

AALA

ASIA-AFRICA-LATIN AMERICA

NEWSLETTER

AALA or Asia Africa Latin America Newsletter is a bi-monthly publication that focuses on alternative education, migrant workers, refugees, human rights and peoples issues in Korea and across Asia, Latin America, Africa and Europe.

It is prepared and published by the **FRIENDS OF ASIA**, a non-governmental organization based in Ilsan, South Korea.

We welcome articles, contributions, artworks, letter to the editors. Materials can be send by E-mail or fax.

Annual subscription is US\$25.00. Please send a cheque made out to FRIENDS OF ASIA or at:

*Korea Foreign Exchange Bank
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Introduction to the first Printed Edition

The AALA NEWSLETTER as the official Publication of the Friends of Asia (FOA) will serve as a medium for desimminating vital information for the people in Korea and accross Asia, Europe, Africa and Latin America.

It will cover a wide range of issues from Human rights, migrant workers, people`s concern, solidarity and news updates on FOA and activities.

Articles on the Printed edition will come in different languages; English, Korean, Spanish, Filipino, Russian, Indonesian, Chinese, Bangladeshi, Nepali, and or in any other languages.

Partners and Friends of FOA are encouraged to send any articles, statements, news updates, pictures, and solidarity.

We also welcome suggestions, donation and material support for this publication and for Friends of Asia.

We hope that this undertaking can and may can share on its humblest way the to the plight of the underprivileged and help develop a better living and working environment where Koreans, Migrant workers, can live and stand in solidarity in a one big community.

THE EDITOR

KOREA: A WAY TO THE MULTICULTURAL SOCIETY?

Park No-Ja

While talking with the foreigners, who have for a long time lived in Korea, you repeatedly note a paradox. On one hand, all of them unanimously do recognize that Korea is one of most ``modern countries of Asia in all aspects. With internet almost in every urban house, very reliable banks, with the trains and buses, which even in the faraway provinces do move on time, Korea, a small Asian country, looks like the palpable materialization of the idea of ``progress`` about which the entire generation of Asian nationalist reformers dreamed a century ago. Asian? Blocks of high-rise apartment buildings in Kannam (southern Seoul), with several churches in each block, and crowds of the young people, strolling with the cappuchino cups in the hands - all these things don conjure up the images the arrogant 19th C. Europeans had expected from what they termed ``Asia``.

Thus, can we talk about the ``success of modernization``. So far the industrial and post-industrial infrastructure is concerned, Korea, undoubtedly, belongs to the same economic and information space that Western Europe or Japan. But on the other hand, for any foreigner, who did not simply spent several days in a hotel and a conference hall, but did attempt to live or work in the country for some prolonged period of time, it becomes soon clear that something here is decidedly different from what (s)he could expect.

The system of social relations, the world picture, and the attitude towards those looking and behaving differently that a foreigner discovers all around, do not clearly correspond to one one expects from one of the most wired countries of the world. The dif-

ference, probably, even not in the fact that it is not easy to communicate in English with the job colleagues, school-

mates or neighbors. Try, without knowing a local language, to live in, say, Italy, Greece or Russia - and soon, Korea, where the university graduates at least do attempt to answer in English the questions asked in English, will look like a paradise (if you attempt to ask directions from a passer-by somewhere in Southern or Eastern Europe in English, then you will hear, most likely, response in a local language, if anything except of ``I do not understand`` will come out at all).



Korea surely can become an Asian country in that sense of this word, which will be more characteristic for the 21th century`s a country, where human, information and commodity flows of all corners of Asia, most dynamic region in the world, will cross-fertilize and enrich each other!

Problems begin with the fact that, for one example, such concept as ``Permanent residence permit`` for a foreign employee, still does not exist in principle in the Korean immigration-related legislation. If you were lucky enough to obtain higher education in the sphere of information technologies in your native land and have an offer of employment from a Korean company, you will have to prolong your working visa each year. Your employer, and the omnipotent Emigration Office, will take as the starting point that you will not live and work in Korea until your retirement age, and there is, of course, no talk of your children continuing to live in Korea. But then, if you were not lucky enough to learn programming before it was too late and thus have to search for work at the factories which are shunned by the Korean youngsters, so even a working visa may turn out to be a very difficult thing to obtain --to put it very mildly.

Until now, in any case. From the next year, the Korean government is finally going to introduce a system of temporary work permits for foreign manual workers as well.

This situation, where any foreigner is considered, in principle, simply a temporary inhabitant of the country, looks like a matter of rather distant past for the majority of European -- and many Asian - countries (recall, how many districts in Paris are populated almost exclusively by the Algerians? And how many Turkish-populated quarters are there in Berlin?). Nearest analogy for this ``Korea for the Koreans`` picture is the xenophobic interwar period Europe. But even then - how many ``Russian White`` (counter-revolutionary) emigrants found themselves and their descendants refuge in France or Czechoslovakia?

Alienation begins from the juridical limitations, but it does not end with them.

A foreigner at a Korean collective (workplace or educational institute) always remains a stranger, who should be guarded and assisted, who is to

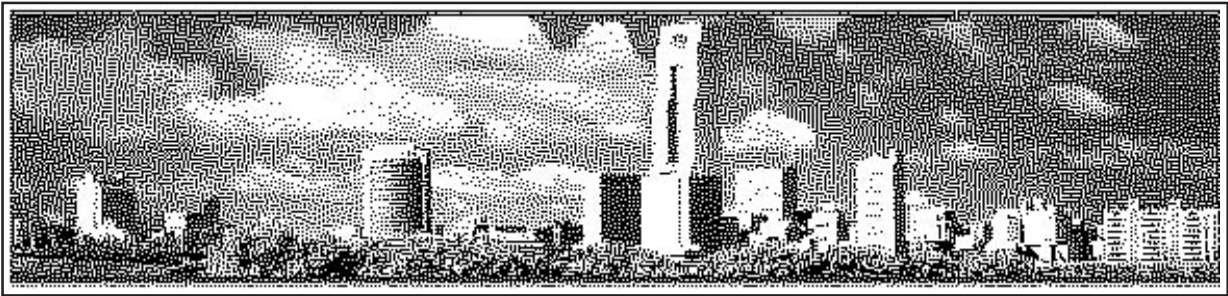


``If your native land belongs to the number of those countries Korean newspapers and TV associate mostly with `war`, `hunger and `catastrophy` then you run a big risk of being reduced to the status of a `poorer hanger-ons` in a reasonably rich house.``

be offere patronizing explanations about ``how the life should go``, and who whould be almost never consulted on really serious administrative issues (even if they are of direct concern for him/her). If to you were born in one of the ``privileged`` parts of the world and/or can pride yourself on the authenticity of your English pronunciation, then there are good chances that you will remain to the end in the position of ``honorable guest``. But if your native land belongs to the number of those countries Korean newspapers and TV associate mostly with `war`, `hunger and `catastrophy` then you run a big risk of being reduced to the status of a `poorer hanger-ons` in a reasonably rich house.

Will the better times come? Will we happy enough to observe as many small Indian restaurants on Seoul streets as in, say, London, and will we hear Indian cooks there who will tell us about their childhoods in the Korean schools? It seems to me that, maybe after several decades, such a time will surely come. Without the Siberian resources, South East Asian talent, or Chinese markets Korea will have hard time surviving in the world where resources are dwindling and European and American markets are saturated with goods.

So Korea surely can become an Asian country in that sense of this word, which will be more characteristic for the 21th century`s a country, where human, information and commodity flows of all corners of Asia, most dynamic region in the world, will cross-fertilize and enrich each other! #



Korea - isang daan patungo sa lipunan ng ibat-ibang lahi at kultura?

Kapag nakikipag usap sa isang taga-ibang lahi na matagl nang nanirahan sa Korea, paulit-ulit na naaalala ko ang isang palaisapan. Kinikilala kaya nila na ang Korea ay isa sa pinakamaunlad na bansa sa Asia. Habang nakikita natin na napakaraming mga internet, mga banko, matutulin na train at bus sa lahat halos ng mga syudad at maging sa mga liblib na probinsya, pinatpatunayan nito na ang dating pangarap na pag-unlad noong nakalipas na siglo at naging makatotohanan na sa kasalukuyan.

Masasabi ba nating Asia ang Korea? Sa hilagang bahagi ng Seoul (sa Kangnam) makikita natin ang buong kalye mismo ay kinatatayuan ng mga nagtatasang mga apartment at napakaraming mga simbahan na halos magkakasunod-sunod. Makikita rin natin ang dagsaan ng mga kabataan na may bitbit na tasa ng cappuchino sa mga kamay. Lahat ng ito ay simpleng nagpapahiwatig ng aroganteng lipunan Europa noong 19th siglo. Itong lipunan na ito ngayon ay tinatawag nating isang ``bansang sa Asyano``.

