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Left: Gorgeous works of art that are Korean temples. Each building in their temple complexes is masterfully painted, with traditional colors and symbols going back throughout the centuries.

This is a picture taken from the top of Mt. Apsan, overlooking the outskirts of Daegu below. The hike to this point took about three hours.





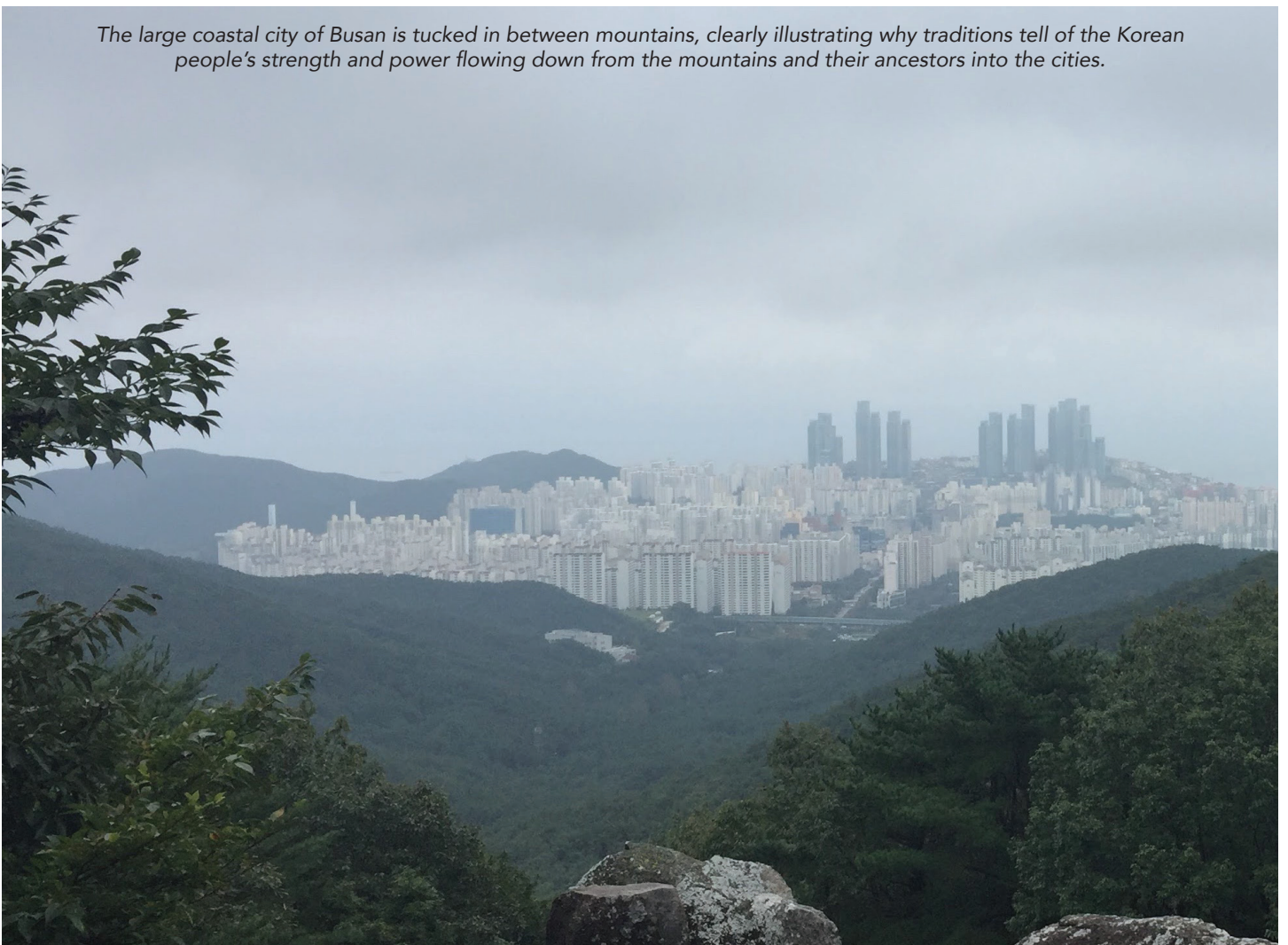
This is a ship yard in Busan. I took the picture because this density of ships and travel containers went on for a long stretch of the coast in this area.



This is the view from the upper level of an uncommon temple complex located on the coast of the peninsula. Most temples in the country are located on mountains inland, for various traditional cultural reasons.



