



Testimonies of the Jeju 4·3 survivors of imprisonment for completely resolving the Jeju 4·3 Incident and legally regaining the honor of the 4·3 victims during the imprisonment

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Abstract

These people were wrongfully arrested, imprisoned and (in some cases tortured) by armed police, military and security forces as a part of the 4.3 Incident, without legitimate justification and without proper hearings or trial. It is essential theme that they spend their time in jail without doing any crime during the Jeju 4.3 Grand Tragedy. It is our second theme that they have suffered pains, trauma and lamentations from the Tragedy, then and now. These 11 cases represent desperate situation of violations of human rights of Jeju people during the Jeju 4.3 Grand Tragedy as it were : Gyeong-in Kim, Pyeong-guk Kim, Dong-su Park, Won-hyu Boo, Chun-ok Park, Keun-bang Yang, Il-hwa Yang, Hui-chun Oh, Chang-yong Hyun, U-ryong Hyun, and Byeong-tae Jo

I . Overview.

These people were wrongfully arrested, imprisoned, and in some cases tortured, by armed police, military and security forces as a part of the 4.3 Incident without legitimate justification and without proper hearings or trial. It is a primary theme that they spent their time in jail without committing any crime during the Jeju 4.3 Grand Tragedy. It is a second theme that they have suffered pains, trauma and sorrow from the Tragedy, then and now. These eleven cases

represent desperate situations of violations of human rights of Jeju people during the Jeju 4.3 Grand Tragedy:

Gyeong-in Kim (Female : Birthday : May 5, 1932: Wol-pyung village of Jeju city) : She was captured by police in her hometown in Spring of 1949. Because she was supposed to serve meals to guerillas as a cook during her stay during winter time in 1948 in Mt. Halla Mt, on July 7, 1949, she was sentenced 7 years at office room, Kwandukjeong street nearer the military court without a proper trial by a judge by military court and she was confined in the Jeonju Prison and later transferred to the Seodaemun Prison. Her facial skin was damaged due to the toxic substances in cement during her time in prison. Though she attained this illness, she didn't receive direct torture by the police. But the negative impact of long prison life made her have psychological trauma of fear to meet somebody until now. After she reported this damage to Korean government in 2003 according to Jeju 4.3 Special Law, she was registered by the government as one of the victims. She now receives a life subsidy of 250 USD per month.

Pyeong-guk Kim (Female: Birthday: January 1, 1930: Ara village of Jeju city): She was captured by police in Fall of 1948 at downtown Jeju city, along with family members. The trial was held in an office room in the police station. It read, 'General Court-Martial Article 77 Rebellion'. Her account of the incident is as follows: "I could read letters at the time. The trial began but nobody asked me what my charge were. We were so scared at the thought of being tried. Before long, the judge said something and rapped the gavel. And then we were sent back to the holding cells. The next day, we were summoned and tied together in a row. We boarded a ship and headed for Jeonju. I have to foster one son and daughter. My husband died 30 years ago and I become old and live alone. I have no courage to ask someone to perform an ancestral rite for me after I die. So, I just hope that someone will set up my tablet in the 4 · 3 Peace Park after I die because I have lived such a regrettable life. That's all I hope. I don't want anything else.

Dong-su Park: (Male : Birthday: March 10,1933: Sogil village of Jeju city): "I was caught during working days in the field in July of 1949. Because my hair was long and that made me look like an armed guerrilla, police captured me. When policemen arrested me, they said they caught the worst of the armed guerrillas. Policemen asked me, "Why do you go to Mt. Halla?, What are you doing in Mt. Halla? Why did you attack the police station?". I responded that I had never done these things. I was arrested only for working in my father's field. They beat me with wood many times. I was sentenced to 7 years by a judge through the reading of a paper only, without any questions or statements to me in the military court. I have served my time in the Incheon Prison. The only non-regrettable thing is that I didn't attend school because of Jeju 4.3 incident. I could learn Hangul (Korean language) at prison." After he reported his damage to the Korean government in 2003 according to Jeju 4.3 Special Law, he was registered to government as one of victims. He received a life subsidy of 250 USD per month.

Won-hyu Boo (Male: Birthday : August 13, 1929 : Hwabuk village of Jeju city). He was 19 at the time and in fifth grade of Jeju Agricultural School. In November of 1948, he was at home and suddenly soldiers broke into his house and arrested him. "I was tortured many times by military men. During investigation, they asked me 'why do you cooperate with guerilla of Mt. Halla?' and 'why did you put flyer on the wall?' I responded negatively to those accusations. They beat me

with a stick.” He was sentenced to one year in prison without a proper trial. After that he spent 10 months in the Incheon prison. In October of 1949, he was released and returned to Jeju. He regreted he didn’t become a veterinary surgeon because he didn’t graduate Jeju Agricultural School because of illegal arrest. “I did work as a bureaucrat for the local government for a while but I couldn’t stop my job because reason of guilt by association of the Jeju 4.3 Tragedy.” After he reported his damage to Korean government in 2003 according to Jeju 4.3 Special Law, he was registered to government as one of victims. He received a life subsidy of 250 USD per month.

Chun-ok Park (Another name Nae-eun Park : Female : Birthday : January 14, 1931: Pyosun village of Seogwipo city). She fled and lived at Mt. Halla in fall of 1948. There she was captured by police on November 10, 1948. At Seogwipo police station, policemen tortured her by beating her back with a stick many times during an illegal investigation. She was sentenced to one year in prison without a proper trial and spent one year in the Jeonju prison. She lost her husband during the Tragedy and spent one year with her two year old son in prison together. Severe beatings and torture made her health poor. When she thinks about the painful memories of beating and tortures by policemen at Seogwipo police station, she can’t not but to pour tears silently.

After she reported his damage to the Korean government in 2003 according to Jeju 4.3 Special Law, she was registered by the government as one of victims. She received a life subsidy of 250 USD per month.

Keun-bang Yang (male : birthday : December 16, 1933: Aewol village of Jeju city): He lived at Wasan village of Jocheon in Jeju. “Even though my parents already moved to a seaside village, He stayed in the mountain village taking care of the breeding work of cows and horses. One day of Spring of 1949 on the way to going to my parents’ field, soldiers say loudly, “Guerilla!” and then shot a rifle at me. Even though they shot me right leg by their rifling, he fled to a mountain area, shedding blood. Finally he surrendered to the military office at Hamdeuk because of my wounded leg and severe hunger. They regarded me as guerrilla, as same as my brother, who was arrested at Jeju alcohol plant. His arm was disabled because of torture of his fingers by electricity. As soon as he responded ‘no’ to their accusations, they beat and tortured me by saying, “Your answers are incorrect,” all night. They sent me to Incheon by ship.” He was sentenced to 7 years by judge through a reading paper only, without any questions or statements in the military court. “He have served my time in the Incheon Prison. He lived a hard and poor life because of my name being listed as an ex-convict. His children didn’t get a job or do military service because of guilt by association of the Tragedy.” After he reported his damage to the Korean government in 2003 according to Jeju 4.3 Special Law, he was registered by the government as one of the victims. He received a life subsidy of 250 USD per month.

Il-hwa Yang (Male : Birthday : February 1, 1929 : Geumak village of Hanlim, Jeju city):

In fall of 1948, he was questioned by two members of the Youth Corps watching him playing a Korean chess game with neighbours. When they asked him where he lived, he answered he lived in Geumak and right away was arrested on the spot. He was arrested on charge of living in Geumak, a mid-mountainous village. During the 4 · 3 Incident, the decrees and illegal martial law concluded that residents in the mid-mountainous villages would be considered the armed guerrillas or their sympathizers. He had no choice but to accept the false statements they accused him because of the strong threats of beating and torture by electricity at Jeju Police Station. He

was sent to the Incheon Prison with five years sentence by military judge without proper trial and hearing and then moved to a P.O.W. camp. After that, he enlisted in the Korean army and was discharged upon completing his military service. After he reported his damage to the Korean government in 2003 according to Jeju 4.3 Special Law, he was registered by the government as one of victims. He received a life subsidy of 250 USD per month.

Hui-chun Oh (Female : August 24, 1933 : Harae village of Namwon municipality of Seogwipo city declaration date : December 10,1948):

She was arrested by policeman in the street on the way to home from doing a small errand of her parents to her village in October of 1948. Policemen argued that she had registered into South Korea Labour Party SKLP. She had just applied to be a woman diver because village adults were gathering women divers who wanted to dive on the mainland. As she was arrested by police as a member of SKLP, she heard that police arrested her because police confirmed she was included in the list. "I didn't know whether I was a member of SKLP or not. I just wanted a new job of Haenyeo on the mainland." But she was sentenced to 1 year by judge through reading of a paper only, without any questions or statements in the military court. She has served her time in the Incheon Prison. At that time villagers thought it was a shameful fact that young female have been to jail.

Chang-yong Hyun (Male : October 17, 1932: Kwangpyung of Jeju city, declaration date: December 8, 1948.)

