

## One Korea 2014 Peace Bicycle World Tour

Kyeong Seuk Lu  
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As part of the memorial event for the second anniversary of True Father's universal Seonghwa, the One Korea 2014 Peace Bicycle World Tour is being held from May 24 to August 12 in fifteen nations including Korea, Japan, the United States, China and Russia. The Citizen's Federation for the Reunification of North Korea and South Korea, the Federation for Peace and Unification, Universal Peace Federation, and the Universal Peace Academy are sponsoring the tour, which is taking place under the themes Building the DMZ World Peace Park, the Korea-Japan Undersea Tunnel and Building the DMZ World Peace Park and International Highway.

According to the promotional material provided by the Citizen's Federation for the Reunification of North Korea and South Korea, this tour will cover seven-hundred kilometers in Korea and three-thousand and four hundred kilometers in Japan. In Korea, the cyclists will travel from Imjingak to the West Sea Dam and the Japanese cyclists will go from Hokkaido, Japan, connecting with Tokyo and Osaka and Shimonoseki; they will resume the trip from Busan, Korea.

Participants in each nation will conduct this cycling tour according to their own itinerary. The federation expects about a thousand cyclists to participate this year. In Korea, participants will start from Imjingak and cycle down to the mouth of Nakdong River in Busan. They have been asked to meditate on the creation of a DMZ World Peace Park. In Japan, participants will start from Hokkaido and cycle south through the Japanese archipelago to Karatsu, the site of the undersea tunnel intended to connect Japan and Korea.

From there they will cross over to Busan, Korea through Iki Island and Daemado (Tsushima Island). The Korean and Japanese cycling groups will rendezvous at Busan. From there, they will cycle the length of the Korean peninsula to Chung Pyung. The grand finale of this cycling tour will take place on August 12 at the Cheongshim Peace World Center with True Parents and peace-loving leaders of the world.

From June 28 to July 3, under the slogan "A powerful step toward peace in Northeast Asia," the Universal Peace Federation and affiliated organization organized a tour to Mt. Baekdu for Korean and Japanese youth and Student Leaders for Peace and Unification. They visited Lushun Port (formerly known as Port Arthur) in China where the Korean patriot Jung Geun Ahn (the 1909 assassin of Hirobumi Ito, the first Japanese resident-general of Korea) was put on trial and the building in which he was later imprisoned. The UPF delegation visited the Amnok River (the Yalu River in Chinese and in most English books on the Korean War) and reflected upon the history of these nations while praying for the peaceful unification of the Korean peninsula and for peace to take root in Northeast Asia.

"Peace Bike 2014 China" was also held as part of this visit. The purpose was to raise awareness of True Parents' unification movement and endeavors for the peaceful reunification of the Koreas. The delegation departed on bicycles from Dandong and cycled toward North Korea which lay across the Amnokgang. The site of these cyclers raised hope for a bright future for the Korean peninsula and Northeast Asia.

The South Korean actor Ilgook Song was also at the departure ceremony, participating in his capacity as a representative of the General Jwa Jin Kim Memorial Association. Ilgook Song congratulated the organizers for holding the event and gave some words of encouragement to the students from Korea and Japan who were taking part in the Peace Bike initiative. The students cycled along the Amnok River in clear view of Sinuiju, North Korea. In their reflections, some students stated that this event was a good opportunity for them to reaffirm their commitment to a peaceful world.