

No. 201 MARCH 2024

THE Sejong Times



CAMPUS

Teacher Rights
Violations

SPECIAL

The Era of Fear

CULTURE

Cancel Culture

SOCIETY

The Decline of
Science

Sejong University Campus English Magazine



CONTENTS



2

Editor's Letter

Time to Step Forward

8

Campus

School life at Sejong University

20

Culture

Cancel Culture

32

Cartoon

Daydreaming

3

Sejong Today

What's New at
Sejong University in 2024

4

Campus

Teacher Rights Violations

6

Campus

2024 New Student Recruitment

10

Special

The Era of Fear

14

Other

Cafés on Campus

16

Culture

Exploring Culture Through Novels:
The tale of Department Head Kim at a
Conglomerate Who Owns a House in Seoul

24

Society

The Decline of Science

28

Society

Monopoly of Kakao Taxi

30

Society

Public Transport Strike that Threatens
Citizen's Daily Lives

34

Puzzle, Dictionary

35

Awardees

36

Advertisement

Published by Sejong Times at 209 Neungdong-ro, Gwangjin-gu, Seoul, Korea
Registered on Oct. 7, 1980

Registration Number: Ma-2186 | Phone: 02-3408-3355 | Email: thesjtimes@sejong.ac.kr

Publisher: Bae Deg-hyo | Faculty Editor: Lee Chung-hun | English Advisor: Todd Tate

Editor-in-Chief: Kim Do-hyeon | Editor: Kim Ye-bin, Park Seong-O, Lee Jae-min,

Jung Gwang-su, Kwak Ji-ye | Cub-Reporter: Chang So-jeong | Cartoonist: Lee Jeong-hyeon

Time to Step Forward

Readers of the Sejong Times, and freshmen at Sejong University, I'm glad to meet you. I'm Kim Do-hyeon, the new Editor-in-chief of the Sejong Times. Many students will be looking forward to what they will experience this year, as the new semester begins. Therefore, I would like to ask readers this question, Are you afraid of new challenges and unfamiliar experiences? I will answer yes to this question. Some will be concerned about what will happen in the new events, and others will worry about making mistakes or dealing with them, and those worries will eventually make you hesitate or quit the challenge. Similarly, I have always been complacent and sought only familiar things, and when I faced something unfamiliar or that I don't know, I have just tried to avoid it. However, even if there are plenty of fears and concerns, I think we should not remain within our own safe zone or hesitate to step forward.

Before I became the editor-in-chief of the Sejong times, I used to worry about what I would do and whether I could do well or make mistakes. I actually made some mistakes and was embarrassed because I did not know how to deal with it, while editing this 201th issue. But through my new challenges and mistakes, I was able to learn what to do in the future and how to deal with the crises I would face in the future.

Therefore, mistakes and failures in the course of future might be a chance for us to grow. Now that we have a new start, I hope students of Sejong University will challenge themselves without fear of failure.



By Kim Do-hyeon
dh040115@naver.com
Sejong Times Editor-in-Chief

What's New at Sejong University in 2024

By Kim Ye-bin
kyb030122@gmail.com
Sejong Times Editor



The New School Library

After 8 months of remodeling, a new school library was unveiled last September. Complaints were constantly being filed about the aging facilities before, but after the remodeling, it has transformed into a pleasant and comfortable place and are attracting students constantly. The renewed school library consists of three zones: the Young Zone, for using electronics such as laptops, the 'Gong Zone (coexistence)' to freely communicate, and the Zero Zone to focus on academics. A big media wall shows the recent school notice right at the entrance of the second floor, and bean bag chairs are prepared in the corner for students to take a rest between lectures. The school library is available for everyone with a mobile student ID in the Sejong University app, 24 hours a day, so feel free to enjoy every facility of the newly renovated library.



©Sejong University Youtube

New Majors



Sejong University established three new departments in 2024 in order to cultivate individuals to contribute to the Fourth Industrial Revolution: Artificial Intelligence and Robotics, Artificial Intelligence and Data Science, and Intelligent Drone Convergence. By majoring in Artificial Intelligence and Robotics, students will be able to manufacture robots and mobility devices, with the experience of training on-site. The Artificial Intelligence and Data Science major provides the theoretical and practical learning of both artificial intelligence and data science. Lastly, the Intelligent Drone Convergence major will be able to provide academic knowledge and practical experience and contribute to the innovation of drone technology.



A New Student Council: Waves to happiness, Yeoul (@sejong_student)

Yeoul was elected in the 37th student council election last November. Just as the name implies, which means a presence like the lungs of a river to maintain the health of the river, Yeoul promised to constantly strive to fulfill our students' happiness by becoming a big wave that carries the voices of them. Yeoul especially pointed out the lack of information for international students and promised to promote various student council events by cooperating with the SOS center. Furthermore, they are planning to activate the bulletin board on the campus website for international students to solve their inquiries. Yeoul's pledges are expected to encourage the participation of international exchange students in school events and foster a strong sense of belonging to Sejong University.



Teacher Rights Violations

By Kim Ye-bin
kyb030122@gmail.com
Sejong Times Editor

‘My kid broke his leg in his classroom, so come pick him up every morning to school’, ‘If you are really sorry, kneel down and beg to apologize’, ‘The homeroom teacher made my child feel poor by offering him snacks.’ These are some complaints that school teachers have recently received. With situations like these frequently happening and the teachers’ authority being damaged significantly, there are some opinions that the Ordinance of Student Rights is the reason for this situation. This is because the ordinance only provides regulations about the freedom and rights of students, but it does NOT include any obligations a student has to meet. Would abolishing this ordinance really help to restore teachers’ authority?



Before the Ordinance:

Corporal punishment in schools was widely accepted until the late 20th century and the early 2000s. With no limits to punishing students, teachers often used violence just based on their feelings. This was possible because it was commonly believed that it was a teacher’s job to lead the students to the right path, no matter what it took. With students getting severely hurt, some attempts were made, such as the movement to ban corporal punishment in schools in 1998. However, not much changed, as there were concerns about the potential damage to the teachers’ authority.



©news.kbs.co.kr



The Ordinance of Student Rights

The Ordinance of Student Rights was proposed during the Gyeonggi Province Office of Education Superintendent election in 2009 and has been implemented since March 2011.

Article 6 : Right to be Free from Violence

2. Corporal punishment by the school is prohibited.

Article 12 : Right to Express One’s Personality

1. Students have the right to express their personality through their appearance including clothing and hairstyles.

Article 16 : Freedom of Expression of Own View

2. In the event that a student exercises his/her freedom of expression, the School shall not make unjustified or arbitrary interference or restrictions.

Teachers still needed a way to discipline students even after this new rule. However, as indirect forms of punishment were eventually banned, it became nearly impossible to impose strong sanctions on problematic students.

The Lost of Teachers' Authorities

Last July, an elementary school teacher in her 20s committed suicide after receiving a number of malicious complaints from a parent. This incident reflected numerous cases of teachers' authority being damaged and it disclosed that there were not any defense mechanisms for teachers' rights. This led to protests in regards to rewrite protection laws for teachers, which started in an online community where over 80 percent of the elementary school teachers joined. Teachers who had faced the decline of their authority as well as threats to their survival due to malicious complaints and excessive work pressure, gathered from all over the country.



© www.bbc.com

While regulations to protect students were drafted, such as the Ordinance of Student Rights and the Kim Young-ran Act, teachers have faced evaluation systems that pressure them. However, according to the Ministry of Education, cases that infringe on the teachers' authority rapidly increased every year, from 1197 cases in 2020, 2269 cases in 2021, to 3035 cases in 2022. This led to demands to repeal the Ordinance of Student Rights, as it seems that strengthening student rights contradicts with teachers' authority.

