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# Korean History in Maps

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*Korean History in Maps* is a beautifully presented, full-color atlas covering all periods of Korean history from prehistoric times to the present day. It is the first atlas of its kind to be specifically designed for students in English-speaking countries. There is a map for each era in Korean history, showing every major kingdom or polity that existed on the Korean peninsula, and maps are also included for topics of additional historical interest, including each major war that took place. In addition, the atlas contains chronologies, lists of monarchs, and overviews of the politics, economy, society, and culture for each era which are complemented by numerous photos and full-color images of artifacts, paintings, and architectural structures. This fascinating historical atlas is a complete reference work and unique teaching tool for all scholars and students of Korean and East Asian history.

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# Korean History in Maps

From Prehistory to the Twenty-first Century

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To our students and our teachers

Contents

		PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	viii
		KOREA TODAY	1
		KOREA IN ASIA	2
		THE GEOGRAPHY OF THE KOREAN PENINSULA	3
1	PREHISTORIC KOREA	5	
		The Peopling of the Korean Peninsula	6
		The Paleolithic Era	7
		The Neolithic Era	8
		The Beginning of the Bronze Age	9
2	JOSEON AND EARLY STATE FORMATION	11	
		OVERVIEW OF JOSEON	12
		Joseon Culture–Dolmens	14
		Joseon Culture–Bronze Daggers	15
		The Han Commanderies	16
		Agriculture in Early Korea	17
		The Samhan Confederations	18
		The Samhan Confederations and Regional Trade	19
		Chronology of Joseon and Early State Formation	20
3	THE THREE KINGDOMS PERIOD	23	
		GOGURYEO	24
		Overview of Goguryeo	26
		The Goguryeo–Sui War	28
		The Goguryeo–Tang War	29
		Chronology of Goguryeo	30
		Monarchs of Goguryeo	31
		BAEKJE	32
		Overview of Baekje	34
		Chronology of Baekje	36
		Monarchs of Baekje	37
		SILLA	38
		Overview of Silla	40
		Chronology of Silla	42
		Monarchs of Silla	43
		GAYA	44
		Gaya Confederacy	45
		Monarchs of Gaya	
		Trade Routes in the Three Kingdoms Period	46
		The "Unification" Wars	47
		The Spread of Buddhism	48
		The Stele of King Gwanggaeto	49
4	THE NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN STATES PERIOD	51	
		LATER SILLA	52
		Overview of Silla	54
		Bulguk Temple	56
		Seokga Pagoda and Dabo Pagoda	57
		International Relations and Trade	58
		Monarchs of Later Silla	59
		Chronology of Later Silla	60
		BALHAE	62
		Overview of Balhae	64
		Chronology of Balhae	66
		Monarchs of Balhae	
		The Fall of Silla and the Later Three Kingdoms	67

