

*European Master in Adapted Physical Activity*  
2005-2006

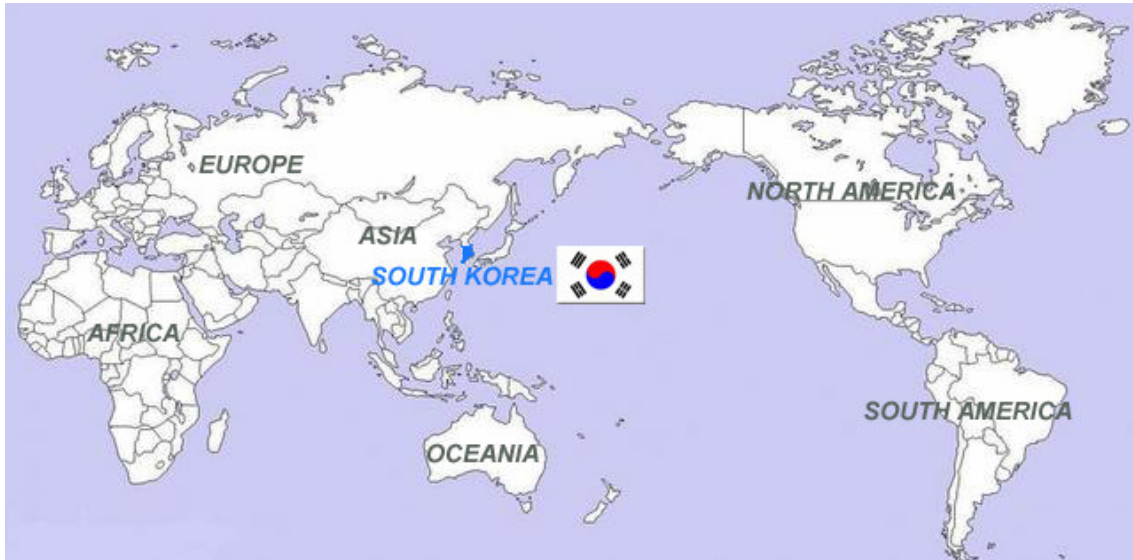
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## 1. Introduction to Korea (www.korea.net)



### 1.1 Population

North and South Korea are artificially divided by a de-militarized zone, at roughly the 38th parallel.

The population of the Republic of Korea as of 2003 was 48 million. The population density of the country is 490 persons per square kilometer. As of 2002 the population of North Korea was 22.2 million. Fast population growth was once a serious social problem in the Republic, as in most other developing nations. Due to successful family planning campaigns and changing attitudes, however, population growth has been curbed remarkably in recent years. The annual growth rate was 0.60 percent in 2003.

A notable trend in the population structure is that it is getting increasingly older. The 2003 population estimate revealed that 8.3 percent of the total population was 65 years old or over. The number of people in the age of 15-64 years accounted for 71.44 percent.



Disability	Man	Woman	Total
Total	1,070,271	584,356	1,654,627
Physically	608,253	293,843	902,096
Brain lesion	88,880	59,580	148,460
Visually	113,091	62,706	175,797
Hearing	86,118	60,605	146,723
Speech	9,995	3,658	13,653
Mental retardation	74,677	46,776	121,453
Developmental	6,846	1,447	8,293
Mental	32,016	24,767	56,783
Kidney	22,014	17,271	39,285
Heart	7,388	4,590	11,978
Respiratory	8,195	2,106	10,301
Liver	3,336	975	4,311
Face	725	504	1,229
Top	5,515	3,059	8,574
Epilepsy	2,469	5,691	

<Table 1> Status of registered disabled person across the country

Source: As of March 2005, department of policy for the disabled, Ministry of Health and Welfare Unit: person.

