



INTERNATIONAL AID *for* KOREAN ANIMALS



WINTER 2019 NEWSLETTER

Dear IAKA Supporters,

It is with great hope that I am able to give you good news for the second year in a row. There continue to be positive signs of a decrease in the number of dog farms, slaughterhouses, and dog meat restaurants due to Korean anti-dog meat campaigns and a general change in attitude towards dogs and cats by the younger Korean generations.

According to various animal rights group estimates - between 700,000 and 1,000,000 dogs are slaughtered and eaten in Korea per year. There is no question that this is still an inexcusable number (as is anything more than zero) - but the Korean Ministry of Agriculture estimated between 1990 and 2000 more than 2 Million dogs were consumed every year. A 2017 survey found that 70% of Koreans do not eat dog meat. These are measurable advances forward.

If you'll remember, last November the country's largest slaughterhouse in Seongnam was closed down. The Taepyeong-dong complex was comprised of six separate slaughterhouses and could hold hundreds of dogs at a time. It was demolished and is currently being redeveloped into residential and retail spaces - aimed as a place for younger people to live and enjoy.

Earlier this year the mayor of Seoul, Mayor Park Won-soon, announced that the city government would be shutting down all dog butcheries in the Korean capital as the national debate on whether or not to eliminate the dog-meat business takes place. Not only is he focused on closing down the dog-meat shops, but also transitioning dog butchers and farmers to other lines of work, and finding a humane solution for Seoul's stray dog population - and raise their adoption rate.

In July, Busan City shut down the Gupo Dog Meat Market as well - the largest in the country after Seongnam. Animal welfare charities hailed it as a success and, as part of the agreement, vendors were offered compensation in order for them to open alternative businesses.



The mayor of Seoul has announced he'll be shutting down all dog slaughterhouses in fantastic news progressing the fight for fair and humane treatment of dogs in South Korea.

Continue on Page 2 →

Winter 2019 Newsletter

80 dogs were rescued as part of the shutdown and given to various Korean animal rescues. The site is also being redeveloped, this one into a public park.

That same month, Korean activists from all around the country turned their sights on Chilseong Market in Daegu, the next largest dog meat market still in business. Hundreds gathered in protest. We have included with the Newsletter a new Protest Card to put pressure on the Mayor of Daegu City to follow suit and close the dog markets.

What all of this tells us is that - while we are not at the end yet, there is a visible and measurable change in the Korean people toward dog-meat and animal welfare.

This change started with younger generations and has trickled upward to local politicians, and even to some members of the Korean Congress. This change has momentum behind it now and we are hopeful that this will continue with the closure of more and more slaughterhouses, dog-meat vendors, and restaurants. We can also expect to see more and more city politicians embrace this new attitude and we hope that it will eventually result in an end to the legal grey area currently inhabited by dogs and cats in Korean Law. The struggle continues, but the tide is turning - and we continue forward with hope.

Wishing you all the Warmest Holiday Greetings - and a Happy New Year full of possibilities,

Kyenan Kum



Nabiya Cat Shelter Rescues 170 Cats from Abandoned US Army Base

Earlier this year, Director Yu Juyun of the Nabiya Cat Association (Nabiya Cat Shelter) became the first recipient of the Korean People's Choice Award for Outstanding Animal Protection/ Rescue Campaign. The Prime Minister presented her with the award in February at a ceremony in Seoul City Hall - the direct result of a vote by the Korean People.



Ms. Yu speaking after accepting the people award



Spay/Neuter surgery for feral cats in Army Base

As some of you may be familiar with, Yu Juyun began rescuing stray cats in 2007. She worked extremely hard with adoptions and TNR programs and the Nabiya Cat Shelter grew over time. One of the biggest challenges of the last few years involved the transition of the US Army Base from Yongsan Garrison in the heart of Seoul to Camp Humphreys, south of the city.

As the Army began its transition in 2017, many stray and feral cats took over the abandoned Yongsan. Yu Juyun and Nabiya, along with volunteers, US Army volunteers, and members of the Korean Veterinary Association began a large rescue/TNR/vaccination operation for the cats occupying the base.

To date they have rescued over 170 stray cats from Yongsan and adopted out at least 90 of them - while spaying/neutering and vaccinating countless more.

Juyun is planning on conducting another TNR operation on the base in February of next year.



Vets from Korea Veterinary Association, volunteers from Nabiya Cat Association

Korean Animal Welfare Groups Band Together to Rescue Dogs from Abandoned Farm

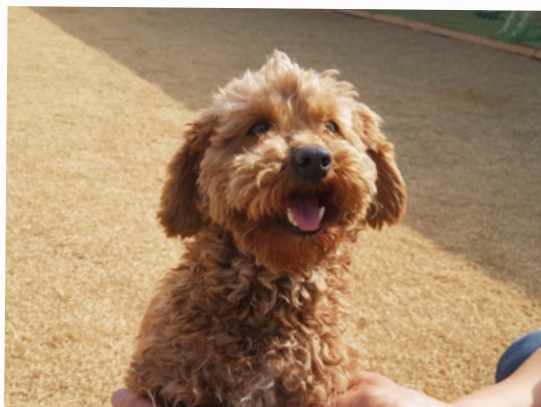
In March of this year, five Korean Animal Welfare groups came together to rescue 65 dogs from an abandoned dog farm in Bulgyo, in Junranam-do Province. After an initial visit to the farm to assess the situation, the five groups- Nabiya Cat Association, CARE, the Korean Animal Welfare Association, Happy Animal Companions, and the Beagle Rescue Network set aside their differences and disagreements in order to share time and resources in helping these abandoned animals.

This is the first time in Korean history that a coalition like this has come together - and their hope is that it will be an example of what these organizations can accomplish when they pool their efforts and work together. Because of their hard work the 65 dogs, which later became 80 as a number of pregnant dogs gave birth, received the necessary medical care, spay/neuter operations, vaccines, and were either placed in shelters or adopted out.

Our hope is that these organizations continue to work together on these rescue operations in order to extend their reach and resources - and that they capitalize on the forward momentum that we have written about for the last two years towards the final goal of ending the horror for all of these Korean animals once and for all.



Dogs Rescued from the Farm Waiting for Adoption



Korean Animal Protection Society Updates

성남 모란시장
개고기 시장을 없애고
절은 종들의 인기장소로 탈바꿈하다

부산 구포시장
구포 개시장 폐업에
국민들 69.9%가 '잘했다'는 의견

대구 칠성시장
우리도 없어질 때입니다.

개고기 굶지는 동물 보호의 첫 발자국입니다.

NO MORE 개고기

재단법인 한국동물보호협회 KAPS

성남 모란시장
"개고기 시장을 없애고
절은 종들의 인기 장소로
탈바꿈하다."

"구포 개시장 폐업에
국민들 69.9% '잘했다'."

부산 구포시장

칠성시장
'우리도' 없어질 때입니다.

개고기 금지는
동물 보호의 첫 발자국입니다.



KAPS posters asking to close Chilsung Dog Market follow after Sunghnam dog market and Pusan Gupo dog market

KAPS and other animal groups holding petition campaign

Korean Animal Protection Society Updates (Continue)



Bangool was adopted by Michael
then moved to the US



Byeol and her adopter Yoonhee

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