

горные лыжи и виндсерфинг. Все корейские профессора интересуются литературой, музыкой, изобразительным искусством. Они знают и высоко ценят русских художников, композиторов, писателей и любят слушать и петь популярные песни. В заключение хотелось бы отметить неподдельное почтение корейских коллег к высокому профессионализму российских ученых и высокую оценку уровня подготовки студентов и аспирантов в российских университетах. Единственная причина, которая сдерживает желающих пройти длительную стажировку в России (прежде всего в сибирском регионе), - непривычные суровые климатические условия и отсутствие привычного бытового комфорта.

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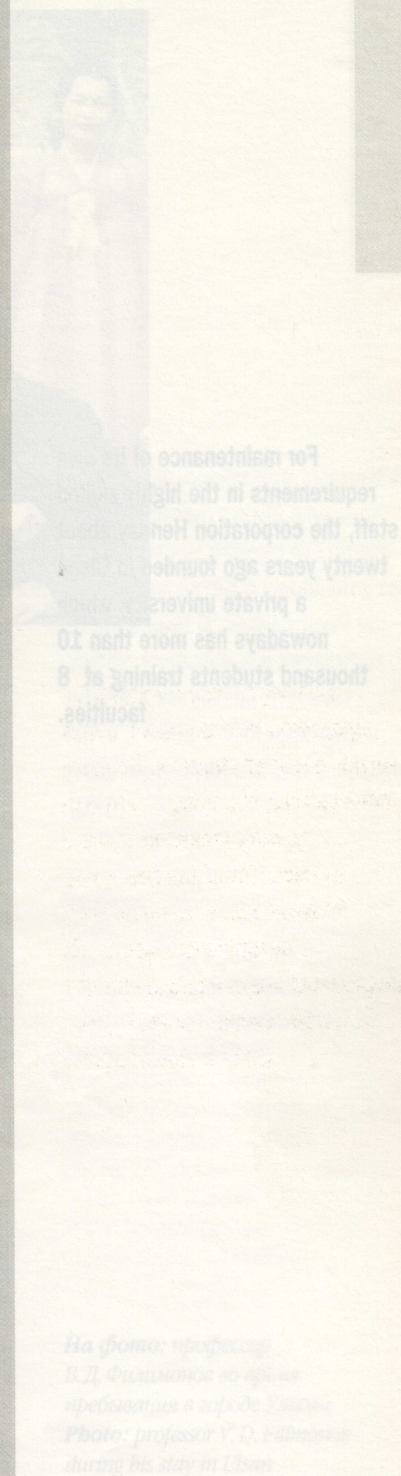
Today each of us in common life in any event encounters with a phenomenon of Southern Korea. This is promoted by the wide assortment of high-quality Korean production on counters of our shops, first of all clothes and home appliances. Recently not by a rarity became Korean automobiles on our roads, and not only delivered from Korea, but also assembled at Russian factories. I had to get acquainted with all of this five years ago, during my three-monthly stay in this surprising country as the professor-lecturer on computer engineering for the students and the post-graduate students of Ulsan University. In September of the previous year I have been to Southern Korea for the second time. During a week I took part in an international symposium and checked fidelity of the received impressions from the

first longer visit. I would like to tell my personal impressions from the both trips. Some words about the country. First, the Koreans never name their country Southern Korea, only Republic Korea. Behind it, most likely, they hide their nostalgia about the uniform Korea, their hope for association in the future with their northern neighbor, because almost each of them has the numerous relatives in Northern Korea. Today Northern and Southern Korea are divided by the javelin formatted demarcation zone, absolutely excluding any dialogue between Northern and Southern Koreans. By the way, I was lucky to get on excursion to one of areas of this zone, to see with my own eyes the powerful boundary strengthening of the American soldiers, protecting the border of the southern party, and even for the short time to visit the opposite side of the border - Northern Korea.

