

# Sharing the Meanings and Contexts of Korean Provisional Democracy, Diplomacy and Asian Pacific Care approaches at the Grass Roots Level with Neo Generations (1919 to 2022): Reflection and Projection for the 22nd World Peace Island Forum (March 21-22, 2022) in D.C., and Philadelphia, USA. (March 23-24, 2022).

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## Abstract

WAIS in South Korea and WEU Inc. in Philadelphia hosting the 22nd World Peace Island Forum: Remembering Jeju King Cherry Trees Bio-diplomacy (1943) in Washington D.C. and the first Korean Congress Democracy (1919) in Philadelphia which organized by the Korean Provisional Government from March 22 to 24, 2022. We want to propose cultural historic events which connect American and Korean society, such as the Trip to Faith and Liberty Hall that relate to the integration processes of Korean and American Democracy. Dean Max Friedman of American University calls the Jeju King cherry trees cultural event bio-diplomacy among world citizens. In addition, the Korean embassy evaluated the cherry tree event as a new kind of bio-diplomacy approach which paves the way for understanding different cultures in different countries. The aim of this paper is to share present contexts and meanings about both the first Korean Congress Democracy (1919) and Bio-diplomacy (1943). We had also the 2022 GAN Korea Jeju to Philadelphia Webinar Conference: Diversity as a New Diversity for Global Ageing Network in New Normal: Jeju Village Healing, PASSi Asian Culture, Japanese Indigenous Peace Culture, and Busan Smart Health Care approach.

### Key words :

WAIS. WEU Inc. Jeju King Cherry Trees Bio-diplomacy. Korean Congress Democracy. Korean Provisional Government. GAN Korea Jeju to Philadelphia Webinar Conference.

## Introduction

On December 20, 2021, Mr. Kwang-jae Lee, the Chair of the Foreign Affairs and Unification of the National Assembly of Republic of Korea, request WAIS and WEU to organize the 22nd World Peace Island Forum: Remembering Jeju King Cherry Trees Bio-diplomacy (1943) in Washington D.C. and the memorial events of the First Korean Congress Democracy (1919). We decided to host the events from March 22 to 24, 2022. We believe this is significant for future generations to promote the Jeju King Cherry Trees Bio-diplomacy (1943) by the Korean Provincial Government through the historical events. We propose the cultural historic events which can build strong relationships between American and Korean audiences through the trip to Faith and Liberty Hall (Choe.2022.39-50). The purpose is praise the meanings of the First Korean Congress Democracy (1919). In addition, we held 2022 GAN Korea Webinar Conference "Diversity as a New Diversity for Global Ageing Network in New Normal" affiliated with Jeju Village Healing, PASSi Asian Culture, Japanese Indigenous Peace Culture, and Busan Smart Health Care model.

### **The 22nd World Peace Island Forum: Remembering Jeju King Cherry Trees Bio-diplomacy (1943) in Washington D.C.**

It is our pleasure to organize "22nd World Peace Island Forum: Remembering the Jeju King Cherry Trees (1943)" as a Bio-diplomacy event with the participations of the Korean Congressman, Mr. Kwangjae Lee, Chair of the Committee of Foreign Affairs and Unification of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea; former President of the EUROPARC Federation, Dr. Schops from Belgium; and Dean Max Friedman and Peter Kuznick of American University in the USA. Dean Max Friedman of American University calls the Jeju King cherry trees cultural event a type of bio-diplomacy among world citizens. In addition, the Korean embassy considers this event as a new kind of bio-diplomacy

activity that paves the way to understand different cultures across the globe. The Korean Congressman speaks: "...Beautifully embroidered spring in Washington, D.C. is from Jeju Island. It is not widely known that the cherry blossom blooming in Washington is from Hallasan Mountain on Jeju Island. However, Jeju King Cherry has left a precious trace between the provisional government of the Republic of Korea and the United States. Moreover, American University has a deep connection with Korea. On March 29, 1943, during World War II, Rep. John Rankin declared, Now the royal cherry trees around the U.S. Congress are called Korean cherry trees" (proceeding book.2022:6-7).

