

Reading Promotion for Children in Korea

Children's Library Project - The Miracle Libraries
and Bookstart

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Book Culture Foundation



I am Ahn (安).
 Ahn means peace.
 I am a poet and translator.
 Now I work for the NGO
Citizen Action for Reading Culture
(Book Culture Foundation).



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 okmd สำนักงานบริหารและพัฒนาองค์ความรู้ (องค์การมหาชน)
 สำนักนายกรัชมงคล



I want to plant a tree of Peace
in children's mind

Throughout my life, I long for peace and am especially
concerned with providing a peaceful future
for all the world's children.

I hopes to serve as a man of action by carrying on
various activities, to spread not only my poems, but also the
message of my commitment.





1. Citizen Action for Reading Culture

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สำนักนายกรัฐมนตรี

- **“Citizen Action for Reading Culture”** is a movement of people who aim for a society based on the dignity of man, reflection, and maturity.
- **Citizen Action for Reading Culture** is a civic movement that seeks to expand and improve knowledge-based facilities, so that every citizen enjoys the equal right to have free access to knowledge;
to form a society in which even underprivileged citizens can have access to books whenever they want to; and to renew society so that all citizens create their own values with truly equal access to education, culture, information and knowledge.



- **Citizen Action for Reading Culture** is a people's solidarity created for the purpose of building a community with a mature sense of citizenship, alert self-examination, reasonable civic judgment and democracy full of justice by cultivating mature civil culture through reading.
- **Citizen Action for Reading Culture** is a spontaneous movement of people that aims to expand the base for decent lives with warm hearts from sense of morals, imagination and refined emotions empowered by reading; to prepare the way for a society guaranteeing tolerance, coexistence and mutual prosperity.



What We Do

The missions of Citizen Action for Reading Culture are to:

- Expand the social equality of access to information and knowledge.
- Realize mature civil society through reading culture.
- Make a culture and community based on humanity.

Under those missions, Citizen Action for Reading Culture has carried out **a variety of projects**:

- Library projects
- Bookstart
- Support for small libraries and school libraries
- Reading promotion
- Strengthening welfare based on mental culture
- Policy proposals
- Legislative proposals
- Study, Research, Promotion, Education
- Developing cultural contents and programs
- Support for cultural movement concerned with the humanities

1. Libraries bring up children

Citizen Action for Reading Culture builds up “Miracle Library.”

Miracle Libraries provide all children with attractive environments in which they read books without discrimination while nurturing their dreams.

Miracle Libraries are the cultural hubs of the communities, child care support facilities for parents, and at the same time, fantastic reading spaces for children.



2. Babies like books

Citizen Action for Reading Culture runs the “**Bookstart Korea**” program.

Bookstart is social support for childcare under the motto of “**starting life with books.**” Bookstart aims to provide a free pack of books to every baby in Korea to inspire, stimulate and create a love of reading that will give children a flying start in life.

Bookstart packs are distributed by public health centers, public libraries, Miracle Libraries, village offices and other public institutions. Babies and parents can communicate with each other; get to know each other, read picture books together. Books help the emotional and intellectual development of babies. Bookstart programs contribute to the family communal culture through books.



3. School Library Initiative

Citizen Action for Reading Culture supports **school libraries in rural areas**.

Many schools in remote and secluded places have such poor surroundings that they have few decent libraries. Every schoolchild has the right to read books in beautiful and pleasant school libraries. Moreover, in rural areas, the school is often the focal point for the local community.

Citizen Action for Reading Culture not only builds school libraries as the heart of education, but also takes the initiative in suggesting the new model of school library.



4 Small Libraries for All

Citizen Action for Reading Culture supports **small libraries**.

“Small Libraries for All” project has been providing free access to information services and tools to local residents of all age groups. So far Citizen Action for Reading Culture has managed to build or Renovate community libraries, and furnished books, computers and other digital tools to about 400 small community libraries.



5. Read, think, create--and you can realize democracy.

Citizen Action for Reading Culture works for reading promotion in the form of:

Panel discussions

Open forums

Seminars

Policy forums

Development programs

Educational support

Advisory services



Educational Course for Debate

Citizen Action for Reading Culture runs the educational course for debate in order to create a mature discussion culture. There are discussion training programs and book discussions for teachers, librarians, college students and parents in the educational course of Citizen Action for Reading Culture.



Public Lecture

Public lectures hosted by Citizen Action for Reading Culture are special lectures about topical issues. Professionals from each field give in-depth opinions and speeches to the ordinary citizens.



Lecturing Tour of Cultural Ambassadors

Writers, musicians, play specialists, artists are invited as guest speakers to the seminars in libraries, school libraries, small libraries, and Miracle Libraries throughout the country.



▶ 애니메이션 감독 장우진 "영상 그림책 만들기"



▶ 미술치료사 홍영란 "비밀의 정원 만들기"

Books with Wings

Citizen Action for Reading Culture provides schoolchildren throughout the country with free packs of books and the opportunities to have a variety of cultural experiences.