The struggles of numerous teachers led to the passing of a new law to protect teachers' rights, in just two months after this incident. This new law states that a teachers' guidance with legitimate reasons cannot be considered as child abuse, and teachers can receive counseling with the problematic student being immediately separated in the cases of harm.

Furthermore, to prevent malicious complaints against individual teachers, education authorities plan to establish a separate window for civil petitions. Formalizing the process of filing a complaint will prevent direct conflict between teachers and parents, as well as protect the right to refuse a complaint.



© www.moe.go.kr

These laws, however, cannot be the fundamental solution to every situation that occurs in schools. Teachers' and students' rights are not in an inverse relationship. It is wrong to regard the invasion of teachers' rights as just being a conflict between a teacher and a student. The damage to the teachers' authority leads them to lethargy and self-blaming. At the same time, other students' rights to learn are invaded, which potentially lead to the growth of the private education market. It is essential that students and parents as well as the society be aware of the rights of teachers.

2024 New Student Recruitment



By Kwak Ji-ye
jiyeah1217@naver.com
Sejong Times Editor

Sejong University's student recruitment is divided into two types. The first type is similar to the early decisions, which are determined based on high school records, grades, or the university's essay test. The second type only depends on the Korean SAT score. These recruitment types were separately conducted by each major until 2023. However, there is a new change in the second type in the freshman recruitment for this year, which selects students based on the Korean SAT score. The selection process was changed in order to choose students by college series. The Integrated Series Selection aims to provide freshmen with a broader experience that is related to their careers by helping them discover their true interests. As a result, students can apply to a major that suits them better with their goals before their sophomore year.

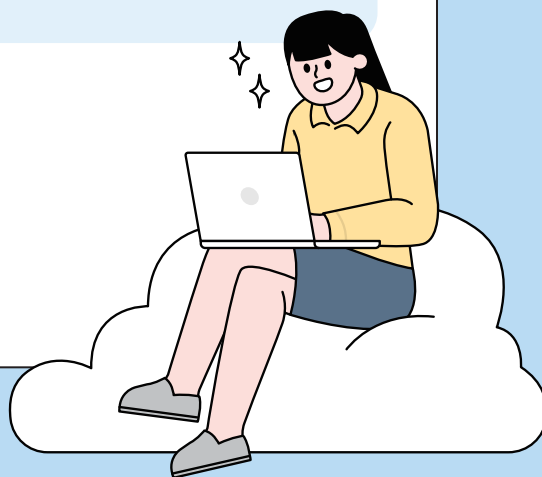
The Integrated Series Selection was first implemented at Ewha Womans University. Many universities in Seoul are now adopting this selection. What are the advantages of this selection process? This process provides students with more opportunities to explore various majors, which was previously mentioned. Students usually choose a major when applying to university in high school in the former approach, and they may not be certain about their choices. However, freshmen can search for various majors and experience activities, such as clubs or other challenges via this new selection process. These can be helpful in regards to choosing a major. The Integrated Series Selection aims to cultivate students into well-rounded individuals with diverse talents.

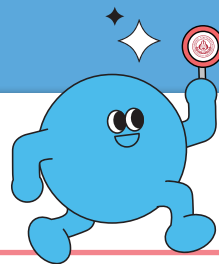


Sejong University has traditionally grouped class members together based on the same major in classes, such as *computer programming* or *reading & discussion* class. However, freshmen who enrolled via the Integrated Series Selection can now be randomly grouped, which offers them the advantage of meeting many other people from various fields in the school. They can also independently plan their class schedules in order to find their own paths. Some people might have concerns about this sudden change, but it only applies to selection type 2, so it's not a significant change. There are some negative opinions about it despite the numerous advantages of this selection.

First, students would be absorbed in their grades. The criteria to pick students will be their grades when they apply for a major in their sophomore year if many people apply for a certain major. This makes students study too hard in their classes, which is not that helpful in regards to experiencing various things and finding their paths. Second, a trend where students crowd into popular majors can be made. Low-scoring students cannot go into their expected major, and high-scoring students might apply to popular majors not because they want to, but just because of other people's opinions or trends. This phenomenon will separate majors according to popularity, so some majors will face a lower application rate. This concern was also at other schools when they implemented the selection. Some professors are worried that some majors might disappear because of it.

These concerns exist, but there are positive reasons why many schools are adopting this selection. One high school student doesn't worry much about studying hard in university. However, he thinks the new selection is a huge advantage, because he isn't certain about choosing a major now. Some people have worries, but most of the high school students actually prefer this change. Sejong University's new selection must be changed due to the many advantages to students, which are mentioned above. I hope the Integrated Series Selection in 2024 is helpful to students, as opposed to the pressure about good grades. Students should explore their interests, strengths, and career paths during their first year, as opposed to focusing on popular majors.





School Life at

By Kwak Ji-ye

jiyeah1217@naver.com
Sejong Times Editor

Sejong University achieved 8th place in Korea with the THE Ranking, and its rank is steadily increasing. This indicates that the university excels in citations and professors' research. However, the ranking above doesn't show the advantages that students can directly experience during their school lives at Sejong University, so we will discuss more strengths of Sejong University, that include in particular about the students' daily school life experiences.



Campus

The first feature of Sejong University is its excellent transportation accessibility. Most students commute to school by bus or subway, and the university is right in front of the Children's Grand Park station, and it is near other subway stations, such as Gunja and Konkuk University. Also, if you have experienced campus life, you can feel that the size of the campus makes it very easy to walk between buildings. In addition, the campus is flat, which makes it easy to walk around or ride a bike. The speed and convenience of movement make it reliable to plan continual classes in your schedule. Convenient transportation, flat land, and an easily strollable campus are some of the key features of Sejong University.



Food

We must recognize the school food at Sejong University, which is popular for its reasonable prices and good quality. There may certainly be differences in regards to quality compared to other restaurants outside the school, which are more expensive. However, our school food maintains high quality for its price in this high-priced society. There are three cafeterias that are located inside the campus, which include the Student Hall, Jingwan hall, and Gunjagwan. The lines in front of the kiosk illustrate the popularity of school food whenever we visit them during lunchtime. There are many good restaurants that are famous among the students apart from the school food when you go off campus. You can reach the back gate in just 10 minutes from the main gate of the school. It's not very far, and it is even convenient in regards to accessing various restaurants with different menus.

Sejong University



Remodeled Library

The library underwent remodeling in 2023, and it is now an awesome place to study. Students can study from the B1 floor to the 6th floor. It is also very clean, because it was recently remodeled. Students can freely read books inside the library building, but they need to reserve a seat in order to study in the reading room. There is a café on the 2nd floor, so you don't need to go outside for coffee. Students have given positive feedback, which states that they prefer using the new library as opposed to the old one.



The Children's Grand Park

The Children's Grand Park is in front of the main gate of Sejong University. Do you realize how significant this point is as a major advantage? The Children's Grand Park is a place where we can experience nature within the city. It may seem small at the entrance, but it becomes quite extensive as you walk through it. Moreover, the admission is free. The walking paths are enjoyable, and they provide a nice escape when you are feeling stressed. A leisurely walk can make you feel refreshed. Furthermore, if you visit the zoo or the amusement park inside the Children's Grand Park with friends, it will be a pleasant experience. Are there any other schools where students can visit amusement parks during their long breaks between classes? These experiences will leave you with wonderful and unforgettable memories.

We looked into the other advantages of Sejong University as well, which can be felt on the real-life campus. Of course, some developmental points or aspects that need renewal might be recognized by students. However, many features can provide positive energy for students. Sejong University has shown favorable outcomes in regards research, that it continues to develop, which was previously mentioned. We don't often tend to be conscious of the positive aspects of our school during our everyday lives, so this article can serve as a positive trigger for students in regards to experiencing more exciting and memorable campus lives at Sejong University.

