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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**HAWAI'I KOREAN ADOPTEES TO REVISIT ROOTS IN KOREA**  
KAHI Invites Fellow Korean Adoptees to Join the Journey

When an estimated 700 Korean-born adoptees converge this summer in Seoul, South Korea, from all over the world at the International Korean Adoptee Associations (IKAA) Gathering, Hawai'i will be well-represented. Nine members of the newly formed organization Korean Adoptees of Hawai'i (KAHI) are already planning ahead for the party, and are hoping to add to their company in the months to come.

In anticipation of the journey, KAHI is holding an informational session on Monday, Jan. 15 to discuss the IKAA Gathering registration process and distribute related information to any adult Korean-born adoptees living in Hawai'i who are interested in traveling to their birth country.

The IKAA Gathering, from July 31 to Aug. 5, will offer a research symposium, conference sessions, workshops, art gallery, soccer tournament, PC online gaming, fashion show and social events for Korean-born adoptees, age 19 and older, and their spouses and children.

The IKAA Gathering is the fourth international assembly of Korean adoptees since the first landmark gathering took place in Washington, D.C., in 1999. Adoptees gathered again in Oslo, Norway, in 2001 and in Seoul in 2004. The 2004 gathering boasted an unprecedented 400+ adoptees from 15 countries. The 2007 IKAA Gathering is expected to attract the largest attendance yet with more than 700 adoptees from North America, Europe, Australia and Korea.

KAHI invites local adult Korean adoptees who wish to attend the Jan. 15 informational session to e-mail [KoreanAdopteesHawaii@gmail.com](mailto:KoreanAdopteesHawaii@gmail.com) for the meeting location and time. KAHI members who have previously traveled in Korea and attended past gatherings will offer an experienced perspective for those who will be returning to Korea or attending an adoptee conference for the first time.

Travelers are encouraged to plan ahead and register for the gathering soon to be eligible for the early registration fee. Hotel accommodations at the Sofitel Ambassador Seoul, a four-star hotel, are available to IKAA Gathering participants at a special conference rate. Discounted airfare is also being negotiated.

More information on costs, deadlines and the conference will be available at the January KAHI meeting.

Since its formation in March 2006, KAHI has been turning heads in the global Korean adoptee community as the first group of its kind in Hawai'i. The group is also already looking ahead beyond the 2007 gathering to 2008, when Hawai'i will potentially play host to one of the semiannual U.S. Korean adoptee mini-gatherings.

Adult Korean-born adoptees in Hawai'i can e-mail [KoreanAdopteesHawaii@gmail.com](mailto:KoreanAdopteesHawaii@gmail.com) to inquire about the January meeting and other upcoming KAHI events. The KAHI Web site is launching soon, at <http://www.kahawaii.org>.

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