**[[Monthly Lecture- July] Corruption of Judicature Today and Our Task](http://ti.or.kr/xe/108600)**

Since March, 2008, Transparency International-Korea has been having monthly lectures focusing on anti-corruption in order to teach members and the public of anti-corruption issues and to disseminate anti-corruption transparency consciousness. The monthly lectures have been focusing on

        March: Korea’s corruption today and the solution
        April: Governmental reform and anti-corruption task
May: The local autonomous entity’s corruption and character, and the plans of public participation in order to reinforce transparency in the local autonomous entity
        June: Public office morals and Korea’s anti-corruption laws.
The monthly lecture of Anti-corruption in July was led by lawyer Kang-uk Choi. Mr. Choi is an ombudsman of the Defense Acquisition Program Administration and the current chairperson of the Democratic Bar Association. He lectured on the “Corruption of judicature today and our task.”

First, he mentioned specific and concrete examples of corruption in the judicature and explained the matters clearly.
Mr. Choi lectured that a lot of problems such as judicial officers’ repeated wrongdoings, judical brokers, facilitating money, privileges of one’s former post, the reality of Korea where the wealthy are always right and the poor are  always guilty, judicial officers who do not reflect on themselves, and hierarchical judicial system are what cause corruption in the judicature section.
He specified that though this is the case, there is no effort for self-purification from the inside or the outside of the judicature.

He mentioned that the reason the judicature is independent is because of the need to maintain “democratic fundamental rules,” and because it is the last stronghold of the rights of the minority and of justice. He added, however, that this independency can cause incurable damage if misused.

  Explaining the basis and solution for judicial corruption, he lectured that for a judicature closer to the people, undemocratic judicature should be overcome with participation and surveillance. Mr. Choi ended the lecture saying that the consensus should demand continued reform, and that not only special prosecutors of high position corruption but also a unification of the judicial officers are needed.

  We hope a transparent and just judicature for the maintenance of democratic fundamental order. The Next monthly lecture is in September. September 11th (Thur.) 7 P.M.

[**[Monthly Lecture- June] Public Office Morals and Korea's Anti-Corruption Laws**](http://ti.or.kr/xe/108593)

Amber

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The June’s monthly lecture on anti-corruption was carried out by TI-Korea’s auditor and Anti-Corruption and Civil Rights Commission’s expert, Dr. Young-Lim Ji. This month’s lecture was on public office morals and Korea’s anti-corruption law.

In her lecture, she reminded us that the least we can do for ethics is following the law. In the beginning, she listed the process of anticorruption laws in Korea since the 1947’s constitution. Public servants are someone who represents us and in charge of public services. Therefore, their importance was recognized greatly and in 1981, Public office Ethics Law was created and many enforcement decrees were produced. However, management on corruption of public servants in Korea is still more leaning towards on eradicating corruption when it has already done, than instituting preventive action before corruption could occur.

She says, even after eradication, punishments are infirm and not yet forceful enough to reduce corruption. She mentioned that anti-corruption’s final fortress should be the Public Prosecutor’s Office and the Court of Justice and their ability to self preventing corruption should be enforced. In this lecture, she has suggested few guidelines to make Korean society more transparent and more upright.
These are:

- Systematic anti-corruption policy should be established
- Control on corruption and promoting organization should establish linkage
- System of anti-corruption statute law should be equipped
- System on prevention of corruption should be efficiently run
- Corruption regulatory organization and personnel should be professionally guaranteed
- Efficient system of before and after regulatory system on corruption should be in place
- Prosecution oriented regulations on corruption should be thrown out
- Statistics on Public Office corruption should be correctly instituted

Then, she concluded her lecture by making an ending comment:

Even if harvesting was not possible in their generations
Because of those who planted trees before us,
We are able to see forest,
Like those who have come before us,
I believe in our effort to bring transparent world in our next generation.

