

The collection of short stories smuggled out of North Korea is authentic

HRWF (17.03.2016) - "The Denunciation/ La dénonciation," a collection of seven short stories smuggled out of North Korea, is authentic, according to Human Rights Without Frontiers (Brussels). Everyone can rightly question the authenticity of this work and so did Ms Lim Yeong-hee, who discovered and translated this book first published in Korean. She was able to see the original manuscript written by hand on old poor-quality paper. The 600 pages of text had been hole-punched and needed to be reassembled with string and had been secured with scotch tape.

This she affirmed at a conference in Paris on March 14 organised by Pierre Rigoulot, author of the afterword, and Willy Fautré, director of Human Rights Without Frontiers.

The work has just been published in Paris by Editions Philippe Picquier in French and is soon to be followed by ten or so other language editions.

A question was raised at the event concerning the possibility that the collection was either fabricated by the government or by some political entity in South Korea. In the case of political manipulation, responded Pierre Rigoulot, this would have benefited someone, but this has apparently not been the case. The book remained completely unnoticed in Seoul and has not been exploited by any political party or other group. Neither has it been substantively criticized by any serious expert in South Korea.

South Korean television covered the event in Paris: <http://bit.ly/255VO3n>

See also this article in La Libre Belgique on North Korea: <http://bit.ly/1Lsm69o>

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