

# *Save Lee*

The Korean Committee to save the victims of 'Lawmaker Lee Seok-ki Insurrection Conspiracy Case'



## ▀ *The latest news*

Suppression on human rights still continues as using the National Security Law.

The Court of appeals in Korea additionally charged 3 persons with suspicious on getting involved in 'Lawmaker Lee Seok-ki Insurrection Conspiracy Case' and sentenced maximum 3 years' imprisonment on violation of the National Security Law. Even after half a year when the so-called insurrection conspiracy case was found not guilty by the Supreme Court in Jan.22, 2015, it is a contrived situation to confine them on charge of participating in the Lecture, which was for debating political issues and situation in Korea 2 years ago. They, even now, are put in solitary confinement.

This preposterous decision confirms that the freedom of expression weakens and the suppression on human rights runs on. Therefore, it means that the National Security Law, which has been continuously recommended to be abolished by the international society, is taking over Korean Society as means for suppressing human rights.

Current issue in Korea.

The committee of the June 15th South-North Joint Declaration announced co-hosting

**“the commemorative event of June 15 in Gae-sung,  
the commemorative event of August 15 in Seoul.”**



(Korean civic groups and people demanding co-hosting events and improvement of relations between South and North to the government)

The 615 committee delivered the statement, co-hosting the 16th anniversary of the June 15th South-North Joint Declaration and the 71st anniversary of the independence day of Korea, in May 20, 2016, in Shenyang, China

Through the statement, the committee referred “both South and North Korea will try to achieve various solidarities and events hoping the unification of Korean peninsula.” In addition, “getting rid of a military danger in Korean peninsula, the efforts to build lasting and firm system for peace will be continued.”

Furthermore, the committee decided to demand an apology and compensation from the government of Japan, committing crimes such as the compulsory manpower draft and the Korean ‘comfort women’ during Japanese colonial rule, and promote activities to achieve rights for life, for Koreans who lives in Japan.

Meanwhile, the government of South Korea expressed disappointment over the illegal meeting despite not permitting contacts with North. The government also said that it doesn’t consider the co-hosting events in the current situation, because North Korea keeps threats toward South and its negative attitude to denuclearization.

Official reports

“New meeting, new hope”



We met the most valued colleague, Patti Talbot, in May, 3. (Patti Talbot, Team Leader, Church in Partnership Asia Partnerships Church in Mission Unit in the United Church of Canada.)

When we explained 'Lawmaker Lee Seok-ki Insurrection Conspiracy Case', which is obvious political suppression by the government of South Korea, she wholeheartedly agreed. Especially, she felt sorry while talking with the victims of this case. She send a sincere encourage to the family members of the vtcims and the members of the Korean Committee to Save Lee, who had struggled to achieve Peace in Korea.

We requested her new acts of solidarity, which could be to send a formal message to the Korean Government, to spread our stories as far as possible, to participate in the international committee to Save Lee and so on. Patti gladly complied with our requests. We wanna thank her again.

We only hope  
that whoever wants peace in society  
must not be a political scapegoat.

We only believe  
that whoever wants to make better society  
can start the idea with a very small thing.

Official reports

**“Start to communicate with a small thing”**



The participants in Peace Treaty Campaign Workshop

We're invited in Peace Treaty Campaign Workshop in Korea. There're hopeful and courageous people who were interested in peace and human rights in the divided peninsula, Korea.

We explained the insurrection conspiracy case of the Rep. Lee Seok-ki is the very representative case of political suppression in Korea. Because, we had considered the division of the Korea with the fundamental cause.

Former lawmaker Lee Seok-ki said "I have dedicated myself to ending the era of division and ushering in the new era of reconciliation and reunification. However, sadly, I am at the court of the division era today. I sincerely hope I would be the last defendant at the court of the division era." in his final trial.

*In our speech session, there were some questions. We would like to introduce them.*

Q1. Reverend from Philippines

“If the case is on charge of violating the National Security Law,  
which part of it is the matter?”

A1. It is Article 7 in the National Security Law, which is anyone who propagates or instigates a rebellion against the state, North Korea, can be punished. Even someone says the same word of North Korean Government, it can be a crime. The one of the reasons of the dissolution of the UPP(Unified Progressive Party) was using “progressive democracy”, which was the same word of Kim Il-Sung. Although the court of South Korea knows the law is contradictory, so criminals on charge of the law are almost suspended, our case was different from that. It must be political retaliation.

Q2. Reverend from Canada

“How many people and lawmakers were in the UPP,  
and what’s the main policies of it?”

A2. The number of the members of the party was about one hundred thousand people. It had 6 seats out of total 299 seats in congress, so it was third-largest political party in Korea. There’re so many policies, especially we had dealt with matters of equality, fair distribution and peace in Korean Peninsula.

*Also, there were some encouragements.*

“I saw lots of people participating in the ceremony to commemorate the Gwangju Democratization Movement, a civil uprising against a military junta on May 18, 1980. Also I saw that foreigners who wanted to participate in the ceremony were rejected in the airport.

I’m very shocked  
as I feel the tension is escalating to a higher level in today’s Korea.  
Though the fact we are in this place can be dangerous,  
I appreciate your courage and determination.  
I can’t even imagine being imprisoned due to some words.”

- Reverend from Germany

▀ *Lee Seok-ki, the largest victim of the case.*

“We live in a divided country. Many countries have the conflict between the progressive and the conservative. Many countries also have struggling democratic people against a military dictatorship.

However, no trial like this would be held if Korean people were not divided. Nevertheless, I have never felt sorry for living in this land. A tiny plant or a pebble is invaluable. I love everything in this land. I am proud of this land. It's because I am confident of our people's dynamic power. It's because I am sure no one can stop or change the flow of history.

The division is temporary. It cannot last forever. A power or a theory is to disappear one day. Super powers that seem never to collapse will fade into the mists of history one day. However, the people will remain forever.

I have dedicated myself to ending the era of division and ushering in the new era of reconciliation and reunification. However, sadly, I am at the court of the division era today. I sincerely hope I would be the last defendant at the court of the division era. Thank you for your attention.”

*July 28, 2014 Lee Seok-ki*

*In his final statement*

▼ *Join the Committee!*

You can be the member of our committee by submitting your information in the Website.

Here's our English version of the website : <http://en.savelee.kr>

Here's our SNS accounts : [www.instagram.com/freedom2lee](http://www.instagram.com/freedom2lee)  
[www.facebook.com/Freedom2Lee](http://www.facebook.com/Freedom2Lee)

Please visit them for more detailed information.

▼ *Please support us!*

We really need your support and partnership. Through your help, we will be able to improve the situation regarding on human rights and peace in Korea.

Here's our baking account.

Kukmin Bank(국민은행): 292501-01-212646 Jung Jin Woo(정진주 구명위)

**Thank you !**