On the 26th of September,1948, he was arrested by 3 policemen, who awoke him with taking pistols. He didn't say anything to them during this situation. He was asked by them that ' you are guerilla?', ' do you know a guerilla?', 'did you put a poster on the wall?' or ' do you participate in demonstrations' and so on. "During their investigation, they beat him with a stick and tortured me with water all day long from morning to late night. They threat me with a pistol, saying they would kill me. On 8th of December, he was sentenced to 5 years by judge with 200 people together through reading of a paper only without any questions or statements in the military court. He served his time in Incheon Prison. After that he was on a probationers list in Korea. He had to report his works to the police once a year over 10 years. "When I was captured again in mainland of Korea, I was injured on my leg by a policeman shooting me. Because I couldn't treat my leg at that time, I was disabled. I can't bend my leg. As my daughter had a chance to become public servant of the Korean government after her graduation of law school, she was rejected by government because of the guilt-by-association system through completing background investigation of record of my prison life. I was at loss for words about all things in my life. All is unfair in my life. All becomes life long lamentation in my family."

U-ryong Hyun (Male, Birthday : January 10, 1925: Nohyung village of Jeju city, declaration date : July 2, 1949)

In the winter of 1948, as soon as the military burned his home village, he fled to Mt. Halla. In spring of 1949, the government announced its policy that if a citizen surrendered to police voluntarily, they would be made safe. So, he came down to Ora village of Jeju city. He was captured by the military security. He was almost exhausted by beatings and torture at the hands by the military. In January of 1949, he was brought to Taegu prison for the first time. Next he was moved to the Busan prison. After the Korean war broke out, prisoners of Bo-Do-Yeun-Meng

(Alliance of Converting Leftists into Rights) Incident were sent to Taegu prison. He heard that prisoners were murdered in the deep sea everyday. As it happens Incheon Landing Operation, the Korean President ordered stop to kill the prisoner. So, prisoners prison were made safe. After that, he went to the Masan prison and then back to the Busan prison. Finally he stayed in Mapo prison. He was sentenced to 15 years by judge through reading of a paper only without any questions or statement in the military court. He had spent 7 years 6 months at there. He and his brother were sent to prison, and his family was in turmoil as a result. His wife raised his children by herself. His family had thought that he had already died. He also thought he would die in prison, but he returned home alive. He felt that a prison sentence of 7 years and 6 months was unfair to an innocent citizen, like himself.

After he reported his damage to the Korean government in 2003 according to Jeju 4.3 Special Law, he was registered by the government as one of the victims. He received a life subsidy of 250 USD per month. Now he is over 90 years old.

Byeong-tae Jo (Male : October 24, 1929: Gangjeong village of Seogwipo city, declaration date : December 26, 1948):

“On November 20, 1948, I was responsible for cutting wood to set up a telephone pole with villagers. On the way home after work, I was captured by police (or West North Youth Corp). I stayed one night at Bupwhan police station, and then Seogwipo one for one week, and finally Jeju one for one month. I was beaten with a stick and tortured by electricity endlessly. Even though I don't know what kind of crime I was accused of, but I was investigated by police.” He was sentenced to 1 year by judge through the reading of a paper only without any questions or statements in the military court at KwandeukJeong of Jeju city. He spent 1 year in Incheon prison.

After the Korean War broke out, he was captured by police again, and classified as an ex convict. He stayed at Seogwipo prison camp. Seeing at night some prisoners were sent to other place by truck, he feared he would die soon. One year later after he was freed from prison camp, he became a soldier.

After he reported his damage to the Korean government in 2003 according to Jeju 4.3 Special Law, he was registered by the government as one of the victims. He received a life subsidy of 250 USD per month. He thinks the most important thing is to find truth of his case and recover his honor.

II. Testimonies of the Jeju 4 · 3 survivors of imprisonment for completely resolving the Jeju 4 · 3 Incident and legally regaining the honor of the 4 · 3 victims during the imprisonment

Now I'll introduce each witness to you. After that they will give us the stories they experienced about the Jeju 4 · 3 Incident. Let's invite today's witnesses onto the platform.

First, I'll introduce grandfather Yang Il-hwa to you. He was arrested on charge of living in Geumak, a mid-mountainous village (in fall of 1948). During the 4 · 3 Incident, the decrees and illegal martial law concluded that residents in the mid-mountainous villages would be considered the armed guerrillas or their sympathizers. Grandfather Yang moved into Jeju City from his hometown not to be considered an armed guerrilla. However, one day, he was questioned by two members of the Youth Corps. When they asked him where he lived, he answered he lived in Geumak and right away was arrested on the spot. He was sent to the Incheon Prison and then

moved to a P.O.W. camp. After that, he enlisted in the Korean army and was discharged upon completing his military service. We are going to hear his life story.

Grandfather Boo currently lives in Ildo-dong, Jeju City. He also survived from his time at the Incheon Prison.

Witness of Mr. Boo Won-hyu: Originally, I lived in Hwabuk 2-dong. I was 19 at the time and fifth grade in Jeju Agricultural School. I was at home and suddenly soldiers broke into my house and arrested me. I was sentenced to one year in prison without a proper trial and after 10 months in the prison, in October 1949, I was released and returned to Jeju.

Yang Dong-yun: Grandfather Jo Byeong-tae survived from the Incheon Prison and now lives in Gangjeong. Grandfather Park Dong-su lived in Sogil-ri, Aewol. Like Grandfather Jo, Grandfather Park was confined in the Incheon Prison but survived.

Witness of Park Dong-su: I was living in Sogil-ri, Aewol-myeon, a mid-mountainous village. It was an outback town. One had to pass through Hagwi, Susan, and Jangjeon village to reach Sogil-ri. During the Jeju 4·3 Incident, I was 16 and later turned 17 years old. My father didn't allow me to go to school because he didn't want me to be educated in the Japanese colonial system. So, I am uneducated. But my father taught me Chinese classics at home. When the Jeju 4·3 Incident broke out, I ran away from here to there in order to survive. I was caught in the meantime only because my hair was long and that made me look like an armed guerrilla. When they arrested me, they said they caught the worst of the armed guerrillas. I was sentenced to seven years in prison and served my time in the Incheon Prison. I am sincerely grateful to the 4·3 Jeju People's Solidarity and other people for organizing this event.

Yang Dong-yun: Grandfather Hyun Chang-yong lives in Nohyeong and he came here with his wife today. Here is Grandfather Yang Geun-bang. Grandfather Yang is the president of the social gathering of the grandfathers and grandmothers here.

Grandfather Hyun U-ryong survived from his time in the Daegu Prison. According to related materials and sourcebooks, those who were confined in the Daegu Prison were sentenced to 15 years in prison. 15-years of prison labor is harsh punishment even by today's standard. I'd like to ask one question to you. Does Grandfather Hyun look like a serious criminal to you?

Grandfather Hyun is the oldest witness today. He is 98. All of you here today, would you please give a big hand to Grandfather Hyun? (The audience burst into applause.)

Grandfather Hyun was transferred from the Daegu Prison to the Busan Prison, and then to the Masan Prison. Later he was released from the Masan Prison. We'll also hear about this shortly.

Let me introduce Grandmother Oh Hui-chun. Isn't Jeju the island of the Haenyeo (sea women)? Grandmother Oh began diving and harvesting seafood when she was young. At the time, there were people who recruited the haenyeo. Grandmother Oh stamped her seal on a register carried by those recruiters. In the end, she became confined in the Jeonju Prison with her stamping a

seal as justification and later was released from the prison. Grandmother Kim Pyeong-guk next to Grandmother Oh, also served her time in the Jeonju Prison.

Grandmother Kim Gyeong-in was confined in the Jeonju Prison and later transferred to the Seodaemun Prison. Her facial skin was damaged due to the toxic substances in cement during her time in prison. We are going to listen to this story, too.

Grandmother Park Chun-ok was sent to the Jeonju Prison from Gasi-ri, Pyoseon-myeon, Seogwipo. When she was sent to the prison, her two-year-old baby came together with her. That baby turned 68 this year. Nowadays, if a woman prisoner has a infant baby, the correctional authority will provide favorable arrangements on humanitarian grounds. There was no such thing at the time. We will soon hear this heart-breaking story.

I've just finished introducing all the grandfathers and grandmothers present at the event. From now on, Kang Mi-gyeong and Kim Yeong-ran from the Mission for Investigating the Actual Conditions of the Jeju 4 · 3 Convicts will moderate the event.

Today's event is organized by the 4 · 3 Jeju People's Solidarity, the Jeju People Living In The Mainland, and the Order of Friars Minor. Before we hear the testimonies from the witnesses, Mr. Huh Sang-su, the representative of the Jeju People Living In the Mainland will deliver his greetings.

Huh Sang-su: Today's event has been prepared unexpectedly. So, I'd like to thank you for attending. Like mentioned before, I sincerely thank you for surviving.

