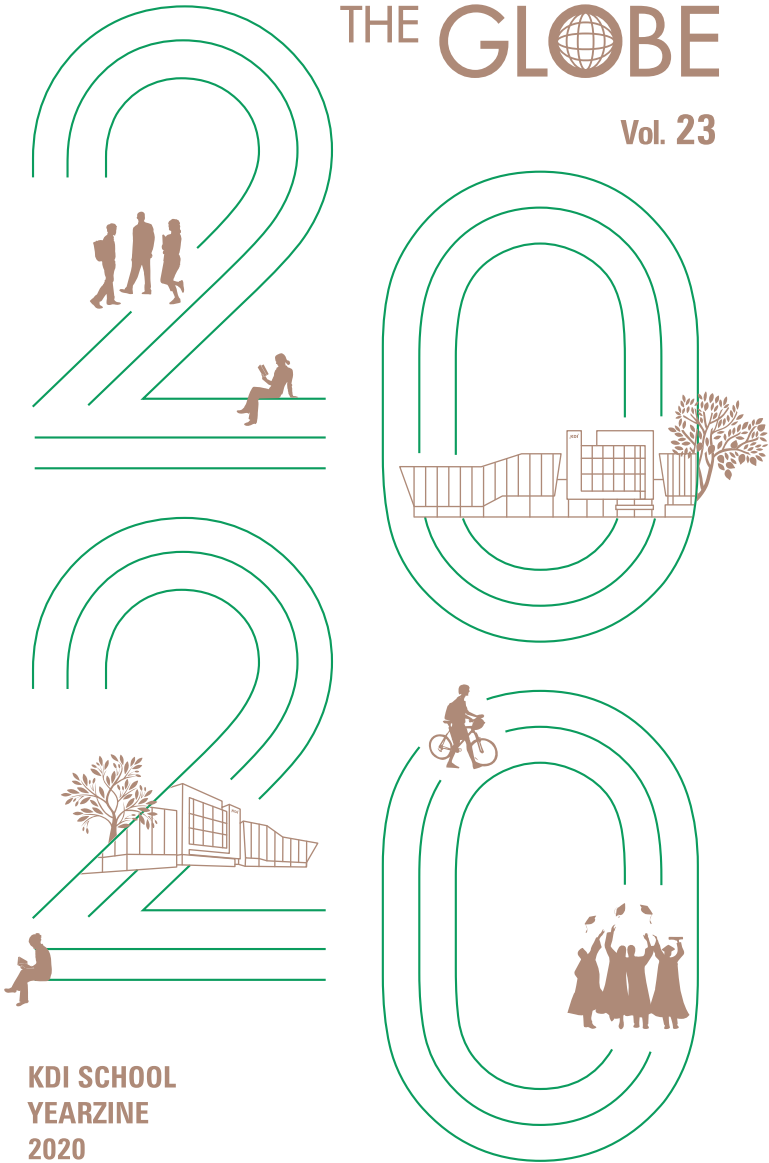


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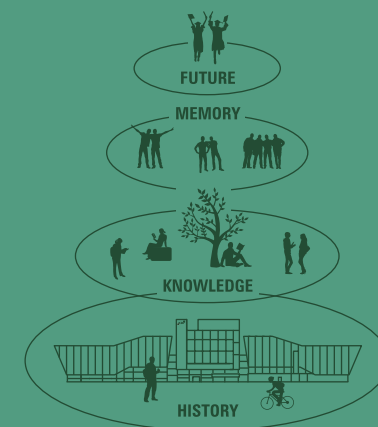
Vol. 23



**KDI SCHOOL
YEARZINE
2020**

Making History
Making Knowledge
Making Memories

Making KDI School Together



KDI SCHOOL YEARZINE 2020



2020
KDI School

KDIS
Students



KDIS
Alumni



KDIS
Research
& Education

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YEARZINE | VOL. 23

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2020 KDI SCHOOL

WELCOME TO KDI SCHOOL

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KDIS MESSAGE

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KDIS & COVID-19

WELCOME TO KDI SCHOOL

It is said that if one's home environment is peaceful, then one's life will be easier. The truth in this statement is exemplified by the smiles of the students at KDI School, all of whom decided to live and study here. KDI School has been chosen by many students for its innovative academic programs, qualified and prestigious faculty, and unique educational programs that provide invaluable insight on fundamental policy issues. Furthermore, its tranquil surroundings and facilities are highly regarded.

KDI School is located in the quiet and new city of Sejong in central South Korea. The campus is only 15 minutes north of the Sejong Express Intercity Bus Terminal and sits in close proximity to Goehwasan Mountain, a setting that provides the perfect surroundings for learning. When asked to pick a favorite spot on campus, some might choose the grassy park behind the school building, or the artificial waterfall near the entrance of the main building, or the hilly picnic spot with the trees that change color in autumn to the northeast of the student's dormitory, or the snow-covered courtyard in winter. In any case, the peaceful dispositions of many KDI School students can be attributed to the tranquil surroundings and clean, modern facilities the campus has to offer.

Upon arriving at KDI School, the experience begins at the dormitory. KDI School has two dormitories, both of which provide comfortable social spaces and residential quarters for students. The recently renovated dormitories contain double and single rooms to accommodate students, lounges to facilitate relaxation and leisure, a communal kitchen with appliances to prepare meals, a large communal dining room, and mini gyms for students to stay fit and healthy. Outside the sliding windows of Dormitory 101, you can see the pristine scenery and natural beauty of the lush Goehwasan Mountain. Part of Dormitory 102 faces KDI School, which allows residents to enjoy the sunset view.

Students being in classrooms that inspire them is indispensable to active learning and success in their academic sojourn. The KDI School's classrooms have high-speed Internet, comfortable seats, and a clear view of the front of the class from



Gym

Group Study Rooms

any angle, allowing students to absorb knowledge in comfort. The state-of-the-art electronic kiosk system at the entrance of each classroom allows student to sign in to class and select seats using their ID cards or the KDI CL app on their phones.

A noteworthy facility at KDI School is the third floor, beam ceiling, 32-seat main reading room of the Central Library, with 32 smart tables and a 21-seat IT area. The Central Library provides access to both electronic and traditional information resources and services. Other available

“

It is often said that if one's home environment is peaceful, then one's life becomes easier.

”



Central Library

Lounge



Lecture Room

features are: a 40-seat computer lab, a printer room adjacent to the computer lab that allows students print documents 24 hours a day, a 54-seat personal reading room, a 12-seat language learning room, and 6 group study rooms with large LCD screens to facilitate collaboration for group projects. Excluding the multimedia seats in the main library, these facilities can be used 24 hours a day.

Another distinguished facility at KDI School is the women's lounge on the fourth floor. It contains bunkbeds, sofas, and electronic appliances. The room provides comfort and an escape from the stressful hours of study. After relaxing in the lounge, female students can feel reinvigorated and focus on their studies with less stress.



Dormitory



Schoolyard

“

Keep the ideals
of leadership and
solidarity in your heart.

”



COVID-19 has completely upended the world. Many things that we took for granted before the pandemic are no longer possible, including many opportunities to enjoy the campus life and the nature and culture of Korea outside the campus. However, thanks to the commitment and cooperation of the faculty, the staff and the students, KDI School has been able to maintain both the safety of its members and the quality of education.

Each generation faces its unique challenges and opportunities. I hope that history will record not only how daunting the challenges for your generation were but also how resolutely and creatively you turned them into opportunities for progress. The pandemic has questioned our assumptions about human well-being and accelerated digital transformation that harbors great possibilities as well as huge risks. Along with record-breaking forest fires and melting icebergs, it has alerted us to the urgency of the green transition. Technological breakthroughs are not enough to make progress on these fronts. Even more important is social cooperation based on human solidarity. This is what COVID-19 is teaching us.

The core values of KDI School are leadership and solidarity—precisely what we need most badly to cope with the pandemic and meet the challenges of our time. Leaders must have a vision for a transition toward a better world. Leaders must also set examples and make necessary sacrifices to overcome difficulties and bring about this transition. I expect KDI School graduates to become such leaders. Solidarity is the very heart and soul of KDI School. We come from all corners of the earth to share our knowledge, experience and dreams. Inspired by Korea's remarkable struggles to overcome adversities and achieve unprecedented economic development and social progress, we study and research ways to promote inclusive and sustainable development all around the world.

My dearest students! Keep the ideals of leadership and solidarity in your heart. As long as you do that, you will become proud members of our influential globe-spanning alumni network. Wherever you are in the world, all of us at KDI School will always do our best to support you and cheer for your success. So, stay connected!

Jong-Il You

Dean, KDI School of Public Policy and Management

TOP 10 NEWS

KDIS During COVID-19



As the global fight against COVID-19 continues, KDI School has taken safety precautions and achieved a remarkable milestone of zero COVID-19 cases on the KDIS campus.

In February 2020, when Korea was under siege with a surge of infected cases, KDIS made the necessary proactive measures to move classes swiftly online to help students continue their studies without disruption.

In addition, KDIS organized a COVID-19 emergency response team as a frontline measure to manage and monitor the situation on campus. To achieve this, thermal sensors were installed to measure body temperatures, bottles of hand sanitizer were provided, and information-based policies like mask-wearing and washing of hands were promoted around the campus.

