

KOREA at SOAS

Centre of Korean Studies, SOAS Annual Review

September 2008 - August 2009

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Chair, Centre of Korean Studies
Department of the Languages and Cultures of Japan and Korea
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Current Honorary Appointments

Professorial Research Associate:

Professor Martina DEUCHLER ~ Oct 2002 - Aug 2011
BA (LEIDEN) PHD (HARVARD)

Research Associate:

Dr Owen MILLER ~ Jul 2008 - Aug 2010
PHD BA (LONDON)
om4@soas.ac.uk

Dr Youngsook PAK ~ May 2007 - Aug 2010
PHD (UNIVERSITY OF HEIDELBERG)
yp@soas.ac.uk

Visiting Scholars:

Ms Hakyung CHANG ~ Apr 2009 - Mar 2010
MA BA (SOOK-MYUNG WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY)
hc8@soas.ac.uk

Professor Sang Hie HAN ~ Mar 2009 - Feb 2010
PHD LL.M LL.B (SEOUL NATIONAL UNIVERSITY)
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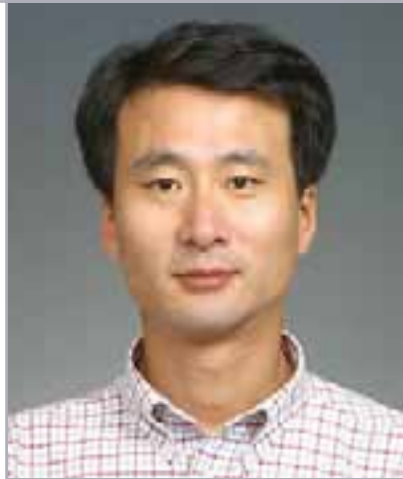
Ms Jongsook KIM ~ May 2009 - Oct 2009
BA (KOREA UNIVERSITY)
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Professor Seungwoo LEE ~ Aug 2009 - Aug 2010
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Professor Wookhee SHIN ~ Jan 2009 - Jan 2010
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For a list of all honorary appointments who have carried our research at SOAS in the academic year of 2008-2009, see p.21

For more information on CKS members, visit:
<http://www.soas.ac.uk/koreanstudies/members/>



This academic year was the third year of the five-year SOAS-AKS Korean Studies Institution Grant project. This generous support from the Academy of Korean Studies (AKS) has enabled the Centre to significantly expand its manpower and infrastructure, its research programme and its event calendar.

During the year the Centre welcomed Dr Dae-Oup Chang, Lecturer in Development Studies, as a new member, and it also appointed Dr Lucien Brown as research fellow and Dr Owen Miller as research associate. Professor Martina Deuchler, Professorial research associate of the Centre, recently received the first Korea Foundation Award, recognizing her contributions to the field of Korean studies.

The Centre has continued its ordinary lecture series as well as the special lecture series for European scholars enabled by the AKS grant. Among the fifteen presenters this academic year were Professor Ruediger Frank (University of Vienna), Professor Shin Dong Kim

(Science Po, Paris), Professor Jeong-hee Lee-Kalisch (Freie Universitat Berlin), Professor Daeyol Kim (INALCO, Paris), Professor Nam-lin Hur (The University of British Columbia), Dr James Lewis (University of Oxford), Dr Jo Elfving-Hwang (Leeds University), and Dr Choon Key Chekar (Cardiff University), and the lectures covered a wide range of topics from a Confucian moral practice in 19th Century Korea to recent political developments and filming in North Korea.

On 24 February 2009 the Centre organised a workshop on Decorative Arts and Folk Customs of Korea. Professor Michael Pettid (SUNY Binghamton) and Professor Chong Pyongmo (Kyongju National University) gave special lectures at the workshop. The workshop was followed by a special visit to British Museum led by Professor Chong Pyongmo. The Centre also organised two other workshops during the year; on 22 May 2009, a workshop on Territory, Frontiers and Borders in Korean History organized by Dr Anders Karlsson, and on 15 June 2009, another workshop on Modern Encounters and Travel Literature: Accounts by Contiguity, Firsthand Accounts, and Mutual Perceptions of Chosŏn Korea and the West. The workshop in June was organized by Dr Grace Koh and contributed by staff members of Academy of Korean Studies and faculty members of Languages and Cultures at SOAS.

The Centre welcomed the following visiting scholars during the year: Professor Hyunsoo Kim (Dankook University), Professor Young Kim (Inha University), Professor Seonmee Kim (Suncheon National University), Professor Wookhee Shin (Seoul National University), Professor Sanghie Han (Konkuk University), Professor Cho-see Jung (Chongju University), and Ms Hakyung Chang (Sookmyung Women University).

Finally, this is the second issue of CKS annual review, which was initially proposed and prepared by Dr Charlotte Horlyck. This annual review is designed and produced by Centres and Programmes Office at SOAS, and I would like to thank Mrs Jane Savory and Miss Rahima Begum for their hard work.

Dr Jaehoon Yeon
Chair, Centre of Korean Studies

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Dr Charlotte Horlyck
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Special thanks to Dr Lucien Brown for providing photographs throughout the year.

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Project Implementation for 2008 - 2009 Period

Project Goals & Original Project Plan

To promote SOAS as a leader in Korean studies in Europe, the major goals of the project include the following: to develop research and teaching manpower, to develop Korean studies courses, to hold seminars, workshops, and conferences promoting collaboration with other Universities in Europe and Korea, to provide support for graduate students and to publish research materials.

The original plan covered the following seven areas:

- 1) The maintenance of one lectureship in Korean Studies and two research fellowships (one full-time, and one half-time)
- 2) The development of a series of seminars by scholars from Europe and Korea
- 3) The hosting of research workshops and conferences in conjunction with AKS and other institutions
- 4) The development of curriculum materials and research publications
- 5) The provision of support for postgraduate students
- 6) The sponsoring of a variety of other projects organised by and conducted in SOAS CKS
- 7) The publication of SOAS-AKS online working papers, aiming at the publication of SOAS-AKS European Series on Korean Studies

1. Development of teaching and research manpower

Employment of one lecturer: The plan to employ Charlotte Horlyck (Korean Art History) as a full-time lecturer on a five-year contract has been carried out. At the end of the five-year period, SOAS has agreed to maintain the position permanently under university funding.

Employment of two research fellows (one full-time and one half-time): Dr Owen Miller (Korean History) and Stefan Knoob (Korean Linguistics) were respectively employed as full-time and half-time research fellows, according to the project plan. During the period of employment, both have attained PhD degrees. From October 2008, Owen Miller has taken up a postdoctoral fellowship at Cambridge University and Dr Stefan Knoob is currently applying for teaching positions in Britain and Europe. As the successor for Owen Miller, Lucien Brown (PhD degree in Korean Studies awarded October 31st 2008) is being employed from October 2008. Having offered the half-time research fellowship for three years, CKS is not able to maintain this position due to insufficient grant monies caused by the bad exchange rate and increasing cost of staff salary.

2. Centre Seminar Series

During the last year, lecturers were invited from leading European institutions as well as Korea and Canada. The institutions invited include: University of Vienna, Sciences Po, INALCO (Paris), Freie University Berlin, and also from Oxford University, Cardiff University, Leeds University, University British Columbia and Korean Universities.

Full details of papers presented can be found on p. 9

3. Hosting of research workshops and conferences in conjunction with other institutions

The following workshops have been held during the last year:

a) Workshop on Korean Decorative Arts (24 Feb 2009)

Under the leadership of Charlotte Horlyck, the centre held a workshop on Korean folk art and culture on 24 February 2009.

For more details, visit p. 12

b) Workshop on Territory, Frontiers and Borders in Korean History (22 May 2009)

Under the leadership of Anders Karlsson, the Centre held a workshop on territories and territorial disputes, on 22 May 2009.

For more details, visit p. 14

c) Modern Encounters and Travel Literature: Accounts by Contiguity, Firsthand Accounts, and Mutual Perceptions of Chosŏn Korea and the West (15 June 2009)

The centre also hosted a workshop on travel literature during 15-16 June 2009, under the supervision of Grace Koh.

