



## ANOTHER JESUIT PRIEST IMPRISONED

Jesuit priest Fr. Lee Young-Chan was arrested on October 24 on charges of obstruction of business while protesting against the arrest of another peace activist at the gate of the Jeju naval base construction site.

A review on the legality of confinement of Fr. Lee was held on November 6, but the request to release him was dismissed. While the review was being held, a prayer gathering of fellow priests, nuns and peace activists took place in front of Jeju district court. Jesuits Korea issued a statement on his arrest and appealed for solidarity and support for Fr. Lee, saying that the Jeju naval base project is an international issue and that they will continue to raise awareness of this issue especially with Jesuits in North America and in the Asia-Pacific region. Jesuits Korea have dispatched several Jesuits members to Gangjeong village to protect peace and justice and preserve natural heritage, where its community has been destroyed and endangered due to the construction of naval base.

On Oct. 30 the Justice and Peace Committee of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Korea also issued a statement calling for the release of Fr. Lee. On November 9 Catholic mass was held at the Jesuit center in Seoul concerning the current situation and for the release of Fr. Lee and the other peace activists. In March 2012 Fr. Kim Jeong-Wook was arrested and imprisoned for 30 days. Br. Park Do-Hyun and Fr. Kim Sung-Hwan are facing trials.



## HOW YOU CAN HELP

1. Consider making a donation to support our international outreach and public education efforts. Visit [savejejunow.org/donate/](http://savejejunow.org/donate/) to donate.
2. Write letters to Gangjeong's prisoners of conscience (See page 3). Address letters to: Jeju Prison, 161 Ora-Zdong, Jeju City, Jeju the Peace Island, Korea
3. Stay updated on the resistance by joining the "No Naval Base on Jeju!" and "Save Jeju" Facebook pages. Follow @SaveJejuNow for the most recent developments on Twitter. Also watch #gangjeong and #gangjeung - then re-tweet.
4. Call the Korean Embassy in your country and let them know that Jeju does not want a naval base! The militarization of Jeju Island runs contrary to its designation as the "Island of World Peace." 94% of village residents voted no!
5. Email Jeju Island Governor Woo Keun-Min and tell him how you feel about the military base being built on the pristine "Island of World Peace". He should ORDER the navy to halt construction (destruction) and use his official power to cancel the Navy's license for reclamation of public water and its adjacent surface along the Gureomhi Rock coast! Contact him at: [lmw2828@jeju.go.kr](mailto:lmw2828@jeju.go.kr) or [jejunmaster@jeju.go.kr](mailto:jejunmaster@jeju.go.kr)
6. Pressure the ROK National Assembly to cut the whole budget of the Jeju naval base. Contact [english@assembly.go.kr](mailto:english@assembly.go.kr) or Moon Jae-In, Permanent Advisor, Democratic United party, Presidential candidate: [moonriver365@gmail.com](mailto:moonriver365@gmail.com)

FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
<http://www.savejejunow.org> (English)  
<http://www.facebook.com/SaveJeju> (English / Korean)  
<http://www.facebook.com/groups/nonavalbase> (English)  
<http://twitter.com/SaveJejuNow>  
<http://cafe.daum.net/peacekj> (Korean / English / Mandarin)

For Gangjeong related videos, visit [savejejunow.org](http://savejejunow.org) or check these Youtube sites:  
[1234y2100](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1234y2100) / [Dopeheadzn](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dopeheadzn) / [Sungbong2012](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sungbong2012) / [ShealEum](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ShealEum) / [Regis Tremblay](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RegisTremblay)

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## Construction site using illegal security company

Translated and excerpted from a Hankyoreh article by Lee Cheong-Kuk & Kim Ji-Hun

It has recently been revealed that 'Real SNG', the security service company which brutally assaulted Father Mun Jeong-Hyun and other activists, is the same company that had its license revoked last December for its involvement in a violent assault case. Father Mun and others were assaulted while peacefully protesting against the construction of the Naval base in Gangjeong Village, Jeju Island.