In April of 1943, American University President Paul Douglas planted Jeju Island's king cherry trees on campus, opening a chapter in ecological diplomacy between Korea and the United States:

"Today, we are pleased to leave an important mark on the diplomacy of the Korea-U.S. Congress in Korea Garden. The relationship between Korea and the United States, which has continued since the Provisional Government of the Republic of Korea, is now evolving to a new stage. The Korea-U.S. alliance formed through the Korean War is now beyond the military alliance. It is evolving into a technology alliance and a value alliance. The two countries share the pain of the past and design future visions together. There is an unprecedented challenge for mankind; pandemic, climate crisis, digital transformation, and U.S.-China competition. We need to solve human problems together through cooperation between Korea and the United States".

The Korean Congressman, Mr. Lee promised that he would do his best for the new future of the two countries as the chairman of Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee. In his keynote speech, "Korean Cherry Trees and World Peace," Professor Peter Kuznick of the Department of History, American University, USA, pointed out the

context of the event as a starting point for environmental peacebuilding for future generations:

In 1943, Koreans and Americans gathered at American University for a simple ceremony affirming friendship between our peoples and voicing the hopes for world peace. As we gather here today, we are again on the precipice of world war—a war from which no one may survive. Three years ago, former president Jimmy Carter, calling the United States “the most warlike nation in the history of the world,” said that the United States has only enjoyed 16 years of peace in its 242-year history. This time it is who threatens world peace. But the lesson is clear. As the proponents of environmental peacebuilding understand unless we quickly end this war and find a way to solve problems without resorting to violence, especially in the nuclear age, humans will not long be here to enjoy these beautiful cherry trees or nature’s other gifts to humanity. (Kunick 2022 keynote speech)

Ignace Schops, former President of the EUROPARC Federation said, “The White Paper on the Future of Environmental Peacebuilding aims to deliver a strong, cogent message about the relevance, evidence, and promise of environmental peacebuilding to the Stockholm + 50 forum in June 2022. The white paper is a policy document with a call to action. Its goal is to stimulate thinking, policy, and funding for innovative programs and solutions around environmental peacebuilding. While it is not an advocacy document, it illustrates several options available to actors. It is not comprehensive, but it tries to encompass many topics while still maintaining a cogent, focused narrative. Its primary target audience is policymakers. The project formally launched online on 1 February 2022 at the Opening of the Second International Conference on Environmental Peace Building ... The project was developed not only to advance a policy agenda for environmental peacebuilding but

also to foster inter-institutional collaboration and shared innovation in the field ... It is the product of a multi-lingual, multi-stage, consultative process carried out over many months with 154 authors writing the 50 chapters in the Compendium and more than 150 people being involved in consultation and reviews of different iterations of the paper.”

Max Friedman, dean of the college of humanity and arts of American University gave a welcome speech in which he declared to launch of Jeju King Cherry Trees Bio-diplomacy for future generation. Professor Jinyoung Park highlighted the event as the Korean Garden of the beautiful Jeju King cherry trees at American University as a good example of integrating different cultures and ideas into peace. Barbara Wien and her research assistant, Mr. Joseph Jung said “This is the time to abolish nuclear weapons and stop war between Russia and Ukraine.”

Mr. Nam-soo Jwa, Chair of Jeju Special Self-Governing Province Council, noted that “Ecological diplomacy between the Korean Provisional Government and the U.S. Government will mark 80 years next year. Today’s commemorative event is designed to further develop the long-aged relationship between the two countries.” Dr. Eel-hwan Kim, President of Jeju National University, South Korea, hopes that “both universities will cooperate to hold the World Cherry Bio-diplomacy Cultural Festival and Jeju King Cherry Trees. I believe it will bring the hope of future generations to achieve peace in the nuclear age”.

### **The Meanings and Contexts of the first Korean Congress Democracy in Philadelphia (1919): “First Korean Congress” (1919) Becomes Dynamic Dialogue between Korean and American Parliamentary Democracy**

“Hi everybody! Today, we are together to confirm the fact that the First Korean Congress (1919) Becomes the Dynamic Dialogue between Korean

and American Parliamentary Democracy in everyday face to face life situations of ordinary people. The speaker, Professor Lee suggests several personal reflections on the significance of the First Korean Congress. First of all, reflecting on the Congress is heart-breaking and heart-warming as well. The March First Movement led many overseas educated Koreans to carry the spirit” (Lee, 2022, Keynote speech).