For more details, visit p. 16

4. Development of curriculum materials and research publications

a) Report on Korean (Choson) history book project headed by Dr Anders Karlsson

The project team have started to write in full one pilot chapter on the eighteenth century. Once Anders Karlsson and Owen Miller have finished the parts on political, social, and economic history Grace Koh and Charlotte Horlyck will give input on literature and art.

b) Korean reference grammar book project headed by Dr Jaehoon Yeon

As for the Korean reference grammar book being compiled under the supervision of Jaehoon Yeon, the book is now in a more advanced state with addition of new content and materials. This project will be continued over the next year, culminating in negotiations with publishers.

Sochon Foundation Scholarship

The Sochon Foundation has generously provided SOAS with a scholarship for students undertaking a post-graduate programme in Korean Studies.

The scholarship, valued at £7,000, will be used to offset the cost of tuition fees and/or provide some support for living expenses. The scholarship is applied to tuition fees in the first instance, any remainder may be considered for living costs.

The Sochon Foundation Scholarship may be held in conjunction with other scholarships. However, please be aware that all financial support secured before 30 May 2008 must be declared to the Advisory Panel in your application. Any awards held will be taken into consideration on assessment of financial need.

The scholarship is for one year only. For candidates undertaking an MPhil/PhD programme, the scholarship is not renewable.

Eligible Programmes: MA Korean Studies, MA Korean Literature, MPhil/PhD (Korean Studies research, new admissions only), and any other post-graduate degree related to Korean Studies (please define your pathway) - Full-time programmes only, part-time programmes are not eligible.

Financial Status: Priority will be given to scholarship applicants who can demonstrate financial need.

Assessment: Candidates will be assessed based on a combination of financial need and academic merit

How to apply: An application pack (Guidance Notes, Application form and Reference form) can be downloaded or obtained from:

The Scholarships Officer
Registry
SOAS
Thornhaugh Street
Russell Square
London
WC1H 0XG, UK
Email: as100@soas.ac.uk
Telephone: (+44) 020 7074 5105
(+44) 020 7074 5091
Fax: (+44) 020 7074 5089

c) Korean listening book project headed by Jaehee Cho

The book Korean Listening Skills has now been published by Darakwon. The textbook is organised into 20 separate topics that will be useful for daily life situations and each lesson includes listening practice and activities.

5. Provision of support for postgraduate students

SOAS-AKS Bursary

The bursary, valued up to £5,000, may only be used to cover the cost of tuition fees. Living costs are not available as part of the award and the bursary is not renewable. Candidates are assessed on academic merit. Programs eligible for the bursary are as follows:

1. MA Korean Studies
2. MA Korean Literature
3. MA Linguistics (Korean pathway only)
4. MA Applied Linguistics (Korean pathway only)
5. Any other postgraduate Korean Language degree programme
6. Full-time programmes only, part-time programmes are not eligible

The recipient of the fellowship for 2008-09 was Mr Eui-sung Jung, who completed an MA course at Oslo University and came to SOAS to pursue MPhil/PhD studies. The next recipient of the fund for 2009-10 is Mr Simon Chan, who graduated from Kings College, London, and came to SOAS to read MA Korean Studies.

6. Sponsoring of a variety of other projects

The AKS grant has sponsored a variety of other projects organised by and conducted in SOAS CKS during the last year.

7. Publication of SOAS-AKS online working papers aimed at European Series on Korean Studies

For the moment, papers presented at various events organized under the institutional grant are being published online in an electronic working papers series, with future plans for a print version to be developed. The papers published under the SOAS-AKS Working Papers in Korean Studies can be viewed online at the Centre website.

As a project leader, I would like to thank those who have contributed to the successful implementation of the project. In addition to the Deputy- Leader Anders Karlsson and Charlotte Horlyck and two research fellows (Owen Miller and subsequently Lucien Brown) employed under the institutional grant, other academics including Grace Koh, Dr James Hoare and Keith Howard have actively contributed towards the implementation of the project.

Dr Lucien BROWN

Research Fellow
Centre of Korean Studies



Over the past year, Lucien Brown has delivered papers at four international conferences: "Korean Honorifics and Impoliteness" (AKSE, Leiden), "Ideology regarding politeness and the use of Korean speech styles by second language speakers" (International Pragmatics Association, Melbourne), "Using Mnemonics to Teach Hangul to Second Language Learners" (KSGSC, Moscow) and "L2 Acquisition of Progressive Marking (-ko isssta)" (IAKLE, Seoul). He also helped to organize the KSGSC conference as a committee member.

Connected to his research into the teaching of Hangul, Lucien was also invited to give workshops on the teaching of script to second language learners at UCL and CILT (The National Centre for Languages).

PUBLICATIONS

Article (2008): "The honorifics systems of Korean language learners". *Kukche Koryŏhak* 12: 59-90.

Article (2008): "Normative" and "Strategic" Honorifics Use in Interactions Involving Speakers of Korean as a Second Language. *Archiv Orientalni* 76: 269-297.

Dr Charlotte HORLYCK

Lecturer in the History of Korean Art
Department of Art and Archaeology



During the academic year of 2008-09, Charlotte Horlyck continued her teaching and research activities and in the first term taught a new undergraduate course titled 'Buddhist Arts of Korea'. At BA level she also taught the course 'Contemporary Korean Arts in East Asia' and at MA level convened the course 'Topics in Korean Material Culture'. In February she organised a workshop on Korean decorative arts which was held at SOAS and funded by the Centre of Korean Studies. She gave eight talks and conferences papers on a variety of topics concerning Korean arts and culture.

SELECTED TALKS

In September she presented the paper 'The Female Artist – A Pre-Modern Paradox?' at the symposium "Placed at the Table: Asian Women Artists and Gender Dynamics" organised by Mills College and UC Berkeley, USA.

In November she was invited to give a talk in Seoul on 'The Role of the Museum Curator and the Education of Korean Arts Abroad' at a forum on the Education of Art Specialists organised by the Korean Arts and Education Service (KACES), Seoul. In January the Museum of Anthropology at Wake Forest University, USA, invited her to present a lecture on 'Happy Souls and Anxious Mourners: The Uses of Funeral Figures in Pre-Modern Korea' which coincided with a special exhibition on Korean

funerary figures that was held at the museum. In May she gave a lecture on 'A Gilded Celadon Stand from the Koryŏ period in the V&A Museum' at the Oriental Ceramic Society in London. Two conference papers were presented in March and June. One titled 'Looking at the Overlooked – Questioning women's place in the canon of Korean art history' was presented at AAS (Association of Asian Studies Conference) in Chicago, US. A paper on 'The Spread and Assimilation of Chinese Bronze Mirrors in Early Korean Society', was given at AKSE (Association for Korean Studies in Europe) in Leiden, Holland.

PUBLICATIONS

"Meaningful Commodities – Mirrors, Merchandise and Market Policies in the Koryŏ Period," *International Society for Korean Studies*, vol. 12, 2008, pp. 239-257.

'The Spread and Assimilation of Chinese Bronze Mirrors in Early Korean Society,' *Proceedings of the Association for Korean Studies in Europe*, 24th Biennial Conference, 2009

Dr Anders KARLSSON

Lecturer in Korean Studies
Department of the Languages and Cultures of Japan and Korea



During the academic year of 2008/09 Dr Karlsson gave seven papers and lectures at conferences and universities in Europe and South Korea.

SELECTED TALKS

"A reinvestigation into the worldview and historical understanding reflected in late Chosŏn historical works: With focus on the Northern Territories and Parhae" (in Korean), lecture given at the Kyujanggak Institute of Korea Studies, Seoul National University, March, 2009.

"An overview of late Chosŏn change as seen by a Western scholar", lecture given at the Centre for Korean Studies at Inha University, June, 2009.

The following two papers were presented in January at conferences held at Sungkyunkwan University: 'Worldview and historical understanding in late Chosŏn historical texts' (in Korean), presented at "International Conference of New East Asian Historians"; 'Korean culture and East Asian civilization: How Chosŏn intellectuals viewed the role of Korea in East Asia' at "Culture as memory: The history and reality of East Asian aesthetics and culture".

PUBLICATIONS

"Taking the pulse of Korean society: an interview with Hwang Sok-yong", *List: Books from Korea*, vol 1, nr. 1 (2008).

Book review. Eugene Y. Park. *Between Dreams and Reality: The Military Examination in Late Choson Korea, 1600-1894* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Asia Center, 2007). *Journal of Asian Studies*, vol. 68, nr 4 (2009).