The Era of Fear

©HANKYOREH

By Lee Jae-min
dlwoals5147@gmail.com
Sejong Times Editor

The movie <12.12: The day> sold over 10 million tickets for the first time in 2023 as a non-series movie, which made the breeze to the film industry, which was frozen by COVID-19. One of the reasons why this movie was popular is that it shows history that occurred with a tense and dynamic production. People who saw this movie were able to see the real-happened incident, which was the Dec.12 military coup where a secret society of the military rebelled against the government.



©PLUM ENTERTAINMENT

Characters



©PLUM ENTERTAINMENT



The characters in this movie were motivated by the real person in this incident.



Rebels

Chun Doo-Gwang: He is head of Hana-hoe(Group of One) which is an unofficial private group, and at the same time is chief of the joint investigation division and security command. He can control all powers and monopolize all authorization of intelligence and investigation because he had a mission to inspect the former president's assassination. He was motivated by Chun Doo-Hwan who became the 5th president of Korea through this incident in the movie. But many people haven't recognized him as the president until now.

Roh Tae-gun: He is the commander of the 9th infantry division and, at the same time has been close to Chun Doo-Gwang from his academy time. Unlike his friend, he is a coward and has less commitment than Chun. He was motivated by Roh Tae-Woo who became the 6th president of Korea after the Chun Doo-Hwan era and had powers much harder than ever at the Chun Doo-Hwan era.

Hana-hoe: An unofficial private group of the Korean military, and most of the members graduated from KMA, which is a Korean military academy. They not only disobeyed their superiors but also rebelled against the government along with Chun Doo-Gwang. Some even arrested their boss. They took on an important position when Chun became the 5th president.



Suppressions

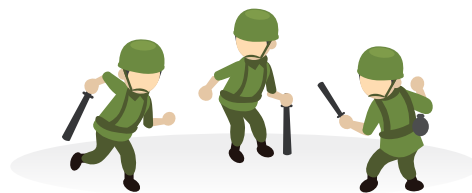


©PLUSM ENTERTAINMENT

Lee Tae-Sin: He is the commander of the Capital Garrison Command and actively suppresses the rebels. He is as tough as neglecting a Chun's conciliation. He was motivated by General Jang Tae-wan. He was dismissed after Chun's Dec.12 coup succeeded, and his son suspiciously suddenly died.



Jung Sang-Ho: He is the Army chief of staff, managing authority over the personnel affairs of the army. He tries to put Chun to the pasture due to recognizing the threat of Hana-hoe so, he is a pain in the neck of Chun. He was motivated by a real person, Jung Seung-Hwa who is Army chief of staff. He got demoted from Army general to private.



On 26th October 1979, the 3rd president of Korea, Park Jeong-hee, who had governed for 19 years, was assassinated by his right-hand man, Kim Jae-gyu. When the people were feeling the arrival of the Seoul spring, where the dictator had been gone and democracy had dawned, the power elites were confused due to the vacant seat of the highest authority. In response, the military, seeking to stabilize the chaotic situation, formed a joint investigation headquarters for the assassination incident and appointed Chun Doo-Gwang as the chief of headquarters following the constitution. Chun who can access authority of intelligence and investigation wants to get powers by arresting Jeong Sang-ho, who is willing to restrain him, and constraining Choi Gyu-ha, the 4th president of Korea at this time. The reason he arrests Jeong Sang-ho is one thing that he was in place when the president park was assassinated. On the decisive day of December 12th, they were planning to arrest Jeong Sang-ho who was Army Chief of Staff, at the same time, get approval for the arrest sought by Choi Gyu-ha. However, Lee Tae-sin, the commander of capital garrison command, recognized this move and strongly tried to oppose it. This movie depicts the clash between Chun Doo-Gwang, who tries to seize power through rebellion, and Lee Tae-sin, who is willing to suppress the rebellion.

Synopsis



©PLUSM ENTERTAINMENT

After Dec.12 Coup

Chun Doo-hwan and Hana-hoe finally succeeded with the rebellion on December 12th and took over the authority of the Army. Most of the suppressions including Jeong Seung-hwa left behind the Army or got demoted. Jeong Seung-hwa, the Army Chief of Staff, and Jang Tae-wan, the commander of capital garrison command, were even tortured and imprisoned. Also, Hana-hoe not only neglected people's voices for democracy but also declared martial law and even attacked people in Gang-ju on May 18th, 1980. Finally, they made their head, Chun Doo-hwan, the 5th president of Korea. The era from 1980 to 1988 when Chun Doo-hwan was a president marked the most intense phase of Korea's democratization movement. Therefore, Movies set in the 1980s can be seen as a reflection of the incidents and conditions of that era.



©Presidential Archives

A Taxi Driver and May 18

©Showbox entertainment



©CJ ENM



Chun Doo-hwan and Hana-hoe seized the power, but the public resistance against them was palpable. Therefore, they extended martial law nationwide on May 17th and dismissed the student movement attended by over 100,000 to control the voice of the people. Simultaneously, a special force was sent to Gwangju, where the resistance movement was the strongest. The military forces indiscriminately attacked citizens, and over 200 people died at that time.

The movie <A Taxi Driver> is based on the true story of journalist *Jürgen Hinzpeter*, who aimed to cover the May 18th Democratization Movement, and It shows this tragedy from the point of view of a taxi driver who accidentally went to Gwangju with Hinzpeter. The main character who is an ordinary taxi driver, strives to take responsibility alongside journalist Hinzpeter to convey this truth of tragedy to the foreign press after witnessing the devastation of the Gwangju. This movie captured the attention of the public by portraying the tragedy of the Gwangju democratization movement and highlighting the protagonist's transformation.

The movie <May 18> portrays the Gwangju democratization movement for the first time. This movie shows this tragedy from the perspective of ordinary citizens living in Gwangju. The vivid depiction and the explanation of the Gwangju Democratization Movement provided a fresh and impactful experience for the audience.

1987

The Chun Doo-hwan period, which began with this brutality, was the era of the continuous struggle for democracy. Most university students in this period used to participate in the democratization movement and the streets were always permeated with the smells of tear gas. However, the most terrible thing for people was the police, who were engaged in anti-communist operations, and they investigated especially college students. The method they investigated was so terrible that they tortured people so dangerously and even some people called the Namyong-dong, Yongsan, where the headquarters of anti-communist operations was located, as *Once you went, you could lose your half body*. Eventually, an accident that a student who went to the Seoul National University, Park Jong-cheol, died at this place by being severely tortured.

The movie <1987> is based on *June Struggle* where the raging citizens and students set up after the death of Park Jong-cheol. Besides, the process of conveying the truth of his death is closely included and this movie portrays the perspective of many people who engaged in this process.



©CJ ENM



©NAMU WIKI



Movies in the 80s



©NAMU WIKI

The 1980s in South Korea marked an era that achieved the miracle of the Han River through events like the successful bid for the Olympics and economic growth. Simultaneously, it was a time when democracy faced severe suppression. However, the brilliant achievement of democracy in this land became possible through the people's movement for democratization, welcoming a true *Seoul Spring*. In 2024, one of the means connecting us to that era is undoubtedly movies. Watching films set in this period allows us to explore the overall atmosphere of that time. How about engaging with these movies, enabling us to connect with and better understand that era?



By Kim Ye-bin

kyb030122@gmail.com

Sejong Times Editor



☕ Pandorothy ☕

Pandorothy café is located on the first floor of the Student Center building. It is a book café great for reading books and studying, with reasonable-price beverages.



☕ Jeju MolBbang ☕

Jeju MolBbang is located on the second floor of the Student Center building. It's a popular place on campus, as it's a great place for group projects or meeting someone. It sells various of baked goods, and has an outdoor terrace to relax.





☕ Café Dictionary ☕

Café Dictionary is located both on the basement floor of Gwanggaeto-gwan and the first floor of Chungmu-gwan. It provides high-quality beverages and desserts to enjoy between lectures.



