

## WEAAD 2009 in Korea

From

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and  
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On behalf of all of those who have worked so hard to make these events possible, I am herewith going to report on two events on WEAAD, one of which took place in Busan, Korea, and the other was held in Tokyo, Japan (separate report). As a member of the INPEA board of directors, I was fortunate to have been involved with both events in helping the people organize the programs and in participating in the programs. A summary of each program is shown below, and some photographs of the programs, along with some support papers, are attached:

The 4th WEAAD Ceremony and First Korea-Japan Roundtable  
on Elder Abuse in Busan, Korea on June 7th 2009

On this day of June 7th 2009, the above-mentioned two events were held at the Busan Metropolitan City Hall (the Grand Conference Hall), from 13:20 to 17:00. First, the 4th WEAAD Ceremony started on time with the performance of the Grandma Orchestra (See photo), as the participants of more than 200 people were being seated.



The participants then sang the Korean national anthem (See photo) and saluted the national flag.



Right after this, the professional Master of Ceremony (MC) introduced the guests in attendance, and it was learned that a total of five Congress persons (Madame Song Sukhee, Mr. Beak Jonghun, Mr. Kim Sunkil, Mr. He Dongchan, and Mr. Kim Sung u), along with other distinguished guests, were present. Next, Dr. Dong Hee Han, the president of the Korea Information Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (KINPEA), made an opening address (See photo), thanking the volunteers (more than 50 of them), her staffs, and all the attendees, all of whom made this day possible.



Then, Director General of the Welfare and Health Bureau of the Busan Metropolitan Government, Dr. Young-Sei Park, made a welcome address, thanking the organizers and participants of the events to choose the city of Busan, Korea as the site of these important events (See photo)



Following this, Dr. Toshio Tatara, a member of the INPEA board of directors, made an address on behalf of INPEA, congratulating Dr. Dong Hee Han and the Korean people on their showing of strong commitments to elder abuse prevention ([See attachment](#)). Then, two elderly representatives came forward to the podium and read aloud in Korean the Declaration of the Human Rights of the Elderly, which had been worked on jointly by Dr. Han and myself over the past few weeks ([See attachment](#)).





Final programs of the ceremony were the Orykdo Choir (See photo) and the Korean traditional dances (See photo), performed by the Korean Traditional Dance Troupe from the Busan Women's Cultural Center.



Thus, the 4th WEAAD Ceremony was an wonderful event with a great deal of elegance and formality (which we seldom see in a social welfare event in Western societies these days), exhibited by many older men and women who were dressed up for the occasion.

Second, after a short break at the end of the performances by the Korean traditional dancers, First Korea-Japan Roundtable on Elder Abuse began. It was reported that more than 100 people still remained in the conference hall for this event. Initially, the purpose of the roundtable was to discuss behind closed doors in English among a small number of Korean and Japanese

researchers issues of elder abuse critical to both countries. The idea was that as a result of such discussion, we wanted to identify the topics of research that would be suited to joint studies by Korean and Japanese researchers. Because of these reasons, we, the both countries, have chosen three people who are fluent in English to participate in the roundtable.



From Korea, the participants were: Kyu-taik Sung, MSW, Ph.D. (Director, Center for Filial Piety Culture Studies in Seoul, Korea): Mi Hae Kim, Ph.D. (Professor, Ewha Women's University in Seoul, Korea); and Dong Hee Han, Ph.D. (Director, Research Institute of Services for Better Living for the Elderly in Busan, Korea). And, from Japan, the following three people attended the roundtable: Akiko Sasaki, RN, Ph.D. (Professor, Tokyo Medical and Dental University Graduate School of Health Sciences in Tokyo, Japan); Noriko Tsukada, Ph.D. (Professor Nihon University Graduate School of Business in Tokyo, Japan): and Toshio Tatara, MSW, Ph.D. (Professor, Shukutoku University Graduate School of Integrated Human and Social Welfare Studies in Chiba, Japan). All of these representatives from Korea and Japan have had a considerable amount of accomplishments in elder abuse research. In addition, Ms. Lisa Nerenberg, elder care consultant from the U.S., happened to be visiting Korea, and was invited by the organizer to take part in the roundtable, as a panelist.

Chaired by Dr. Sung, the presentations and exchanges of views among the panelists progressed smoothly, and after a while, some people in the audience could not sit still and started asking questions and brought up their ideas. Through these audience participations, the very lively and exciting atmosphere prevailed in the conference hall for more than two hours. At the end, we, the panelists, had failed to come up with a list of research topics that the Korean and Japanese researchers would have worked on. Nevertheless, we were not very concerned about this lack of accomplishment, because we were convinced that all of those who were there at the roundtable had really enjoyed their experience a great deal. At the end, the producer, MCs and the panelists were grateful to each other for the good work done (See photo).



The end.

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## ○ Event Schedule

Title	Time	Events
Registration	13:20 ~ 14:00	Registration
Performance I	13:30 ~ 13:50	Opening Performance (Grandma Orchestra)
Declaration	14:00 ~ 14:03	Declaration of the 4th WEAAD Ceremony
Salutation	14:03 ~ 14:05	National Flag Salute
Introduction	14:05 ~ 14:10	Introduction of Guest Participants
Address	14:10 ~ 14:13	Presidential Opening Address - Donghee Han, Ph.D, Representative of Korea Information Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (KINPEA)
	14:13 ~ 14:16	Welcoming Address - Mr. Yongsei Park, Director of Welfare and Health Bureau in Busan Metropolitan City
	14:16 ~ 14:20	Congratulatory Address - Toshio Tatara, Ph.D., Asia Representative of International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse(INPEA)
Declaration of Human rights	14:20 ~ 14:35	Declaration of the Human Rights of the Elderly - 2 Elderly Representatives
Performance II	14:35 ~ 14:55	Performance - Orykdo Choir - Korean Traditional Dance Troupe from Busan Women's Cultural Center
Break Time	14:55 ~ 15:05	Break Time
Discussion Forum	15:05 ~ 16:55	Discussion Forum - The Korea-Japan Roundtable on Elder Abuse
Closing Ceremony	16:55 ~ 17:00	Closing of the 4th WEAAD Ceremony

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June 8, 2009

## Greetings

Toshio Tatara, Ph.D.

