

## The term *East Sea* must be recorded along with the *Sea of Japan*

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The name '*East Sea* (東海)' first appeared in Korea in the foundation myth of King Dongmyeong of Goguryeo some 2,000 years ago. The related entry stated that as Goguryeo was founded in the area occupied by Bukbuyeo, the latter was forced to relocate to Gaseopwon near the *East Sea*. As this entry dates from 59 B.C., we can see that Koreans have used the name *East Sea* for about 2,000 years.

Another example showing the prolonged use of the term *East Sea* in Korea appears in the Monument to the Great King Gwanggaeto erected in 414 A.D. by King Jangsu of Goguryeo to commemorate the achievements of King Gwanggaeto. As the term *East Sea* is also inscribed on this monument, we can see that the name even appeared in epigraphs produced during the 5<sup>th</sup> century.

On the other hand, the name '*Sea of Japan* (日本海)' first appeared in the *Kunyu Wanguo Quantu* (坤輿萬國全圖, Complete Geographical Map of all the Kingdoms of the World) produced by Matteo Ricci (1552~1610) in 1602, or 1,650 years after Koreans had begun to use the name '*East Sea*'.

The names '*East Sea*' and '*Sea of Japan*' were often recorded together in the maps produced in the Western world. In fact, one finds a greater number of Western maps on which '*East Sea*' is inscribed than '*Sea of Japan*' during the 18<sup>th</sup> century. On the map of Imperial Japan produced by the famous mapmaker Robert de Vaugondy in 1750, the sea on the Korean side is clearly inscribed as 'Mer de Coree'; meanwhile, the sea on the Japanese side is referred to as 'Mer du Japon'. Based on the tradition of map production, the Map of Asia prepared by Jehoshaphat Aspin in 1822 included the inscription 'Sea or Gulf of Corea or of Japan'. Aspin used both 'Sea' and 'Gulf' because he was hard-pressed to distinguish between the two. He also included both Japan and Korea in the name. In a map prepared in 1831, Francois Delamarche used the term 'G.

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de Coree' to refer to the sea on the Korean side and 'Mer du Japon' for the sea on the Japanese side. Thus, one finds many examples in which both names are inscribed on Western maps.

The use of both '*East Sea*' and '*Sea of Japan*' was also commonplace on Japanese maps. While the Pacific Ocean side was referred to as '*Sea of Japan*' the east sea was depicted as the 'Sea of Joseon'. However, Japan started to use the name '*Sea of Japan*' to refer to the *East Sea* area following the conclusion of the Treaty of Kanagawa (Japan–US Treaty of Peace and Amity) in 1854. While Japan only used the term 'Sea of Japan' to refer to the coastal area of Japan at the beginning, it gradually expanded the scope of the '*Sea of Japan*' to include the entire sea. Chikyū bankoku hozu (地球萬國方圖, A military map of ten thousand countries in the world) prepared by Hidetoshi Murakami in 1870 included references to both the 'Sea of Joseon' and the 'Sea of Great Japan'. Meanwhile, the Bankoku shinzu (萬國新圖, A new map of ten thousand countries) produced by Miyazaki Ryujo in 1874 included 'Sea of Joseon' and 'Sea of Great Japan' together, a practice that was replicated in the Nisshinkan sangoku zenzu (日清韓三國全圖, A map of three countries, Japan, Qing and Korea) prepared by Shigeyuki Suzuki in 1894. Given the existence of these and many other examples of maps in which both the 'Sea of Joseon' and '*Sea of Japan*' were employed side by side, Japan should accept that '*East Sea*' and '*Sea of Japan*' be included together. In keeping with the examples set by Western and Japanese maps, the terms '*East Sea*' and '*Sea of Japan*' should from here on out be simultaneously employed.