Year	Total	Physically handicapped	Visually handicapped	Hearing speech	Mentally handicapped	Others
1990	200,372	125,267	14,698	28,721	31,686	-
1995	324,860	220,723	21,488	36,655	45,994	-
2000	958,196	606,422	90,997	87,387	86,793	86,597
2005	1,654,627	902,096	175,797	160,376	121,453	294,905

<Table 2> Registered disabled persons by type of disability and city/province : 1990 – 2005

Source : Disabled Person's Policy Division. Unit: person.

## 1.2 Language

"Han-gul" (Korean Alphabet).

Many years ago, Chinese characters or letters were used by all Korean scholars. But in 1446

King Sejong invented Han-gul, so that "all" Koreans could learn to read and write. It is a very scientific and easy to learn system. If you want to learn Han-gul, I would be happy to help you.

### **1.3 Climate**

The climate of Korea is characterized by four distinct seasons: spring, summer, autumn and winter. The contrast between winter and summer is striking. Winter is bitterly cold and is influenced primarily by cold Siberian fronts. Summer is hot and humid due to the maritime Pacific high. The transitional seasons, spring and autumn are sunny and generally dry.

## **2. Physical Education**

### **2.1 Changes in physical education and integrated education**

It was late 1960s when the disabled in Korea started taking physical education in special school for the disabled with introduction of education courses for students with visual or auditory disabilities. After this, physical education becomes part of school for mental retardations in early 1970s and school for the crippled in early 1980s. The curriculums cannot be considered for the disabled since they were a little modified from those for ordinary students. At that time, there were not many schools for the disabled.

In late 1970s, people asked for laws that guarantee rights of the disabled for education and this resulted in the special education promotion laws. This law was amended according to demands of time and influences of special education of other countries – mainly the US, focusing on early education, integrated education (Korea Special Education Association, 1994). After the first law stating integrated education, there are other laws on education of the disabled followed – admission of the disabled to ordinary school, equipment and facility installation for the disabled, the number of students in the special class. These efforts made a contribution of education for the disabled.

Physical education in special school of the 7<sup>th</sup> Education plan reflects this importance. The 7<sup>th</sup> education plan, applied since 2000, includes basic exercise, functional exercise, play and game, sports, health and safety based on integrated education.

In Korea, appearing rate of children in need of special class is 2.71%. Education types for them are special school, special class, integrated class, home schooling and circuit schooling.

Among various education environments, special class bridged between separate education and integrated education. According to the Korea's special education promotion laws, special class

is defined as followed.

Special class means the class is installed under high school for integrated education for the disabled, run as full day, part time, special instruction, and circuit education according to the level of the disabled.

Currently integrated education is carried out by special class in ordinary school, accepting around 50% students in need of special education from kindergarten to high school. There are three types for integrated education according to time and participation as shown in table 3 (Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development, 2003).

As shown in table 3, integrated education for the disabled are carried out in type B class, and people are working on in order to increase the number of type A class as there is improvement in educational environment.

Besides, physical education is a required course for ordinary students, and most student in special class are taking integrated class for physical education.

Type	Operation	No. of Students
A	100% participation in ordinary class	2,344(8.8%)
B	Partial participation in ordinary class	23,973(90.1%)
C	Integrated education cooperating with special school	285(0.1%)
Total		26,602(100%)

<Table 3> Type of integrated class and the number of students (2003)

## 2.2 Status of special school

There are total 123 special schools in Korea – 74 schools for mental retardation, the largest number, and 6 schools for emotional disorder. You can find the details in table 4.

Disability School	Visual	Auditory	Mental retardation	Crippled	Emotional	Total
National	1	1	1		1	4
Public	2	4	26	5		37
Private	9	10	47	11	5	82
Total	12	15	74	16	6	123

<Table 4> Special schools for disability types

In case of school for mental retardation and emotional disorder, physical education is given two hours a week for elementary school, one hour a week for middle school and one hour a week for high school. And in case of school for visual, auditory and crippled disability, one hour is

provided.

### **2.3. Special physical education teacher**

Special physical education teachers for public special school are selected from those who majors special physical education and pass the teacher exam carried out by the Ministry of Education.