☕ Café Dream ☕

Café Dream is located on the second floor of the university library. It is a great place to grab a drink quickly during long hours of studying at the library.



☕ U Can Do Eat ☕

U Can Do Eat is located on the 15th floor of Gwanggaeto-gwan. It sells a wide range of beverages and has partitioned seats, making it suitable for quietly focusing on assignments or studying.



Exploring Culture Through Novels: The tale of Department Head Kim at a Conglomerate Who Owns a House in Seoul

By Jung Gwang-su
rhkdtwnjd@gmail.com
Sejong Times Reporter

©<https://www.joongang.co.kr/>

*K*ids these days are lazy and arrogant is a phrase that represents the modern generational conflict and it's also a notable quote from the novel *The tale of Department Head Kim at a Conglomerate Who Owns a House in Seoul*. This bestseller has gained immense popularity for its relatable depictions of Korean society and culture, which are like the phrase above. I'd like to explore Korean culture and society due to this via the lens of this novel. I dive into Korea's history, the author's background, a summary of the book, and the main characters, who represent the typical Korean personas, in this article.



A brief history of Korea that is related to the novel's timeline

The ideal path to success before 1997 was typically perceived as attending a good university and securing a job at a large firm, whereas any other route was generally viewed as being unconventional or a poor choice. However, many changes that were made by the IMF after the IMF crisis in 1997 in Korea changed the job market from recruiting new employees to only hiring experiences ones. There was also a failure to create new jobs due to the weakened economy, which resulted in fewer recruitment opportunities. A stable job could no longer be guaranteed even for those who were hired.



©<https://www.bloomberg.com/>

This change has led people to seek more stable and well-paying jobs, which resulted in an increase in interest in positions, such as public servants and practitioners, which 4 out of 10 job seekers aspired to become. Meanwhile, others have pursued entirely different paths, such as becoming entrepreneurs.

This type of a shift in society has made it difficult for the previous generations to understand the hardships that the younger generations face, which makes them perceive the younger generation as lacking in passion. This as well as the rapid growth in technology has created new opportunities that resulted in various new paths, such as entrepreneurship as opposed to typically obtaining a job in a large firm, which is hard for the previous generations to absorb.

About the author Song Hee-gu

Song Hee-gu became determined to achieve financial freedom before turning 45 when he saw his father still working late at the age of 70. He worked diligently as an employee, engaged in extensive reading, and invested in a variety of assets in order to reach this goal. He also runs his own YouTube channel, which is where he shares methods for acquiring assets and discusses various life topics by mostly drawing from his real-world experiences. The book that is introduced in this article is also based on his personal experiences.



©https://www.monthlypeople.com/news/



Summary of the novel

Part 1: Many Korean companies fire old employees and hire younger employees, so *Director Kim* became nervous due to many of his colleagues getting fired. However, he clung to the belief that he is an irreplaceable asset to the company, and his abilities are highly valued. His close ties with senior executives boosts his confidence that a promotion to an executive position is certain despite the obvious delusion. He lives under this illusion, and one day a senior executive assigned him additional tasks, which led him to head out for a field assignment.

Mr. Kim is a person who places great importance on a person's appearance, wealth, and skill. He notices his old bag during his field assignment, and he becomes envious after comparing it to *Director Choi's* stylish bag. This envy makes him consider replacing his bag, and this mentality leads him to become quite materialistic and often condescending. This condescending mindset also extends to his investing abilities. He firmly believes that the price of the apartment he currently lives in has increased due to his financial abilities to seek great investments, but the truth is that he only purchased it due to her insistence that he does. He had anticipated a price crash.

This type of mindset and illusional success made *Mr. Kim* jealous of *Manager Song*, who is the person everyone turns to for real estate advice. He disregards *Manager Song's* investing ability with his ignorant attitude by thinking what would a youngster know about investing? This ignorant train of thought is what makes him get fired later on in the novel, which is unfortunately for *Director Kim*. He blames others for getting fired instead of blaming himself by saying that they are all selfish and made him get fired in order to keep their jobs. He hastily invests in real estate with no immediate money for the future only to later discover that it was a scam.



©https://www.yes24.com/



©https://www.yes24.com/



Mr. Kim gets to look back on his past with these types of experiences that are mentioned above, and he tries to fix his ignorant and condescending attitude while he plans for a better future.

Part 2: The story begins with *Jung*, who is a middle-level manager. He is still driving his old car from college, and he is thinking about changing his car. He doesn't have the budget to upgrade his car but feels the pressure to do this, because his friends are all driving imported cars. His fiancée also keeps nudging him to upgrade, so he decides to change his car by buying a used foreign brand car.

Mr. Jung doesn't understand why people save and invest their money. He believes that no matter how hard he tries, the rich will always get richer, while he struggles. This mindset drives him to embrace a You Only Live Once (YOLO) lifestyle by spending all his money on pleasure. He even takes out loans in order to satisfy his desires. Many of his colleagues envy his carefree way of living. However, *Mr. Jung's* life takes a tragic turn when he's involved in an accident, which results in huge hospital bills. This leads to a conflict with his wife. This series of events causes *Mr. Jung* to reflect on his spending habits as well as his overall approach to life.



Characters in the novel that portray real Koreans

Director Kim: *Mr. Kim*, who is the protagonist of Part 1, has been working at a major corporation for 25 years. He lives in an apartment that he owns in Seoul with his wife and son. He earns around 100 million won a year, but he only has about 10 million won saved up in his bank account due to his massive spending.

Mr. Kim represents the typical old condescending Korean persona. These types of people love saying *when I was your age* or *what would a young inexperienced person know about that*. The reason they use the above phrases is because they think that the younger generations don't have as much experience as they do, so they ignore their opinions and thoughts due to this. This type of mindset makes a person ignore others, and they only try to do things in their type of mindset. His wife and son sometimes get tired due to his attitude, and it is that attitude gets *Mr. Kim* fired from his job in the end.



©https://www.artshub.com.au/news

©https://kr.freepik.com



Mr. Kim's Son: *Mr. Kim's Son* is currently in his fourth year of university, and he has no intention of pursuing a traditional job, which is unlike his father. He believes that working for a corporation is the equivalent to being a slave, which is contrary to his father's perspective about success. He plans to grow his online business that he started for fun instead. This upsets his father, because not getting a job at a large firm means failure, and he sees entrepreneurs as being a low-class job.

Mr. Kim's son gets frustrated by his father's old way of thinking. However, that doesn't mean he that he doesn't love his father, which we can see from him buying his father a new bag as a gift. We can say that *Mr. Kim's* son represents the young Korean generation with the above behaviors. They try to adapt to the changing world and proactively solve their problems.

Assistant Manager Jung: *Mr. Jung* represents the modern Korean *YOLO*, which love to show off their extravagant lifestyles on social media. He earns a monthly income of 3.5 million won, which is not enough, because he has a very luxurious lifestyle. As a result, he turns to loans in order to maintain his lavish way of life. A great example of this can be seen in his grand proposal to his fiancée, which involved renting a seaside hotel and purchasing a high-end designer handbag.

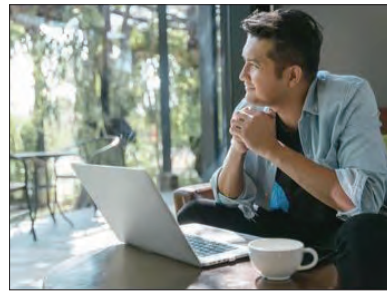


©https://medium.com/

Another aspect of these *YOLO's* is that they want to make money quick. *Mr. Jung* doesn't want to work hard for his money, so he invests in Bitcoin instead, which is a very speculative investment.