At the inspection of the National Police Agency, administered by the Open Congress Administration and Safety Committee on October 9th, Congressman Lee Sang-Gyu of the Unified Progressive Party introduced documents that revealed that Realy Tec, a security service company, had its license revoked by the police after its employees brutally assaulted civilians on December 22 at a civil petition site at a church in Seoul. However, on January 3, just ten days after having its license revoked, the security service company acquired a new license under a new name: Real SNG. The company took advantage of a loophole in current law which allows security service companies to acquire a new license simply by appointing a new CEO and renaming the company. Contactus, another security service company which received much criticism for brutally assaulting employees of SJM factory (a manufacturer of automobile components in Ansan, Gyeonggi-Do) last July, also took advantage of this loophole.

After acquiring a new license, Real SNG hired employees through Internet job-hunting sites until this September and sent them to Gangjeong Village. Even when the company received much criticism for using violence against protesters last April, the police did not take any measures against the company. Only when the media began criticizing the use of violence by Contactus and the poor supervision of such security service companies by the police, the police revoked Real SNG's license on September 26 in a general crackdown.

Congressman Lee Sang-Gyu asserted, "This clearly reveals the poor performance of the police at inspecting and supervising these companies." He added, "Security service companies recruit a large number of retired police officers. Thus, it is inevitable to suspect corruption between the police and the security service companies. It is critical that the laws governing the security service industry be revised to root out any potential corruption between the two."

Last May, at a hearing to confirm Kim Ki-Yong's appointment as the Chief of National Police Agency, Congressman Kim Chang-Il of Democratic United Party presented Kim Ki-Yong with three photographs of police brutality against Father Mun and two protesters. At the time, Kim Ki-Yong replied, "I will investigate the violation of human rights occurring in Gangjeong Village" However, ahead of the parliamentary inspection, when asked to submit a report regarding the progress of the investigation, he replied, "Of the three photographs, one falls under the jurisdiction of the National Maritime Police Agency and the other two are being investigated by National Human Rights Commission of Korea." Congressman Lee Sang-Gyu sharply criticized him: "Kim did not fully investigate the incidences of human rights violations in Gangjeong Village and instead responded with an insincere reply regarding only the three photographs presented to him by the National Assembly. It is an act that betrays his promise to the public."

Front headline image source: Lee Woo-Ki. Taken November 3, the final day of the Grand March for Life and Peace  
Back image sources: Jung Da-Woo-Ri, Cho Sung-Bong, Lee Woo-Ki, Fielding Hong



# GANGJEONG VILLAGE STORY

Monthly news on the struggle against Jeju Naval Base

Published by Gangjeong Village in Jeju, South Korea



## LET'S LIVE AND WALK TOGETHER

By Ddalgi (excerpted from a longer article)

We started the National Grand March for Life and Peace because of our friends in Gangjeong. Everyday they are struggling in front of the naval base construction gate to stop the illegal construction. Even though their bodies are covered in bruises, they can't leave there. But no one listens to their cry. So we thought we have to let everyone know about their desperate appeal.

A variety of people from 20-70 years old came together and walked across the country calling, "Life Together, Everyone is the Sky!" There were people from Gangjeong, struggling for Peace, people

from Ssangyong Motors [car company] suffering from mass layoffs, oppression, and the deaths of 23 of their co-workers, and the people in bereavement from the Yongsan Tragedy, whose family members climbed a watchtower to block their unjust eviction, and were killed by violent government suppression. People who have suffered can sympathize with other's suffering. The evicted, expelled, and those in solidarity with such people, travelled together and visited other places of suffering.