Beloved Reading Companions

“Beloved Reading Companions” program helps children who have reading and learning disabilities from the poorest backgrounds. They are encouraged to read and study through some special care of volunteers in the libraries affiliated with Citizen Action for Reading Culture.

Support for Book Clubs

Citizen Action for Reading Culture gives aid to various book clubs, thus promoting reading culture and citizens’ free study.



Next: video clip

2. The Miracle Libraries Children's Library Project in Korea



Miracle Libraries,
which have been built since 2003
by the NGO
***Citizen Action for Reading Culture
(Book Culture Foundation)***

in cooperation with the general public,
a broadcasting company, local
governments, private enterprises and
children, are libraries for children.





The Miracle Library Project, through which **some unique architectural concepts** for these libraries have been realized, have demonstrated **an ideal public-private partnership model** while, at the same time, offered **various educational programs focused on child development.**

As a result, the project has had **a significant impact on the library culture, children culture, children's books and local communities** in Korea.

I would like to not only **share the experience** of constructing and managing Miracle Libraries in Korea with you, but also convey the idea that books can build bridges of understanding and peace between people to you, and literacy can change the life of children and people.



1. The Objectives:

What a Miracle Library Intends to Do

-Children have the divine rights to enjoy freedom and have equal opportunities.

-A Miracle Library provides all children with an attractive environment in which they read books without discrimination

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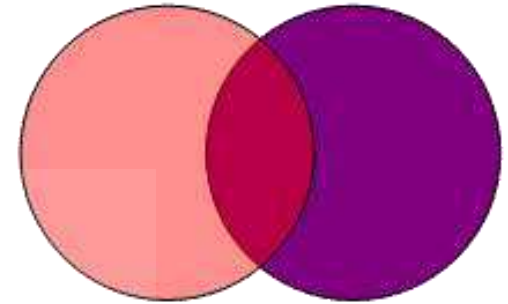
1. The Objectives:

What a Miracle Library Intends to Do

-With the help of a Miracle Library, many children obtain spiritual and intellectual nourishment in the hope that they will learn **public values, democratic ideas, consideration for others, ways to love the world, the importance of peace and respect for other human beings' life and dignity.**



2. Public-private Partnership -Governance



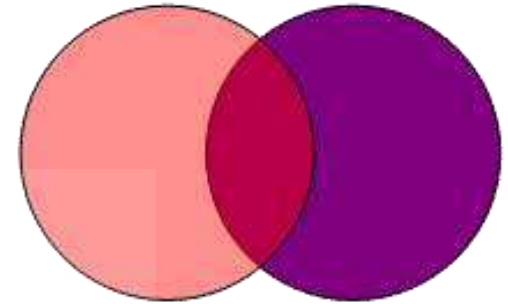
-The Miracle Library Project has been driven by **the collaboration of a non-profit civic organization and local governments** in Korea.

-This is an initiative model of a **public-private partnership for the public good.**

-The Miracle Library Project is a spontaneous movement stemming from the ideas of ordinary people that a library is **the infrastructure for a healthy civil society, creative culture and ethical communes.**

2. Public-private Partnership

-Governance



-The management system of the Miracle Libraries is based on a **new paradigm of civic engagement** linked with public-private partnership.

-The informational, educational and cultural programs offered in Miracle Libraries have been made richer through the **enthusiastic participation of ordinary people.**

-The Miracle Library Project has made public values a reality due to the connection between **civil creativity and governmental support.**

3. The Fundamental Principles of Operating a Miracle Library

3-1. Open to Even Babies and Toddlers

A Miracle Library is open to children of all ages, including babies and toddlers, in order to give all children the opportunity to get close to books.





ศูนย์พัฒนาการเรียนรู้อุทยานการเรียนรู้
สำนักงานส่งเสริมและพัฒนาคุณภาพชีวิตคนพิการแห่งชาติ
กรมส่งเสริมการค้าระหว่างประเทศ
สำนักส่งเสริมการค้าระหว่างประเทศ (กรุงเทพฯ)



ศูนย์ส่งเสริมการเรียนรู้ (สทศ) สำนักงานส่งเสริมการเรียนรู้ (สทศ) สำนักงานส่งเสริมการเรียนรู้ (สทศ)

3-2. An Active Library

A Miracle Library is a **place full of interesting activities** in which storytelling, singing songs, play-acting, dancing, drawing, and handicrafts are connected to reading books. A Miracle Library is “living library” and “a library filled with fun.”





3-3. A Library Managed by Public-private Cooperation

A steering committee made up of people from all walks of life representing the local community and local governments are responsible for managing the Miracle Library in each region. This arrangement has successfully demonstrated a new paradigm: a library run by public-private cooperation.

3-4. Social Support for Childcare

A Miracle Library contributes to childcare. A Miracle Library offers new childcare methodology, specifically by conducting programs such as “Childcare Help Program for Parents” and “The Time for Babies.”



3-5. Connecting Home with School and Library

A Miracle Library tries to link reading at home, school and the library, thereby formulating a positive reading culture at home and in school.



4. Physical Facilities

4-1. The Library Where You Want to Go

A Miracle Library is designed according to the idea that a **children's library should be a fun place** to take children.