[**[Monthly Lecture-May] Anti-Corruption and Municipality**](http://ti.or.kr/xe/108564)

Amber

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**153 / 0**

May Monthly Lecture: Anti-corruption, and Municipality

We Transparency International Korea, held our third Monthly Lecture on May 14, (Wed). Professor, Byung-dae Choi, Chair of the Department of Social Science at the graduate school of Hanyang University gave the lecture on the topic of Anti-Corruption, and Municipality demonstrating city of Seoul as an example. Professor Choi also is a Board Member of Transparency International Korea. He explains the anti-corruption systems like OPEN (On-line Procedures Enhancement for civil applications) System. The OPEN system was introduced as a part of anti-corruption drive and the Civil Inspection System was implemented in 1999 in order to protect rights of people in filing complaints, and its process is open to the public.
Integrity Contract Ombudsman System (Integrity Pact) obliged the private contractor, and the relevant public officials to sign an integrity agreement when contracting for construction, supply purchases, and recruitment. This agreement is stated in their contract as a special condition, and later it is subjected to an evaluation. After explaining such systems, professor Choi emphasized that it is important to have systematic structure for anti-corruption, yet it is even more important to manage these systems on track.  “Integrity Ombudsman System and Civil Inspection system have about 10, 000 civil groups, however, it is only two percent of these participants are engaged in activities with recommendations from boards of the civil organizations. 15 percent of the groups do not even hold any board meeting. In order to enhance transparency of municipality, the heads of civil organizations having almighty power need to take great roles.”
To conclude, professor Choi stated that the civil organizations are having roles to connect between civil groups, and provincial organizations. He also emphasized that attention, and participation of civil organizations are key to the transparency of provincial organizations.
“We need to nurture them yet we also need to teach them to learn how to grow independently. I believe this is the role we as civil organizations have. We have many tasks to complete.”

[**[Monthly Lecture-April] Governmental Reform and Anti-Corruption Tasks**](http://ti.or.kr/xe/108557)

Amber

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**2008.09.12** 11:43:46

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On April 16th 2008, TI-Korea’s second lecture was presented by TI-Korea’s Consultant Committee’s Dr. Hyuk-Jae Son on “Governmental Reform and Anti-Corruption Task.” Based on TI’s CPI, he emphasized the standard of Korea’s transparency. He said, biggest obstacle for governmental corruption in Korea is illegal political funds and corruption of authority. As a result, he suggested solutions for the newly elected President Myung-bak Lee on political corruption and also solutions on strengthening the mentality of transparency in the areas of politic, administration, judicature, and corporation.

In order to strengthen transparency in the areas of political sphere, Dr. Son believes that there should be a reform on cost inefficient political structure by instituting less expensive political system, establishing transparent political fund, and innovating party system in order to democratize party.

He suggested some solutions to the problems at his lecture and they are: creating prevention law on corruption and prevention on money laundering, institution of distributing coupons as political fund, authorizing the law for increasing or decreasing the campaign expenses, publicizing election management and innovation on subsidy by national treasury.

He believes that there are many anti-corruption systems that are instituted in order to prevent the corruption of high-ranking officials but, there are still customary corruptions being ignored. Therefore, he concluded that instituting nation-wide anticorruption system is vital for Korea’s future.

[**[Monthly Lecture- March] Korea's Reality Check on Corruption**](http://ti.or.kr/xe/108519)

Amber

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Since March, 2008, TI-Korea has been giving monthly lectures focusing on anti-corruption in order to teach members and the public of anti-corruption issues and disseminate transparency consciousness.

First lecture was held in March, titled “Korea’s corruption today and the solution.” With about 30 members and related personnel, TI-Korea’s Secretary General Sung-Goo Kang explained the standard to guideline State, Society and Individual.

Using Alvin Toffler’s “Revolutionary Wealth,” Secretary General Kang stated that State Law is not yet being able to follow the dynamic change of corporations and citizen activists. He claimed, a least thing that a state can do is to reflect on reality and ethics. Also corporations should take responsibility as a part of citizens, taking importance on instituting UN Global Compact’s four articles: human rights, labor, environment, and anti-corruption’s ten most important principles.

By stating TI’s annual Corruption Perceptions Index, Mr. Kang also stated that Korea’s recent improvement on getting CPI of 5.1 (just escaped from absolute corruption), was possible by creation of a strong hardware (such as preventive systematic equipments on public procurement service) and slowing down of improvement on levels of anti-corruption is because of missing software (lack of will to enforce anti-corruption by high ranking officials and individuals).

In order to make improvement on anti-corruption, Transparency International Korea made few suggestions:

1.        We need all three.
-Prosecution and Punishment.
-Consolidation on law and policy.
-Reform on people’s consciousness.
2.   Counter measurement on corrupt-friendly societal culture.
-Looking at prosecution, punishment, law, consciousness, and culture in different angel.
-There’s no panacea for corruption.
-Comprehensive, Long-term and Continual ways to institute efforts.
-Construction of national anti-corruption system.
3.    Coalition building is necessary.