There are 20 universities with courses for special physical education, starting special physical education department in 1988. Among them, there are nine universities with a special physical education department as of 2005. Special physical education departments are dedicated to train teachers for special physical education. The number of special physical education department is on the rise with three new departments in 2005.

As integrated education is stressed and special schools are dedicated for more seriously disabled students, there should be more emphasis on education on current teachers and future teachers for more efficient physical education. In addition, it is necessary to train teacher in ordinary schools where integrated education is carried out.

## **3. Elite Sport**

### **3.1. Development of sports for the disabled**

The Korea Disabled Veterans Organization (KDVO) started sports for the disabled in 1960s. Members of the KDVO wanted to join the International Stoke Mandereville Games(ISMG) in Britain (KDVO, 1991). The KDVO continues to join the ISMG today since 1965. Celebrating the year of the disabled set by the UN in 1981, Korea started the national sports games for the disabled, and this game is still held today every year. This is the biggest game for the disabled in Korea with 1,700 athletes and 18,000 supporters, providing a chance to get together for community.

Korea began to have positive views on participation of the disabled in the society after 1988 Seoul Summer Paralympics. With increasing interests in education and welfare of the disabled, special physical education began to be introduced. Since this event, organization was formed to hold various domestic and international sports game for the disabled.

### **3.2. Status of athletes**

There are registered 1,837 athletes with 19 organizations and this number is 0.001% of total population of the disabled, 1,654,627(Ministry of Health and Welfare, 2005). This means there

is not enough cooperation among elite sports, school sports and life sports.

### 3.3. Number of athletes in international games

Status of participation in FESPIC Games (The Far East and South Pacific Games for the Disabled) and Paralympics are show in table 5.

In order to improve the level of Paralympics, IPC(International Paralympic Committee) introduced the quarter system, the same as Olympics to qualify athletes with high record in international games.

Description	Paralympics						FESPIC Games		
	2004 Athens			2000 Sydney			2002 Pusan		
	Man	Women	Sub-total	Man	Women	Sub-total	Man	Women	Sub-total
No. of events	12	4		12	2		16	12	
Number of athletes (Average age)	72 (33.1)	10 (37.1)	82 (35.1)	82 (33.1)	7 (33.7)	89 (33.4)	231 (33.6)	72 (33.2)	303 (33.4)

<Table 5> Status of participation in international games.

Source: Korea Welfare Promotion Association for the Disabled.

### 3.4. Achievements in international games

Table 6 shows achievements in international games – Paralympics and FESPIC Games

Description	Paralympics						FESPIC Games		
	2004 Athens			2000 Sydney			2002 Pusan		
	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Events	6	5	3	7	5	5	13	14	13
Medals	11	11	6	18	7	7	63	67	60
Rank	12			9			2		

<Table 6> Achievements in international games.

Source: Korea Welfare Promotion Association for the Disabled.

### 3.5. Support system

Sports are controlled by four divisions of Ministry of Culture and Tourism (Sports Policy, Sports for All, Sports for Leisure Industry, International Sports), and sports for the disabled are controlled by the Disabled Welfare Officer under the Social Welfare Policy Office of the Ministry of Health and Welfare. In case of elite sports, the Korea Sports Council and the Korean Olympic Committee are in charge of sports for the ordinary, and the Korea Welfare Promotion for the Disabled are in charge of sports for the disabled. Compared to sports for the ordinary, sports for the disabled are lack of specialty, organization, research, finance. Therefore, athletes are not financially fully supported.