Ondol Culture

An ondol floor is a Korean traditional floor heating system that came from a way of life that included sitting and sleeping on the floor. It has been said that ondol exemplifies the Korean soul and that it is the groundwork of Korean culture. A Miracle Library includes an ondol floor in the reading area in order to give babies and toddlers some space to crawl and roll about on the floor. Moreover, **the ondol floor in Miracle Library can help people who come into The library feel like they're home and read books while sitting comfortably.** Perhaps ondol represents the first attempt in the world that this culture of sitting on the floor is brought into a public building like a children's library.



4-2. Meeting with Books, Meeting with Each Other

A Miracle Library is designed according to the idea that libraries make it possible to meet books and people.

A library is a kind of meeting place: the library's clients meet librarians; parents come to the library with their children and read books to their children; children communicate with their parents through reading books in the library. A Miracle Library where the concept of a pleasant, convenient, safe, flexible, and environment-friendly space is realized, faithfully plays its role as a meeting place. The interior structure of a Miracle Library is pleasant to not only visitors but also volunteers.





4-3. Multi-dimensional Space, Playfulness

Some areas of a Miracle Library undulate softly. This characteristic is **designed to stimulate children's spatial sensibility**. It is important for children to find the library fun and joyful. The interior design of a Miracle Library is finely adjusted to children's free movement, thus attracting their interest.



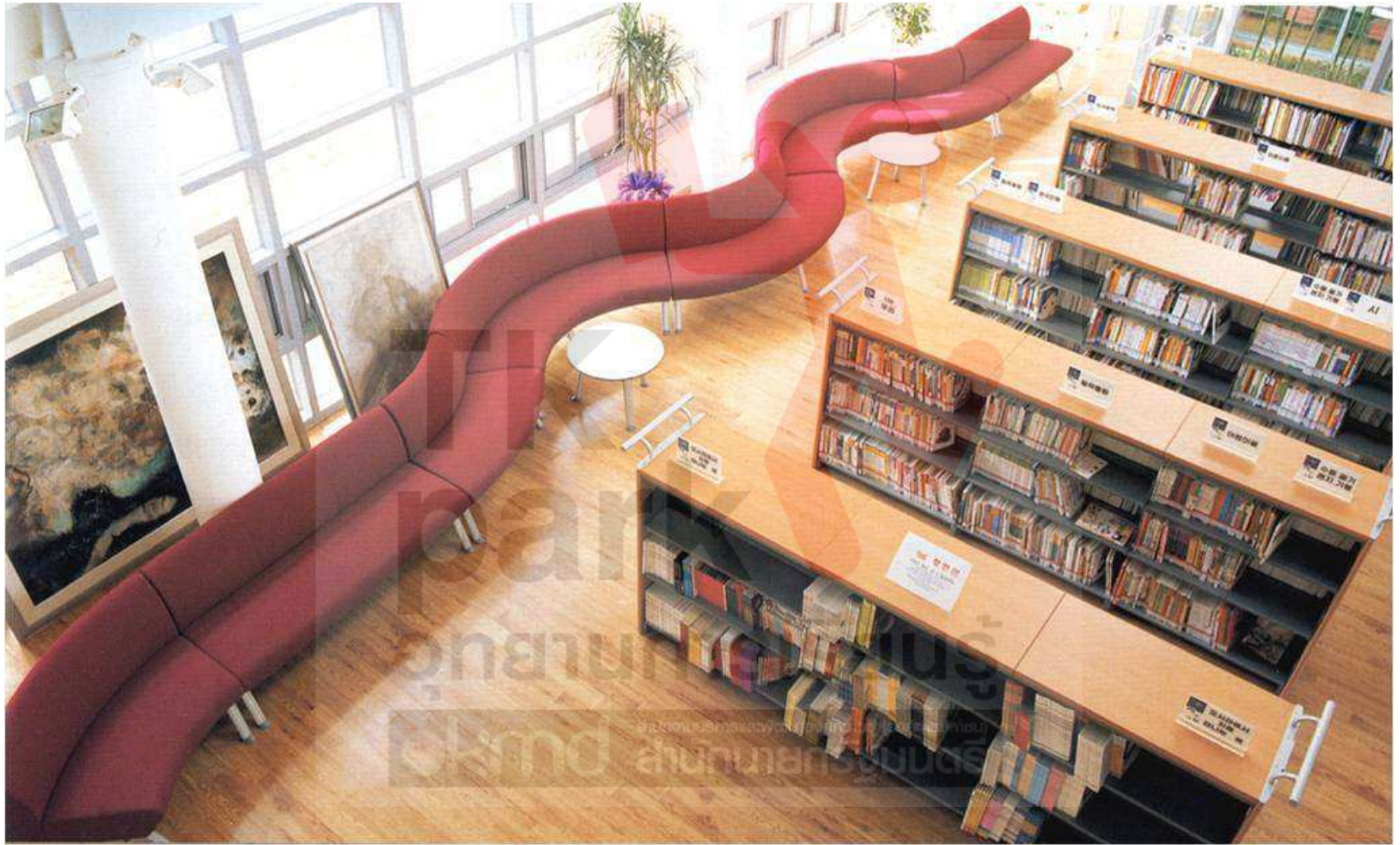


4-4. Allocation of Space

In a Miracle Library, there are storytelling rooms in which various stories can be told to children. Also, a Miracle Library is equipped with multipurpose rooms for all sorts of activities and multimedia rooms to experience a new media environment. Facilities and equipment for the disabled are carefully arranged. There are some sections for nature experience activities and nature walks outside the building, or on the roof garden. In these sections, urban children can observe the wonders of nature, develop their sensibilities, and learn more about ecology.