Kung magkaganon man, masasabi ba natin na nagkaroon ng ba ng matagumpay na pag-unlad? Kung ang usapin ay tungkol sa pag-unlad at kaunlaran, ang Korea ay maihahanay natin sa Western Europe o Japan lalo na sa katayuan ng pang-ekonomiya at teknolohiya. Pero sa kabilang banda, ang mga migrante o mga turistang galing sa ibang bansa na hindi nakatira sa mga mabobonggang hotel at nakapapasok sa mga

naglalakihang conference hall ng matagal, sila ang malinaw na makapagsasabi na may malaking kaibahan sa ating inaasahan.

Ang sistema ng pakikitungo, mga dinaranas ng mga migrante ay hindi tumutugma sa

inaasahan natin sa isang maunlad na bayan. Maaring ang pagkakaiba ay hindi lang dahil sa pakikipagusap at pagsasalita ng English, klase ng trabaho, kaklase sa eskwela, o kapitbahay. Kung susubukan mong mabuhay sa isang bansa at hindi ka man lamang marunong magsalita ng kanilang lenggwahe tulad halimbawa ng Italya, Greece, o Russia at Korea. Kung pa-English ka na magtatanong ng direksyon sa isang lugar, at sasagutin ka naman ng English, di ba napaka gaan na magbyahe at ituturing nating paraíso ito. Dahil sa ibang bansa sa Hilanga at Silangang Europa, napakaraming hindi marunong magsalita ng English at ang kadalasang sasagot sila sa iyo ng kanilang lokal na lenggwahe o kung meron man silang sagot na english kadalasan ang sasabihin nila ay `` I don't understand``.

Maaring may sumulpot na problema kung halimbawa sa pagakakaroong ``permanent residence permit`` sa mga migrante lalo na dahil hindi pa ito



Ang sistema ng pakikitungo, mga dinaranas ng mga migrante ay hindi tumutugma sa inaasahan natin sa isang maunlad na bayan.

naaprubahan sa Korea. Kung halimbawa na natapos ka ng magandang pag-aaral sa inyong bansa lalu na kung may kaugnayan sa information technologies at maswerte kang natanggap at nagtrabaho ng ligal sa isang kumpaya sa Korea, maari kang mag extend ng isang taon at maari mo pang magextend kada taon hanggang sa magretiro ka kahit gaano katagal basta maayos lamang ng inyong employer ito sa immigration. Syempre ibang usapin pa ang tungkol sa mga anak na kasam ninyo sa Korea.

Pero kung hindi ka maswerte na nakatapos at nakapagtrabaho ng ligal sa isang kumpanya at ang napasukan mo ay kahit anong factory na kadalasan na inaayawan ng mga Koreano, maaring mahirapan na makakuha ka ng wokong visa. Sa katunayan, ang temporary work permit na ipapatupad ng gobyerno ng Korea ay para lang sa mga manual laborers o mga hindi high tech na na kumpanya.

Ang sitwasyon ngayon na kung saan ang mga migrante ay tinuturing pa rin na temporary resident sa Korea ay kahalintulad ng

sitwasyon sa Europa at sa ibang mga bansa sa Asya. Maihalimbawa natin ang Paris sa France, na kung saan may mga distrito na halos ang mga naninirahan ay mga Algerians. Ilang mga erya sa Berlin ang karamihan ng mga nakatira ay mga Turko? Ang pinakamalapit na paghahambing sa kasabihang ``ang Korea ay para sa mga Koreano`` ay parang noong panahon ng digmaan sa Europa.

Magkaganon man, ilang mga puting Russian o tinatawag noon na mga kontra-rebolusyunaryo ang ipinatapon o kaya ay nagtungo sa France at Czechoslovakia? Sumisibol ang pagkakampo-kampo ng mga lahi dahil na rin sa mga ipinapatupad na batas. Pero hindi ito natatapos dito. Ang nag-iisang migrante na nagtatrabaho kasama ang mga Koreano ay palaging mananatiling dayo. Palagi na lang sasabihan ng kung ano tamang paraan kung papaano mabuhay sa Korea, at palagi na lang mainit ang mga mata ng Korean at dapat samahan ng

Koreanong kasama sa trabaho. Ang matindi pa, kung merong mga mahahalagang patakaran na dapat baguhin o ipapatupad sa kumpanya, kadalasan ay hindi kinukunsulta ang migrante, lalu na kung walang kaugnayan sa kanya ang usapin.

``Kung merong mga mahahalagang patakaran na dapat baguhin o ipapatupad sa kumpanya, kadalasan ay hindi kinukunsulta ang migrante, lalu na kung walang kaugnayan sa kanya ang usapin``



Kung ikaw naman halimbawa ay isinilang sa isang maunlad na bansa at maipagmamalaki mo ang pagsasalita ng English at pa-slang na pronunciation, magiging maswerte ka na kikilalanin bilang kagalang-galang na bisita sa Korea. Pero kung ikaw naman ay isinilang o galing sa mga bansang mahihirap o madalas dinaraan ng mga kaguluhan, sakuna, sakit, o digmaan kagaya ng mga napapanood sa TV o nababasa sa mga dyaryo, ang magiging tawag nila sa inyo ay mga ``patay-gutom``. O kaya namn ay mga hamak at kaawa-awang nilalang.

Kailan pa kaya darating ang kasaganaan at kaginhawaan sa buhay? Masisisyahan kaya tayo kung makikita natin ang mga napakaraming Indian restawrants sa France at maririnig natin sa mga kwento ng mga nagluluto dito ang kanyang karanasan nung nas Korea pa siya? Isipin natin na halimbawa na maganda ang naging karanasan niya sa Korea habang nag-aaral o nagtatrabaho. Maari sigurong magkatutuo ito paglipas pa ng

maraming dekada, at naniniwala ako na darating ang panahon nayun, gaano man katagal.

Mahihirapan ang Korea kung walang mapagkukunan ng mga hilaw na materyales galing sa Siberia o saan man, o kaya naman ay mga matatalinong artist o mga manggagawa galing sa hilagang-kanlurang Asya, o kaya naman ay mapagbebentahan ng mga produkto patungo

``Tiyak na mahihirapan ang Korea na tumindig lalu na dahil ang bentahan sa Europa at Amerika ay dumaranas na ng matinding pagbulusok dahil sa sobrang dami ng produkto na hindi nabebenta``

sa China. Tiyak na mahihirapan ang Korea na tumindig lalu na dahil ang bentahan sa Europa at Amerika ay dumaranas na ng matinding pagbulusok dahil sa sobrang dami ng produkto na hindi nabebenta. Samakatuwid, ang Korea ay mananatiling bansang Asya sa katangian ng kasalukuyang panahon ng ika-21 siglo--- isang bansa na kung saan ang mga mamamayan nito, ang teknolohiya ay tumatagos sa lahat

ng panig ng Asya, pinaka-masigla at pinakasaganang lupalop na nagtutulungang mag-paunlad sa isat-isa.###

KOREA-ADALAH SUATU JALAN UNTUK MENY ATUKAN BERBAGAI MACAM KEBUDAYAAN

Ketika berbicara dengan orang asing yang sudah lama tinggal di Korea kamu akan mempunyai catatan yang paradok. Di sisi lain, mereka semua menyatakan bahwa Korea adalah suatu negara yang termasuk modern di Asia. Dalam segala bidang dengan internet yang hampir ada di setiap rumah, bank-bank yang dapat di percaya, dengan kereta-kereta dan bus-bus yang melayani rute perjalanan antar propinsi yang berjauhan dapat di tempuh dengan alat transportasi ini. Korea adalah salah satu negara kecil di Asia, yang dapat menyediakan berbagai material dalam berbagai kemajuan. Mengenai jumlah generasi dari para pembaharu nasional se-Asia yang diimpikan satu abad yang lalu. Orang-orang asia....? Pada saat ini banyak bangunan-bangunan Apartement yang tinggi di daerah Kangnam (selatan kota Seoul), dengan beberapa bangunan-bangunan gereja yang terhimpit, dan kerumunan-kerumunan anak-anak muda, yang berjalan-jalan dengan segelas capuchino di tangannya- semua ini tidak ada harapan bagi mereka yang di bawah umur 19 tahun.

Orang-orang Eropa terkecuali bagi mereka yang menyebut dirinya orang Asia . Kemudian, dapatkah mereka membicarakan tentang modernisasi yang sukses.....? Sejauh ini industri-industri dan pusat industri infra-struktur yang sudah di konsentrasikan di Korea, tidak diragukan lagi. Antara perkembangan ekonomi dan teknologi informasi luar angkasa tidak terlalu ketinggalan dengan Eropa barat dan Jepang.

Tetapi dilain sisi bagi orang asing, yang tidak mudah menghabiskan hari-harinya di hotel dan di ruang konferensi, tetapi tidak untuk tinggal atau bekerja di suatu negara untuk jangka waktu yang lama. Ini akan menjadi jelas perbedaannya pada saat ia memutuskan sesuatu yang ia harapkan.

