

October 15, 1956
Anti-Communist Youth and Students Conference,
Remarks by Kyu Nam Choi

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Summary:

Minister of Education Kyu Nam Choi tells attendees at the Anti-Communist Youth and Students Conference that "the future of Asia is on your shoulders"

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Dear Friends from friendly nations, distinguished guests and students of Korea,

It is a great honor for me to speak on this history-making occasion attended by representatives of the youths of Asian countries who assembled here to find the means of destroying communism, the enemy of mankind and destroyer of the civilization of the world, and preserving the freedom and culture of mankind. It is a really great pleasure to meet young friends from far-off countries who have come all the way to see us. My pleasure is the greater because you did not come just to see the sights and to enjoy yourselves but with a determination to discuss the way to defend free Asia and save humanity from communist destruction.

Asia was the birth place and cradle of civilization of the world. It was also the store house of treasures. We feel self-satisfaction whenever we look back on our ancient history.

But, to our great regret, we were intoxicated in our glorious civilization and were contented to live an easy life without efforts for reforms and progress. While we were thus leading a static life, there were religious reformation, Renaissance, Rousseau's Contract and movement for return to nature, industrial revolution and pilgrim fathers in the Western countries.

While remarkable progress was being made in the West, our forefathers in the East were leading a static and stagnant life. Asian civilization entered old age.

Availing themselves of this stagnant period in the East, the Communists directed their spear to Asian countries following their victory in Russia. After the second World War, they ~~xxx~~ succeeded in bisecting our Korean peninsula and inflicting the Korean people to fight against each other. Tens of thousands of youths of 16 friendly nations were also sacrificed to defend the freedom of Korea and the world. Free China was forced to retreat to a small island from their vast continent. Viet Nam was also bisected and the safety of the Republic of Philippines, Thailand, Hongkong and Macao is also threatened.

Who is it that can save these from the danger? Four years ago, our great leader President Syngman Rhee thought of and proposed organizing the Asian ~~xxxxxxx~~ Anti-Communist League. The wise leaders of Asian countries whole heartedly agreed to his proposal and participated in the League. You are the younger members of this League.

Students have a deeper sense of justice and feel injustice more deeply than older men. The future of Asia is on your shoulders. I admire your determination and will to rise up against the injustice and barbarism now being inflicted on the free nations.

I hope that this conference will become the workshop which will turn out the tools to construct the coffin of communism. If we do not go home inspired with a hundred concrete ideas to put into immediate operation, we shall have failed.

So my dear friends, let us work here as we have never worked before. Let us extinguish barbarism and bring to this earth a reign of peace with justice and freedom for all.

I wish you all success in your noble efforts to save the freedom and cultures of the human race and hope you will enjoy your stay in this war-torn country.

Please convey the good-wishes of the Korean people to the youths of your countries.

Kyu Nam Choi
Minister of Education
Republic of Korea