

Materials for the Press

Sunhak Peace Prize – Peace Prize for Future Generations

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The 5th Sunhak Peace Prize Award Ceremony was held in South Korea.

Dr. Sarah Gilbert (The developer of the Oxford AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine) and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance received the prize

Prime Minister Hun Sen of Cambodia also received the Founder's Special Honorary Award

Sarah Gilbert, professor of vaccinology at the University of Oxford, who developed the Oxford AstraZeneca vaccine

Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, the public-private global health partnership which aims to provide all countries in the world with equal access to the COVID-19 vaccine

The Sunhak Peace Prize Committee (chaired by Jose Manuel Barroso, former executive chairman of the European Committee) held the 5th Sunhak Peace Prize Award Ceremony at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 12. The award ceremony was held in compliance with the new coronavirus social distancing and quarantine guidelines in a non-face-to-face online format at the HJ Global Art Center in Gyeonggi Province. The ceremony was conducted in a hybrid online and offline format with simultaneous interpretation in 16 languages for overseas participants.

In his welcome speech, Jose Manuel Barroso, chairman of the committee, said, "For the 5th award, we have selected the winners based on the theme of the "Response to Global Infectious Diseases," and added, "Today's protagonists, Dr. Sarah Gilbert and the Vaccine Alliance, are heroes who have dedicated themselves to health for peace and peace for health with a passionate love for humanity." He continued, saying, "Viruses breed by division, but they can only be defeated by solidarity, and the founders of the Sunhak Peace Prize, Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak-ja Han Moon, have spent their lifetime advocating that peace can only be achieved when we eliminate the boundaries between you and me, and when we help and love each other like one family." He then congratulated the laureates, saying, "The Sunhak Peace Prize is an effort of ongoing search for courageous and righteous people who have dedicated themselves to the cause of peace for humanity."

The 5th Sunhak Peace Prize focused on vaccine equality during the COVID-19 pandemic. The award was presented to Dr. Dame Sarah Catherine Gilbert, 59, Professor of Vaccinology at the Jenner Institute, University of Oxford, and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, founded in 2000.

In her acceptance speech, Dr. Sara Gilbert said, "When the Ebola virus broke out in Africa in 2014 as the largest infectious disease outbreak in the world, the vaccine development was interrupted and we observed where delays occurred and prepared for similar situations." She

continued, by saying, “The collaborating company AstraZeneca agreed to produce the vaccine without making profits during the pandemic and adhere to a pricing policy limited to low- and middle-income countries, producing the vaccine worldwide with the goal of maximizing vaccine supply and effectiveness, with at least 170 countries using the vaccine and more than 2.5 billion doses produced.” She said, “Now that mass vaccination of a wide variety of vaccines has become possible, and more than 60% of the world's population has received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, the challenge remains to send the vaccine to every single country without exception.” She made an appeal, by saying, “I hope that many young people will learn about our achievement and that it will help them in their choice of career path,” and “I hope that governments and international organizations will work hand in hand and be more thoroughly prepared than in 2020 when we have to deal with epidemics again.”

In his acceptance speech, Seth Berkeley, representative of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, said, “The Vaccine Alliance strives to create a peaceful world where children and adults have equal access to health opportunities so that people of every nationality can enjoy a healthy future. Health is the foundation of a peaceful world, and if children can go to school without getting sick, parents can focus on their work and the nation will prosper. The spirit of the Sunhak Peace Prize is the same as that pursued by the Vaccine Alliance since 2000, and we have established a platform with UNICEF-COVAX to ensure equal supply of vaccines throughout the world, thereby making efforts to eliminate the pandemic.” He emphasized the necessity of equal vaccine supply and said, “If more people are vaccinated, the probability of overcoming the epidemics will increase, and this is not only ethically correct, but also an action for the benefit of all people. So let's distribute vaccines equally and do our best to end the pandemic.”

The awarding ceremony for the Sunhak Peace Prize started with an opening remarks by former KBS announcer Shin Young Il who served the master of ceremony, followed by a welcome speech by Jose Manuel Barroso, chairman of the Sunhak Peace Prize Committee, a video presentation introducing the achievements of the award winners, the presentation of medals and plaques, acceptance speeches by Dr. Sarah Gilbert and the Vaccine Alliance, congratulatory remarks by former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert, and congratulatory performances by musical actress Jung Young Joo and pop opera singer Park Wan. In the Founder's Special Honorary Award ceremony, a video introducing the awardee's achievements was shown, followed by the presentation of the medal and plaque, an acceptance speech by Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen, a congratulatory speech by former U.S. House Speaker Newt Gingrich, and a congratulatory performance by the Little Angels.

Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen said, "This award was not given to me alone, but to the many people who have worked together to build peace in Cambodia. Based on the experience of war and peace in Cambodia, I want to emphasize that without peace, there is no hope, without peace, there is no development. Without peace, there is no respect for human rights and democracy." He said, adding, “I agree with the belief of Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon that peace is not a vague dream but a concrete action.” He continued, “Promoting

peace is essential for us in the present, but more importantly, like the slogan of the Sunhak Peace Prize, it must lead to the creation of a better world for future generations.”

In his congratulatory remarks, former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert said, “The development of human history always starts with one person, but in our time, it was Dr. Sarah Gilbert who facilitated the way to the production and manufacture of the COVID-19 vaccine. The Vaccine Alliance has done a great job in helping low-income people in Africa and Asia who need the COVID-19 vaccines. Former Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Newt Gingrich congratulated the laureates, saying, “We are living in a challenging moment, and what is striking is that, judging from today's speeches, it seems possible that we can achieve security and prosperity of the mankind with the vision of “one human family under God.”

Dr. Sarah Gilbert was recognized for her decisive role in developing the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine, which is easy to store and transport and inexpensive, and which has helped protect billions of people in underdeveloped countries with fragile health care environments. The Vaccine Alliance Gavi, the world's largest international health organization, was highly recognized for its contribution to saving lives in underdeveloped countries through its leadership of the COVAX Facility, which aims to distribute vaccines equally to all countries around the world. Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen presented each of the awardees with a cash prize of \$500,000 and a medal, while he himself was selected by the Sunhak Peace Prize Foundation to receive the Fifth Sunhak Peace Prize Founder's Special Honorary Award. Prime Minister Hun Sen was highly evaluated for his service in providing leadership for the sustainable development and prosperity of Southeast Asia, and for his work as the Organizing Committee Co-Chairman of the “Korean Peninsula Peace Summit” in line with the “Heavenly Unified Korea Peace System.”

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