The steps which began in Gangjeong, have brought us to many sad stories throughout the country. Workers laid off easily forced out on the streets,

without respect for basic rights; Discrimination against temporary workers, such as Hyundai Motors failure to implement the Supreme Courts ruling to change their temporary workers to regular workers, which led to two workers now protesting, living high up in a power transmission tower. In Milyang and Cheongdo, we couldn't stop crying when we met elderly people and grandparents struggling and suffering because their hometowns were destroyed to build high voltage transmission tower and unstable nuclear power plants. Our increasingly energy using lifestyles are trampling on others' lives. Our environment, mountains and streams, plants

and grass, are torn out by a storm of development, such as the disastrous Four Rivers Project, thus far costing 22 trillion won. We were speechless at the suffering of Gangwon-do, where even ancestral burial sites were being violated simply because of rampant forced golf course development. There too, even grandmas and grandpas become desperate fighters against cruel violence, and illegal and undemocratic destruction/construction. People are expelled all across the country. The workers who lost their place wander the streets, as do the farmers evicted from their farmland.

“WALK TOGETHER” CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

## Numerous findings in National Assembly inspections

The annual ROK National Assembly inspections on the government offices has been held again. The inspection regarding the Jeju naval base project was carried out from October 5-24. On October 15 the villagers released a statement regarding the findings of the inspection:

“Two huge issues have been disclosed in the National Assembly inspection on government offices this year. First, clear proof that the US military has intervened in the Jeju naval base construction. As seen in the construction specifications, the CNFK (Commander of the U.S. Navy Forces, Korea) has demanded that the ROK Navy design a base which US nuclear-powered aircraft carrier and nuclear-powered submarine can enter...Second, clear and definitive evidence has been found that the ROK government has only been pretending to build a tourist port while in fact constructing a military only port...Additionally, even though the Navy has stated that it will use the southern sea and a sea area near Chuja Island as a firing range and training area, the maritime and fisheries bureau of the Jeju Island government is not raising any inquiry about it...Further, the Air Force is openly stating that it will push for a search and rescue air force base with the development of the new Jeju Airport...Jeju Governor Woo Keun-Min should have no more fantasies of local development through the naval base construction which has been full of rushed methods, law-evasiveness and illegality...”

Finally, On Oct. 23 it was found that the chairman of the technical verification committee on the base design, a position which was supposed to be neutral, was nominated for a promotion as a member of the local development committee of the ruling Saenuri Party at the end of September. Despite the numerous serious issues exposed, on Oct. 25, the Office of the Prime Minister still attempted to force a presentation on “local development plans” in conjunction with the naval base project. It was thoroughly disrupted by the villagers who cried, “The government cannot buy us with money!”