Pastor Dr. Byung-soo Lee of Kosin University professor talked about the relationships among justice, humanity, Christian values, and democracy in the first Korean Congress. The Congress organizers knew how to mobilize and whom to mobilize. They mobilized American Church leaders, understanding their humanitarian sympathy and their influence in the community.

Dr. Horim Kim also talks about clear object of the Korean Congress Democracy. Organizers of the Congress to make the opportunity to ask Korean independence from Japan at that time. He emphasized it is a time for Koreans to find their ways by themselves again in the midst of increasing G2 conflicts around Korea.

Dr. George J. S. Choe, Chair of the Philip Jaisohn Memorial Foundation, appreciated the patriots who endeavored and devoted to Korean independence. He said they felt moral superiority over Japan though they were a colonial subject because they believed they were doing a righteous thing. This pride and self-awareness made them endure hardship.

Professor Hope Elizabeth May of Central Michigan University referred to “The thread of democracy: from Independence gate (dongnimmun) to Independence Hall” through the dynamic life of Dr. Philip Jaisohn. She emphasizes that his democracy is connected with the Hague peace conference activities in 2007 by Korean patriots. Hamseokheon’s “Non-violence spirit and struggles” and Kim Daejung’s Korean democratization movement grew out of Jaisohn’s movement/beliefs.

Chair George J. S. Choe led talks about the “March First Movement in America & Power of Our History” by Philip Jaisohn, which includes Organizational Business, his Life and 3-1 Jeol in Korea &

Independence Movement in America and Power of History. He also introduced the Philip Jaisohn Memorial Foundation as “Changemakers” Today & Future” to Faith and Liberty Discovery Center, Independence Mall. It presents Dr. Philip Jaisohn was one of 22 great “Liberty Changemakers” along with President Abraham Lincoln, Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr, Rev. Billy Graham, Sojourner Truth, etc.

I also give my sincere thanks to CEO Ken Yang for providing Evergreen Center a meeting place for the first Korean Congress Conference 2022 with congratulatory message for the 22nd World Peace Island Forum in Philadelphia. He emphasized that “...Drawing Korean Americans from around the country, over the course of three days, the First Korean Congress served as a powerful demonstration of unity and resolve toward and important cause Korean Independence.” (Ken Yang 2022, Congratulation message)

We had four congratulatory remarks for the forum:

I also give my thanks to the Korean Congressman, Mr. Kwang-jae Lee, chair of the Committee of Foreign Affairs and Unification of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea derives four policy agendas from Dr. Phillip Jaisohn Suh and Democracy: Mankind thinks about (1) how to lessen the gap between richer groups and poor ones, (2) how to respond to crises of global climate change, (3) how to manage dominance phenomena of companies across globe over ordinary people using the digital technological means such as Facebook, messenger or YouTube at everyday life situations, (4) how to revise voting acts relating to changing representation or global conflicting war situations between Russia and Ukraine situations beyond boundary. The Korean Deputy Consul General in New York, Mr. Woongsoon Lim, is proud that the Korean Cultural Wave (Hanryu) is becoming mainstream all over the world. Especially, he emphasized that the Korean people have kept the excellent traditions of the March First Liberation Movement. (Lee, 2022, keynote speech)

Ms. Tina Sung, President of the National Unification Advisory Council Philadelphia Chapter, said, “It is also an honor to be here where Dr. Phillip Jaisohn spent most of his life. Dr. Jaisohn organized the First Korean Congress in 1919. He also was a

champion in the non-violent movement known as the March 1st Korean Independence Movement, where Koreans gathered to achieve freedom and independence from the Japanese government.”

Ms. Judy Yoo of the Federation of Korean American Associations of Northeastern USA, composed of 20 regional associations from NY, CT, MA, Delaware, and Vermont with 800,000 Korean Americans, which have contributed development and prosperity of Korea.

Ms. Sharon Hwang Hartz, President of Korean American Association of General Assembly is proud that it supports for 700 Korean Americans in Philadelphia to vote in the Korean Presidential Election on March 9, 2022.