Sistem hubungan kemasyarakatan, gambaran dunia dan perhatiannya dan sikap terhadap mereka dan kebiasaan yang lain yang ditemukan orang-orang asing di seluruh dunia. Dari orang yang tinggal di suatu negara di dunia ini, perbedaannya kemungkinan tidak sesuai dengan fakta yang di komunikasikan dalam bahasa Inggris dengan relasi

bisnis, sekolah, atau tetangga. Cobalah apabila tidak mengerti dalam bahasa daerah, di daerah itu katakanlah dalam bahasa Italia, Yunani, Rusiadll. Korea, orang-orang yang sudah lulus Universitas paling tidak mereka bisa menjawab dalam bahasa Inggris untuk pertanyaan dalam bahasa Inggris.

(Apabila kamu meminta secara langsung dari arah yang melewati sebelah selatan, timur eropa yang berbahasa Inggris, ketika kamu mendengar lebih suka direspon dalam bahasa daerah sebagai contoh; I do not understand- saya tidak tahu...!!!)

Masalah-masalah yang nyata akan datang, sebagai contoh; Izin tinggal tetap untuk para pekerja asing, masih belum diakui oleh Kantor Imigrasi Korea. Apabila anda beruntung dan mempunyai pendidikan yang tinggi dalam bidang teknologi komunikasi luar angkasa dan menjadi karyawan di perusahaan Korea, kamu akan mendapat perpanjangan visa setiap tahun.. Pekerjaan anda yang berpotensi tidak akan dilanjutkan sampai usia lanjut, dan itu tentu saja, tidak termasuk anak-anak untuk melanjutkan tinggal di Korea. Tetapi dari pada itu, jika kamu tidak beruntung untuk program belajar



yang cukup, sebelum semuanya terlambat harus mencari pekerjaan di pabrik-pabrik yang dihindari oleh anak-anak muda di Korea. Kemudian apabila visa kerjanya habis itu akan susah sampai sekarang, dalam beberapa kasus dari tahun yang lalu akhirnya pemerintah Korea memutuskan sistem kerja sementara untuk pekerja-pekerja asing dengan baik.

Dalam situasi ini beberapa orang asing ragu, pada prinsipnya lingkungan sementara yang mudah di suatu negara, kelihatan seperti permasalahan yang agak jauh yang dialami orang-orang Eropa dan orang-orang Asia. (seperti beberapa daerah di Paris dari pertumbuhan-pertumbuhan yang eksklusif dari suku Algeria ? dan beberapa pertumbuhan orang Turki di Berlin...?)

Yang mendekati analog ini; Korea untuk orang Korea,, gambaran xenophobic dalam periode perang Eropa. Tetapi dari pada itu, berapa banyak orang Rusia "putih"(dihitung saat-revolusi) untuk mendapatkan diri mereka yang tinggal di daerah Prancis dan Czekoslovakia..? Kebangkitan dimulai dari batas-batas hukum, tetapi bagi mereka tidak menjadi akhir bagi mereka. Orang asing yang bekerja sama dengan orang korea (tempat kerja atau Institut pendidikan) senantiasa akan menjadi kuat, siapakah yang harus saling menjaga dan membantu , siapakah yang menjadi korban dalam penambangan minyak, bagaimanakah hidup ini akan pergi dan siapakah yang akan bersuka cita? Siapakah yang akan meng-

konsultasikan peraturan-peraturan administrasi (apabila mereka menyatakan secara langsung kepada mereka). Jika anda lahir di suatu daerah bagian dari suatu negara dan/atau mendapat kemurahan bagi diri anda karena anda bisa berbahasa Inggris dengan baik mengganti keadaan sekarang sebagai tamu tetapi jika kamu mengamati berita koran dan televisi Korea tentang keadaan

sekarang ini di negara anda yang dalam keadaan perang, kelaparan, dan kesusahan yang berkepanjangan , dari pada itu anda lari dari keadaan kemiskinan yang berkepanjangan dan adanya perbedaan yang mencolok antara orang yang sangat kaya dan orang miskin.

Apakah suatu hari situasi yang lebih baik akan datang..? Apakah kita

cukup bahagia apabila kita mengamati banyak Restaurant India di jalan-jalan di kota Seoul ?

Dan apakah anak-anak mereka bisa mendapatkan pendidikan di sekolah Korea..? Sama dengan yang dilihat sekarang, mungkin setelah beberapa dekade, keberuntungan akan datang juga. Tanpa penelitian-penelitian di Siberia, kekayaan di Asia tenggara dan pasar-pasar China di Korea tidak akan lebih baik dari pasar Eropa dan pasar Amerika.

Maka dari itu Korea yakin akan menjadi negara Asia yang mempunyai sensasi di dunia, yang mana akan mempunyai karakter tersendiri pada abad-21 .

Dimana sumber daya manusia, informasi dan pertumbuhan komoditi di Asia akan mendominasi di pasar dunia, dan akan melangkahi dari berbagai macam komoditi yang lain sekarang ini.###



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WE NEED YOUR DONATION TO HELP SAVE CARLOS

Carlos, a 40 years old Filipino trainee-worker, is suffering from cancer of Osteosarcoma. Osteosarcoma is a primary malignant tumor of bone or soft parts arising from bone-forming mesenchymal cells.

He had worked as trainee for two and a half years in Gyeongnam. Since end of last year, he consistently felt some pain of his right shoulder and arm. But he just thought of his muscle pain due to hard working. After examination of hospital, he could know to have cancer finally. Based on his diagnosis, he urgently needs an operation in order to remove the tumor and will undergo chemotherapy for over a year.

The cost needed for the operation and treatment will reach approximately 30 to 50 million won. Even migrant support organizations support him, it's too much burden for him.

Common Committee for Abolition of Trainee System and Gurantee of Migrant Workers Basic Rights in Busan & Gyeongnam is collecting money for saving of Carlos. We hope to have your support, too. (Maari po lamang na ipadala ang inyong donasyon sa ibaba.)

*Account : Kookmin Bank No: 957501-01-192115
(Depositor : ±ê¹Á±(ÇÊ, ®ÇÉÄ®·Î½°))



Classic osteosarcoma presents as a painful, hard, enlarging mass. Pathologic fracture is uncommon. Serum levels of alkaline phosphatase are elevated.



This Stage II-B, classic osteosarcoma of the distal femur presented as a firm, hard, fixed, painless mass of three months' duration. There was deep, aching pain which occurred more often at night than during the day. The mass had been steadily enlarging since it was first appreciated.

골육종(뼈암)을 앓고있는 필리핀노동자 칼로스에게 희망

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☞ 골육종이란(뼈에 생긴 암) : 정확한 발병원인은 밝혀지지 않았으나, 유전적 요인이 작용하여 뼈에 암세포가 생기는 것으로 알려져 있다. 이전에는 종양이 생긴 팔이나 다리를 절단하는 것이 일반적이었으나, 요즘에는 되도록 절단보다는 사지보존술을 시행



**Torture / Death in detention /
Freedom of religion and belief**

The International Secretariat of OMCT requests your **URGENT** intervention in the following situation in Uzbekistan.

Brief description of the situation

The International Secretariat of OMCT has been informed by a Kyrgyz Committee for Human Rights, a member of the OMCT network, and another reliable source, of the torture and subsequent death in detention of Orif Eshonov in Uzbekistan.

According to the information received, Orif Eshonov was arrested between May 5th and 6th, 2003, by members of the Karshi National Security Service (NSS). On May 15th, 2003, Karima Eshonova, Orif Eshonov's sister, was informed by a prosecutor of the Yangiyul militia department that her brother was being detained by the NSS, and was currently in poor health. She was informed that family members must travel to Karshi, a distance of approximately 600 km from where the family lives, to see Mr. Eshonov. At 8:30 AM on May 16, 2003, Karima Eshonova and another brother arrived at Karshi NSS and enquired about Orif. They were informed that there was no detainee named Orif Eshonov at that location and sent to the Karshi Prosecutor (Prokuratura). At 9:30 AM Ms. Eshonova and her brother were told by the prosecutor that Orif Eshonov had died in the hospital, reportedly from a combination of heart and lung disease. Karima Eshonova was then questioned about Orif's and other family members' religious affiliations. The prosecutor reportedly claimed 1,500 religious leaflets were found with Mr. Eshonov.

After being questioned, Karima Eshonova and her brother were brought to the morgue. There Ms. Eshonova saw Orif's body. She reportedly noticed large 3-4 centimetre bruises on his arms, a large puncture wound on his torso, which appeared to have been caused by a metal bar, and large needle puncture wounds on his hands and feet. Orif's body was then brought to the Karshi prosecutor's office, and Ms. Eshonova was unable to bring the body home until 9:30 PM. A car from the Karshi prosecutor's office drove them back to Yangiyul.

At their 3:30 AM arrival in Yangiyul a neighbourhood chief, the Imam of Yagniyul, and a neighbour were waiting. Mr. Eshonov's family was informed that Orif's tomb was ready and that the funeral costs would be covered by the neighbourhood budget. The family was also told that the funeral must be held at 7:00 AM. At 7:00 AM the man preparing the tomb informed the family that the Yangiyul deputy mayor had personally ordered Orif's funeral to be held as soon as possible. The family did not agree and postponed the funeral until 12:00 PM. Eight unknown individuals, who were probably security service members, attended the funeral.

