

KOREA, "the Lamp of the East"

The Lamp of the East

In the golden age of Asia

Korea was one of its lamp-bearers

And that lamp is waiting to be lighted once again

For the illumination in the East

1929

Tagore, Rabindranath: 1861-1941

KOREA, Now

the Miracle on the HAN River

- achieved industrialization & democratization in 60 years
 - 10th largest economy in the world in the late 20th century
 - new developmental task: globalization
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International Status of Korea

- Member of 20-50 Club** since 2012

- 24th member of Development Assistance Committee OECD** since 2009

*"symbolic event that deconstructs the traditional relationship
between the southern and northern hemisphere"*

Eckhard Deutscher
Chairman of DAC
(2010. 11. 24, Yonhap News)

Korea in the 20th century

"the contemporaneity of the uncontemporary"
as a result of compressed growth

Pre-conditions for development

- ✓ Building the nation with limited resources.
 - ✓ Building national capacity was a matter of survival rather than choice.
 - ✓ National homogeneity has been instrumental for inspiring Korean will, which further encouraged people's devotion to various challenges toward national development.
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Key factors for development

- ✓ Fervent desire of Koreans to escape from hunger and poverty.
 - ✓ Government initiative to "rescue its people from hunger and poverty" by building a prosperous country.
 - ✓ Strong commitment of technocrats & officials to develop and modernize the nation.
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Society and Education

- ✓ Education is the key to the development of society.
- ✓ The society gives birth to education.

Education is a product of the society

Current status of Education in Korea

- ✓ Receiving international recognition and interest.
- ✓ Educational accomplishment in a short period of time, despite unfavorable conditions.
- ✓ Suffering from problems and side effects as a result of compressed growth.
- ✓ New challenges ahead.

*Koreans are proud of Korea and its education.
At the same time, worry about how to solve the current
problems and to prepare for the future.*

Model of Korean Educational Development

Social Climate for Education in Korea

Education is special in Korea.

- ✓ As influenced by the traditional Confucian culture,
people put highest values on education,
and have much interests in education.
 - ✓ People respect teaching profession and teachers.
 - ✓ Education holds a high priority among national policy goals
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Model of Korean Educational Development

Triangular relation of 3 major elements of Education

- Parents' strong fervor or desire toward their children's education
 - Centralized educational policy and strong bureaucracy
 - Professionalism and devotion of college professors,
scholars, and teachers, and national R & D institutions
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Changing Environment of Education

World has been changing drastically.

So does the policy environment and conditions of education.

- IT innovation and full-fledged knowledge-based society have thrown the world into turmoil and Korea is no exception.
- The total student enrollment is shrinking rapidly due to the reduced birth rate and population decrease.
- People's expectations are getting higher due to economic development and escalation of living standard.
- Global society urges Korea's active involvement and sharing of responsibility.

Developmental tasks of Education

Upgrading the dignity of a nation and its education

- New direction:** guiding the nation into higher standard with deeper responsibility
- New goal of education:** nurturing 'happy global citizen'.

- Tasks:**
 - Education of citizen will be extended lifelong and will not be terminated at young age.
 - Multi-cultural education will be encouraged to live harmoniously with people from different ethnicity, language, and culture.
 - Global citizenship/peace education will be emphasized to meet the expectation and to respond to the challenge as an active global member.
 - Eco-friendly education will be endeavored to correspond with environmental pollution and natural destruction.

Roles of Education

The Individuals

- Way of social mobility
 - Opportunity to develop his/her potentiality and get a sense of personal achievement
 - Opportunity to get recognition from others as well as the society
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Roles of Education

The Society

- Develop and supply human resources for the economy.
 - Contribute to the survival and integration of the society through enhancing democratic values, attitudes and behavior.
 - * unwillingly supporting the authoritative governments and infiltrating ideology intentionally or unintentionally.
 - Respond to social change and initiate new way of life and values.
 - Selecting and screening people, maintaining the social stratification.
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Many Faces of Education

- **Education is interconnected with and representing its society.**

It has malfunction as well as positive function.

It has both good side and bad side.

It is like a **coin** with two faces.

Also, it is like **Janus**, god of the gate-keeper who has two faces.

Education, *Cubism Painting*

- Reflecting, interacting, and intertwined with the society,
Korean education could be described as a **cubist painting**

- It draws diversified, mixed, multi-dimensional features of an object.
 - It possesses various elements of the past, present, and future;
features of underdeveloped, developing and developed countries;
and related problems and solutions.
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2015 World Education Forum

- To take stock of EFL, education-related MDSs during the period 2000-2015.
- To discuss and agree on EFL agenda after 2015 and Frame for Action until 2030.
 - ensuring opportunities for equal primary and secondary education
 - increasing the number of adults with occupational skills
 - eradicating gender discrimination in education
 - supplying affordable and accessible higher education

KERA Seminar

- Theme: "**Role of Education for Societal Development: Comparative Perspective**".
- Importance:

The role of education varies in each nation for the differentiation of its societal, economic and cultural status.

- Comparative perspective is useful for understanding various common and different educational contexts across the countries.
- Global cooperation is needed for country's development.
- Important for all nations to pursue cooperative efforts to secure global development.

Symbolic Value of Korea

An **ICON** of
national development through education,
Education for All,
Millennium Development Goals(MDGs),
and Sustainable Development

Microcosm of world education and development

Korea is **the microcosm**

that contains all of the elements related to education and its contribution to the development of international community as well as national development.

- Korea is a **treasure house** of valuable research topics and agenda.
- Developing countries can learn lessons from Korea's recent development and education's role that has **pros & cons**.
- Rather than focusing bright side only, investigating both the success and problems will be more helpful and meaningful.

Value matters in Policy

- Policy is a process of decision making on values,**
that are competing, contradicting, or conflicting.
- Policy is a product of planned and strategic selection.**
 - economic growth vs. welfare distribution
 - short-term performance vs. long-term goal investment
 - state-control vs. decentralization, accountability

Value matters the most in Education

- Continuous process of selection among competing values**
 - instrumental value of education vs fundamental value
 - short-term plan/outcome vs mid & long-term plan/outcome
 - top-down approach vs bottom-up approach
- What value to select depends on each country's context:**
its developmental stage, socio-political condition,
and time where it is situated.

Core Value

Education is located at the heart of individual development, national development, and further international development.

**There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul,
than the way in which it treats its children.**

(Nelson Mandela, 1995)

**There can be no keener revelation of the world's soul,
than the way in which it treats our children.**

Every country has its own **Torch**,
shedding light on the global community!

Concluding remarks

- Presentations and panel discussions will be followed.

I am very delighted to have a chance to learn about the future of education and its role for societal development from world-famous scholars.

- KERA will play our role faithfully to contribute to the well-being and happiness of the Global community.

- It is my greatest privilege and deepest honor to host this event and make the first presentation as the president of KERA.
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Thank you very much!
