

### Goryeoin Independence Movement Monument built in Ansan OKA says, 'We will embrace Koryo people more warmly'

A monument to honor the independence movement of Koreans who led the anti-Japanese struggle in Russia's Primorsky Krai has been built for the first time in Korea.

The monument, which opened at Hwarang Amusement Park in Ansan, Gyeonggi Province, on April 4, was promoted by the Numu Corp. on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the March 1 Movement in 1919, when it proposed that the sublime spirit and history of the Korean people who devoted themselves to the independence movement should be known to future generations.

The National Promotion Committee for Korean Independence Movement Monuments was formed as an opportunity to revisit the historical contributions of the independence activists, and the monument was built with the support of 253 donors, the Ansan



The unveiling ceremony of the Goryeoin Independence Movement Monument at Hwarang Amusement Park in Ansan, Gyeonggi Province, on April 4.

Hope Foundation and Numu. The unveiling ceremony was hosted by Ansan, Numu and the Association of Koryo-saram, and organized by the Promotion Committee and the Committee for Commemorating the 160th Anniversary of Korean Migration.

The Overseas Koreans Agency (Commissioner Lee Sang-duk) vowed to "provide a warmer embrace for Koryo people living in Korea" with the unveiling of the monument.

"The monument not only recognizes prominent independence fighters, such as Gen. Hong Bum-do and Choi Jae-hyung, but also the noble will of countless Koryo people," OKA Deputy Commissioner Byun Cheol-hwan said in his remarks at the unveiling ceremony. "It will serve as a reminder to our children of the history of the proud spirit of independence and national solidarity of the Korean diaspora."

### First Hallyu Culture Festival in Cuba to commemorate first anniversary of diplomatic relations

The Havana Hallyu Culture Festival 2025, organized by the Baekbong Institute for Political Culture and Education, was held in the Cuban capital to commemorate the first anniversary of diplomatic relations between Korea and Cuba from April 9-12.

"The festival was significant in that it was the first purely cultural festival organized by Koreans in Cuba after the establishment of diplomatic relations," said Ra Jong-il, former South Korean ambassador to Japan and the United Kingdom, who heads the institute. "There was a lot of local interest."

The event was organized through the cooperation of various government and private organizations. The South Korean Embassy in Cuba and the Cuban Embassy in South Korea also served as



The Hallyu Culture Festival is held in Havana, Cuba, on April 12.

sponsors. In the cultural arena, filmmaker Kang Jae-kyu, who led the renaissance of Korean cinema with "Shiri" and "Taegukgi," personally participated in the event and discussed the future of cultural exchanges between the two countries.

Academic exchanges also took place. For example, scholars from both countries discussed the works of Nobel Prize-winning author Han Kang and Virgilio Pinera, who are often compared in the literary world.

Marta Lim Kim, the daughter of independence activist Lim Cheon-taek (1903-1985) and younger sister of Cuban politician Jeronimo Lim, also gave a lecture on her book "Koreans in Cuba." Each discussion and lecture was followed by a flurry of questions from the local audience.