In Memory of Professor Chu-Wan Kim

Professor Chu-Wan Kim, who passed away on April 9th 2015, was the giant roots and an eternal supporter of Korean radiology. He contributed greatly to the growth of Korean radiology since becoming involved with the field after completion of his medical degree in 1953. Like his pen name 'JiSan', meaning 'grass and mountain', he

was as empowered and dignified as a mountain, while being as tender and careful as grass when he helped others and carried out projects.

He was born in Jaeryeong-gun, Hwanghae-do on September 16th 1929. Finishing elementary school in Hwanghae-do, he moved to Seoul and attended Seoul Choong Ang Middle School, from which he graduated in 1946. He entered into a premedical course at Kyoungseong Imperial University (the predecessor of the present Seoul National University) in 1946 and graduated from the College of Medicine, Seoul National University in 1953. As a senior medical student, he was deeply impressed by the X-ray lectures given by the then head professor, Choong Sam Cho, who was the founder of Korean Radiology, and it was these lectures that inspired him to become a radiologist. He became an assistant teacher at Seoul National University in 1953, and in 1955 was sent to the University of Minnesota as a visiting Professor in the Radiology department. He returned to Seoul National University after passing the American Board of Radiology exam in 1957 and became a full-time lecturer less than a year later. Many people let

out a sigh of admiration whenever he described cases in English, with his tall and majestic physique and smart dress. He became Assistant Professor in 1964, Associate Professor in 1969, and Professor in 1976. He finally retired in 1989, at the age of 60.

Professor Chu-Wan Kim had already had so much interest and knowledge regarding ultrasound as to teach medical students in the mid-1960s, long before diagnostic ultrasound devices entered Korea, which provided an important momentum for diagnostic ultrasound to bloom early in Korea. He opened diagnostic ultrasound rooms in Seoul National University Hospital (SNUH) with the then epoch-making gray-scale ultrasound scanner (Picker 80L; Picker international, Irving, TX, USA) that SNUH and Chung-Ang University Hospital introduced first in Korean history in 1978. In addition, during his term as Head Professor in the Department of Radiology of SNUH (1982–1990), he contributed to the development of domestic medical imaging devices as well as the diagnosis of diseases by installing the first Korean-made 2-Tesla MR imaging scanner (Gold Star Company, Korea) in SNUH.

He founded the Korean Society of Ultrasound in Medicine (KSUM) in 1980 and contributed enormously to the development of the KSUM as President from 1980 to 1988. He also contributed to the advance of Asian ultrasound as Acting Director (1985), Vice President (1987–1988), and President (1989–1990) of the Asian Federation for Societies of Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology (AFSUMB). In addition, he placed Korean Radiology on a stable pedestal as President of the Korean Congress of Radiology (KCR) (1973–1974) and Chair of Directors of KCR (1986–1990).

The Jisan Lecture was launched in 1997 to honor his remarkable contribution, and since then, it has become the most significant and popular plenary session of the KSUM. Its major goal was to share up-to-date knowledge with KSUM participants through invited lectures given by eminent speakers who have accomplished remarkable achievements in the field of ultrasound. Professor Chu-Wan Kim donated approximately one million dollars to the KSUM Foundation without any hesitation, for the purpose of advancement of Korean ultrasound medicine, when he witnessed the unprecedented great success of WFUMB (68 countries, 3082 attendants) that was held in Seoul in 2006. In 2013, the KSUM named the big hall of the new office "Jisan Hall" to commemorate and honor his academic and financial contributions to KSUM.

He published Radiation Fluoroscopy Science (Dong Woon Choo, Chu-Wan Kim, Man Chung Han, Ilchokak, 1970), Up-to-date Radiology (Dong Woon Choo, Chu-Wan Kim, Ilchokak, 1977), Principles of Ultrasound Diagnosis (Chu-Wan Kim, Soo-Soung Park, Ilchokak, 1982), and Sectional Human Anatomy (Man Chung Han, Chu-Wan Kim, Ilchokak, 1985). 'Principles of Ultrasound Diagnosis' is a translated version of Diagnostic Ultrasound written by F.W. Kremkau, and was a huge help in popularizing knowledge of ultrasound in the 1980's. 'Sectional Human Anatomy' was the first anatomical book written by radiologists. It was so highly spoken of by American eminent journals that it became the first book exported to the USA among Korean-written scientific books, and provided an important opportunity to announce the level of Korean Radiology to the West.

He wrote 185 papers from 1962 to 1989, with the first clinical ultrasound paper in Korean history entitled "An analysis of 1018 cases of ultrasonography" published in the

Journal of the Korean Radiological Society in 1979.

Professor Chu-Wan Kim was married to his classmate, Joong Sook Hwang, who is a radiologist and otolaryngologist. He had two sons (Young Goo Kim and Yoon Goo Kim) and one daughter (Ja Kyung Kim). His two sons graduated from Seoul National University College of Medicine and became a radiologist and an internal physician, respectively. His daughter graduated from Ewha University.

He was so humble that he enjoyed wearing cheap clothes purchased at a market place and carried bags given free at academic congresses until they were worn out. He liked to eat popular food such as Kalguksu, a handmade chopped noodle, and all the way emphasizing the use of home products. Although he was a very optimistic person, frequently saying "I am a lucky guy", he did not tread from the righteous path.

On March 24th 2015, he was inducted into the Korean Academy of Medical Sciences Hall of Fame in recognition of his distinguished service in terms of progression of knowledge, communication of academic achievement, and next generation training. Since completing his professorate, he called himself an old soldier and did not lose the virtue of contemplation or modesty for his disciples. On the other hand, he used to emphasize that Korean radiology should be upgraded to a far advanced level and supported Korean radiology with a passion. He who was delighted to stay a radiologist throughout his life, waiting for new good news regarding Korean radiology, is the greatest name in Korean radiological history.

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