<b>5</b>	<b>GORYEO</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>OVERVIEW OF GORYEO</b>	<b>70</b>
			The Goryeo–Khitan War	72
			The Goryeo–Mongol War	
			Gaegyeong [Gaeseong]	74
			Commerce and International Trade	75
			Celadon Pottery	76
			Monarchs of Goryeo	77
			Chronology of Goryeo	78
<b>6</b>	<b>JOSEON</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>OVERVIEW OF THE EARLY JOSEON PERIOD</b>	<b>82</b>
			Hanyang [Seoul]	84
			Government Offices	85
			Merchant Houses	
			Gyeongbok Palace	86
			The Imjin Wars	88
			Chronology of the Imjin Wars	89
			Chronology of the Early Joseon Period	90
			<b>OVERVIEW OF THE LATE JOSEON PERIOD</b>	<b>92</b>
			Political Factions	94
			The Manchu Invasions	95
			Foreign Relations and International Trade	96
			The Rise of Markets	97
			The Breakdown of Joseon	98
			Statistics of the Joseon Period	99
			Monarchs of Joseon	101
			Chronology of the Late Joseon Period	102
<b>7</b>	<b>THE LATE NINETEENTH CENTURY</b>	<b>105</b>	The Open Ports	106
			Seoul in the Late Nineteenth Century	107
			The Year 1894	108
			Chronology of the Year 1894	109
			Chronology of the Late Nineteenth Century	110
<b>8</b>	<b>THE JAPANESE OCCUPATION PERIOD</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>OVERVIEW OF THE JAPANESE OCCUPATION PERIOD</b>	<b>114</b>
			Seoul under Japanese Rule	116
			The March First Movement	117
			The Independence Movement	118
			Comfort Stations	119
			Economic Changes under Japanese Rule	120
			Statistics of the Japanese Occupation Period	121
			Chronology of the Japanese Occupation Period	124
			Governors–General of Chōsen	125
<b>9</b>	<b>THE LIBERATION PERIOD AND THE KOREAN WAR</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>THE COLD WAR</b>	<b>128</b>
			Chronology of the Liberation Period	130
			<b>THE KOREAN WAR</b>	<b>133</b>
			The Incheon Landing and the Invasion of the North	134
			Chinese Entry into the Korean War	135
			Stalemate	136
			Statistics of the Korean War	137
			Chronology of the Korean War	138
<b>10</b>	<b>NORTH KOREA (DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF KOREA)</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>OVERVIEW OF NORTH KOREA</b>	<b>142</b>
			Pyongyang	144
			The North Korean Nuclear Issue	145
			Basic Facts and Statistics of North Korea	146
			Chronology of North Korea	148
<b>11</b>	<b>SOUTH KOREA (REPUBLIC OF KOREA)</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>OVERVIEW OF SOUTH KOREA</b>	<b>152</b>
			Seoul	154
			Industrial Development	156
			The Gwangju Democratic Uprising	157
			Basic Facts and Statistics of South Korea	158
			Chronology of South Korea	160
			CONTRIBUTORS	163
			APPENDIX A Chronology of the “Comfort Women” Issue	165
			APPENDIX B The Dok Island [Dokdo] Issue	167
			APPENDIX C The Sexagenary Cycle	173
			INDEX	193

# Preface and Acknowledgments

*Michael D. Shin*

Even in the second decade of the twenty-first century, the majority of students enter college, unable to find Korea on a map of the world. Though virtually all of them are familiar with China and Japan, they have little knowledge or even awareness of the peninsula that lies between them. Part of the reason is the lack of historical connections with Korea. The West first came into direct contact with the country only in the mid-nineteenth century. Two wars – the first Sino-Japanese War and the Korean War – brought the country to the attention of a greater number of people. However, the country, despite its geopolitical importance during the Cold War, remained largely unknown. With its rapid industrialization, South Korea has become an export-oriented economy whose products, including textiles, cars, and electronics, are sold throughout the world. Though some brands such as Samsung and LG have been fixtures in Western households, few consumers know that these products are from South Korean companies – a stark contrast to their familiarity with Japanese ones. In this century, the situation seems to be changing as more and more people are becoming familiar with its cuisine and popular culture.

One of the tasks of Korean Studies has been to raise knowledge of the country to a level commensurate with its importance in world history and in the world today. Though many general histories of Korea have been published in the past two decades, there has not been an atlas specifically tailored to the needs of students in English-speaking countries interested in Korean history. The aim of this book is not just to enable students to find Korea on a map but

also to provide the basic geographic information necessary to study Korean history. It is meant to complement the textbooks currently used in undergraduate and graduate classes on Korean history. Full-color maps show the territorial boundaries of all polities that have existed on the Korean peninsula, and there are images of artifacts and historic sites for each period of Korean history. To enhance its usefulness to students, this book also has concise overviews and chronologies for each period, as well as lists of monarchs and basic statistics for periods where sufficient sources exist.

Though the production of an atlas may seem to be a straightforward process, Korean history poses difficulties that Chinese and Japanese history do not. Some students will be aware that the territorial borders, names, and the ethnic composition of historical polities in and around the Korean peninsula have been sources of controversy in East Asia. For instance, since the turn of the century, China has claimed that the northern kingdom of Goguryeo was part of Chinese history, as well as the kingdom of Balhae. The issue of Korea’s historical borders is a very explicit and extreme instance of how the work of history is inherently political, an issue that can even lead to diplomatic conflict in the region. In general, our approach was to try to find a consensus that the majority of scholars could agree upon. We hope to have provided material to help students learn about such issues and debates rather than taking a particular side.

