



# King Ling College

## S.5 GRAND TOUR REPORT

5E Group 4

Destination: Seoul, Korea

Date: 26-29 March 2015

## CONTENTS

i.	Introduction .....	P.2
ii.	Group members list .....	P.3
iii.	Reflection: Day 1.....	P.4-5
iv.	Reflection: Day 2 .....	P.6-7
v.	Reflection: Day 3 .....	P.8-9
vi.	Reflection: Day 4 .....	P.10-11
vii.	Conclusion .....	P.12

## Introduction

It was probably the most remarkable journey in our life that we can still talk about it at all times. Choosing Seoul as the city we visited, we hope to understand the cultures and traditions of Korea as well as communicate with foreigners in order to improve our self-esteem and self-confidence.

The long-awaited 4-day trip to Seoul began on 26 March 2015. A total of 39 people were in our trip, including Mr. Cheuk, Mr. Cheng, Ms. Lee, Ms. Ng and 35 students in 5E. It was such a remarkable journey that all classmates in our group had gained precious experience and memories. We learnt to be self-disciplined, independent and corporative, as well as being respectful to the cultures and traditions of foreign countries. Other than sightseeing in Seoul, we also stayed in touch with the students in Sungkyungwan University so as to understand the academic atmosphere and other students in Korea.

## Group Members List

### Group tutor:

- Mr. Cheng Y. S.

### Group members:

- Chan Chung Yin 5E(15)
- Chan Ka Lok 5E(18)
- Cheung Ka Ho 5E(19)
- Cheung Nok Wai 5E(20)
- Cheung Shun Kwan 5E(21)
- Tong Tsun Yan 5E(29)
- Wu Lok Ming 5E(32)
- Yeung Wing Hong 5E(33)

Reflection: Day 1 (26 March 2015)

Spots descriptions:

We arrived in Seoul in the evening, thus there was not enough time for us to visit many spots. Eventually, we only visited a famous place in Seoul, Hongdae. Similar to Mong Kok and Sham



Buildings and road in Hongdae

Shui Po, Hongdae is a pedestrian area with a variety of food stalls and shopping malls for tourists to enjoy a diverse range of cuisines. There were also vendors which sell unique goods like handbags and costume, at affordable prices. We ate some delicious street food like fish balls and sausages too.

Reflection:

While strolling around the streets in Hongdae, we observed there was no rubbish bin and the street was so tidy that there was found no trash. Comparing with the busy pedestrian streets in Hong Kong, where we often see some inconsiderate people throwing rubbish. Instead of recycling useful materials, they throw all rubbish into rubbish bins.

We were impressed by the Koreans that they are able to exercise their self-discipline well. They are also considerate as they will maintain a clean environment for the public to use.



Mr.Cheung was trying the street food in Hongdae

Koreans have set a good example for us to learn and follow, which is we, Hong Kong people, need to become a responsible citizen at all times. As the school motto 'From me to we', only through behaving ourselves well can we create a better community. It is hoped that this message can be instilled into everybody's mind and the mindsets of Hong Kong people can be changed

through proper education and advertisements.



Chatting between teachers in Hongdae

Reflection: Day 2 (27 March 2015)

Spots descriptions:



Regarding our second-day trip, we first went to Namsangol Hanok Village, which were Korean traditional houses that have been restored to preserve the original atmosphere of the ancient Korea. There were unique buildings that

One of the traditional buildings in Namsangol Hanok Village

we rarely see in Hong Kong.

Then we went to Insa-dong, the

largest market for antiques and artworks in Korea. We purchased many souvenirs here.



Whole picture of Insa-dong

A building in Sungkyungwan



Then, our class visited the Sungkyungwan University. After attending a brief sharing by the university students, we knew a lot about the learning environment in the Korea universities. The universities are similar to those in Hong Kong that they all have a variety of faculties for students to study in.

Reflection:

We were greatly inspired by the university students sharing. As they mentioned, only the top 1% of high school students in Korea can study in their university. The learning atmosphere in Korea high schools is exceedingly competitive as students are striving to obtain outstanding score in every exam in order to enter a good university.

Similar to Korean students, students in Hong Kong are under great academic pressures, and yet the Korean students are so hard-working in preparing for the public exam in an attempt to strive for a promising future. Korean students have set a role model for us to



One part of Sungkyungwan

follow in such a critical time. They will never give up when confronted with challenges and obstacles. They will try their best to solve problems instead.

Reflection: Day 3 (28 March 2015)

Spots descriptions:

We were delighted that we have a time for entertainment and relaxation after busy schedules in the previous two days. We visited a theme park called Lotte World. It is now one of the world's biggest indoor amusement parks. Apart from the exciting rides in the park, there was also a museum which was about the history of Korea and the formation of Korean culture. The exhibition in the museum enabled us to have a deeper understanding towards Korean culture.

