



Image: Gangjeong Peacekeepers

Gangjeong peacekeepers held one person protests outside the hotel gate.

UN-ROK's Hidden Forum

The ROK and UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in the Asia Pacific region (UNRCPD) held a forum in Jeju, Nov. 14-15. The joint annual forum was unpublicized with no information on the venue until Nov. 15.

The Shilla Hotel (Samsung-owned) was not mentioned on the UN website, nor the ROK Ministry of Foreign Affairs public press release. Furthermore, besides little media coverage, the actual venue of Shilla hotel had no outside sign on Nov. 14 when some Gangjeong peace keep-

ers visited. In the 2011 forum, 3 people were arrested for their non-violent protest. In the first court, each was fined 700,000 KRW for a trespassing charge.

The forum's special emphasis on UN Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) to strengthen W. Bush's Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) is of concern. The PSI's legality has been questioned for violation of international law, infringement on sovereignty, and pre-emptive strike. Under the resolution, the ROK Coast guard and navy can freely search and confiscate North Korean ships that sail on high seas such as the Indian Ocean, as well as South Korean territorial seas.

Gangjeong Friends' Public Relations Street Action

By Park Young-In, Secretary of Gangjeong Friends

The anniversary of Gangjeong Friends is approaching soon. There have been many ups and downs, as well as trials and errors, for the organization to be set as a support group for Gangjeong village and peace keepers. Enduring such tribulations, we now feel established and our persistent support has been fruitful. Since January, Gangjeong Friends' has maintained a table every Tuesday in front of Jeju City Hall from 6-8 pm, regardless of snow and rain. Though small, it is a meaningful activity to inform the Jeju citizens on Gangjeong. Ms. Bou Soon-Jeong, in charge of public relations, has been at the site almost every week. Nearly a year has passed and yet there are still people who ask, 'what is Gangjeong?' Some people explicitly expressing their uneasiness do not take our leaflets. The harsh winter winds is coming, a reminder of last winter, when our work began. Originally, the street actions were planned only until March. However, we felt that if we continued our quiet, but persistent efforts without losing our original purpose, the people can not ignore Gangjeong village. We wait for more people to be with us.



Image: Gangjeong Village Story

A series of block prints about Article 9 of Japan's constitution were given as a solidarity gift to Gangjeong.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

1. Make a donation to support our international outreach and public education efforts. Visit savejejunow.org to donate. Alternatively, join Gangjeong Friends to give regular support to activists. Contact gangjeongint@gmail.com for details.
2. Write letters to Gangjeong's prisoners of conscience (See page 3). Address letters to: Jeju Prison, 161 Ora-2dong, Jeju-si, Jeju-do, 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 Gureombi Rock coast! Contact him at: lmw2828@jeju.go.kr or jejumaster@jeju.go.kr
6. Organize a solidarity event (concert, movie screening, protest, talk, etc...). Publicize it, invite your friends, invite the media, and share about it with us on Facebook and other social media sites.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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

For Gangjeong related videos, visit savejejunow.org or check these Vimeo/YouTube users:
Vimeo: [cho sung bong](https://vimeo.com/cho-sung-bong) / [DH Song](https://vimeo.com/DH-Song) / [Regis Tremblay](https://vimeo.com/RegisTremblay) YouTube: [Shalomsea](https://www.youtube.com/user/Shalomsea) / [1234yzt00](https://www.youtube.com/user/1234yzt00) / [Sanghong2012](https://www.youtube.com/user/Sanghong2012) / [NoBaseJeju](https://www.youtube.com/user/NoBaseJeju)

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Special thanks to Gangjeong Friends for financial support.



Image: Gangjeong Village Story

On November 15, a rally and concert were held in Jeju City. Hundreds turned out to demand a stop to the naval base construction and state oppression of Gangjeong and Jeju.