Mr. Eshonov's family members are on the list of 'Religious persons' and must write monthly memos to the law-enforcement agencies stating that they have not joined any religious parties and/or movements and are not against the constitutional system. One of Orif Eshonov's brothers, Maruf Eshonov is currently serving a 16-year prison sentence, charged with being affiliated with Hizb ut-Thrir, at Shaikhali prison. Orif Eshonov left home after Maruf Eshonov was imprisoned, fearing that he might also be imprisoned for his religious convictions.

OMCT has previously received allegations that members of the Hizb-ut-Tahrir run grave risks of being subjected to severe ill-treatment and torture while in detention, with a number of them having died in detention in Uzbekistan. OMCT calls upon the authorities to halt the persecution of the Hizb-ut-Tahrir and to guarantee the freedom of religion in the country.

OMCT is today the largest international coalition of NGOs fighting against torture, summary executions, forced disappearances and all other forms of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment in order to preserve Human Rights. It has at its disposal a network, SOS Torture, consisting of some 240 non-governmental organisations which act as sources of information. Its urgent interventions reach daily more than 90,000 governmental and intergovernmental institutions, non-governmental associations, pressure and interest groups.

...erving prison sentences for 'encroachment of the
ce. The four women involved are Malika Raimova,
Nugmanova, and Saodat Nugmanova. Ms. Raimova
achment of constitutional order'
content.' At the time of her arrest Ms. Raimova
are no lawyers for the defence at this trial, so the
the proceedings, which represents a violation of

their procedural rights, as defined by the internationally recognised standards of fair trial.

The International Secretariat of OMCT is gravely concerned by the targeting of individuals based on their beliefs, notably the crackdown against actual or alleged members of the Hizb-ut-Tahrir, in Uzbekistan. OMCT calls on the Uzbek government to order an immediate inquiry into the events surrounding Mr. Eshonov's death, in order to identify those responsible, bring them before a civil competent and impartial tribunal and apply the penal and/or administrative sanctions provided by law, as well as to provide Mr. Eshonov's family with adequate reparation. OMCT also calls on the Uzbek government to ensure that the women charged with encroachment of constitutional order receive a prompt and fair trial, with adequate access to legal counsel.

Action requested

Please write to the authorities in Uzbekistan urging them to:

- i. guarantee the physical and psychological integrity and order the immediate release of the aforementioned detainees in the absence of valid legal charges, or, if such charges exist, bring them before an impartial and competent tribunal and guarantee their procedural rights at all times;
- ii. guarantee that they have access to legal representation;
- iii. guarantee an immediate investigation into the circumstances of these events, notably the allegations of torture and the resultant death in detention of Orif Eshonov, in order to identify those responsible, bring them before a civil competent and impartial tribunal and apply the penal and/or administrative sanctions provided by law;
- iv. guarantee adequate reparation to Orif Eshonov's family;
- v. put an immediate end to the persecution and harassment of the individuals associated with Hizb ut-Tahrir;
- vi. guarantee the respect of human rights and the fundamental freedoms throughout the country in accordance with national laws and international human rights standards.

Addresses

Islam Abduganiyevich Karimov,
President of the Republic of Uzbekistan,

Respublika Uzbekistan;
700163 g. Tashkent; ul. Uzbekistanskaya, 43;

Rezidentsia prezidenta;
Prezidentu RU; KARIMOVU I.A., UZBEKISTAN,
Fax: + 998 71 2
89 00 46 (please write on the top of your fax:

Tel.: 139 53 75; 139
82 60; 139 59 29;
Prezidentu RU; KARIMOVU I.A.)

Abdulaziz Khafizovich KOMILOV, Minister of Foreign
Affairs, Respublika Uzbekistan; 700029 g. Tashkent;
pl. Mustakillik, 5; Ministerstvo inostrannykh del, RU;
Ministru KOMILOVU A.Kh., UZBEKISTAN, Fax: + 998
71 139 15 17

Sayora RASHIDOVA, Parliamentary Commissioner for
Human Rights, Sayora RASHIDOVA, Respublika
Uzbekistan; 700035 g. Tashkent; ul.
Xalqlar Dostligi, 1; Oliy Majlis RU; Upolnomochennoy
po pravam cheloveka pri Oliy Majlis;
RASHIDOVY S., UZBEKISTAN, E mail:
ombudsman@uzpak.uz /
office@ombudsman.gov.uz

Chairman of the Supreme Court of the Republic of
Uzbekistan, Respublika Uzbekistan; 700183 g.
Tashkent; ul. Abdulla Kodiri, 1; Verkhovny Sud
Respubliki Uzbekistan; Predsedatelyu ISMETOVU I

Please also write to the embassies of Uzbekistan in
your respective country.

Geneva, June 2nd, 2003

Kindly inform us of any action undertaken quoting
the code of this appeal in your reply.

Organisation Mondiale Contre la Torture (OMCT)
World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT)
Organizacion Mundial Contra la Tortura (OMCT)
8 rue du Vieux-Billard Case postale 21
CH-1211 Geneve 8 Suisse/Switzerland

Tel. : 0041 22 809 49 39 Fax : 0041 22 809 49 29
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Experiencia en una fábrica

--Luis Carpio

Todo comenzo en las vísperas de navidad, con un viaje desde Bolivia de casi dos dias, con la incertidumbre de cómo seria mi nueva vida.

Todavía recuerdo una de las primeras frases que me tradujeron en la presentación a mi nuevo trabajo en una fábrica de accesorios para automoviles, fue `que no se caiga mi corazón cuando me rínan` en ese momento no comprendía por que me decían eso, con el tiempo fui comprendiendo que era algo de todos los días y que no debía esperar un `esta bien` o `gracias`, pero eso no me afectó emocionalmente ya que tenía otros problemas como el choque cultural, la diversidad de idiomas y de religiones que con el tiempo me fui acostumbrando a todo, menos a la ira con la que solucionan algunos de sus problemas, ahí fue que me di cuenta que estaba en el lugar equivocado y que no quería en ningún momento formar parte de sus problemas y menos de sus soluciones.

Soy humano, tengo sentimientos y toda vez que vea una injusticia se me caera el corazón.

Gracias a Dios cuento con el apoyo de mi hermano y de amigos que me han ayudado en su momento, de ese modo es que decidí dejar ese trabajo después de muchas decepciones.

Hoy estoy nuevamente con la duda de donde ire, solo que, con la diferencia de que ahora entiendo muchas cosas más que al principio y se lo que piensan algunas personas de nosotros (migrant workers), pero no estoy solo. He sido favorecido con la ayuda del trabajo desinteresado de mucha gente de la Ngo Friends of Asia, del cual estoy muy contento de haberlos conocido. En cierta forma cambio mi vida y comprendo por que se dedican a ayudar a gente como yo y es por eso tengo el compromiso conmigo mismo de poner mi grano de arena ayudando con el trabajo voluntario y hacer que la vida sea más fácil para otros y no dejar que sus corazones se caigan, por que ahora se que hay personas que luchan por evitar eso.

Luis Carpio

Email: lmcarpio@hotmail.com

Visiting Philippine president Arroyo in Seoul welcomed by protest.

Filipino and Koreans held a press conference and protest action in line with Philippine President Arroyo's state visit to Korea.

Members of KASAMMAKO an alliance of Filipino migrant community associations in Korea stand shoulder to shoulder with members of Social Solidarity in Asia, All Together, including members of different NGO's and student from different universities bears placards and streamer.

Opposite Lotte Hotel the residence of Arroyo the Korean demonstrators pointed out that like Arroyo also South Korean president Roh is a willing helper for the US administration's militarist policy of aggression. They pointed out that the United States and its local running-dogs are gearing up for intensified intervention and aggression in the Asia Pacific.

The representative of KASAMMAKO pointed out: "Arroyo has joined the world's butcher club. It's not something to be proud of."

They said that the conferment of the title of "non-NATO ally" to the Philippines by US president Bush, so the representative of KASAMMAKO.

He said that the title is "a source of shame for Filipinos". "It's not pride that we feel but tremendous shame. NATO is not such a reputable group to belong to for it's only purpose of existence is to protect the economic interests of superpowers like US through coercion and sheer brutality," he declared.

Korean and Filipino protesters demanded the end of military partnership between the Philippines and South Korea with the US. They - very sharply and noisy - demanded the withdrawal of the US troops out off their countries.

The demonstrators composed of Filipinos and Koreans voiced their opposition to the Philippine president's puppetry to the US government in her wholehearted support for the US war of terror, and inviting back the US military into the Philippines against the will of the Filipino people. They said that the Philippine military had proven itself the perpetrator of countless assassinations and other human rights violations and is known to be in collusion with the Abu Sayyaf bandit group whom the CIA created in the past. The demonstrators vowed to continue to advocate an end to US military aid to terrorists such as the Philippine military and the Abu Sayyaf and at the same time call on all Filipinos and Korean citizens to continue opposing US imperialist's military and terroristic agenda in the pacific.