In a humanitarian motive to help the international students who were unable to gain access to masks as they were not part of the national healthcare system, a mask donation campaign was initiated by KDI alumni, faculty, staff, and students. A total of 515 face masks and filters were collected. Moreover, one of the alumni helped KDI School to secure a mask supplier who provided a month's worth of supplies for dormitory residents.

In the end, thanks to these multiple measures, KDI School remained COVID-19 free, making it one of the safest campuses in Korea for students.

Newly Launched MPPM Program

KDI School recently opened a master's program in public policy and management in the 2020 fall semester to foster integrated leaders who will lead the paradigm innovation of tomorrow. The program, which is the very first program conducted in the Korean language, is a part-time program for members of the public sector, journalists, NGOs, and other industry workers.



KDI School Wins Outstanding Institution Award

In May, KDI School was awarded an "Outstanding Institution Award" from the National Research Council for Economics, Humanities and Social Sciences. KDI School is known for its distinguished performance in the fields of education and research.



Cutting-Edge Hybrid Learning Classrooms



As part of the effort to sustain educational innovation and ensure a high-quality education for its students, KDI School has undergone major renovations to its classrooms to create "hybrid learning classrooms" that enable synchronous, simultaneous learning for both online and offline students. The new classrooms allow faculty and students to balance face-to-face and online aspects of learning by utilizing the latest in "edu-tech" digital equipment.

KDIS Opens Human Rights Center

Since its opening in 2020, KDIS Human Rights Center has been newly relocated to Room 311 while continuing to operate a variety of services to prevent and eradicate human rights violations. This center provides consultation on human rights violations as well as psychological counseling/therapy for all KDIS members.



20th Anniversary of GDLN



This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Global Development Learning Network (GDLN). Initiated by the World Bank in 2000, GDLN has shared development solutions through its global network of affiliates. In celebration of this milestone, KDI School will host the 20th Anniversary GDLN Seminar Series on the World of Learning Post-COVID-19.

Joint University Campus & KDI School

KDI School, the National Agency for Administrative City Construction, and Sejong City have concluded a MOA for the move into a Joint University Campus in Sejong City. The Joint University Campus is designed to enhance international exchanges and cultivate highly skilled human resources. KDI School will have a new branch campus in the Joint University Campus by 2024.



Completion Ceremony in Middle of Pandemic

KDI School courtyard was bedecked with hats and gowns on August 3 as the school hosted its 2020 Summer Completion Ceremony. The ceremony, which was originally scheduled to be a Zoom-only event, was shifted to a safe, small gathering in the courtyard.



New Scholarship Program

Seeking to nurture future leaders in developing countries and to support future global talents who will contribute to the mutual development of ASEAN and Korea, KDI School announces two new scholarships-the Hyundai Motor Chung Mong—Koo Global Scholarship and the KOICA Scholarship program.



KDI School Launches TED×KDISchool

KDI School's first TEDx event was held this summer in both an online and offline format. Participants were not only introduced to new ideas but also shown compelling presentations and innovative solutions for 'Everything connects.'



KDIS & COVID-19

LECTURES

Before



Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, classroom lectures were shifted online. This changed the dynamic of the learning environment at KDI School in early 2020. Now in their fall semester, KDIS students are able to experience hybrid classes which is indeed a breath of fresh air for the students. KDI School has taken all the necessary COVID-19 precautions to keep its students and staff safe.

After



GRADUATION

Before



After



ACTIVITIES

Before



Responses to the pandemic have required a paradigm shift in all physical activities, and KDI School has adopted a comprehensive approach—the transition from hosting outdoor activities physically to hosting the same activities virtually. With this newly adopted approach, students can still virtually enjoy fun activities which would have otherwise required physical contact.

After



1. TOLIPOVA, Dilrabo



2. ABDUL, Aziz



3. CANTU, Tabatha Melissa



4. JIANG, Yong

KDIS STUDENTS

ONE DAY @ KDIS

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STUDENT COMMENT

•

HAPPY FRIENDSHIP

•

OPEN INTERVIEW

•

KDIS' PICK!

•

VIDEO TIME CAPSULE



One Day @ KDIS

A Day in the Life of a Student at KDI School



Socrates John Luseka
(2019 MDP, Kenya)



06:30
a.m.

A typical weekday begins around 6:30 a.m. with a morning jog. This is followed by a warm shower and a hearty breakfast. This self-care routine means that I'm fully refreshed and raring to go for the first half of my day. Since my first class is scheduled at 10:20 a.m., I've got some time to do some laundry first or finish up an assignment that's due shortly. Or I might choose to add the final polish to a slide deck that I'll be presenting the next day. In between I'll check my emails and then browse through KDIS News Center to see what's new.



10:20
a.m.

My phone might beep to remind me of my scheduled 1:30 p.m. appointment with my thesis advisor. Scrolling through my phone, I'll also note that at 5 p.m. I will meet the rest of my group members to finalize the details on our group project. I'll then catch up with my professor, who will offer me some invaluable insights on my paper. The meeting will then be followed by a class at 2:30 p.m.



01:30
p.m.



05:00
p.m.

Before the 5 p.m. group meeting, I'll pass by Café Vobiscum—one of my favorite stop-offs—to grab a cup of lemon tea. Fast forward, I'll then join the boys for football practice. Later, I'll be off for dinner at the cafeteria, before heading back to the library to do some reading or work on my assignments. Once back in my room, I'll watch a movie or read a novel and then make a call home to check in with everyone before drifting off to slumberland.



What were you most impressed by during your time at KDI School?

I was most impressed by the professors during my stay at KDIS. They can be approached on any topic and will answer all your burning questions enthusiastically.

Tash Van Doimen, 2020 MDP, Guyana

I was impressed by how technologically advanced, clean, and calm the school's facilities and the city were. KDI School cares about the students' well-being especially during this COVID-19 era.

Mialy Nomenjanahary, 2019 MDP, Madagascar

I was most impressed by the school's resolve to keep the entire school community free of the coronavirus. To date, there has been no confirmed case within KDI.

Antoinette Rosemarie Anderson, 2020 MPM, Jamaica

The school's faculty is made up of people with real life experiences sharing their knowledge. This makes their knowledge practical.

Ronald Tebogo Keikotthaile, 2020 MPP, Botswana

At KDI school, the diversity among the students is something that I found very interesting. I met students from across the globe who have different backgrounds, lifestyles, and cultures.

Ahmadhulla Mauthoof Ibrahim, 2020 MPM, Maldives

I was most impressed by KDI School's unique combination of both a conventional university environment and a policy-styled and practice-focused institution.

Ayantola Ayodimeji Alayande, 2019 MPP, Nigeria

The diversity at KDI School is impressive. I have learnt to communicate with different mindsets and worldviews. It was an enriching experience.

Edgar Joshua Vasanthakumar, 2020 MDP, India

I have been most impressed by how the school handled the pandemic. KDI School took quick measures to ensure our safety upon arrival.

Aliue B Swaray, 2020 MDP, Liberia

I was impressed by the efforts people of different backgrounds made to get to know each other. In no time, we got through everything together. KDI School is truly a community.

John Tinashe Chikwemba, 2020 MDP, Malawi

The peace and quietude in Sejong City are relaxing and suitable for learning.

Isabella Millanes, 2019 MPM, Philippines

I participated in the TEDxKDISchool 2020 event, which was very thought-provoking for me.

Senait Salilew Gietnet, 2020 MPM, Ethiopia

My first experience hiking Goehwasan Mountain was my most thrilling moment. Social distancing rules brought with them a boredom. However, visiting Goehwasan was like coming out of a prison after several years.

Favour Awah, 2020 MIDP, Nigeria

During winter, I experienced snowfall for the first time in my life. I would stay up all night waiting for snow to start falling and I would rush outside the dorm. This was my most thrilling moment!!

Aishath Samaha, 2020 MDP, Maldives

My most thrilling moment was the opening ceremony that began a new journey for me at KDI School. I had been waiting a long time for this opportunity. To have been at the ceremony that commences it was just surreal!

Ayan Tazhibay, 2020 MPP, Kazakhstan

It has been making a lot of friends around the world, talking, discussing, and making memorable moments with them! Having friends all around the world and keeping contact with them are valuable.

Soyeon Min, 2019 MPP, Republic of Korea

I was thrilled to get acquainted with international students and their cultures. We reduce stereotypes amongst nations.

Ashti Abdulla Omer, 2020 MPM, Iraq

Making friends with other people from different cultures is what excites me here at KDI. Friendship is the only relationship in one's life that comes with no ifs and buts.

Leizl Dimacali Sueno, 2020 MIPD, Philippines

My most thrilling moment was when I got selected to speak at the KDI TEDx. I had watched uncountable TED talks. It was time to take my shot. I took it with every fiber in me. It was a relishing experience.

Bertrin Amponsah Biritwum, 2020 MPP, Ghana

My first offline class I attended at KDI School. When you have attended all your classes virtually and have endured the difficulty of not dozing off, you get to appreciate everything again.

Newton Wiah, 2020 MPP, Liberia

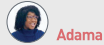
One of my favorite places is the soccer field. Not only did I get to play with my friends and colleagues, but I also enjoyed midnight walks around the field.

Divine Che Nimang, 2020 MPM, Cameroon

What was your most thrilling moment during your stay at KDI School?

HAPPY FRIENDSHIP

In her book *Letter to My Daughter*, the African American writer and poet Maya Angelou says, "A friend may be waiting behind a stranger's face." Students arrive at KDI School as strangers, knowing no one. And yet, many return to their respective countries with a lasting bond of friendship.



