

GHD Monthly Newsletter

May 2024

The Global Help Desk (GHD), a part of the Office of Global Relations and Communications within the Institute for Basic Science (IBS), presents this monthly newsletter providing insights into life in Korea and offering updates on local news, upcoming holidays and events, and helpful language tips.

Family Month





In South Korea, May is known as “Family Month” or the “Month of Appreciation.” It features three significant occasions dedicated to honoring family members and educators: Children’s Day (May 5th), Parents’ Day (May 8th) and Teachers’ Day (May 15th).

Holidays in May

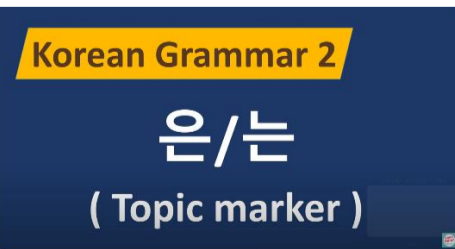

| Labor Day: May 1 (Wednesday) | Children’s Day: May 5 (Sunday) Alternative holiday: May 6 (Monday) | Buddha’s Birthday: May 15 (Wednesday) |
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|  <p>Labor Day, or 근로자의 날 (gunrojau i nal, translating to “workers’ day”), was instituted with the aim of improving labor conditions and elevating the status of workers. While not officially designated as a public holiday, numerous office workers and laborers are granted the day off in accordance with pertinent legislation.</p> <p>Read more</p> |  <p>Dr. Bang Jeong-Hwan, a children’s author, initiated the concept of Children’s Day in 1923. Thus, this year marks the celebration of its 102nd anniversary. Initially observed on May 1, it later shifted to May 5 to avoid overlapping with Labor Day. Subsequently, in the 1970s, it gained official recognition as a public holiday.</p> <p>Read more</p> |  <p>Buddha’s Birthday, known as 부처님 오신 날 (bucheonim osin nal) in Korean, is commemorated on April 8 of the Lunar calendar, resulting in its date varying annually. Temples across the country adorn themselves with vibrant lanterns, while Seoul hosts the grand Lotus Lantern Festival, a significant part of the festivities.</p> <p>Read more</p> |

Regional Events

Note: Please use Google Translate for websites not providing English services.

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|  | <p>2024 Yuseong Culture Spa Festival</p> <p>Date: 05/10 (Fri.)-05/12 (Sun.)</p> <p>Venue: Oncheon-ro area and Gyeryong Spatel Square, Deajeon</p> <p>Programs: Featuring performances, exhibitions and interactive events</p> <p>Read more</p> |  | <p>15th Together Day Festival</p> <p>Date and Time: 05/11 (Sat.), 11 am to 3 pm</p> <p>Venue: Seodaejeon Park, Daejeon</p> <p>Programs: Together Day festivities including international cuisine, games and a flea market</p> <p>Read more</p> |
|  | <p>2024 Gongju Seokjangni Paleolithic Festival</p> <p>Date: 05/03 (Fri.)-05/06 (Mon.)</p> <p>Venue: Seokjang-ri Museum, Gongju-si</p> <p>Programs: Performances, experiencing prehistoric life, Paleolithic Olympic activities and more</p> <p>Read more</p> |  | <p>Yeon Deung Hoe (Lotus Lantern Festival)</p> <p>Date: 05/10 (Fri.)-05/12 (Sun.)</p> <p>Venue: Heunginjimun (Dongdaemun), Jongno-gu, Seoul</p> <p>Programs: Lantern parade, exhibitions, traditional cultural events and more</p> <p>Read more</p> |

Let’s Learn Korean!

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|  | <p>Korean Grammar 1</p> <p>Click here to learn Korean grammar 은/는 (topic marker).</p> |  | <p>Danuri Portal provides basic information about Korean life and latest multicultural community news in 13 languages.</p> |
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