Professor Kunihiko Yoshida explained that he has worked for the social healing movement of the Korean Jeju 4.3 Massacre under control of the U.S. Army because Jeju 4.3 people has experienced sufferings, isolation, oppression and marginal situations with cooperation of professor Chang Hoon Ko of Jeju National University since 2009.

Mr. Namsoo Jwa, Chair of the Jeju Special Self-Governing Provincial Country of the Republic of Korea is proud that it is a wonderful event to reevaluate the first Korean Congress Democracy as a cornerstone for building up modern Korean Democracy.

Professor Byungsoo Lee said, “The pioneer of this movement was an aristocrat named Soh Jae Pil, also known by the Anglicized name Philip Jaisohn. Exiled after participating in an attempted coup against the monarchy in 1884—the same event that opened the door for the first American Christian missionary, Dr. Horace Allen-Jaisohn went to the United States, where he became the first Korean-born U.S. citizen in 1890 and the first Korean-born medical doctor in 1892, then married a niece of former President James Buchanan in 1894. In 1896, he returned to Korea, where he organized a group called the Independence Club that drew a large following of young Korean nationalists educated in the Christian schools founded by Americans in 1884. Again, exiled as a threat to the monarchy in 1898, he left behind a movement of Korean nationalists who looked to democracy and modern science and education as the solutions to Korea’s

existential crisis”. (Lee. 2022, keynote speech)

Professor Yung Chul Lee offered several personal reflections on the significance of the First Korean Congress. He said “First of all, reflecting on the Congress is heart-breaking and heart-warming as well. The participants knew that their appeals and messages could not bring the country back. Yet, in the face of cruel and inhuman atrocities, they were obliged to do something as Koreans. The March First Movement led many overseas educated Koreans to carry the spirit. They came to the First Congress in the name of justice, humanity and Christian values and democracy. Second, the Congress organizers knew how to mobilize and whom to mobilize. They mobilized Church leaders, understanding their humanitarian sympathy and their influence in the community and politics. They were indeed very helpful. Third, organizers of the Congress followed the opportunity to make a case for independence to big powers.(Lee. 2022, keynote speech). Koreans find their historical identities again in the midst of increasing G2 conflicts, with Russia and Japan around us. We need to take a very careful, pragmatic approach to the evolving political and economic developments. Fourth, underlying their endeavors and devotion to the independence was the self-dignity as a man and pride as a Korean; they felt moral superiority over Japan though they were a colonial subject, because they believed they were doing righteous thing. This pride and self-awareness made them to endure hardship.” (Kim. 2022, keynote speech)

### **2022 GAN Korea Jeju to Philadelphia Webinar Conference: Diversity as a New Diversity for Global Ageing Network in New Normal: Jeju Village Healing, PASSi Asian Culture, Japanese Indigenous Peace Culture, and Busan Smart Health Care approach**

We were honored to invite guests to participate in the 2021 Global Aging Network (GAN) Biennial Hybrid Conference in Jeju: Asia Pacific Care Approaches: Post COVID-19 Challenges, Climate Change Impacts and Peace (September 6-8, 2021 at the Meijong Glad Hotel, Jeju-City, South Korea,

[http://www.gankorea.com/pages.php?p=1\\_6\\_1\\_1](http://www.gankorea.com/pages.php?p=1_6_1_1)) in partnership with the Global Ageing Network Virtual Summit for the future planning of older adults. Its global community of providers support each other by sharing experiences, strategies, and solutions. This past year has shown us the importance of connection and learning from one another. The more we can expand and strengthen our global network, the greater our ability to address issues of quality, access, innovation, and equity in care practices, prevention, wellness, and living arrangements (<https://globalageing.org/participate/2021-global-ageing-network-virtual-summit/>).

We will have 2022 GAN Korea Webinar Special Meeting: Diversity as a New Diversity for Global Ageing Network in New Normal, Jeju Village Healing models, PASSi Care Asian Culture model, and Canada, Long-term Care model, and Japanese Indigenous Peace Culture model 2022 from 19:30 pm– 21:30 pm, on March 23, 2022 in USA (South Korea and Japan : 09:30 am to 11:30 am, Sydney 11:30 am to 13 :30 pm).