CPT IN SOLIDARITY WITH GANGJEONG

By CPT Outreach Coordinator

As a member of Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT), I felt right at home immediately in the work in Gangjeong. Like the struggle for peaceful life here in Jeju, all of CPT's projects around the world—in Iraqi Kurdistan, Palestine, Colombia, and the 1st Nations of Canada—aim to reduce the destructive impact of imperial militarism. We use similar methods of vigils, marches, public worship, and other forms of nonviolent direct action to intervene in lethal and systemically unjust situations. Only going where we are invited, CPT members accompany grassroots community leaders and amplify the voices of local people who are struggling nonviolently and diligently in the face of intense repression and injustice.

CPT's mission is "building partnerships to transform violence and oppression." In the anti-base movement I saw evidence of healthy partnerships that did indeed assist in the transformation of violence and oppression into health and freedom. There is a sense of deep love and care for the community activists that I saw expressed from people all across the island. There is an acupuncturist that offers free services and organic farmers that provide a biweekly meal. Through them I saw how positive intentions and non-monetary support build on the tight-knit Gangjeong community structure to maintain the viability of this resistance movement. With this type of network, there is no way this movement will fail.

I was impressed by the hospitality of the movement leaders to me, even though I can only say a few words in Korean. There are enough translators within the anti-base group; they are so kind to pause whatever they are doing to come and assist in making a connection between people. Also, during the portion of the daily activities that include dancing and singing, I was invited to lend my voice to the struggle. I shared a song from the mouths of my ancestors, African-Americans and white allies who fought together for civil rights in the United States. I sang "We Shall Overcome." I believe this!

We are all connected although I work in a different part of the struggle, by visiting Gangjeong I now carry their stories with me to be shared. I return to CPT with a renewed sense of the importance of consistent and focused efforts built on strong analysis of imperialism's ricocheting impact and love's strategic antidote.



Front headline image sources: Gangjeong Village Story & Kim Dong-Won
Back image sources: Choi Hye Yeong, Shin Yang In, Zoyakgol



Published by Gangjeong Village in Jeju, South Korea



WCC TO ISSUE STATEMENT ON JEJU

From Oct 30-Nov 8, the World Council of Churches (WCC) held its 10th assembly in Busan, Korea. The WCC is one of the largest religious bodies in the world and according to Wikipedia, "collectively represents some 590 million people, globally in 150 countries, including 520,000 congregations..."

This year's theme "God of life, lead us to Justice and Peace" was quite fitting for Gangjeong's struggle, and many villagers and activists attended with a daily exhibition booth and hosted a workshop, "Inter-Island Solidarity for Just Peace". Gangjeong received much exposure from the booth giving away 2000

pins, 2000 brochures, and 600-700 copies of the monthly English newsletter. We also raised \$2000 from Gangjeong items (handmade necklaces, notebooks and dolphins, books on Gangjeong, and music CDs).

The workshop was packed with about 70-80 people attending with not enough chairs. Speakers from Jeju, Hawaii, Philippines, Okinawa, and Lanyu (Taiwan) shared moving presentations with feedback indicating strong interest in building a network of inter-island solidarity. Gangjeong was also discussed in 3 other workshops, one was to a supportive group from the historic peace churches

(Quakers, Mennonites, Brethren).

Additionally, 21 people visited Jeju for 2 days on a solidarity delegation arranged by the WCC. They visited Dr. Song in prison, and met with Mayor Kang, Father Mun, Chairwoman Jeong, and others. Upon their return, many visited the Gangjeong booth to express their gratitude and strong emotions of support.

Finally, at every assembly the WCC issues statements on pressing matters around the world. With space for new statements to be proposed, supporters and friends worked hard to include an official statement on Gangjeong and

the increasing military build-up on the Asia-Pacific as one of these new statements. Among the 22 newly proposed, the Gangjeong statement was accepted. The statement on Gangjeong and Asia Pivot was included in a statement on nuclear energy. After several revisions, the statement was taken to final vote among WCC delegates. However, the statement could not be finalized and it will be postponed until July 2014. However, at that time, the WCC will issue a statement against the militarization of the Asia-Pacific and the destructive Jeju naval base project in Gangjeong. God of life, lead us to justice and peace!