Description		Sports for the disabled	Sports for the ordinary
Government		Ministry of Health and Welfare	Ministry of Culture and Tourism
Sub-division		The Disabled Welfare Officer under the Social Welfare Policy Office (One office)	Sports Policy, Sports for All, Sports for Leisure Industry, International Sports (Four offices)
No. of officers		One manager, One assistant junior official, two officials	Four managers, 16 assistant junior officials, 23 officials
Job		Sports and literature of the disabled	44 tasks including sports policy, sports for all, sports for leisure industry, international sports
Related organizations	Elite sports	Korea Welfare Promotion Association for the Disabled (Including literature)	Korea Sports Council and Korean Olympic Committee
	Sports for all		National Council for Sport for All
	Research center	Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs	Korea Institute of Sport Science
	Fund management	-	Seoul Olympic Sports Promotion Foundation

<Table 7> Sport administration

Compared to sports for the ordinary with purpose of health, life improvement, and leisure, as sports for the disabled are handled differently as a way of treatment or rehabilitation, recognition of people toward is considered to be not related with sports for the disabled. This is caused by exclusive perspective of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism to sports for the disabled and lack of capability of the Ministry of Health and Welfare in charge of sports for the disabled.

In June 2005, amendment of national sports promotion including establishment of Korea Sports Association for the Disabled were passed, therefore, the disabled sports athletes can focus on their sports with support from the government.

### **3.6. Organization and Execution**

Korean sport bodies for individuals with disability can be divided into a foundation Korea Sports Association for the Disabled (KOSAD) and Sports Organization for the Disabled in a large scale. Among them, the organizational system centred to Korea Sports Association for the Disabled is the core of the sports for individuals with disability in Korea.

Korea Sports Association for the Disabled was established on May 1 St, 1989 and has been doing many businesses like sending a team to Paralympics and other international games for the disabled, holding Championships like National Games for the Disabled, promoting sports for all fostering a leader, conducting research on the sports for the disabled, granting a pension to a good player, etc.

Internationally, it is a member of IPC, International Sports Organisation for the Disabled (ISOD) that gained official approval from IPC, International Blind Sports Association (IBSA) and International Sports Federation for Persons with Mental Handicap (INAS-FMH) from 1986. Besides, it joined Special Olympics International, which is not officially approved from IPC but having memberships from over 100 nations in 1987.

There are several associations that joined ISOD other than KOSAD. They are Korean Society for the Cerebral Palsied that also enrolled in Cerebral Palsy International (CP-ISRA), Korea Deaf Sports Federation which joined Committee International Des Sports Des Sourds (CISS) an Ministry of Patriot and Veterans Affairs which joined International Stoke Mandeville Wheelchair Sports Federation (ISMWSF). All these associations have a good relationship with KOSAD and hold and manage business approved from KOSAD. Besides, there is Korea Table Tennis Association for Disabled which is a member of Kosad, Korea Cycling Federation for the Disabled,

Korea Wheelchair Tennis Federation, Korea Judo Federation for the Disabled, Korea Power-lifting Federation for the Disabled. They are trying to activate the sports for the disabled in each field.

## **4. Rehabilitation**

### **4.1. Overview of rehabilitation centers**

There are 126 rehabilitation centers across the country for the disabled staying at home in the community, providing assessment and evaluation of disabilities, social psychology and job rehabilitation, special education medical rehabilitation, and welfare services as the center of community rehabilitation.

#### 4.2. Operation purpose

In order to provide rehabilitation services to help the disabled with their independence and welfare, rehabilitation centers are operating based on article 49 and 50 of laws on welfare for the disabled; and article 33 and 36 of enforcement ordinance of the same laws.

#### 4.3 Functions of rehabilitation centers

- ① Functions of rehabilitation center in order for adaptation and return to society of the disabled
- ② Job training – prevention of disabilities and public education
- ③ Major of special school - control of overall service in the community
- ④ Program development
- ⑤ Massage training center attached to the Korea Massage Association – provide rehabilitation environments and resources