The following are the necessary space requirements in a Miracle Library:

- 1) at least two reading areas for children under 10 and school children up to 13;
- 2) information/librarian desk;
- 3) office;
- 4) storytelling rooms;
- 5) nap rooms for babies;
- 6) book storage;
- 7) an assembly hall or a multipurpose room and a stage with a projection room and a control room;
- 8) a computer section;
- 9) a staff lounge and a seminar room;
- 10) a plant cultivation room;
- 11) little hollows and lofts;
- 12) toilets;
- 13) a café in the hall;
- 14) a small open space with the shoe shelf;
- 15) washbasins in the hall;
- 16) verandas and terraces;
- 17) an exhibition area;
- 18) a preparation room;
- 19) a rooftop garden;
- 20) an area for social interaction.







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สำนักงานส่งเสริมสังคมแห่งการเรียนรู้และคุณภาพเยาวชน
สำนักงานส่งเสริมสังคมแห่งการเรียนรู้และคุณภาพเยาวชน





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5. How to Build a Miracle Library

5-1. The Miracle Library in Suncheon:

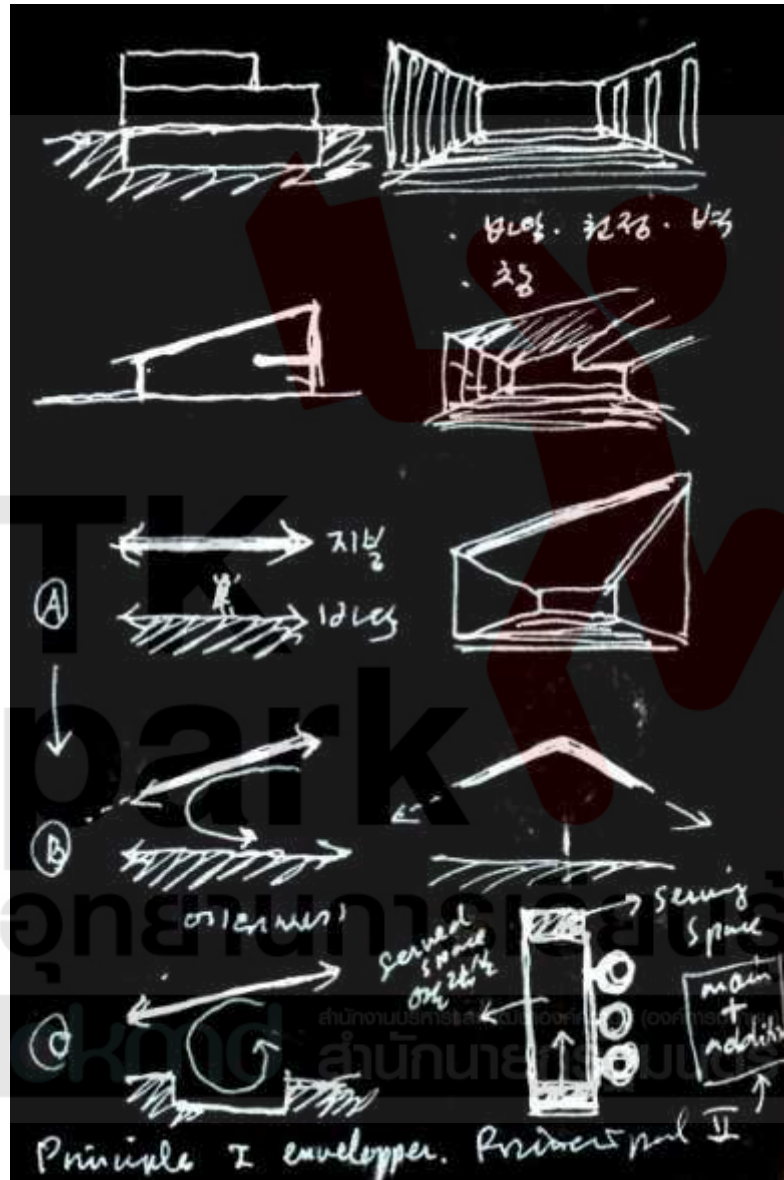
The Maze in the Universe by Giyong Jung

All the children in the world should be considered as free citizens of the world beyond the restrictions of borders between countries. They are not simply members of certain nations, but free souls of the universe. To build a Miracle Library is to give children a special little cosmos where they can enjoy their imaginary travels to the fullest with books. This Miracle Library will be a structure in which iron, wood, water, light and soil can be harmonized with one another. The steel structures inside the building sustains the whole building; the wooden exterior of the building is like the clothes made by Mother Nature; the earth set aside in reading areas is the fertile soil for green bamboos; the water on the roof is a metaphor of endless wisdom and time. Through the dome of glass, the sunlight comes in and the clouds can be seen. The spinning pinwheel outside the building is the visualized breath of the planet Earth. The various types of rooms and areas in the library allow children to encounter books in different ways. On the second floor, there is the "Starland Reading Room" in the shape of an airplane and a maze that slowly comes into view. At the end of the maze, water wells up from the "Time Spring."



