



# **King Ling College**

**2014-2015**

**26March 2015-29March 2015**

**S5C Grand Tour**

**Seoul of Korea**

**Group 1**

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# Introduction

When people ask which country is unique and full of historical atmosphere through Asia, the most suitable answer should be Korea, the destination of our Grand Tour. Besides visiting the lively downtown, for example Myeong-dong, we also had a meaningful visit to DMZ, the area on the boundary of South Korea. Also, we got a valuable chance to visit the Ewha Womans University, so as to broaden our horizons on education environment of this university.

We, the 5C students, treasured this valuable and memorable Grand Tour very much, we are willing to share our joyful experience with all of you.

# Day 1

## Hongdae

### Spots description:

Hongdae is one of the popular destinations among teenagers in Korea. Unlike the international brands in modeled shopping malls, numerous small stores selling unique accessories and stylish Korean clothing can be found in Hongdae. Besides, there are also many delicious Korean traditional snacks and special snacks, especially the 32cm Parfait Soft Ice-cream. Hongdae has its local culture atmosphere and we really enjoyed in this atmosphere.

### Reflection:

Hongdae is a place that Korean teens love to visit. There are many own fashionable clothing and many accessories which are trendy so Korean youths love to go Hongdae for shopping. We love their mix and match style because it can show their own style.

The fashion style is not the same as Hong Kong. Presently, Hong Kong shopping malls only have chain clothing store and the fashion is monopolized by large enterprises, there is less chance for local to select their own style.

However, after we went to the Hongdae, we understood what means a team because on that day we did not have free time to visit by ourselves and we must go around Hongdae together. Although we got different views on buying different items, we only got limited time so

some of us cannot buy what we wanted. Therefore we understand how being inclusive is important. We really enjoyed this wonderful trip because working in a team can enjoy happiness like eating ice-cream also gave us a simple happy feeling because we are a team and it is team spirits.



In Hongdae, there are many delicious traditional Korean snacks such as this 32cm long ice-cream. We were enjoying the ice-cream and it was pretty delicious to us. We will never forget this special ice-cream.

# Day 2

## The War Memorial of Korea

### Spots description:

The War Memorial of Korea recorded the Korean War. There is a Statue of Brothers at the entrance of the war memorial, which is a symbol of the outbreak of Korean War and the brothers were represented North and South Korea soldiers, when they met each other, they were embracing. Also, there are a lot of outside exhibitions areas for all visitors to see the weapons made in South Korea. The War Memorial of Korea has a large area, because our group needed to film the project of dancing, we could not finish watching all the exhibits.

### Reflection:

When our group first got into the War Memorial of Korea, it really shocked us as the area of museum was so big. The brother statue was so meaningful as it does have a special meaning to Koreans. It represents the South Korea and also the North Korea. Although we are not the citizens of these two nations, when we saw the statue, there was bit sadness for us.

The Outbreak of Korean war in 1950 marked the beginning of painful period of Korea. Because of the Second World War, Korea was divided into South Korea and North Korea. After that, the war between the two countries started and it broke many hearts of Koreans. The division of Korea didn't bring any advantages to Korea, some of the families were separated. It shows that the war was not about the citizens, but just the

political problem.

On the museum ground, the sentence 'Freedom is not free' existed. This recalled our memories of the 79-day Umbrella Movement. The situations of Korea are somehow similar to the one between China and Hong Kong. China has the communist society while Hong Kong has the capitalist society. The Umbrella Movement was just like the war of fighting for freedom. We think that's why we have a special feeling when we visited the museum as the situations are so alike. It was not about the citizens themselves but the political one. However, we still hope North and South Korea can go back to the day before the Second World War, only one country, Korea.



This is the front of the Museum. As we need to hand in one dancing video to the school for next year school gala, our group danced there. Most of our teammates don't know dancing but still we have done a great job on that. This was taken after our dancing. Everyone seems to be happy as the most difficult part of our grand tour has finished.

## Ewha Womans University

### **Spots description:**

Ewha Womans University is the first women university in Korea. At the beginning of Ewha, there was only one student and one faculty among the school. The name of university should use the word 'Womans' not 'Women' as it is to respect every single woman and as Ewha began with one female student. The building of Welch-Ryang Auditorium which had 58 years of history was the most representative in the university. The students in Korea can have lessons in other Universities. That's why there are also male students appearing in Ewha.

### **Reflection:**

Visiting Ewha Womans University was the excitable event to our group as the view of Ewha was so great. There are many differences between the University in Korea and the one in Hong Kong. After the visit to Ewha, our group finally realizes why so many overseas students would like to study in this historical university.

