



Celebrating 50th year
of India-Korea Diplomatic Relations

AN ENCOUNTER WITH KOREAN TRADITIONAL BUDDHIST CULTURE IN INDIA, THE LAND OF BUDDHA

March 22 (Wed) - April 30 (Sun)
2023

National Gallery of Modern Art
New Delhi, INDIA

Hosted by



Embassy of the Republic of Korea

Jogye Order of Korean Buddhism

Organized by

Ministry of Culture
Government of India

National Intangible Cultural Heritage
UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity
Yeon Deung Hoe

Jogye Order of Korean Buddhism
Cultural Corps of Korean Buddhism



An Introduction of Yeondeunghoe Exhibition

“The Wave of Lanterns leading to Light, Yeondeunghoe”

Yeondeung, literally means “lighting up a lantern.” It symbolizes that the mind and the world darkened by greed and ignorance will be bright and happy with lighting up the lantern of wisdom. The basic spirit of the Yeondeunghoe is to light up the mind and the world with lanterns as bright as lighten a lantern and hope that wisdom and mercy will be realized.

Yeondeunghoe, a ritual to praise Buddha’s birth and light up lanterns with wishes, is Korea's representative National Intangible Cultural Heritage and a festival that has been handed down over more than a thousand years of history since the Silla Dynasty.

We would like to share the precious meaning of cultural value and sincerity contained in Yeondeunghoe, UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Let me introduce you,

“ The Wave of Lanterns leading to Light, Yeondeunghoe ”



The Wave of Lanterns leading to Light, Yeondeunghoe



Tunnel of Parade Lanterns

Participating group of Yeondeunghoe, Various size , 2022,
Paper, Metal products
Yeondeunghoe Preservation Committee



Lantern Poles

Hyun.Jaeyoul
110x110x220cm, 2017, Paper, Metal products,
Yeondeunghoe Preservation Committee



Lantern in the shaped of Stone Pagoda of Baekjagam Hermitage, Silsang-sa Temple

Yin Songja
110x110x220cm, 2017, Paper, Metal products,
Yeondeunghoe Preservation Committee



Lantern in the shaped of Stone Pagoda of Hwaom-sa Temple

Yin Songja,
120x120x250cm, 2017, Paper, Metal products,
Yeondeunghoe Preservation Committee



Lotus Flower Lantern

Yin Songja
140x140x127cm, 2017, Paper, Metal products,
Yeondeunghoe Preservation Committee

①



②



③



④



Four Buddhist Instruments Lanterns

Yin Songja

2020, Paper, Metal products, Yeondeunghoe Preservation Committee

① Dharma drum 150x100x147cm ② Dharma bell 130x130x227cm
③ Wooden fish 180x350x55cm ④ Cloud-shaped gong 76x11x65cm



Mulberry Paper Dolls

Yang Miyoun

11x12x26cm(each), 2020, Mulberry Paper, Yeondeunghoe Preservation Committee



Lantern in the Shaped of the Five-story Stone Pagoda of Jeongnim-sa Temple Site

Jeon Youngill Craft Shop
92x92x245cm, 2020, Paper, Metal products,
Yeondeunghoe Preservation Committee



Lantern in the Shaped of the Five-story Stone Pagoda of Geumsan-sa Temple

Jeon Youngill Craft Shop
201x201x267cm, 2023, Paper, Metal products,
Yeondeunghoe Preservation Committee



About Artists



JEON YOUNG ILL

- Artist of Korean traditional paper lantern
- A skilled technician(in the part of traditional lantern)

A professional Korean traditional paper lantern artist, has held numerous overseas and domestic exhibitions.



YIN SONG JA

- Artist of Korean traditional paper lantern

A professional Korean traditional paper lantern artist, has held numerous overseas and domestic exhibitions.



HYUN JAE YOUL

- Artist of Korean traditional paper lantern
- Traditional lantern instructor of Yeondeunghoe preservation committee

A professional Korean traditional paper lantern artist, has held numerous overseas and domestic exhibitions.



YANG MI YOUNG

- Artist of Korean paper lantern

A professional Korean paper doll artist, has held numerous overseas and domestic exhibitions.



Introduction of Yeon Deung Hoe

YeonDeung Hoe (燃燈會), or Lotus Lantern Festival

UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity /
Korea's National Intangible Cultural Heritage

Friday, May 19 - Sunday, May 21, 2023

The traditional festival that lightens the mind of
people and the world!
The festivity that connects everyone!