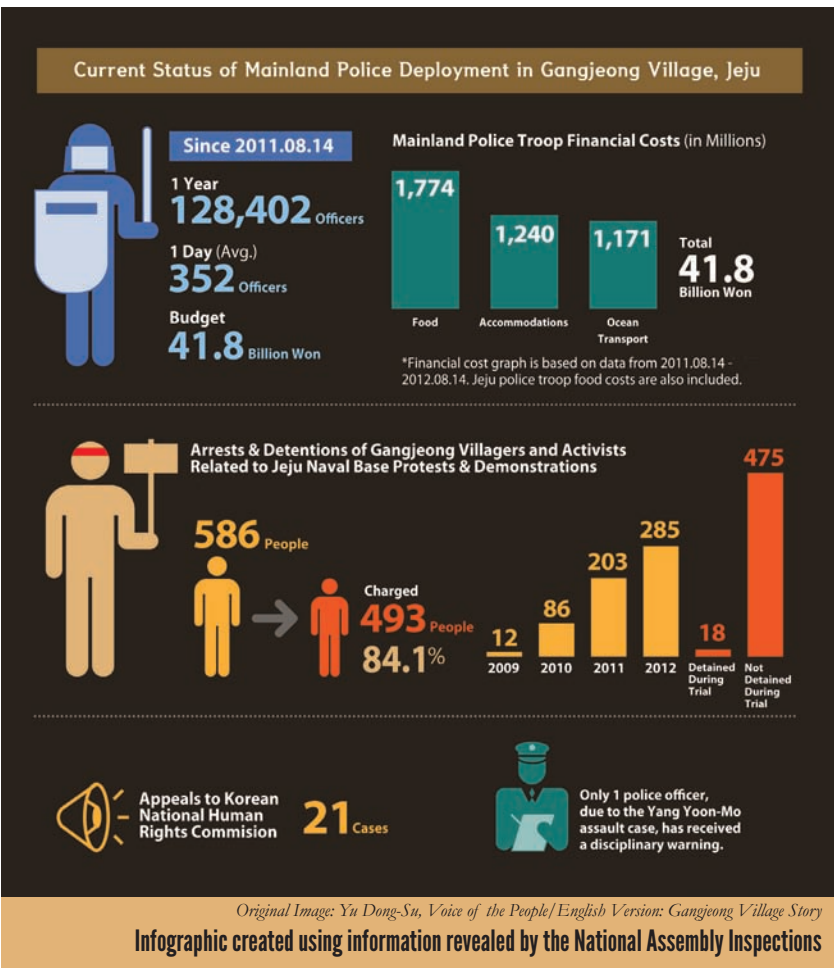






Image: Jung Da-Woo-Ri

24-Hour-a-day police oppression in Gangjeong. The people do not regard the police as legitimate, rather they view them as simply the construction companies free bodyguards paid for by their taxes.

## 24-HOUR CONSTRUCTION BRINGS 24-HOUR PROTESTS

Since Oct. 25 the navy has begun 24-hour-a-day construction/destruction. The navy is rushing construction because it is very behind schedule and they have to fulfill a quota in order to be eligible to apply for their 2013 budget of around 200 billion Korean Won. The navy has been building with their 2011 budget, around 107 billion Korean Won, as the 2012 budget was cut by 96% last year. Because of the people's resistance only around half of that 2011 budget was spent by September. If the navy is not able to spend the entire 2011 budget then they are not eligible to apply for a budget for 2013.

Inside the construction site, they have created a large steel frame for building smaller 3,000-4,000 ton cement caissons. They plan to build 82 of these to use for the east breakwater of the port. They are now making these caissons around the clock, with cement trucks going in and out all day and night.

Of course villagers and activists have responded with 24 hour-a-day resistance. However, around 500 police from the mainland have been mobilized into shifts to crack down on the people day and night. During the people's sleepless and desperate human blockades to stop the trucks, at least 6 people have been taken to the hospital by ambulance because of dangerous police violence at night. The 24-hour destruction has serious human rights and environmental destruction costs.

Now the National Assembly is deciding about the budget for 2013 for the naval base project. Please help us to cut the budget! Please pressure the ROK National Assembly to cut the entire budget. Contact english@assembly.go.kr, or Moon Jae-In, Permanent Advisor, Democratic United Party, Presidential candidate: moon-river365@gmail.com



Image: Gangjeong International Team

Gangjeong artist Jang Jun-Hu paints a whale with words leading into the naval base site. He has been creating art work on the walls of Gangjeong, the fence of construction site and the path in front of the Naval base destruction gate. The navy and the naval base workers are always busy to erase his art but he just responds peacefully, creating again and again with increasingly surprising inspiration.

### “WALK TOGETHER” CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

In this society, people are forced to struggle for their God-given human rights, and just to be recognized as a human being. Everywhere in Korea, From Gangjeong to Ssangyong to Yongsan.

The Grand March travelled to all these suffering places. We used to cry a lot. There are so many stories we just ignored until we stopped, and looked closer, listening and then mourning together. We know that all these problems won't be solved through one Grand March. But we won't give up to fight continuously with the people across the country fighting to not be evicted or expelled. On Nov. 3, all those voices from all parts of the country came together and shared our sufferings. After the march, we opened a “Live Together Encampment” demonstration village next to Seoul City Hall plaza. If more people join us, our hope to “Live Together” can come true. Today, with the cold winter wind around us, let us remember our neighbors who struggle, and consider what we can do, even something small. Even simply showing concern is way to make solidarity.

## Activists march for peace and a Korea free of US warfare grip

By Tiff (Tiff spent a month in Gangjeong, joining the daily struggles and also part of the Grand March. The march connected together many different struggles, expanding the SKY Act.