The activity was concluded by throwing tomatoes to the mural bearing the image of Uncle Sam and Arroyo as its puppet.###



KASAMMAKO is an alliance of 11 Filipino Migrant Workers Communities in Korea whose aim is to promote migrants rights and welfare. It also struggle for people's rights both in Korea and in the Philippines. KASAMMAKO is a Filipino word that stands for 'My Friend', 'My Companion', 'My Comrade'.

STATEMENT

**"Leave us out of butchers club"
Filipinos and Koreans lambasted "non-NATO US ally" title.**

Arroyo has joined the worlds` s butchers club. It is not something to be proud of. Filipino groups in Korea said today on the conferment of the title of `non-NATO ally` to the Philippines by the US President George Bush.

Filipino migrants community (KASAMMAKO) living in Korea said that the title is " source of shame for Filipinos."

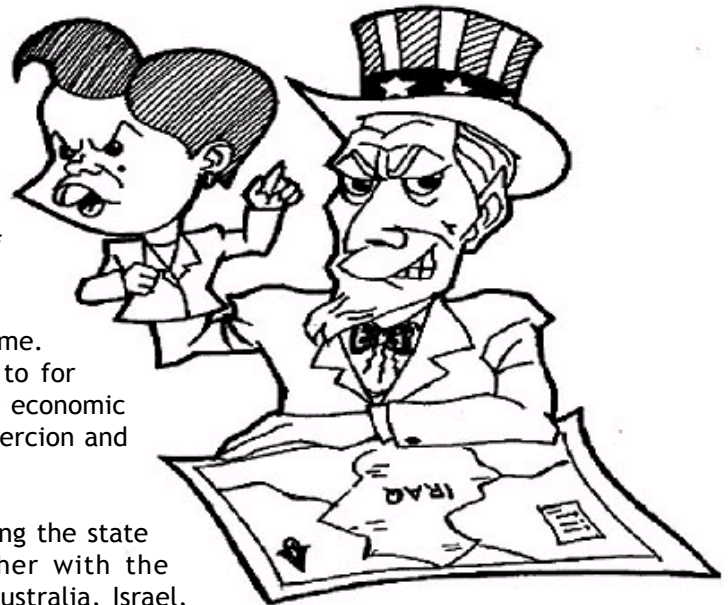
" It is not pride that we feel but tremendous shame. NATO is not such a reputable group to belong to for it`s only purpose of existence is to protect the economic interests of superpowers like the US through coercion and sheer brutality," KASAMMAKO declared.

The said title was given to the Philippines during the state visit of President Arroyo to the US. Together with the Philippines, other non-NATO US allies include Australia, Israel, Japan and South Korea among others. According to Bush, the meeting in the US is a is an important step to say to the world that Philippines and the United States stand shoulder to shoulder on the issue of combating terrorism, North Korea`s nuclear weaponry, and security in the Pacific.

KASAMMAKO said that Arroyo`s jubilant acceptance of the title `shows her true warmongering colors`. Arroyo`s recent trip to the US symbolizes none other than licking the blood-wet hands of Bush as its master.

" It is indeed a recognition for Arroyo`s consistent support to the brutality of the US in its "borderless war on terror". But do not drag the Filipino name in the world`s hall of shame," members remarked.

KASAMMAKO said that as expected, Arroyo`s visit to the US resulted to more economic and military aid to the country. According to them, such aids `are double-edged assistance that puts in danger the lives of thousands of Filipinos."



" These so-called non-NATO allies of the US are countries where the US has a very strong military presence. To be included in this list is to fully invite US intervention in our country. With this, the Philippines will just be a warm up in the bloodbath that US is gearing for in our country and in the Asia Pacific rim," warned by KASAMMAKO.

The group scored the intensified military operations in southern Philippines as a `preview of what Arroyo has brought from her US trip. KASAMMAKO cited the displacement of 400,000 people in various provinces in Mindanao as well as the Luzon and Mindanao and the death of hundreds as due `to the

loyal adherence of Arroyo to the US` will. " The recent visit of Arroyo paved the way for additional deployment of some 1,400 US troops in the Philippines to further unleash the Arroyo government`s puppet or dog-like character and at the same time worsen its atrocities against the Filipino people.

If Arroyo wishes to be proud of the non-NATO ally name, she should better leave the country and the Filipino people out of it. We don`t want to be in the company of butchers and killers," KASAMMAKO concluded.

The protesters positioned themselves prominently in front of the hotel with their placards bearing " Justice Not War in the Philippines" banner, " US Troops Out of the Philippines" , and a mural depicting Bush controlling the Puppet Philippine president Arroyo.

The demonstrators composed of Filipinos and Koreans voiced their opposition to the Philippine president`s puppetry to the US government in her wholehearted support for the US war of terror, and inviting back the US military into the Philippines against the will of the Filipino people. They said that the Philippine military had proven itself the perpetrator of countless assassinations and other human rights violations and is known to be in collusion with the Abu Sayyaf bandit group whom the CIA created in the past. The demonstrators vowed to continue to advocate an end to US military aid to terrorists such as the Philippine military and the Abu Sayyaf and at the same time call on all Filipinos and Korean citizens to continue opposing US imperialist`s military and terroristic agenda in the pacific.

The Filipino people have been struggling for over 100 years to rid themselves of domination by the US government. The strength of their movement poses a considerable threat to US control of the region."

Justice not War in the PHILIPPINES!
Arroyo US puppet!

Oppose the U.S. Terroristic attack, aggression and intervention

Oppose the U.S. aggression in Korea, Philippines and the Asia Pacific!

Oppose the US military Excercis in the Philippines and Korea!

US troops Out of the Korea and Philippines NOW!

Stop butchering the people of the world!
U.S. Imperialist No.1 Terrorist



Release Daw Aung San Suu Kyi Immediately!

We Urge Burmese Government to Release Daw Aung San Suu Kyi Immediately and to Stop the Oppression upon Democratic Movement in Burma

We, The Refuge Pnan - international christian volunteers for refuge and relief, and I&WE-open network community, have been informed by NLD-Korea branch and NewsDesk Press that up to 70 Daw Aung San Suu Kyi supporters and National League for Democracy (NLD) members have been killed by the attack of junta Army around Monywa area in Upper Burma after the celebration of NLD's victory in the 1990 General Election.

Hearing the news, fifteen members of the Burmese NLD Refugees in South Korea who are fighting for democracy of Burma have left off from their daily jobs-which kept them to survive in just enough and went into an endless fight for Aung San Suu Kyi's immediate release in front of the Myanmar Embassy located in Seoul since June 3, 2003 10 am . During the demonstration 12 members were transported to Yongsan Police Station at about 3 pm.

In supporting the NLD-la Korea Branch refugees, the Refuge Pnan and I&WE urges Burmese government to release Daw Aung San Suu Kyi immediately and to stop the oppression upon democratic movement in Burma. We also urge Korean government which advocates democratic and participant government to take a determined measure to release Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and to reconsider the relationship with unlawful Burmese military government.

June 4th. 2003

Abraham H. Lee, representative activist of Refuge Pnan
Hyun-a Kim, representative of I&WE



Members NLD are continuously having the rally in front the Burma Embassy since June 3, 2003 demanding for the immediate release of their Leader. They have been staying in Korea as Political Refugee.



National League for Democracy (NLD) was formed with the aim to implement multi-party democratic system and to establish a genuine Union on our mother lands Burma. NLD was also formed to inherit the historical heritage given by the 8888 unprecedented democratic movement, participated by the entire people of the nation consisting of monks, students and various stratum of the masses of people that demand for human rights and democracy. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is the General Secretary of National League for Democracy and the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate.

”Hindi na dapat patagalin pa ang pag-sasabatas ng Employment Permit System”

Serapina Cha, Mi-Kyung

Tinataya na umaabot na sa 290,000 ang mga migranteng manggagawa sa Korea sang-ayon sa Ministry of Labour at mga organizasyon at institusyong pang-migrante. Kalakhan sa mga migrante ay nagtatrabaho sa mga tinatawag na 3D o mga mahihirap, mapanganib at maduduming trabaho. Karamihan pa o mahigit 2/3 ng kabuuang bilang ay dumaranas ng matinding hirap at pagdurusa dahil sa pagiging undocumented o ilegal ang status.

Sa nakalipas na 10-taon ang bilang ng mga migranteng manggagawa ay tumaas at patuloy na tumataas dala ng kawalan ng oportunidad sa kanilang bayan. Habang sa Korea naman ay hindi na maikakaila ang kontribusyong ng mga migrante sa ekonomiya ng Korea at pagiging bahagi na nito sa pangkalahatang lakas paggawa sa Korea. Sa katunayan maraming mga kumpanya ang umaasa ng malaki sa mga migrante para patakubuhin ang mga maliliit at medium-sized na mga kumpanya. Sa makatuwid hindi na maitatangi ang pagpasok at pagdagsa ng mga migrante dahil sa kawalan ng malinaw na programa ang mga pamahalaan ng bayan nilang pinaggalingan at makitid na oportunidad o nakasasapat na kabuhayan, habang sa Korea naman ay may malaking kakapusan ng mga magtatrabaho sa mga kumpanyang ayaw pasukan ng mg Koreano.