In the morning, when I was paying a tribute to the memory of the victims of the Incheon Prison at the memorial service, I mentioned this and we watched a video clip a while ago. It didn't make any sense that our grandfathers and grandmothers served in prison on a false charge. As Reporter Kim Jong-min said before, even if these grandfathers and grandmothers were guilty, legal procedures should have been taken step by step, but there were no such procedures at the time. People were arrested randomly and there were no proper trials for the detainees. I am really sorry these grandfathers and grandmothers suffered distress and again thank them for surviving and sharing their stories with us.

Yang Dong-yun: Representative Huh was close to tears and had difficulty paying a tribute to the memory of the victims at the memorial service and now he is again on the verge of tears. (To Mr. Huh) How could you fulfill the tasks of fact-finding the 4 · 3 Incident and restoring the honor of the victims with being so tenderhearted? Let's steel the heart for those tasks. (In fact, Representative Yang was with tears in his eyes and his voice was got hoarse.)

Father Lim is present here, isn't he? Let me introduce Father Lim of the Order of Friars Minor to you. Father Lim Wan-ho Lucio!

Witness of Father Lim Wan-ho: I know little about this, so I'll just listen to their words attentively.

(Father Lim declined politely to give greetings.)

Yang Dong–yun: I’m afraid I have taken up enough of your time. I’m sorry. Now it’s over to our moderators.

Kim Yeong–ran: Good afternoon! I’m Kim Yeong–ran. I’m working as an investigator at the Mission for Investigating the Actual Conditions of the Jeju 4 · 3 Convicts under the umbrella of the 4 · 3 Jeju People’s Solidarity. We have been conducting an investigation of the 2,530 victims who were registered as convicts since 2013. In the meantime, we have been meeting with grandfathers and grandmothers who luckily survived from their time in prison. In 2013, we looked for the people who had served their time in the Jeonju Prison, and last year, we tried to find and contact those who had been confined in the Incheon Prison. This year we are still looking for the convicts who had served their time in the both prisons.

As we keep investigating, we often encounter the cases in which some people were clearly recorded as convicts but we can’t find them or any of their information or traces of life. It is very regrettable. But I also strengthen my resolution to devote myself to this mission, thinking, “There will be no one who willingly assume these tasks except us.”

Today, we prepare this event of hearing testimonies from the Jeju 4 · 3 survivors of the imprisonment. We invite grandfathers and grandmothers whom we have met during our investigation and are going to summarize what they have already told us.

At first, we are going to hear the stories of how they were caught and interrogated, whether the interrogation was properly conducted, how their time in prison was like, and how their lives were after the release. Investigator Kang Mi–gyeong and I will manage the event and let our grandfathers and grandmothers talk about their stories in the above order. Especially, we are going to talk with you about how the social atmosphere changed before and after the Jeju 4 · 3 Special Law was enacted in 2000. Given that we have approximately an hour and a half including a Q and A session, it may be impossible for all the witnesses to talk about all of these topics. Therefore, I will allocate specific topics to some grandfathers and grandmothers, not all of them. After we hear all the testimonies, we are going to have a Q and A session. We will try our best to make the maximum use of our time.

I’m going to let Grandfather Jo Byeong–tae living in Gangjeong tell us his story. Grandfather Jo, why was you caught? How old were you at the time? Tell us your story as memory serves.

Witness of Mr. Jo Byeong–tae: At the time, the armed guerrillas hiding in the mountain cut down utility poles at night. So, we were mobilized early in the morning to cut down trees in the field and install the poles all day. One day, when I returned home at dusk, I heard that one man in my town was taken to the police box and killed. He was a kind of messenger. At the time, once you were taken to the police box, you were probably killed. In the evening, I was also taken to the Beophwan police box. I was interrogated there all through the night.

I couldn’t even take a sip of water, They stripped me naked and tied me to the ladder. They forced me to drink water in the bucket. As I lost my consciousness, they put me in jail. Next morning, the interrogation began. The interrogation reports were filed up in front of me. By the

way, suddenly my interrogator tore those reports to pieces and threw them into the stove. He said, "Tell me exactly what you did. No more or no less. That's the only way you can live." I think my sentence might have been commuted a little because I told exactly what I did.

Kim Yeong-ran: Grandmother Oh Hui-chun, you just stamped your seal on a register only because they told you they were recruiting the haenyeo. Why were you taken by the police? Let us hear your story.

Witness of Oh Hui-chun: I'll put it simply. I was 17. I lived a happy life with my parents and learned how to read and write. The person who told me to stamp my seal on the register turned out to be a leader of the South Korean Labor Party. I stamped my seal on the paper which I took for the form for recruiting the haenyeo but it was actually an application for joining the party. That's why I was taken to the police station.

I was taken to the Seogwipo police station. The person who made me set a seal implored my interrogator to release me, saying "This girl is not guilty." I didn't get even a single blow during my interrogation in the Seogwipo police station and the situation was the same in the Jeju police station. The fact that the leader admitted his wrongdoing may have influenced my treatment in the police stations. My charge was joining the South Korean Labor Party and I was sentenced to one year in prison. I served 10 month in prison and was released.

Kim Yeong-ran: Grandmother Oh! Several people were taken to the police station at the time. Were only two people sent to the prison?

Oh Hui-chun: Several people were taken into police custody but only Kim Jeong-chu and I were imprisoned. It turned out that Kim Jeong-chu became a publicity manager even without her knowing this because of her eloquence and I was registered as organization manager. That's why we were taken into police custody at first.

Kim Yeong-ran: Ah! You and Grandmother Kim were taken to the police station because one became a publicity manager and the other became a organization manager. Next, Grandfather Yang Il-hwa! As Representative Yang Dong-yun mentioned, you were arrested only because you lived in Geumak. Grandfather Yang, would you tell us the reason you were taken to the police?

Yang Il-hwa: I lived in Geumak-ri, a mid-mountainous village. I was 18 at the time. As some of you may know, on November 27 (1948), while the police and the armed guerrillas were engaging in gunfights, Major Song Yo-chan issued an evacuation order and started to set fire to villages in the mid-mountainous area. Major Song ordered residents who lived in villages more than 5km away from the coastline to leave their home immediately and move to seaside villages.

Because we received this order and they began to set fire to villages...The fire began in Nohyeong area. I know this because I saw the fire from a distance. Anyway I walked from my town to Hallim and then Hallim to Jeju City. My uncle was living in Jeju City at the time, so I thought I could live with his family. In Jeju City, I lived in Geonip-dong. I actively participated in propaganda campaigns waged by the police. I knew that I could be arrested and killed if the

police found out I came from a mountainous village. That's why I acted in concert with the police. Meanwhile, I was looking for a job to make some money. At the time, a person from my hometown was operating a mill in Jeju City, so I went there to ask for my job. When I arrived at the mill, two persons were playing Korean chess. After a while, two members of the Youth Corps stormed into the mill and checked up on three of us. They shouted at us, "Where are you from? Come here! All of you playing Korean chess come to us!"

While they inspected the other two persons, I ran away toward my house. However, those two members of the Youth Corps chased me and I was caught. I was taken to the 1st precinct police station. I had been taken into custody for about a month there and later was sentenced. My judge was an army major.

Kim Yeong-ran: Grandfather! You lived in the times when living in a mountainous village could be a crime?

Yang Il-hwa: That's the reason I served five years in prison.

Kim Yeong-ran: Grandfather Yang Il-hwa moved from his hometown Geumak to Jeju City to live his life anyhow. But he was inspected and asked to reveal where he was from. When he said he was from Geumak, they labeled him as a commie and took him to the police station.

Next, we are going to hear from Grandfather Boo Won-hyu about his story of how he was taken to the police.

Boo Won-hyu: I was 19 and in fifth grade of Jeju Agricultural School. At the time of 1948, my house was located near Ohyun High School, 2.5km away from the downtown of Jeju City. One day, two soldiers of the martial law army dropped in my house. They were taking a kind of census. They asked me what I was doing and took me with them. We were carried on an army truck to a military base near the former Korean Broadcasting System building, today's near Samdam Elementary School area. There I was tied to a cot and tortured by electricity. Later, it may have been December 13 or 15, I can't remember the exact date, I attended the trial as I was told to do. There were about 40 to 50 people like me at the trial. My name was called but no other questions were asked to me. After the trial, I returned to the military base. In the end of December, we were transported to the harbor and boarded a freighter to Mokpo. In Mokpo, we took a train and arrived in Incheon. Those who were sent to the Incheon Prison were 15 to 19 years old. What could such young men know anything? We assembled in the yard of the prison and one policeman in the prison gave us sentences like "A is one year, B is five years, C is seven years...".

Kim Yeong-ran: You said people were given sentences in the prison. What were their charges? Let's think about the reason you were arrested and sent to the prison?

Boo Won-hyu: What I did wrong...was, I think, being a student.

Kim Yeong-ran: Where were you caught?

Boo Won-hyu: At home.

Kim Yeong-ran: Who did take you to the military base?

Boo Won-hyu: Two soldiers of the martial law army.