Book review. Sun Joo Kim. *Marginality and Subversion in Korea: The Hong Kyŏngnae Rebellion of 1812* (Seattle: University of Washington Press 2007). *The Review of Korean Studies*, vol. 12, no. 2 (2009).

Dr Grace KOH

Lecturer in Korean Literature

Department of the Languages and Cultures of Japan and Korea



Grace Koh has been involved in a collaborative 3-year book project (2008~2010) with Boudewijn Walraven and Remco Breuker at Leiden University, editing and annotating Fritz Vos's translation of the Samguk yusa with a critical introduction. The project is funded by the Academy of Korean Studies' Strategic Initiative for Korean Studies [SIKS] Grant.

She is also involved in an ongoing collaborative research project, "Modern Encounters and Transitional Images of 'The Other': Mutual Perceptions of Chosŏn Korea and the West in Travel Literature (1700~1910)" with colleagues at the Academy of Korean Studies and Korea University. Since the first workshop which was held at SOAS in 2007, she organised a second workshop based on the project in June 2009 which was funded by grants from CKS and the Academy of Korean Studies.

In addition to the CKS, she is also a member of the newly launched SOAS Centre for Cultural, Literary, and Postcolonial Studies. She continues to serve as a Council member of the British Association for Korean Studies (BAKS). She is also Executive Committee member of the Anglo-Korean and an Editorial Board member of The Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies.

Grace will be on sabbatical leave for 2 terms in 2009/10, during which time she will be at the Institute of Korean Culture, Korea University as a research professor under their International Center for Korean Studies (ICKS) Short Term Resident Scholar Program.

TALKS

Grace Koh gave a presentation on the current state of and future prospects for Korean literature studies and research in Europe at an ICKS Workshop at Korea University in July 2008.

In August 2008, she delivered a paper entitled, "Korean Literature Studies in the United Kingdom: In Relation to Area Studies, Language, and Comparative Literature" at the 6th International Academic Forum of Korean Language and Literature Conference at the National University of Mongolia in Ulan Bator.

At the CKS 'Modern Encounters' workshop on 15 June 2009, she presented a paper entitled, "Transitional Images of Chosŏn Korea: Accounts by Contiguity versus Firsthand Accounts."

She also presented a paper, "Beyond Metaphorical Contiguities: 'Chosŏn Korea' in British Travel Literature of the Late Nineteenth Century" in a panel session with her Korean research colleagues on 19 June 2009 at the AKSE Conference.

Professor Peter SELLS

Professor of Linguistics

Department of Linguistics



I was an invited speaker at the Kobe International Conference on Typology in October 2008, the 18th Japanese/Korean Linguistics conference, held in New York in November, and the Sentence Types: Ten Years After conference in Frankfurt, held in June 2009. I have presented other papers on Korean at conferences in London and Berlin. From May 2009 I have been conducting joint research on negation in Korean with Dr Shin-Sook Kim, who holds a Newton International Postdoctoral Fellowship at SOAS.

PUBLICATIONS

How Negation Scopes in Japanese and Korean. 2009. In Proceedings of the 18th Japanese/Korean Linguistics Conference. Stanford, CSLI Publications, to appear.

Pragmatics in Advertising. 2009. In Louise Cummings (ed.), Encyclopedia of Pragmatics. London, Routledge, to appear.

Some Remarks on Korean Nominalizer 'kes' and Information Structure. 2007. (with Jong-Bok Kim). Studies in Generative Grammar 17, 479-494.

Dr Jaehoon YEON

Reader in Korean Language and Literature

Department of the Languages and Cultures of Japan and Korea



Jaehoon Yeon has served as Head of the Department of Japan and Korea and Chair of the Centre of Korean Studies at SOAS during the last year.

He was an invited speaker at a special conference commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Korean Language Society, in October 2008, and at the second workshop on Korean Language Education organised by Korea Foundation and International Association of Korean Language Education, held in Seoul, December 2008.

Dr Yeon has been working with Dr Lucien Brown on the project of Korean Comprehensive Grammar for Learners from 2009.

PUBLICATIONS

"Is there ergativity in Korean?: the concept of ergativity and its misuse" [in Korean] Han-Geul (Journal of the Korean Language Society) Vol. 282: 125-154. [ISSN: 1225-0449], 2008

Review article on Prototypical Transitivity. Studies in Language Vol. 33-1.233-239. Benjamins Publishing Co. [ISSN: 0378-4177], 2009a

"Morpho-Syntactic contrasts between Korean and Japanese" Rivista Orientalia, 2009b



The First Korea Foundation Award



31 October 2008

The Korea Foundation Award was inaugurated in 2008 to honor and express the Foundation's heartfelt appreciation to individuals that strive to promote awareness of Korean culture in the international community.

This year, priority was given to scholars of Korean Studies who have contributed to laying the groundwork for Korean Studies abroad. Nominations were made by distinguished scholars and experts of Korean Studies in Korea as well as abroad, and they were reviewed by a selection committee composed of relevant experts in Korea on Oct. 31, 2008. This year the selection committee chose Dr. Martina Deuchler, Professor- Emerita of Korean Studies at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London.

The Foundation urges all of you to show continued interest and support for the Korea Foundation Award in the years to come.

*** Category**
Promotion of Korean Studies abroad (1 person)

*** Award Recipient**
Dr Martina Deuchler, Professor Emerita of Korean Studies at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London

***Award Ceremony**
Date and Time: Dec. 10, 2008 (Wed), 19:00, HoAm Art Hall



Prof Martina Deuchler and President Yim Sung-Joon (Korea Foundation)



CKS/ AKS Seminars: Academic Year 2008-2009

Autumn Term

Friday, 17 October 2008

Professor Rüdiger Frank (University of Vienna)

Transformation of State Socialism in East Asia: The case of North Korea

Friday, 31 October 2008

Dr Catherine H Yoon (University of East London)

Older People in Advertising: UK/South Korean Comparison

Friday, 14 November 2008

Dr Choon Key Chekar (CESAGEN, Cardiff University)

A very Korean scandal?: Inconsistency in cultural explanations for 'ova donation campaign'

Friday, 28 November 2008

Dr James Lewis (University of Oxford)

Korean merchant double-entry accounts from Kaesŏng city (1786-1947): Do these prove the existence of capitalism in pre-modern Korea?

Friday, 5 December 2008

Professor Kim Shin Dong (Sciences Po (Paris))

Contemporary Korean popular culture



Spring Term

Friday, 16 January 2009

Nick Bonner (Filmmaker and founder of Koryo Tours)

Filming North Korea

Friday, 30 January 2009

Professor Jeong-hee Lee-Kalisch (Freie Universität Berlin)

Inventive mind within the self-cultivating: Korean calligraphy of the Joseon Dynasty

Friday, 6 February 2009

Dr Jo Elfving-Hwang (Leeds University)

The Transcendental Feminine: rewriting cultural representations of femininity in Chon Kyongnin's fiction

Friday, 6 March 2009

Dr Kim Daeyeol (Inalco (Paris))

A Confucian moral practice in 19th Century Korea: Relation between personal moral cultivation and politics by Chong Yagyong (1762-1836)

Thursday, 19 March 2009

Professor Nam-lin Hur (The University of British Columbia)

Military Duty in Late Sixteenth-Century Choson Korea: A System for Everything but Defense?

Friday, 20 March 2009

Dr Howard Reid (West Park Pictures Ltd)

The History of Kwanghwamun: the several births, deaths and rebirths of a national cultural icon



Summer Term

Friday, 1 May 2009

Professor Young Kim (SOAS / Inha University)

Self-imposed poverty in Korean and Chinese allegorical tales

Friday, 8 May 2009

Professor SeonMee Kim (SOAS / Sunchon National University)

Multicultural Education in Korea: Current State, Focus and Problems

Friday, 15 May 2009

Professor HyunSoo Kim (SOAS / Dankook University)

Interrelation between British Fleet's Withdrawal from Port Hamilton (Kŏmundo) and the British Foreign Policy: The Li-Ladyginsky Joint Agreement of 1886

Tuesday, 23 June 2009

Professor Park, Taegyun (Seoul National University)

Manipulated Memory, Forgotten Memory: The Korean War and the Vietnam War in South Korea



Seminar Speaker Biographies

Professor Rüdiger Frank is a professor of East Asian Economy and Society at the East Asian Institute of the University of Vienna, Austria. He teaches and researches East Asia's Economy and Politics with a focus on North and South Korea. He is co-editor of *Korea: Politics, Economy and Society* (yearly) and of the *European Journal of East Asian Studies*. During his previous studies, he spent a semester abroad at Kim Il-sung university in Pyongyang.