Some of our group mates are studying Korean. Some of them also want to study in Ewha Womans University. The visit to Ewha makes their dream closer as they can get more information from the local students. There was a student leader in Ewha who walked us around the school campus. Therefore, we got many chances to chat with the leader and understand the university school life in Korea.

Although we are still form 5 students in Hong Kong, it is time for us to think of our future, too. This Ewha tour enables our group mates to think of our future. Some of them would like to study overseas but some don't.

No matter which university we have chosen for our goal or dream, it is a must to fight for it. Just like if you are interested in the university in Korea, you need to study Korean well, too.



This is the Ewha Womans University. When the university students saw us, they felt curious because there was a group of strangers visiting their school campus. Our classmates also felt fresh when they arrived, they quickly discussed the scenery and the design of Ewha.

## Myeongdong

### **Spots description:**

Myeong-dong is the most famous shopping paradise in Korea. Visitors will come when they travel in Seoul. In Myeong-dong, visitors can buy much stuff that they want such as the apparel, shoes, cosmetic, and also grocery. All the group members came back with fruitful results after the set time; it was because the things in Myeong-dong were inexpensive and special.

### **Reflection:**

Although the time for shopping in Myeon-dong was a bit short, we still got a wonderful time there. Unlike in Hong Kong, sellers in Korea are friendlier to foreigners. This really makes our shopping experience more wonderful. One of our group mates has received an extra pair of earrings, just because she is a Hong Kong student. These remind us the Hong Kong shops.

There are many news in Hong Kong saying that the staff attitude towards visitors and Hongkongers are totally different. It was mostly because of the money, or the ability to spend. Visitors are willing to afford higher prices but Hongkongers cannot spend too much on luxury products. However, in Korea, most of the sellers treat every individual in the same way, no matter they buy or not, they spend or not. This is the matter of core value.



Myeong-dong is the shopping paradise to teenagers in Korea. Just like Causeway Bay to adolescent in Hong Kong. Besides clothing and cosmetic products, there are also many restaurants. Unlike restaurants in Hong Kong, most Korea restaurants are upstairs and small in scale. The picture shows that the Korea restaurants are always upstairs.

# Day 3

## Everland

### Spots description:

Everland, the largest theme park in South Korea, located at Everland Resort in Yongin. Samsung Everland owns Everland which is a subsidiary of the Samsung Group. The most exciting game in Everland should be the T-Express which is the roller coaster in European Adventure. T-Express has a world record of the steepest wooden roller coaster, 77 degrees in 2009. Along with its main attractions, Everland also includes a zoo (Zoo-Topia in the park) and a water park known as Caribbean Bay.

### Reflection:

Everland is one of our favorite places in grand tour that the orientation of operating the park is relatively similar to Ocean Park in Hong Kong. Both of them similarly have zoos in order to conserve animals and educate public about the habitats of animals. The animals in Ocean Park are caged that only a limited area has been provided. Visitors can only see the caged animals from a relatively long distance. However, a safari bus ride in Everland is available which shows animals such as ligers and bears roaming in a contained habitat. Unlike the animals in Ocean Park, animals in Everland can move freely. In addition, the bus driver would throw biscuits out of the caged bus in order to have the interaction between the bears and the visitors just like us. Through the trip on the safari bus, our group thought that the moral way to watch animals is that visitors should be protected by riding on the bus in order to avoid

injuries rather than limiting the size of homes of the animals since they are innocent. Ocean Park or other zoos which contained animals should take reference of the methods in treating and conserving wild animals from Everland.

Besides the conservation of animals, our group also noticed that some franchising shops can be found in the park. For example, Line, an instant communication application, has its own merchandise, which is one of the franchising shops located in the park. Unlike Ocean Park and Disneyland in Hong Kong, the franchising shops in Everland can provide more choices for visitors and those shops are all duty free in order to attract the visitors. If we were the visitors visiting Ocean Park or Disneyland, we could only shop in the souvenir stores with limited choices and relatively expensive price. However, the business practices in Everland allowed us to be the smart consumers which could compare the price of merchandises in different stores. We suggest Ocean Park and Disneyland take reference from Everland as they precisely lack these business practices to attract more visitors.



Line, an instant communication application, has its own merchandise, which is one of the franchising shops located in the park. The trendy icon, Brown, Moon and Cony, stood in front of the shop to attract visitors to take photos and shop inside, targeting the younger generations.

## Dong Dae Mun

### **Spots description:**

Dong Dae Mun is a shopping spot consisted of a few shopping malls like Doota and Hello APM. There are various kinds of shops, for example wholesale market, noble finery in Doota and clothing with reasonable price in Hello APM. The apparels are in Korean style and they are dazzling since the shops are arranged closely together so as to provide novel types of clothes to customers.