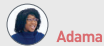
Adama

Introduce your friend



Name : Yani Parasti Siregar **Country :** Republic of Indonesia
Scholarship : National Institute for International Education (NIIED), Global Korea Scholarship (GKS)
One word : Ambitious

Yani is a person who always strives to be her best. She is ambitious, and although she interacts with many people, she considers only a few to be close friends. This is because Yani spends a lot of time reflecting on how she can improve herself.

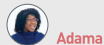


Adama

How long have you been friends and how did the two of you get close?



I have been friends with Yani since we met at KDI School in 2018 at our first NIIED gathering.

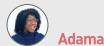


Adama

What event led to your friendship?



We first met at our first NIIED gathering where we discovered that we both studied Korean in Busan. Thereafter, we formed a familiar bond as though we're from the same hometown.



Adama

What are your differences and how did you overcome them?

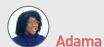


We are different in faith, race, and culture. However, Yani and I have one unique mutual quality: tolerance. Being tolerant of different ways of thinking about life and faith is our foremost strength and that is why we built such a unique friendship.

What do you like most about each other (attributes/qualities)?



I appreciate Yani's faithful spirit. She is a happy, funny, focused, and smart young lady and I admire these qualities in her personality.

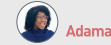


Adama



Adama Ceasay (2018 MPP)

We converge as strangers, only to find meaningful friendships that last a lifetime. One such special friendship is seen with Adama and Yani. It was one formed within the walls of KDI School, marked by a deep respect for their respective differences. I relished in the opportunity to interview them about their special friendship. I began with Adama, asking her the following questions:

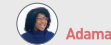


Adama

What are the hobbies and interests you both like?



We discovered a new hobby of exercising at the gym. We also love to hike together and laugh, even when things seem tough, and we love to dance 😊. We both love cooking. Yani loves my cooking and I admire her art skills (coloring, designing).

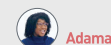


Adama

What were your bonding activities in KDIS/Korea?



Our first bonding activity was at the International Food Festival in 2018, where we appreciated each other's food and traditional attire. Since early 2019, Yani and I have visited so many places in Korea. Of all my moments at KDI School, these are the times I really treasure.

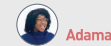


Adama

Have you been to each other's countries? If not, do you plan to?



No, I have never been to Indonesia. Reuniting with Yani is a life dream and I would love for it to be in Indonesia.

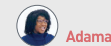


Adama

How do you plan to maintain your friendship after KDIS?



We plan to keep in touch through phone calls (social media) and possibly through visits. Perhaps someday in the future, our profession will bring us together again.



Adama

What are your individual plans after you graduate?



Interesting question 😊! I wish there was a specific answer to this question. Ultimately, I plan to go back and work with my government whiles preparing for my future academic career.



I spoke to Yani, asking her the same questions:



Yani

Introduce your friend

**Name :** Adama Ceasay**Country :** The Gambia**Scholarship :** NIIED-GKS**One word :** Determined

Adama is very clear about her purpose and goal. Once she has something in mind, she will work hard to achieve it. Meanwhile, she is also very considerate and manages to balance all aspects of her life, from education, family, friends, to her hobbies.



Yani

How long have you been friends and how did the two of you get close?



We have been friends since we came to KDI School in fall 2018.



Yani

What event led to your friendship?



I remember the first time we met during our scholarship orientation. We felt connected because we attended language schools in Busan (before coming to KDI School).



Yani

What are your differences and how did you overcome them?



We have different faiths, and we are from different continents. However, I understand that differences can be overcome by a sense of tolerance, which then makes differences beautiful. Adama is a very tolerant person and appreciates what other people believe. I think I am learning that value from her, too.



Yani

What do you like most about each other (attributes/qualities)?



Adama really cares about people and cherishes the relationships she has. She is very smart and clear about her intentions. And she cooks so well. I hope she joins Master Chef or opens a restaurant in the future. Oh, and she has a beautiful smile 😊!



“Perhaps someday in the future,
our profession will bring us together again.”



Yani Parasti
(2018 MPP)



Yani

What are the hobbies and interests you both like?



This year, we began exercising and traveling together. We also love dancing! We like to cook, but my cooking skills are still far behind Adama's. During those activities, I found that we really enjoy talking together, and I found she is sometimes crazy too 😊, in a fun way.



Yani

What were your bonding activities in KDIS/Korea?



At the International Food Festival 2019, I tasted the juice she made for the West African booth. It was so good. During the Song and Dance Festival 2019, we had fun together, singing and dancing to music and movements from our cultures. We also went to several places in Sejong City and it was fun!



Yani

Have you been to each other's countries? If not, do you plan to?



No, but I definitely plan to visit The Gambia. I need to see Adama in her country and she must show me all its beauty.



Yani

How do you plan to maintain your friendship after KDIS?



I do hope that we can meet again after KDI School. In the meantime, we will keep in touch through social media platforms.



Yani

What are your individual plans after you graduate?



This is a tough question 😊. I hope by the time this article is up, I will have already found out. For now, I have thought about getting a job back home, but considering the situation now, I will be open to any opportunities and I believe God will lead us to the best path.



OPEN INTERVIEW

It was in February 2020 when the number of COVID-19 cases in South Korea started rising at an alarming rate. Concurrently, that was the time when KDI School of Public Policy and Management welcomed its students for the start of the year's spring semester.

For three quarters now, the KDIS community has been fighting hand-in-hand to maintain a healthy and safe learning environment for its students from all over the world. At the end of 2020, it is a perfect time to reflect on the knowledge we have gained so far.

We talked with students Youn Joo Kim (YK), Kinzang Thinley (KT), Gloria Athieno (GA), and Axel Lemus (AL) about their time at KDIS during the COVID-19 pandemic.

GA Gloria Athieno
Uganda_2020 MDP

YK Youn Joo Kim
Korea_2020 MPM

AL Axel Lemus
Guatemala_2020 MPP

KT Kinzang Thinley
Bhutan_2020 MPP



WHAT IS YOUR NAME, WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

YK — I'm Youn Joo Kim, born in Korea, raised in Lebanon.

KT — Kinzang Thinley from Bhutan.

GA — My name is Gloria Athieno, I am from Uganda. It is commonly referred to as the Pearl of Africa.

AL — My name is Axel Lemus. Born in Guatemala, went on to grow up in Florida, before coming to Korea over six years ago to pursue my undergraduate degree.

DESCRIBE YOUR EXPERIENCE AT KDI SCHOOL DURING THIS UNFORTUNATE TIME

YK — I'm not sure I'd call this time at KDI School unfortunate. If it weren't for the COVID-19 situation, I might have been so busy with a lot of things that I wouldn't have even thought of being a part of the brilliant TEDxKDISchool team.

KT — It was my dream to visit South Korea and, fortunately, I got this opportunity to pursue my master's degree here in KDI School. I happened to have read some news about the pandemic before coming to KDIS, but I never thought that the situation would get so much worse. However, over time, I saw things move forward smoothly with the "new normal."

GA — My admission to KDI School was a big blessing from God. My experience of being a student in Korea has been wonderful amid the challenges—meeting friends from different countries and being taught by the best professors make me feel much more blessed at this particular time.

AL — As a new student in the 2020 Fall term, I am afraid that I missed out on the life at KDI School before this "new normal." Nevertheless, I feel very pleased and reassured by the measures taken by the school. The professors have also been very understanding and flexible throughout the whole process.



“
I’m grateful for the professors
—they genuinely understand
how difficult it is for students to
adapt to such a sudden change.
”

Youn Joo Kim
2020 MPM | Republic of Korea

Kinzang Thinley
2020 MPP | Bhutan

WHAT HAS BEEN THE MOST HELPFUL SOURCE OF SUPPORT FROM KDI SCHOOL?

YK — Practically speaking, the equipment. My laptop camera broke down at some point, but I had no trouble attending classes on Zoom, thanks to the cameras and headphones that were newly installed in the computer lab; laptops we also borrowed for free. Moreover, I’m grateful for the professors—they genuinely understand how difficult it is for students to adapt to such a sudden change.

KT — I will always be grateful to KDIS for its generous support. The school has been very helpful in every aspect—providing free masks to all students for a couple of weeks, creating adequate awareness and sensitization programs, and implementing advice and health protocols related to the COVID-19 situation.

GA — KDIS has been supporting us by providing us with masks, mask filters, and with fun online-based activities. Moreover, the school set up temperature checks and provided hand sanitizer everywhere, as well as sending emails regarding the routes of transmission of new COVID-19 cases. My friends here have been a great source of support as well.

AL — Although I have only been on campus since the beginning of the semester, I quickly found out that the greatest source of support at KDI School is its student community. We should never understate the rejuvenating power of sharing a laugh or a good time over a meal, bike ride, or ice cream run.

HOW DID THE PANDEMIC CHANGE OR AFFECT YOU?

YK — I realized that the situation helped me to become more proactive. I needed to make the extra effort to perform what would have been normal pre-pandemic (e.g., getting up to prepare and attend classes). In such ways, I’ve come to learn how to manage my life more efficiently.

KT — It was an extremely hard time for me at the beginning. However, after being in it for a few months, I do not feel much different anymore. Wearing a mask and regular hand washing are now just normal parts of everyday life.