Dr Catherine Hyunsun Yoon is a lecturer in Media and Advertising at the University of East London (UEL). She received a PhD in advertising and an MA in Journalism from Cardiff University. During this time, she was awarded by scholarships by the university, the British council and the Overseas Research Student (ORS) Awards Scheme. Recently, she was awarded a PGCE in Learning and Teaching in Higher Education from the University of East London.

Dr Choon Key Chekar has recently received her Ph.D. from the Cardiff School of Journalism, Media & Cultural Studies. The title of her Ph.D. thesis is 'Gendering Discourses of Time in South Korean Self-help Book: The normalisation of a masculine long hours work culture'. She has also been working on research projects focusing on media, culture and stem cell discourse at the ESRC Centre for Economic and Social Aspects of Genomics (Cesagen).

Dr James Lewis is a lecturer in Korean history at the University of Oxford. His research interests include the history of Korean-Japanese relations prior to 1850, cultural, economic and social histories of premodern Korea and Japan and the environmental and epidemiological history of East Asia.

Professor Kim Shin Dong is the Director of the Institute for Communication Arts and Technology and Professor at the School of Communication of Hallym University (South Korea). His research interests include theories and methods in mass communications and media, global and cultural phenomena of communication technology and industry, globalization and cultural identity in East Asian societies and television drama and film in Korea and East Asia.

Nick Bonner is a filmmaker and founder of Koryo tours, a travel company specializing in tourism to North Korea. Since 2001, together with film director Daniel Gordon, Nick has produced three documentaries on North Korea and is currently working on a new documentary and feature film project. Nicholas is a collector of DPRK art and is currently co-curating DPRK artworks for the Asia-Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art (APT), the leading event in all Asia.

Professor Jeong-hee Lee-Kalisch was appointed to the Gerda Henkel Foundation Chair for East-Asian Art History at the Free University of Berlin in 2003. Her teaching and research focuses on aesthetics of literati paintings and gardens as well as Buddhist art. Dr. Lee-Kalisch's publications cover a broad range: she has written about the motif of the moon in Chinese landscape painting, and about Korea, »the land of the morning calm«.

Dr Joanna Elfving-Hwang (Sheffield Hallam University) holds a PhD in Korean Literature and Critical Feminist Theory from the University of Sheffield. She is currently a researcher-developer at Sheffield Hallam University's Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning. Jo's research interests include contemporary South Korean women's fiction, feminist critical theory, national identity and gender in South Korea and aesthetic surgery in South Korea.

Dr Daeyeol Kim specializes in History of religions and Anthropological studies of religion. Through his doctoral thesis (2000, University of Paris-Sorbonne), he contributed to a better understanding of the alchemical practices and their relative religious elements from ancient China by studying both technical knowledge and belief systems. Since 2001, he has taught Korean history and culture at the National Institute for Oriental Languages and Civilizations (INALCO).

Professor Nam-lin Hur is currently a professor in the Department of Asian Studies and serves as director of the Centre for Korean Research at the University of British Columbia. His teaching focuses upon premodern Japanese history and international relations (particularly those between Korea and Japan) in premodern and modern East Asia. His current research involves Japan's invasion of Chosŏn Korea, 1592-1598.

Dr Howard Reid is a documentary maker currently involved in producing and directing *The Arch of Enlightenment*, a documentary about the reconstruction of the main gates to the royal palace in Korea. His previous works include *Worlds Apart* (1981), *The Way of the Warrior* (1983), *The Story of English* (1986) *Only One Earth* (1986), *Global Report* (1988), *Red Dynasty* (1989), *Under the Sun* (1989-91), *The Secret Underworld* (1998) and *Mummies of the Takla Makan* (2001).

Professor Young Kim is a professor at Inha University, based at SOAS as a visiting scholar during 2008-2009. His research interests focus on the fables of the Eastern and the Western world. He is particularly interested in focusing on the desire and temperance formed in the fables.



Professor SeonMee Kim is a professor at Sunchon National University in South Korea, who visited SOAS for the 2009-2010 academic session. Her research looks at social studies education focusing on the areas of sociology, education and history. She is particularly interested in cultural studies approach and multicultural education.

Professor HyunSoo Kim is a professor in the Department of History at Dankook University and holds a doctoral degree from the University of Glasgow. His major research field is British diplomatic history in the Imperial times, focusing on its diplomatic role and influence on world history. Recently he has written several papers about Sir Harry S. Parkes, a famous British diplomat who served in China, Japan and Korea to the 19th century.


Professor Kim Yong-deok is the head of the Northeast Asian History Foundation. He was awarded his PhD in history from Harvard in 1979 and has also served as a visiting research fellow at the University of Tokyo. He was a professor in the Department of Asian History at Seoul National University from 1980 to 2006 and was also the dean of the Graduate School of International Studies during the final three years of this period

Professor Park Taegyun is a professor at the Graduate School of International Studies at Seoul National University, where he teaches modern Korean history and Korean international relations. His research interests include ideological perceptions of the Korean war and Vietnam war, the representation of Korea in overseas textbooks and US policy towards South Korea.



(Left to right) 1st set: Dr Daeyeol Kim, Professor Nam-lin Hur, 2nd set: Dr Kim SeonMee, Dr Howard Reid

Special CKS Lecture
 Tuesday, 2 June 2009
 HISTORY AND NATIONALISM
Professor Yong-deok Kim
 President of the Northeast Asian
 History Foundation




Decorative Arts & Folk Customs of Korea

24 February 2009, SOAS

Dr Charlotte Horlyck
Chair, Introduction

Professor Michael Pettid
Shamans, Ghosts and Hobgoblins amidst Korean Folk Customs

Professor Chong Pyong-mo
Imaginary Power of Korean Folk Painting: Chaekgeori
(Scholars' Accoutrements)

Dr Soon-young Kim
The Composition and Meaning of Korean Patchwork
Wrapping Cloths and Embroidered Wrapping Cloths

In February a workshop on Korean Decorative Arts was held at SOAS. Generously sponsored by the Centre of Korean Studies and organised by Dr Charlotte Horlyck, the workshop offered a new and fascinating insight into how commoners of the late Chosŏn period lived and the art they made - areas which are often overshadowed by a prevailing focus on elite arts and culture of this time.



Dr Horlyck opened the workshop by highlighting how perceptions of so-called 'high' and 'low' art have significantly influenced current understandings of pre-modern Korean material culture. With a prevailing emphasis on the former, a largely one-dimensional view of Korean art has become commonplace in academic scholarship. Chosŏn porcelains, for example, have come to signify the refined tastes of the Chosŏn upper classes, and with their monochrome colours and unfussy lines they exude an elegant and quiet charm which for many have become synonymous with pre-modern Korea as a whole and in particular arts of the Chosŏn kingdom. Yet, when turning to the lesser known genre of Korean decorative arts, a vibrant world of colour and textures, not to mention humour comes to life.

Dr Michael Pettid from SUNY Binghamton, set the tone of the day by examining some notable aspects of Korean folk customs in particular those related to shamans and their on-going battle with supernatural beings. Entertainingly illustrated



Dr Charlotte Horlyck and Professor Michael Pettid



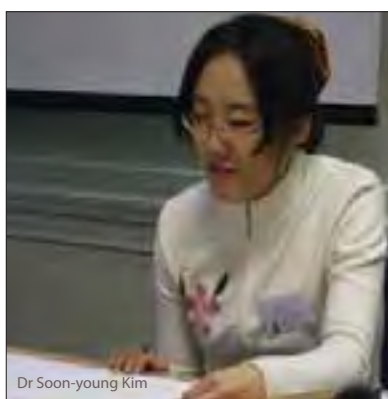


by pictures of ghosts in many different guises, Dr Pettid presented a fascinating insight into a little-known world of colourful, clamorous and visually provocative rites that incorporate some of the most appealing aspects of Korean folk culture and demonstrate the belief that gods are to be regaled and entertained.