Sa panahon ng globalisasyon, ang bakod sa kapital at paggawa ay hindi na mapipigilan. Subalit ang realidad sa Korea ay kabaliktaran ang nagaganap. Nagpapapasok ang Korea ng mga murang lakas paggawa subalit hindi naman sila nabibigyan ng sapat na proteksyon. Ibig sabihin ay hindi pa rin talaga ganap na pinapansin at siniseryoso ang kalagayan ng mga migrante upang mabigyan ng tunay na proteksyon. Mas lalo pa nitong pinalalala ang mahirap at pagdurusa ng mga migrante habang patuloy naman na lumolobo ang bilang ng mga undocumented. Ibig sabihin dahil habang walang tunay na proteksyon na ibinibigay ang gobyerno mas lalo pa itong nagtutulak na maging ilegal o undocumented ang mga migrante.

Sa ganitong kalagayan mas higit kinakailangan na itaas o ibigay ang tunay na proteksyon sa mga migranteng manggagawa. Pinakamahalaga dito ang pag-tatrato sa kanila na kapantay ng mga Koreanong manggagawa at mamamayan upang mawakasan ang lahat ng porma ng diskriminasyon.

Ayon sa pag-aaral na isinagawa National Human Rights Commission of Korea at Korea Labour Institute, ang mga migrante ay dumaranas ng diskriminasyon at pang-aabuso sa mga pagawaan tulad ng mahahabang oras ng trabaho (70 oras kada linggo), di pagbibigay ng sweldo ay pagdedelay (51.4% ng mga sinuring manggagawa), masasakit na salita o pang-iinsulto at pananakit (64%), sexual harrasment(12.4%), pagkuha ng mga pasaporte (40.2%), at marami pang iba.

Ang lahat ng problema ng diskriminasyon, pang-aabuso, pag-sasamantala ay ibinunga ng pagiging undocumented na kung saan ang malaking bilang ay tumakas sa pagiging trainee. Dagdag pa, dahil sa kawalan ng batas na nagbibigay ng proteksyon sa kanilang mga karapatan,

mapa dating trainee man o mga pumasok sa ibang paraan, ay mas lalong nagpapahirap ito sa mga migranteng manggagawa. Kung kaya mas napapanahon at kinakailangan na lumikha ng hakbang upang maprotektahan ang mga migrante at maging maayos ang kalagayan ng mga maggagawa.

Kinakailangan na i-abolish na ang mapang-abusong Trainee System at agad na palitan ng Work Permit System kasabay ng pagsasakatuparan ng batas na magbibigay ng proteksyon sa karapatan ng mga migrante.

Ang KFSB o Korean Federation of Small and Medium Business) ay maring tumututol sa pagsasabatas ng Employment Permit System. Kinakatwiran nila na ang EPS ay lilikha ng malaking gastusin at bababa ang kalidad ng kanilang mga industriya. Totoo nga na na tataas ang kanilang gastusin at mababawasan ang kanilang kita dahil sa mga bonus, retirement allowance, social insurance atbp. Pero magkaganun man, ayon sa pag-aaral na isinagawa ng KLI (Korea Labour Institute), ang average na sahod ng mga trainee kada buwan ay umaabot humigit kumulang 823,000 won, habang ang mga undocumented o ilegal naman ay humigit kumulang (average) ay 858,000 won. Ang pagkakaiba sa kanilang sweldo ay napakaliit kumpara sa kinikita ng mga may-ari ng kumpanya. Kung kaya ang sa mga maliliit na kumpanyang inimbistigahan (54.2% out of 684 small and medium manufacturing industries), mas gugustuhin ng mga kumpanyang ito na kumuha ng mga lugal na manggagawa. Samakatuwid ang pagtutol ng ng KFSB ay hindi suportado at walang basehan.

Kung maipapasa ang EPS, maaaring mabigyan ng proteksyon ang mga maka-qualify dito na mga bagong papasok dahil nakapaloob sa batas na mabibigyan sila ng proteksyon laban sa diskriminasyon, pantay na karapatan na sumali at magbuo ng unyon, magwelga, at magkaroon ng CBA, at iba pang kinakailangan proteksyon. Ang pagsasakatuparan nito ay mag-aambag pa ng malaki sa pag-ullad ng ekonomiya ng Korea at istabilidad ng lipunan. Ang Solidarity Committee of Migrant Workers in Korea ay nagmungkah sa Korean national Assembly ng Work permit System noon pang 1996, subalit hanggang a kasalukuyan at hindi pa ito inaaprubahan at isinasabatas. Dapat din na kilalanin ang kasalukuyang undocumented dito. Kung kaya kailangan nating lahat, migrante man o mga institusyon na gumawa ng hakbang upang isabatas ang WPS dahil sa ang deadline ng registration at magsisumula na ang deportation sa buwan ng Agosto 2003.

Tandaan natin na ang proteksyon para sa mga migrante ay hindi lang natin makukuha sa paghihintay ng sa pagsasabatas nito. Ang lahat ng ating dinaranas ay hindi lang natin dapat iaasa sa batas dahil may malaking factor pa na dapat kilalanin. Mas kinakailangan na tayo mismo ay direktang kumilos. Huwag din natin ipagkakamali na ang pagsasabatas ng EPS ay ganap na magbibigay sa atin ng proteksyon.###

No debemos posponer más la introducción del Employment Permit System.

El ministerio del trabajo y de las organizaciones concernientes estiman que hay más de 290 mil trabajadores emigrantes en Corea. La mayoría están trabajando en industrias llamadas de 3ª clase y 2/3 de ellos están en condiciones precarias debido a su estado ilegal. En estos 10 años ha aumentado rápidamente la Inmigración de trabajadores, son cuentas importantes para el mercado de trabajo coreano, y ahora se convierte en un hecho innegable que un buen número de industrias pequeñas no se puede manejar sin ellos. Como se sabe generalmente, es inevitable aceptar la afluencia del poder laboral extranjero debido a las características de la estructura industrial y del poder laboral.

En la era del globalization rápida, la frontera del mercado de trabajo así como el capital no puede existir más. Pero en realidad en Corea, importamos la mano de obra barata, pero no hacemos ningún sistema de protección legal hasta ahora. Esto demuestra la negligencia del gobierno a sí mismo y agrava la ilegalidad.

El problema urgente para los trabajadores emigrantes es mejorar las condiciones muy inferiores de trabajo y circunstancias. Sin embargo, el problema más importante es que deben ser tratados de la misma forma que a la gente coreana, superando todas las clases de discriminaciones. Según la investigación realizada por la Comisión Nacional de Derechos Humanos de Corea y del Instituto de Trabajo de Corea, han estado sufriendo de discriminación y tratamiento injusto tal como tiempo largo de trabajo, por encima de 70 horas a la semana, sueldo atrasado (51.4% de los trabajadores investigados), insultos y violencia (64%), abuso sexual (12.4%), retención del pasaporte (40.2%) etcétera.

Todo el problema de la discriminación y el tratamiento injusto mencionado arriba es debido al sistema Aprendiz Industrial existente y a la falta del "acta para el empleo de trabajadores emigrantes y la protección de sus derechos humanos". Debemos crear con urgencia planes contrarios para proteger los derechos humanos de los trabajadores emigrantes y establecer un mercado de trabajo estable. Debe ser expresado suprimiendo el sistema Aprendiz Industrial que trajo serios efectos nocivos, introduciendo el sistema del empleo y del permiso de trabajo, decretando la ley de la protección de los trabajadores emigrantes.

Las organizaciones patronales tales como federación de KFSB(Korea Federation of Small and Medium Business) se opone al Employment Permit System (EPS). Insisten que el EPS causará el aumento del coste de trabajo y el debilitamiento de la competitividad de industrias. Por supuesto hay algunos factores para levantar coste de trabajo como la prima, el permiso del retiro, el seguro social etc. Sin embargo, según el examen reciente del KLI(Korea Labour Institute), el salario medio del aprendiz industrial masculino era 823 mil won al mes mientras que el trabajador emigrante era 858 mil won. La diferencia entre ellos puede ser insignificante. Por lo tanto, 54,2% de las 684 pequeñas y medias industrias fabriles investigadas prefieren al empleo legal de trabajadores emigrantes a través de EPS. Entonces la insistencia de los patronos es sin apoyo y sin fundamento.

