

EDITORIAL

2009 started with a heartbreaking tragedy! More than thousands of civilians were killed in Gaza due to the Israeli bombing. Bodies of children lying down on the streets symbolized the injustice and illegality of contemporary world community. Who gave the right to commit such brutal violence towards innocent spirits? History never forgets the cruelty against human dignity. East Asia is the first to realize such idea because most of the countries in this region were colonized by the western powers before World War II. The papers in this Journal would be the sincere protest from the bottom of people's heart in this region. JEAIL is trying to emphasize the achievement of legal scholarship against the demolition of humanity.

The last issue of the Journal was quite fruitful. Two papers on Legal Autonomy of Tibet were timely released, and their opposite viewpoints drew much attention from international community; highly established international newspapers such as New York Times and Le Monde reported the papers and the authors. A leading article of Professor Valerie Epps was registered as a top-ten research paper at the Social Science Research Network (SSRN), one of the most influential academic websites in English speaking world.

Now, we have delightfully launched Volume 2, Number 1 of the Journal. More drafts were submitted at this time compared to the previous issues, and it was very challenging to select qualified papers among them. In particular, we set up a special issue focusing on one topic, Islamic World and International Law. A number of Muslim lawyers analyzed current world affairs, from self-defense to human right in a genuine Islamic point of view. This is a unique topic which may not be easily found at western academic law journals. JEAIL fully appreciates the scholars from Iraq, Jordan, Malaysia and Russia, who have contributed to the Journal. We expect these papers to help non-Muslims maintain a fair and balanced perspective on Islamic world, and people with different religions to coexist peacefully in the global community. Also, at this issue, the Journal is publishing a number of valuable articles contributed by legal scholars from China, India, Indonesia and Japan. Their papers, chosen through painstaking process of selection, deal with very cutting-edge and critical legal issues. The Regional Focus and Controversies section put concentrates on the on-going political and military conflict regarding the sovereignty of the Preah Vihear temple between Cambodia and Thailand. With these two articles, the readers would be able to understand how the two opposite

sides are claiming their sovereignty of the temple under the international law. At International Lawyer section, we have the honor to invite Professor John O. Haley of Washington University School of Law, a highly renowned and respected Japanese law scholar. His sincere description of lifelong study will give the most profound ideas and mentoring to younger generation for the successful academic life.

All internal board members and external experts did their best in the selection process. The citations have been bluebooked by two associate editors, Mr. Michael K. Hyun at Columbia University School of Law and Mr. John Riley at Seoul National University School of Law, as well as fellows of the YIJUN Institute of International Law including Mr. Shim Young-ho, Ms. Hwang Kyung-seon, Mr. Kim Do-sung and Ms. Jenny Suh. We would like to express the deepest appreciation to their enthusiasm. The Journal is much obliged to our truly credible national correspondents for their treaty reports and news.

The Journal most welcomes academic and practical contribution in English and French. As a next step, JEAIL is going to tackle Maritime Environment in East Asia as the Issue Focus for Volume 2/Number 2(November 2009). We open your submission anytime before August 1.

Editor-in-Chief