

# Korea's Traditions from a Historical Perspective

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Utilizing the general interest in Korea during the Olympic Winter Games UPF Slovakia organized an event illuminating the political and religious history, traditions and ethical values in Korean society. Thanks to the announcement by the well-known political club NSK, many academics came to listen. The date was chosen well - just three days prior to the opening ceremony in Pyeongchang. No wonder that the rented hall in an office building was too small for the 52 guests and so some

persons did not get a chair. To warm up the audience a video was shown with the Drum Dance performed by the Little Angels and a popular rendition of the folk song «Arirang». In his welcoming remarks Secretary General Milos Klas said, that UPF did already several presentations about Korea because it is the homeland of the UPF founders, Rev. and Mrs. Moon. The presentation was given by Mr. Milos Prochazka PhD. who masters the Korean language and teaches Korean history at the Comenius University in Bratislava. One focus was the role of the diverse religions which shaped the

national culture and how they influence today's society. He also described insights he gained and experiences he made during his stays in South Korea. Several guests were especially interested in his views about the current situation in North Korea. The concluding Q&A session created a lively atmosphere. Finally, our guests could buy topical books, or little jars with the Korean specialities Kimchi and Gochujang which were prepared by our staff. Most guests expressed interest to attend upcoming UPF events.