We can determine from the situation above that a lifestyle like *Mr. Jung's* isn't looked upon well in Korea. *Mr. Jung* shows the young Korean generation that has given up on trying to solve their real-world problems and reach financial freedom, which is contrary to *Mr. Kim's* Son.

Manager Song: *Manager Song* serves as the embodiment of the real-world author in the story. He guides the characters to the right path in the book. He represents those who work hard and have achieved financial freedom in Korea. This type of persona is rare and hard to find in Korea, but everybody should try to achieve it.



©https://www.shutterstock.com/

Manager Song shows the future

The author *Song Hee-gu* tries to show us the right path to the future, which is like the character *Manager Song*. He shows us the persona that we shouldn't obtain in the future, and he makes us think back on our past and future via his novel. A book like this should exist whatever culture you live in. If there is, go read that book and take some time to look back on your past after reading this article. The book will give you an important message, which is like *Manager Song*.

Cancel Culture

By Chang So-jeong

nokmatcha@gmail.com

Sejong Times Cub-Reporter

©nordacious.com



Cancel Culture has become prevalent on social media, where it is being used as a weapon against individuals. The goal of *Cancel Culture*, which has become known as the modern-day guillotine, is to make individuals accountable for their rude words or actions. When people online choose to shun, boycott, or criticize a problematic individual or organization, public platforms are typically the sites where *Cancel Culture* takes place.

✕ When did Cancel Culture Start?

The term *Cancel Culture* first surfaced in the public mind in 2010 when it became common to cancel a celebrity for problematic behavior or remarks. At the height of social media's popularity, people on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter were talking about *Cancel Culture* or trying to cancel someone. The social phenomenon was a type of collective exile in which the public stopped supporting a person, celebrity, or other entity because they thought their behavior, remarks, or ideas were unacceptable.

This behavior might include anything from making crude jokes to supporting political campaigns. The outcomes can vary greatly depending on the circumstances and the intended audience. The consequences might be anything from losing one's own privacy to losing one's employment or sponsorships to losing one's social media following.



©medium.com

✖ Problems with Cancel Culture

It may suppress free speech.

There is a concern that *Cancel Culture* might restrict free speech. People may be reluctant to express opinions, even constructive or debatable ones, due to potential backlash. A diverse range of viewpoints and ideas can be shared thanks to free speech. However, *Cancel Culture* restricts this freedom by establishing an atmosphere that eliminates or silences particular opinions or ways of expressing oneself. Moreover, in the real world, *Cancel Culture* often manifests itself in a variety of ways. When someone behaves or says anything that a group finds offensive or inappropriate, this typically results in the person being excluded from social events or groups by being distanced from them or openly criticized.



While pointing out harmful behavior and advocating for accountability are necessary, *Cancel Culture* poses a problem because it frequently prevents people from freely communicating their ideas. A healthy and open society needs to find a balance between holding people accountable and allowing space for differing opinions and individual growth.

Despite this, *Cancel Culture* can discourage people from sharing opposing or unpopular views out of fear from social retaliation. This can lead to a lack of diversity of ideas and opinions, limiting meaningful discussion and advancement.

It may result in cyberbullying.

Cancel Culture is often triggered by a group of people uniting on social media to criticize or ostracize a certain individual or organization, often demanding immediate punishment. Since there is no platform where it encourages people to own up to their mistakes, learn from them, and apologize, public judgment or criticism can spread swiftly.

Once someone receives negative feedback, the intensity of the criticism may lead to ongoing harassment, taunts, and attacks. In severe circumstances, the criticism may potentially result in *doxing*¹⁾, where an individual's private or sensitive information is publicly shared without their recognition or consent. This puts the individual at risk of exposure to potential threats or privacy invasions, and it can also result in public humiliation and social isolation, all of which can be detrimental to a person's mental health.



1) Doxing is the act of finding and publishing someone's private information online without their consent

It's selective targeting.

Cancel Culture highlights power dynamics. Due to their prominent platforms, celebrities and influential people are at high risk of being an easy target to be canceled. Social media, where *Cancel Culture* thrives, boosts interest in certain events within online communities, leading to selective targeting.

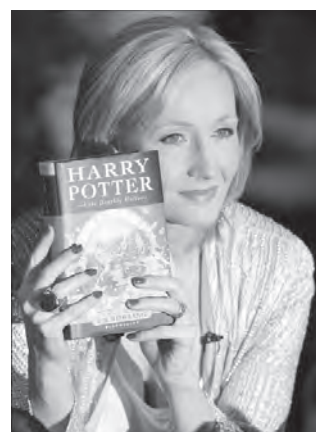
Within certain online communities, a group often enforces their thoughts and beliefs on others, and even if these opinions may not always be inherently harmful, they may result in selective targeting of individuals who disagree with the group. Particularly during a controversial event on social media, word gets out fast and attracts a lot of attention, encouraging others to simply join the act of canceling a certain someone or something without providing any context.

✖ Examples of Cancel Culture

J.K. Rowling

J.K. Rowling published a book in 1997 that broke records and was loved worldwide by readers of all ages worldwide. The Harry Potter series became a culture-changing sensation around the world, which included multiple bestsellers and blockbuster films. However, Rowling was canceled for making transphobic tweets online in 2019 and also for defending a British man who was fired for tweeting against gender reassignment. The critics have labeled Rowling as a *trans-exclusionary radical feminist* (TERF) since then.

Despite this, Rowling refused to back down, which prompted many to criticize her 4,000-word blog post, which is known as the Transphobic Manifesto. As a result, the cast members of Harry Potter, which include Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson, and Rupert Grint, quickly responded by posting online their support for the transgender community.



©epicreads.com

©allkpop.com



Sam Okyere

One of the most popular foreign entertainers in Korea is Sam Okyere from Ghana. He left a popular cable TV quiz show, which he was a regular. He was subjected to a torrent of criticism from internet users, which led him to step down, after making a statement about opposing racism. He shared a picture of students from Uijeongbu High School wearing costumes of the *Ghanaian special dancers for funerals*, which was a

well-known meme that was called the *coffin dance*², in 2020. The problem was that they were wearing a blackface², which Okyere criticized on Instagram with a post saying, “This ignorance cannot continue.” He expressed his disappointment with the use of blackface in Korea and the need for awareness and education about it.

² Blackface is a practice where non-Black performers use makeup to portray a caricature of Black people. Blackface is rooted in racism and is a painful reminder of history.

Online comments flooded in after Okyere made the post, many people expressed their disappointment with Okyere considering that he had frequently referred to Korea on television using terms such as our country and my country. Some people claimed that he was being overly sensitive to the situation and that it was improper for an entertainer to post a student's picture online without their permission. A few other people supported him by using the hashtag #I_Stand_with_Sam_Okyere. Nonetheless, Okyere faced criticism and he apologized for causing trouble. He wrote the following message on Instagram,

“ I didn't mean to demean the students in any way, I tried to express my opinion, I went over the line and I am sorry for using their photographs without their permission. Also, I did not mean at all that Korean education is wrong. I am sorry that there was a misunderstanding in the translation. ”



©dailyjstor.org

There are both positive and negative aspects to *Cancel Culture*. It can hold individuals accountable for their harmful behaviors, raise awareness about important social issues, and reveal the impact of an individual's or public figure's actions or words. *Cancel Culture* can also provide a platform for people who are often marginalized to speak out against injustice and discrimination.

However, critics argue that *Cancel Culture* can go too far, which is due to a lack of nuance and understanding. Concerns have been raised that this social phenomenon may foster a culture of fear, where people are hesitant to express their opinions or make mistakes for fear of being canceled. As a result, this can sometimes end in serious consequences such as job loss, reputational damage without the opportunity for growth, and societal fragmentation.



