



North Korea Freedom Week 2016 Acknowledgements

13th Annual North Korea Freedom Week, April 24-30, 2016, Seoul, Republic of Korea

We are pleased to provide this report to acknowledge the many individuals and organizations participating in the 13th annual North Korea Freedom Week. Below you will find links to press clips and photos compiled by Kang Seo and Jason West to share with you from NKFV.

This year's themes focused on the role of the North Koreans in ending the Kim Jong Eun regime especially through their effective methods getting information *into and out of* North Korea and the role and responsibilities of North Koreans after the fall of the Kim Jong Eun regime. We had tremendous coverage of NKFV with close to 400 articles in the South Korean media including television news coverage and interviews during the week in which we emphasized the importance of supporting the work of the North Korean defectors, preparing for regime collapse and the role of defectors in unification. Perhaps, most important for the first time in the 13 years of NKFV, we more than tripled the daily broadcast of Free North Korea Radio, so that the 23 million people of North Korea would hear coverage and news about all the events of North Korea Freedom Week.

In addition to advancing the cause of North Korea freedom, our goals during this 13th annual NKFV were: 1) to give a powerful signal to the elites in North Korea that there is an alternative to the Kim Jong Eun dictatorship; 2) to give hope to the 23 million people of North Korea; 3) to give North Korean defectors an opportunity to positively engage on plans for North Korea's future; and 4) to utilize the greatest resource the free world has to transform North Korea: the people who once lived under the Kim tyranny. In every speech and meeting, we emphasized the importance of supporting the North Korean defectors' efforts.

A few personal highlights I would like to share:

First, as we do for every NKFV, we started with a church service. Pastor Kang Chul Ho's Saetu (Peace Methodist) Church in Seoul (the first church fully established and owned by North Korean defectors) hosted us as we proclaimed Isaiah 61 for North Korea: that this would be the year of the Lord's Favor for North Korea, that the captives would be SET FREE in 2016! This verse was given to me by a member of my beloved prayer team before we departed the USA for South Korea. For the church service that morning Pastor Kang had selected the reading from Luke that cites this verse – we took that as a great sign and are now calling for joint prayer services between North Korean and South Korean pastors and churches this summer to proclaim the Year of the Lord's favor for North Korea for 2016.

Second, the very first public event was truly remarkable. You may recall that we also begin every NKFV at the Korean War Memorial to honor those who sacrificed for South Korea's freedom. This is a very emotional event because members of the North Korea People's Liberation Front, former members of the North Korea military, lay a wreath and pledge to honor the sacrifices of those who served and died to make South Korea free to do the same for North Korea. When we showed up for this event, two busloads of British Korean War vets had just finished visiting the memorial – an amazing coincidence. I approached the leader of their tour group, Charlotte O'Kane of REVISITKOREA, and asked her if it would be possible for these veterans to join us since this event

was to honor them, and she agreed and they did. It was truly remarkable. Everyone was crying including the wives of these veterans.

Third, again and again and again it was confirmed that the North Korean defectors are the most effective at doing this work AND the most under-utilized resource we have to transform North Korea. For example, at the beginning of the week we met one very humble North Korean defector female who has rescued 7000 North Korean refugees – she rescued 700 last year alone! And at the end of the week, the North Korean defectors released to the media thousands of items that they had smuggled out of North Korea – from hacking reports by the DPRK of South Korean politicians and businessmen to the latest textbooks being utilized in DPRK schools to glorify Kim Jong Eun (*Did you know Kim learned to drive at two years of age!*). The defectors were also able to smuggle out another DPRK cell phone, a lighter made in a political prison camp but branded with a Chinese company name, and other items of interest. For the closing meeting of NFKW, we were hosted at a special guest house the defectors had established. The guest house included a small room set up as a shrine where pictures of North Koreans who had been executed for smuggling out information could be remembered. It was a powerful reminder of the many sacrifices North Koreans are making every day to bring freedom to their homeland.

