




NARPI
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 Peacebuilding Institute

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Announcement: Upcoming 2011 NARPI Summer Training

by the NARPI Admin Team

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This year will see the first annual Northeast Asia Regional Peacebuilding Institute (NARPI) Summer Training in Seoul and Inje, South Korea. The two-week training will not only equip participants with peacebuilding skills for their work at home, but will also help to connect organizations and communities from across the region and beyond. The 50 participants currently registered hail from Canada, China, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Mongolia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Russia, South Korea, Taiwan, and the United States.

Jae Young Lee, NARPI Director and Peace Program Coordinator for the Korea Anabaptist Center (KAC), saw the need for this kind of training after his experience studying peacebuilding at Eastern Mennonite University in Harrisonburg, Virginia. “Northeast Asia has a long history of military exercises, but a rather short history of peace education. In this region, peace education, conflict resolution/transformation, and frameworks for conflict prevention are still new terms,” he shares. “Therefore

NARPI is a small but important effort to transform the culture of militarization into a culture of peaceful coexistence and cooperation as a region.”

The vision for NARPI came alive when Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) Northeast Asia, a KAC partner, granted seed money to start building a network of interested individuals and organizations in the region. This is the third year of the preparation period, and the first year for the annual Summer Training.

The training has been organized by the NARPI administration team, centered at KAC, in collaboration with the NARPI steering committee, comprised of individuals from the following organizations in Northeast Asia: Blue Banner, Korea Peace Foundation, Maritime State University, Peace Boat, Peace in China, Taiwan Grassroots Alliance for Peace, Transcend Japan and World Friendship Center.

NARPI Summer Training participants will choose one from a list of three courses per week and participate in a field trip to the DMZ in between the two five-day courses.

Week 1 (8.16-8.20)	<i>Understanding Conflict and Peace</i> by Jujin Chung & Wendy Kroeker	<i>Theory and Practice of Peace Education</i> by Kathy Matsui & Loreta Castro	<i>A Framework for Restorative Justice</i> by Jae Young Lee, Carl Stauffer & Howard Zehr
Field trip (8.21-8.23)	House of Sharing; DMZ tour		
Week 2 (8.24-8.28)	<i>Historical and Cultural Stories of Peace in NE Asia</i> by Hiro Katano & Kyoko Okumoto	<i>Trauma: Awareness and Response</i> by Al Fuytes & Jungki Seo	<i>Peacebuilding Skill Development: Mediation, Dialogue, etc.</i> by Jae Young Lee & Wendy Kroeker

NARPI courses are led by experienced practitioners and academics in peacebuilding. Facilitators come from various cultural, academic, and practice backgrounds giving participants the chance to discuss a wide range of experiences and ideas. The goal is to provide hands-on practical training in peacebuilding, with activities based on the experiences of the participants.

The field trip will start with a visit to the House of Sharing (houseofsharing.org), which is both a museum and home to former "Comfort Women" - survivors of sexual slavery at the hands of the Japanese military during the Asia-Pacific War (1932-1945). Participants will also attend presentations regarding the history of the DMZ and current issues related to the divided Korean peninsula. The field trip will end with a tour of the DMZ area near Inje.

The training will be held at two venues: the Hi Seoul Youth Hostel in Yeongdeungpo, Seoul, and Korea DMZ Peace Life Valley, a non-profit organization near Inje, and not far from the DMZ. Throughout the event,

participants will have ample opportunity to meet and interact with their peers to build relationships, share ideas, and reflect on their experience.

Prior to the Summer Training, Howard Zehr, one of the founders of the field of restorative justice, will give a series of lectures for various audiences in Seoul. Carl Stauffer and Al Fuertes, both NARPI facilitators, will lead workshops for Korean peace educators on trauma healing and restorative justice.

This year, NARPI sponsors include MCC, Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC) Northeast Asia, Asia Community Trust, Niwano Foundation, and several group and individual donors.

Next year, the second annual NARPI Summer Training will be held in another part of the region, most likely in Hiroshima, Japan. The venue will rotate around Northeast Asia in order to make the training more accessible for people throughout the region.

For additional information please see narpi.net or email NARPI at admin@narpi.net.