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On 18 January 2015, Cambodia-Korea Cooperation Center (CKCC) officially commenced Basic Taekwondo Training Program to RUPP students. The Commencement Day was attended by representatives from CKCC, the Embassy of The Republic of Korea in Cambodia, Royal University of Phnom Penh, and Cambodia Taekwondo Federation.

“The objectives of this training program are to promote Taekwondo of the Republic of Korea, to provide students self-defense skills, and to provide opportunity for students to involve in sport activities going away from drug abuse and addiction.” stated Mr. Khoun Thavouth, Director of CKCC.

At the present, CKCC is providing two Taekwondo training programs which are Basic Taekwondo Training for RUPP Students and CKCC Skilled Taekwondo Training. The program is trained by Khmer instructor and Korean volunteer from World Taekwondo Federation Peace Corps. The first program is open to all RUPP students for free of charge. Approximately 180 RUPP students are receiving training on every Saturday and Sunday from 5:30pm-6:30pm. The second program is opened to general public. Training fee is 10$ per month for non-RUPP students, and 5$ per month for RUPP students. Around 60 students who enrolled in this program have been trained from Monday to Friday.
The seminar on “How to Apply for Korean Scholarship” was held for the 3rd time on 28th February 2015. In the past 2 years, this seminar was held in every July, yet this year, the seminar was held at the same time of application period of Korean Government Scholarship Program (KGSP) and KOICA Master’s Degree Scholarship Program. About 300 students participated in the seminar. The seminar invited 4 guest speakers namely Ms. Park Min-seo, Ms. Eng Sonita, Mr. Noeum Sokvichhai and Ms. Moa Sreymom.

“This seminar is a special opportunity for Cambodian students who want to apply for Korean scholarship to learn about scholarship application procedure and successful tips and experiences from previous Korean scholarship recipients.” said Dr. Byun Sung Soo, Korean Chief Advisor of the CKCC.

Every single step of the KGSP application process was detailed by Ms. Park Min-seo, representative from the Embassy of the Republic of Korea. The interested applicants will be required to fill out the application and, if shortlisted, will be contacted for interview. Ms. Park Min-seo also added that this year any applicant who are able to express some understanding about Korean culture or can speak a very basic Korean language might be given priority.

In the seminar, participants were given an opportunity to ask questions related to the scholarship. Many good questions were voiced out reflecting strong interest of students in the seminar as well as in applying for Korean scholarship.

Mr. Noeum Sokvichhai and Ms. Mao Sreymom who are KGSP scholarship recipients also shared a lot of good advices in guiding student to produce an attractive impression when applying for scholarship based on their successful experiences. Ms. Eng Sonita, who is a KOICA scholarship recipient, also addressed important tips in preparing application form. In addition, the speakers have shared their experiences in blending into Korean society and how they manage to survive at the university. In Korea, language is usually a barrier for international students, and since they are required to learn Korean, they must put all the effort and dedication in learning; otherwise, it will be difficult to live in Korea.
“Join CKCC for Charity” in the 6th RUPP Annual Charity Event

The RUPP Annual Charity Event was again celebrated for the 6th time on 14th February 2015. Just like every year, many students from each department of the Royal University of Phnom Penh volunteered to raise funds through selling food, drinks, and souvenirs, and performances. Thousands of people participated in this event, and more than 300 stalls were set up. Amazed by the meaningful event, the CKCC also volunteered itself in raising funds through selling Korean food – kimbab and kimchi. The centre was able to raise the total fund of 760,600 riels (approximately 189 USD). The entire fund raised went directly to the charity event. In addition, the CKCC also offered free venue for music performances – One Ticket One Child. This performance was demonstrated by young talented IFL students. It is noticed that in the past, this charity event was originally initiated and participated by students of the RUPP only, yet in the following years, some private institutions also took part in this event. The glorious meaning of this charitable act is probably the behind reason that has been attracting private sectors to involve.

ICT Professional Training Course

The CKCC has been providing short training on Mobile App Development (Android and iOS) since 2014. Until now, approximately 200 students have enrolled in ICT Professional Training Course. This training is conducted in modern computer labs (IBM lab for Android course and MAC lab for iOS course). Devices for practice are also given to students so that they can do practices in complement to theory learning. Course instructors are bringing new technological theories which are happening in Korean ICT industry. To ensure students’ productivities, the computer labs are opened to students for uses besides learning hours. This is very helpful for students who do not have enough resource to complete the tasks assigned by instructors or to do research on their own. To improve training quality, the question survey will be delivered to students at the end of each course. This is an opportunity allowing students to voice out their opinions. The center will reform where appropriate accordingly to students’ opinions. This new term of ICT professional training course is expected to start on 06 April 2015. The new term will introduce Introductory Course on three subjects – Android App Development, iOS App Development, and Web App Development. The new course provides various schedule options flexible to students’ availability.