Further National & Local Inspections on Base Construction

By Kang Hyejin, Policy Team Director of The Jeju Pan-Island Committee to Stop the Military Base and for the Realization of Peace Island

On Oct. 28, during the National Assembly inspection on the Coast Guard, Dr. Song Kang-Ho and Br. Park Do-Hyun both currently imprisoned, were present to testify as witnesses on the unjust imprisonment process stressing the injustice of the Jeju naval base construction. On the same day, another issue was raised on the suspicion of the coast guard's continued illegal surveillance on several peace activists in Gangjeong.

On Oct. 29, the issue of excessive mobilization of state power in infringement of human rights was also raised by National Assembly woman, Jang Hana. After an analysis on the status of the positioning of police forces regarding the Jeju naval base construction, the results found that a total 2,241 companies and 202,620 of the police force (about 300 units and 27,000 of the police force from the main land) have been mobilized in Gangjeong for 2 years, from Aug. 2011 to Aug. 2013. During this period, the police were mobilized 699 times, which indicates almost daily mobilization of police forces even when there were no public rallies or events.

In addition, on Oct. 31, the Jeju Provincial Council's inspection on the Island government's administrative office made it very apparent the 'dereliction of duty' by the Woo Keun-Min Island government. It is clear that the Island government has not carried out any of its measure for the last two years, regarding its agreement with the navy on the use of sea area related the Jeju naval base construction. Through the underwater screening and tests done by a Gangjeong peace keeper who was called into the inspection, the status of illegal and unreliable construction was confirmed again. Related to the inspection results, the Gangjeong Village Association, Pan-Island and Nationwide civil networks held a press conference on Nov. 14, with demands to promptly halt construction, Cultural Heritage Administration of Korea to punish the navy for its destruction on the natural memorials, Island governor Woo Keun-Min's order to stop construction. The people especially pressed Park Geun-Hye's government to immediately stop construction and take steps to start dialogue with Gangjeong villagers. The people pointed out that the Government is stating conflict resolve only on the surface while accepting illegal and law-evasive construction.



Image: Jung U.

Korean President Park Geun-Hye's visit to France was met by Korean and French protestors in front of the Eiffel Tower. They held signs protesting the election scandals.



Image: courtesy Regis Tremblay

The filmmaker holds a Q&A with an audience during a recent screening in the U.S while on tour with the film.

against women and children, toxic contamination and other environmental issues, a military-dependent economy, etc.

However, once military bases are reopen to U.S. forces as part of the U.S. military’s “Pivot to the Asia Pacific” strategy, we can anticipate that the Philippines will only continue to suffer more. Under these circumstances, screening “The Ghosts of Jeju” held significant meaning.

The screening was organized by the International Women’s Network Against Militarism (IWNAM) as part of their meeting in Baguio City, Philippines, Nov 5-9. It is a women’s network dealing with the U.S. military effects in their home communities. This network includes scholars and activists from Hawaii, Japan, Guahan (Guam), Okinawa, the Philippines, Puerto Rico, South Korea, the US and local groups were also invited. It was a great event, where some participants shed tears and many expressed surprise to witness such unity and passion. Some activists asked about the main structure of the campaign and managing internal conflicts. After the screening, participants wrote messages of solidarity to the Gangjeong people.

WCC 2013 Peace Train Journey from Berlin to Busan

By Catherine C.

