

Almost 400 Koreans enter race to marry millionairess

韓國富婆徵婚 近四百人爭先報名

Almost 400 South Koreans have applied to marry a millionairess who advertised for a **soulmate** but only eight “serious-minded” applicants will make the final cut, a **matchmaker** said.

The 49-year-old woman who is reportedly worth US\$18 million has been seeking a husband through an online advertisement since May 20, a spokeswoman for Sunoo matchmaking agency said.

Some 394 men — including doctors, lawyers, accountants, soldiers and government employees and ranging in age from 26 to 49 years — responded to the advertisement.

“As a business operator, she was too busy to find her husband herself,” the spokeswoman told AFP.

“We initially planned to keep the bid open until the end of this month but the woman felt **burdened** by unwelcome media attention and she wanted it closed (last) Tuesday.”

The woman picked eight of the men for interviews and is expected to meet two or three of them per month over the next three months.

They are aged between 37 and 49 and include company employees, teachers and bank workers.

“The bride prefers average but serious persons to **high-flying** professionals,” the spokeswoman said.

“She wants a soulmate with a passion for life, who will share the ups and downs of life with her.” (AFP)

TODAY'S WORDS 今日單字

1. **soulmate** /'sol,met/ n.

靈魂伴侶 (ling2 hun2 ban4 lü3)

例: Ian never thought he'd find a soulmate, until he met his wife. (溢安從沒想過會找到心靈相契的伴侶，直到遇上現在的老婆。)

2. **matchmaker** /'mætʃ'meɪkə/ n.

媒人 (mei2 ren2)

例: Matchmakers have become more popular recently, but many people are sceptical of them. (最近婚友社愈發流行，但許多人都此存疑。)

3. **burden** /'bɜ:dn/ v.

使煩擾 (shi3 fan2 rao3)

例: Only a few of the respondents said they felt burdened by the pressure of their job. (僅少數回覆者表示有工作壓力的困擾。)

4. **high-flying** /'haɪ'flaɪŋ/ adj.

有抱負的 (you3 bao4 fu4 de5)，有野心的 (you2 ye3 xin1 de5)

例: Despite dropping out of high school, Morris is now a high-flying banker. (雖然中學就輟學，但摩里斯現在可是個成功的銀行家。)



A bride poses for a photoshoot in Beijing, China, on March 26, 2009.
三月二十六日，中國北京一名新娘在拍攝婚紗照。

PHOTO: AP
照片：美聯社

一名婚介業者表示，南韓一名富婆刊登廣告尋找靈魂伴侶，吸引近四百位男性報名，不過只有八位「真誠」的男士能進入最後甄選階段。

選友婚友社的女發言人表示，這名現年四十九歲、據稱身價一千八百萬美元的女士，五月二十日起在網路上刊登徵婚廣告。

目前共有三百九十四名男士報名徵婚，其中不乏醫師、律師、會計師、軍人和公務員，年齡介於二十六到四十九歲之間。

該女發言人告訴法新社說：「這名女企業家忙到沒時間尋找另一半。」

「我們原先打算公開徵婚到這個月底，但媒體過度關心令女企業家心生壓力，因此決定在（上）週二結束徵婚活動。」

女企業家從報名徵婚的男士中選出八位進行面對面接觸，她希望未來三個月，每個月都能和兩三名人選見面。

這群「入圍者」的年齡介於三十七至四十九歲間，其中包括企業雇員、教師和銀行職員。

該女發言人說：「這名女企業家比較欣賞平凡認真的人，而非有野心的專業人士。」

「她要的是一個對生活有熱情，能與她分享生命中酸甜苦辣的靈魂伴侶。」

(法新社/翻譯：林倩如)