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”
- Nelson Mandela
Special Khmer Language for Korean Course

Special Khmer language for Korean Course is one of the language programs launched at the CKCC. This language course is especially designed for Korean residence who wants to learn Khmer language for cultural understanding and communication purpose. Since the 4th quarter of 2014, the center has trained 14 Korean students. To fulfil student’s expectation, this course curriculum is aimed to enable effective communication through authentic practices as well as speaking-driven-activities. Often times, students do self-study at CKCC library in addition to class hours. There, they could get additional tutorial from Cambodian students and friends who are daily users of the library services. This course is progressively improved. At the end of the course, students are requested to express their opinions regarding the relevance of curriculum to their needs and competency of the course instructors. The opinions are statistically organized and analyzed, and its results have been the base for course improvement. All in all, updated curriculum, proficient instructors, and well-equipped classroom are the credentials suffice to corroborate CKCC’s proudly declared quality training. This is not a claim but a fact of CKCC’s commitment and reforms.

General Korean Language Program

As an education center, the CKCC is devoting itself to Human Resource Development. In one area, General Korean Language Program which intends to teach Korean language to Cambodian students is receiving popularity for its quality training. In the first term, the program enrolled 175 students. The content of the program focuses not only on Korean language but also Korean culture. Learning with both Korean and Cambodian instructors enable students to visualize Korean culture which is crucial for learning foreign language. This training program focuses on the 4 macro skills—speaking, reading, listening, and writing. Students are given library membership cards to get access to library where they can learn more from many Korean books, newspapers, and DVD. Besides, students can also receive practical experience about Korean culture through involving in various activities at the center. The new term is now open for registration.
Did You Know?

Seoul has been the capital city of Korea since Joseon Dynasty (1392-1910) during which it was referred to as “Hanyang”. After liberation from Japan in 1945, Hanyang was officially changed to Seoul of the newly founded Republic of Korea. The Hanyang River, which runs through the center of the capital Seoul, divides Seoul into culture and history oriented northern region, and the business-oriented southern region.

Seoul, as the capital largest metropolis of South Korea, is the center of political, economic, social, and cultural aspects.

3 Among the Best Destinations in Seoul

Myeong-dong

Located in the heart of Seoul, Myeong-dong is one of the busiest places in Seoul and is among Korea’s premier shopping destinations. Department stores selling thousands of brands lie along the streets of Myeong-dong have attracted over 1 million people every day. Brands like Nature Republic, Forever 21, and other shops with premium labels are all presented; you can even find Starbucks in Myeong-dong. You can shop for clothes, cosmetic, and skin-care products.

Myeong-dong is also a heaven for eating lovers. There are many kinds of tasty Korean street food waiting to serve you. Once visit Myeong-dong, you can never ignore the delectable smell of dried Squid, Korean French Fry, Hot Dog, Tteokbokki and more.

Wild popularity of Myeong-dong is owed to street stalls dot in the space between offering tasty snacks, inexpensive clothes, and sparkling accessories.
Namsan Tower

Namsan Tower has been a symbol of Seoul since it was first opened to the public in 1980. At 236m, it marks the highest point in Seoul. Many visitors ride the Namsan cable car up the Mt. Namsan and then walk to the tower. Sitting on the Namsan Mountain, the tower attracts thousands of tourists and locals every year, especially during nighttime when the tower lights up.

It is very common to see lovers spend their time together at the Namsan Tower. Each couple will lock their own padlocks to the railing which symbolizes their utmost love for each other. This belief has resulted in thousands of padlocks creating another special and interesting view.

Great panoramic views of Seoul city seen from the tower

Namdaemun market

Opened in 1964, Namdaemun market is an open-air market located just a few-minute-walk from Namdaemun Gate. The history of this market dated back in Joseon Dynasty making it the most widely known market place in Korea. This biggest traditional market is the nation’s whole sale center where almost everything can be found. Shopping for children’s clothing, men & women’s clothing, daily miscellaneous goods, kitchenware and local and imported products is extremely inexpensive. The market opens from 11:00am-3:00am (closed on Sunday); however, the actual hour varies by stores. The market is filled with over 1,000 shops, stalls, retailers, street vendors, and has several department stores

Although many of Namdaemun’s shops are within the buildings that make up the area, the most colorful aspect of the market is the group of street vendors that setup in the alleys and walkways between the buildings.