Kim Yeong-ran: At the time, Grandfather Boo was in fifth grade at Jeju Agricultural School and dreaming about becoming a veterinarian after graduating one year from then. Grandfather Boo says that he was taken by two soldiers during the Jeju 4·3 Incident and wrongly accused and imprisoned

Now, It's your turn, Grandfather Yang Geun-bang.

As far as I know, Grandfather Yang lost many family members during the 4·3 Incident. Whom did you lose? Why were you taken in?

Yang Geun-bang: I lived in a remote village in Wasan-ri, Jocheon-myeon. From around July and August 1948, the punitive forces began to suppress the armed guerrillas. However, one day in November, under the name of the scorched earth operation, the army and the police stormed into my village and mercilessly killed people. Three of my brothers were killed on that day. I ran away after my brothers were killed. But I was shot in the leg and fell down. I was caught by the soldiers. The soldiers said, "We are going to take you to Hamdeok and kill you there. Do you know why? Whether your brothers was guilty or not guilty dosen't matter. They were reds because they were living in the mountainous area. You are also a red, so we will kill you once we arrive in Hamdeok."

When I was transported to Hamdeok, there were 7~8 people like me there. They all were going to be killed. However, among the soldiers, one man was from Jeju. When he saw me not walking well because of my injury, he asked me how old I was. I answered him that I was 16. Upon hearing this, he urged other soldiers not to kill me because I was too young to know anything. That's how I saved my life on the day. I saw at least five people be killed.

After that I was moved to the Oriental Development Company site and detained there. In a month and a half, we were called. About 300 people including about my 15 school fellows were called and transported to the harbor. We boarded a freighter with prison officers who were carrying some kinds of papers and documents. Even there were no trials for us.

The destination was the Incheon Prison. I served one year, 10 months there...Today I visited the prison again and noticed that the front gate was different from that in the past. (The Incheon Prison of the time turned into the Incheon District Prosecutor's Office.)

In the Incheon Prison, they made us sit on the floor and gave us sentences like five years, seven years without trials. While I was serving my time, the Korean War broke out on June 25th 1950.

I was freed by the North Korean army. The South Korean soldiers fled and the North Korean soldiers opened the prison cells. The North Korean soldiers told us that they were going to take us to North Korea via Seoul. We arrived at the Seoul Station. There were about 300 of us. The North

Korean soldiers tried to cajole me into going to the North Korea, saying “You went through all sorts of hardship in Jeju and your family members were all massacred. How can you think about going back to Jeju after watching all these terrible things? Let’s go to the North Korea together.” I declined their offer, saying “I can’t. Why were my brothers killed? They were killed because they were mistakenly taken for reds. I have to find my brothers’ dead bodies. Also my parents are still living in Jeju. I have to go back.” In this way, I was left alone at the Seoul Station. When I became alone, I got dumfounded. While I was heading for Jeju, I was caught again in Gwangju and given a seven-year sentence, but, eventually, I served a year and a half.

Kim Yeong-ran: Grandfathers and grandmothers here today! How hard for them to endure their deep sorrow and pain for 67 years? There have few chances for them to talk about their tragic stories so far. I asked them to tell us only why they were taken but once they began telling their stories, it seems that they couldn’t stop themselves from saying their tales. It seems that we can’t hear the whole story of only one person even if we stay up all night. I couldn’t dare interrupt them in the middle.

As you heard their stories, you don’t think these grandfathers and grandmothers were criminals who deserved to serve one year, three years, five years and even seven years in prison

Aren’t all of these unreasonable and outrageous?

From now on, Investigator Kang Mi-gyeong will moderate the event and let our grandfathers and grandmothers talk about the hardship they underwent after they were taken.

Kang Mi-gyeong: I’m going to ask questions such as ‘Were there any unfair treatments during the interrogation?’ and ‘how was the life in the prisons like?’ It has been known that the conditions of the prisons at the time were very poor.

At first, I’m going to ask some questions to Grandmother Park Chun-ok. Grandmother Park, could you tell us how you were taken and how your trial went and what your interrogation was like?

Park Chun-ok: Hello, everyone. I lived in Gasi-ri, Pyoseon-myeon. At the time, my uncle was a principal but he was killed by the armed guerrillas because he had served as election chairman for the general election. My uncle and the head of Gasi-ri were killed at the time. Meanwhile, as the clerk of Gasi-ri urged us to go up to the mountain, we went to the mountain and hid there. But later the soldiers pounced on us and we were transported to Seogwipo. I was tortured in Seogwipo and later moved to Jeju City. They put over 100 people in a single cell so I couldn’t even lie on the floor and had to sit down all the time. I held my baby...My baby and I had to spend time eating only two rice balls a day. I spent a month in the Jeju Police Agency and then was transported to the mainland on December 12th.

Kang Mi-gyeong: You still have difficulty moving your body due to the torture you experienced. How was the torture?

Park Chun-ok: I was really afraid of both the armed guerrillas and the police and the soldiers.

My only wrongdoing was giving some grain of barley and money to the armed guerrillas because they came down to my house and asked food. According to a rumor, one man in Uigwi-ri informed my uncle to the police. He said there was a suspicious meeting at my uncle's house. But my uncle had already been dead at the time. How could a dead man hold a meeting at his house? They lied and turned in an innocent man. That's why I was sent to the prison in the mainland. I will stop my talking here. Thank you.

Kang Mi-gyeong: It seems that grandmothers resolved to tell their stories briefly. Our grandmother Park Chun-ok was tortured a lot during her interrogation. Especially the torture called 'boarding a plane'. They tied a person's arms behind his or her back, suspended the person with rope and beat him or her...

Yang Il-hwa: They called it a plane, a Moscow plane!

Park Chun-ok: I suffered skull fracture and my arms were broken. I cried and cried. I was 22 and my son was 2. My son grew well even though he suffered such hardship when he was very young. He who hasn't seen his father is now 69. He grows old with me together. I am now 89. I have endured hardship in the world of chaos but raised a son and let him carry on the family name.

Yang Il-hwa: How hard it could be to feed a baby in the prison!

Kang Mi-gyeong: (To Grandmother Park Chun-ok) Thank you for sharing your story with us. Now, I'm going to ask some questions to one of the grandfathers. I'll ask Grandfather Hyun Chang-yong a question about how he was interrogated after he was taken at his home.

Hyun Chang-yong: There were about 400 households in Nohyeong-dong but 500 people were killed. It's almost one person per household. I am one of them. Now I'll talk about how I was interrogated and tortured.

I was caught by the police at around 3 a.m. on September 26th 1948 and transported to a small school in Nohyeong-ri. I'll skip the part of how I was arrested. At the school, they tortured me with water and beat me. In some cases, they threatened me as if they were going to execute me with guns. They pointed a gun at the back of my head and put on an act of killing me.

They asked me whether I contacted the armed guerrillas, attended unauthorized rallies, and put up any leaflets. I was only 16 and I didn't know and do anything like that. I didn't know what ideology is. So, I denied doing any of those things and this didn't make them happy. They beat me up mercilessly. I was beaten all over. I think I was beaten maybe tens of times. If I had counted them, it would have been 40 to 50 times. No matter how many times I was beaten, I kept denying doing anything wrong. Then they began to torture me with water.

The torture with water went like this. They tied me to a cot and poured water in a big kettle into my nose and mouth. I couldn't breathe because the water was coming into my nose. I couldn't help but drink all that water. Later, I couldn't drink water anymore because I was so full. In the

end, I lost my consciousness.

In the afternoon of the same day, I was called to my interrogators. They asked me the same questions repeatedly and tortured me again. This time, they produced a gun and fired 4 to 5 times into the air and then pointed the gun at me and threatened me to confess. They may have thought that I would admit my charge if they put on an act like that.

However, I didn't admit my charges because I didn't do those things. After I returned to the school, one cleaning lady advised me to admit my charges, saying "How foolish are you? Why do you keep beaten like that? Other people admitted their charges and were released right next day." She told me stories like this.

Next day, I was called again. The interrogators asked me the questions again like "Did you do this and that?" So, I replied, "Yes, I did this and that." When I admitted what I didn't do, they produced a piece of paper and made me signed the paper with my thumbprint.

Even though I signed the paper with my thumbprint, I couldn't have a chance to read it. I didn't know what was written on the paper. Next day, I was transferred to the Jeju Police Station. My first interrogation was finished like this but this is not the end. There was the second interrogation coming.

Kang Mi-gyeong: We've just heard from Grandfather Hyun about how his first interrogation went. To save time, I'll briefly summarize his second interrogation on behalf of him. The second interrogation was to confirm what the first interrogation concluded.

While his second interrogation, Grandfather Hyun Chang-yong looked around and saw other people being tortured. This reminded him of his first interrogation and the torture he suffered. He concluded that it would be better for him just admit the charges he was facing rather than deny them and suffer torture again. Therefore, during his second interrogation, he just nodded his head as if he admitted what his interrogators claimed.