Facilities in Lotte World



Entrance of the museum in Lotte World



On of the shopping malls in Dongdaemun

Subsequently, we visited the shopping malls in Dongdaemun in the afternoon. These shopping malls mainly sell garments such as T-shirts, shoes and hats. We have purchased some unique clothing in the malls.



Our classmate decided to buy jeans

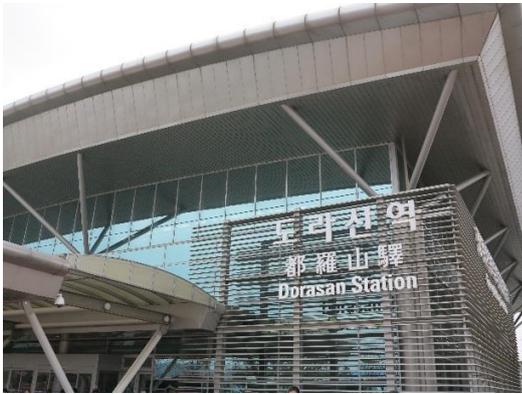
Reflection:

While seeing artifacts in the folk museum concerning the tradition and culture of Korea, we were inspired by their history. Similar to China, there were also kingdoms in the old Korea. Some artifacts in the museum had a long history for more than 1000 years. Because of the protection done by the government, we are now able to comprehend the history of such an old-aged country.

We would like to express our commendation towards China for doing so well on preserving historical relics. Being Hong Kong citizens, we are proud that China has great and long-lasting history. After returning to Hong Kong, we will grasp every opportunity to visit different monuments in order to have a better understanding towards China. Also, we promised to become responsible citizens that we would put effort in protecting every precious monument.

Reflection: Day 4 (29 March 2015)

Spots descriptions:



We went to the border of South Korea this morning. There were several tourist spots, including 'The 38th parallel north', Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) and The Dorasan Station. As North and South Korea are still in the status of armistice, these spots reminded Korean

The Dorasan Station ,linking South and North Korea

people of the importance of ritual unity and they wished that North and South

Korea will be unified one day. It was also the reason why many Korean people will go to this place every year.

The final spot of the journey was the Kimchi School, and we learnt to make kimchi with the instruction by tutors in the school. Then we put on traditional Korean clothing and took photos with our classmates and teachers. It was such a remarkable activity and we all enjoyed this great moment very much.



Photo with classmate and Mr.Cheuk wearing traditional Korea Clothing

In the evening, all of us returned to Hong Kong by plane.

Reflection:

The most impressive activity that day was the visit to 'The 38th parallel north'. We entered an underpass which North Korea soldiers built so as to invade the South Korea. We were glad that we understand this remarkable history through visiting several historical monuments. We also learnt that wars can lead to great casualties and thus is the worst way of solving problems. To illustrate, the Korean War in 1953 had caused death of more than a million, and yet it did not end up with benefits. Conversely, the country was split into two.

It is believed that through proper communication and cooperation between governments, the North Korea and South Korea government will be able to achieve unification one day, as well as minimizing the differences among countries in order to create a more harmonious society.

## Conclusion

Time flies, and this remarkable 4-day journey ended in a bustling atmosphere. All of us were somehow reluctant to leave Seoul. Every day we spent in Seoul was so meaningful and blissful and we learnt a lot throughout the journey.

Koreans were friendly and they earnestly welcome all foreign. On the contrary, it is apparent that some Hong Kong people nowadays do not welcome mainland tourists due to the fact that they are now overwhelming public facilities like transportation and shopping malls. Some protestors even attack visitors so as to express their anger and discontent. It is such a pity that this adverse phenomenon appears in Hong Kong, where people had once viewed as a tourism-oriented city. Indeed, such bad behavior should never be adopted as this will definitely ruin the image and reputation of our city.

We believe that Hong Kong people should learn from Koreans as they have set an example for us to follow regarding the way of treating foreign tourists. In order to maintain Hong Kong's competitiveness, we, Hong Kong people, should learn to be polite and respectful towards others regardless of whether they are foreigners or not.

On the other hand, we were also impressed by Korea, an eco-friendly country. Koreans have the sense of protecting the environment. For example, the government did not set up rubbish bin on streets, aiming to encourage citizens to produce less rubbish. We believe that Hong Kong people should learn from them that they can carry out concrete measures to preserve the environment in daily life.

Last but not least, we would like to express our sincere thanks to the school as we enjoyed, and learned a lot from this 4-day trip.