

Wish for the Peaceful Unification of the Korean Peninsula DMZ Peace Road

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Participants of the Peace Road biking event (held in Imjingak, Paju-si, Gyeonggi-do) pedal hard for the unification of the Korean Peninsula. /provided by People's Association for the Unification of North and South Korea

[Daekyeong Ilbo]

People's Association for the Unification of North and South Korea, 'Let's build a road from Seoul to Pyongyang,' hosting the 'DMZ Peace Road'

The People's Association for the Unification of North and South Korea held the event "Wish for the Peaceful Unification of the Korean Peninsula DMZ Peace Road" on the 20th at the Imjingak Park in Paju. The event was held with the wish of a peaceful reunification of the Korean Peninsula, as well as a successful Summit between North and South Korea, which was to be held on the 27th.

The event's topic was about opening a road of unification that reaches from Seoul to Pyongyang. It was sponsored by the Ministry of Unification, the Ministry of Public Administration and Security, the National Unification Advisory Council Korean Council for Reconciliation and cooperation, the Council for Unification Education, the Peaceful Reunification Association, Inc., the Heavenly Korea Family Federation, the Women's Federation for World Peace and others.

The Peace Road is an annual event promoting the pursuit to open a new peaceful era of a global village, through connecting the world with the "International Peace Highway." Participants from 130 countries join this movement by riding a bike or by foot every year.

The first part of the event consisted of a performance by the Little Angels, the presentation of a video about Peace Road and a performance by the "Our Wish" Choir. In the second part, the participants crossed the DMZ Civilian Control Line and started their "DMZ Peace Road Tour" pilgrimage.

The DMZ Bike Pilgrimage went from Imjingak to the Unification Bridge to Checkpoint 60 (guard post), and then back to Imjingak.

Kwang-seok Song, the head of the Executive Committee said, "This year's 'World Peace Road' is expected to have 500,000 thousand participants from 130 countries." He added, "This coming August, the Peace Road will be held in all parts of Korea with the support of the Ministry of Unification, Ministry of Public Administration and Security and others."

He also added, "The participants will draw the support and cooperation from the international community by informing them about the world's only divided country, which is the Korean Peninsula, and that it's reunification will become the cornerstone for world peace."

The Peace Road started in 2013 with a bike tour called "Korea-Japan 3,800-km Bike Tour for Peace and Unification." From then on it kept expanding each following year: 14 countries in 2014, 120 countries in 2015 and 125 countries in 2016-17 participated in this movement...