Fourth, I have to acknowledge Kim Seong Min. When NFKW is in the USA, the burden falls on my shoulders. When NFKW is in Seoul, the burden falls on his. We joke about trying to push it back and forth because it is such an enormous undertaking, and we never have the resources we want, and yet we still to do it. Kim Seong Min did an amazing job as you will see in this listing of events and the participating organizations. It was all the work of the defectors and the NGOs listed here that made this a remarkable NFKW and a huge success. However, it was not all work: the American delegation had a great time with some nights of Karaoke with the NKPLF!

We all work for that day when North Korea Freedom Week will be in Pyongyang. If the 14th North Korea Freedom Week scheduled for April 23-29, 2017, is not in Pyongyang, please plan to join us in Washington, D.C. to promote the freedom, human rights and dignity of the North Korean people! It will be our turn once again.

Acta Non Verba,
Suzanne Scholte
Co-Chair, North Korea Freedom Week

NKFW Participants

Korea:

- Association of Sungy, President Yu In-Deok
- Association of the North Korean Defectors, President Choi Ju-Whal
- Center for Liberty & Unification, Director Lee Ae-Ran
- Center for Liberty & Unification, Vice-Chairman Hur Gwang-Il
- Committee for the Democratization of North Korea, Hong Sun-Kyung
- Esther Prayer Service, Director Yoo Young-Mi
- Fighters for North Korea, President Park Sang-Hak
- Free North Korea Radio, Chairman Kim Seong Min, NFKW Co-Chair
- Freedom Unification Culture Union, President Do Myung-Hak
- Institute for National Security Strategy, Vice President Ko Young-Hwan
- Korea National Defense University, Professor Kim Byung-Jo
- Koreans Love National Association, President Kang Myung-Do
- National Unification Advisory Council, Chairman Jae Sung-Ho
- New Korea Women's Union, President Lee So-Yeon
- NK Information, President Lee Hae-Young

- NK Watch, President Ahn Myung-Cheol
- NK Refugees Human Rights Association of Korea, President Kim Yong-Hwa
- No Chain, President Jung Gwang-II
- North Korea Intellectual Solidarity, President Kim Heung-Kwang
- North Korea Strategy Center, President Kang Cheol-Hwan
- North Korean Center, Saeteo Church, Pastor Kang Cheol-Ho
- North Korean Democracy Promotion Council, Chairman Ahn Hyuk
- North Korean People's Liberation Front, Commander Choi Jeong-Hun
- North Korean People's Liberation Front, President Jang Sae-Yul
- North Korean Writers in Exile PEN Literature, President Lee Ji-Myung
- People for Successful Corean Reunification (PSCORE), Executive Director Kim Young-II
- Save North Korean Refugees, President Lee Myung-Ok
- Teach North Korean Refugees, Co-Founder Casey Lartigue Jr.
- Unification Mind Union, President Kim Jeong-Ah
- Park Gun-Ha, North Korea Intellectuals Solidarity
- Kim Taesan
- Kim Byung-Deok, Former North Korean Army Colonel (recent defection)
- Seo Kang, our Guardian Angel and assistant to the USA Delegation

Canada:

- North Korea Freedom Coalition, Jin Sun-II

England:

- International North Korean Defector Solidarity, Kim Joo-il

Japan:

- National Association for the Rescue of Japanese Kidnapped by North Korea, Pres. Nishioka Ztomu
- National Council for Japanese Abducted by North Korea
- North Korean People's Liberation Front of Japan, Branch Manager, Kang Seung-Boo
- Moija (Organization of the North Korean Defectors), Kawasaki Eiko

USA Delegation:

- Casey Lartigue, NKFC and Teach North Koreans (Seoul based)
- Cho Eun-Cheol, President North Korean Human Rights Association
- Hannah Kim, NKFC and NKinUSA
- Jason West, Esq. The North Korea Network, Founder
- Jo Jinhye, President, NKinUSA
- Kang Seo, NKFC and FNKR
- Lawrence Peck, NKFC
- Lisa Gallo, NKFC and Jangdaehyun School
- Pastor Lou Gallo, NKFC and Jangdaehyun School
- Minjeong Ko, NKFC and NKinUSA
- Nancy Purcell, NKFC
- Seong Park, translation assistance for USA delegation
- Shaquille James, NKFC and Georgetown THINK
- Soonja Ji, NKFC and NKinUSA
- Suzanne Scholte, NKFW Co-Chair

