



## 「 Celebrating the Publication of a Special Issue 」

29 October 2009

It is a big honor and privilege for me to celebrate publication of a special issue of The Korean Journal of Parasitology (KJP) in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the foundation of The Korean Society for Parasitology (KSP).

The founding ceremony of the KSP was held on 15 January 1959 at the presence of 29 charter members, including 7 specialized parasitologists. Now the society members have increased to more than 250. The society behaved in the past and satisfied the social demands for knowledge in the parasitological field. It cooperated with The Korea Association of Parasite Eradication (now transformed into The Korea Association of Health Promotion), and the national prevalence of intestinal parasites was reduced from 84.2% in 1971 to 4.3% in 2004. The prevalence of a representative intestinal helminth, *Ascaris lumbricoides*, has been reduced from 55% in 1971 to 0.05% in 2004.

Recently, the KSP successfully hosted the 17th International Congress for Tropical Medicine and Malaria (17th ICTM 2008) in Jeju, Korea, from September 29 to October 3, 2008. Over 1,200 researchers from all over the world attended this meeting and shared their researches in parasitology and tropical medicine. In the future, our society will more actively participate in academic researches and control of parasitic diseases that cause health problems all over the world. This will undoubtedly contribute health promotion of all mankind.

The KSP officially publishes the KJP, which has been indexed in many searching databases, including SCI, Index Medicus, PubMed, Google Scholar, Scopus, Chemical Index, EMBASE, and PubMed Central. The scope of the KJP is to disseminate new knowledge concerning parasites infecting humans and animals, vectors, host-parasite relationship, zoonosis, and tropical medicine.

I want to greatly appreciate all Emeritus Members of the Society. They did their best, so they achieved not only the academic improvements but also the practical deworming in the Republic of Korea and many other countries. Their efforts still give us positive inspiration.

I know that many members have done their best to make this special KJP issue prominent. First, I want to appreciate the Editor and 13 authors who wrote their reviews with all my heart. I also would like to applause the Organizing Committee who prepared the 50th anniversary Ceremony of the KSP. Lastly and most importantly, thank you for the whole members of the KSP who dedicated themselves to the society with delight.

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President

The Korean Society for Parasitology