©no copyright image

The Decline of Science

By Park Seong-O
pso1625@gmail.com
Sejong Times Editor

The phenomenon of
medical school
concentration



Most of the students who signed up for math in the last Korean SAT on November 16th, 2023, chose calculus, which indicates a high standard score. The top-scoring students chose calculus especially in the liberal arts department. This means that students with high ranks in both departments, which include liberal arts and natural science, intend to enter medical school with a high standard score. Being a doctor in Korea represents wealth and honor, and entering medical school itself gives incomparable strength compared to other majors and careers. A document from the OECD says that doctors get paid 2.1 to 6.8 times more than other workers in Korea. A high income is one of the reasons for students to fall into medical universalism. This drives students to reject their admissions to other majors. It also makes them leave their school where the major is not a medical. There are more than 10% of students who reject their admissions to Seoul National University in the early admission season this year. There are also about 330 vacancies at the highest universities, which include Seoul National University, Korea University, and Yonsei University. The ratio of students who dropped out of university was recently 10% at Seoul



©https://en.yma.co.kr/

National University, and 75.8% of dropouts were majoring in natural science in 2022 when it comes to SKY, which stands for Seoul National University, Korea University, and Yonsei University. These students have the potential to go on to medical school. Experts on the Korean SAT insist that these rejections and dropouts are based on the phenomenon of medical school concentration among high-scoring students.

The voice that this phenomenon will affect basic science is going to be loudly heard via the media. If most of the top scorers on the Korean SAT enter medical school, there would be a lack of students who could contribute to science. On the other hand, the government made a plan to increase the limitation of the number of medical students, which will induce the enlargement of medical manpower and improve the quality of medical services. The Korean National Assembly proposed a special law in order to resuscitate local medical care. Four chairmen in Jeollanam-do, which are affiliated with the People Power Party, the Democratic Party of Korea, the Justice Party, and the Progressive Party, called for the foundation of a new medical university in Jeollanam-do. They kept their promise in response to the will of the government, which is welcomed among the students and their parents. The social position and the economic superiority of doctors have become more solid in Korea.

The R&D budget cuts

The announcement of the R&D budget cuts fuels the phenomenon that is mentioned above. The government published the reduction of the R&D budget in order to handle R&D cartels and corrupt practices. It received a lot of resistance from the field and the public. The government in turn presented a 26.5 trillion won budget, which is an increase of 1 trillion won from the old budget. It is a 14.7% reduction from the previous year, which was cut back by 4.6 trillion won. The National Research Council of Science & Technology (NST), which is operated by the government, has 25 organizations in several subjects. The budgets in each organization were cut back especially in the hologram field, which was reduced by 90% from 23.1 billion to 1.3 billion, and it is in danger of halting research. All 25 organizations got their budgets cut back according to General Analysis II of the 2024 Budget, which was released by the National Assembly Budget Office. The R&D funds for other organizations also got cut back by 30~70%. Collaborative research with 1,000 corporations and 200 universities is facing a financial crisis due to these cutbacks. Students and newly assigned researchers will bear the brunt of the government spending cuts.

People in the scientific field have raised their voices of resistance to the government. They insist that the government neglected the procedure and the exact steps in the reduction by determining work is in non-disclosure. The government also has forced researchers to oppressively make an excuse for the reduction according to the media, which is MBC – PD note. One of the professors expressed his opinion by *requesting an explanation after hitting someone*.

Several media outlets abroad showed negative reactions to the reduction. *Science*, which is one of the distinguished scientific magazines, published an article that expresses worry about the future of Korea. George Smoot, who was awarded a Nobel Prize in physics in 2006, said that reducing the R&D budget in under-resourced countries, such as Korea



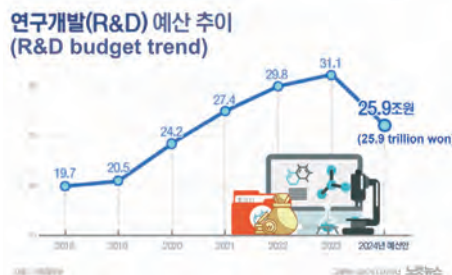
©no copyright image



is equal to giving up the future. Also, he continued with the words that it is the same as heading to a dark future in fierce competition.

It is surprising that the budget for outbound collaboration increased, whereas the budget for national organizations was cut. Experts argue that overseas joint research should be based on remarkable research and the abilities of our researchers, and it should not be based on finance. They also called on the government to change with the sharp criticism.

Natural science in Korea faces a major crisis, which is caused by the reduction of the R&D budget. President Yoon said, “I will expand the science and technology world.” He turned his back on the scientific community after just a year. Here are several facts about the reality that science and engineering are facing.



©https://www.nacutnews.co.kr/

Reactions to the R&D budget cut

The Korean government spent 31.1 trillion won in R&D fields, but it will only spend 26.5 trillion won in 2024, which is a big reduction. The phrase, *R&D budget cuts that were not done even during the IMF* is commonly used, and the public's response is cold. President Yoon said that this reduction aims to encourage good research and eradicate R&D cartels, but researchers and students in science as well as the public are skeptical.

The budget cut will result in the outflow of talented individuals, the decline of national technology, a shortfall in the quality of research, and damage to the infrastructure of natural science according to the experts. Research that is damaged once needs time in order to recover, and it could need more than time itself. There is criticism that the *National R&D budget cuts erode the national future* from the civil service union. Professor Chun at Sejong University said, “Future capacity loss is feared as support projects for future researchers disappear.” It is expected that 6,500 basic research themes and 4,200 subjects for post-doctor programs would be diminished.

More than 88% said the budget decision-making process was not reasonable and transparent compared to the previous one, and more than 85% said that the R&D cartel, which is one of the main reasons for the government's budget cuts, was not appropriate according to the *Field Researcher Awareness and Status Survey on National R&D Budget Policy*, which was jointly conducted by KMCRC¹⁾, BRIC²⁾, ESC³⁾, and MedRIC⁴⁾ in October 2023.

NEWS | 05 October 2023

South Korean scientists' outcry over planned R&D budget cuts

In a nation with historically high levels of spending on research and development, the proposed cuts have provoked a strong response.

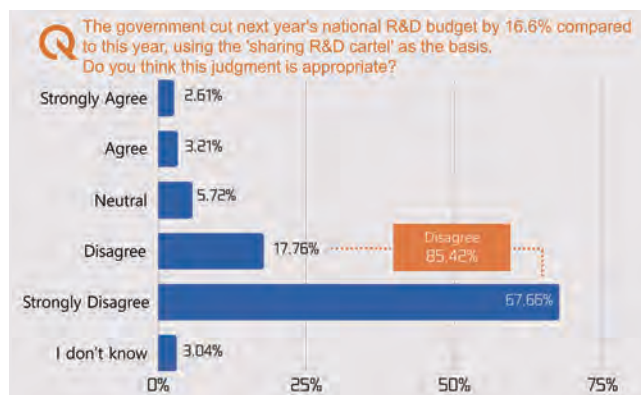
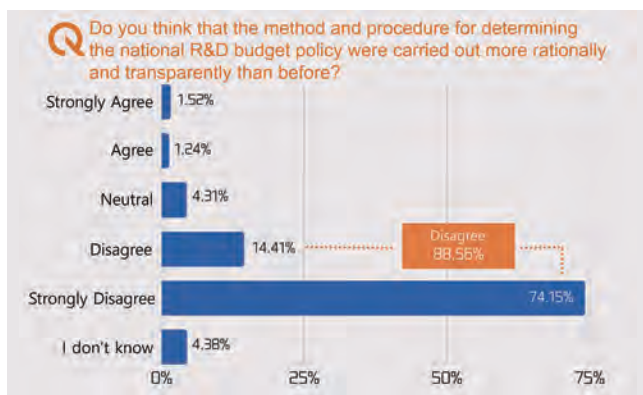
By Sara Reardon



South Korea's president, Yoon Suk-yeol, had said earlier this year that he planned to maintain R&D spending at 5% of GDP. Credit: Olivier Douliery/AFP via Getty