All religions and cultures have stories of journeys. Journey is a metaphor of our lives. The Peace Train journey was an envision in Korea with the plans for WCC in Korea. It was a chance to show the deep desire for peace and reunification by bringing peace-loving people on this metaphor-journey from Berlin to Busan, across the DMZ. After WWII, Germany survived the Cold war in division and later acheived reunification. Therefore, the train carried this hope to Korea as it traveled through Russia and China, whose cooperation as members of the 6-Party talks is necessary for negotiations between the two Korea’s as we seek a peace treaty and reunification.

130 people rode the Peace Train. Almost half were Koreans longing for peaceful reunification. The others were from 14 countries (Brazil, African nations of Malawi, Nigeria and Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, New Zealand, Australia, US, Europe, and the Ukraine, formed a community in their vision for peace. Finally, unable to go to Pyongyang, they cried their longing from Dandong across the Yalu River, traveling to Incheon, then to Busan, proclaiming the good news of peace.

GHOSTS OF JEJU SCREEN-ING IN THE PHILIPPINES

By Choi Jung-Min, My Sister’s Place and World Without War

The Philippines is one of the countries which has suffered the most from U.S. militarism and imperialism in Asia. The presence of foreign military troops has affected many aspects of Filipino people’s lives: violence



Image: Kim Dong-Won

Participants of the “Echoing Voices for Peace: A Women-led Peace Pilgrimage and Solidarity Mission to Gangjeong Village” gather in the Gangjeong Peace Center to hear from villagers and activists.

People’s Forum in the Face of a Belligerent Empire

By Dopehead Zo, peace activist

To be honest, I had no idea what WCC stood for. I thought it was another World Conservation Congress that took place in Sept 2012, but I did not get the sense that it was about the environment. Researching on the internet, I realized that it’s also a huge international event. Since the Jeju naval base is a very important global issue, I decided to participate to help let the whole world know about Jeju’s resilient peace movement.

A WCC solidarity group visited Gangjeong village prior to the WCC to attend the Peace for Life-People’s Forum held here at the island of peace. About 50 people from 15 different countries came to Gangjeong village to see firsthand how destructive the navy base construction was to the environment and how resilient and colorful the Gangjeong struggle has been.

The theme of the forum, ‘Affirming Life Together in the Face of Belligerent Empire’ was very appropriate for the Jeju islanders’ long history of resistance. During the forum, interfaith and Muslim-Christian solidarity for global justice and peace was often emphasized. Before I met them, I thought they would be the stereotypical Christians, but the participants were more akin to peace activists than religious leaders. More than 100 people were at the forum and they talked quite seriously about the link between the Jeju naval base and the US Empire’s pivot to Asia. They were knowledgeable, committed, and compassionate towards a village’s continuous struggle against a billigerent empire. Many people could relate to the struggle as they came from countries with similar experiences: the Philippines, India, Columbia, Hong Kong, etc. Before heading to Busan, they all promised to do their best to help Gangjeong village. It was really encouraging and reassuring to know that we are all in this together, working for peace in the world.

Kang Bu-Eon Released!

Following the bad news that on Nov. 12, the Jeju local court dismissed the bail application for 72 year old villager, Kang Bu-Eon, he was finally released on December 5th. Since his imprisonment and at the denial of his bail, the Jeju courts faced much criticism from people around Korea. Previously there had been appeals for his released by the Gangjeong Village Elders’ Association, 3 Jeju National Assembly members, the chairman of the Jeju Democratic Party and even the pro-base island governor Woo Keun-Min, a recent convert to the ruling conservative Saenuri Party. It is known that Mr. Kang is on 4 different medications and had been taking care of his wife who had suffered a stroke.

The Gangjeong Human Rights Committee composed of various religious and civic groups is a transformation of ‘the Committee for the Realization of Human Rights for Dr. Song Kang-Ho and Br. Park Do-Hyun’ launched in Aug. of this year. They have influenced the National Assembly inspection of Government affairs on human rights violations and Island Council’s inspection on illegal construction. They condemned the bail dismissal stating, “The law should show mercy. However, the Jeju local court shows no mercy. It is only reigning mercilessly against the Island people.”