We light up the prayer lantern for bright and happy world.



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Korean Buddhism Templestay & Temple food

We cordially invite you to an exhibition where you can feel the essence of Korean traditional Buddhist culture, from Yeondeunghoe, Templestay and Temple food.

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Exhibition Opening Remarks

Upon greeting year 2023, the 50th anniversary of official diplomatic relations between South Korea and India, I am deeply delighted to attend these cultural exchange events to celebrate the two countries' connections.

We have prepared content so viewers can more vividly sense Korean Buddhism's 1,700-year history, steeped in compassion and peace based on the Buddha's teachings that was introduced from India.

I hope this cultural exchange exhibition provides you the opportunity to immerse yourselves in the charm and essence of Korean Buddhism.

I further pray for the great advancement of friendship between our two countries from these events. Thank you.

Ven.Jinwoo
President Jogye Order of Korean Buddhism



Media Arts

“Gwaebul, Encountered through Media Art”

Produced by the National Museum of Korea, this media art presentation is based on the profound question of how Buddhist paintings—a precious heritage bestowed by our ancestors—can be made more accessible and understandable by the general public.

Featuring three different gwaebul—large banner paintings for outdoor rituals—owned by Buseoksa, Hwaeomsa, and Eunhaesa Temples, this presentation reconfigured these three paintings in order to better express beautiful Buddhist realms. Viewers can imagine Buddhist realms filled with buddhas and bodhisattvas, as well as appreciate the magnificent beauty and brilliance embodied in Buddhism.



Photo Exhibition

“Korean Buddhism Walks India”

Through these 70 plus photos-portraying Korean temples on the World Heritage List, the religious lives of monastics and laity, and general aspects of Buddhist culture.

The exhibition consists of five sections, including Templestay, temple food, stone buddhas, the life of Buddhist practitioners, and Korean Buddhist cultural properties inscribed on the World Heritage List. The exhibition provides viewers the opportunity to purify one's body and mind.



Photographer Ha Ji-kwon

With his deep connection to Korean Buddhism, he has participated in innumerable photography projects on traditional Korean temples. Currently, he is working as a photographer for Cultural corps of Korean Buddhism, Jogye order.



Programs to Experience Korean Traditional Buddhist Culture

Program	Operation Days	Sessions	Operation Hours	Capacity (persons)
-Woodblock printing	For 4 days, Mar. 22 (Wed)	Session 1	12:30–13:30	30
-Coloring fans		Session 2	14:00–15:00	30
-Making Lotus Flowers Lantern	–			
-Stringing prayer beads	Mar. 25 (Sat)	Session 3	15:30–16:30	30

*All programs are subject to prior reservation.

woodblock printing

In this activity you can have hands-on experience in the first printing technology in history. You apply Chinese ink to a printing woodblock, carefully press a sheet of hanji (traditional Korean paper) on top of it, and carefully lift the sheet. Then you can have the whole content of the Heart Sutra, a famous Buddhist scripture that condenses the profound truth of Buddhism.

Registered on UNESCO's Memory of the World, the Tripitaka Koreana has spread the value of tradition and Korean printing technology to the world. We hope you sense the wisdom of Korea's ancestors through this sutra-copying experience.



Coloring Fans

In this activity we showcase some major designs of dancheong(decorative art of cosmic designs). Dancheong refers to diverse patterns and illustrations applied on wooden structures using five basic colors: blue, red, yellow, white and black. One major reason to apply dancheong to temple structures is to adorn the sacred halls and make them beautiful and magnificent.

You can make your own fan by coloring in dancheong designs as you like. There are two categories of designs(dancheong and Templestay-related), and you have a range of selections within each category. Pick the design of your choice and make an artistic fan exclusively for yourself.



Making Lotus Flowers Lantern

The lotus flower emerges from muddy water, symbolizing purity untainted by the secular world. And like the lotus, if you persist in the joyous effort of practice even in harsh and unwholesome environments, you can eventually bloom the flower of enlightenment. By making paper lotus flowers yourself, you can cultivate your own personal lotus flower in your mind.



Stringing Prayer Beads

Prayer beads (yeomju) are traditional prayer aids made by threading beads one by one onto a string as you aspire to enlightenment. Since they are usually made from 108 beads, they are called “108 yeomju” in Korean. It is believed that as each bead is moved while reciting prayers or mantras, 108 defilements are removed. In this experiential activity, each of us make our own prayer beads.

