

Wrap-up and conclusion

The God of Geography?

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We have discussed much wide and diverse issues compared to past conferences. And also the intensity of discussions is impressive for me. In the process of decision of geographical naming we find cultural, historical, human conditions are getting more significant than the legal and geopolitical ones. We are coming into new horizon of technological revolution on communications and the growing generational perception change will help to facilitate to settle the disputes in historical and geographical issues.

Korea and Japan are the only two non-western countries that succeeded in modernization after 19 century. Korea is also unique in modernizing process. Out of around 140 non-western third world countries to gain an independence after World War II, Korea is the only one that completely achieved the modern standard of political democracy, civil right, economic growth and social diversity. I strongly believe that the great majority of Japanese share these common values and willing to cooperate in promoting universal and human values which is sine qua non to achieve liberal peace concept as Dr. Stoltman quoted yesterday the Kantian approach of Republicanism and free trade. Since WW II we believe in the progress of the liberal value and institutions such as United Nations, UN Human Right Declaration, 2001 Durban Declaration against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia.

World Peace Index which is publishing annually by the World Peace Forum which I am running defined the peace as a state where a quality of life is guaranteed and values of liberty, equality, justice, environmental protection and prosperity well respected and a state where structural and institutional violence is uprooted from all sectors of politico-military and socio-economics. This positive peace concept is also a development of universal value of peace. However we are now watching the counter reactions, even treacherous symptoms in Japan, Russia, Europe, China, Great Britain and the US. Moral hazard of the financial centers in the world and corruptions not only dictatorships but also democracies of advanced countries are so widely deep rooted. We are learning lesson that universal human values are progressing forward only when the intellectuals play the proper role of fair judge, fair referee and fair spectator without fear or favor especially in this outrageous age of popular resentment against liberal value.

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Korea's senior historian Kim Joon Yub's final memoir is titled *The God of the History*. As a historian he urged to have faith in justice of history. He firmly believed the truth of history will be discovered and justice of history and peace of justice shall be realized.

I wonder there is *The God of the History*. However I believe in the truth of geography. If historian and geographers all share the moral conviction—as the role of fair judge, justice and truth of history and geography is attainable. As far as we share the universal human value and we as intellectuals play the role of fair referee we are able to optimistic for the progress of human civilization. I convince meeting in Jeju will help us to share our academic and moral identification. Again we believe in the truth of Geography.