

Academic Conference Explores Potential of Korea's Jeongseon's Hanggol Valley

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June 16, 2023



A notable conference, recently hosted by the Patriotic Memorial Association, unveiled an ambitious plan to breathe new life into the historic Hanggol Valley, located in Jeongseon, Gangwon Province. The conference sought to cultivate a dialogue surrounding the development of cultural and touristic content, inspired by the valley's tangible and intangible heritage.

The event, held at the Jeongseon Agricultural Cooperative Conference Room on June 16th, attracted a distinguished audience of local leaders, including Woo Jong Chun, Chairman of the Patriotic Memorial Association and honorary professor at Kangwon National University. Other attendees included Lee Don Seop, chairman of the Gangwon Province Red Cross, and several provincial council members and community representatives.



A significant focus of the conference was to honour the lives of two of Hanggol Valley's historical residents -- Jeon Sang Yo and Moon Yoon Guk. Jeon Sang Yo, was remembered for his unwavering spirit of resistance, lived in the caves of Hanggol Valley for 26 years during the Japanese occupation, while simultaneously driving the independence movement. Moon Yoon Guk, in turn, played a pivotal role in

nurturing future generations by teaching Chinese studies and poetry in Norumok, Jeongseon.

The conference went beyond mere reflection and ventured into exploring concrete strategies for cultural enhancement. The key objective was to transform the cultural and historical legacy of these two extraordinary figures into compelling content that would invigorate the local tourism sector.

During the academic seminar segment of the conference, experts shared their insights on a range of topics. Heo Jun Gu, director of the Chuncheon Cultural Center's Chuncheon Studies Institute, opened the discourse with a presentation on the importance of Moon Yoon Guk and Jeon Sang Yo 's lives and their significant influence on Hanggol Valley. This was followed by Hyeon Seung Wook, a professor at Kangwon National University, who evaluated the architectural value of Moon Yoon Guk's residence. Wrapping up the seminar was Jang Jae Young, a professor from Songgok University, who explored the potential for a forest-based cultural business model through the development of Hanggol Valley's content.

Following the presentations, a vibrant discussion took place under the direction of Chairman Woo Jong Chun, with leading cultural and heritage experts engaging in a lively exchange of ideas.



Chairman Woo articulated the broader vision for Hanggol Valley, noting its rich historical context as a place where patriots like Jeon Sang Yo, Moon Yoon Guk's, and Woo Jung Mo lived, taught, and fought for independence. He emphasized the potential for Hanggol Valley to become a regional brand, blending its abundant natural resources with its distinct historical and cultural narrative.

Expressing optimism about the future, Chairman Woo assured, "We will continue to strive for the development of Hanggol Valley, drawing on the insightful content presented during this academic conference. We're envisioning a space that melds natural beauty with a profound cultural heritage, offering an enriching experience for visitors and locals alike."

The Patriotic Memorial Association honoring Master Moon Yoon Guk organized an academic symposium on the development of the valley of Hanggol in the province of Gangwon. Master Moon Yoon Guk, the great-grandfather of True Father, dedicated his entire life to the independence of his homeland. The valley of Hanggol is not just a natural wonder, but also the home of patriots Moon Yoon Guk and Jeon Sang Yo, illustrious figures of the Independence Movement. This academic symposium was a seminar during which the stories of their lives were revealed to the world in the form of academic data. Chairman Woo Jong Chun, who planned and prepared the symposium, expressed his intention to rely on the content of the conference to continue efforts to make the region a real tourist attraction.