GA — The pandemic just changed my mindset towards life—let each day count. I also realized that in life, we need to have a Plan B that is independent of Plan A, and that we can turn to in times of great uncertainty. Ultimately, above all, we need to put God first in everything we do.

AL — I find it very apt to borrow a quote from an Austrian psychiatrist and Holocaust survivor, Viktor E. Frankl: “Everything can be taken from a man but one thing: the last of the human freedoms—to choose one’s attitude in any given set of circumstances, to choose one’s way.” Despite the great weight of uncertainty, we still can look within us, see what is and is not working, and make the necessary adjustments to live our version of a fulfilling life.

“
I’ve come to learn how
to manage my life more
efficiently.
”

Gloria Athieno
2020 MDP | Uganda

Axel Ronaldo Lemus Rodas
2020 MPP | Guatemala

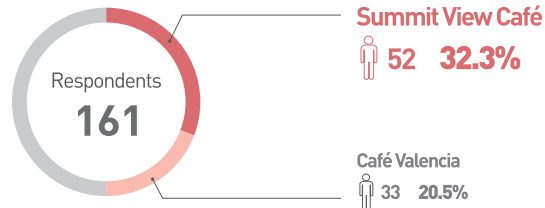


KDIS PICK!

Sejong City has a lot to offer. A journey within it is full of wonderful experiences. In addition to outstanding public transportation and wonderful greenery, there are well-manicured parks, restaurants, malls, lush residential areas, and a river that peacefully flows through the area. As Korea's new administrative city, it is home to many government ministries, governmental agencies, and parastatal organizations.

The proximity of KDI School to all of the above makes the experience of being a KDIS student worthwhile. It facilitates activity-oriented classwork and dormitory life. The list below delves into some of the must-visit places and restaurants that new and existing students might want to check out when the "bug" to explore around "bites." Here you go.

• What is your favorite cafeteria in Sejong City?



• Where is your favorite place near Sejong City?



• What is your favorite activity in Sejong City?



What is your favorite cafeteria in Sejong City?

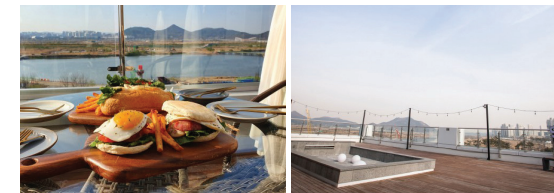


Summit View Café



137, Sicheong-daero, 4th floor, Sejong-si
11:00AM – 11:45PM

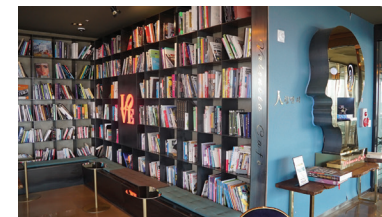
This café has some of the best ice cream, beverages, and food in town. The ambience and indoor design are state of the art. It sits adjacent to the roof and so you can go out and get a view of the city while sipping your coffee in peace.



Café Valencia



115, Sicheong-daero, 4th floor, Sejong-si
11:30AM – 10:00PM



This spot is one of a kind. The amount of creativity that went into curating it was immense. On the rooftop, there is this nature-inspired location where one can go and relax. Or take multiple Instagram-worthy photos, especially in the evening. Moreover, there is a small library inside so you can pick a book and lose yourself in the beauty of words while basking in the glow that drinking your preferred beverage brings. It's like they offer more than just food and beverages, but an actual "experience," so to speak.

Where is your favorite place near Sejong City?



Sejong Lake Park



📍 155 Hosugongwon-gil, Yeongi-myeon, Sejong-si
🕒 05:00AM – 11:00PM

This is one of the most-visited spaces in the city. On weekends, families, individuals, and tourists make their way to this place in large numbers, but not enough for you to miss out on space. Most come for picnics, bicycle rides, corporate gatherings, and what have you. With a huge artificial lake, pleasant walking paths, shelters, cozy playgrounds, and majestic bridges, you have to find time and visit.



Bowling



📍 70, Sodam-ro, 3rd floor, Sejong-si
🕒 10:00AM – 03:00PM

There are a number of bowling centers in the city that are popular with KDIS students. One is located right near the school. When done with an exam and wanting to blow off some steam, bowling is the real deal.



Bike Riding



Riding bicycles is a favorite pastime for local dwellers. The city is endowed with proper bicycle lanes. This makes it easy to move around. In addition to that, there are public bicycles located at different locations and therefore one can borrow when the need arises. The icing to this bicycle-riding cake is in riding along the Geumgang River. The river cuts through the city silently. Well, the peace and calm that this environment gives has made it preferable for bikers.



Goehwasan Mountain



📍 Namsejong-ro, Sejong-si

Goehwasan Mountain is located right behind KDIS dormitory. It is well positioned for amazing hiking experiences. It is safe and easy to ascend to the top and back.



What is your favorite activity in Sejong City?

VIDEO TIME CAPSULE

KDIS students save and share their memories of campus life with these videos. You can watch these videos by scanning QR code.



Let's talk about
the dorms.



Youn Joo Kim

2020 MPM



“It's been a true blessing to meet and be part of such a supportive multicultural family right here in my own country.”



I have a passion
for music.



Ifeanyi Chukwuka Onwuneme

2019 MPM



“Enjoy the uncommon unity and love that exist in the student clubs.”

VIDEO TIME CAPSULE



KDIS library is
different.



Nurhafizah Sanusi

2020 MPM



“This library is so cozy that you will
feel like you are studying in your
own room.”



The best means to
experience the city
is with a bicycle.



Hafiz Muhammad Umar Tuyyab

2020 MDP



“Visiting the city via bike is flexible
and gives you the freedom to truly
explore at will.”



KDIS ALUMNI

LETTERS FROM ALUMNI

•

ALUMNI INFOGRAPHICS

•

KDIS GLOBAL LEADERS

•

ZOOM IN ALUMNI

•

KDIS BOOKSHELF

LETTERS FROM ALUMNI



This year posed challenges that equally underscored the importance of good governance and competent leadership. Nevertheless, COVID-19 similarly offered opportunities, especially for policymakers, to create positive, impactful changes through implementable programs, projects, and activities that exhibit effectiveness and equity. With this sliver of optimism, 10 representatives from newly established alumni associations in 2020 extended messages of gratitude, hope, and encouragement to the rest of the KDIS community.

Deniela Paz Bizama Montoya



2019 MPP
Chile



Although this year has challenged us, the renewed sense of responsibility towards our communities is a positive result that we can take from the current situation. In that sense, I would like to express our deepest appreciation to the KDI Community for its efforts and continued support.

Emmanuel Kapee



2018 MDP
Liberia



We are determined and committed to cultivating the best environment to stay connected to the KDI School family. Our association is ready to innovate, inspire, and to uphold the reputation of our alma mater. Liberia is prepared for business!

Beatriz Canchari Hermitano



2019 MDP
Peru



Crises are an opportunity to test our resilience and to redesign ourselves. However, our attitude and character are fundamental ingredients to emerge victorious from the process. Do not forget those, your burden is not over yet, you are entering another level.

Rigoberto Carvallo Romero



2015 MPP
Ecuador



As public policy makers, we must commit ourselves to promoting sustainable development together, especially in these moments when the global community demands its best people to overcome this unprecedented health crisis that affects the most vulnerable on the planet.

Sarai Covarrubias Olguin Omar Jesus Camacho Orihuela



2018 MPP | 2016 MPP
Mexico



Let's take 2020 as the opportunity to switch our lifestyle based on solidarity and mutual understanding. From our sphere of influence let's work together to overcome every challenge we face in life as people, institutions, countries and humanity. Let's shape a better future for all.

Vincent Nkundimana



2016 MPP
Rwanda



Our association is extremely proud to be part of the great KDI Community. We stay connected through various resources posted on the school's website, social media, and E-Globe. We enjoy various kinds of gifts sent to us by the school.

Jonelle Kadian Murray



2017 MPM
Jamaica



KDIS Jamaica Alumni is honoured to be a part of this illustrious global network of professionals working individually and collectively to improve the lives of everyone. We pledge our support of the noble goals of KDIS.

Nada Chaouni Benabdellah



2018 MPP
Morocco



This year has been a tough one all over the world, but I believe that it's during difficult times like these that it's important we stick together and have the overall interest of our community at heart to overcome these challenges.

Felizberto Araujo Duarte

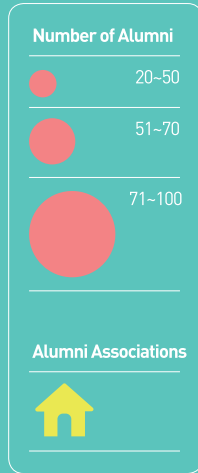


2019 MPP
Timor-Leste



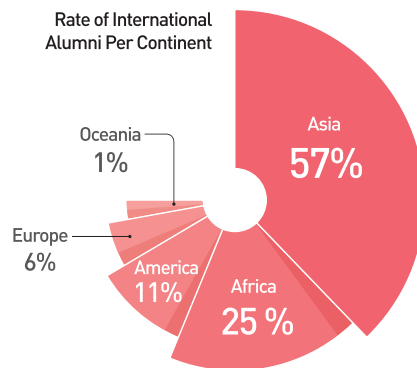
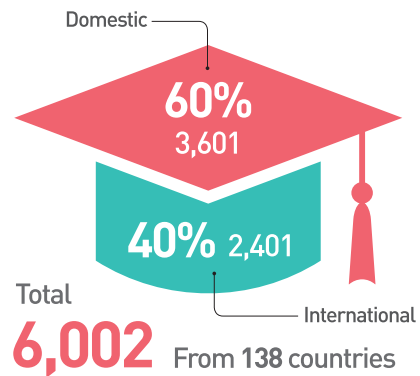
I am honored to be part of the global thinkers of public policy and I am committed to contributing to the establishment of the first economic association of Timor-Leste in order to contribute to the advancement of economic policies in Timor-Leste.