In Southern Korea a mountain landscape of the country at once strikes the eyes. From the whole territory about two thirds is occupied with mountains, and only one third is suitable for residing of 50 million persons - the population of the country. The largest cities are the capital Seoul and a seaport Pusan. From north to the south it is possible to cross the country on a car for five - six hours. The whole territory of the country is covered with a network of perfect highways, connecting the largest industrial centers. Some Korean firm-giants, for example "Samsung" are located in the capi-

Touching the Phenomenon

South Korea: Siberian judgement



*На фото: профессор
В. Д. Филиппов во время
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Photo: professor V. D. Filippov
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For maintenance of its own requirements in the highly skilled staff, the corporation Henday about twenty years ago founded in Ulsan a private university, which nowadays has more than 10 thousand students training at 8 faculties.

tal, others - as an infrastructure - have created their own industrial cities. The town of Ulsan can present one of such examples with the population more than 500 thousand people. It was founded on the southern cost of the Japanese sea more than 30 years ago by the largest Korean corporation Henday, which structure includes ship-building and automobile-building firms, metallurgical, chemical and oil-refining factories, and also a number of other industrial enterprises.

For maintenance of its own requirements in the highly skilled staff, the corporation Henday about twenty years ago founded in Ulsan a private university, which nowadays has more than 10 thousand students training on 8 faculties. Training in the university is paid and two-leveled. After four years of training the graduates receive a degree of a bachelor and are accepted for job mainly in the divisions of the corporation. The subsequent training on the master program is hold only by the part of graduates with a degree of a bachelor, who receives a master degree. Some of them continue their training in post-graduate school on the chosen speciality. Characteristic for the post-gradu-

ate preparation is the presence of obligatory auditing lessons on some disciplines of the chosen speciality within all three years of post-graduate training. University's campus is located compactly in the suburb of Ulsan. Near to the campus there are situated the student hostels and houses of the teachers. About twenty educational buildings are equipped with the modern educational and scientific facilities, there is a perfect library, palace of sports, cultural center and Students' house. On the territory of campus there are the stadium and plenty of sports platforms and tennis courts, which are filled since early morning till the late evening. On the whole territory of the campus their is kept up the ideal order.

The Korean students are distinguished with their responsible attitude to the study. Practically there is no elimination of the students for all time of training. The educational process is mainly directed to the independent work of the students. The lectures usually carry summarizing character. The high motivation to the education is caused by the direct dependence of the future standard of living of each member of a society on the

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Photo: organizing committee of the KORUS'98 Russian-Korean Conference, Tomsk, 1998



received education. The working week at the universities in Korea makes 5 days, and total duration of academic year - 8.5 months. Free time is used by the students for the reception of necessary money to pay for their training, for this purpose there are actively used any opportunities during the academic year.

Teaching in Ulsan University is conducted by the Korean professors, who usually passed the preparation abroad (in the USA, Great Britain, Japan) and doctors, having a scientific degree of philosophy (Ph. D.). The post of the professor of university in Korea is very prestigious. Besides the public recognition and authority, the professor has material privileges in taxes, significant discounts when sale air tickets, registration of the insurance policies etc. The free-of-charge service apartments on the territory of the university's campus or near to it are given to the majority of the professors. At the same time wages of the professor make not less than 3-5 thousand dollars per month. Therefore with the occurrence of vacancies, the competition on a vacant post of the professor is rather high.

In the educational buildings of the university to each professor there is given a separate spacious office, in which, if necessary, may be developed the workplaces for the post-graduate students or for the students, participating in the projects on subjects of the professor. All Korean professors prefer an active style of life, go in for sport. Every weekend they use for the tourist campaigns and travelling, for trips to the exotic, cultural and religious places. From the sports games they prefer lawn tennis, golf, mountain skiing and wind-surfing. All Korean professors are interested in the literature, music,



and fine art. They know and highly appreciate the Russian artists, composers, and writers and like to listen and to sing popular songs.

In the conclusion it would be necessary to note a genuine respect of the Korean colleagues to the high professionalism of the Russian scientist and high estimation of a preparation level of the students and post-graduate students in Russian universities. The only reason which constrains those ones, who wish to pass a long training in Russia (first of all in Siberian region), is an unusual severe climatic conditions and an absence of habitual household comfort.

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На фото: профессор
В.Д. Филимонов во время
пребывания в городе Ульсан
Photo: professor V. D. Filimonov
during his stay in Ulsan