Kim Yeong-ran: As you heard, our grandfathers and grandmothers suffered harsh torture and served their time in prison with false charges. While we were conducting our investigation on the conditions of the convicts during the 4 · 3 Incident, some said there were trials and some said they weren't. According to our investigation, it turned out that the majority of the convicts who served their time in prison said there weren't trials for their charges.

However, because there are some people who say there were trials, I'm going to ask some questions about the trials. In order to help you understand better, at the time there were two types of trials on Jeju, one is general trials and the other is court martials, in other words, military trials. According to the lists kept by the National Archives of Korea, 2,535 people were tried.

According to related materials, the first court martial was held from December 3rd to December 29th, and the second court martial was held from June 21st 1949 to July 7th. There were 15 trials during the first court martial and 11 trials during the second court martial.

Now, let's hear from Grandfather Park Dong-su about how he was tried during the court-martial.

Kim Yeong-ran: Grandfather Park Dong-su, were you tried at the time?

Park Dong-su: You want me to talk about how I was tried?

Kim Yeong-ran: Yes, tell us whether you were tried or not. If you were tried, tell us how was your trial carried out.

Park Dong-su: I'm sorry I can't hear well because of my old age. As I said earlier, I can't remember the date of my arrest and some other things. There was an evacuation order. We were told to move to coastal villages. However, my father delayed moving to coastal villages because he thought he needed to bring some grains to feed his family. But when he was ready, he couldn't move this time because of the curfew. He had no choice but had to hide in the mountain.

My father was killed by the army and my old brother was killed, too. I was left alone in the mountain. I became an orphan overnight. I was caught by the police while wandering around the mountainous area. I will not talk about the torture because other grandfathers and grandmothers already talked about it. But one thing I would like to mention is that I was tortured severely.

The trial was held at the Gwandeokjeong Plaza. There were more people who were tried on the day than people are in this room now. (There was an audience of more than 100 people in the room.) My trials was carried out there but I was given my sentence in the Incheon Prison. A man titled section chief of prison affairs guided us from Jeju to Incheon. In the yard of the Incheon Prison, they gave us sentences. They called each of us and gave sentences ranging from 15 years to 5 years. That's the process in which I was arrest, tried and served my time. Now I think that it was really unfair to prosecute a person who didn't know anything on charge of violating the national security law and gave a 7-year sentence. I don't know how to describe my feeling.

Kim Yeong-ran: Grandfather Park Dong-su remembers being tried. But he also said that he was given his sentence after being sent to prison. This isn't quite make sense to me.

Grandfather Jo Byeong-tae! Would you tell us how was you tried and how was you sent to the prison?

Jo Byeong-tae: I was dragged to Gwandeokjeong Pavilion and tried there. There were 105 people like me. I had been beaten so severely that I was out of my mind and couldn't focus on what's going on. Later, I heard that was the trial of the general court martial. I was sent to the Incheon Prison. In the prison, I changed my clothes and my hair was cut. I was given my sentence there.

Kim Yeong-ran: That is to say, you (Grandfather Jo Byeong-tae) didn't know whether the trial was carried out even you were actually tried?

Jo Byeong-tae: Yes, I later realized that was the trial.

Yang Dong-yun: Wait a minute! What was the date of Grandfather Jo Byeong-tae and Grandfather Park Dong-su's trial? December 1948? What was the exact date of your trial?

Park Dong-su: I can't remember that. It was the same day on which Mr. Yang Il-hwa was tried.

Kang Mi-gyeong: Grandfather Jo Byeong-tae was tried on December 16th 1948, and Grandfather Park Dong-su was tried on July 5th 1949. The dates are different.

Yang Dong-yun: Wail! I need to check one important fact here. They say they were tried but didn't know the sentences they were given at the trials. They say uniformly that they were tried on Jeju but given their sentences in the Incheon Prison. What does this possibly mean?

In fact, this is the part that makes us experience confusion while we are carrying out the investigation and arranging the data we've collected.

Yang Il-hwa: That's exactly what happened.

Yang Dong-yun: That's why we ask you to tell us what exactly happened. (To Kang Mi-gyeong and Kim Yeong-ran) Please, go ahead!

Kim Yeong-ran: You two (Grandfather Jo Byeong-tae and Park Dong-su) said that later you realized that was the trial. We will hear from Grandfather Yang Geun-bang about what he remembers. Unlike the two grandfathers, Grandfather Yang Geun-bang says he didn't stand trial. Grandfather Yang Geun-bang! please, tell us your experience.

Yang Geun-bang: I was arrested and transported to the Oriental Development Company. I had been detained there for about a month. There was no interrogation. The policemen said that I was a red because my brothers had been already killed, so there was no interrogation when I was arrested. At first I was moved to Hamdeok and then I was transported to the Oriental Development Company. I stayed there for a while and then was transported to Incheon by ship. There were more than 100 people. When we arrived at the Incheon Prison, We were all given a 7-year sentence. All of us. At the yard of the prison, they gave us our sentences and put us in each cell. Thus, I came to know my sentence only after I was transported to the Incheon Prison.

Kim Yeong-ran: Like this, some grandfathers and grandmothers say there were trials even though they can't remember the type of the trials exactly. On the contrary, like Grandfather Yang Geun-bang, some firmly say there were no trials and they were just shipped to the prisons in the mainland and all of them were given a 7-year sentence. Now, let us hear about how was their life in the prisons. Investigator Kang Mi-gyeong will manage the event.

Yang Dong-yun: Let's take a break here. I'll introduce Grandfather Hyun U-ryong to you. He is the oldest among our grandfathers and grandmothers. He is now 93. He served 7 years and a half in the Daegu Prison. Grandfather Hyun! Can you hear me well?

Hyun U-ryong: I can't hear you well, I can hear some parts but can't hear other parts.

Yang Dong-yun: From which prison were you released last?

Hyun U-ryong: It was the Mapo Prison.

Yang Dong-yun: Ah! The Mapo Prison. What year were you released?

Hyun U-ryong: I was released on February 27th 1954.

Yang Dong-yun: Why were you transferred to the Mapo Prison? From which prison were you transferred to the Mapo Prison?

Hyun U-ryong: I was in the Busan Prison and transferred to the Mapo Prison. I'll talk about my story. I'm Hyun U-ryong living in Iho-dong. I'm 93. At the time of the 4 · 3 Incident, I was assigned to stand guard over the downtown area of Jeju City. I was commuting from Iho-dong to Jeju City. One day I packed my lunch and headed for Jeju City. At the Nammuntong area, soldiers was inspecting passersby. When I arrived in the downtown area, there were some old men talking about stories of the armed guerrillas' attacks on the police boxes around the island. They said the whole island was into utter confusion. I thought I might be in trouble if I keep stay in the downtown, so I came back to Iho-dong. When I arrived in Iho-dong, young men were not in the village. They all ran away. The people in the village said young men would be killed with no reason once they were caught.

I might have not undergone hardship if I had come to Jeju. However, as I was so scared and my house had already burned down, I decided to hide in the mountain. I stayed in the mountain for a while. One day I heard a rumor that there would be an election on May 10th 1949. There had been an general election before but it didn't went smoothly. That's why there would be another election on May 10th. I believed I could live if I participated in the election. So, I went down from the mountain but was caught in Ora-ri by the military police. I was interrogated...I don't want to talk about my interrogation here. Nobody knows how the interrogation was like but those who were interrogated.

Then I became detained in an alcohol factory in Jeju City. One day, a trial was held. About 300 people gathered. The trial was like this. They called people's names and informed each of us our charges. My charges were blocking the roads and arson. I didn't do that. Even they didn't tell us our prison terms. The judge told some of us to raise their hands and those who raised their hands were released but nobody knows where they headed for. The rest were sent to each prison. About 2,000 people were sent to the prisons in Mokpo, Gwangju, Daejeon, Daegu, Incheon, Mapo, and Jeonju.

We didn't know our jail terms at first. If we had known it, we might have tried to escape, risking our lives. 300 people were transported to the Daegu Prison. When the prison governor saw us, it seemed that even he himself couldn't believe his eyes. We were so miserable. We were like walking corpses. The prison governor ordered his men to feed us well.

The Daegu Prison was so crowded with the prisoners that we stayed in an auditorium. Then we were moved to the Busan Prison. While we were serving our time in the Busan Prison, the Korean War broke out. When the war broke out, petty criminals were released and only political offenders remained. Later those political offenders began to be executed. It was the National Guidance of Alliance Incident. In the end, President Rhee Syng-man ordered to stop the execution and I survived luckily.

On October 3th, I was again transferred to the Masan Prison. The weather in Masan was so fine and nice that even some prisoners with tuberculosis were moved to the Masan Prison. In the Masan Prison, I learned a skill of bending fish hooks. After two years, I was moved to the Mapo Prison.

