

## Gu Li, Freed from 'Last Minute Burden', 1 Win

Overall Score 2-1, 4<sup>th</sup> Match in Seoul



▲ Gu Li recovers with this game.(Image Source=sina.com)

The rival match of the century just couldn't end with a one-sided win from one player. In the first match of the Jubango, Lee Sedol, accompanied by his wife and daughter, grabbed the historical first win. With the same feeling, at the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> match, Gu Li, accompanied by his wife and daughter, displayed for us a determined attitude. Perhaps thanks to the support of his family? With his first win in the Jubango, bringing the overall score to 1-2, Gu Li closes the gap by a game.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> match of the Jubango took place on the 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am (Korea time) at Chengdu, Sichuan Province, in China. Lee Sedol, already having grabbed two wins, had a psychological advantage, but with this being the rival match of the century, with trivial pros and cons for both players, such an advantage doesn't mean much.

It was a quintessential game between the rivals, Gu Li and Lee Sedol. Lee Sedol, from the start of the game plays provocatively time after time, however an unexpectedly calm and composed Gu Li, returned for this game. Taking white, from the start of the game, Gu Li established a small but firm advantage, and after the large capture in the bottom left, made his win clear. After that, in the chase with Lee Sedol's group, Gu Li made a few mistakes, however, nothing that would change the result of the game. (W+Resign, 222 moves)

Starting in the morning, broadcasting from Tygem, Na Hyun 4p commented, "From the start of the game, Gu Li gained a bit of a lead. Permitting the lower left made a favorable result for white, and with the capture of black's five stones on the bottom, it became a decisive loss for Lee Sedol. Today, Gu Li played well."

In the last two weeks of March, Lee Sedol has successively lost three games in the Zhaoshang Cup, Chunlan Cup, and now the Jubango. Lee Sedol still leads in the Jubango 2-1, but considering Gu Li's upward trend, the majority opinion is that the likely winner of the Jubango remains unclear. The 4<sup>th</sup> match is planned to be held in Korea on April 27<sup>th</sup>.

The main sponsor of the Lee Sedol-Gu Li Jubango is MLily. The winner will receive 5,000,000 Yuan (~870,000,000 Won / ~800,000 USD). The loser will receive 200,000 Yuan (~35,000,000 Won / ~30,000 USD) for travel expenses. The match time limits are 4 hours each, with 7.5 komi. There is no extra time allotted for lunch or other breaks.

Match	Date	Winner	Loser	Result	Score	Location
Game 1	2014-01-26	Lee Sedol	Gu Li	B+R (251 moves)	Sedol 1-0	Beijing
Game 2	2014-02-23	Lee Sedol	Gu Li	W+1.5 (287 moves)	Sedol 2-0	Shanghai
Game 3	2014-03-30	Gu Li	Lee Sedol	W+R (222 moves)	Gu Li 1-2	Chengdu
Game 4	2014-04-27					Korea
Game 5	2014-05-25					Shangrila
Game 6	2014-07-27					Liuan
Game 7	2014-08-31					Lasa
Game 8	2014-09-28					Chongqing

Game 9	2014-10-26					Hongkong
Game 10	2014-11-30					Wuhu

(Translator's Note: Previous text appears to be post-game news, with the following news appearing to be written as the game progressed.)

When asked, regarding the Jubango, about the most burdensome score situation that could arise in the series, Lee Sedol replied, "Maybe if it came to be 3-0, or perhaps 4-1... the level of tension would probably peak at that point." If Lee Sedol's remark was correct, this match falls at the juncture of whether the score becomes 3-0 or 1-2. According to the result, the entire composure of the series could change abruptly.

With Lee Sedol at 2-0, appearing to have an overwhelming lead, the 3<sup>rd</sup> match of the 70-year Jubango is held on the March 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am (Korea Time) at Chengdu, Sichuan Province, in China.

With Lee Sedol as black, steadily taking territory, he is playing a steady opening. The match is going slowly compared to a typical game, having started over 2 hours ago up to now at 12:20pm, having progressed just barely 40 moves.