Con la introducción de EPS, una ley para proteger los derechos humanos de trabajadores emigrantes debe ser decretada. La ley contiene el procedimiento del empleo de la trabajador emigrante, prohibición de la discriminación, plan de protección, garantía a los tres derechos primarios del trabajador, garantiza sus derechos humanos fundamentales y otros necesarios. Y la supervisión legal de los trabajadores emigrantes contribuirá al desarrollo de la economía nacional y de la estabilidad social de Corea. El comité de la solidaridad de trabajadores emigrantes en Corea introdujo un proyecto de ley para EPS en 1996, pero la asamblea nacional no lo ha pasado todavía. Debemos hacer cada esfuerzo para pasar el acta en esta sesión preliminar de junio de 2003, porque el plazo para la expatriación de la estadia ilegal es en agosto de 2003.

Esto no es solamente para la protección de sus derechos humanos de colocar el sistema legislativo. El complejo de inferioridad, desprecio, inseguridad y la carencia de la identidad causados por la discriminación social y permanencia ilegal será un factor serio de la inestabilidad social, y los síntomas ya aparecen.

Por eso no debemos pasar por alto la importancia de introducir el EPS para los trabajadores emigrantes.

”We should not postpone the introduction of the Employment Permit System any more.”

Serapina Cha, Mi-Kyung

The Ministry of Labour and concern organizations estimated that there are more than 290 thousand migrant workers in Korea. Most of them are working at so-called 3D types of industry, and 2/3 of them are experiencing a very difficult living and working condition because of having undocumented status. Migrant workers, increased rapidly in the last 10 years. Migrant workers in Korea now are undeniably an important part of Korean labour market. In fact the relatively high number of small industries cannot run and operate without them. As is generally known, it is inevitable to accept the inflow of foreign labour power because of the characteristics of the industrial structure and labour power.

In the era of rapid globalization, the border of labour market as well as capital cannot exist any more. But the reality in Korea shows otherwise. We import the cheap foreign labourers, but would not make any legal protection system till now. It means that the government itself neglect and aggravate the condition that creates increasing number of undocumented migrant workers.

There is an urgent need in improving the circumstances and inferior working condition of migrant workers. However, the most important problem is that they should be treated on the same footing with Korean people, overcoming all kinds of discriminations.

According to the investigation conducted by the National Human Rights Commission of Korea and Korea Labour Institute, they have been suffering from discrimination and unjust treatment such as long time working over 70 hours a week, wage overdue(51.4% of the investigated workers), insulting and violence(64%), sexual harrassment(12.4%), attaching passport(40.2%) and so on.

All the problem of discrimination and unjust treatment mentioned above are due to the existing industrial trainee system and the lacking of the "Act for employment of migrant workers and the protection of their human rights". So we should immediately devise urgently the fundamental counterplans for protecting migrant workers' human rights and establishing stable labour market.

The industrial trainee system, which has brought about serious adverse effects, should be abolished and immediately introduce employment and labour permit system and enact as well the migrant workers protection law.

Employers' organizations such as KFSB(Korea Federation of Small and Medium Business) oppose the Employment Permit System(EPS). They insist that EPS will surely cause the raise of labour cost and the weakening of the competitiveness of industries. Of course there is some factors for raising labour cost like bonus, retirement allowance, social insurance etc. However, according to the recent survey of KLI(Korea Labour Institute), average wage of male industrial trainee was 823 thousand won a month while migrant worker' was 858 thousand won. The difference between them can be negligible. Therefore, 54.2% out of 684 small and medium manufacturing industries investigated prefer to legal employment of migrant workers through EPS. So the insistence of the employers' is unsupported and groundless.



With the introduction of EPS, a law for protecting the human rights of migrant workers should be enacted. The law should contains the procedure of employment of migrant worker, prohibition of discrimination, protection plan, guarantee the labourer's three primary rights, guarantee their fundamental human rights and others necessary. And the legal supervision of the migrant workers will contribute to the development of national economy and social stability of Korea. Solidarity Committee of

Migrant Workers in Korea introduced a bill for EPS in 1996, but the National Assembly have not passed it yet. We should make every effort to pass the act in this preliminary session of June 2003, because the deadline for expatriation of the illegal stayers is August 2003.

It is not only for the protection of their human rights to settle the legal system. The sense of inferiority, contempt, insecurity and lack of identity caused by social discrimination and illegal staying will be a serious factor of social instability, and the symptoms are already appeared. So we should not overlook the importance of settling EPS for migrant workers. ###



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6 June 2003
AS-19-2003

A Statement by the Asian Human Rights Commission - AHRC

Attack on democracy party in Burma demands an uncompromising international response

The military rulers of Burma have in this past week again shown that their pretensions to human rights and political change are utterly fraudulent. The Asian Human Rights Commission has received with concern increasingly reliable reports that at least 70 persons were killed in the attacks on members and supporters of the National League for Democracy this May 30 and 31 by hundreds of government-backed thugs, police and soldiers.

Despite assurances that it would permit registered political parties to organize freely, the military government in Burma has in recent months organized gangs to attack rallies, meetings and offices of the National League for Democracy. The formation of such groups, with names like "Masters of Brute Force", indicates the lack of sincerity with which the military has made its commitments. The mobilizing of these groups made this latest atrocity inevitable.

Of particular concern is the fate of the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the National League for Democracy, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and U Tin Oo. Both have reportedly been injured and are under military detention, but to date their whereabouts are unknown. The military authorities have not yet guaranteed that the Special Representative of the United Nations' Secretary General, who is going on a routine visit to Burma today, will be able to meet with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

As the leader of the largest group for democratic change in Burma, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi embodies popular aspirations. Recent meetings she has held across the country have been attended by tens of thousands of people, despite reports of systematic intimidation and interference by local authorities. That under these intensely repressive conditions such large numbers of people are prepared to come out in support of this leader indicates the extent of frustration with military rule in Burma.

When goon squads are sent to quash popular sentiment, they are intended to do more than assault a single individual or organization—the real objective is to destabilize society. If a country is politically and socially stable, people are capable of expressing discontent. If unstable, those in control are free to carry on with whatever schemes they have cooked up for their own economic and political advantage. When people's lives are insecure, their primary concern is the search for security itself. When lawless elements are given a free hand, it sends the message that there exists only the un-rule of law. The effect on the collective consciousness is not only to prevent the possibility of democracy, but also to prevent the realization of even the most fundamental rights: those to food, water and other basic necessities. Poverty and lawlessness coincide; society becomes demoralized and inert.

Yet in the face of systemic and massive denials of their basic rights, people in Burma are still demonstrating their desire for an end to military dictatorship. Sadly, the international community has failed to respond. The lack of any serious consistent pressure on the military rulers of Burma has meant that they have been free to exercise unrelenting and ruthless control over the country while making piecemeal gestures to silence international critics and give the impression that they are progressing towards a political transition.

This most recent event exposes the patent absurdity of softly-softly approaches to the military regime. Undertaking seminars on human rights with officials and sending envoys to seek subtle compromises are in no way strategies for legitimate change. They merely belittle the extremely grave human rights conditions in the country and fail to recognize that ultimately the military is determined to deprive the people of Burma a genuinely democratic government.

The international protest arising out of this week's events must lead to something different from what has come before. It must be accompanied by a newfound will to confront the military elite's intention to retain power at any cost. It must be accompanied by recognition that the military leaders of Burma are not partners for negotiation but persons who have committed crimes against humanity. Above all, it must be accompanied by an unswerving commitment to the genuine aspirations of the people of Burma for—at long last—recognition of their fundamental human rights.

The visit by the UN Special Representative and mere international outcry is by no means enough. The situation in Burma demands urgent intervention by the Security Council. A team must be sent immediately to investigate this most recent incident and ensure the security of all persons who were subject to the attack. It must be sent as part of a specific strategy for the holding of a credible election in Burma under international supervision, to ensure that the military honours the results. Finally, it must be sent with a view to holding the military rulers of Burma responsible for numerous crimes against humanity, a charge under which they must be brought before the International Criminal Court, or appropriate international tribunal, at the nearest possible date. ###

TRANSLATED BY: Ms. - Yukyung Chung, the first
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Proposal:

Bill for Employment Permit System for Foreign Workers

(Presented by Lee Jaejung and other 32 members of parliament in South Korea)

Proposal number: 2008

Date: Nov. 13, 2002

Purpose of the Proposal

- ◇ Facilitating smooth labor supply and balanced development of the national economy by allowing the employment of the foreign workers in the industrial sectors which go through the labor shortage
- ◇ Protecting employment opportunity for Koreans and managing the foreign workers in systemic manner
- ◇ Preventing human rights violation on foreign workers and developing the institutional mechanism to guarantee the rights of foreign workers

Main Points

- a. Establishing the Policy Review Committee for Employment of Foreign Workers (hereafter, the Committee) that is composed by representatives from the labors, employers, politicians, and experts from non-profit sectors to review and decide the policy on employment and protection of the rights for the foreign workers (Article 7).
- b. The Ministry of Labor establishes the plan to import the foreign workers and proclaims it by October 1 each year. The plan will include the sector and size of the companies in which the foreign workers are to be hired, and the number of foreign workers in each industry (Article 4).
- c. Employers who want to hire foreign workers should register first and be issued the paper that confirms the labor shortage at the Vocation Stabilization Center at the Labor Ministry (Article 5).
- d. The labor contract between an employer and a foreign worker should be made by the standard labor contract form, which will be designated by the foreign workers and Labor Minister. Period of contract cannot exceed one year, but it can be renewed within maximum three years (Article 7).

