Representatives
Moon Hyun Jung
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