The large coastal city of Busan is tucked in between mountains, clearly illustrating why traditions tell of the Korean people's strength and power flowing down from the mountains and their ancestors into the cities.





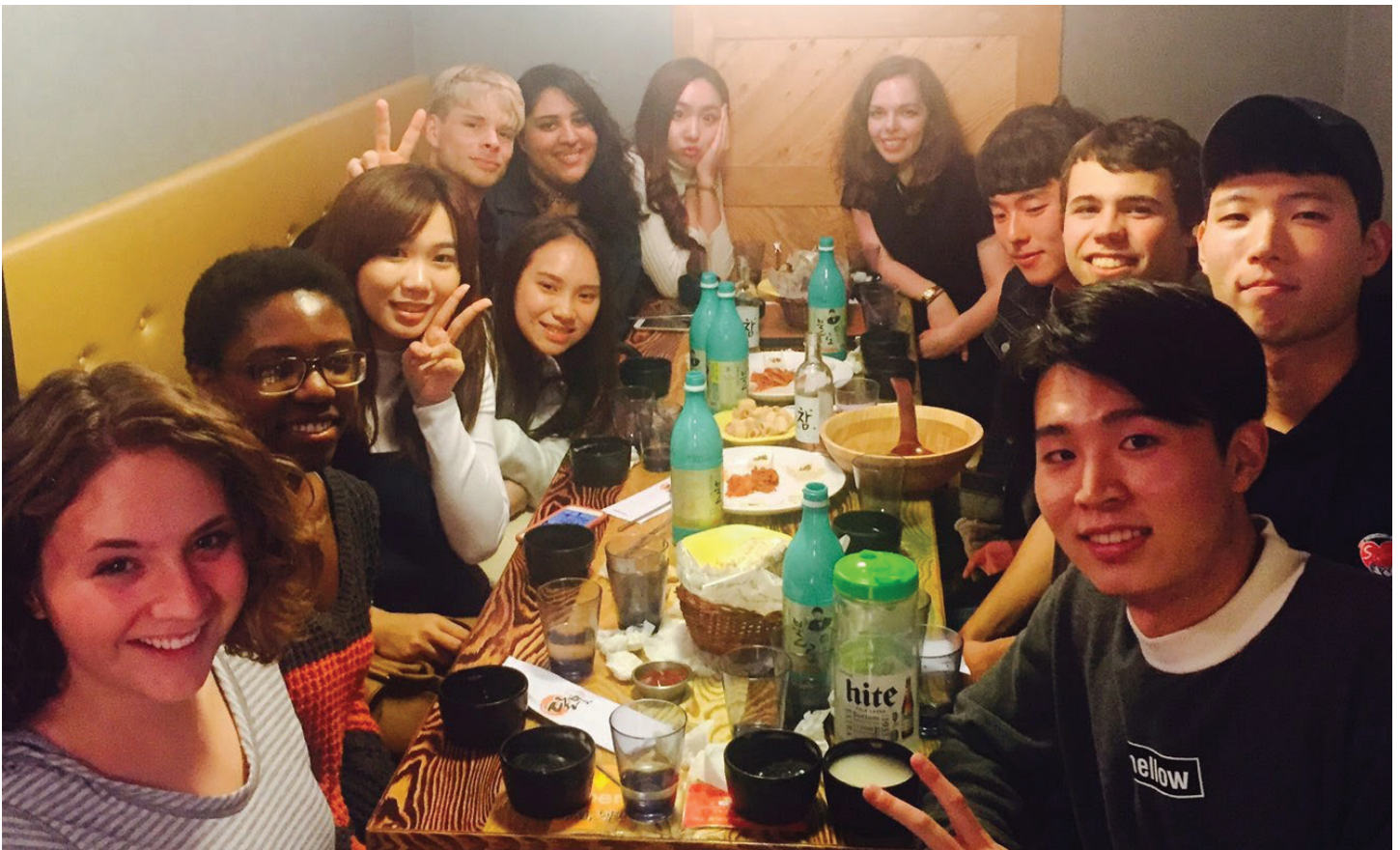
My friend (left) and I (right), taking a picture with a Confucian monk in a rare temple complex that was half old traditions and half new.



Buddha statue.



A very traditional meal including soup in stone bowls that is served still boiling, kimchi (a fermented cabbage side dish), pickled sprouts, gently fried whole fish, fermented black beans, a spicy peanut-based spread and chopped greens.



This is a typical weekend night. Many people crowded around a table, sharing snacks and bottles of Soju, as well as bowls of Makgeolli (served cold, almost like a Slushee, ladled out to small wooden bowls to drink from).