Full Text

Bill for Employment Permit System for Foreign Workers

Chapter 1 General Rules

Article 1 (Purpose) The purpose of this bill is to decide the procedures, rights and responsibilities of employment of foreign workers in Republic of Korea. The purpose also includes the prohibition of the discrimination and guarantee of the basic rights of foreign workers.

Article 2 (Scope) This bill defines `foreign worker` as a foreigner without Korean citizenship who works or tries to work in Korea to earn wage. This bill is not applicable to the foreigners who work in the sectors of science, technology, and entertainment.

Article 3 (Committee) "ç Establishing the policy Review Committee for Employment of Foreign Workers (hereafter, the Committee) to review and decide the policy on employment and protection of the rights of the foreign workers.

"è The Committee is composed of 20 or less than 20 members representing the workers, employers, politicians, and experts from non-profit sectors. In this case, the number of representatives from workers and employers should be equal.

"é The Presidential decree will decide the details on the activities of the Committee such as the organization and management.

Article 4 (The Function of the Committee) "ç The Committee will review and decide followings.

1. Sector and size of the businesses that can hire foreign workers and number of foreign workers in each sector
2. Period of employment for foreign workers
3. Methods of designating the country that can export the foreign workers to Korea
4. Issues related to return of the foreign workers to home countries
5. Other issues related to the importing the foreign workers and protecting their rights and interests

"è The Ministry of Labor should establish the plan to import the foreign workers and proclaim it by October 1 each year through the review and consultation.

Chapter 2 Employment of Foreign Workers

Article 5 (Labor Shortage Confirmation Paper) "ç Employer who wants to hire a foreign worker should register at the Vocation Stabilization Center (hereafter, the Center) at Labor Ministry. In order to protect the employment opportunity for Korean workers, the chief of the Center should issue the Labor Shortage Confirmation Paper when the request meets the requirement the Presidential decree.

"è The Labor Shortage Confirmation Paper will be effective for three months, and it can be extended once if it meets the requirements by the Presidential decree.

Article 6 (Selecting Foreign Workers) "ç Employer who received the Labor Shortage Confirmation Paper based on the procedure on above Article 5 should select the foreign workers in the list of foreign workers held by the Center at Labor Ministry.

"è The Presidential decree will decide the procedure and method of a foreign worker`s applying for a position in Korea.

"é Only the Center at Labor Ministry can be involved with the selection, mediation, and employment of foreign workers.

Article 7 (Labor Contract) "ç An employer, who selected the foreign workers following above Article 6 "ç, should make contract using Standard Labor Contract Paper designated by the Labor Minister. Necessary issues such as the process of making contract and the timing of the start of the contract will be decided by the Presidential decree.

"è Period of contract cannot exceed one year, but it can be renewed within maximum three years from the date of entry of the foreign worker. In the case of renewal, the renewed contract period cannot exceed one year.

"é In spite of the above "è, if there is inevitable situation, which will be defined by the Presidential decree, the labor contract can be renewed within additional two years.

Article 8 (Paper to Approve the Visa Issuance) "ç The employer who made contract based on above Article 7 "ç should apply for the approval of the visa issuance to the Minister of Justice. The necessary documents include standard labor contract paper and other documents decided by the decree from the Labor Ministry.

"è In spite of the Immigration Law Article 9, the Minister of Justice can refuse to issue the visa to the foreign workers in the following situation.



1. When the foreigner has a contagious disease
2. When the foreigner is acknowledged to be involved in a crime
3. When the foreigner has violated Korean immigration law or the law on employment of foreign worker, and when the period of prohibition of entry to Korea is still effective.
4. Other occasions defined by the Presidential decree

Chapter 3 Management of the Foreign Workers

Article 9 (Insurance or Trust for Departure after Finishing Contract) "ç The employer should be insured, with the foreign worker as a beneficiary, for insurance or trust for departure after finishing contract following the Presidential decree.

"è In case the employer is insured for the above "ç, it is regarded as establishing the severance pay based on Article 34 in Labor Standard Law.

Article 10 (Health Insurance) "ç The employer should be insured for health insurance for foreign worker in spite of the Article 93 in National Health Insurance Law.

Article 11 (Insurance or Trust for Cost for Returning to the Home Country) "ç The foreign worker should be insured for insurance or trust for cost for returning to the home country.

"è Management and payment of the above insurance and trust will be decided by the Presidential decree.

Article 12 (Preparation for Returning to the Home Country) "ç The employer should clear all the unpaid salary and other unfinished financial responsibilities when a foreign worker returns to his (or her) country after terminating the contract or finishing the term.

"è Labor Minister should implement the adequate policy to clear the financial responsibility of the employer, as discussed in above "ç, and to protect the rights and interests of the foreign workers.

Article 13 (Employment of Foreign Workers) "ç The employer should report to the Labor Minister when a foreign worker enters to Korea and starts to work as well as other occasions as defined by the Presidential decree.

"è More detail on the adequate management of the foreign workers will be decided by the Presidential decree.

Chapter 4 Human Rights Protection for Foreign Workers

Article 14 (No Discrimination) Any discrimination between foreign workers and Korean workers, due to the fact that the worker is a foreigner, will not be allowed.

Article 15 (Guaranteeing the Change of the Work Place) A foreign worker who made labor contract based on above Article 7 can change the work place if the employer violates the contract such as wage or working condition. In case of changing the work place, the foreign worker should follow the procedure as explained by the decree of Ministry of Labor.

Article 16 (Management in Compulsory Leaving) Even in the case that the foreign worker should leave Korea compulsorily following the Article 46 in Korean Immigration Law, the compulsory leaving should be implemented after all the financial responsibilities, such as the unpaid salary as explained in the Article 36 in Labor Standard Law, by the employer are resolved.

Chapter 5 Disciplinary Code

Article 17 (Disciplinary Code) Following person should be imprisoned or confined for less than two years or should pay fine less than twenty million Korean Won.

1. Employer who violates above Article 13 "ç (not providing necessary procedure before the foreign

- worker`s returning to the home country)
2. Employer who violates above Article 14 (discrimination between Korean workers and foreign workers)
 3. Employer who violates above Article 15 (preventing the foreign worker`s from changing the work place)

Article 18 (Disciplinary Code) Following persons should be imprisoned or confined for less than one years or should pay fine less than ten million Won.

1. Employer who violates above Article 5 (hiring a foreign worker without getting Labor Shortage Confirmation Paper)
2. Employer who violates above Article 6 "ç (hiring a foreign worker not through the Vocation Stabilization Center)
3. Employer who violates above Article 6 "é (mediating or broking the job for foreign workers)

Article 19 (Disciplinary Code) Following persons should pay fine less than five million Won.

1. A foreign worker who violates the Article 4 (working in a businesses other than the ones permitted by the Committee)
2. A person who violates the Article 7 "ç (not using the Standard Labor Contract Paper when making contract between the employer and the foreign worker)
3. An employer who violates the Article 9 "ç (not being insured for insurance or trust for departure)
4. A foreign worker who violates the Article 11 "ç (not being insured for insurance or trust for cost for returning to the home country)
5. An employer who violates the Article 13 "ç (not reporting to the Labor Minister when a foreign worker enters to Korea and starts the work as well as other occasions as defined by the Presidential decree)

Article 20 (Punishment for Both Sides) When the representative of a corporation, the corporation, or the agent of an individual, an employer, and/or other employees violate the Article 17, 18, and 19, in addition to punish the violator, the corporation in which the violator is the member of or the individual (not only the agent) also should pay fine as it is defined under each Article.

Additional Rules

Article 1 (Implementation Date) Implementation of this law will be started six month after its proclamation.

Article 2 (Transitional Measurement of the Undocumented Foreign Workers) "ç The undocumented foreign workers who report themselves within the designated period, with satisfying the requirement as defined by the Presidential decree, will not be applied to the disciplinary code by the Immigration Law. These workers are eligible to apply for a job through the Center at the Ministry of Labor.

"è Minister of Labor should make an efforts for the employment of the undocumented foreign workers, who meet the requirements as discussed in above "ç, without delay.

"é The presidential decree will decide the regulations for the management of the foreign workers who applied for jobs based on above "ç.

Article 3 (Amendment of the Related Law) Article 19 "è and "é in the Immigration Law should be deleted.

Article 4 (Transitional Measurement for the Industrial Trainee and Trainee-Workers under Current System) In spite of the amendment of the Article 19 "è and "é in the Immigration Law, when the Employment Permit System for foreign workers is implemented, the foreign industrial trainees and the trainee-workers can stay in Korea till the expiration date of the status as long as he (or she) remains within the given status.

***** Thank you & Good luck!*****