

Introduction message : Russia and the Korean Crisis Considered in 2018

It was impressive that, on June 28, 2018, at Jeju Forum, Anton Koslov, Ph.D. gave his speech to the audience. In his article, "Russia and the Korean Crisis," he argues that "Russian foreign policy on the Korean peninsula had always been defined by its economic and security priorities, but these priorities changed over the course of history. In geopolitical terms, Korea may be viewed as a "power field", where the power-drives of various international actors cross and/or oppose each other. The resulting tensions are reflected in all political formation within that field. Division of Korea, the ongoing nuclear crisis, economic sanctions and information war point to the continuous tensions between at least three regional powers: the United States, Russia and China. Russia in this context attempts to play an important role of a negotiations' facilitator and behind-the-scene peace broker whose position may be unique in the ongoing talks. Its geographical proximity to Korea (Russian port of Vladivostok is situated in 100 km from the North Korean border), its historical ties to North Korea, but also its current economic ties to South Korea define its diplomatic position in ongoing negotiations. The fundamental goal of Russian policy in the region is the preservation of stability on the Korean peninsula. Russia seeks to find the optimal balance between all parties implicated in negotiations with the end-goal to play the role of a regional power broker and regain the influence it once had in the region."

He concludes that "Moscow maintains strong, albeit non-public relationship with North Korea. Russia's soft power in North Korea derives, to a large extent, from the Soviet legacy. Its potential impact on peace negotiations should not be underestimated, as Putin's diplomatic maneuvering and influence in the region may be crucial for any tangible outcome of peace talks. North Korea was one of a very few countries that recognized Russia's annexation of Crimea. At the same time North Korea plays the Russian card to absorb the impact of China and to balance off the US, China and South Korea. Russia too, views South Korean investment in Russia's eastern regions, as a way to mitigate the possibility of economic dependence on Chinese investment. Russia needs a peace settlement that will guarantee security, and denuclearization, opting for gradual economic integration between Russia's Far East and the two Koreas."

On the Backgrounds of the Renaissance and the Renaissance Humanism— —Centering around the Epistemology and Soteriology of the Via Moderna—

Messages from Synthetic Interpretation on the Renaissance Humanism Brings to Modern Society

Chan-moon Park PhD wants to bring people some message from his article titled as "On the Backgrounds of the Renaissance and the Renaissance Humanism—Centering around the Epistemology and Soteriology of the Via Moderna—

: he had learned from history books that the Renaissance period was referred to a period of light and human-centrism, which succeeded the Medieval ages, a period of God-centrism, also called the dark ages. I questioned why the period of God-centrism had been called the dark ages, and why Luther's reformation had taken place. Further, if the Renaissance people had been human-centric, whether they had lived without God, or whether they had not needed Jesus. When I had studied a history for God's glory, He has guided me to a best way spiritually and physically, and most of all let me gain an answer to my academic questions: the following lecture is based on the answer.

As a Western history professor, he kept studying about Erasmus and about Renaissance humanism and received a Ph.D. (1995). He also published a book titled, Synthetic Interpretation on the Renaissance Humanism —focusing on Erasmus-like Humanists' Religious Thoughts (Hye-An, 2011: Korean Version). This article has revised and arranged a paper to lecture at the U. S. Mid-West UBF Staff meeting, in September of 2016.

Social Activism of Jeju Buddhism in the period of Jeju 4.3 Incident Should Be Investigated

Han Geumsoon Ph.D argues, in her article, "Social Activism of Jeju Buddhism in the period of Jeju 4.3 Incident," that "Jeju Buddhism took the activist attitude toward the pending issues of Jeju society in solidarity with provincial residents, during the occurrence of the 4.3 incident. However, the overall activities of Jeju Buddhism had to be discontinued owing to their involvement in the resistance movement. Jeju Buddhism suffered not only heavy casualties including monks but also the vandalism of Buddhist properties such as temple and statues of Buddha in the midst of counter-insurgency campaign. Only the Administrative Headquarters of the Jogye Order in 2004 launched the investigation on the case of Buddhist victims during The Jeju 4.3 incident. It was just an investigation on the damages

of the Korean Buddhists during the Korean War. Even the Jeju 4.3 Peace Foundation, which is the representative position of commemorating the Jeju 4.3 incident, still has not performed the investigation on the overall damages of religious communities in Jeju during the 4.3 incident.

UNESCO World Geopark Management and Improvement Plan of Sanbongsan and Yonggi coastal areas Needed

Mr. Seung-Hag O, in his article, "UNESCO World Geopark Management and Improvement Plan : With Reference of Sanbongsan and Yonggi coastal areas," argues that "the rocky vegetation area of Sanbongsan is designated Natural Monument No. 376 and No. 3 National Scenic Site No. 77, and Yonggi is designated as Natural Monument No. 526 (January 13, 2011) and UNESCO World Geological Park (October 2010). Also, Yongmuri coast is the first candidate to become a World Natural Heritage site such as Mt. Halla, Seongsan Ilchulbong, and Geomun Aulm. As it is a place with excellent cultural value, we need Conservation Policy of Sanbongsan and Yongmuri Coastal Heritage.

What is our country to Jeju People ? : Understanding hidden stories of Jeju People from the Jeju 4.3 Uprising during 'peacetime' Korea with School Students.

It will be strange to some Korean that Mr. Song shi wo asked question to the Korean people through his article titled as "What is our country to Jeju People ? : Understanding hidden stories and of Jeju People from the Jeju 4.3 Uprising during 'peacetime' Korea with School Students." He argues that " the story of the island called Jeju coincides with the history of the Republic of Korea. There is a lot of speciality, so if you take a closer look, you can find the history and universality of the land. So I am interested in people who are looking for Jeju. Especially after liberation. I think that the process from the colonization of Japanese Imperialism to the making of the Korean people may be common among people living in other peripheral areas. Okinawa and so on Taiwan. The process by which the state uses violence to make people obey, or incorporate them, is similar to the invasive approach of past imperialism. In the process of establishing anti-communism state, it is necessary to study whether a person should be a citizen or not, and those who do not have to be annihilated as a stigma of "red". It is very important for us to live today. Most of the history of the land

on which you are based is hard to understand only in learning history related to the country at school. It is only for the teachers unless the local school board forms the appropriate curriculum."

The WEIS is no longer "scratching at the surface". Rather the journal is getting to the heart of the matter". Indeed, as the world is coming to know more about island people, cultures, islands are becoming important actors on the global stage in an age of World Environment. The World Environment and Island Studies Journal continues not only to provide a forum for discussion and analysis, but also suggests a vision of island civilization model to the world.

In doing so, the Journal offers directions as a lighthouse to ships on the sea in a cooperative age of 21st Asia Pacific, not to mention as a script. Thank you again for your attention to our journal.

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Editor in chief

Dr. Ko, Chang Hoon

President of World Association for Island Studies
And Emeritus Professor, Jeju National University,
S. Korea