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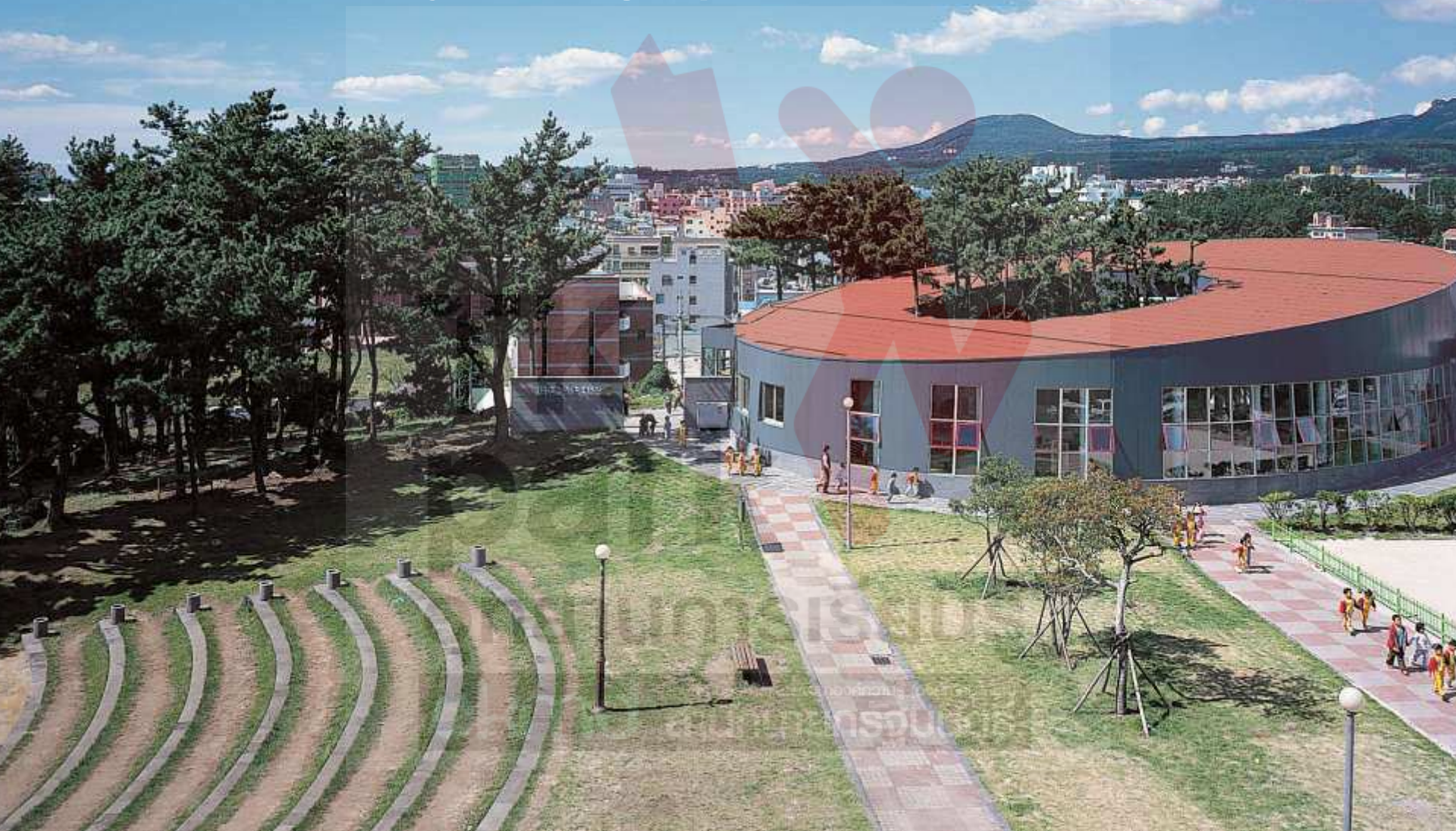
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Miracle Library in Suncheon