However, finally, after 59 days of unjust imprisonment, Mr. Kang was released with a reduced sentence of 2 years probation! He was greated by overjoyed villagers.

In relation to the naval base project, the total number of illegal arrests from 2007-2012 has reached 647. Among them, the unjustly indicted totaled 473.



Image: Regis Tremblay

U.S. filmmaker, Regis Tremblay, who interviewed Sr. Stella during his visit to Jeju in 2012 said “Her interview in my documentary ‘The Ghosts of Jeju’ has been seen by hundreds of people in more than a dozen countries around the world. Sr. Stella’s sincerity and honest remarks about U.S. imperialism have moved all who have seen the film.”

SISTER STELLA SOH INDICTED

By Regina Pyon

For the 1st time in 200 years of Korean Catholic history, a Korean nun has been indicted for her role in the peaceful protest against the naval base construction on Jeju. On November 14th, more than 50 sisters, 10 priests and supporters from Jeju and the mainland filled the courtroom to witness the trial of Sister Stella Soh.

Sr. Soh was indicted on charges of obstruction of business like many other Gangjeong peace activists. Her next trial date was not yet decided as she requested the transfer of the trial court to Seoul as she is living in Seoul and her health condition is not good.

According to Soh, she has been coming to Gangjeong to protest when ever she has time and money, as many other Catholic priests and sisters have been doing for the past several years.

GANGJEONG PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

Since Feb. 1	Since July 1	Since Oct. 8
No. 301	No. 535	No. 12
Mr. Yang Yoon-Mo	Br. Park Do Hyun	Ms. Kim Eun-Hye

Please write letters of support to:
Jeju Prison, 161, Ora-2 dong, Jeju-si, Jeju-do, Korea

Dr. Song Kang-Ho Finally Released on Nov. 29!

Dr. Song Kang-Ho, who had been imprisoned for his opposing activities against the Jeju naval base project for the 3rd time, was released on bail on Nov. 29, after 151 prison days. On Nov. 27, the court made a decision of bail on Br. Park Do-Hyun and Dr. Song Kang-Ho. Both had been illegally and unjustly arrested together on July 1. Both refused to be bailed out as the court decision was intentionally late and it would not stop their opposing activities. However, as people strongly urged for his release and paid his bail without his knowledge, he was eventually released.

Dr. Song Kang-Ho was briefly imprisoned for two weeks in 2011 and again in 2012 for 181 days. He leads the Save Our Sea Team, a monitoring team opposing the naval base destructive construction project.



Image: Choi Hye-Young

Following his release, Dr. Song and his wife greet villagers and activists at the Gangjeong Peace Center.

Mr. Lee Kwang-Won Released After 40 days

Mr. Lee Kwang-Won, a Catholic, who chose imprisonment on Sept. 28, rather than pay fines of nearly \$2,000 USD, was released from a Seoul Correction Facility on Nov. 6 after serving 40 days. He performed a sit-in protest on top of a cement truck for 7-8 hours on May 26, 2012. He later had major surgery as cement dusts entered into his internal organs. He is the 5th prisoner who chose imprisonment over paying fines.



Images: Mansuk & Kim Eun-Hye

Prison drawings by Ms. Kim Eun-Hye, a young peace keeper imprisoned since Oct. 8

Trial Updates

On Nov. 21, the Jeju local court made successive trials on 67 peace keepers from Gangjeong, beginning in the early morning with the higher courts trial on Mr. Kang Bu-Eon and Ms. Kim Eun-Hye who have both been jailed since Oct. 8.

About 100 policemen mobilized at the people’s press conference held in front of the Jeju local court protesting the judicial power’s abusive over-issuance of indictments and human rights violations. Dungree, a video documentarian and human rights activist, staged an one man protest from early morning.