Dr Pettid's presentation was followed by a talk on chaekkori paintings by Dr Chŏng Pyŏng-mo from Kyŏngju University. Featuring books and various kinds of scholarly accoutrements, such paintings began to be produced during the reign of King Chŏngjo (r.1776-1800) though all surviving examples date from the 19th century.

Dr Chŏng presented a detailed and informative discussion of the development and characteristics of this genre, and its popularity in late Chosŏn Korea. He explained that the charm of chaekkori lies not in the realistic depiction of the objects illustrated, but rather in the new treatment of them. Painters would take apart each section of the artefacts one by one, and reassemble them in a new composition, not unlike Cubism.

In conclusion, Dr Chŏng argued that Korean painters of chaekkori did not



Dr Soon-young Kim

strive for realism in their works but instead aimed to conceptually express the way they thought and felt about the objects.

After lunch Dr Soon-young Kim, Visiting Scholar at the V&A/RCA, presented a detailed discussion of pojagi (wrapping cloths). Pojagi are pieces of cloth used by households of all social classes to wrap presents, to cover food, to store clothing or bedding quilts and to protect ornaments, among many other purposes. Of several types of wrapping cloths, patchwork wrapping cloths called chogakpo and embroidered wrapping cloths called subo were mostly made by ordinary women, and in her talk Dr Kim highlighted the charm and beauty of these two types of pojagi. While chogakpo were used for the wrapping of many different kinds of everyday items, embroidered wrapping cloths were prepared for special rituals and ceremonies, such as weddings. Both types, however, evidence a widespread fondness for bright and colourful works of art among the upper and lower social classes.

The workshop concluded with a private visit to the British Museum which holds several Korean decorative artefacts in its collection, including a 19th century chaekkori screen, an early 20th century chogakpo, and album leaves by the late 19th century painter Kim Chun-gun, better known as Kisan. The objects were discussed by Dr Chŏng and the visit offered a rare opportunity to see such objects close-up.

Dr Horlyck would like to thank Mr Suh Won-joo for translating Dr Chŏng's talks, the British Museum for permitting the private visit, her MA students for providing tours of the Korean gallery, and the Centre and Programs Office for arranging the day.



Prof Chong Pyŏng-mo, Image taken at the British Museum



Territory, Frontiers & Borders in Korean History

22 May 2009, SOAS

The purpose of this workshop is to discuss not only the extent of territory and the actual borders in Korean history, but also to discuss notions on territory, frontiers and borders at various points of time in Korean history.

Contemporary conflicts and controversies such as those over Dokdo or Gando often evoke historical arguments and use old maps, and it is hoped that this workshop through presentation by experts in respective fields and time periods and discussions between Korean and European scholars will not only deepen our understanding of these issues, but also in the end provide good quality English-language studies for international attention.

Speakers

Bae Woo Sung (University of Seoul)
The organic view of territory in Chosŏn Korea

Seok Hwa Kang (Gyeongin National University of Education):
The Mt. Baekdu Demarcation Stele of 1712 and the Historical Background of the Gando Problem

Remco Breuker (Leiden)
Notions of the Northern Frontier in Koryŏ Korea

James Lewis (Oxford)
The Waegwan, Tsushima/Taemado and Notions of Japan in Chosŏn Korea

Gina Barnes (SOAS)
Borders and Territory in Korean History

Li Jin-mieung (Lyon 3)
The Naming of Waters between Korea and Japan in before the 19th Century

Anders Karlsson (SOAS)
Northern Territories and the Historical Understanding of Territory in Late Chosŏn

Selected Abstracts

Seok Hwa Kang

The Mt. Paektu Border Demarcation Stele of 1712 and the Historical Background of the Gando Problem

Although it was usually accepted that the northern border of Chosŏn was marked by the Amnokgang(Yalu) river and the Dumangang(Tumen) river, Chosŏn people's territorial consciousness was constantly changing according to Chosŏn's diplomatic relations with China and the Jurchens, or to the cartographer's historical consciousness and political orientation.

After the erection of the Mt. Paektu Border Demarcation Stele, on which the demarcation line between the two countries was described as "the Yalu river in the west, and the Tomun river in the east" in 1712, diverse opinions were presented with regard to this issue.

Some regarded the Tomun river that was referred to on the stele as being one and the same with the Tumen(Dumangang) river, while others pointed out that despite the two rivers' sources being different, they still converge at a certain point in the end. Still others viewed the two rivers as separate, even assuming the existence of another demarcation river between the two countries.

In the maps that are presumed to have been drawn after the erection of Mt. Demarcation Stele, the name of Bungyegang river is clearly marked, and sometimes they also describe the Seonchullyeong pass. The thinking of the Bungyegang river as a border river was a misunderstanding caused by the phonetic representation of the Jurchen word. But this tells us that the Chosŏn people's active appropriation of the old areas of the ancient states and the positive approaches to the reclamation of the northern territory were already prevalent in Chosŏn society.

LI Jin-mieung

Naming of the sea between Korea and Japan (East Sea/Sea of Japan), past and present

The maritime space between the Korean Peninsula and the Japanese Archipelago is actually called "Donghae" or "East Sea" in Korea, and "Nihonkai" or "Sea of Japan" in Japan and all around the world.

This space is delimited by four countries: South Korea, North Korea, Japan and Russia. The four aforementioned countries have each its own territorial waters (12 nautical miles), adjacent zone (24 miles), exclusive economic zone (EEZ, 200 miles), distinct from the international waters.

The bordering countries have, in this sea, their respective vital interests, strategic and economic, as well as their common responsibility for the sea. In this respect, the naming of a sea, a common space shared by several countries, after the name of one sole country poses a problem. As for "Sea of Japan", such is the case for the Koreans. South Korea, conscious of the importance of the sea name, officially requested the name "East Sea" be used, on the occasion of the 6th Conference on Standardization of Geographical Names of the United Nations (U.N. C.S.G.N.) in 1992.

Since then, Koreans demand the use of "East Sea" by the third-party international communities such as IHO (International Hydrographic Organization based in Monaco), Western cartographers, geographers, scholars, mass-medias, internet servers.

In reaction to such Korean moves, Japan is eager to defend the name « Sea of Japan ». Thus, the name of the waters between Korea and Japan has become a subject of direct confrontation between South Korea and Japan. The Persian Gulf / Arabian gulf is the same case.

The international organizations and third foreign governments, very embarrassed, seek refuge in the status quo, using the sole name Sea of Japan. But, especially since 2000, some private publishers or corporations, such as Google, adopted Primary Common Local Names" (equal dual name) Policy (East Sea / Sea of Japan); the others like National Geographic, Encyclopædia Britannica- Universalis, Microsoft Encarta, The Times, Collins-Bartholomew, etc. use a "Primary Name and a Secondary Alternative Name" (a dual name with a major name and a minor name) Policy [Sea of Japan (East Sea)]; the rest practice, as the past, the sole name Sea of Japan.

We can schematize evolution of the name of the sea between Korea and Japan used in Western maps drawn during last four centuries (17th to 20th centuries) as following : « Oriental Ocean /Sea (17th century) → « Sea of Korea (Corea) » (18th century) → « Sea of Japan » (19th and 20th centuries) → « Sea of Japan (East Sea) » in the beginning of the 21st.

As for the sea between Korea and Japan, it is preferable that the sole name 'East Sea' be used if the map only shows the Korean Peninsula, or, possibly, the dual name 'East Sea (Sea of Japan)' may be used, that 'East Sea / Sea of Japan' like "British Channel / La Manche"; an equal dual name be used if the map represents Asia or both Japan and Korea. However, before resorting to that equal dual name, the form 'Sea of Japan (East Sea)' might be used, which is better than the sole name 'Sea of Japan', at least for the Koreans, for lack of an expected nice, neutral name, that should satisfy everybody, such as Oriental Sea, Blue Sea, Sea of Harmony, Sea of Whales...