USA Special Participants:

- The Committee for Human Rights in North Korea (HRNK), Executive Director Greg Scarlatoiu
- Institute for Defense Analyses, Dr. Katy Oh

North Korea Freedom Week 2016 Photos and News Archive
(Links and photos will also be available at NKFreedom.org)

April 24

NFKW 2016 Opening Service, Christian Federation of North Korea, Pastor Kang Cheol-Ho, Saetu Church



<http://news1.kr/photos/view/?1895786>

<http://news1.kr/photos/details/?1895779>

<http://news1.kr/photos/details/?1895783>

April 25

Wreath Laying Ceremony, North Korean People's Liberation Front (NKPLF), with British Korean War Veterans. Commander Choi Jeong-Hun, War Memorial of Korea



<http://www.yonhapnews.co.kr/bulletin/2016/04/25/0200000000AKR20160425045000014.HTML>

<http://www.yonhapnews.co.kr/photos/1990000000.html?cid=PYH20160425016800013>

NKFW 2016 Opening Ceremony, NKFW Arrangement Committee, Chairman Kim Seong Min, National Assembly Memorial Hall



http://world.kbs.co.kr/english/news/news_Po_detail.htm?No=118561 (Eng)

<http://www.konas.net/article/article.asp?id=45520>

<http://www.newdaily.co.kr/news/article.html?no=309242>

http://www.ytn.co.kr/_ln/0101_201604251530489647

Prayer Vigil for Unification, Esther Prayer Group, Director Yoo Young-Mi, Seoul Station Plaza



<http://news.kmib.co.kr/article/view.asp?arcid=0010560984&code=61221111&cp=nv>

<http://www.christianitydaily.com/articles/8043/20160425/north-korea-freedom-week-focus-role-responsibility-refugees.htm> (Eng)

April 26

Rally of North Korean Women Soldiers, New Korea Women's Alliance, President Lee So-Yeon, Gwanghwamun



<http://news.kbs.co.kr/news/view.do?ncd=3272127&ref=A>
<http://www.konas.net/article/article.asp?idx=45533>

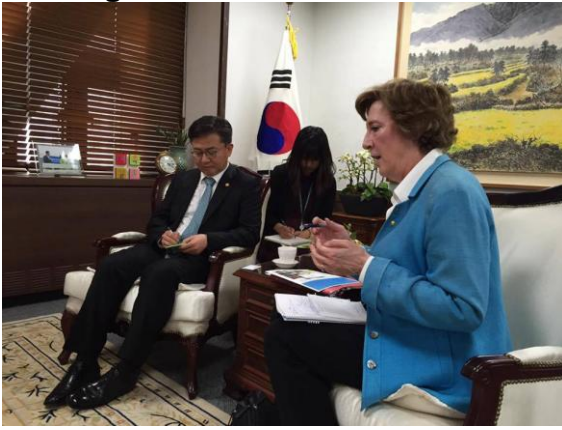
Press Conference – Defector Mothers Ask for Reuniting with their Children in China

Mothers for Unification, President Kim Jeong-Ah, National Assembly Member's Office Building



<http://www.newdaily.co.kr/news/article.html?no=309438>
http://www.focus.kr/photo_view.php?key=2016042601160444502

Meeting with the Minister of Unification



April 27

NKFW Delegation Visit to OHCHR Seoul Office



http://www.yn.co.kr/_ln/0101_201604271733234559

<http://www.sedaily.com/NewsView/1KV78MISTW>

<http://www.voakorea.com/a/3304741.html>

Panel Discussion Session 1: Information Inflow Promoting the Change of North Korea

North Korean Intellectuals' Society

Panelists: Kim Heung-Kwang, Kim Seong Min, Kim Young-II, Choi Jeong-Hoon, Jang Sae-Yool, and Park Gun-Ha National Assembly Library