In the press conference, the people stated that a Jeju local court judge, Heo Kyung-Ho, rejected an investigative video, the only critical proof of the coast guards derelict duty and illegal arrest of Dr. Song Kang-Ho. Judge Heo violated investigative principals by excluding evidence. People gravely expressed concern that several judges were ‘taking trials related to the naval base project based on prejudice and presupposition against the Gangjeong villagers and peace activists.’

On the same day, fortunately another arrest warrant for the absurd false charge of insult by Mr. Kim Kooknam was dismissed. The appeals on the obstruction of business charges by Mr. Oh Chul-Geun (\$1,500 USD fine), Rev. Lim Bo-Ra (\$2,000 USD fine), Mr. Lee Jong-Hwa (6 month imprisonment with suspended 2 yr) were all dismissed. The appeal by Mr. Kim Min-Soo (suspended 6 month imprisonment with 2 yr probation) was also dismissed. Mr. Park Jong-Hoon who received a suspended sentence of 10 month imprisonment with 2 yr probation recieved 120 hr social service and 2 yr supervised probation. Rev. Oh Se-Yeol, despite his prior not-guilty sentence, received suspended 4 month imprisonment with 1 yr probation, 80 hrs social service, and 1 yr supervised probation.

On Nov. 7, 20 people made appeals at the Jeju local court, more than half incurring costs to attend from the mainland. Peacekeeper Ms. Gwak’s appeal was dismissed (\$2,150 USD). She was previously charged for her activity during the blast on Gurcombi Rock last year and briefly imprisoned for 6 days in May.

Citizens Challenge Seoul International Aerospace & Defense Exhibition

Excerpted from a longer article by Park Seung-Ho, Weapon Zero

As the Seoul International Aerospace & Defense Exhibition 2013 (Seoul ADEX 2013) started on Oct. 28th, 22 civil society organizations in South Korea engaged in a series of actions targeting the largest arms fair in the Asia-Pacific region. The coalition organized an alternative exhibition of their own in response to the Seoul ADEX 2013 and named it the Peace and Disarmament Exhibition. While Seoul ADEX 2013 focused on new technology or advancement of weapon systems, the Peace and Disarmament Exhibition put emphasis on the inevitable consequences of arms trade and tried to unveil the naked face of the arms fair. On a pathway leading to Seoul ADEX site, campaigners installed 40 pieces of panels covering critical issues including horrific consequences of use of drones and cluster munitions, and distributed leaflets to ADEX visitors. The organizations also challenged the government policy and called for a full review of its arms export policy and tougher regulations throughout the material published for Seoul ADEX.

Parallel to the exhibition, activists also engaged in a series of nonviolent direct actions. On Oct. 28, activists appeared as Death and ‘welcomed’ the merchants of death as they were coming into the hotel for a Seoul ADEX 2013 Welcome Reception holding a big banner that says “Arms Dealers here today. This is not OK”. During Seoul ADEX, some activists ‘invaded’ ADEX site wearing T-shirts with “How many people can it Kill?” and handed out blood money to the arms dealers. Some posed as victims of drones exhibited in Seoul ADEX and held signs calling for an end to the production, use and transfer of drones.

*Joint Statement issued by 22 Organizations for the 4th Peace & Disarmament Exhibition:

Today, we stand here to voice our opposition against the Seoul International Aerospace & Defense Exhibition 2013 which aims to facilitate arms trade and to foster the defense industry. Even at this very moment, countless people are being killed by arms in various conflict zones. We condemn the South Korean government for hosting this large-scaled defense exhibition which costs tens of billion of won while turning a blind eye to conflicts, killing of people and the vicious circle of arms race which are inevitable consequences of arms trade. Also, we wish to convey our voice of concern over the government policy to foster defense industry as a national strategic industry and an export oriented industry. ARMS CAN NOT BRING PEACE!



Images: Peace Network & Jong Young-U, Hankyoreh 21

Protestors hold non-violent actions at ADEX 2013