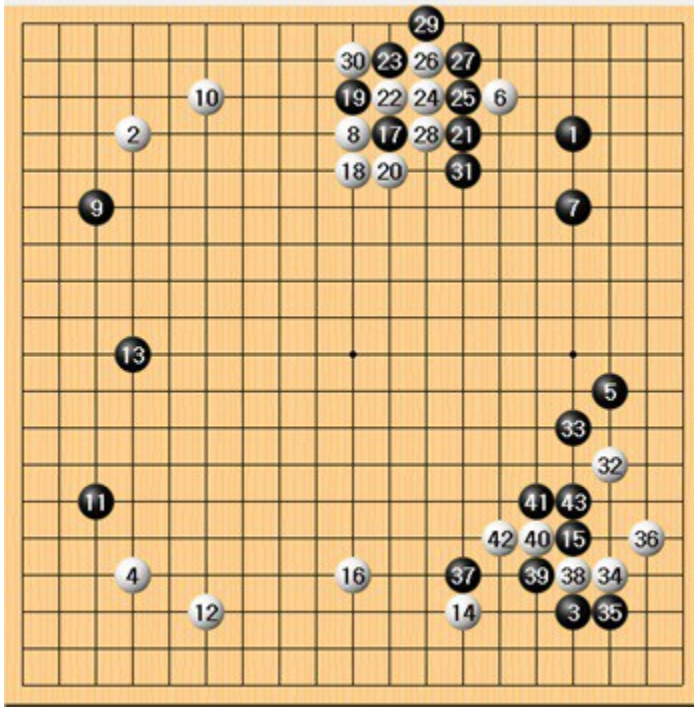
Despite Lee Sedol typically arriving first in the playing room, today Gu Li is first to sit down, trying to control his composure. With Gu Li's daughter and wife making an appearance, the importance hanging on this match is clear.

At the moment, a new pattern is breaking out in the bottom right, and from here on out, with both players showing spirit to overcome the other at this turning point, they appear to be using up a considerable amount of time. The Tygem commentator, Na Hyun 4p expects, "Lee Sedol seems to think that black doesn't look too bad. What happens in this bottom right corner will decide who is in a better position."

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Hour 1 (Moves 1~43) A Volley of Strong Moves (12:30pm)

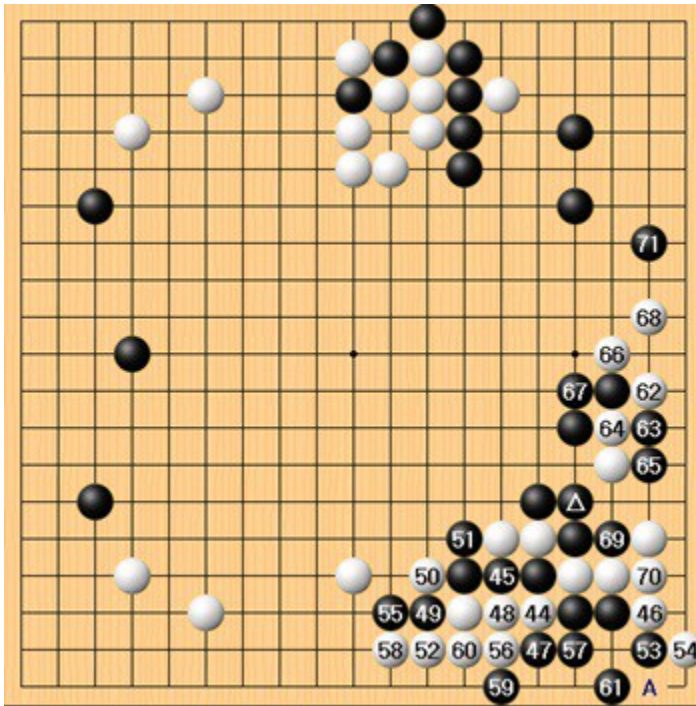
● Lee Sedol ○ Gu Li



**Gu Li, Desperately Feeling the Importance of this Game.** Arriving early to the match room for the 3<sup>rd</sup> game, Gu Li calmed himself down, showing a different attitude than usual. He appears to be showing an attitude that he'll play his very best for this 3<sup>rd</sup> game. Just as expected. The match started 2 and a half hours ago, but the game has hardly progressed at all. Right now, the two are contending for an advantage in the lower right, and with the Lee Sedol-like innovation of black 37, it looks like it will continue to take a lot thinking time from here. With black 43, Lee Sedol aims to completely capture the corner. Tygem commentator Na Hyun 4p comments, "It's not a bad progression for black."

