

## A Statement on Firing Artillery Issue in Korean Peninsula

Tokyo, November 26, 2010, Directors Board of JALISA

On November 23, 2010 Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) launched reportedly artillery fires at Yeonpyeng Island in Republic of Korea (ROK), which killed 2 civilian residents and 2 soldiers as well as injured many residents and soldiers alike, and destructed civilian residences. As of a position in support of a peaceful reunification of Korean Peninsula, we express at the same time deep concerns about unexpected incidents or further casualties which may be incurred under such a situation as this.

Even if there may be a discrepancy in terms with a military line between North and South of Korea, or even if a provocative action occurred in a course of 'Hogook' military exercise, any use of force under such a pretext as this should run counter against Article 2 of the Charter of the United Nations, which DPRK themselves approves; it can't be thus tolerable at all. Indiscriminate attacks, even if not purposely, against civilian population are clearly in violation of the First Additional Protocol of 1977 to Geneva Conventions of 1949, which is also ratified by DPRK.

We sincerely hope that the UN Security Council should take an initiative to carry out immediately clarification of any of those facts unidentified yet in the situation and to bring a peaceful solution thereof, as this situation brings about a threat to the peace, which may breed easily confrontations and distrust between the parties. In terms with a joint military exercise between ROK and the USA in the Yellow Sea, in which the U.S. aircraft carrier "George Washington" will reportedly join, we should point out that such a demonstration deters from a line leading toward releasing a tension between the parties and reaching a peaceful reunification

of Korean Peninsula.

We must learn from the wisdom of people's will to avert any enlarging disputes and to protect, as a reliable way to realize peace, dignity of any living creatures such as blossom and birds instead of depending on guns or tanks or even a rifle; that is what we have learned from our experiences in the history of human conflicts all over the world. There will be no future for a strategy of "Peace By Way of Power." We must unify our wills to peace through peaceful means, and get back to the very spirit of the Charter of the United Nations, which sets down our starting line to "practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbors, and unite our strength to maintain international peace and security."

JALISA,

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