#### 4.4 Operations of rehabilitation centers

Type	Example
Medical examination	Medical examination committee to judge disability
Medical rehabilitation	Clinic, physical therapy, task therapy, language treatment, hearing training, training for supplementary equipment
Educational rehabilitation	Early education (babies, children), integrated education, parents education, academic instruction (student education, teaching Hangul, preparation for the educational certificate test), computer education, rental of various auxiliary equipment, basic rehabilitation for the visually and auditorily disabled
Job rehabilitation	Job counseling, job evaluation, job training (capability development, pre-job training, social integration training), protective working place, employment information (hiring), adaptation training, follow up training
Social psychology rehabilitation	Rehabilitation counseling (individual, group, family, colleague), social adaptation training (camp, extra curriculum, social skill training), psychology therapy (play therapy, psychology sport therapy, music therapy, art therapy, treatment recreation), sexual education, support

	families of the disabled (disabled brothers and sisters function reinforcement, parents stress coping training, support children of the disabled), self-satisfied group (club, parents association), marriage counseling, group family, day care center, short term protection center
Welfare for homebound disabled people	Homebound welfare service (counseling, medical care, education, household chore support), community resource usage and network set up, mobile bath, homebound independence support
Sports and leisure	Sports games for indoor bound disabled people, sports training according to level of disabilities, hobby, leisure, entertainment programs
Information providing	Production, publishing, distribution and rental of books for the blind (video/audio material), ARS, BBS
Sign language	Sign language school, sign language translator training and dispatch, production, distribution and rental of sign language capture and videos
Welfare for disabled women	Counseling and rest place for disabled women, support pregnancy·childbirth·fostering·household chores of the disabled women, support marriage for disabled women
Social education	Disability experience, parents of the disabled training, supporters for the disabled training (seminar, workshop), community resident training, college student internship
Community resource development	Collecting and training of volunteers (teenagers, college students, and others), training community officials and social organizations, promoting cooperation with the press, development and use of other resources (human or material resources)
Publicity	Newsletter publish, preventative campaign for disabilities, publicity using mess media, field trip to centers for the disabled
Research	Research for desire and status of the disabled, development of rehabilitation programs, research for user satisfaction, development of welfare policy for the disabled in the community, production of various material (books, audio/video material)
Others	Rehabilitation programs for the characteristics of communities

<Table 8> Functions of rehabilitation centers

## 5. Recreation

Establishing sports clubs for the disabled in 16 cities and provinces, the sports promotion department of the Korea Welfare Promotion Association for the Disabled are helping the disabled with sports activities, leisure activities, development of sports programs for the disabled.

There are 29 organizations across the country. From February to June in 2005, 41,305 people joined.

### ① Purpose of sports clubs for the disabled

- Improve health through sports
- Provide useful pastime and help the disabled with adaptation to the society
- Balanced improvement by region and sports. Expansion of sports for the disabled
- Provide environment for sports so that everybody can enjoy sports

### ② Policy of sports clubs for the disabled

- Support continuous sports activities of the disabled and improve the quality of sports activities with sports equipment supply
- Set up the foundation for the national sports organization and secure personnel
- Set up sports organizations according to region and sports

## 6. Employment

In 1990, the Korea Employment Promotion Agency for the Disabled was founded to help the disabled with their independence and promote employment of the disabled with the efficient system. Also, there are regulations to encourage employers (in case of construction employers, employers with bigger amounts of money decided by the Minister of Labor) to hire the disabled for certain number of the disabled in order to expand the employment of the disabled.

### 6.1 Job training

This provides the disabled with a chance to improve their capabilities for better jobs. Followings are training centers appointed by the Korea Employment Promotion Agency for the Disabled (as of January 2005).

- ① Public job training center - 52 (polytechnic college, job training school, human resource development institute)
- ② Private job training center - 13
- ③ Major of special school - 19
- ④ Welfare center - 7
- ⑤ Massage training center attached to the Korea Massage Association - 6
- ⑥ Job rehabilitation center (protected working place) - 8

The disabled participating in training courses are given training fees, and training centers are receiving subsidies from the Korea Employment Promotion Agency for the Disabled.

