



# PRESS RELEASE

## 2008 WORLD MARTIAL ARTS GAMES MOVE TO SOUTH KOREA

**July 11, 2007 Victoria, B.C. Canada** - The World Martial Arts Games Committee (WMAGC) is pleased to announce that the 2008 World Martial Arts Games will be held in Busan, South Korea. This follows an earlier decision to relocate next year's games from Islamabad, Pakistan due to potential security risk to athletes and officials. The move to South Korea, not only provides a safe political climate for the 2008 WMAG, it will also encourage more participation from surrounding Asian countries. Busan has a population of approximately 3.7 million people, and is located on the south east coast of South Korea, with easy access from other international locations. Details of the event will be announced in the next few weeks.

"It is a great honour and pleasure to be hosting the 2008 World Martial Arts Games here in my home city of Busan", says Jeong Seong Kim, WMAG National Director for South Korea, "I feel it is a great opportunity for cultural exchange between the residents of Busan and the world martial arts community. I would personally like to invite everyone to join together, strengthening the bonds of the martial arts community throughout the world, promoting peace and friendship, and ultimately building a better future for all citizens of the world."

"We are very pleased to be holding the 2008 World Martial Arts Games in the beautiful city of Busan, South Korea", says Ken Marchtaler, Chairman of the WMAGC, "South Korea has produced some of the most popular martial arts in the world today. The city of Busan has an excellent reputation for hosting large scale global sports events. This combined with Jeong Seong Kim's reputation in the Asian martial arts community, will ensure our continued growth in this region. We are obviously very excited to be carrying the WMAG flag to Busan next year!"

The World Martial Arts Games Movement is a non-profit society formed in August 2005. Its goal is to unite the World of Martial Arts through annual competition. The World Martial Arts Games encompasses organizations, athletes and other persons who agree to be guided by the World Martial Arts Games Charter. The Charter is governed by World Martial Arts Games Committee (WMAGC).

The World Martial Arts Games Committee (WMAGC) is the supreme authority of the World Martial Arts Games Movement. Its role is to promote top-level sport as well as sport for all in accordance with the World Martial Arts Games Charter. It ensures the regular celebration of the World Martial Arts Games and strongly encourages appropriate sports ethics and the protection of athletes. The WMAGC is a supporting member of TAFISA, an IOC recognized Multisport Organisation.

Further information about the World Martial Arts Games Committee and the 2007 World Martial Arts Games can be obtained by visiting the WMAG website at [www.worldmartialartsgames.com](http://www.worldmartialartsgames.com).

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