The webinar will include a 120-minute session via ZOOM conference, 3 congratulatory messages and 5 panelists on topics related to the 5 kinds of healing model or approach, and Q and A. The webinar will be moderated by Chang Hoon Ko and panelists include congratulatory messages:

- Congratulatory message from the Korean Congressman, Mr. Kwang-jae Lee of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea
- Congratulatory video message from Lady Judy Chu of United States Congress
- Congratulatory message from Co-representative of PINO (Peace Islands Network Organization) Grant McCall, PhD (University of Sydney, Australia): “Effect on Jeju Peace Island”
- Jeju Village Healing models (2019–2022): Chang Hoon Ko, AeDeuk Im, Shiwoo Song, Seunghak Oh, Kwangsoo Park; three local legislators, Mr. Yungho Kang, Ms. Sungeui Kang and Ms. Seungah Lee from the Jeju Special Self-Governing Provincial Council Legislators
- Jeju Social Healing Village Wellness Model: Seungeup Folk Village (2019–2022) by Chang Hoon Ko, Kyungwon Lee, Doochul Kim, Kwangsoo Park,

Sejun Im, Yujun Kim

- Korean Kyong No Dang as a Humane Model: Chungsoo Folk Village by Ae-Duck Im (WAIS, S. Korea)
- Jeju King Cherry Trees Village Healing Model, by Seunghak Oh (Daeshin Middle School, S. Korea)
- Peace Island Healing Model by Sanghun Lee (Jeju National University, South Korea)
- PASSi Asian Culture model CEO Ken Yang and his team, ASSi (PENN ASIAN SENIOR SERVICE) Has Always Fought Language Isolation” by Ken Yang and his group
- Japanese Indigenous Peace Culture model by Professor Kunihiko Yoshida and his team
- Busan Smart Health Care Model: with regards of Island-Ocean centered University City model by Prof. Byunsoo Lee and Chul-ho Ok (Kosin University, South Korea) (GAN Korea program 2022).

## Conclusion

Future Generations’ Participating in Bio-diplomacy for Peace, Korean democracy for Nonviolence and Asia Pacific Healing Approaches plus Musical Performances (March 21–24, 2023 in D.C and Philadelphia) Proposed. Even though we had small delegation groups from South Korea, the USA, Belgium, and Japan who participated in the 22nd World Peace Island Forum because of the strong negative impacts of COVID. This was a big step toward Jeju King Cherry Trees Bio-diplomacy towards ecosystem for peace and peacebuilding. At a reception for the forum on March 22, 2022, in D.C., Yunjoo Koh, Consul of the Korean Embassy in D.C., praised the event because it paves the way for opening new and fresh approaches to bio-diplomacy through Korean Cherry blossoms and musical performance. Potentially, we want to propose the 23rd World Peace Island Forum to the public: Participations of Future Generations in Bio-diplomacy for Peace; Korean Democracy for Nonviolence and Asia Pacific Healing Approaches (March 21–24, 2023, in D.C and Philadelphia). This forum would invite people from around the world, which compose of the 23rd World Peace Island Forum and Global Peace Assembly for young

generations plus musical performances.

We believe there are many ways to encourage neo-generation Korean. We believe that there are many ways to draw the attention of the neo-generation of Koreans. However, we certainly understand there are many political, emotional, and legal obstacles surrounding this matter. We must be aware of the situation that even if the incumbent generation shows harmony hundreds of times, one political dispute can break down the harmony. Any sort of forcible solidarity based on breaking such harmony would not alleviate the tensions or provide Korean society with affinities between the individuals and organizations related to Korean societies in the USA. In this sense, we need to constitute our own rules and orders based on peaceful consultations that can drive harmony. The harmonized solidarity and affinities between the generations will provide us with tangible and practical rewards in terms of history.

We experienced ruthless suppression by the Japanese, but we achieved world-class democracy based on strong achievements in our economy. These achievements have enabled us to revisit historical places and show appreciation to our ancestors. This must be continued. We need to find ways to facilitate the relationships between legacy and new generations for the sustainable prosperity of Koreans around the globe.

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