Miracle Library in Seogwipo



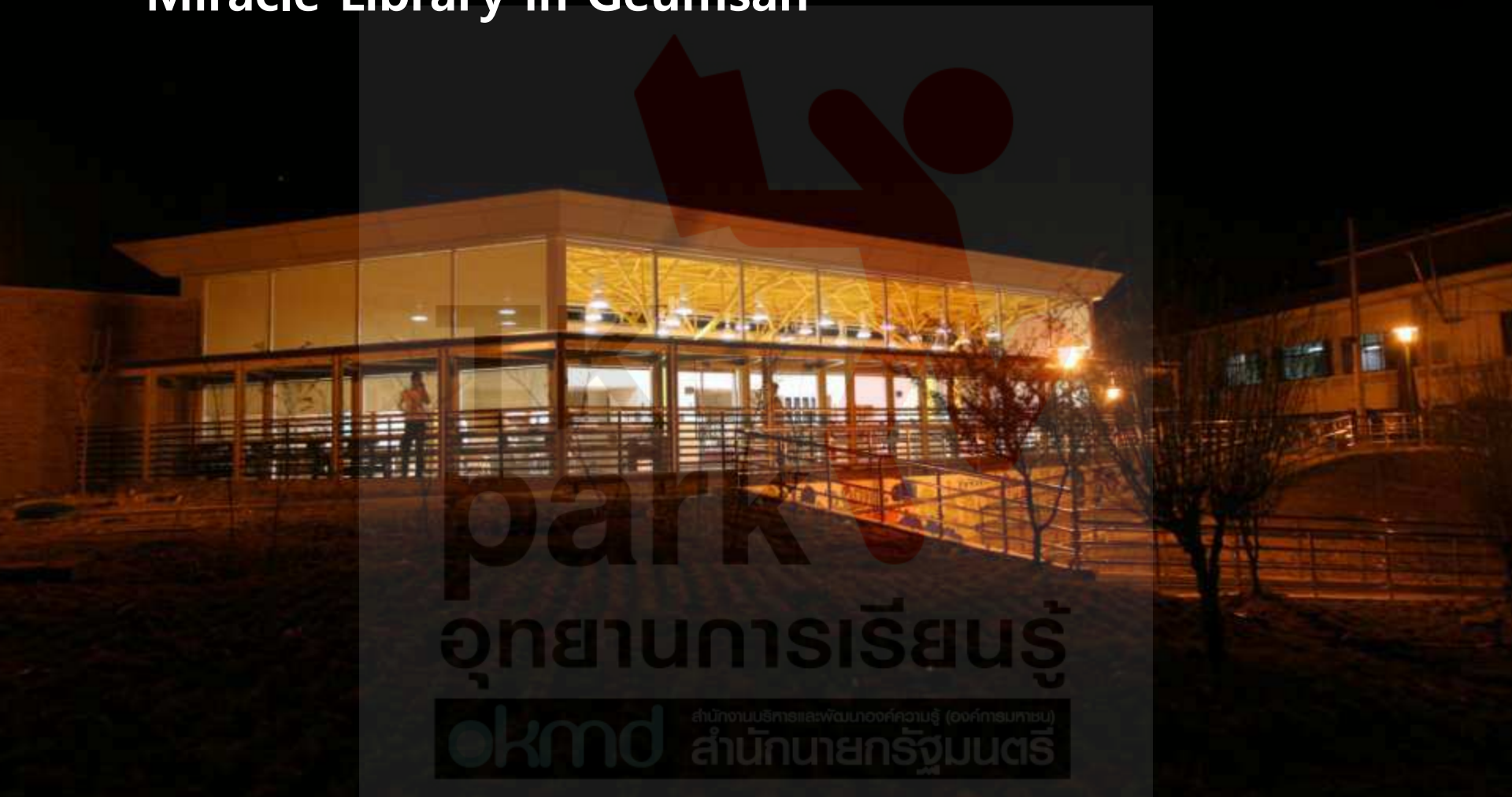


5-1. The Miracle Library in Jecheon: Five Trees, Sunshine and Moonlight **by Geonyeong Cho**

The five trees, standing as if they hold up the sky, represent person's development and growing wisdom. I'll call the trees "Cosmic Trees." The transparent reading rooms made of glass are filled with sunlight passing through the apple orchard. At night, the moon and the stars seem to come in and read books. In the front garden of the library there is an open-air theater in the shape of the half moon, wishing to be a full moon with children's song and sound of reading. These are the reasons why I conceive the trees, sunshine and the moonlight as important factors at the Miracle Library in Jecheon. The library itself can be a gigantic book which inspires the children to make themselves very intriguing books filled with valuable things.



Miracle Library in Geumsan



6. The Miracle Library Services

6-1. The functions of libraries are not limited to lending books and providing places for reading, but extend to a variety of activities and programs for the clients. Especially, children's libraries should be the places in which children find the library an open, inviting, and attractive place to visit.

6-2. Hence, **Miracle Libraries across the country have developed some creative programs and motivating activities as library services for children. The services of the Miracle Library are appropriate for the cultural and entertainment needs of the community's children, as well as being innovative.**



6. The Miracle Library Services

The following are the programs in practice in Miracle Libraries.