### **Reflection:**

Dong Dae Mun is one of our favourite visit spots since we can enjoy shopping no matter what our style is with lots of shops to choose. There are fewer teenagers when comparing with other shopping spots like Hong Dae where we visited on the first day arrival in Korea. However, Dong Dae Mun is livened up by the bargaining and peddling. The sales and shopkeepers there are polite and show their patience even if the customers did not buy raiment from their shops. It is the most attractive and respectful aspect of the selling business in Korea.

Hong Kong also has similar shopping malls like Mong Kok Centre and Kwai Fong Square. Hong Kong's selling business is considered worse when comparing with Korea. Hongkongers' lives are rush and full of stress. This kind of hardship not only exists in office for clerks but also in some small selling business. Shopkeepers and sales show contempt and discontent towards the "do-not-buys" after they turn to leave shops and some even say nasty and filthy words towards customers. One of its

causes may be the stress Hongkongers bear since they have to maintain the turnover. We hope that Hongkongers can adjust their mental health and learn how to relax. Hongkongers should be more energetic and enjoy the nature more than giving themselves burden and pressure through working for earning money.

We love the free shopping time in Dong Dae Mun. Moreover, the shopping malls are similar with Hong Kong which gave us a sense of intimacy.

## DAY 4

### 38th Parallel and 3rd Tunnel of Aggression

#### Spot description:

In 1948, the 38th Parallel, also known as D.M.Z., separated the Korea into two parts, North and South Korea. There is a large amount of soldier's garrisons near the 38th parallel lest anyone cross the borderline. On the road to D.M.Z., both sides of the road are blocked with barbed-wires as the barriers. The areas containing mines are marked with the caution signs. Sightseeing is provided for tourists comprising the whole view of North Korea in sight with a telescope by paying ₩ 500.

The whole form 5 students in turn visited the 3rd Tunnel of Aggression. A total of 4 tunnels are discovered and some investigators believed that there are more than a hundred of tunnels. The tunnels were built by the North Korea for attacking Seoul in South Korea secretly. The 3rd tunnel full of moist is narrow which merely allows two lines of visitors to enter and leave. When passing through the tunnel, most of the visitors needed to lower their head to prevent bumping into the wall. The steep path of the 3rd tunnel rendered pedestrians weariness.

#### Reflection:

The 38th Parallel and the 3rd Tunnel of Aggression indicate that Koreans are filled with lots of grief and desperation brought by the wars. The Koreans, especially the citizens living in South Korea, is bedeviled with the trepidation of any sudden attack from the North Korea. The

living condition of the Korea convinced us that no one should take bliss for granted. Compared with the life in Korea, that in Hong Kong is much more peaceful and relieved. Hong Kong citizens do not live in wars or beware of any aggression in a whole day. It is time that we were grateful living in such a harmonious city. Every one living in Hong Kong should have treasured the precious living condition in lieu of complaining the trivia happening in daily life.

What is more, we should withstand the greed in life. North Korea utilized vast methods to invade South Korea. The ambition of North Korea led to the everlasting wars and struggles. On the whole, the avarice provides individuals with controversy. The greed may find it hard to extricate themselves from the conflict created. The perennial separation enables us to reflect our attitude to life. We should look before we leap. Reflecting on the outcome of the behaviors, we are capable of comprehending the right and wrong of every situation. We are bound to resist any temptation in life.



The locomotive in the photo represents a part of the Korean War, expressing the unmerciful gunfire caused by the inharmoniousness between North and South Korea. The vestiges in the locomotive demonstrate the historical tragedy.

## **KIMCHI WORKSHOP**

### **Spots Description:**

We went to Kimchi workshop after we had our lunch. The Korean teacher taught us a lot about different kinds of seaweeds and Kimchi in Cantonese so that all of us can understand the origins of the vast traditional Korean food clearly. After the explanation of the Korean teacher, she taught us how to make Kimchi step by step and then we can try it by ourselves. The Kimchi we made would be sent to a nursing home for charity. We tried many different kinds of Kimchi and seaweeds after making the Kimchi and we could buy the packed traditional food there.

We wore traditional Korean clothing there as well. We all take lots of photos and enjoyed being a “Korean” for a moment when we wore the traditional Korean clothing. We all agreed that the events in the workshop were enjoyable.

