

# Northern Asia-Pacific Division



# NEWS & VIEWS

Volume 3, Number 30

## Seventh-day Adventist Language Institute

*Celebrates the 30th Anniversary in Korea*

September 14, 1999 was a high day for the Seventh-day Adventist Language Institute in Seoul, Korea. The 30th anniversary ceremony of the Institute was held at the chapel of the main Institute building under the leadership of Pastor Y.S. Kang, director of the Institution.

There were many significant participants for this occasion. Since the teachers of the Institute are composed of Adventist Volunteer Service (AVS) workers around the world, Elder Vernon Parmenter, director of AVS Center in the General Conference, was invited with his wife as a main guest speaker.

"What an exciting day!" he said. "Who would have thought in the beginning that the Seventh-day Adventist Language Institute of Korea would be still providing a service to the community after a period of thirty years? The program today is stronger than it has ever been and is still growing. It is with much pleasure that I congratulate the Institute for the work that it has accomplished over this period of time. Thousands of people in the community have been given the opportunity to learn English. For some this has meant new opportunities in life and for others it has given them a hope, the hope of eternal life."

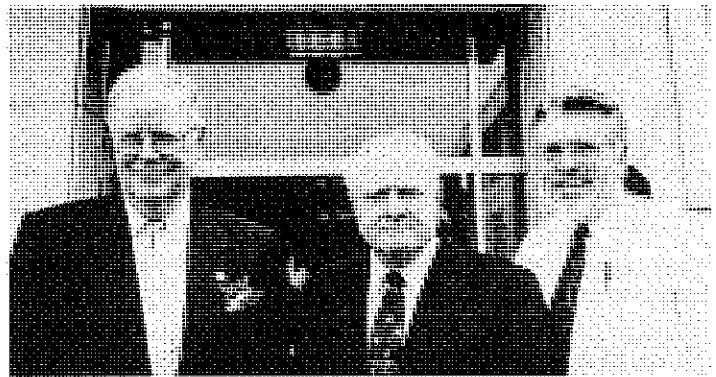
It was inspiring to see the first three missionary directors of the Institute who founded and developed with vision which made the Institute what is today: Dr. D. Hubbard,



*Language Institute Headquarters in Seoul, Korea*

Dr. M. Bascom, and Mr. D. Scofield. They were given an opportunity to make a short speech. In Japan, the first English school started in 1966 by the student missionaries. Dr. Bascom said, "When I worked in Japan, Dr. Hubbard came to see this program in Kobe. Then, in 1969 he began an English school in Korea."

Elder P. D. Chun and Elder S. W. Han, presidents of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division and Korean Union Conference, delivered congratulatory speeches. There were many well known faces of church leaders in Korea at the ceremony.



*Dr. D. Hubbard, Dr. M. Bascom and Mr. D. Scofield (from left).*

*Experience the Fellowship  
of God's Family.*

Some important men from the outside of the Adventist community were invited. Mr. S.W.Noh, congressman of the Korea government, made a speech. He commended the Institute for its contribution to globalization and to the modernization of the country through leveling up the English ability of the people. Mr. S.J. Moon, president of Korean Educational Institutes, was present too.

There was a variety of presentations from 10:30 to noon. It was very interesting to witness the 1,000,000th student who enrolled to the Institute; the young man was awarded by the director of the Institute. The staff who had worked more than 20 years and 10 years were awarded too.

There were several pastors who were introduced to the audience because they became Adventists through the Institute. The final event was a flag raising ceremony. The flags of six countries (Korea, U.S.A., South Africa, Japan, Canada, Australia and Jamaica) were raised on the poles according to the largest number of workers in the Institute.

Currently the Institute teaches English and Japanese. The Language Institute has twenty-three branches with about 160 overseas teachers. There are about 160,000 enrollments in all branches. The Institute is not only helping the people who learn conversational English but also is baptizing more than 200 students annually (277 in 1998) through the evangelistic works done by the Institute staff. There are about 149,000 Seventh-day Adventists in Korea now.