Programs for Babies: “Storytelling,” “Chants,” “Listening to Sounds”

Programs for Children up to 5 or 6: “Storytelling” and “Reading Aloud”

Programs for Kids: “Reading Guidance,” “Reading Class,” “Helping Children Select Materials”

“Special Remedial Reading Class”

“Children’s Seminar: Discussion after Reading”

Field trips, visits, observation exercises and travels related to the books

Reciting poems, reading stories and dramatic readings

Traveling library service

Experiencing a librarian’s work: becoming a child librarian

Reading programs with multi-media

Video and slide shows, puppet shows

Training programs for volunteers

Educating parents and caregivers

Camping in the library

Meeting with writers and writing programs

Small-scale concerts with poetry reading

Writers’ talks, public readings by authors

6. The Miracle Library Services

6-1. "Reading a Book" at the Miracle Library in Suncheon



6. The Miracle Library Services

6-2. "The Pipe in the Tiger's Mouth" of the Miracle Library in Jecheon



6. The Miracle Library Services

6-3. "Bookstart" at the Miracle Library in Jinhae



7. The Significance of the Miracle Library Project

The Miracle Library Project had a great impact on the library, children's books and culture, and the local culture paradigm in Korea.

Jung-il Doh, the leader of Citizen Action for Reading Culture with the Book Culture Foundation of Korea, commented that issues about libraries were first raised through the Miracle Library Project.

“The Miracle Library Project has made a contribution to the spread of cultural awareness; in other words, that libraries are necessary to build the road to democracy and strengthen the social safety net in Korea. **Thanks to the Miracle Library Project, taking note of what people say about libraries, many Korean government policy makers have come to understand the necessity of building or renovating libraries throughout the country. The Miracle Library Project was the catalyst of the library movement and reading campaigns in Korea.**”



Next: video clip

11 Miracle Libraries

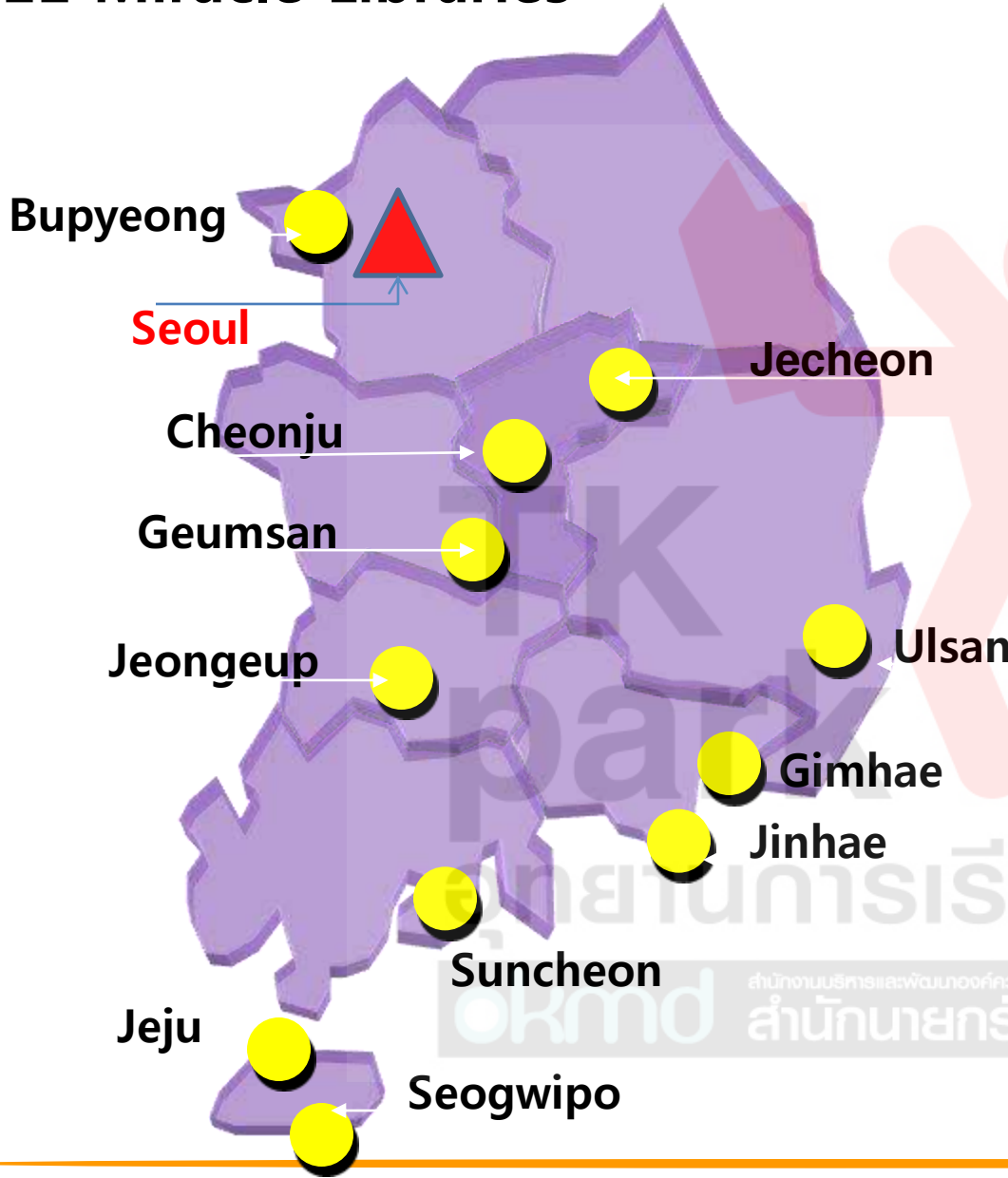


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The Miracle Library Project continues.
11th Miracle Library in Gimhae