ALUMNI INFOGRAPHICS



* Nine alumni associations have been newly established in 2020.

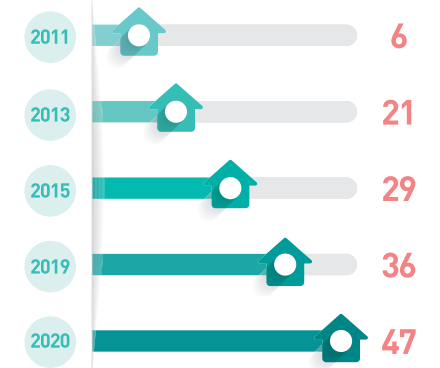
Alumni Body



Countries with Most Alumni



Number of Alumni Associations



KDIS GLOBAL LEADERS



Since the institution's establishment over two decades ago, KDIS has produced distinguished alumni who have stood at the forefront of their countries and have spearheaded revolutionary stratagems in pursuit of development and progress for the benefit of their respective jurisdictions. These architects of change have embodied the knowledge that the school has imparted to every student. After all, KDIS hones us to become resilient and innovative to make an impactful contribution once we return to our home countries.

Being considered as KDIS alumni has never been more gratifying due to being regarded as leading pioneers of advancement.

International Alumni



Zainal Abidin Haniff
Malaysia
(2005 MPP)

Office of the Chief Secretary
to the Government
Senior Private Secretary



Airlangga Hartarto
Indonesia
(2019 Honorary Doctorate)

Ministry of Industry/House of
Representatives of Golkar
Minister/Chairman



Nabeel Javed
Pakistan
(2002 MPP)

Punjab Civil Secretariat
Public Prosecution
Secretary



Kanybek Kasymali Uulu
Kyrgyzstan
(2013 MDP)

Eurasian Economic
Commission
Deputy Director of Prosecution



Sohail Ahmad Khan
Pakistan
(2001 MPP)

Federal Ombudsman
Additional Secretary



Yam Kumari Khatriwada
Nepal
(2006 MPP)

Ministry of Industry,
Commerce and Supplies
Secretary



Azevedo Marcal
Timor Leste
(2010 MPP)

Prime Minister's Office of
East Timor
Chief of Staff



Belkacem Mehada
Algeria
(2011 MPP/PM)

Prime Minister Office
Director

**Bertian Napitupulu**Indonesia
(1998 MPP)Embassy of the Republic of
Indonesia in North Korea
Ambassador to North Korea**Malika Nigmatulina**Kazakhstan
(2003 MPP)Akimat of Nur-Sultan
City
Deputy Mayor**Parjiono**Indonesia
(2000 MPP)The World Bank Office of
Executive Director of the World
Bank Group of Southeast Asia
Alternate Executive Director**Kieu Thu Phan**Vietnam
(2009 MPP)The Colombo Plan
Secretary General**Sukhbaatar Sandagdorj**Mongolia
(2000 MPP)Chinggis Khaan Bank
Chief Business Officer**Narandalai Tsedevsuren**Mongolia
(2015 MDP)Central Bank of Mongolia
Board Member and Director
General of Supervision Department**Golam Shafi Uddin**Bangladesh
(2001 MPP)Ministry of Power, Energy
and Mineral Resources
Additional Secretary**Olzhas Zholdasbayev**Kazakhstan
(2006 MPP)Ministry of Regional
Development; Entrepreneurship
Development Committee
Deputy Chairman

Domestic Alumni

**Kyeong-Sik Cho**

(2002 MPP)

Office of the President
Secretary for Digital
Innovation**Seong-Ho Choi**

(2005 MPP)

Board of Audit and
Inspection
Secretary General**Kyu-Sang Doh**

(2003 MPP)

Financial Services
Commission
Vice-Chairman**Jae-Shin Kim**

(2002 MBA)

Korea Fair Trade
Commission
Vice-Chairman**Yong-Jin Kim**

(2013 MPP)

National Pension
Service
Chairman**Hyoung-Kwon Ko**

(2012 MPP)

Permanent Delegation of
the Republic of Korea to
the OECD
Permanent Representative**Tong Wook Sim**

(2001 MBA)

POSCO Capital
CEO**Yiwonyoung Yang**

(2005 MPP)

National Assembly
Member of the
National Assembly

ZOOM IN ALUMNI



SOLTAN HOSSAM
_2013 MPP

“At KDIS, I was able to study different cases and policies from various countries around the world which helped me a lot to innovate and localize our own context.”



Soltan Hossam is best known for being the winner of the KDIS 2020 International Alumni Essay Contest. However, there is more to him than this remarkable accomplishment. A dedicated advocate of social equality and the ethical management of change, Hossam's early exposure to marginalization and societal conflict drove him to pursue capacity building at KDIS as an MPP student back in 2013. His aim was to gain knowledge on how to remedy a difficult situation in his hometown in Egypt.

“I spent seven years trying to establish a reconciliation between the clans of my father and mother,” recalled Hossam. “They have been in conflict for almost 50 years due to a clash that happened in 1967.”

Throughout his stay at KDIS, the diverse student environment and extensive knowledge-building courses were able to instill in him a passionate drive for change.

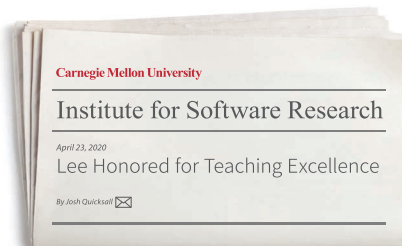
“At KDIS, I was able to study different cases and policies from various countries around the world which helped me a lot to innovate and localize our own context,” he said.

Upon graduation, he set out to challenge the status quo in his society by establishing an NGO to bridge the social divide between the clans. The NGO paved the way for the creation of a community school which substantially contributed to a decrease in violence in his hometown. Currently, they have been concentrating efforts to assist families during the COVID-19 pandemic through various community-led initiatives. Imparting an impactful change in society, he attributes this success to his experiences at KDIS.



TERRY EUN SUN LEE
_2004 MBA

“In KDIS, I learned how to look at problems in many different perspectives and how to approach them carefully.”



“The first thing that comes to my mind when I think of KDIS is that faculty, staff, and students are amazing; it seems like only yesterday,” said Terry Lee, recalling his experience at KDIS around 15 years ago. Terry, or Eun Sun, Lee is a 2004 MBA graduate of KDI School and is currently an associate teaching professor in computer science at Carnegie Mellon University (CMU).

Terry is a master in programming. After earning his MBA from KDIS, he moved to the United States to earn a second graduate degree in computer science. He developed an enthusiasm for coding that was rooted in his love for creating value through the processes of critical thinking and breaking down problems, which KDIS helped ignite.

“I learned how to look at problems from many different perspectives and how to approach them carefully,” he said of his time at KDIS.

Terry made it his mission to share this contagious passion with others through teaching. Today, he teaches computer science to undergraduates at CMU.

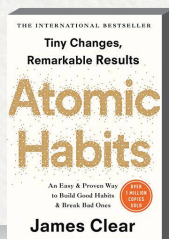
Terry concluded with words of wisdom for current and future KDIS students. “Here’s my advice: 1) constantly challenge yourself, 2) network, network, and network, 3) be honest with yourself and treat others well, and 4) do something that has a higher meaning for you.” Terry emphasized on the importance of undertaking small actions that can contribute to the bigger picture of one’s ultimate goal.

KDIS BOOKSHELF

• Atomic Habits: An Easy & Proven Way to

Build Good Habits & Break Bad Ones

Make this time a period of new friendships, joys, and highs in every dimension of your life.

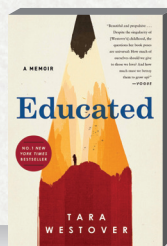


Akhror Burkhanov
(2015 MDP)

by James Clear

• Educated: A Memoir

This book shines a light on the importance of education.

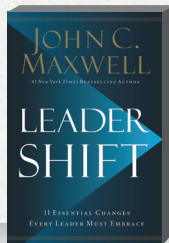


Chimmi Wangmo
(2014 MDP)

by Tara Westover

• Leadershift: The 11 Essential Changes Every Leader Must Embrace

Growth doesn't just happen. You have to pursue it.

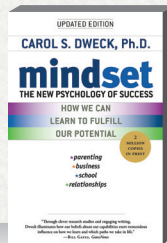


Kelera Ravono
(2016 MDP)

by John C. Maxwell

• Mindset: The New Psychology of Success

Changing the way you think to fulfill your potential.



Sokhom Ny
(2009 MPP)

by Carol Dweck

"Today a reader, tomorrow a leader" – Margaret Fuller

Looking for more good books to read? Browsing bestseller lists on the internet? KDI School alumni recommend books which enable us to become future leaders. If you have run out of books to read, look through this alumni reading list!