(Left to Right) 1st set: Dr Remco Breuker, T Dr Pae Uông, 2nd set: Dr Jay Lewis, Professor Gina Barnes, Last image: Dr Anders Karlsson, Dr Charlotte Horlyck, Professor Kim Young and Mr Andrew Jackson

Modern Encounters & Transitional Images of 'The Other':

Mutual Perceptions of Chosŏn Korea and the West in Travel Literature (1700~1910)

15 June 2009, SOAS



The Centre of Korean Studies hosted this one-day workshop on 15 June 2009, in collaboration with the SOAS Faculty of Languages and Cultures and with financial support from the Academy of Korean Studies institutional grant programme.

The workshop was based on an ongoing collaborative research project between Centre of Korean Studies member Grace Koh and professors from the Academy of Korean Studies and Korea University. The first workshop based on the project was held at SOAS in April 2007, jointly organized by the Centre of Korean Studies and British Association for Korean Studies and funded by grants from the Korea Foundation and the Academy of Korean Studies. While the first workshop focused on mutual perceptions of Chosŏn Korea and the West, this second workshop aimed to invite discussions not only in relation to the specific research topics confined to the Korean context (which would act as a departing point), but also to address critical issues surrounding cultural encounters from different disciplinary and cultural perspectives, including

- * Critical agency in negotiating 'difference' and determining conceptions of the 'other', with consideration to different temporal / spatial settings and comparative frames
- * Different notions of and markers for 'civilization', and how they are established in different historical and cultural contexts
- * The power of discursive modalities in relation to personal and/or collective interests and intentions
- * Issues surrounding translation and representation, i.e., the possibilities and limitations of rendering different cultural traditions and socio-political predicaments in reasonable and objective terms.

As such, participants included scholars specializing in different disciplinary and comparative literary fields in addition to Korean literature. There were approximately 40 people in attendance.



Panel 1: Stefan Sperl, Shin Ik-Cheol, Peter Kornicki



Panel 2: Wen-Chin Ouyang, Jo Young-Hee, Stephen Dodd

The workshop consisted of an introductory lecture, four panel sessions, and a Roundtable Discussion. The event opened with remarks by [Michael Hutt](#), Dean of the Faculty of Languages and Cultures, who welcomed the participants and highlighted the importance of collaborative research and exchange between scholars from different disciplines and area studies.

[Grace Koh](#), the workshop organizer, presented an overview of the collaborative project and information pertaining to the general historical context of the relevant time period.

In the four panel sessions that followed, each panel consisted of a main Presenter involved in the collaborative project and two Discussants specializing in different area studies and disciplines. The Presenter provided an overview of their research for the project since 2005 and items for further discussion, and the Discussants offered questions and comments from comparative perspectives in relation to their own areas of expertise.

After the panel sessions, there was a Roundtable Discussion convened by [Ayman El-Desouky](#) (Lecturer in Modern Arabic and Comparative Literature; Chair, Centre for Cultural, Literary and Post-Colonial Studies, SOAS) who offered comments related to the workshop questions and discussions from comparative literary perspectives, and invited further discussion from the participants and audience. The workshop ended with closing remarks from [Jaehoon Yeon](#), Chair of the Center of Korean Studies.

Preparations for a book manuscript based on the research project are currently in progress. Working papers from the workshop can be found online on the CKS website

PANEL 1:

Perceptions of the West in Chosŏn Travel Accounts: Chosŏn Encounters with the 'West' in Beijing

[Shin, Ik-Cheol](#) (Associate Professor in Korean Literature, Academy of Korean Studies):

[Peter Kornicki](#) (Professor of East Asian Studies, University of Cambridge)

[Stefan Sperl](#) (Senior Lecturer in Arabic, SOAS)

PANEL 2:

Perceptions of Chosŏn Korea in Western Travel Accounts

[Jo, Yoong-Hee](#) (Associate Professor in Korean Literature, Academy of Korean Studies)

[Wen-Chin Ouyang](#) (Reader in Arabic Literature, SOAS)

[Stephen Dodd](#) (Senior Lecturer in Japanese Literature, SOAS)

PANEL 3:

Transitional Images of the West in Chosŏn Literature

[Lee, Hyung-dae](#) (Assoc Professor in Korean Literature, Korea University)

[Michael Shin](#) (Lecturer in Korean Studies, University of Cambridge)

[Kai Easton](#) (Lecturer in African Literature and Diaspora Studies, SOAS)

PANEL 4:

Transitional Images of Chosŏn Korea: Accounts by ontiguity versus Firsthand Accounts

[Grace Koh](#) (Lecturer in Korean Literature, SOAS)

[Angus Lockyer](#) (Lecturer in the History of Japan, SOAS)

[Francesca Orsini](#) (Reader in the Literature of North India, SOAS)



Panel 3: Michael Shin, Lee Hyung-dae, Kai Easton



Panel 4: Francesca Orsini, Grace Koh, Angus Lockyer

Professor Paul Webley Visits Korea

October 2008

In October 2008 Professor Paul Webley, Director and Principal of SOAS, made a week-long visit to Korea. The main purpose of this visit was to attend and speak at the World Women's Forum 2008 and the University President's Forum, both of which were sponsored by Ewha Womans university.

The main focus of the World Women's Forum was contemporary issues, with a particular concern for women as agents of change (see <http://www.womanforum.org/2008/english/> for more details) Professor Webley spoke in a session on 'Envisioning a New World: Universities and Higher Education'.

The University President's Forum explored the role of universities, particularly women's universities. Professor Webley spoke on the subject of research mobility. At the end of this Forum, the heads of universities were given the opportunity to participate in working groups with students from Ewha, which gave a fascinating insight into the student perspective on these issues.

Early in 2008 SOAS signed a partnership agreement with Ewha Womans University and this visit was a great opportunity to expand this partnership. The first Ewha 'semester-abroad' students will arrive in SOAS in January 2009.



(From left to right) Professor Heo Yong, Dean of Admissions (HUFs), Professor Paul Webley (Director, SOAS), President Chul PARK (HUFs), Professor Jeong-Woon PARK (Dean of External Affairs at HUFs), Member of the SOAS

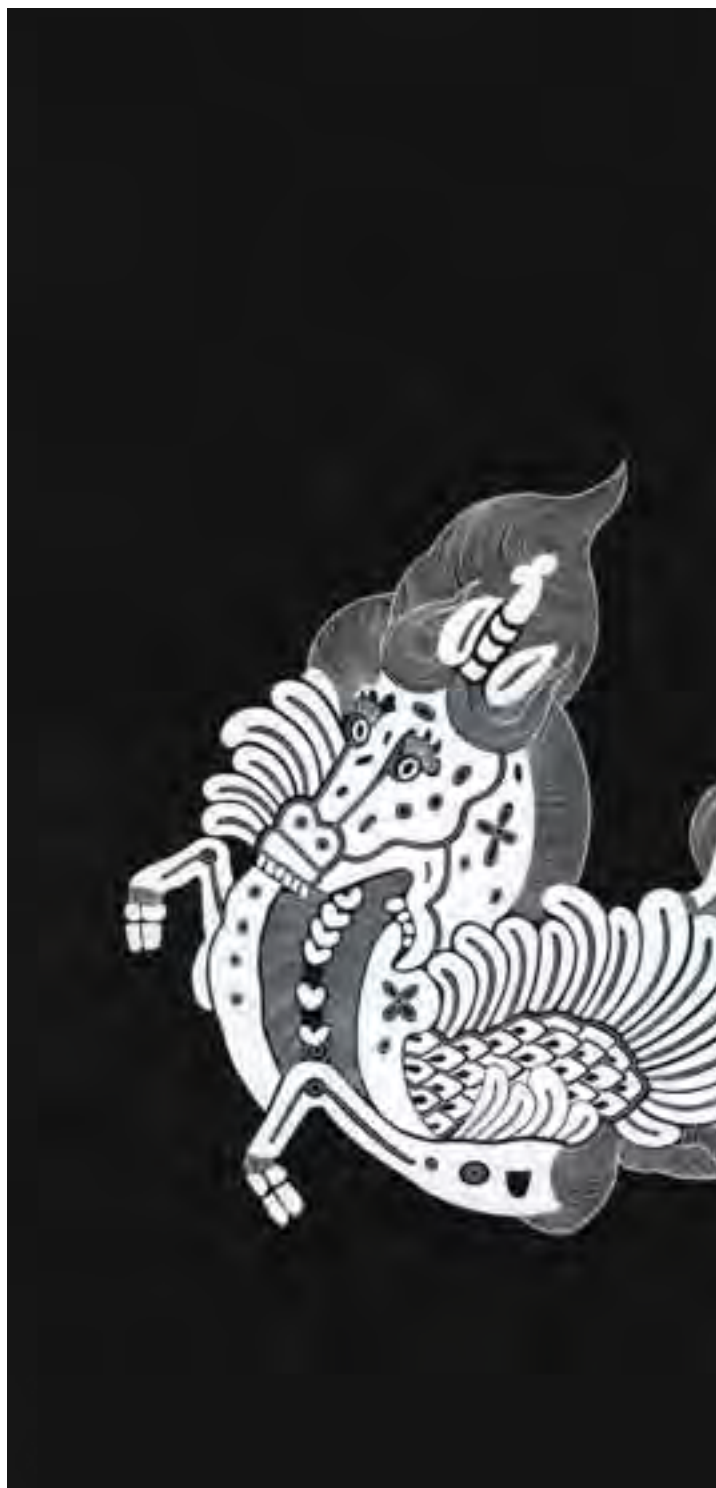
During the rest of the week, Professor Webley visited Woosuk University, Seoul National University, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies and the Academy of Korean Studies, as well as being guest of honour at a lunch organized by the President of the Korea Foundation.

