## World Heritage Site Soiled By Korea: Another Distortion Of History Akin To The

The recent decision by the Korean government to build a golf course on a World Heritage Site has sparked outrage among historians and preservationists. The site, Gyeongju Historic Areas, is home to some of the most important Buddhist temples and royal tombs in Korea. It was designated a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1995.



Gunkanjima (Battleship Island): A World Heritage Site Soiled by Korea --Another distortion of history, akin to the "comfort women" by Liza Charlesworth

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The Korean government's decision to build a golf course on the site has been met with widespread condemnation. Many experts believe that the construction of the golf course will damage the site's historical and cultural value. They also argue that the golf course will be a distraction from the site's religious and spiritual significance.

The Korean government has defended its decision to build the golf course, arguing that it will boost tourism and economic development in the area. However, many experts believe that the economic benefits of the golf course will be outweighed by the damage it will cause to the site's historical and cultural value.

#### **Historical Significance of Gyeongju Historic Areas**

Gyeongju Historic Areas is one of the most important historical and cultural sites in Korea. It was the capital of the Silla Kingdom from 57 BC to 935 AD. During this time, Gyeongju was a major center of learning and culture. It was also home to some of the most important Buddhist temples and royal tombs in Korea.

The Gyeongju Historic Areas were designated a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1995. The site is home to a number of important cultural and historical landmarks, including:

\* Bulguksa Temple: A UNESCO World Heritage Site, Bulguksa Temple is one of the most important Buddhist temples in Korea. It was built in the 8th century AD and is considered to be a masterpiece of Korean architecture. \* Seokguram Grotto: A UNESCO World Heritage Site, Seokguram Grotto is a Buddhist temple carved into a rock face. It was built in the 8th century AD and is considered to be one of the most important examples of Korean Buddhist art. \* Cheomseongdae Observatory: A UNESCO World Heritage Site, Cheomseongdae Observatory is the oldest surviving astronomical observatory in East Asia. It was built in the 7th century AD and is considered to be a marvel of ancient engineering.

The Gyeongju Historic Areas are a valuable part of Korea's cultural heritage. They provide a glimpse into the country's rich history and culture. The construction of a golf course on the site would be a serious threat to the site's historical and cultural value.

#### The Korean Government's Decision

In 2018, the Korean government announced plans to build a golf course on a portion of the Gyeongju Historic Areas. The golf course would be located on a 50-acre plot of land that is currently used as a parking lot.

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#### **International Condemnation**

The Korean government's decision to build a golf course on the Gyeongju Historic Areas has been met with international condemnation. In 2019, UNESCO issued a statement expressing its concern about the construction of the golf course. UNESCO has also called on the Korean government to reconsider its plans.

In addition to UNESCO, a number of other international organizations have condemned the Korean government's decision to build a golf course on the Gyeongju Historic Areas. These organizations include the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and the World Monuments Fund.

The international condemnation of the Korean government's decision to build a golf course on the Gyeongju Historic Areas is a clear indication of the importance of the site. The Gyeongju Historic Areas are a valuable part of Korea's cultural heritage and should be protected for future generations.

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The construction of the golf course would damage the site's historical and cultural value. It would also be a distraction from the site's religious and spiritual significance. The Korean government should reconsider its plans and protect the Gyeongju Historic Areas for future generations.



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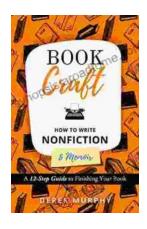
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