• Everything Is F*cked: A Book about Hope

Dare, face your fears, learn from your mistakes, set goals and achieve them, and be humble!



Lily Asimwe
(2016 MPM)

by Mark Manson

• Invisible Women: Exposing Data Bias in a World Designed for Men

We should reflect upon how our societies have been male-orientedly constructed.

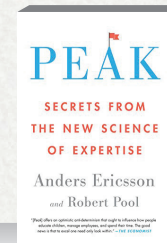


Sun Ha Ahn
(2013 MDP)

by Caroline Criado Perez

• Peak: Secrets from the New Science of Expertise

Commitment, clear objectives, and purposeful practice make a master!

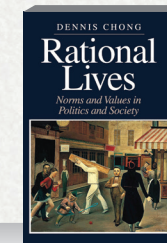


Lesly Yohana Rubio Campos
(2013 MPP)

by K. Anders Ericsson

• Rational Lives: Norms and Values in Politics and Society

Understanding how behavior and norms can interact is vital.

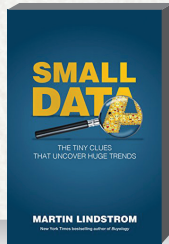


Manuel Eduardo Gonzalez Ramos
(2015 MDP)

by Dennis Chong

• Small Data: The Tiny Clues That Uncover Huge Trends

A combination of psychology, behaviorism, and culture can determine a product's success.

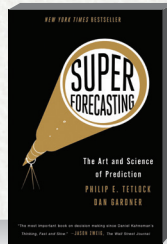


Polina Plamenova
Petkova
(2010 MPM/PM)

by Martin Lindstrom

• Superforecasting: The Art and Science of Prediction

Forecasting is an important part of our lives and even is used unknowingly sometimes.

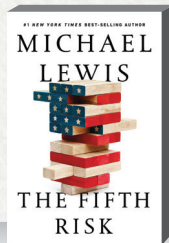


Boya Yu
(2015 MPP)

by Dan Gardner & Philip E. Tetlock

• The Fifth Risk

Use your time effectively not only to get good grades but also to have a good network.

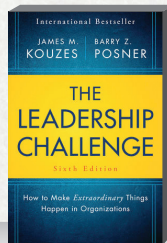


Mas Ayu Nila
Anggraini Octaviana
(2019 MPP)

by Michael Lewis

• The Leadership Challenge: How to Make Extraordinary Things Happen in Organizations

This book will allow students to stay current, relevant, and effective in any organization.

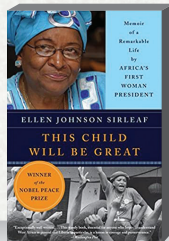


Ramona Davis-Wells
(2018 MPP)

by Barry Posner & James M. Kouzes

• This Child Will Be Great: Memoir of a Remarkable Life

That anyone can become whomever they want to be.

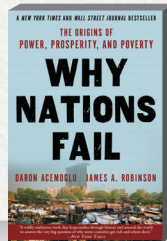


Emmanuel Kapee
(2018 MDP)

by Ellen Johnson Sirleaf

• Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity, and Poverty

This book gives much greater insights about the existing inequality and poverty in the world.

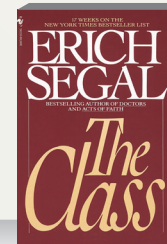


Yanuar Imbiyono
(2015 MPP)

by Daron Acemoglu & James A. Robinson

• The Class

There is a place for someone to stand on the earth if he/she can work hard.

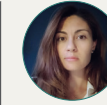


Zaw Lynn Dwe
(2015 MPP)

by Erich Segal

• The End of Procrastination: How to Stop Postponing and Live a Fulfilled Life

Have an open mind, use critical thinking, and never stop learning.



Dana Aleksic
(2010 MPP/ED)

by Petr Ludwig & Adela Schicker

• The New Secrets of CEOs: 200 Global Chief Executives on Leading

This book provides mechanisms for learning authors' traits.

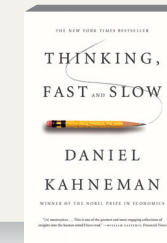


Nelson Njue
(2009 MPP)

by Andrew Cave & Steve Tappin

• Thinking, Fast and Slow

This book explains how fast thinking and judgement work.

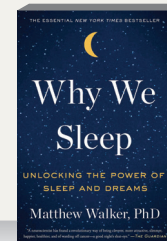


Sahobiddini Mamurboy
(2018 MPM)

by Daniel Kahneman

• Why We Sleep

Stay healthy wherever you are, and don't forget to get a good night's sleep!

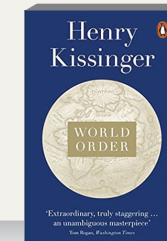


Dongyun Kang
(2009 MPP)

by Matthew Walker

• World Order

Kissinger aims to provide a window into today's struggling framework of international order.



Rahmatullah Sameem
(2018 MDP)

by Henry Kissinger

KDIS RESEARCH & EDUCATION

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

•

KNOWLEDGE SHARING

•

INNOVATIVE EDUCATION

•

FACULTY PROFILE



RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

KDI School is widely acknowledged for its groundbreaking research proceedings in cooperation with various leading institutions. In view thereof, the school has safeguarded the influx of knowledge-sharing activities to effectively impart valuable insights to its students amidst the constraints brought by the COVID-19 pandemic. Among the myriad of scholarly activities, this segment exhibits the seminal conferences and seminars which KDIS spearheaded throughout this year.

3.16

GDLN Global Knowledge Sharing on the Impact and Response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19)



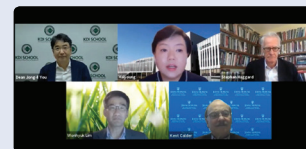
4.9

2020 GDLN Distance Learning Seminar Series



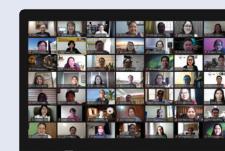
6.8

Navigating the Post-COVID-19 World: Where Do We Go from Here?



7.20-24

KDIS-DAP Benchmarking Course on Legislative Best Practice and Public Sector Leadership of South Korea



8.19-20

Workshop on ASEAN-India Macroeconomic Policy and Development Cooperation



2020 KDI SCHOOL

11.17

KDI School-3ie-ADB-ADB1 Conference on Impact Evaluation



11.11-13

2020 Asian Approaches to Development Cooperation Webinar Series



11.16-20

KDI School-FU IKS Korea-Europe Center Inauguration Conference



10.22-23

KDI School-World Bank DIME Conference on Impact Evaluation in Governance and Finance



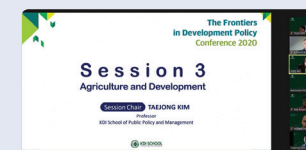
9.3

Virtual Seminar on Current Status and the Way Forward Korea-U.S. Public Diplomacy



9.17-18

The Frontiers in Development Policy Conference 2020



12.3-4

The 2nd International Conference of the Experiment Lab for Public management Research (EXMPR)

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

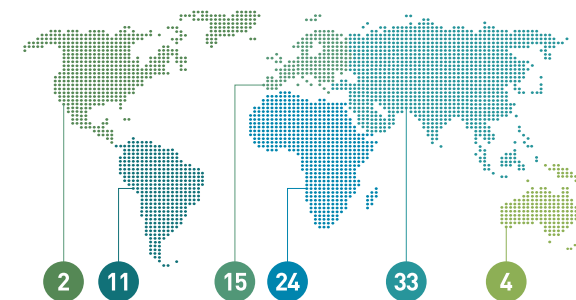


G20 Global Leadership Program

The G20 Global Leadership Program was launched after Korea's hosting of the G20 Leaders' Summit in 2010. The objective of the program is to enable participants from the G20 and developing countries to come together to discuss the key development pillars identified by the Seoul Development Consensus. KDI School aims to enhance the ability of participants to contribute to economic growth and reach global development goals in their respective countries and in the professional capacities they currently hold through the G20 Global Leadership Program.



Number of Participants and Countries Participating



TOTAL



89
Countries



578
Participants

(2012–2020)



Personal Experience at the G20 Global Leadership Program



Name Diego Domínguez
Affiliation Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico
Class of 2019 G20 Global Leadership Program

The program provided me with first-hand insights into Korea's development process and the various issues comprising the G20 agenda. Its unique structure, combining lectures and site visits, allowed me to gain a deeper understanding of Korea's role in the world, while experiencing its vibrant society and culture. As a diplomat currently dealing with G20 affairs, I developed strong practical tools to better contribute to Mexico's participation in this forum and to strengthen the multilateral collaboration between the two countries. This was also an invaluable opportunity to create solid networks with a diversity of participants, with whom I remain in touch.



Name Ndoli Kaluiya
Affiliation African Development Bank, Southern Africa Regional Office
Class of 2019 G20 Global Leadership Program

I had the privilege of participating in the G20 Global Leadership Program in July 2019 in Seoul, South Korea, along with 30 other participants of various nationalities and fields of expertise. The three week long program was information intensive and highly interactive, consisting of lectures, group work sessions, presentations and site visits. The cultural tour of Seoul and visits to other cities of South Korea was a truly enriching experience, as we deepened our understanding of the Korean socio-economic development experience. The knowledge generated from the program and friendships forged in Seoul will remain with me for life.

INNOVATIVE EDUCATION

Switching to Hybrid Classes



* No More Boring Classes: Popular Classes After COVID-19 (The KDIS hybrid class was featured on prime time news.)