Yang Dong-yun: He mentioned 'the National Guidance of Alliance' during his testimony. During the Korean War, some people who were detained in the Daegu Prison or the Busan Prison returned alive. But there were testimonies that as the war was progressing to our disadvantage and the South Korean army was pushed into the Nakdong-river front line, petty criminals were released but so-called political offenders and left-wingers were executed every night. It seems that Grandfather Hyun U-ryong escaped from the throes of death several times and that might be the reason for his longevity.

We'll take another break here.

Today we have Mr. Yang Yong-hae. In the mainland, they call it 'the National Guidance of Alliance Incident' and on Jeju we call it 'the Preventive Custody' in which many political offenders and prisoners were executed. Regardless of his old age, he is serving as president of the Association of the Victims' Families of the Preventive Custody in Jeju Northern District. After the Korean War, he served as president of the Association of the Civilian Victims' Families of the Korean War and is still a honorary president of the association. He filed a lawsuit against the Korean Government for the execution of the people during the preventive custody on behalf of the victims' families. The court already delivered the judgement to the effect that the Korean Government should pay reparations to the victims' families but, as far as I know, the reparations were delivered to the families only recently. Let's hear this story from him.

Yang Yong-hae: It's great to see you. I am unable to utter my feelings to see our grandfathers and grandmothers giving testimony here and I'm happy to know that all of them are still healthy and join them here today. As introduced by Mr. Yang Dong-yun, I'm president of the Association of the Victims' Families of the Preventive Custody in Jeju Northern District. It's little bit a long name. What 'Jeju Northern District' means that it is the northern part of Mt. Hallasan. At the time of the Jeju 4·3 Incident, there were four police stations on Jeju. The Jeju police station controlled over Jeju-eup, Aewol-myeon, and Jocheon-myeon. The Moseolpo police station had competence over Hallim, Hangyeong, Daejeong, and Andeok. Namwon, Seogwi, and Jungmun were under the control of the Seogwipo police station and the Seongsan police station controlled over Gujwa, Seongsan, and Pyoseon.

My home town is Jangjeon-ri, Aewol-eup, a mid-mountainous village. My father was arrested under the name of the preventive custody and executed at Jeongtteureu Airport. My father was

killed not because he was guilty. He was just arrested while having a meal with his family on a summer day. The chief of the Sineom police box rode a horse to my house and called my father. Upon the calling, he went out to the yard. He was tied to the saddle and hurled in for questioning. That was the last time I saw him. We couldn't see him after his arrest. Do you know why? Because we didn't have identification cards. They labelled us as reds and we couldn't get identification cards. In those days, you couldn't go to other regions without identification cards.

In June 2000, I got some victims' families in Jeju City, Aewol-eup, and Jocheon together and set up the Association of the Victims' Families of the Preventive Custody in Jeju Northern District and have served as president. I have worked hard until today because I am title-hungry. (Everybody laughed and applauded at his joke.)

One day, I attended a meeting of the civilian victims' families of the Korean War in Seoul and many victims families encouraged me to be the president of the association. So, I accepted the offer and served as president for two years until April last year.

It was a very daunting job both physically and mentally and costed much money but I worked very hard and sincerely served my term without any big problems.

After I became president of the Association of the Victims' Families of the Preventive Custody in Jeju Northern District, I set up a memorial in honor of the victims of the preventive custody incident in the reports park located 500 meters away from Yongduam Rock in 2005. It was very difficult to set up the memorial but I did it. In 2005, the special law for setting up the Truth and Reconciliation Commission was enacted and the reports of the victims began to be received. We reported the victims to the commission and the commission issued a written verdict which acknowledges those who reported as the victims upon its closure.

Next step was filing a lawsuit against the Korean Government because the lawsuit should be filed within 3 years after the official verdict from the commission was issued in order to receive compensations for the loss. Therefore, in April 2010, we met Lawyer Kim Hyeong-tae from Duksu Law Office in Seoul and proceeded with a lawsuit. The lawsuit was for 91 victims and 448 people from the victims' families joined this lawsuit. Luckily in April 2013, we won our case in the first trial. But two people were rejected because they were registered as the victims of the Jeju 4·3 Incident, not the victims of the preventive custody incident. We filed the lawsuit as the victims of the preventive custody were the victims of the Korean War but the court dismissed those two victims, judging them as the victims of the 4·3 Incident, not the Korean War. Under the category of the Jeju 4·3 Special Law, the victims of the preventive custody were also the victims of the Jeju 4·3 Incident. But we couldn't proceed this lawsuit, making connection with the Jeju 4·3 Incident. On December 11th last year, we finally won the case for 88 victims and their 488 family members in the Supreme Court.

I should have come to Seoul with you (Grandfathers and Grandmothers) but I had to come to Seoul two days earlier to check the compensations which will be deposited today and other things at the lawyer's office. The total amount of the compensations is about 11.5 billion won.

However, there are still some remaining tasks. We have to dig up the dead bodies of the victims at Jeongtteureu Airport. The truth must be revealed. Receiving the compensations is not the end.

Survivors from the imprisonment like grandfathers and grandmothers here and their family members and other interested parties should not give up finding the truth and restoring the victims and their families' honor. By filing lawsuits against the government and winning the cases will lead to restoring the victims and their family members' honor. That's what I believe. Anyway, all of you! stay healthy!.

Yang Dong-yun: Filing a lawsuit against the central government is a very difficult task. I congratulate President Yang Yong-hae on winning the case after proceeding the lawsuit for a long period of time. Everyone! please give a big hand to President Yang Yong-hae. Thank you for sharing your impressive story.

Kang Mi-gyeong: Grandfathers and grandmothers here actually served their times in the Incheon Prison and the Jeonju Prison at the time of the Jeju 4 · 3 Incident. I'm going to ask about the life in the prison.

Grandfather Hyun Chang-yong! You were transported to Incheon by ship. Did you know that your destination was Incheon at the time? Do you remember how many people were on board?

Hyun Chang-yong: We were tried on December 8th 1948 and on the same day we came aboard. We arrived in Mokpo next morning. As We were heading for Mokpo, we saw Hwabuk and Samyang areas enveloped in flames. From Mokpo to Incheon, we rode a train. At Incheon Station, many prison guards and policemen were waiting for us to move us to the prison.

From the station to the prison, we rode trucks. As soon as we arrived at the prison, we were guided to the lawn. 117 people including me were sitting there. The people from the prison gave us our sentences. They even didn't tell us what was our charges but just called our names and informed us of our sentences.

"Moon Myeong-ho! Stand up! Life imprisonment!, Jeong Gi-chang! Life imprisonment!" Like this, about 20 people were sentenced to life. Next, it's was time for those who would be sentenced to 15 years in prison. Also around 20 people were given 15-year sentences. By the way, there was a man whose name was 'Moon Jong-seok'. He was a friend of mine and we lived in the same village. After he was given a 15-year sentence, he approached me and asked me to deliver his message to his family when I came back home. His message was that "I died here". But, after some time, he really died from dysentery in the prison. I was given a five-year sentence. The remaining 20 people were given a one-year sentence. After given our sentences, we were put in our cells.

Five to six people were put into each cell. As far as I know, the convicts from Jeju were given their prisoner numbers from 1001 to 1117. That's why I know that 117 people from Jeju were put in the Incheon Prison at the time. We didn't know our charges at first. Later, name tags were given to us and 'rebellion' was printed on it besides the prisoner numbers, and our names. That was how I knew my charge. To put it in a nutshell, we were tried on December 8th and given our

sentences next day, on December 9th, I had served my time in the Incheon Prison since then.

Kang Mi-gyeong: Grandfather Hyun Chang-yong! You mentioned the prisoner numbers from 1001 to 1117. Do you remember your prisoner number?

Hyun Chang-yong: 1071!

Kang Mi-gyeong: 1071? You have remembered it for 67 years!

Hyun Chang-yong: They gave us small name tags with the prisoner numbers on them. My number was 1071. The guards never called our actual names. They hurled abuses at us. They punished us severely whenever they didn't please with our behavior.

We were starved in the prison. The meals in the prison were made of wheat and sea mustard soup, which was no better than salt water, but the amount was always not enough. The food was always short. When the spring came after the harsh winter season, a lot of people began to die from dysentery. Tens of people died from the disease a day. We live that kind of miserable life.

Kang Mi-gyeong: Grandmother Kim Gyeong-in! You were moved from the Jeonju Prison to the Seodaemun Prison. How was your life in prison?

Kim Gyeong-in: Now, I can't remember that. I can't remember how I lived in prison.

Yang Seong-ja (from the floor): Why were you transferred from the Jeonju Prison to the Seodaemun Prison?

Kim Gyeong-in: I was very sick. I always stayed in my cell. I couldn't go to other places. Now, I'm so old and deaf. I can't remember well.

Kang Mi-gyeong: Let me add explanation. Some people were put in the Jeonju Prison in 1948 and others in 1949. Grandmother Kim Gyeong-in was sent to there in 1949. There are some testimonies that some prisoners were transported from the Jeonju Prison to the Seodaemun Prison because the Jeonju Prison was so overcrowded.