©https://www.nature.com/

1) Korean Medicine Convergence Research Information Center
2) Biological Research Information Center
3) Engineers and Scientists for Change
4) Medical Research Information Center



©https://www.ibric.org/

Conclusion

The Max Planck Institute of Biophysics Director Hartmut Michel, who received the 1988 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, disagreed with the method of evaluating a researcher's performance by counting the number of papers that are published in top journals. Columbia University professor Joachim Frank, who is a 2017 Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, warned the government against forcing researchers to focus on specific sectors. His opinion was seen as a counterargument against the government's plan in regards to increasing investments. The phrase *the government's decision to cut the R&D budget would undoubtedly lead to unfavorable outcomes* by Michael Levitt is also seen as a sharp criticism against the Korean government. The budget cut, which undermines the students' willingness to study, will be a direct reason for young scientists to leave the Republic of Korea, struggling with making a living, and not being able to study for the future, which is in addition to the concentration of medical schools. Students who are at the forefront of the research field devote their youth to research, but the future that is waiting for them is dim. It will come to an end with the outflow of more talented people. The Korean Astronomy and Space Aviation Student Association stated that the budget cut without communication in Korea's space development is lagging behind the advanced countries, which is due to a late start, and only one-twentieth of the workforce and only one-tenth of the budget is dedicated to the future of the Republic of Korea.

Opposition toward the government continue in the research field as well as also in politics. The People Power Party, which is the ruling party in Korea, showed an attitude of agreeing with the president's position, even though they left room for supplementation. The floor leader of the People Power Party, who is Yoon Jae-ok, made remarks that were in agreement with the government's position on October 24, 2023, November 13, 2023, and December 21, 2023. The Democratic Party of Korea, which is the main opposition party, insisted on the restoration of the reduced 5 trillion won. Furthermore, the Korean media community criticizes the government regardless of political positions, and *Chosun Biz*, which is one of the *Chosun Ilbo* affiliates, published 25 special articles in particular on the budget cut.

The development of science and technology is the stem that runs through human history. Science has allowed us to live better lives, and it has become an essential element of our lives regardless of the times. We are living with the help of science, and an attack on it can be considered in the same context that we have no will to develop for the future. No one can predict how badly the factor, such as R&D budget cuts will affect our society. However, if we do not come up with a changed budget, we will have to endure it.

Competitiveness cannot be expected from a nation that has turned its back on science, which is just like a nation that forgot its history has no future.



From the left, Stanford University professor Michael Levitt, Columbia University professor Joachim Frank, and Hartmut Michel, director of the Max Planck Institute.

©https://biz.chosun.com/



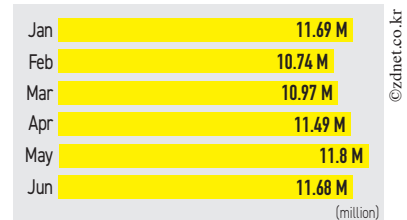
Monopoly of Kakao Taxi

Kim Do-hyeon

dh040115@naver.com

Sejong Times Editor-in-Chief

Kakao T's market share reached about 95% in 2022. In addition, Kakao T's monthly average users reached about 11 million. The monthly average users of UT, which is the second-largest in the field, was about 440,000. This shows a significant gap with Kakao T. As such, various social problems are emerging in this situation where Kakao T monopolizes the market.



Topic 1

Giving more calls to franchise cabs



Kakao T provides a regular taxi service that does not charge additional fees, as well as a Blue Taxi that offers franchise taxis under Kakao T for an additional fee. Both non-franchise taxis and franchise taxis can use the Kakao T application, but the Fair Trade Commission received a report that said, "Kakao T gives more calls to franchise cabs and less calls to non-franchise cabs." The FTC¹⁾ determined that Kakao T applied the call acceptance rate as an important element of the call algorithm, even though they knew the call acceptance rate of franchise cabs was higher than the call acceptance rate of regular cabs. They also intentionally excluded short-distance rides within 1 km, which are less profitable. Kakao T has been giving priority to franchise cabs in order to accept rides via this manipulated algorithm. The FTC decided to fine Kakao T, 25.7 billion won and issued a correction order in order to change the existing call system.

The franchise taxi income is about twice as much as that the income of a regular taxi, which is due to Kakao T's discriminatory system. In addition, it is difficult to use other companies, because Kakao T dominates most of the market. Cabs as well as consumers are experiencing inconveniences. Consumers have to use the charged service, because it is hard to obtain a short-distance ride. They also need to wait for a franchise taxi, which comes from a far distance, even if they find a ride.

Kakao T filed an administrative litigation against the correction order of the FTC, and the court sided with Kakao T on the grounds that the correction order may cause irreparable financial harm to Kakao T, so Kakao

1) Fair Trade Commission

T was able to maintain the existing call algorithm, due to this. Some non-franchise taxi drivers who use Kakao T announced that they will file a suit for damages in order to relieve the financial damage that was caused by Kakao T, regardless of the decision of the court.

Topic 2 Exclusion of competitors

Kakao T has also been suspected of blocking calls from taxi drivers who are affiliated with other ride-hailing companies, such as UT or TADA. According to the FTC's investigation, Kakao T ordered its affiliated taxi drivers to report a taxi that has a logo from another company after UT and other companies appeared. The report, which started in the Kakao Talk group chat, was later made via a separate report page on the Kakao T application. Kakao T blocked some taxi drivers from using Kakao T with a list that was made via the report. The FTC announced sanctions, which included fines and prosecution charge suggestions because Kakao T intentionally excluded rival companies by using its monopolistic market position. Kakao T submitted a voluntary correction to the FTC in order to avoid sanction and coexist with competitors, but the FTC rejected Kakao T's correction, because it did not meet the requirements of the consent decision.



©seoul.co.kr

Topic 3 Introduction to the Tip service

Kakao T received public criticism by introducing a service where passengers tip the taxi drivers. The tip system applies only to taxi services with an extra fee such as Blue Taxi and Kakao Black, and the passengers can choose a tip between 1,000 won, 1,500 won, 2,000 won, or refuse payment. Kakao T said that they have introduced tip service to increase taxi driver's income and create a friendly taxi culture, but the responses of the consumers and drivers are mesmerizing. There are positive opinions that it will help improve service quality, but there are also significant negative opinions. Kakao T has a significant influence, which is unlike other taxi companies that applied tip services in advance, because it is a market-dominating enterprise, which can make consumers feel pressured or obligated to give tips. It was also pointed out that this could lead to more negative views of taxi services, if consumers have to pay additional tips now that a basic taxi fare is considered expensive.



©biz.chosun.com

Kakao T will have to devise an alternative that can restore the trust of their consumers and taxi drivers, because it is the largest enterprise in the taxi market. In addition, legislations and sanctions will be needed in order to control the monopoly of large platform enterprises' monopolies by using Kakao T's monopoly as a lesson.



Public Transport Strike that Threatens Citizen's Daily Lives

By Kim Do-hyeun
dh040115@naver.com
Sejong Times Editor-in-chief

The Korean Railway Workers Union walked off the job in September 2023, which caused problems in several railway operations. Many citizens who use the railways experienced inconveniences in their daily lives, because the KTX as well as conventional railways, such as the ITX and subways, such as the Gyeongchun line and the Gyeongui-Jungang line were delayed or canceled due to the general strike. We would like to look back on the responsibilities of labor unions, enterprises, and governments that manage the public transportation system via representative cases of public transportation strikes that recently occurred.