In the second week of October this year, the much anticipated “hybrid” classes came into effect at KDIS. Hybrid, a system that incorporates offline and online classes, stemmed from this need to improve the learning experience of students. This transition was poised to improve on the online classes that students had grown accustomed to ever since the COVID-19 pandemic brought normal learning to a grinding halt. The few students I have spoken to welcomed the change with emphatic reception. “I am blown away. This school never ceases to amaze me. They always find a way out, adjusting to any particular changes and seasons,” says Abel Shelton (2019 MPP) when we first sit for our first offline class in six months.

For a typical hybrid class, half of the class meet offline while the other half continue to stream online. The plan, which is in tandem with the social distancing policy, is such that only a given

number of students can come to class. Coupled with other measures like measuring student temperatures as they enter the classrooms and then ensuring that students put on their masks while the class is in session, these measures put the school in a better position to combat any potential spread of COVID-19. Furthermore, the classes are also recorded and then left online for hours to accommodate students who might experience time conflicts. This is useful for students who are taking classes in their home countries. As such, they have found it flexible and easy to work their way around the school’s schedule.

The gist of this efficient hybrid transition is in the nifty technology that has been employed. Classrooms are equipped with state-of-the-art monitor screens, that allow offline and online students to interact effectively in real time. Some classes have a huge central microphone that

captures the voices of students and professors. With that, classroom members no longer have to speak with portable microphones or shout their lungs out. On the other end, when online students chime in, they are also heard effectively by their offline counterparts. This ingenious use of technology places KDIS in the league of trendsetters.

So how did this come to be?

Let's go back to the beginning of this year. When COVID-19 was raging on in Korea, all schools went on to shut down to try and contain the spread. KDIS, which had already resumed its spring semester followed suit but quickly hatched a plan to get the semester on track. The school broke for two weeks and then switched to online classes through the improvisation of the Zoom platform. It adjusted its environs to suit the then (still is) "new normal" and rolled out a number of in-house policies to ensure that their plan did not contravene the stipulated national policy measures. Cameras were fixed on library computers. The school purchased a number of tablets and laptop computers and then invited the students to borrow them. This ensured that no one was left behind, in spite of their financial or economic condition.

As the months went by, the administration continued to keep an eye on the online teaching and learning experience, as it tirelessly looked for ways to make it better. The teaching and learning division at KDIS kept on conducting inquiries from professors and students on how best they could improve this



“
It is evident that the school
is not only challenging
its students to shape and
innovate policies that would
benefit society, but it is also
living the challenge.



experience. It is as a result of this that the hybrid concept came about. Mr. Keun-Hyuk Lim, the head of Teaching and Learning Division at KDI School, notes: “Most of these grand ideas came from our very own professors and students. We kept asking them what we could do to replicate the offline experience online, how we could fix the online challenges, among other issues that needed to be addressed. We summed up all these ideas to come up with what we have now.”

This in-house innovation has garnered a lot of attention. Some schools have been visiting KDIS to learn about its experience and see what they can do to replicate it. The other day, the school was featured on prime time news, Seoul Broadcasting System (SBS) TV, as it got to share its hybrid system experience with the Korean society.

Associate Dean Kwon Jung is optimistic that the KDIS hybrid model will stand the test of time despite the few uncertainties. “This is something new. Something that we have never tried before and therefore anything can happen. But we have put in place the necessary infrastructure to meet any ensuing hitches.” The school is able to monitor all the ongoing lectures. Assistants are always on standby to meet any unexpected challenges. From student testimonials, few to no hitches have been encountered.

As the world tries to adjust to the new normal, KDIS is without a doubt leaving its mark, pioneering ideas that education policy makers might find fit to incorporate. It is evident that the school is not only challenging its students to shape and innovate policies that would benefit society, but it is also living the challenge.

FACULTY PROFILE

The all-inclusive learning experience of a KDIS student would be incomplete without the pivotal role of a full-fledged cadre of professors. New faculty with expertise in their respective disciplines join the school's existing array of top-caliber academicians. They employ groundbreaking pedagogical activities that add to the knowledge that KDIS imparts to its students. In acknowledgment of these individuals, this section shall introduce the new faculty members of KDIS who will undoubtedly revolutionize the curricula of the school.



Professor Changkeun Lee worked at Korea Development Institute as an associate fellow and Yonsei University Mirae Campus before joining KDI School. He earned a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Michigan in 2015.

He feels that this is an excellent place to conduct meticulous research. Since he deeply understands the school's mission and environment, he hopes to contribute to KDI School by bringing his economic history expertise and adding diversity in education and research. Prof. Lee is interested in uncovering and promoting a better understanding of history. In his classes, he emphasizes that finding causal links is necessary to apply the lessons from history to the present. One should also bear in mind that historical legacy often restricts the choice of the better policy options, he adds.

With his another identity as an applied microeconomists with focus on industry and firms, he will continue to research the following topics: Great Depression of the United States in the 1930s, Korea's industrialization in the 1960s and 1970s, democratization in the 1980s, and the current digital transformation. He has also participated in KDI's policy research on wide-ranging issues, from cultural industry policy to political polarization and big data strategy.

As he has various interests and hobbies, he hopes to engage in various school activities. He has played football (soccer) for more than 20 years. He is a lover of fine arts and travel. Most of all, he likes having conversations about all the topics mentioned here.



Prof.
CHANGKEUN LEE

**PROFESSOR OF ECONOMIC HISTORY,
INDUSTRY AND FIRM DYNAMICS,
TECHNOLOGY AND THE LABOR MARKET
KDI SCHOOL**



Prof.
JOSHUA D. MERFELD

**PROFESSOR OF DEVELOPMENT
ECONOMICS, LABOR ECONOMICS,
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS,
KDI SCHOOL**

Professor Josh Merfeld began his career here at the KDI School in July of 2020. Before coming to KDI School, he conducted a great deal of research for use in his own project to obtain a PhD in Public Policy. He received his PhD from the University of Washington in Public Policy and Management. After graduation, he taught at the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service at New York University. He worked for two years in New York City before coming to the KDI School.

His research interests are in labor allocation in developing countries, especially poor households working in agriculture. With KDI School's funding, he is also working on a Korean development project, which aims to understand how labor changed throughout the country as Korea developed from being a primarily agricultural country in the 1960s to an industrial country in the 1990s. It focuses on migration from rural areas to urban areas and how people's industries changed, in terms of whether they were working in agriculture or manufacturing. In an additional KDIS-funded project, he will research households in rural areas of India, exploring how they reallocated labor following the introduction of a large government workfare program which provided rural households with up to 100 days of employment.

His top goals are to advise students and help students with their own research. He wishes to aid students with their programs, including their master's theses or PhD dissertations. Additionally, he is of course there to help students as someone who enjoys conducting research and publishing.

Professor Chunggeun Yoon worked at the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) before coming to KDI School. After finishing his work at KOICA, he received his PhD. Currently, he is also conducting research related to innovation and development, which KDI School can benefit from at this time. He conducts classes and research in a way that he believes is suited to KDI School. There are many students here from developing countries and many Korean students who have work experience. He has first-hand knowledge of what these students are experiencing now, and he believes he can lead students in a direction of mutual development.

In particular, in developing countries changes in industrial structure require an understanding of technology, so Prof. Yoon aims to provide his students with the tools to help their countries' development after they return home. He hopes that his Korean students will share their thoughts on his research and learn even simple aspects of data science.

Before embarking on an academic career, he worked at KOICA for about four years, of which he spent two years in Cambodia. For students who are curious about the field of development, he is able to anticipate their inquiries and share his knowledge with them.

In terms of research topics, data science-related program language, big data, machine learning, and technical aspects are areas which Prof. Yoon can share as well.

Prof.
CHUNGEUN YOON

**PROFESSOR OF INNOVATION AND
KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY, LABOR,
DEVELOPMENT, KDI SCHOOL**



Farewell Letters

My first job was an assistant professor at the University of Arizona (U of A). Vernon Smith, who was running an experimental lab along with a small group of economists within the Economics Department at the time, invited me to join his group. Not understanding experimental economics, definitely not knowing that Vernon would receive a Nobel prize later, and without much thinking, I declined his offer. Instead I left U of A to join KDI in 1990. After spending 12 years at KDI, I moved to KDIS where I will retire at the end of this year after spending 19 years. I sometimes wondered what kind of career I would've had had I joined Vernon's group. But the career I ended up having in Korea was definitely not a dull one.

At KDI, I started working on competition policy of Korea, which was in its infant stage at the time, and continued to work on many projects on real life antitrust cases in the next 3 decades. While working on competition policy, I became interested in bankruptcy proceedings and state-owned enterprise (SOE) sector of Korea. Mechanisms for allocating resources in bankrupt firms and in the industries dominated by SOEs in the mid-1990s had not changed since the early 1980s, and were not much different from those in the 1970s. Starting from around 1992, I worked on bankruptcy proceedings of Korea. I began working on SOEs and the industries they dominated in 1994 and worked on many projects covering telecom, electricity, and natural gas industries. In each project, I tried to identify the part of the laws or policies that I believed were likely to lead to inefficient outcomes by giving wrong incentives to relevant economic agents or by suppressing competition and usually ended with a set of reform measures that I believed would enhance economic efficiency.