### **Reflection:**

As we had Kimchi as dishes in every single meal in Korea, all of us were anticipated to go to the Kimchi workshop to make Kimchi. When we were paying attention to how the Korean teacher made Kimchi, we thought it would not be very difficult as it seemed like an easy job. However, we found it really hard to make it perfect like what the Korean teacher taught us. Even though it was rather a hard job, all of us treat it more seriously and tried our best to make the Kimchi as perfect as we can since they would be sent to nursing home for

charity. We hope the elderly can enjoy the Kimchi we made and feel our passion on making Kimchi as well as our passion toward Korean culture.

Also, as mentioned before, we had Kimchi as dishes in every single meal in Korea, before the explanation of the Korean teacher in the Kimchi workshop, we just thought the reason behind why every single meal in Korea contains Kimchi was simply because it is a traditional food of Korea and most Koreans enjoy having Kimchi. However, the true reason behind that is because Kimchi is a very healthy food in Koreans' view. In Chinese culture, mild-tasted foods are usually healthier, but in Korea, heavy-tasted food, like Kimchi, are usually healthier as they are good at aiding digestion, and even possibly reducing cancer growth.

As most of our group members love Korean culture, we had seen many celebrities wearing traditional Korean clothing (Hanboks) in many Korean drama, we wished to wear it once as we thought it was very beautiful and elegant.

The Hanboks we wore in the Kimchi workshop were very light and simple in order to let the visitors wear it easily, however, the traditional Hanboks are very thick since Korea is cold in winter. Therefore, it takes time or local Koreans to wear the traditional Hanboks.

We were amazed by how the Koreans show their respect to their own culture: whenever there are special days, Koreans would wear their traditional Hanboks to celebrate the festivals.

We felt thankful toward the staff there as they made the event run

smoothly by providing many easy ways for us, such as the Korean teacher's Cantonese explanation of the various kinds of seaweed and Kimchi as well as the tutoring in making Kimchi, and the simplified Hanboks. This shows how the Koreans contribute in welcoming and treating visitors.



The photo was taken when some of our group mates wore Hanboks at the Kimchi Workshop, all of us wore different style of Hanboks and we thought we looked like real local Koreans.



This is a photo of various kinds of Kimchi and seaweeds which the Korean teacher gave us to have a try after making the Kimchi.

# Conclusion

Hongdae is such a popular place in Korea and we can discover many Korean styles which are dazzling and fascinating. We also noticed team spirit is crucial to a group of individuals, especially when we are not at school but overseas, we have to work as a team and obey the rules that given by our instructors.

What we have seen at the War Memorial of Korea was kind of connecting us to the previous situation in Hong Kong, the Umbrella Movement. When we saw the symbolizing statue of North and South Korea we feel sorry and we can understand the Koreans in both North and South Korea must feel even worse when it came to their own country. We can also witness what wars can brought to like damages and dolefulness remind us how important peace is.

Ewha Womans University was the most inspirational spot. Firstly, the view and atmosphere there were amazing. Secondly, the view there reminded us it's time to plan for our own future, getting into universities.

Everland was every 5C student's favourite since the operation is similar to Hong Kong's amusement parks, Ocean Park and Disneyland. Therefore, we enjoyed ourselves there, especially there was full of excitement. Although an accident occurred, some group mates lost their ways, we learnt from this. It is necessary to follow instructions. Other than that, the animals there were so adorable, they are worth

conserved for.

Other than shopping in Korea, Kimchi Workshop enabled us to explore another kind of Korean culture. We can make Kimchi, a traditional cuisine of Korea, by our own and the products will be sent to nursing home for charity. We are delighted and proud when we can contribute to the society of South Korea.

The 38th Parallel and the 3rd Tunnel of Aggression shocked us. We were thankful after visiting this place since we are living in Hong Kong, a place full of peace. We never imagined that outside Hong Kong, these kinds of life threatening movements were progressing.

In this trip, we have learnt a lot, we grew a lot. We explored and knew we should be thankful for where we are now and the life we are having. Besides, we have learnt that we need to pay more attention to the command and respect the one who provided information to lead us. Lastly, we established a closer relationship between classmates and our group teachers. This trip was amazing, we experienced a lot together. The memories we created there, will stick on our mind for eternity.

# Member list

## Group Teacher:

**Mr. Lo Yu Hin, Winson**

## Group leader:

**Soo Lok Lam, Lala**

## Group Members:

**Chan Si Tung, Helen**

**Chan Tsz Yau, Katherine**

**Fung Lok To, Tobey**

**Kwai Tsz Yau, Stephy**

**Lai Ching Man, Karen**

**Lam Sze Ting, Gemini**

**Lau Yee Ching, Gloria**

**Leung Hoi Ying, Coco**

**Tsang Wing Man, Cheska**