Rising high in the center of the East Sea, bearing the Korean Peninsula's sublime history

I am Dokdo, Korean Territory.

Dokdo is a pride of Korea!

Welcome the bright morning sun!
Dokdo is an island located between the East Sea and the Sea of Japan, with coordinates 37°15′N, 129°45′E. It has an area of 187,554 square meters and is composed of 91 large and 26.8 small islands, with mountains and ridges totaling 255.17 square meters. The surrounding rocks consist of 25,517 square meters. It is about 196 meters at its highest point and is visible from both the sea and the land. The distance between Dongdo and Seodo is 151 meters at low tide. Dokdo is home to numerous species of fish and aquatic life, which is plentiful, making Dokdo a treasure trove of a marine ecosystem that is home to numerous species of fish and aquatic life.

Dokdo has historically been part of Korean territory. The Joseon Dynasty's Samguk Sagiv (Annals of the Three Kingdoms) states, "The two islands of Ulsan and Mureung are located in the sea to the east of the (Ulsan-)byeon (prefecture)." The two islands are not far apart. The Shogunate issued an order on January 28, 1696 banning any future relocation of this island. Mangi-Yoram (Handbook of State Affairs, 1808), and Goryeo History, 1454), asserts, "Ulleungdo is part of Korea, 1908) confirm the same.

In March of 1877, Japan's Ministry of Home Affairs and the Dajokan, the other," thus clearly identifying Ulleungdo as Japan territory. Historically, any publications compiled by authors, such as Goreun-Sijyori (Geography Section of the Geology of Korea), 1530), Doseungbok-Jeong (Collection of Reference Documents on Korea, 1770), Mangyowon (Book of State Affairs, 1801), and Jangbog-Mansobon (Revised and Enlarged Edition of Collection of Reference Documents on Korea, 1908) confirm the same.

Even the Meiji government of Japan acknowledged in 1877 that Ulleungdo and Dokdo had nothing to do with Japan. In March of 1877, Japan's Ministry of Home Affairs and the Dajokan, the country's supreme authority at the time, confirmed that "Ulleungdo and another island [Dokdo] is a closed island as of 1896" and that they are Joseon-owned territory "not related to Japan." This acknowledgment was based on a 1693 incident surrounding the abduction of AISI Yong-bok and his fellow Korean fishermen. After it was reported to the Edo Shogunate, the Shogunate issued an order on January 28, 1696 banning any future Japanese visits to Ulleungdo, according to an investigation report by Tottori Prefecture. This means that since long ago, Japan had recognized Ulleungdo and Dokdo as territories belonging to Joseon.

In January of 1905, Japan incorporated Dokdo into its territory by arguing prior occupation according to treaty rules [land belonging to no one], and promulgated its move through Shimane Prefecture Notice No. 49, dated February 22, 1905. This took place during the Russo-Japanese War, at which time the Korean peninsula was being pillaged, and was an unlawful act that violated the sovereignty over Dokdo of the Great Korean Empire. In 1900, the fourth year of Emperor Gwangmu's reign, the Great Korean Empire issued Imperial Order No. 41 to confirm that Dokdo was Korean territory through an administrative action that included Seokdo under Korean jurisdiction.

The Republic of Korea works hard to manage and preserve Dokdo's environment. About 40 Dokdo guards and three lighthouse keepers are permanently stationed on Dokdo along with ordinary residents. As a means of protecting Dokdo's ecology for posterity, the island was designated as Natural Monument No. 336 (Dokdo National Protection Area), which limits public access to Dokdo. Amid the restrictions, more than 100,000 people visit the island each year, serving to affirm Korea's interest in and affection for Dokdo.

A beautiful island in Korea’s East Sea, Dokdo is Korean territory and was designated as Natural Monument No. 336 in November 1982. This mysterious island boasts enormous diversity, home to more than 50 plant species, 22 species of birds, and various other types of marine life. The island each year, serving to affirm Korea’s interest in and affection for Dokdo.

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A Japanese law in 1951 excluded Dokdo from its territory. Article 2 of Ordinance No. 24 “Order to Designate Islands Under Possessions” of the Prime Minister’s Office of Japan, proclaimed on June 6, 1951 with the intent to clear out property of the Japanese Government-General in Korea and other purposes, clearly stated that “the islands that do not belong to Japanese territory are Ulleungdo, Dokdo, and Jeju-do,” thereby confirming the geographical boundaries of Japan’s administrative jurisdiction under SCAPIN No. 677.

Dokdo was confirmed as Korean territory by the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers Instruction (SCAPIN) in 1946. The General Headquarters of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers (GHQ/SCAP) issued SCAPIN No. 677 on January 29, 1946, to delineate the exact boundaries of Japanese territory following World War II. This document stated that Ulleungdo, Dokdo, and Jeju-do are excluded from Japanese territory. Subsequently, it issued another directive, SCAPIN No. 1033 on June 22, 1946, to prohibit Japanese fishermen from visiting Dokdo and surrounding waters within 12 nautical miles.

Dokdo is a treasure trove of natural resources endowed with a blessedly rich environment, an island whose abundant, high-quality natural resources are being preserved for future generations. The Provincial Government of Gyeongangbuk-do is making strenuous efforts to preserve the island’s environment and ecosystem and manage it in a way that gives utmost attention to environmental needs.