These visits are also bearing fruit. SOAS is signing a Memorandum of Understanding with Seoul National University in January 2009, and a team from the Faculty of Languages and Cultures is currently working on collaborative developments with Hankuk University of Foreign Studies.

Early in 2008 SOAS signed a partnership agreement with Ewha Womans University and this visit was a great opportunity to expand this partnership. The first Ewha 'semester-abroad' students will arrive in SOAS in January 2009.



During the past half century, Myong Ji University has earned a reputation as one of the leading private institutions of higher learning in Korea. In May 2009 the Institute of Humanities, Myong Ji University and the Centre of Korean Studies, SOAS signed a Research Exchange Agreement.





The wide plain I met in the afternoon on my way from Heathrow Airport to Cambridge did not fit with the imagination of the UK I had harboured in Korea. In my mind had been a scramble of historical figures such as William Shakespeare, Isaac Newton, Oliver Cromwell, and Horatio Nelson, not to mention the historical events of the Industrial Revolution and Capitalism, and the majestic air the past Empire had left behind.

With time passing, UK appeared different from my imagination especially when I saw the ripple of rape flowers, or when I came upon small alleys along stone walls or reposeful rivers. This led me to the opinion, though a foreigner's superficial one, that the UK is a country in which urban civilization exists in complete harmony with pastoral life.

Actually, both the clear summer of fairy tales and the gloomy winter when everyone looks like 'Mr. Hyde' are aspects of UK-ness like the yelling frenzies of spectators at Premier League games and the furtive looks behind window curtains.

One week after I arrived in the UK, I registered as an Academic Visitor at SOAS. That day I had several good experiences. I had the chance to listen to Professor Gina Barnes's presentation at the Centre of Korean Studies conference titled "Cross-straits relations between Korea and Japan in the mid-4th to 5th centuries".

Her presentation was very interesting to a historian majoring in ancient Korean history like me. So, I raised a question regarding her interpretation of the 4th-century Lo-lang Commandery of the Han Dynasty.

She kindly replied and then asked me a question in English which I did not understand. At that time, my son sat beside me and he translated it into Korean, thereby saving me from the situation. A boy's helping hand to his father! The episode strengthened the relationship between me as a father with a linguistic problem and my son who felt sorry for his father's poor English. In this sense the episode was memorable to us.

My short stay in the UK offered many valuable experiences. I had a chance to read anthropological literatures concerning my research topic of "Wealth of Marriage in Ancient Korea" in the libraries of SOAS and Cambridge University, take part in CKS Seminars, and also enjoy Miss Begum's and others cordialities. Also, every other week I widened my academic perspective at the Cambridge colloquium. Furthermore armed with a National Trust membership my family and I travelled to almost all corners of the UK and the National Trust activities made a deep impression upon me. We also have precious memories of visiting museums, art galleries, theatres, music halls as well as of European cities which supplied us with the chance to see and feel their cultures to the full.

My youngest son who studied at Chesterton Community College in Cambridge gave me the happiest memory of my life. The College held a contest for 'Chesterton's Got Talent' modelled after the popular TV show 'Britain's Got Talent'. Under cheers of the audience at the Cambridge ADC Theatre, he was nominated as the final winner. His nomination roused all my family to great excitement which we bring with us back to Korea. All these things show that last year in the UK all my family lived a happy life despite my poor academic activities there.

Kang-iae LEE
Visiting Scholar at SOAS from 1 February 2008 to 31 January 2009
Department of History, Chonnam National University
klee@chonnam.ac.kr



CKS Honorary Appointments

September 2008 - August 2009

Professorial Research Associates

Professor Martina DEUCLER

BA(LEIDEN) PHD(HARVARD)
October 2002 - August 2011



Research Associates

Professor Youngsook PAK

PHD(UNIVERSITY OF HEIDELBERG)
May 2007 - August 2010

Dr Owen MILLER

BA MA BA(SOAS)
July 2008 - August 2010



Visiting Scholars

Ms Hakyung CHANG

Sookmyung Women University
PHD MA BA(SOOK-MYUNG WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY)
April 2009 - March 2010

Professor Sang Hie HAN

Konkuk University
March 2009 - February 2010
PHD LLM LLB (SEOUL NATIONAL UNIVERSITY)

Professor Cho-See JUNG

Chongju University
PHD MA BA(CHONGJU UNIVERSITY, SEOUL)
March 2009 - August 2009

Professor Hyunsoo KIM

Dankook University
PHD (GLASGOW) MA(YONSEI UNIVERSITY, SEOUL) BA(DANKOOK UNIVERSITY)
July 2008 - July 2009

Ms Jongsook KIM

Korea Institute of National Security
BA(KOREA UNIVERSITY)
May 2009 - October 2009

Professor SeonMee KIM

Sunchon University
PHD(TEXAS) M ED(OHIO) BA(EWHA WOMANS UNIVERSITY)
August 2008 - July 2009

Professor Young KIM

Inha University
PHD MA BA(YONSEI UNIVERSITY)
July 2008 - June 2009

Professor Seungwoo LEE

Choson University
SEOUL THEOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY, YONSEI UNIVERSITY GRADUATE
SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
August 2009 - August 2010

Professor Kang-iae LEE

Chonnam National University
BA MA PHD(KOREA UNIVERSITY)
February 2008 - January 2009

Professor Wookhee SHIN

Seoul National University
PHD MA(YALE UNIVERSITY, USA) BA(SEOUL NATIONAL UNIVERSITY)
January 2009 - January 2010



Newton Postdoctoral Fellow

Dr Shin-Sook KIM

May 2009 - May 2011

Department of Linguistics
sk117@soas.ac.uk

Shin-Sook Kim is Newton Postdoctoral Fellow in Linguistics, working on Korean syntax and semantics. She has been working with Professor Peter Sells (CKS Member, Professor of Linguistics, SOAS) on a joint research project on negation and Negative Polarity Items in Korean.

PUBLICATIONS

Noun Complements and Clause Types in Korean (and Japanese). 2009. In Proceedings of the 18th Japanese/Korean Linguistics Conference. Stanford, CSLI Publications, to appear.



Lucien Brown

Lucien Brown completed his PhD degree in Korean Language Research in 2008 and was awarded his degree in October of the same year. The title of his thesis is: "The Korean Honorifics System and Politeness in Second Language Learning".

My thesis explores the way that learners of Korean as a second language perceive, use and acquire Korean honorific forms. The analysis includes data I gathered during fieldwork in Seoul in 2006 from 20 learners who were residing or sojourning in Korea at the time.

Korean is well known for having one of the most complex honorific systems found in the world's languages. Through the addition of verb endings and vocabulary substitutions, the speaker is able to express subtle degrees of deference towards the hearer as well as sentence referents. At times, this results in sentences of identical referential meaning being rendered in altogether different ways depending on whether the speaker is addressing (or referring to) a status superior or status equal/subordinate. The structure of the Korean language thus forces speakers into considering their relationship with the interlocutor and sentence referents in every single utterance – an explicit choice that has no direct equivalent in many of the world's languages.