As an American who does not speak Korean, I was not sure if I would be received well in Gangjeong. However, as soon as I arrived, I was led into a home of warmth and shared understandings by my fellow peers in Gangjeong. I spent day after day at the construction site gates documenting the peaceful protests against the naval base, which were in reality intense and emotionally traumatizing. Given the opportunity, I decided to join the march.

I was blown away by the support and solidarity given to the group as we marched through cities. Shop owners, farmers and villagers would clap and cheer us on as the group passed by handing out flyers. Families, churches, unions and activists hosted us to eat with them and provided to us places to stay.

It was not until I have left the march, Gangjeong and South Korea that I have come to the realization of the utter importance to one of the frontrunners of the march. Father Mun Jeong Hyeon has spent the past 40+ years working on direct activism for justice and peace in South Korea. I first came into contact with him in Gangjeong as he held the daily Catholic mass at 11am in front of the gates. He would spend the remainder of the day in front of the gates and several times would be carried away by the police. Although in his 70s, he got up the night before the march started on October 4th and sang with energy I only have at my best. Each day we marched together through the streets and all would greet him warmly. “It is my job to be with the common people who are suffering and fight for their rights,” he told me on my last night of the march in Daejeon. The march continued and finished on November 3rd in Seoul. I implore you to visit Gangjeong- you will not regret it. Activists along with Father Mun will continue to ‘march’ for peace, democracy and a South Korea that is independent of the U.S.'s warfare grip.

## Costa Rican NGO supports the people of Gangjeong's struggle to preserve its natural and cultural heritage

By Randall Aranz, President of Pretoma, Costa Rica, Whitley Award Winner, 2004, Goldman Prize Winner, 2010, Gothenburg Award Winner, 2010

During my recent visit to Jeju, South Korea, last September, as a delegate of the Costa Rican NGO Pretoma at the IUCN International World Conservation Congress, I was appalled to learn about the construction of the military base in Gangjeong, and the overwhelming violation of the people's basic rights, their right to peace, and their right to preserve their natural heritage. As I learned more about the issue, I thought how a demilitarized Gangjeong would be the best way to promote its sustainable development for the benefit of future generations.

Costa Rica is a small country in Central America, well known not only for its biodiversity and thriving ecotourism industry, but also for abolishing its army in 1948. Relieved from the burdens of supporting an army, the country was able to invest in education and health, to a point where Costa Rica currently stands as one of the most stable democracies in the world, with record high literacy rates and low infant mortality. No military has required the development of a strong sense of democracy among the citizens, for the defense of citizen rights and of the public interest.

Certainly, the people and biodiversity of Gangjeong are better off without a military base, which is transforming its shoreline, and will eventually transform the village itself with the infrastructure and additional development that will accompany it. The people of Gangjeong have every right to fight this military development. Is it really necessary? Is a military base really the best way to promote the development of this coastal community? I don't think so.

Gangjeong friends gathered in front of Jeju Prison to greet and celebrate with Kim-Dong Won who was released on bail on October 26, after 118 Days. He is currently on trial.

Image: Jung Da-Woo-Ri



## GANGJEONG BECAME OUR LIFE :

Jeong Yeon-Gil & Park Suk-Jin

“Given that it is clear that the Jeju Naval base to be built in Gangjeong Village will be a military outpost of the United States, we cannot stand for our Gangjeong Village, Our Jeju Island, to be in the middle of a conflict between an expanding China and United States containment efforts. We know that the destruction of Gangjeong Village and Jeju, the Peace Island, will become the suffering of all our people.”

That's an excerpt from a statement made by five anti-base activists who climbed atop a 10 meter dock holding a 8,800 ton caisson built by the Samsung at the Hwasoon port on Sept. 6, the

opening day of the 2012 World Conservation Congress (WCC) Jeju. When they were arrested, they were dragged and beaten by workers and company-contracted thugs, high in mid-air without safety equipment.

