

[Articles]

Feeding the Dictator or Making a Difference? The Experiences of International Aid and Development Agencies in North Korea 1995 -2005

Pages: 1–28

Bronwen Dalton and Kyungja Jung

Abstract: Since 2005 food aid to North Korea has been in steep decline, however, during the period 1995 to 2005 North Korea received more food aid from the UN World Food Programme (WFP) and US government than any other country. Similarly, private relief aid to North Korea significantly increased, with approximately 130 organisations worldwide providing over US\$2 billion in aid between 1995 and 2005. This article revisits this period marked by the most extensive engagement of humanitarian organisations since the establishment of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) in 1948. In the context of this dependence on foreign aid the article examines the impact of International Aid Agencies or International Nongovernment Organisations' (INGOs) operations, not only in humanitarian terms but with regards to political, social and economic development. We argue that due to tight operating restrictions there was no discernable impact on North Korean society or the polity. However, it is argued that longer term and unanticipated effects are likely due to the extensive diversion of aid to the emerging informal market economy. The study is based on the findings of 10 semi-structured telephone interviews with relevant INGO personnel; analysis of INGO documents and other economic and social data.

Administrative Reform and Integrity: Case Study for Collaborative Research in the Malaysian and South Korean Public Administration

Pages: 29–48

Nik Rosnah Wan Abdullah

Abstract: Public sector reform has increased concern about the state of public service values. The concern in large part is because many of these reforms pay little attention to ethical values and emphasise more on the application of private sector values, notably efficiency and competency. However, a growing number of reforms are seeking ways to reconcile these values with those of the traditional public service so that the civil service sector can imbibe the spirit of high integrity and earn) public

confidence in the authorities as they discharge of their duties in accordance with the rule of law. To this end, the reliability of public administration can be guaranteed only when guiding principles that govern the administration are both explicit and known to all those involved. In the Malaysian public service, results show that despite the mechanisms and proliferation of laws which attempt to instil ethical behaviour among public administrators, the difficulty lies in the promotion of an ethical behaviour among the public administrators. There is a compelling need for guidance to address ethical and unethical conduct in the public sector. In the final analysis, areas for collaborative research between Malaysia and (South) Korea will be discussed in the context of administrative reform.

An Examination of Geomancy (P'ungsu) as Employed in T'aengniji

Pages: 49–76

Inshil Choe Yoon

Abstract: T'aengniji is now regarded as an important Korean classic on both human geography and history, but views on its employment of geomancy are still debated. This paper reveals that, in T'aengniji, geomancy is treated in a serious yet balanced manner and most of the geomantic contents are in accord with traditional geomancy. However, the placement of six geomantic conditions from 'the outlet of watercourses' is unique. Placing a great importance on water is considered to be closely connected to Yi Chung-hwan's life experience.

The Songs of the the Realisation of the Way in Koryo Korea: Changes in Son Buddhism Glimpsed through Two Koryo Commentaries

Pages: 77–112

John Jorgensen

Abstract: The Cheng-tao ko, a Ch'an Buddhist collection of songs, became popular in Koryo Korea, having two commentaries written on it there, the Yongga Chin'gak Taesa Chungdoga of 1089 and the Nammyong Ch'on Hwasang Chungdoga sasil of 1247. The differences between these two commentaries, the first original and without quotes, the latter derivative and full of quotes, suggest major changes in the role and context of Son Buddhism during the Koryo.

The Conceptual Structure of the Verb nata

Pages: 113–134

Kyu Suk Shin

Abstract: Whether language influences its speakers' thoughts has been a continuing quest since the proposition of Sapir-Whorf's linguistic relativity hypothesis. Humans

encounter an infinite range of experiences but those experiences can only be expressed by linguistic categories of the language that are available to its speaker. The essence of linguistic relativism asserts that, while speakers of a particular language use lexical and morpho-syntactic categories that are unique to the language in which they speak for describing their experiences, their perception of the world could inevitably be shaped by those obligatory classifications, and hence it becomes habitual thought. This study examines lexical, conceptual and syntactic constructions of the verb *nata* in comparison with English in terms of their codability and translatability. In particular, the study analyses the lexicalization of the verb *nata* in order to identify the common semantic element encoded in the morpheme *na-*. The paper reveals that the path information conflated in the intransitive verb *nata* is the key in the conceptual construction of the verb. The study shows how Koreans regard spontaneous motion events whose path is 'out' as the same and use the concept for describing various natural phenomena and human experiences. The Yale Romanisation system is used in this paper.