This book was truly a collaborative effort. Most obviously, this is a book with many authors. Owen Miller of SOAS handled the sections on prehistoric Korea and did some parts

of the section on the Joseon period; Yi Hyun-Hae of Hallym University wrote all the text in the section on the Joseon (Old Joseon) period. Lee Injae of Yonsei University wrote the overviews of Baekje and Silla in the Three Kingdoms Period section; Park Jinhoon of Myongji University wrote the Goguryeo overview and the sections on the Northern and Southern States Period and the Goryeo Period. Michael D. Shin of the University of Cambridge wrote the sections on the modern period, as well as some parts of the Joseon-period section. Owen Miller did the translations of texts that were originally written in Korean. Each author provided suggestions on the images to accompany his or her text and checked successive drafts of the atlas, including commenting on other sections.

We also received a tremendous amount of help from many colleagues, without whom this book would not exist. A number of experts were invited to Cambridge to consult on matters ranging from the accuracy of maps to the selection of images for each section. Seo Insun, a graduate student in archaeology at the University of Paris X Nanterre, provided advice and guidance on prehistoric Korea. Yi Tae-jin, emeritus of Seoul National University, gave extensive comments on the premodern sections of the book that helped to make it both more accurate and more cohesive. Oh Jinseok of Pai Chai University compiled the statistics that we used for most of the tables and charts in the book and gave us a thorough overview of the sources for statistical data and their limitations. Na Hee-La of Gyeongnam National University of Science and Technology gave detailed comments on the sections on the ancient period. Im Kihwan of Seoul National University of Education did a thorough review of the Goguryeo section. Song Kiho of Seoul National University, the director of its university museum, provided invaluable advice on the maps in the Balhae section and generously allowed us to use some of his photographs. The Joseon-period section was challenging to do because of its length and the amount of information in it. Detailed comments and advice from colleagues who are specialists on the period – Ko Dong-Hwan of the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST), Choi Yoonoh of Yonsei University, and

James B. Lewis of the University of Oxford – saved us from many potentially embarrassing errors. Charles Armstrong of Columbia University, Jae-Jung Suh of Johns Hopkins University, and Suzy Kim of Rutgers University reviewed the section on North Korea. We also discussed the atlas with and received help from other colleagues, such as Bruce Cumings of the University of Chicago, Hong Sung-Chan of Yonsei University, Jun Seung-Ho of the Academy of Korean Studies, Albert Park of Claremont McKenna College, Park Tae-gyun of Seoul National University, Peter Kornicki of the University of Cambridge, and Mark Selden of Binghamton University and Cornell University. The book’s chief designer, Joon Mo Kang, was in many ways another “author” of this text. He not only designed the entire book but also made all the charts, diagrams, and maps. Working closely with the contributors, he pushed us to create a book that is more useful and ambitious in clarity and visual impact than we had originally planned.

Finding all the images for the book proved to be more difficult and time-consuming than we had expected, and we are grateful for all the help we received from various individuals and institutions. Most of all, we wish to thank Oh Youngchan, a former curator at the National Museum of Korea, who now teaches at Ewha Womans University. We were fortunate that he was spending a year as a visiting curator at the British Museum when we began this project. He provided invaluable advice and contacts and even helped us to navigate the paperwork necessary to acquire the rights to the images from museums throughout South Korea. Jung Jieun of the National Museum of Korea processed the paperwork and was very helpful in allowing us to download the images we requested. Park Sook-Hee, the Head Librarian of the Kyujanggak Archives’ Reference Services, was generous with her time in helping us to locate old maps and other images. Seo Hyunju of the Northeast Asian History Foundation and Nayoung Chung of the Dokdo Research Institute helped us to acquire images of Dok Island (Dokdo). Joo Sung-jee, also of the Northeast Asian History Foundation, provided valuable assistance with the images of Goguryeo tomb murals. Choi Inho of the Seoul Museum of History helped us acquire