Hour 2 (Moves 43~71) Lee Sedol Maintains a Lead (1:40pm)

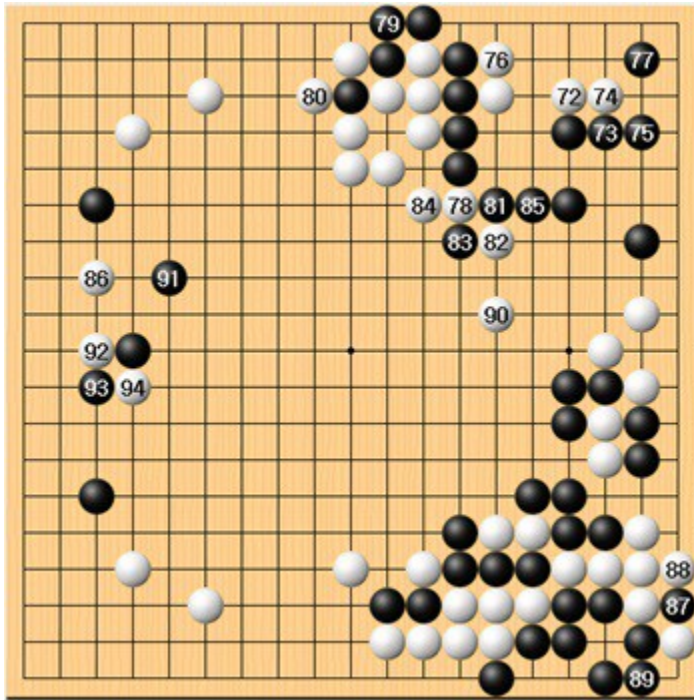
- Lee Sedol ○ Gu Li



With the tight black ▲, Lee Sedol aims to complicate the game, consolidating his chance at victory. With white's cut at 44, the tussle wraps up with black 61. After this result, the bottom right white stones still aren't completely captured (white A can start a ko), but even so, it's a good enough result for black. Gu Li's attachment at white 62 shows a desperate resistance, but in capturing the two white stones, it looks like black has a good chance to win. Of course with white settling at 68, the white stones in the corner are not yet completely dead, but it's a good enough result for black.

### Hour 3 (Moves 72~94) The Intense Battle Continues (3:20pm)

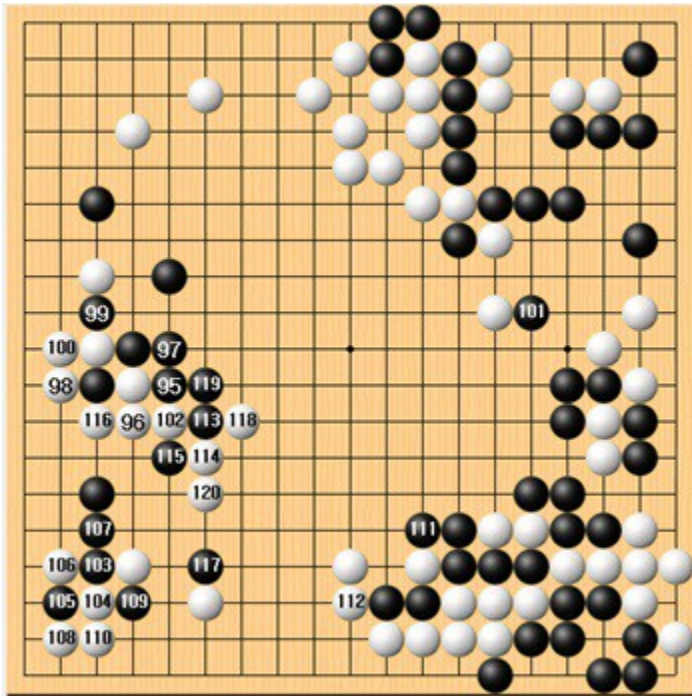
● Lee Sedol ○ Gu Li



The top right corner, having no remaining aji, is completely black's territory. Some from the review room thought that, instead of white 72, invading directly at the 3-3 with white 74 could have been possible. Finally, with Lee Sedol reinforcing at black 89, the ko was completely settled. Even so, as the two stones on the bottom can still be used, white still had a bit of potential in the area. White 90 was said to be a good move in the review room. Black 91 was a move taking into account the center, but with white 92 and the cut at white 94, another tussle is about to start.

Hour 4 (Moves 95~117) Will it live? Will it die? (4:20pm)