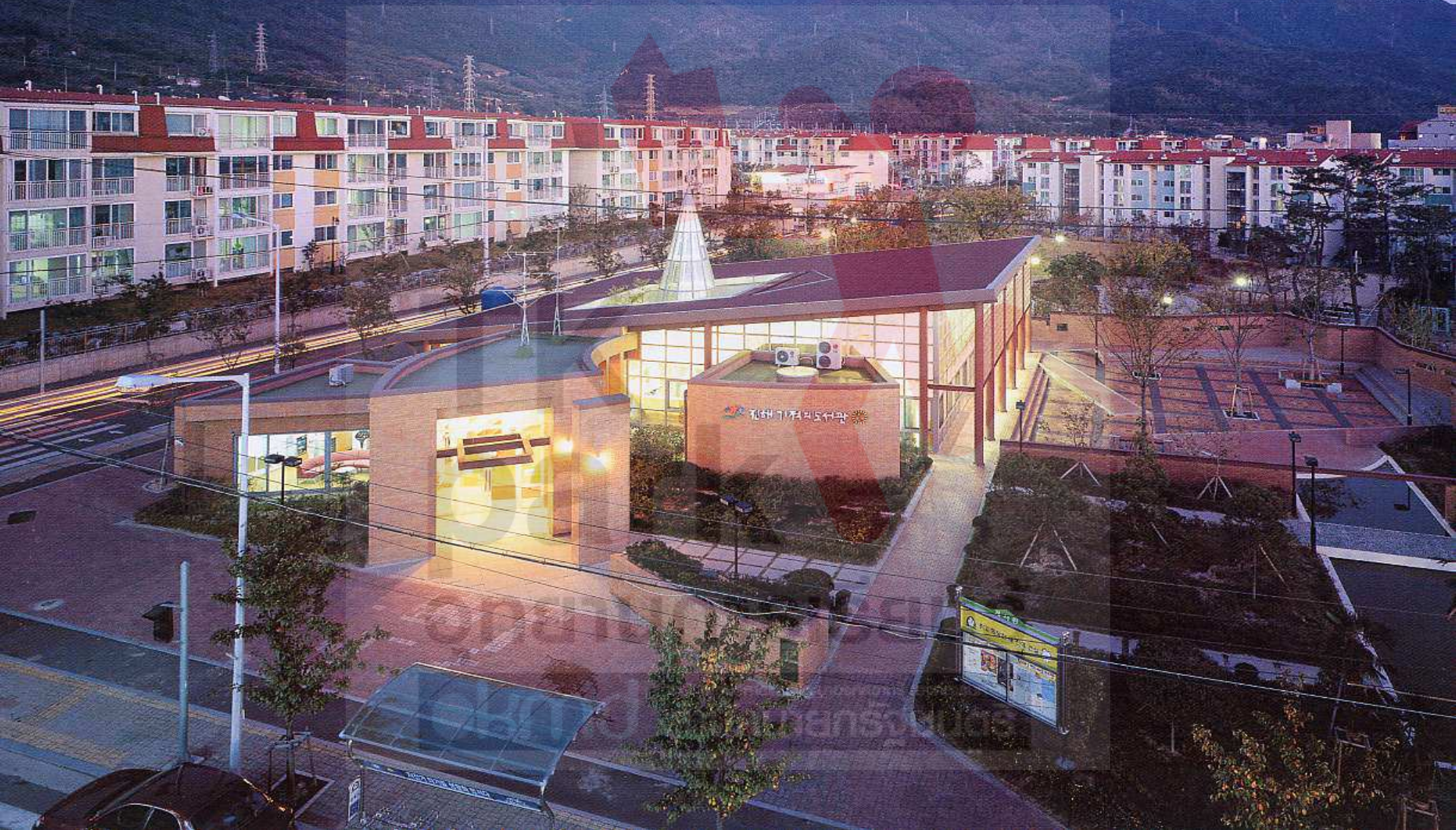
11 Miracle Libraries



1	Suncheon	2003.11
2	Jecheon	2003.12
3	Jinhae	2003.12
4	Seogwipo	2004.5
5	Jeju	2004.5
6	Cheonju	2004.7
7	Ulsan	2004.7
8	Geumsan	2005.5
9	Bupyeong	2006.3
10	Jeongeup	2008.5
11	gimhae	2011.11

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Miracle Library in Jinhae



Miracle Library in Jeongeup





**The Miracle Library
Project continues.
11th Miracle Library at
Gimhae**



Please send to me by e-mail

read3@chol.com

transpoet@gmail.com

Please visit to the homepage

<http://www.bookreader.or.kr>

[Http://www.bookstart.org](http://www.bookstart.org)

**Thank You
for your attention**

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