

Volume 1, Number 1, 2004

[From the Editor-in-Chief]

Visions and Prospects for Overseas Korean Studies: In Commemoration of the Inaugural Issue of the International Review of Korean Studies (IROKS)

Pages: 1–8

Youngdal Cho

[Articles]

Linguistic Nationalism and Kabbalistic Scripts in Nativist Korean New Religious Movements

Pages: 9–48

John Jorgensen

Abstract: Threatened by Japanese colonialism, Korean nationalists and members of new religions, such as Taejong-gyo, forged scriptures and histories that told of an ancient script created by the mythical founders of the Korean folk. This alleged script was used to record the earliest scripture, the Ch'onbu'gyong. A kabbalistic analysis of these scriptures would then reveal the secret history of Korea as the centre of East Asian, if not world, civilization.

Remembering the Past, Condemned to the Present: The Imaginative Retreat of Kim Sisup (1435-1493)

Pages: 49–82

Gregory Nicholas Evon

Abstract: Kim Sisup aspired in his youth to a career as a Confucian official, but Prince Suyang's seizure of the throne in 1455 effectively ended that ambition. Instead, Kim became a wandering Buddhist monk, leaving behind a large corpus of writings that not only reveal how he saw himself, but indirectly put into perspective critical developments in intellectual life during the Choson dynasty.

From Posture to Grammar: Korean Posture Verbs and Their Extensions

Pages: 83–116

Jae Jung Song

Abstract: The objective of this paper is to describe the basic syntax and semantics of four posture verbs, se- ("stand"), anc- ("sit"), nwup- (plain "lie") and cappaci- (vulgar

“lie”) in Korean, and to study the extended use of these verbs based on the human bodily postures that they denote (i.e., the posture verb “stand” vs. the posture verbs “sit” and “lie”) and also the grammaticalization of anc- and cappaci- as progressive-aspect-bearing auxiliary verbs.

Defamiliation in South Korea: The Demographic Dimension of Compressed Modernity

Pages: 117–138

Kyung-Sup Chang

Abstract: The South Koreans have by accident come in contact with many different family ideologies, which prescribe complex, and often mutually contradictory, roles and responsibilities that now beset their everyday life. Each of these family ideologies individually brings burdens and pains on South Korea’s family life and relationship, and in addition to this, discrepancies and contradictions between them cause various psychological strains. The state, by advocating familism loudly but in an inconsistent manner, has exacerbated psychological and functional difficulties experienced by families. Although the previous administrations have used the family as the core instrument for various social policies, none have seriously tried to share its heavy material, not to mention psychological, burdens. Stress and fatigue are inevitably endemic in the family life of almost every South Korean. As a consequence, various efforts are made to avoid family burdens, creating a visible tendency toward defamiliation. A plummeting fertility rate is not the only serious symptom of defamiliation, but a host of other symptoms — such as divorce, separation, runaway, late marriage and single life — are also spreading at alarming rates.

The Korean Economy in the 1990s: Structural Changes in Production and Exports

Pages: 139–160

Moonjoong Tcha and Jaeho Lee

Abstract: This paper analyses the growth of the Korean economy in the 1990s and its relationship with the nation’s export performance. Total factor productivity (TFP) played a significant role in the growth of some industries, and a sharp increase in TFP was observed in the late 1990s especially in the electrics and electronics industry and the automobile industry. In the 1990s, TFP and total factor input (TFI) were more closely related to the growth of Korea’s exports to China and Japan, respectively. Furthermore, it is striking that competition between Korea and China became more intense in the industries in which fast increases in TFI and TFP were observed in Korea. The challenge from China was relatively weaker for the Korean industries to whose growth TFP made a less significant contribution. While no

decisive evidence is found for the relationship between TFP growth and competition with Japan, it is revealed that the industries experiencing high TFI growth faced less competition from Japan.

[Korean Studies Updates]

Korean Studies in Vietnam

Pages:161–176

Tran Ngoc Them

[Book Review]

Review of The Pueblo Incident : A Spy Ship and the Failure of American Foreign Policy by Mitchell B. Lerner and Flash Point North Korea: The Pueblo and EC-121 Crises by Richard A. Mobley

Page: 177–180

Intaek Han