Rev. Jeong Yeon-Gil and Mr. Park Suk-Jin were two of the five who climbed the floating dock holding the caisson and have imprisoned since then. As of Nov. 14, it has been 70 days.

## JEONG YEON-GIL : PRISON LIFE

It's already cold enough to wear the winter prison uniforms. He told me that warmth in prison comes from sunlight and the heat from other people. He was asked to move to a cell with teenage prisoners, so now he has three teenage cellmates. He hopes to be their good friend. His daily life is peaceful, unlike when he was staying in front the naval base construction site.

Finally he said, “I'm very worried and feel sorry that the struggles at the main gate of the naval base site are getting tougher. We are all eager to stop the naval base which is destroying the environment. We all hope to delay the cement trucks, even if for only 1 minute. People there don't care about getting hurt or arrested. Gureombi Rock, the Sesarma Intermedium (Red-Foot Crab), the Caridina Denticulata Keunbaei (Jeju Freshwater Shrimp), people who love nature, and the children of Gangjeong will all appreciate us in the future. Hang in there!”



Image: Lee Woo-Ki

Rev. Jeong Yeon-Gil says he's getting stronger and healthier while in prison.

## National Police Agency replies to UN without consultation with the Jeju Police Agency

The National Police Agency replied to the UN Human Rights Inquiry regarding police oppression in Gangjeong without any consultation with the Jeju Police Agency.

According to the National Assembly inspection materials from the Jeju Police Agency, the agency did not receive any consultation from the National Police Agency regarding their reply letter to the UN Human Rights Special Rapporteurs' Joint Inquiry (made on May 30) regarding human rights violation in Gangjeong.

In other words, the National Agency's reply was simply an arbitrary formal reply without actually checking any of the facts. The Jeju Police were not even aware of the contents of letter until thier preparation process for the National Assembly inspection.

## PARK SUK-JIN : LIFE IS CONTINUOUS RESISTANCE

“Even though I was a little disappointed at first at the news that the WCC Gangjeong motion could not pass, I was relived and encouraged to see your letter. I am pleased to hear that the villagers were empowered, above all.”

From Oct. 23 to the morning of Oct. 27, Park Suk-Jin went on a protest hunger strike in prison. According to his older sister, he demanded to meet the head of Jeju Prison to improve the treatment of the prisoners. When the meeting was rejected, he began fasting.

For this, he was put in a small solitary punishment cell. His family protested to the Prison about the unreasonable oppressive measures being used against him, especially since he is a prisoner still under trial. He was eventually moved out of the punishment room and then moved to a private cell on Oct. 27.

In 1991, he was a member of a police special oppression unit but upon the death of a student killed by police during students' protest against the military dictatorship he became a conscientious objector. Since then he has become a peace activist. He has worked as a member of Solidarity for Peace And Reunification of Korea and joined the struggle to stop the base project last year.

In an interview after his arrest, he said, “The time that I have spent with people, crying and laughing together during our resistance to stop the blasting of Gureombi Rock in March and April has been deeply inscribed in me. Many people made sacrifices. And I cried much and shared their pain. To be with them became my faith, and to act with them became my life. And they and I became ‘We’.

That is why I cannot easily leave here. There is good reason for hope still. Many more people in the international conservation community now know of the tragedy plaguing the villagers, and some of them have vowed to continue the struggle to help end this destruction of a beautiful and important coastline and the diverse life within these sacred waters.”



Image: Lee Woo-Ki

Park Suk-Jin went on a hunger strike for 3 days for better prison conditions.

## GANGJEONG PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

Please write letters of support to

Since June 14

No. 598  
Mr. Kim Bok-Chul

Since Sept. 6

No. 187  
Rev. Jeong Yeon-Gil

Since Sept. 6

No. 188  
Mr. Park Suk-Jin

Since Sept. 14

No. 290  
Mr. Park Seung-Ho

Since Oct. 24

No. 407  
Fr. Lee Young-Chan

Jeju Prison, 161, Ora-2 dong, Jeju City, Jeju the Peace Island, Korea