## **6.2 Classification of training**

### **① Job rehabilitation expert training**

Employees working for job rehabilitation organizations are training the disabled to have specialties, and trainees are relevant personnel working for job rehabilitation centers for the disabled, organizations, facilities and schools.

### **② Business foundation training for the disabled**

Provide business foundation training for the seriously disabled in order to support their independence.

### **③ Training for employers and employees**

In order to support stable job adaptation of the disabled, training for employers and employees are carried out on improvement of recognition about the disabled, and the training for counselors are conducted.

### **④ Skills competition**

The local skills competition for the disabled is hold in 16 cities and provinces across the country including Seoul in order to improve skills of the disabled, realize social participation and expand employment chances for the disabled by attracting interests of employers.

### **⑤ Cyber education center**

The Korea Employment Promotion Agency for the Disabled is operating the cyber training center to provide e-learning services overcoming limits of time and space.

### **⑥ Internet center**

The Internet center is running to provide information and narrow the information gap between classes and the disabled who wants to use a computer and the Internet can take lessons for free.

### 6.3 Status of economic activity

Classification	Total	Physically	Brain lesion	Visually
Total estimated numbers	1,333,173	591,168	209,880	175,744
Specialist, high-ranking official, manager	0.9	1.4	0.2	1.2
Technicians and associate professionals	1.3	1.7	0.3	3.0
Clerical	1.7	2.5	0.3	1.9
Service, Sales	7.4	8.5	1.7	17.2
Agriculture, fishing	9.4	11.4	1.9	8.1
Technical Service	4.0	5.9	1.0	4.6
Machine operator	2.2	4.0	0.3	1.4
Simple laborer	8.3	9.7	2.2	8.1
Student	2.1	1.2	1.7	2.2
Housewife	10.0	10.5	9.8	8.4
No occupation	52.6	43.2	80.5	43.9

Hearing	Speech	Mental retardation	Developmental (Autism)	Mentally	Kidney	Heart
143,927	23,360	68,397	3,078	50,069	25,149	42,401
0.8	-	-	-	-	3.3	0.9
0.6	-	-	-	-	1.8	1.3
1.0	-	-	-	-	4.7	1.7
5.3	4.7	1.0	-	1.8	7.6	7.4
16.2	18.7	8.2	-	4.4	2.6	9.4
5.0	3.8	1.0	-	-	-	4.0
1.3	-	0.7	-	-	1.5	2.2
10.9	15.4	11.0	-	5.6	2.5	8.3
0.7	4.8	11.7	76.2	1.9	-	2.1
6.8	14.5	6.3	-	14.3	20.0	10.0
51.5	38.1	60.1	23.8	72.0	55.9	52.6

<Table 9> Economically active status of the disabled persons: 2003. Unit : Person, %

Source: Korea Institute for Health and Social Affairs, National Survey of the Disabled Persons.

## **7. Recognition for the disabled**

Throughout history, the disabled were discriminated just because they are different from the ordinary. Therefore, minority, the disabled have not been able to join social activities. And limited or excluded is their participation in sports activities which are taking the very important part of the society. The changes of the past and the present are tightly related with the social recognition.

Recently movies about the disabled were produced in Korea, and among them 'Malaton' won seven awards including the best movie award in the Daejong Film Festival. The movie based on a true story tells the story that the disabled protagonist completes a marathon full course. Since this movie, there are many TV shows about the disabled. A person with total paralysis hosted the show on TV. And "I love Jinho" is about national swimmer with disorder. "Open your eyes" is the medical project transplanting the cornea for people in need. This show presents every week dramatic stories about cornea benefactors. Thanks to this show, the number of organ donors is on the rise. Dance duo, 'Clon' came back with fifth album after five-year absent, presenting their new dance, wheelchair dance. Since Kang Won Rae, a member of 'Clon', was paralyzed in a traffic accident, they disappeared on the stage. Many fans are supporting 'Clon' from the bottom of their heart.

With these positive influences of media, we hope we can have a proper recognition about the disabled and accept them as a member of our society.