Locating Translingualism

Encounters involving different cultures and languages are increasingly the norm in the era of globalization. While considerable attention has been paid to how languages and cultures transform in the era of globalization, their characteristic features prior to transformation are frequently taken for granted. This pioneering book argues that globalization offers an unprecedented opportunity to revisit fundamental assumptions about what distinguishes languages and cultures from each other in the first place. It takes the case of global Korea, showing how the notion of “culture” is both represented but also reinvented in public space, with examples from numerous sites across Korea and Koreatowns around the world. It is not merely about locating spaces where translingualism happens but also about exploring the various ways in which linguistic and cultural difference come to be located via translingualism. It will appeal to anyone interested in the globalization of language and culture.

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Locating Translingualism

JERRY WON LEE

University of California, Irvine
For 엄마 and 아빠
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Notes on the Text

A note on the transliteration: There exist three main systems of Romanization for Korean, or systems of transliteration into Roman alphabetic letters: McCune-Reischauer, Yale, and Revised Romanization. Of the three, I have found the Revised Romanization system to be the most logical, even though the Yale system is more commonly used within linguistics. Throughout this book, with the exception of the names for people as they are self-presented, places with commonly circulated transliterations, or direct quotations, I rely on a slightly modified version of Revised Romanization, using hyphenation to break up consonant clusters in order to facilitate reading. For instance, a word like Hangeul will be presented as Hangeul to guide readers who are unfamiliar with Korean (avoiding potentially incorrect renderings such as Hang-eul).

A note on the reference style: While there are nearly 300 Korean surnames, the most common are Kim, Lee, and Park. As such, conventional reference practices of denoting just the surname are not particularly useful for citing Korean authors. Therefore, the References list for this book uses full author names. In addition, in-text references make use of full author names for those with common Korean surnames (e.g., “Joseph Sung-Yul Park” instead of simply “Park”).