

**2011년 3월 2일 키워드 스피킹 방송 / 주제: 독도문제**

**Paul's Summary (transcribed)**

For most Western people, the name of Dokdo is not a familiar one. Only a few who are interested in world affairs may be more familiar with the names of Liancourt Rocks or Takeshima. To the average observer it appears to be a very small and insignificant piece of land that is home to only two permanent residents: an octopus fisherman and his wife. But for most Koreans, Dokdo is not just **a name of a set of islets located at the far eastern border of the Korean territory**. It is **the symbol of Korea's pride and sovereignty**.

As Japan continues **claims of sovereignty over Dokdo**, **disputes** over the islets still continue. But a lot of historical evidence shows that **Dokdo was historically Korea's territory**. Also, Dokdo was **effectively governed** by Korea for a long time. Japan's move in 1905 to **occupy Dokdo** was simply one of its first steps of Japanese imperialism to invade the Korean peninsula. As imperial Japan was defeated in the Second World War and **renounced sovereignty** over its occupied territories, sovereignty over Dokdo was returned to Korea accordingly.

The **most brilliant response to Japan's claim** was not to make the Dokdo dispute a **high-profile international issue**, and to **maintain the effective control of Dokdo** as Korea is doing now. Huge amounts of **hidden natural resources** and the **economic potential** of the territory may be the real reason why Japan continuously **claims sovereignty over Dokdo**. Numerous and intense Korean protests have sparked against the Japanese claims over Dokdo.

What most Koreans see in the disputes is the **long shadow of Japanese colonial rule**. Japan has never officially apologized for their **historical wrongdoings** during their occupation of Korea. And as a result has not helped ease tensions between the two nations. Koreans have rightful concerns of sovereignty even after more than sixty years of independence. One can see that Korean's high level of awareness in the Dokdo dispute can be the most telling example of those deep concerns.

**Key Words**

1. 독도 Dokdo islets, Liancourt Rocks
2. 한일간 독도 관련 영토분쟁 land dispute over the Dokdo area between Korea and Japan
3. 독도는 대한민국 영토이다 Dokdo is our territory.
4. 바위섬, 작은 섬 islet
5. 역사적 근거 a lot of historical evidence shows that Dokdo has always been Korean territory.
6. 분쟁지역 disputed territory
7. 주권/영유권을 주장하다 claim sovereignty over
8. 독도에 부존자원이 많다 Dokdo is high in natural resources
9. 경제적 잠재가치가 크다 has high economic potential
10. 실효적 지배 be effectively governed/controlled by
11. 독도는 일본에 의해 지배된 첫 한국 영토이다. Dokdo was the first Korean territory to be occupied by Japan in 1905.
12. 독도는 대한민국 주권의 상징적 존재이다 Dokdo is a symbol of Korean sovereignty.

**More Key Words**

1. 영주자 permanent resident
2. 접근 가능하다 accessible
3. 역사적 의미 historical significance
4. 좋은 관계 amicable relations
5. 일제 식민지배의 그늘 long shadow of Japanese colonial rule
6. 관심이 집중되는 이슈 high-profile issue
7. 단적인 예시 a telling example