Given the salience and complexity of this honorifics system, second language learners are expected to encounter problems in its acquisition. In my dissertation, in addition to exploring the structural errors that they make, I was interested in establishing the extent to which the use of honorifics by second language learners is not just influenced by their knowledge (or lack of knowledge) of these forms, but also by their social identity and to their pre-existing ideologies regarding what it means to "be a polite speaker". To use honorifics "like a native", I argue, does not only require knowledge of which forms are appropriate in which contexts, but also adoption of the identities and roles that go hand-in-hand with such usages.

To explore the way that second language learners use honorifics and how this relates to questions of identity and politeness, I collected data using four complimentary techniques: DCTs (discourse completion tests), role-plays, recordings of natural interactions and retrospective interviews.

The data showed, first of all, a strong trend for second language learners to under-use or even avoid registers of honorifics use that they perceived on the one hand as being "too high" (and thus subservient) and on the other hand that they perceived as "too low" (and thus condescending). Instead, speakers preferred to adhere to a register that was more egalitarian and that seemed to better suit their pre-existing identities and ideas of what it meant to "speak politely".

Secondly, it was found that, rather than adjusting honorific levels to mark status differences, second language learners manipulated honorifics "strategically" to adjust the force or directness of their speech. This included switching to honorific forms even in interactions with close friends in order to "be polite", as they saw it. Thirdly, it was found that, as "language learners" and "foreigners", the social identity of the participants did not always correspond to typical Korean identities and societal roles. The roles in which they found themselves positioned – and the identities that they negotiated for themselves – did not always follow the Korean hierarchical pattern and this at times actually necessitated a use of honorifics different to that found in native-native interactions.

I conclude my dissertation by discussing the implications of the research for Korean language teaching. I argue that Korean language education needs to do more to promote awareness of this tricky aspect of the Korean language and heighten understanding of the social meanings and implications attached to different choices of honorific forms.



Sandra M. Fahy

Sandra M. Fahy completed her Ph.D. titled "Tales from the Bottom of the Well: Survivor Testimonies from the North Korea 1990s Famine" in Social Anthropology at the School of Oriental and African Studies in July of 2009.

Her research contributes equally to the fields of Anthropology and Korean Studies by demonstrating that testimony from survivors reveals crucial first-hand information about the experience of famine in North Korea. The oral testimonies she collected provided access to otherwise unavailable information such as the government's wilful neglect and manipulation of the population and the socio-political dynamics which shaped people's responses to the food crisis. The diversity of her informants ensured a rounded perspective on how different segments of the population understood and articulated, coped with and survived the famine at different phases of its development.

The testimonies revealed the complexity of the North Korean famine, reflected most explicitly in survivors' conflicting narratives of desires between personal survival and loyalty to the homeland. This research adds new insights to the limited body of literature on famine in North Korea and survival of famine more generally, as well as accounts from survivors of collective social suffering. Dr. Fahy is now preparing her doctoral thesis for publication. Her supervisors were Professor Keith Howard (Ethnomusicology with reference to North Korea) and Professor Johan Pottier (Anthropology with reference to Africa). Dr. Fahy gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the Korea Foundation for the doctoral studies.

Dr. Fahy is pursuing further research into how people's knowledge (real or imaged) of structures of power, hierarchy and authority influence their life choices in North Korea. The emphasis takes into account the significant developments that have emerged in the 1990s up to more recent times. In particular, it looks specifically at sites such as political prisons and re-education centres and the current cultural ideas surrounding them in enabling North Koreans to make informed choices related to socio-economic hardships.

The oral testimonies she collected provided access to otherwise unavailable information such as the government's wilful neglect and manipulation of the population and the socio-political dynamics which shaped people's responses to the food crisis.



Sandra Fahy has been awarded a Korea Foundation post-doctoral fellowship at l'École des hautes études en sciences sociales in 2009/2010.

Burial Vessels

Set of miniature burial vessels (myǒnggi)
Chosŏn dynasty, 18th century
Various heights, ranging from 5 to 10 cm
Percival David Foundation Study Collection

SOAS holds several important Korean objects in its collection, including a Chosŏn moon jar and early 20th century prints by Elizabeth Keith.

The tradition of using myǒnggi as burial vessels began in the early Chosŏn period, when the Neo-Confucians urged people to follow Zhu Xi's Family Rituals (Zhuzi jiali) in which it was prescribed that miniature copies of life-sized vessels should be placed in the tomb. Treating the dead as if alive was deemed to be arrogant, and the burial of life-sized ceramics and other lavish goods was therefore discouraged. Conversely, interring the deceased with no artefacts at all reflected carelessness and did not convey appropriate filial piety. The use of miniature vessels was a suitable and practicable compromise, and it therefore became increasingly widespread in the Chosŏn period.

There are no archaeological findings of myǒnggi predating the 16th century, but the Sejong sillok states that six miniature ceramics were placed inside the burial pit of King Chǒngjong (r. 1398-1400). The Sillok also includes detailed information on the large numbers of myǒnggi prepared for the funeral of Queen Wǒngyǒng (1366-1420), the wife of King T'aejong (r. 1400-1418), suggesting that the practice was well-established by this time, at least among the upper classes.

Myǒnggi were normally made of porcelain, though some punch'ong examples also exist. As seen in the SOAS set, vessels tended to imitate ritual wares and were therefore often in the form of food containers or incense burners. Porcelain effigies of officials and ladies-in-waiting were also made, but their use appear to have been reserved the aristocracy.

Highlights of the SOAS collection are published in Contadini, Anna, ed. (2007) *Objects of Instruction: Treasures of the School of Oriental and African Studies*. London: SOAS.





Seminars 2009-2010

The Centre of Korean Studies is pleased to announce the following program of seminars for the forthcoming 2009-2010 academic year. Please note that titles are provisional and may be subject to change.

Autumn Term

Friday, 23 October, 5pm

Jiyoung Song (Cambridge University)
Title: TBA

Friday, 6 November, 5pm

Dr Stephen Epstein (Victoria University of Wellington)
Title: TBA

Friday, 20 November, 5pm

Dr Martine Robbeets (University of Mainz)
Provisional Title: Korean and the Transeurasian languages: similarities that make a difference

Friday, 4 December, 5pm

Dr Michael Shin (Cambridge University)
Title: TBA

Spring Term

Friday, 22 January, 5pm

Warwick Morris (Former UK Ambassador to ROK)
Title: TBA

Friday, 22 January, 5pm

Jung-Shim Lee (Leiden University)
Provisional Title: Han Yongun's novelette Death (1924): A monk's fictionalized nation-building project in question

Friday, 5 February, 5pm

Dr Isabelle Sancho (EHESS)
Provisional Title: A glimpse at the intimacy of Confucian scholars: a study of the 16th century scholars-officials' correspondence

Friday, 12 March, 5pm

Dr Katarzyna Crwiertka (Leiden University)
Provisional Title: Colonialism, Food and the Nation: Chewing on Korea's Modern History.

Further information about CKS seminars and events is available from :
<http://www.soas.ac.uk/koreanstudies/>

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If you would like to be added to the CKS mailing list and receive information on the seminars and events organised by the Centre of Korean Studies and/or you wish to receive a hardcopy of the CKS Annual Review, please send an email to Rahima Begum (rb41@soas.ac.uk) with your full name.

Created in 1987 with the kind support of the Korea Research Foundation, and subsequently the Korea Foundation, the Centre has been the leading academic centre of its kind in Great Britain since its establishment. It coordinates work done on Korea in various departments of the School, and offers expert knowledge and advice on Korea to interested outside parties.

The Centre oversees programmes at the BA, MA, and MPhil/PhD level in Korean Studies. With growing numbers of students and PhD candidates in Korean studies and studies related to Korea (also outside SOAS in other colleges of the University of London), the Centre has become a forum where research in progress can be presented and discussed in front of an informed audience. One of the main activities of the Centre is the ongoing Seminar Series. Speakers and scholars from around the world who are engaged in diverse fields of work related to Korea are invited to speak at the seminars, which are held regularly during the academic year.

You can download previous and current editions of the CKS Annual Review from:
<http://www.soas.ac.uk/koreanstudies/annual-review/>



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