In addition, it seems that prisoners with long sentences were selected to be sent to the Seodaemun Prison. Actually, it is very difficult to meet grandmothers who were given long sentences.

Grandmother Park Chun-ok! You brought your two-old baby with you when you were put in the Jeonju Prison. Did other grandmothers (they were young mothers at the time) bring their children with them? How was your life in the Jeonju Prison?

Park Chun-ok: In December (1948), I was sent to the Jeonju Prison. About 80 people were sent to there together. As I remember, there were about 8 adults and 14 children from Gasi-ri (in Pyoseon-myeon). We arrived earlier and were told to take a bath, so we went to the spring and met people from Gasi-ri there. I didn't know there were some people from Gasi-ri when I left for

the Jeonju Prison.

I also met some of my relatives. We cried together taking each other's hand. However, I hadn't seen them again since then. I heard that they were moved to the Seodaemun Prison. I wonder whether they survive or not. Some said they went to North Korea. I don't know whether they live or not.

Kang Mi-gyeong: You just talked about the children from Gasi-ri. What I want to know is what happened to the children who were sent to the Jeonju Prison together.

Park Chun-ok: The children were taken to an orphanage. People from the orphanage brought bags of snacks with them, gave the snacks out to the children and took them to their orphanage.

Kang Mi-gyeong: You took care of your baby because he was too young to go to the orphanage?

Park Chun-ok: The children at the same age with my son were all taken to the orphanage. My son was too weak. He couldn't breathe well. I cooked rice porridge and fed him with it. It seemed that he might not survive but he did. A few years ago, A child who were taken to the orphanage visited Gasi-ri.

Kang Mi-gyeong: A child who were sent to the orphanage visited Gasi-ri after he has grown up?

Park Chun-ok: Yes, he did. His mother and I are of the same age. We have been on intimate terms. The child's family name is Kang and he is very successful now.

Kang Mi-gyeong: When you were taken, you even didn't have an opportunity to contact your family members and were sent to the prisons. Could you contact your family members? Grandfather Park Dong-su! Please tell us this story.

Park Dong-su: Ah! They gave each of us a postcard. The reason they gave it to us was that they wanted us to contact our family and make them send some medicine to the prison because we were infected with the itch badly. The prison governor said, "We can't afford to pay the price of your medicine. I'll give out postcards to you. Write to your family and make them send you scabicide or underwear." That's why he gave each of us a postcard. I remember that now.

Yang Dong-yun: Now is ten to seven. Some people haven't told his or her stories yet. Some from the audience are asking for chances to ask questions. Grandmother Kim Pyeong-guk hasn't said a word today. So, I'm going to give her a chance to talk about her story. (To her) Grandmother Kim Pyeong-guk! Can you hear me? Were you tried?

Kim Pyeong-guk: Yes, I was tried.

Yang Dong-yun: I see. Would you tell us your trial?

Kim Pyeong-guk: The trial was held in an office room in the police station. More than 100 people were driven into the room. The judge was sitting on the north side of the room and we were standing on the south side of the room. A banner was hung on the wall. It read, "General Court-Martial Article 77 Rebellion". I could read letters at the time. The trial began but nobody asked me what my charge was. We were so scared at the thought of being tried. Before long, the judge said something and rapped the gavel. And then we were sent back to the holding cells. Next day, we were summoned and tied together in a row. We boarded a ship and headed for Jeonju.

Yang Dong-yun: Grandmother! Don't you feel aggrieved at what was done to you?

Kim Pyeong-guk: Of course I feel aggrieved but what can I do? However, I have been consoled a lot because there are some people trying to find the truth of the 4·3 Incident and restore the victims' and their families' honor.

Yang Dong-yun: Then, Grandmother! Do you have anything to tell before coming back?

Kim Pyeong-guk: I have one forster son. Also I have a daughter. My husband died 30 years ago and I become old and live alone. I have no courage to ask someone to perform an ancestral rite for me after I die. So, I just hope that someone will set up my tablet in the 4·3 Peace Park after I die because I have lived such a regrettable life. That's all I hope. I don't want anything else.

Yang Dong-yun: Don't you want to file a lawsuit to clear yourself of a false charge?

Kim Pyeong-guk: A lawsuit must be filed!

Yang Dong-yun: It is necessary to file a lawsuit before you die.

Kim Pyeong-guk: I couldn't think of it because I'm so old. I feel so aggrieved.

Huh Sang-su: (To Grandmother Kim Gyeong-in) What happened to your face? Is it because you were tortured?

Yang Dong-yun: No, Grandmother Kim Gyeong-in was so sick when she was confined in the prison. That's why her face is damaged a lot. As we are pressed for time, from now on, I'm going to let some of the audience ask questions.

Yang Seong-ja: I didn't know that I could meet grandfathers and grandmothers here in Seoul like this. Thank those who have arranged this meeting for giving me a chance to meet grandfathers and grandmothers. Especially, I would like to thank grandfathers and grandmothers for surviving the unbearable hardship and telling us the valuable stories.

I had lived in Jeju and then moved to Seoul and now I live here. I'm also a family member of the victim of the 4·3 Incident. Therefore, I have some interest in the Incident. I would like to hear

some more details of Grandfather Yang Geun-bang's story. He said that when the Korean War broke out, the North Korean soldiers came and set the prisoners free. According to his story, a total of about 500 prisoners were released and the half of them were from Jeju. I haven't known the fact that those who were put in the Incheon Prison were so young aged between 15 and 19 and the North Korean soldiers gave them a chance to choose where to go to and almost all of the prisoners except you (Grandfather Yang Geun-bang) chose to go to North Korea instead of remaining in South Korea. It is quite surprising that they didn't choose to stay in their hometowns. It isn't easy to understand their choices. Could you tell us more about this?

Yang Geun-bang: To tell you what?

Yang Dong-yun: You said the North Korean soldiers set the prisoners in the Incheon free and asked them whether they wanted to go to North Korea or stay in South Korea. She wants to know why you chose to stay here instead of going to North Korea even though many prisoners chose the other way.

Yang Geun-bang: I'll talk about that. When the Korean War broke out, the North Korean soldiers stormed into the prison. The prison guards had already fled away before the North Korean soldiers came in. The North Korean soldiers opened the prison gate and I didn't know whether people in other cells were alive or not...

Yang Dong-yun: Sorry for interrupting you. But what she wants to know is that why you chose to stay rather than go to North Korea.

Yang Geun-bang: Okay. The North Korean soldiers transported us in a car to Seoul. I don't know exactly where we arrived. But they seated all of us and told us to raise our hand if you wanted to go to North Korea. Almost all of the prisoners raised their hand.

Yang Dong-yun: Did they really raise their hand?

Yang Geun-bang: That's because there were many people from Jeju and they witnessed horrible things such as their family members' being killed and their houses being burned. My brothers were executed right in my presence in Wasan. Due to the scorched earth operation on December 20th 1948, the houses were burned down and my brothers were killed. I was not the only witness to this. My friends and alumni, we went to Daeheul School together, also watched all of this. We were sent to the Incheon Prison together. In this situation, how could they think about going back to Jeju?

Yang Dong-yun: That's what she asked. Is the answer satisfactory?

Yang Geun-bang: They raised their hand because their siblings were all killed by the punitive forces. Why did they go back to Jeju Island? The North Korean soldiers talked them into going to North Korea, saying "You will be treated very well in North Korea because your family members were all killed unfairly." Everybody raised his or her hand but I didn't. I thought that I had to go back and find my siblings' dead bodies because they even couldn't be buried. That's why I

chose to stay. Even I can't describe the difficulty of walking south, I walked and walked to reach Daejeon. In Daejeon, the battle between the armies of the both Koreas was in full swing.

Yang Seong-ja: I'm so stunned to hear why they made those kinds of choices. I am really sorry for those who couldn't return to their homes and chose to go to North Korea.

Ko Dae-rip: I want to ask some questions to Grandfather Hyun Chang-yong. It is about my family. My grandfather and his brother were killed in Bukcheon-ri. My grandfather's brother had a son. As far as I know at first his son was sent to Mokpo and later to Incheon. His name is Ko In-pil. He is my father's cousin and currently I perform an ancestral rite for him. Do you happen to remember him? I ask this question because your prisoner number and his prisoner number are close to each other.

Hyun Chang-yong: Ko In-pil? I can't remember him.

Ko Dae-rip: I don't know whether he was dead or went to North Korea. Some say he went to North Korea so, I want to know exactly what happened to him.

Hyun Chang-yong: I'm sorry. I don't remember him. Anyway can I talk about how the prisoners were released in detail? It will take some time.

Yang Dong-yun: Of course you can. Go ahead.