©cm.asiae.co.kr

Topic 1

The first general strike began on September 13th, 2023, which was after the breakdown of negotiation between the labor union and the Korea Railroad Corporation. Passenger train service rates decreased to about 70% of the initial rate, and freight train service rates fell below 30%, across the country. Each local government increased bus services, and Korail¹⁾ resumed operations on some railways by deploying more than 1,300 substitutes. The labor union announced a temporary suspension of the strike and returned to work. The union also announced a second strike, but the strike was suspended via an agreement with the company. The railway union demanded the operation of the KTX to Suseo station, a job-based pay system, the introduction of the two-shift four-group system, and opposed the privatization of the railway. Domestic high-speed railways are currently divided into the KTX and SRT. The SRT was introduced in order to improve the quality of the service by imposing a competitive system for high-speed railways during the Park Geun-hye government. The railway union claimed that the government is giving



©chosun.com

1) The Korean Railroad Corporation

preferential treatment to the SR via groundless financial support and attempts to privatize the railway via the SRT despite the SRT and SR²⁾ creating excessive debts and increasing the inconvenience of citizens using the railway. In addition, they demanded the abolition of the job-based pay system and the introduction of the two-shift four-group system in order to improve the treatment of the workers.

The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, and Transport said in response to the demand of the railway union, “We are sorry that the railway union withdrew negotiations and started a strike because of government policies, and not labor-company agreements. The government has not considered the privatization of the railway, but the labor union is opposed to it.” In addition, Han Moon-hee, who is the president of Korail said, “We tried our best to prevent a catastrophe via conversations between the union and the company. However, the railway union went on the strike due to government policies, and strikes should be withdrawn for the benefit of the citizens and the responsibility of public railways.”

Topic 2

The Mokpo City Bus Union went on strike against Taewon-Yujin Transportation in October 2022, and they demanded the payment of overdue wages and higher wages. Mokpo does not have public transportation except for buses. There is also only one bus company, so the city bus strike significantly threatened the daily lives of the citizens. Nevertheless, Taewon-Yujin transportation did not respond to the demands of the union, and Mokpo City eventually invested about 3 billion won of their budget in order to end the strike. However, bus services ceased again about a month after the strike was suspended, which was due to unpaid fuel bills. The bus company wanted the Mokpo City local government to solve the fuel payment problem, but Mokpo City said that the local government could not intervene in the internal financial problems of a private corporation. The CEO of Taewon-Yujin Transportation eventually relinquished his position with the company.



©ikbc.co.kr

These local city bus problems also appeared in other cities. The bus companies incomes continue to decline as the local populations and the number of passengers decrease and the fuel cost steadily increases. Several local governments have been promoting a semi-public bus system or a public system in order to solve this problem.

Public transportation, which is represented by buses and railways, is one of the most important infrastructures in a citizen's daily life. Citizens, who in particular commute between metropolitan areas and Seoul, would experience substantial inconveniences if there is no public transportation, and it would be the same in the local cities with large elderly populations and limited transportation infrastructures. However, labor unions go on strike, and only cite their demands, whereas corporations and the government stand up against the labor unions, but they only emphasize their own positions, and not the positions of the citizens. These actions of labor unions, management, and government will harm the original purpose of public transportation, which should prioritize public interests, and only cause damage to citizens. Labor unions, management, and governments should come up with a new alternative way that can protect the citizen's rights, and not radical methods, such as the refusal of conversations and strikes.

2) SR Co., Ltd. is a company that operates a high-speed railway from Suseo station.

Daydreaming





By Lee Jeong-hyeon Sejong Times Cartoonist Chang So-jeong Sejong Times Cub-Reporter

WORD PUZZLE

A	N	M	C	N	N	J	Y	E
U	O	S	R	J	Q	V	X	H
T	I	R	T	M	Y	C	K	Z
H	L	A	U	R	E	A	T	E
O	L	Q	O	L	I	U	B	K
R	E	J	B	J	D	K	J	T
I	B	A	K	W	K	G	E	N
T	E	W	K	P	Y	Y	Q	O
Y	R	K	G	L	B	I	D	R

해당되는 기사 페이지에 힌트가 있습니다.
정답과 설문내용을엽서에 적으셔서 5월 23일까지 세종타임즈 이메일로 보내주세요. 채택되신 분들께 소정의 상품을 드립니다.

When you find all the hidden words in the puzzle, please send the postcard attached at the end to thesjtimes@sejong.ac.kr by May 23rd. There are prizes for those who send in the correct answers.

1. the potential damage to the teachers' _____ [p.04-05]
2. _____ in citations and professors' research [p.08-09]
3. tries to seize power through _____ [p.10-13]
4. who is a 2017 Nobel _____ in Chemistry[p.24-27]
5. _____ will be needed in order to control the monopoly[p.28-29]
6. the railway union went on _____ due to government policies [p.30-31]

Dictionary

authority the power to give orders or make decisions; the power or right to direct or control someone or something

malicious having or showing a desire to cause harm to another person; having or showing malice

lethargy a lack of energy or a lack of interest in doing things, a lethargic feeling or state

consequence a result or effect of an action or condition

accountability the state of being responsible for one's actions and being able to provide a satisfactory explanation for them

phenomenon a fact, occurrence, or circumstance that is observed or observable, especially one whose cause or explanation is in question

Laureate a person who is honored with an award for outstanding creative or intellectual achievement

Cartel an association of manufacturers or

suppliers with the purpose of maintaining prices at a high level and restricting competition

Infrastructure the basic systems and services, that a country or organization uses in order to work effectively

Conglomerate a company that owns several smaller businesses whose products or services are usually very different

condescending treating someone as if you are more important or more intelligent than them

embodiment someone or something that represents a quality or an idea exactly

Strike a period of time when workers stop work in order to force an employer to agree to their demands

Responsibility something that you should do because it is morally right, legally required, etc.

Demand a forceful statement in which you say that something must be done or given to you

Monopoly complete control of the entire supply of goods or of a service in a certain area or market

Sanction a threatened penalty for disobeying a law or rule

Legislation a law or set of laws made by a government

Rebel a person who fights against the government of their country

Coup a sudden change of government that is illegal and often violent

Democracy a system of government in which the people of a country can vote to elect their representatives

excel to be better than others

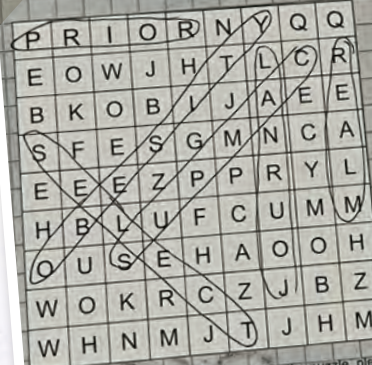
reliable able to be trusted to do or provide what is needed, able to be relied on

convenient allowing you to do something easily or without trouble

selection the act of choosing something or someone from a group

Thank You for Your Interest
in SEJONG TIMES

WORD PUZZLE



1. How did you come across Sejong Times?
My friend recommended it to me.

2. Is there a specific topic you'd like for Sejong Times to cover?
Useful tips and facilities for Sejong University students.

3. Which is your favorite article in this issue? And why? *Distinctive features of Sejong University's campus.*

4. Are you willing to work as a guest reporter for Sejong Times?
If I can, I hope so.

* When you find all the hidden words in the puzzle, please send the postcard attached at the end to thestimes@sejong.ac.kr by January 19th. There are prizes for those who send in the correct answers.

Ji Su-yeon / Department of Integrative Bioscience and Biotechnology

We will continue to strive for
better contents



Thank You For Reading
Our Magazine



@thesjtimes



동아리 소모임 홍보를 어떻게 할지 고민하지 마시고
Sejong People에 공모하세요.

thesjtimes@sejong.ac.kr으로 5월 23일 까지
동아리 또는 소모임 소개 글과 활동사진
10~15장을 보내주시면 됩니다.

보내주시는 사진은 해상도 **300dpi 이상** 이어야 합니다.
사진을 올리실 때는 간단한 사진 설명도 함께 부탁드립니다.



SEJONG UNIVERSITY