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Foundation of The Korean Friendship Association:

The Korean Friendship Association (KFA) was founded on November of the year 2000 with the purpose of building international ties with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. It has members from 120 countries. The KFA has full recognition from the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and is the world-wide leading organization of its supporters. It has offices in D.P.R. Korea, Spain, Norway and Thailand, among others.

The main objectives of the KFA are:

- Demonstrate the reality of the D.P.R. Korea to the world through articles, history, photographic imagery and other means of exposure;
- Defend the independence and socialist construction in the D.P.R. of Korea;
- Learn from the culture and history of the Korean People, while working for the peaceful unification of the Korean Peninsula.

Activities:

The Korean Friendship Association (KFA) receives official information from Pyongyang and has contact with all authorities of the D.P.R. of Korea. This relationship allow us to develop activities in the following areas:

- Public Expositions of the DPRK (pictures, books, music, art...);
- Conferences and meetings about the Korean history, society and other aspects;
- Information and consulting in diplomacy and business;
- Radio, T.V. and other media programs;
- Cultural exchange with different countries;
- Link contact with associations/companies/individuals interested in North Korea;
- Website and social media updates.

The sole purpose of KFA USA is to enable Americans and other visitors to see a different side of the DPRK that mainstream media does not seem to concentrate on. The people, culture, history, music, arts - and a full and complete understanding of the DPRK and her people. We do this by bringing you direct news from our official news sources based in the DPRK, imagery from photographers devoted to their work, newsletters, meetings, and global outreach. This is a main goal of ours since many people throughout the world do not have the ability to see the "human side" of the DPRK and its people due to slanted media coverage that is continually focused on tensions between both of our nations.

About the organization:

The Korean Friendship Association (KFA) was founded in November of 2000 with the sole purpose of building international ties with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. As it has members from over 120 countries, it is

diverse and comprises many nationalities. As stated before, the KFA has full recognition from the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and is the worldwide leading organization of its supporters. At KFAUSA, we like to post about the latest newsworthy stories, sports, tourism, historical places, celebrations, opening ceremonies, music, amazing imagery and more. From this, you have the right to read, learn and educate yourself on something you may have never seen before. We do not force anyone into any kind of ideology; rather, we just request that you have an open mind regarding this topic. From this approach will come more and more people interested in the realization that the peace process is exactly what the goal is here. Peaceful reunification of the Korean land and people is something we all aspire for in the future, while developing an improved relationship with the United States of America. With your help we can make this happen!

Since all current KFA USA members are from the United States, I have to say, regardless of politics all of us love our country, that is not a question. We are just trying to do something our government is failing to do, which is open dialogue and keeping things on a positive note - focusing on common bonds, basically. We have so many friends that have traveled to the DPRK and they can say that common ground equals friendship and trust. We are ALL humans, we all want to be connected and understood. Hoping one day through our work, more and more citizens can learn and help the cause.

At KFA USA, we work to answer every single email and do our best to create open dialogue with all of our visitors. Enhancing the experience of all members is a goal we have. On a positive note, this year we have been receiving far more good posts and emails requesting help and how to participate and educate themselves on the culture of North Korea. To us here at KFA USA, that is exactly why we dedicate and donate all of our free time and energy. We do this without pay and without any motive other than peace and reunification for the Korean people and hopefully a small stepping stone for the United States Government to work hard for open dialogue and talks with the DPRK.

The President of the Korean Friendship Association, Alejandro Cao de Benos, has always been supportive of us here in the USA and I can honestly say he is a man of passion and integrity. He is a kind and caring individual who is proud of our work. He allows us to operate the KFA USA division how we see fit and is always positive in reminding us that peace, happiness and an open dialogue is best. Never once has he forced us to do anything uncomfortable or against the goals of our membership. He is a pleasure to work with and has personally made an impact by being a voice of the DPRK for the outside world through his years of dedicated work and interviews.

Below is an excerpt from our KFA USA manual where people who are interested in becoming a KFA USA member and participating with our friendship association can learn about our core mission statement:

"At KFA USA we DO NOT get involved in hate speech, racial overtones, threats or intimidation on any level. The Korean Friendship Association is founded upon positive message through cultural exchange. We are here to represent the DPRK, its government and her people, so thinking like a North Korean is what we try to emulate here at the KFA. We believe that knowledge and education is what will change many Americans' thoughts concerning the DPRK."

Thank you for your time and interest in building bridges with the land, people, and future of Korea!

Mr. Tom Official U.S. Delegate Korean Friendship Association (USA) www.kfausa.org