I was lucky to have the opportunity to participate in the designing of alternative policies on competition, ownership and governance of SOEs, and regulation of network industries. I especially enjoyed my time at KDI during the economic crisis of the late 1990s. The economic crisis, which was a result of various structural problems Korea had accumulated for many years, adversely affected many in Korea financially including myself. But it also gave me a once in a life time opportunity to understand the structural problems Korea had, to develop alternative mechanisms that could fundamentally improve efficiency of the economic system, and to observe that the proposals I developed, at least parts of them, were actually implemented by politicians and bureaucrats. New bankruptcy proceedings that replaced the old one focused on the terms of debt for equity swaps, as I proposed earlier, for the first time in Korea. I even worked with the judges in the Seoul District Court, which was like the sixth largest conglomerate at the time in terms of the size of assets

under its control, in handling bankruptcy cases as head of the Management Commission that was established after the onset of the crisis as a part of the reform measures. On the SOE front, a few large commercial SOEs, including KT, KT&G, and POSCO, were privatized without involving chaebols. It was the first time that Korea had a large commercial firm that neither the government nor chaebols owned or controlled. A law was also passed to install profit oriented governance structure in commercial SOEs that also tried to separate industrial policy of the line ministries from the management of SOEs. After moving to KDIS in 2002, I built my courses that focus on competition policy, bankruptcy proceedings, SOE sector, and regulation of network industries, and economic theories relevant to them while at the time continuing to work closely with KDI on competition policy, SOEs, and network industries. KDIS was a good place to be for me in the last leg of my career.

I do have my share of regrets. After observing the reform measures taken during 1998 – 2002, I was convinced that Korea would continue to reform its economic system following the path of UK under Margaret Thatcher and evolve into a true market economy. I was completely wrong. Each administration after another that came to power after 2002 undid much of the reform that was implemented during 1998 – 2002. Now the economic system that prevails in Korea today retreated so much that it looks close to that in the 1980s. Obviously, I had a poor understanding of politicians, bureaucrats, business people, the media, and more importantly voters in Korea. As a result, I ended up wasting a lot of time since 2003 on developing policy reform that, in retrospect, had no chance of being implemented. I could have spent the time more productively on things that would really matter. I should have had a clear understanding of the environment before committing my time and efforts. So, my last word to students, if I may give one, would be "Think before you leap."



Il-Chong Nam

Professor of Economics,
KDI School



Farewell Letters



I have always dreamt of getting a foreign graduate education. Beyond acquiring a different kind of training from the one I'm used to, I've believed that living abroad within an international community would contribute to my growth, both as an individual and as a professional. As a person coming from a family of modest means, this dream could

only be fulfilled through generous financial support. I'm grateful and proud of having been taken in by the KDI School of Public Policy and Management. Over the past 11 months, I have acquired invaluable fundamental skills needed to be a competitive public manager. In between learning about management, finance, and policymaking, I have developed cultural intelligence through working with my peers within and beyond academic settings. I also got acquainted with handling new settings and new people. It has been an interesting year, honing both my hard and soft skills. As we approach graduation, I'd like to extend my gratitude and appreciation to the community that made this year more than just about lockdowns and movement restrictions. The wonderful professors, staff, and students of KDIS defined my 2020, making it a year of learning and creation of meaningful connections—especially my amazing colleagues from the Writing Center, TEDxKDISchool, and the student reporters who engaged me in compelling extracurricular activities. I am deeply grateful to my lovely new friends, who made each day more exciting through study sessions, coffee crawls, and even spontaneous grocery shop visits!

As much as I dread bidding goodbye, I am also excited to put the knowledge I gained from KDIS to good use. My year in Sejong will always be cherished. *Maraming salamat* (thank you so much)!

Joyce Muriel Sugui Aguirre

2020 MPM | Philippines



It feels like only yesterday that I entered KDI School last fall, but time flew by so fast, and I'm already about to graduate. Considering how much I've learned and grown, I strongly believe that choosing KDI School was the best fit for my career and interests. All the learning and hard work has improved my value as an expert in and a researcher of the field of development. The most memorable activity in my school life was working as a TA (Teaching Assistant). Although I had no background in statistics or economics, I got the opportunity to work as a TA in the Quantitative Methods course thanks to the encouragement of the professors. Through my TA activities, I gained confidence in quantitative research methodologies, further strengthening my basic knowledge of it, so much so that I could use quantitative analysis for my graduation thesis. Most rewarding of all, I was able to both help and learn from other students and other TAs, and enjoy good relationships with them. Thank you to Professor Dong-seok Kim and Professor In-bok Rhee for allowing me to have this valuable experience, and for generously supporting me. I would also like to thank my supervisor, Professor Yoon-cheong Cho, and Professor Yu-min Joo for guiding me to the completion of my graduation thesis. I also appreciate the efforts of faculty and staff who have devoted themselves to providing quality education during the crisis of the COVID-19 pandemic. The measures the school took to adapt to the pandemic helped us to continue our studies without restrictions, both online and in on-site classes. I was honored to share my goals and visions with my classmates from all over the world. In addition, through various cultural and academic events, I had a great school life interacting with my friends. It is a pity to leave school, but I believe that we will be able to continue our solidarity through our alumni network even after graduation.

Jiin Yoo

2019 MDP | Republic of Korea

KDIS TOP FEEDS

kdischool_official

1



These adorable girls are the children of KDI School's students. Sofea Zeryn is the daughter of Emilda Zulkeflee (2020 MPP) from Malaysia, and Emiliia Vyshnevskaya is the daughter of Igor Vyshnevskaya (2020 PP) from Ukraine. Zeryn ... [READ MORE](#)

#KDISchool #shapetheworld
#pioneerthefuture #toddlers
#cherishlife



♥ 350 likes

October 20

2



We have two fathers in KDI School! These photos are for those who miss our precious house masters and must be all of our alumni! Our two house masters foster a homey and safe atmosphere within the dorms♥ Let us thank them for caring ... [READ MORE](#)

#kdischool #kdis #dormitory
#dormlife #international
#besthousemasters #thankyou



♥ 335 likes

June 18

3



Today is National Teacher's Day which is the day for honoring teachers. We thank all the KDI School professors for their lasting contributions they make to our lives. It has always been an honor to have you, professors.

#kdischool #kdis #international
#school #college #teacher
#teachersday #appreciation
#scholars #professors



♥ 303 likes

May 15

4



Happy Valentine's Day♥ KDI School faculty members send warm love to all KDI School family members!!

#kdischool #kdis #valentines
#love #faculty #professor



♥ 293 likes

February 14

KDIS TOP FEEDS

kdischool_official

5



On behalf of KDI School, Dean Jong-Il You and 33 students from 24 countries joined the "Thanks To" challenge. We thank all of the healthcare workers fighting on the front line ... [READ MORE](#)

#Thankstochallenge
#Thankstoallfrontlineworkers
#Thankstoyou #heroes
#kdischool #kdis #challenge
#thankyou



♥ 251 likes

June 23

7



Sejong Lake Park is the most famous place for our KDI School students! Did you ... [READ MORE](#)

#kdischool #kdis #sejongcity
#sejonglakepark #sejong
#lakepark #kdi국제정책대학원
#kdi대학원 #한국대학원
#koreangradschool
#studyinkorea #graduateschool
#graduateschoollife #chilling
#relax #세종



♥ 237 likes

October 27

6



You might wonder what it looks like at our school when the night comes. This is the KDIS night view from the rooftop of our dormitory. KDIS is more beautiful when you see it at night! We always open for ... [READ MORE](#)

#kdis #kdischool #korea
#graduateschool #studyinkorea
#nightview #kdi국제정책대학원
#kdi대학원



♥ 245 likes

September 24

8



We thank Mr. Sam Okyere for his inspiring speech! TEDxKDISchool 2020 will be available online on August 14, 2p.m. at KDI School's official YouTube ... [READ MORE](#)

#tedtalks #monday #kdischool
#sejong #dailychallenge
#firsttime #월요일 #비 #kdischool
#kdis #tedx #tedxkdischool
#샘오취리



♥ 236 likes

August 4

KDIS TOP FEEDS

kdischool_official

9



Being different and being yourself. Every human being is unique in their own way, regardless of skin color, languages, races, beliefs, cultures, and health. Our uniqueness and differences enable ... [READ MORE](#)

#kdischool #beyourself
#ilovekdis #respectuniqueness
#beinspired #KDI국제정책대학원
#KDI대학원



♥ 231 likes

October 12

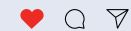


11



Professor Heesuk Yun has been newly elected for the 21st National Assembly, which will open on May 30. Wish Professor Yun all the best in her future.

#kdischool #kdis
#nationalassembly #professor
#student #government
#korea #ROK #election #vote
#international #school



♥ 208 likes

May 4



10



Enjoy the autumn 2020!

#kdis #kdischool #kdi대학원
#gradschool #fallsemester
#midterm #fall #maple
#campus



♥ 216 likes

October 30

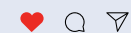


12



"Apa Kabar." This strongly bonded Indonesian community took a photo of themselves to remember their time in Korea later in the future. They say, "Thanks to KDI School, we could ... [READ MORE](#)

#kdischool #kdis #belajardikorea
#dikorea #berbagikenangan
#studyinkorea #inkorea
#sharingmemories #international
#international_student



♥ 207 likes

June 12











Autographs

Fill this page with autographs from your
colleagues and classmates.



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