Hyun Chang-yong: The Korean War broke out on June 15th 1950 but it was July 4th when the North Korean soldiers went down to Incheon. Before the North Korean soldiers arrived in Incheon, the prison guards already fled. Therefore, in the Incheon Prison, only the prisoners remained. We were waiting in our cells. Nobody brought us any food. After a while, one prisoner from Chungcheong Province whose name was Shin Ji-sik somehow opened the door of the cells with a hammer and we all got out of our cells. We were wearing prison uniforms because there was no way of getting plain clothes. Anyone could see we were prisoners. The prisoners from Jeju blindly walked south because that was the direction to our home. We walked from Incheon to Suwon. The distance we walked was about 31km. When we arrived at Suwon Station, hundreds of prisoners were sitting in the station with their fingers interlocked and both hands on the back of their heads. If anyone raised their head, they were hit with riflebutts. Nobody could move an inch.

Yang Dong-yun: Who did that? Soldiers?

Hyun Chang-yong: Yes, soldiers did that. After a while, the military police came and said that they would take over us. However, there was a major general whose name was Choi Yong-ha. He rejected the military police's request, saying, "These are our people. I'll take care of them. Leave them alone!" At night, we were transported back to the Incheon Prison. We were confined to the prison again. About 7 people were put in each cell. Two or three days had passed without being given any food. At around 3 or 4 a.m. in the morning, the sound of firing mortars from the downtown of Incheon City reached to our ears and there were sounds of footsteps hurriedly running hallway. The guards were running away.

By the way, before we heard the sound of firing mortars, in fact, the soldiers planned to concentrate us at one place and kill us all. However, because the North Korean army stormed into Incheon earlier than expected, they (the South Korean soldiers) left us alone and ran away. That's why we could survive.

When we poured into Incheon, the North Korean soldiers didn't say anything to us and took us back to the Incheon Prison. We were given rice balls and stayed there for a few days. Later, the North Korean soldiers took us to Seoul. They accommodated us in Daechong Inn which had been used as lodgings of the members of the National Assembly.

A guy titled as assistant minister of the Korean Workers' Party reviewed us. He was known to be from Jeju. He asked us to write a kind of autobiography about ourselves. We wrote about our stories again and again.

Now I come to think of it, it seems that they asked us to write our stories repeatedly because they intended to prevent us from writing false stories. I think most of the prisoners were taken to North Korea without knowing where they were going. They just blindly did what they were told to do. That's why they went to North Korea.

Huh Sang-su: Today we have some guests from the Association of the Victims' Families of the Jeju 4 · 3 Incident in Seoul. Mr. Kang Jong-ho, the co-president of the association, and Mr. Jang Bong-gi. Also, we have Mr. Yang Mun-heum, honorary professor of Dongguk University. I would like to ask Professor Yang to say something to us.

Yang Mun-heum: I've heard that there are some survivors from the imprisonment but it's first time to see them in person. I hope you will serve as great encouragement in finding the truth of the Jeju 4 · 3 Incident.

My father was executed at Jeongtjeureu Airport in 1949 after giving a sentence of death in the court-martial and my mother was killed in Seogwipo in the preventive custody incident.

I have lived a tense life so far but that's nothing compared to the lives of the grandfathers and grandmother here today. How hard and difficult their lives have been! I wish all of you a healthy and long life.

Yang Dong-yun: Professor Yang comes to Jeju on April 3rd every year. He attends the memorial service held in the 4 · 3 Peace Park and returned to Seoul in an inconspicuous way. Professor Yang's father hadn't been designated as the victim of the 4 · 3 Incident but now he is designated as the victim after passing the review process, isn't he?

Yang Mun-heum: Yes, he is.

Yang Dong-yun: It seems that the thought of his parents rushes upon Professor Yang's mind to see our grandfathers and grandmothers today.

Kim Pyeong-guk: I need to tell this. If I don't, I will regret bitterly. I was taken and beaten severely during the 4 · 3 Incident. I thought I would be forgotten meaninglessly. But your effort has made people like me known to the world. I thank you for having interest in and trying to resolve these issues (investigating the conditions of the survivors from the imprisonment and support them financially) for 3 to 4 years.

If I were a man I would involve in resolving the issues actively but I'm just old and useless woman. As I can't speak up for us in the court, I will support you in the public gallery to the best of my poor ability. Please try best to win the case in the court! Thank you.

Yang Dong-yun: There were some testimonies about going to North Korea. I'll add one story to that. There is a person whose name is Jeong Gi-seong in Sinye-ri, Namwon-myeon, Seogwipo City. He is now over 90. After the Jeju 4 · 3 broke out, Mr. Jeong Gi-seong and his elder brother were incarcerated in the Mapo Prison in Seoul.

Like some testimonies before, when the North Korean army occupied Seoul, the soldiers took the prisoners in the Mapo Prison to a schoolyard of a girls' high school. Then the screening process began. Mr. Jeong Gi-seong's brother asked his younger brother where would he choose to go. Then he asked Mr. Jeong Gi-seong for returning to Jeju, saying "Go back to Jeju and take care of mother! I'll go to North Korea."

Why did he choose to go to North Korea? Because he knew if he went back to Jeju, he would be killed. That's why he decided to go to North Korea. However, also Mr. Jeong Gi-seong couldn't go back to Jeju. When he arrived in Mokpo, kept hearing some news of his friends and acquaintances' executions. He was so afraid that he couldn't board a ship for Jeju. On Jeju his wife was living. She also heard rumors about her husband. At Mokpo Harbor, a Mr. Jeong went begging for coins and food in shabby clothes. Mr. Jeong Gi-seong's wife went to Mokpo and took him to Jeju. She reported his husband to the Jeju Police Station. However, the Jeju Police Station locked him up again and sent him to the Mapo Prison. He served a long time in the prison. Now he is very old.

III, Epilogue :

Jeju was the land of death in 1948, 1949, and 1950. Like the testimonies today, there was no other choice but being killed if they returned to Jeju. Some criticize those who chose to go to North Korea without knowing the exact circumstances. They argue that they decided to go north because they were ideologically biased toward North Korea. That's not true. Absolutely not. We have to understand the historic and tragic situations they were facing at the time in choosing between the two Koreas against their will.

There are a lot of incredible and tragic stories like this and we still haven't resolve the issues related with them. We have prepared much for this event but it seems that the event isn't satisfactory. I couldn't control my emotion well. I am sorry for that. Let's wrap it up here.

Yang Il-hwa: Thank the members of the Association of the Victims' Families of the Jeju 4 · 3 Incident in Seoul and other people for coming to hear our testimonies. I hope this event will be a stepping stone for achieving our goals in the future. We will take this opportunity to reconcile with and live harmonious with those who suppressed us and cherish a hope of restoring the honor of the victims and survivors in the future. Thank you

There have been many difficulties in preparing for this event. This event is a result from many years' investigation. Therefore, I'd like to thank some people for their involvement and efforts in organizing the event. Especially, my thanks should go to the members of the 'Jeju People Living In the Mainland', who live here in Seoul. Their commitment was great. I sincerely thank them for their great job. In addition, I thank Father Lim and the Order of Friars Minor. They willingly lent us this great place for the event.

Some people say that now is the time to finish all the activities related to the Jeju 4 · 3 Incident. They say it is enough. But this is nonsense. The process of resolving the Jeju 4 · 3 Incident has just begun. I can assure you that the resolution of the Incident will finish only if the honors of the victims like grandmothers and grandfathers here restores legally.

Those who were recorded as convicts, as many as 2,530 Jeju people were registered as convicts in the lists kept by the National Archives of Korea. 357 convicts on death row as we just saw the video clip? They were sentenced to death. (To know the exact number, we have to refer to the related materials.)

How could about 300 to 400 convicts on death row were executed in a modern nation? Even this was not in times of war and their charges weren't insurrection. Only a few people were executed on charge of assassinating the late President Park Chung-hee. This doesn't make any sense to me. That's why embittered Jeju people have tried hard to restore the victims' honor and that is the reason for today's witnesses are here.

The 4 · 3 Jeju People's Solidarity has been conducting an investigation of those 2,530 Jeju people registered as convicts for three years. Today's event is for hearing the truth of the Jeju 4 · 3 Incident from our grandmothers and grandfathers before too late.

End note : Organizer, Yang Dong-yun: Good afternoon! There are welcome faces and faces that I have wanted to see here. But my heart always bleeds whenever I participate in this kind of event because I have to argue that the 4 · 3 Incident hasn't been completely resolved yet. Today, we invite the survivors of the Incident who experienced the Incident in person to hear their testimonies in order to legally restore the damaged reputation of the victims who were killed during the imprisonment.

Organizer: The 4 · 3 Jeju People's Solidarity, The Jeju People Living In The Mainland, The Order of Friars Minor

Date: May 30th 2015, 5 p.m.

Place: The Education Center of the Society of Little Jesus in Jeong-dong, Seoul

Witnesses: Kim Gyeong-in, Kim Pyeong-guk, Park Chun-ok, Oh Hui-chun (served time at Jeonju Prison.) Park Dong-su, Boo Won-hyu, Yang Il-hwa, Yang Geun-bang, Jo Byeong-tae, Hyun Chang-yong (Incheon Prison.) Hyun U-ryong (Daegu Prison.)

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