additional maps of Dok Island. Jae-Hyun Choi of the Bank of Korea generously provided us with photographs of South Korean currency. Henny Savenije gave us permission to use images from his personal collection of maps. Eric Luhrs, Digital Initiatives Librarian of Lafayette College, generously allowed us to use images from their collection of colonial-era postcards for free. Closer to home, the late Mark Blackburn, Head of the Department of Coins and Metals of the Fitzwilliam Museum at the University of Cambridge, took the time to show us their collection of Korean coins, the largest in Europe, and let us use the images we needed. The museum's collection of celadon and the Cambridge University Library's collection of old European maps were also helpful resources. David Heather gave us permission to use an image from his vast collection of North Korean posters. Daniel Brennwald, Charlie Crane, Robert Koehler, Eric Lafforgue, and Kernbeisser gave us discounted rates on their photographs or let us use them for free.

Because of the time and expense involved, it is rare to have the opportunity to make a historical atlas. This project would not have been possible without funding from the Academy of Korean Studies (AKS) under its "Curriculum and Teaching Materials for Global Korean Studies" program. The amount of funding allowed us to work for three years to create an atlas with few compromises. Five anonymous reviews of the manuscript arranged by the AKS contained many useful comments. Generous donations from Mr. and Mrs. I.H. Cho and Mr. M. Kim helped to cover the printing costs and enabled us to undertake extra work that improved the final product. The atlas was also made possible by the institutional support provided by Robinson College, which has provided a home for Korean Studies at the University of Cambridge. The dedicated staff of the college handled the accounts and provided housing for guests, technical support, and catering for all related events. Owen Miller, one of the authors of this book, was the first post-doctoral associate for the grant project who was hired at Robinson to handle logistical details and administrative work, as well as all sorts of behind-the-scenes tasks. He was followed by two able successors, Gian-Marco Bussandri and Stefan Knoob. Thanks

are due to Michèle Tumber, Julia McCarthy, Cathie Howell, and Shirley Young in the College Office and Christine James, Kara Sheehan, Lianne Stroud, Amy Brown, Michael Howley, and Emma Webb in the Conference and Catering Office – who all made sure that everything ran with cheerful efficiency. The book's chief designer worked with two assistant designers, Susie Choi and Sung Hun Jung, and he would also like to thank Sue Park for help with map design, Jesse Senje Yuan for help with map design and Chinese characters, and Seulgi Ho for help with chart design. David Miao of HOUSE, a digital post-production studio in New York City, did all the color correction, with assistance from Nicole N. Kim, and enabled us to stay on schedule with his quick work. Graduate student assistants, Ji-yoon An and Youngchan Justin Choi, were helpful, and two former undergraduate students, Laura Leung-How and Gian-Marco Bussandri, did a very thorough job of proofreading the entire manuscript. Lucy Rhymer, our editor at Cambridge University Press, has been an enthusiastic supporter of our project and skillfully guided it to completion. The anonymous reviews undertaken at the Press' request were helpful, giving us fresh perspectives on the material. Thanks are especially due to Claire Wood, an Editor at the Press, and two Production Editors, Vania Cunha and Joanna Breeze, for helping us to prepare the manuscript for the printer. Noel Robson, a designer at the Press, looked over all the images and provided valuable advice that helped us to fine-tune the design.

Though so many people contributed to the book, all errors are, of course, the responsibility of the authors. Last but not least, we want to thank all the family, friends, and colleagues – too many to name here – who provided support to us, in both tangible and intangible ways. The romanization of Korean terms follows the Revised Romanization system of the South Korean Ministry of Culture that was adopted in the year 2000; exceptions have been made for names of people and places that already have a widely accepted spelling in English-speaking countries, such as Pyongyang and Syngman Rhee. Japanese terms have been romanized according to the Revised Hepburn system, and Chinese terms have been romanized in pinyin.