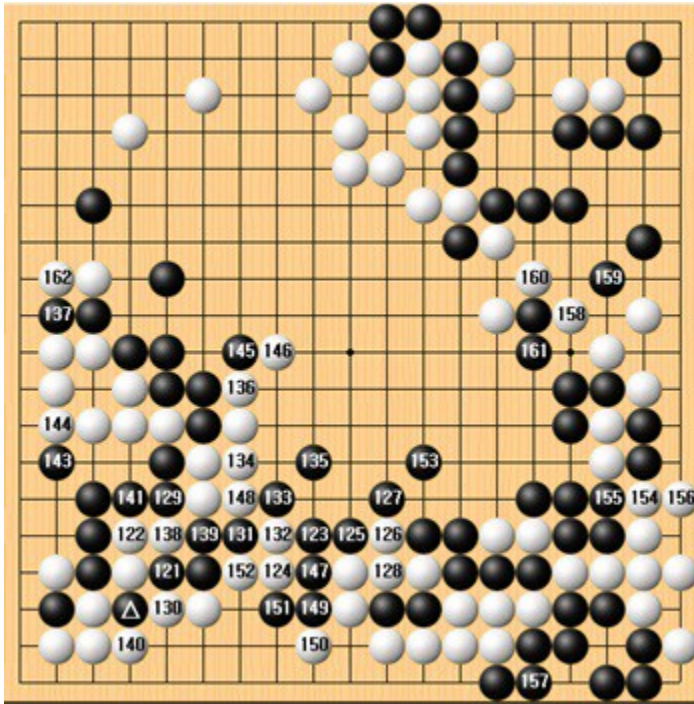
- Lee Sedol ○ Gu Li



In the battle on the left, with black's 95 and 97, black makes the center solid. It looks like it will be enough to compete on points; black 101 even has the intention of capturing the right... But now comes Gu Lee's winning sequence. White 102 pushes out with the intention of making massive territory both on the left and on the bottom. From here, white 118 and 120 clearly show the intention of capturing the black stones on the bottom. Earlier, when black pushed at 111, white's response at 112 also worked in this context. This is crucial. Regarding this, Na Hyun 4p thought that it would be hard for black to live. From here, Lee Sedol's plan is...?

Hour 5 (Moves 118~162) Lee Sedol Is Losing (5:20pm)

● Lee Sedol ○ Gu Li

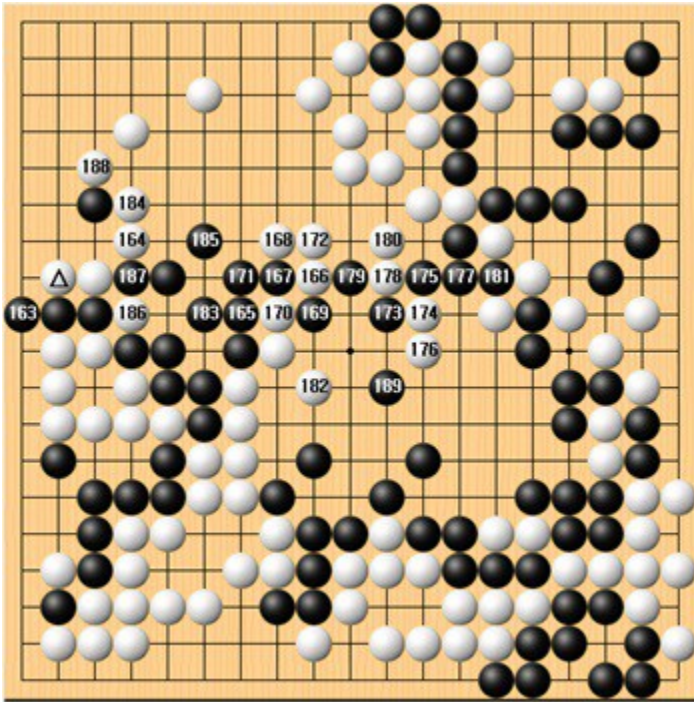


In the last stages of the game, Lee Sedol is losing. In the lower left corner, black is all captured. After piercing partially into the bottom, black reinforced the center black stones. However, after losing sente, white returned to move ahead with 158 on the right side. Finally, white returned to pressure the left with white 162. Gu Li has completely and absolutely solidified his victory at this point.



Hour 6 (Moves 163~189) Another Chase is initiated (6:10pm)

● Lee Sedol ○ Gu Li



With white's block at ▲, Gu Li can again harass black's group; The atmosphere feels that white has basically won. Gu Li will either capture the black group, or solidify his territory on the top – at least one of the two seems inevitable. However, at the last moment, Gu Li wavered. With the white cut at 178, the position became complicated. Instead of this move, simply focusing on the black group on the left and playing 185 would kill the large group. Now, with white foregoing the chance to completely finish the game, the right white stones are also captured, and black lives. Gu Li is still ahead on points here, but black 189 was a good endgame move. It's clear that Gu Li is a little shaken up now.



▲ Gu Li-Lee Sedol Jubango 3<sup>rd</sup> Match Has Begun.



▲ Lee Sedol's Contemplation.



▲ Gu Li's Wife, Ruyuan, and their Daughter. Gu Li and his wife married last year in January.

*(Translated by Brian Kirby [[kirbyb@umich.edu](mailto:kirbyb@umich.edu)] from <http://www.tygem.com/news/news/viewpage.asp?pagec=&seq=18602&gubun=&find=&findword>)*