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Tadaomi Shinmyo, *Communication/PARL Director*

## 50th Anniversary of HK-M Conference

### *Ceremony at the HK City Hall*

**M**ore than 1,400 church members, friends, guests, and government representatives attended a ceremony which took place at the Hong Kong City Hall on July 11, 1999. It was a joyful moment to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Hong Kong-Macao Conference and it was a time to witness the Lord's blessings.

The two-hour program had been planned and prepared more than a half year. The whole Conference office, works, churches, schools, and social service centers were involved.

Nowadays, there are more than forty organizations including schools, hospitals, churches, social service centers, book store and food agents established in the territory to help spread the Gospel.



*At the "Lit the Light" Ceremony*

The celebration ceremony started with the Pathfinders' marching. Pathfinder members from Sam Yuk Schools, upholding all organizations' flags, lead eighty representatives from all organizations entering the hall. Next was a ceremony to lit a symbolic light.

Mr. Ng Hon Wah, Principal Assistant Secretary for Home Affairs, Hong Kong Government representative, and Miss Minda C. Cruz, the Consul of Philippines Consulate General, and the Most Rev. of Hong Kong Anglican Church were invited to participate into the lit the light.

Together with all honorable guests, Pr. Howard Fung, president of HKMC, Pr. Spencer Lai secretary of HKMC, Mr. Chilo Fan, treasurer of HKMC, Pr. Chun, Pyung Duk, NSD president, and Pr. Eugene Hsu, CUM president, lit up the "50" logo light on the stage backdrop. This ceremony represented the light from the Lord which has been shining onto Hong Kong and Macao for more than fifty years.

After the guests' speech presentations, music performance started. Students from Sam Yuk Schools gave songs presentations and Chinese orchestra performance. The Evangelistic Choir sang three songs from their recently published first Cantonese Gospel CD. Filipino Church members formed a seventy-eight people choir, they sang three classic gospel hymns. The combined choir with a number of one hundred sixty members including children, youth, and elderly sang a medley moving the Ceremony atmosphere to its climax.

A thanksgiving lunch was held to honor those who were church members during these fifty years. We would like to thank our Heavenly Father for His blessings for the past years. We all have a hope that we may continue to work in Him with harmony and be prepared for His second coming.

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Thomas Leung, *Ass. Dir. of Church Ministries of HKMC*

## World Congress of Chinese Adventist Youth

*Theme: "Millenium Challenge, AY Response"*

Over 200 delegates from Canada, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Philippines, China, Taiwan and Hong Kong attended The World Congress of Chinese Adventist Youth held in the scenic Hong Kong Adventist College, Clear Water Bay. The four day meeting was officially opened by the Director of the Congress, Elder Jack Leung on July 21st and Elder P.D. Chung, president of Northern Asia-Pacific Division. Elder Chung especially used a Chinese poem, a product of his own calligraphy, to encourage the delegates.

The Conference held discussions on practical subjects that modern young people face today. Sessions included church growth, youth ministry, personality and character building, Spirit of Prophecy, Bible study and revival. Among all of the subjects, evangelism using the Internet seemed generate the most interest. The majority of the delegates exchanged email addresses. This obviously demonstrated the powerful influence that electronic media has on the lives of young people.



*P. D. Chun (left) and Stanley Ng in action.*

The meeting concluded with the message from Elder Stanley Ng to all the delegates-- "The harvest is great and the workers are few." We once again committed our lives to the Lord and echoed the theme of the meeting by singing "Adventist Youth Revive and Shine".

Next meeting is scheduled in the new millenium. "Lord, may You come soon, Amen".

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Billy Liu, *Youth Director of CUM*

## Trust Services Seminar in the Three Unions

Elder Jeffrey K. Wilson, GC Associate Director of Trust Services, visited the Northern Asia-Pacific Division office and conducted seminars from August 30 to September 4, 1999. This was the first time he visited the NSD territory and had a chance to be familiar with all Trust Services personnel in this area.