A Member of the Board of Directors

International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse  
(INPEA), and

Professor

Shukutoku University Graduate School of Integrated Human and  
Social Welfare Studies in Chiba, Japan

Ladies and Gentlemen, my name is Toshio Tatara, and I am from Japan.

Today, I am delighted and feel honored to have an opportunity to meet with you. Dr. Dong Hee Han and I have known each other for nearly 20 years, since the beginning of 1990s, and we have done research together, attended international conferences, and exchanged visits between Korea and Japan. She is the most delightful person to work with, and I feel fortunate that I have been invited, along with my colleagues, to the First Korea\_Japan Roundtable on Elder Abuse in Busan. Thanks to the hard and dedicated work of Dr. Han and her colleagues, the program of the Roundtable is outstanding, and those of us from Japan are having a great time in exchanging ideas and discussing critical issues with our Korean colleagues.

For those of you who may not be familiar with the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA), let me provide you with one minute review of how we came about and what we have done, to date, as an organization. First, INPEA was founded during the 14<sup>th</sup> Congress of the International Association of Gerontology (IAG) in Adelaide, Australia in August 1997. Throughout the week at the conference, there were several meetings of elder abuse researchers from different parts of the world to discuss the possibility of founding an international organization of elder abuse researchers and practitioners. At one point, there were nearly 20 people talking about their ideas of a world organization for elder abuse, but this number was reduced to only six at the last meeting, where the name of the organization was determined and the first president along with other officers were chosen on a tentative basis. I was one of these six people who participated in the founding of INPEA, and became the treasurer of the



organization. Incidentally, at that time, I was serving as the director of the federally founded National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA) in Washington, D. C. and thus, was involved with INPEA, with an intention of disseminating the knowledge and skills related to elder abuse that were of the U.S. origin.

Second, with the strong leaderships of its first president, Dr. Rosalie Wolf, and the current executive team headed by Dr. Lia Daichman (Arg), INPEA has developed a global organizational structure, whereby the organization has placed the regional and national representatives (in over 50 countries) across the world for the purposes of raising the awareness of elder abuse among as many people as possible and of exchanging information about research outcomes and practices in preventing elder abuse among the member nations. At the same time, INPEA has strengthened its professional ties with some of the powerful international organizations over the years. For example, as an International Non-Governmental Organization (INGO), INPEA has been awarded the Special Consultative Status to the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), and is affiliated with the UN Department of Public Information (DPI), and is a member of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations (CONGO), which is in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations. Additionally, INPEA is a standing committee of the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics (IAGG) and is affiliated with the Journal of Elder Abuse & Neglect, published in the U.S. as an international academic journal on elder abuse. Since 2006, INPEA has been conducting a world-wide public information campaign to help raise the greater awareness of elder abuse, with the designation of every June 15<sup>th</sup> as the World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD). Reports from different parts of the world confirm that this campaign has resulted in a huge amount of success in raising the awareness of elder abuse among citizens of many countries across the world, and we are delighted. We are still growing as an international organization and we are still learning and getting better in what we do professionally so that we could serve our constituencies more effectively and efficiently. Finally, INPEA will hold an event to commemorate the 4<sup>th</sup> World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) in Paris, France on July 5<sup>th</sup> 2009. Thank you.

**DECLARATION FOR THE RIGHTS OF THE ELDERLY**  
**First Korea-Japan Roundtable on Elder Abuse**  
**Busan, Korea, June 7<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup> 2009**

Those who are present at the Roundtable hereby adopt the following general principles related to the rights of the elderly:

**GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

1. The death of victims of elder abuse in our society, wherein prejudice has prevailed over the rights of the elderly, should be prevented. Our society should no longer tolerate the neglect of victims of elder abuse by its old custom of silence.
2. The attitudes of the media toward the elderly should be changed to cover increasingly the aspects of positive aging and convey the message that living as an elderly person is associated with many good things. The media should also disseminate the new image of healthy aging to help eliminate societal prejudice against the elderly.
3. The culture of the elderly should be steered into a more positive direction, and our governments would have an important role to play in this effort. Our governments should continue to strengthen their human rights and social welfare programs for the elderly so that the rights of the elderly are firmly protected and no elders are going to be impoverished.
4. The awareness of elder abuse in our communities should be raised so that no victims of elder abuse and neglect are going to be left without care or ignored because of our societal indifferences.
5. The elderly should be encouraged to act as proud citizens of their communities, maintain their good health, as well as their good relationships with their families, and to continue to participate in the activities of their communities as their active members.

**June 8<sup>th</sup> 2009**

The signatures of signatories are shown on the next page.

**Individuals Signatory to the Busan, Korea Declaration  
for the Rights of the Elderly:**

**REPRESENTATIVES FROM KOREA**

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**REPRESENTATIVES FROM JAPAN**

**In Busan, Korea**

**June 8<sup>th</sup> 2009**

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