



Dear Ms. Marion Kim, Rev. Young Mo Roo, Beloved in Christ,

It is with great sorrow that we received the news of the passing of the Rev. Dr. Kim Yong Bok. He will be gratefully remembered as a theologian who articulated the aspirations and hopes of the most oppressed, a mentor who journeyed along with so many in the ecumenical movement, and a friend who made the world a better place through his humility and his spirit.

An outstanding theologian who drew from the Reformed faith he was a pioneer of Asian theology and particularly Minjung theology. He reimagined Reformed theology in the Korean context speaking of Koinonia and its implications for the Korean people. His work served to inspire so many people across Asia and the world. His passion from doing theology from below, raising up the perspectives of the oppressed, re-invented Asian theology and encouraged a deeper engagement with God's people.

His theological vision was marked by and emerged from a commitment to the struggles of people. A struggle that he himself participated in. He often spoke of the fact that for the committed theologian 'jail was a second home!'. Such was his deep commitment for human rights, dignity, and life in its fullness.

This theological vision was also brought to the World Communion of Reformed Churches, or the World Alliance of Reformed Churches as it was then known as. He served as the moderator for the Theology programme. During this time, he brought much insight and vision to the work the Reformed Communion.

His passing is a great loss to the global ecumenical family and for us in the World Communion of Reformed Churches in particular. We offer our prayers and condolences and will continue to work courageously, so that his vision, passion, and commitment will be continued.

With deepest sympathies,

Hanns Lessing
Philip Vinod Peacock
Phil Tanis

Collective General Secretariat

Hanns Lessing
Philip Vinod Peacock
Phil Tanis
Collegial General Secretariat
World Communion of Reformed Churches
Calvin Centre
Knochenhauerstr. 42
30159 Hannover
Germany

Tel. +49 511 897383-10
Fax: +49 511 897383-11
Email: gs@werc.eu
Web: www.werc.ch

President:
Rev. Najla Kassab