Elder Wilson started his work in the General Conference in February, 1999. Before his moving to the GC, he served as Director of Planned Giving and Trust Services at Andrews University, and as Trust Services Director of the Ohio Conference Association.

Through the seminars and consultation meetings in each Union, all participants got a more complete understanding of Trust Services and also had a good fellowship. The seminar topics were: "Introduction to Trust Services," "Wills," "Trust Services Principles," and a message entitled "Two Adams, Two Wills."

During his visit to NSD, Elder Wilson met with the twenty one participants of a seminar offered on August 30 at the KUC Auditorium, with the participation of Union, Conferences Directors and Pastors of the Korean Union Conference.

On September 1, he met in Hong Kong at Tsuen Wan Adventist Hospital with nineteen pastors of Chinese Union Mission. On September 3, he offered another seminar in Yokohama at Japan Union Conference office for ten participants from JUC. On Sabbath September 4, Elder Wilson preached at the Kamenokoyama Church, next to the JUC office, regarding the spiritual facts of Trust Services work. His short visit to NSD was very fruitful.

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Jong Moon Kim, *Trust Services Director of NSD*

# Earthquake in Taiwan

## *Damages among Adventists*

I was forced to wake up at 1:47 a.m., on September 21, 1999. I was sound asleep in a guest room of the 4th floor of the Taiwan Mission office building in Taichung. I was in Taiwan with two video cameramen from Korea to take pictures for a video report on the Northern Asia-Pacific Division to the General Conference Session next year.

At that moment, a great earthquake took place in Taiwan and the epicenter was near by Taichung City. No wonder the shaking was so severe. Since I was acquainted with earthquakes in Japan, I did not escape from the room in the beginning because I expected it would end soon. However, when the second strong shaking began, I slipped into a small space under a desk in the room. Then, I wore my clothes and went out of the building. I found out that many people were standing or sitting on the road in front of their houses.

There was not such a big earthquake (magnitude 7.6) in Taiwan during the last thirty-six years. More than 2,000 people were killed and 8,700 were injured. James Wu, vice president of Taiwan Adventist Hospital reported on September 25, that among the 7,000 Adventist members in Taiwan, so far there were three confirmed deaths in central Taiwan, in Hur Ping Village, Swang Chi Church. A church deacon's wife, 60 year-old, and her two grandchildren, aged 13 and 14, were killed when their house collapsed. He added, "The Taiwan Mission is doing a survey as to the damages found among the local churches. So far the reports we received that six local churches were damaged: Chung Ching, Chung Yue, Shun Lin, Swang Chi, Pu Li and Chia Yi."

He continued, "The Taiwan Adventist College and Academy is very close to the epicenter of the quake. Among the over five hundred students and staff, no casualty was found in the College campus." "The Taiwan Adventist Hospital and the Union ADRA/China are working closely for relief works. We have sent different supplies, included food, tents, blankets, and clothing." They sent to the College and affected areas 300 tents.

Paul Cho, treasurer of the CUM said, "The Academy Administration Building, Retirement Center and the water tower need to be rebuild. Puli, the nearest town to our College was heavily hit. Many people were killed during the earthquake including the mother of two of our students. The College also opened to the public as a disaster rescue camp, and more than a hundred people stayed in tents."

Leaders of Taiwan are asking for relief donations. You can send any amount of money to the NSD, then the NSD will pass it to Taiwan through the church channel.

Thank you for your prayer and support for the victims of the earthquake.

Tadaomi Shinmyo, *Communication/ PARL Director*

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### NEWS & VIEWS

Editor Tadaomi Shinmyo

Assistant to Editor Nolly Martin

### We Welcome Your Reports to NEWS & VIEWS

Editor

Northern Asia-Pacific Division

Sam Hee Plaza (5th floor),

66 Chuyop-Dong, Ilsan Gu,

Koyang City, Kyonggi-Do,

Republic of Korea 411-370

E-mail shinmyo@kornet.net

TEL (82)(344)910-1500

FAX (82)(344)919-4412

Web Site

<http://www.sdansd.org>