

The First International Sundo Daoist Conference

The First International Sundo Daoist Conference was held in Seoul, Korea on April 27, 2007. It was sponsored by the International Institute of Sundo Daoist Cultural Research (IISCR) based in Connecticut, US. Ten scholars gave presentations and about 200 people came to listen.

The conference opened with a performance by internationally renowned performer and meditation teacher Kang, Manhong. The opening statement was given by Venerable Seok Sang Kui, a Daoist priest and Buddhist monk from Malaysia who was recently recognized as a Rinpoche by the Lyngma School of Tibetan tradition. Then a Welcoming Speech was given by Mr. Kim, Gwan-Hee who is the Chairman of the International Institute for Sundo Taoist Cultural Research. The opening ceremonies concluded with a Celebrating Speech by Dr. Kim, Hyunuk, President of the International Security Forum.

Ten presentations on Daoism and Daoist related topics followed the opening ceremonies.

1. *The Way of Korean Self-Discipline Organizations* by Dr. Yoon, Yee-Heum, Chairman of the Korean Religion and Research Society.
2. *Life, Ecology, and Theo-Tao: Towards a Theology of the Anthropocosmic Tao* by Dr. Kim, Heup-Young, Professor at Kangnam University.
3. *A Body-Mind-Spirit Profile of Sundo Daoism* by Dr. Joan Hageman, President of Pymore Research, Inc.
4. *Tancheon Breath Psychotherapy* by Ron Catabia, researcher at the International Institute of Sundo Daoist Cultural Research.
5. *Samsin Mountain: A Mythological Perspective of Cultural Reciprocity in Ancient East Asia* by Kim, Sung-Whan, Professor at Kunsan National University.
6. *Unwinding, Sundo, and Taoism* by Wendy Larman (Canada), researcher at the International Institute of Sundo Daoist Cultural Research.
7. *Shamanism and Sundo* by Dr. Cha, Ok-Duk, President of the Korean Shamanism Institute.
8. *Kriya Yoga and Sundo* by Dr. Kim, Kwan-Yong, Professor at Joongbu University.
9. *Summary and Comments* by Dr. Jung, Jae-Suh, Professor at Ewha Womens University
10. *The Vision of the International Institute of Sundo Daoist Cultural Research* by Dr. Kim, Hyunmoon, Professor at Hanseo University Graduate School and Director of the International Institute of Sundo Daoist Cultural Research.

This initial conference laid the foundation for Sundo Daoist research in mainstream academia. Future conferences are planned with sites to be determined. The International Institute of Sundo Daoist Cultural Research hopes and plans to provide new perspectives and insights into ancient Daoist practices.