Accelerated Internationalization of Latecomer MNEs: The Case of South Korean Electronics Companies

Pages: 135–154

Chung-Sok Suh

Abstract: This paper analyses the internationalization strategies of three large Korean electronics companies—Samsung, LG and Hyundai—in the 1990s, with particular attention to the changes that followed the 1997 Asian financial crisis, based on a new conceptual framework of firm internationalization. Analysis of the investment decisions of these three companies in eighteen subsidiaries located in the US, the UK and Asia reveals that different internationalisation strategies were used in the various host countries according to differing motivations and host country environments. The analysis of changes in the strategies in each region after the 1997 Asian financial crisis reveals that the mismatch between the motivations of internationalization and headquarter-subsidiary relations was one of the key factors determining the success or failure of the subsidiaries examined in this study. The findings of this paper also indicate that the restructuring of the corporate sector after the 1997 financial crisis resulted in the revision of internationalization strategies, contributing to their success in the 2000s.

Uncovering Korean Textual and Literary Histories: A Critical Review of Recent Scholarship on Korea's Literary Past

Pages: 155–186

Gregory N. Evon

Abstract: Research on Korea in the English-speaking world has generally lagged behind studies on China and Japan. The profile of Korean literature and literary history has been particularly weak. The main problems have been a lack of high-quality translations and secondary studies. In recent years, however, an increasing number of works have appeared in English. Three of the most significant are Lee's *History*, Haboush's *Epistolary Korea*, and Pettid's and Cha's *Unyong-jon*. Lee's volume is distinguished by the breadth and detail of its coverage, both chronologically and in terms of literary genres. Haboush's volume illustrates the roles of formal and informal epistolary practices during Korea's longest dynasty, and in so doing, it expands our understanding of Korean literary history. By contrast, Pettid's and Cha's volume expands our understanding of Korean classical fiction through a detailed study and translation of a single classical text. These three volumes complement each other, and taken together, they demonstrate the value of studying Korea's textual and literary histories. The purpose of this article is, therefore, to examine the contributions of these works in the broader context of Korean literary history.

[Special Invited Paper]

One Asia and New 'Creative' Korea-Japan Relations

Pages: 187–204

Chi-Keun Son

[Korean Studies Updates]

RISS International: A Gateway to Korean Research Information

Pages: 205–216

Sooji Lee

Abstract: RISS International is the single gateway to access comprehensive scholarly resources about Korea and Korean Studies. It has been developed and managed by the Korea Education and Research Information Service (KERIS) in Korea, a governmental agency under the Ministry of Education and Science & Technology (MEST) in Korea. It provides an opportunity to access the full text of approximately 3.1 million Korean journal articles, theses and dissertations produced

in Korea. The Korean Journal Articles database includes articles from core journals of individual research fields within Korea, such as History, Korean Language and Literature, Religion, Political/Social Science, Education, ICT, and so forth. In addition, RISS International offers the KERIS Union Catalogue, the only bibliographic database built upon cooperatively by university libraries in Korea. The database is a hub for the location of materials and ILL/DDS service if a material is in non-digital format. RISS International is a fee-based service for institutional members abroad. Since its launch in November 2007, 14 institutions have joined RISS International and have utilized the service to facilitate research activities on Korean Studies.

The NALSSP Project at UNSW

Pages: 217–230

Gi-Hyun Shin

Abstract: This paper presents the outset of the NALSSP project at the University of New South Wales (UNSW). Managed by the Korea-Australasia Research Centre (KAREC), it is a two-year project with a modest title: Towards the Establishment of a Centre of Excellence for Korean Language and Studies Education and Research. It aims to develop flexible teaching and learning resources for Korean Language and Studies Education at Australian schools, conduct pedagogical research, provide teacher support and professional development opportunities, and undertake activities to promote the studies of Korea. The Project is to contribute to the NALSSP aspirational target, as agreed to by all the State and Territory governments, that, by 2020, at least twelve per cent of students will exit Year 12 (currently less than five per cent) with a fluency in one of the Asian languages: Chinese (Mandarin), Indonesian, Japanese and Korean.