<http://www.newdaily.co.kr/news/article.html?no=309553>

<http://www.voakorea.com/a/3308330.html>

<http://www.dailian.co.kr/news/view/569508/?sc=naver>

<http://www.konas.net/article/article.asp?idx=45558>

<http://www.newdaily.co.kr/news/article.html?no=309571>

April 28

NKFW Delegation Visit to Free North Korea Radio



Panel Discussion Session 2: On Role of North Korean Defectors in Preparing for the Collapse of North Korea, NKFW Arrangement Committee, Press Center

Opening Remarks: Greg Scarlatou

Moderators: Kim Byung-Jo, Suzanne Scholte, Nishioka Ztomu

Panelists: Go Young-Hwan, Choi Ju-Whal, Kang Cheol-Hwan, Lee Ae-Ran, Hur Gwang-II, Yu In-Deok, and Kim Taesan

Special Guest: Kim Byung-Deok, Former North Korean Army Colonel



<http://www.voakorea.com/a/3306416.html>

<http://www.newdaily.co.kr/news/article.html?no=309688>

<http://news1.kr/photos/view/?1903431>

<http://news1.kr/photos/view/?1903438>

<http://www.newdaily.co.kr/news/article.html?no=309704>

http://tbs.seoul.kr/news/bunya.do?method=daum_html&typ_800=P&seq_800=10149051 (Eng)

NKFW Delegation Visit to the North Korean People's Liberations Front (NKPLF) and Dinner



April 29

2016 North Korea Human Rights Strategy Meeting, National Unification Advisory Council Chairman Jae Sung-Ho



http://www.newsis.com/ar_detail/view.html?ar_id=NISX20160426_0014046755

<http://www.yonhapnews.co.kr/bulletin/2016/04/29/0200000000AKR20160429083600014.HTML>

<http://www.yonhapnews.co.kr/photos/1990000000.html?cid=PYH20160429035500013>

<http://news.join.com/article/19946247> (Suzanne's interview with Joongang Daily)

Balloon Launch, Free Fighters for North Korea, President Park Sang-Hak, Imjingak





<http://www.newdaily.co.kr/news/article.html?no=309822>

<http://news1.kr/articles/?2649826>

<http://www.yonhapnews.co.kr/bulletin/2016/04/29/0200000000AKR20160429147100060.HTML>

http://www.ytn.co.kr/_ln/0103_201604291638594150

<http://news.kbs.co.kr/news/view.do?ncd=3271857&ref=A>

<http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/common/vpage-pt.asp?newsidx=203730> (Eng)

<http://news.naver.com/main/read.nhn?oid=091&aid=0005261253> (Eng)

http://world.kbs.co.kr/english/news/news_1K_detail.htm?No=118700 (Eng)

<http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asiapacific/s-korea-us-activists/2743096.html> (Eng)

<http://www.gulf-times.com/story/490577/Activists-launch-balloons-with-300-000-anti-N-Kore> (Eng)

<http://www.reuters.com/video/2016/04/29/defectors-launch-anti-north-korea-balloon?videoid=368304870> [video]

Celebratory Dinner and Karaoke with the NKPLF





Overnight Prayer Vigil Esther Prayer Group, Joongheung Church

<http://news.kmib.co.kr/article/view.asp?arcid=0010567739&code=61221111&cp=nv>

April 30

NGO President's Strategy Meeting, NKFW Arrangement Committee, Press Center



<http://www.newdaily.co.kr/news/article.html?no=309790>

<http://www.newdaily.co.kr/news/article.html?no=309840>

<http://www.voakorea.com/a/3308234.html>

<http://www.konas.net/article/article.asp?idx=45580>

<http://news1.kr/articles/?2649315>

<http://www.munhwa.com/news/view.html?no=20160428MW163540728657>

Briefing Session Gyereol United, Geumgang Retreat

NKPLF President Jang Sae-Yool

Special Guest, Dr. Katy Oh

Exhibition of 3,000+ items from the archives of the North Korean Worker's Party

Exhibition of North Korean textbooks from 2014 and current statistics



<http://www.newdaily.co.kr/news/article.html?no=309860>

Interviews

Yonhap Interview

<http://www.yonhapnews.co.kr/bulletin/2016/04/25/0200000000AKR20160425130500014.HTML>

Arirang TV Interview

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U_hx9tIsyJM