

# ABOUT THE SEA NAME BETWEEN KOREA AND JAPAN

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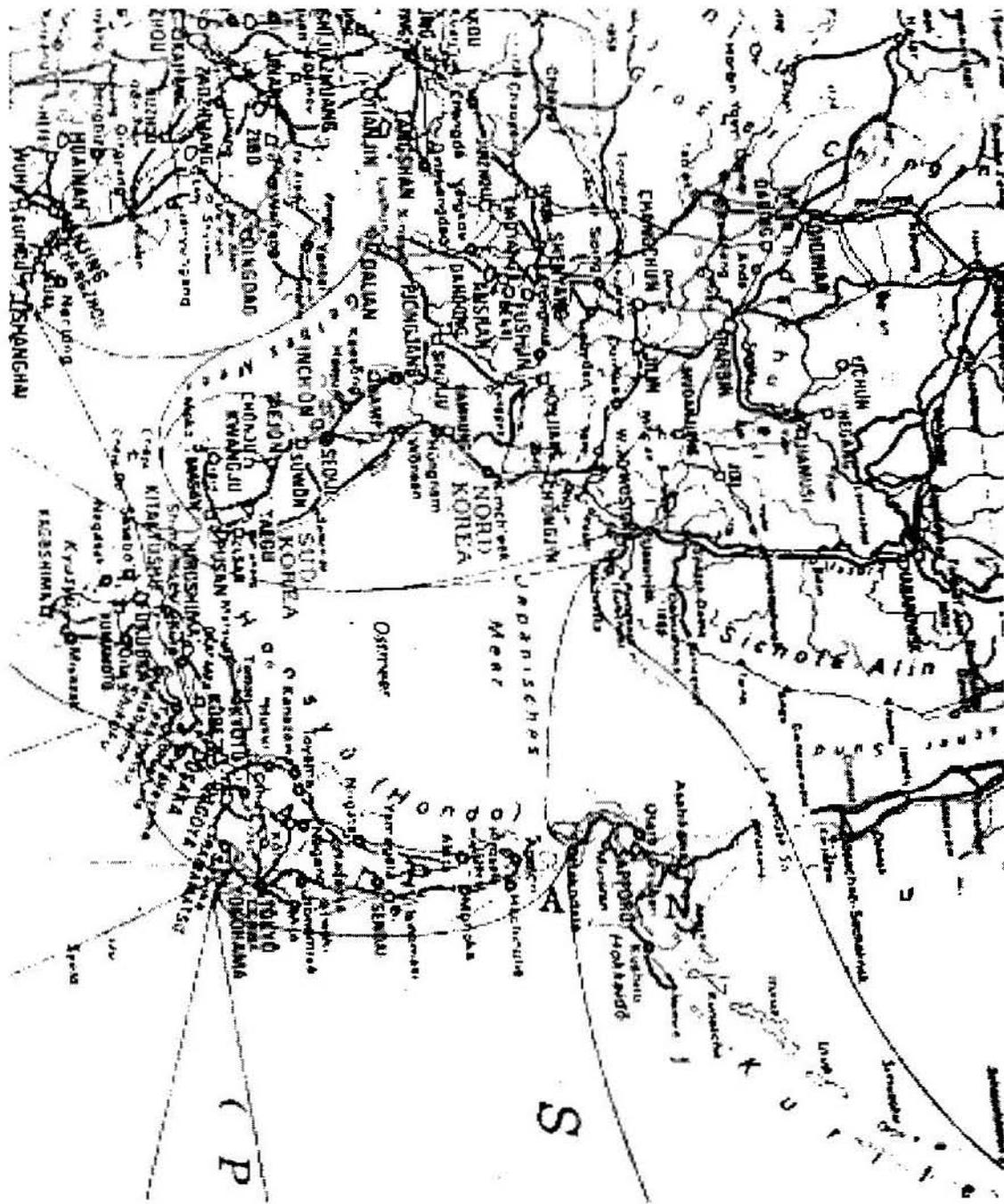
The Mongolia which is located between two largest country of central Asia have historical evidence in the 12-th of centuries visiting the coastal area of Korea and Japan. First of all it is important to know if there is the Mongolia have reserved historical documentation related to the above mentioned areas. In time of Great Mongolian Empire the King Khubilai's army has attacked to the Korea and Japan through sea water between them. From historical and archeological findings clear that Mongolia has visited in coastal area of both countries, which lays between two countries. In the 1980-s Japanese archeologists found ruin of Mongolian boat near the coastal area of Takannoshima in the Nagasaka. That time, no one believes that Mongolia was here in ancient time. One of the interesting archeological possession was Mongolian commander seal with squire writing script.

Mongolians twice attacked to the Japan from Korean peninsular, first in the 1274 and second in the 1281 Mongolian army was failed due to the sea storm "Kamikadze". We try to find about mention of water body name between two countries in that period of time. Unfortunately, we did not find exact written statement about Sea name in this region and only general descriptions as "Great Ocean".

Other ancient literary, mentioned that Mongolians prepared his naval fleet an island named by Kiushi and reached to Shimonoce gullet. In the 1281 naval fleet was prepared near the Zaitun and Kuincein seaport. Also other source materials does not says any written scripts related to the sea name. But this historical document shows that our countries were connected by historical destinies.

In the 18-19<sup>th</sup> centuries / 1,2,3,4,5,6/ commonly issued sea name as Korean Sea and 20<sup>th</sup> century rapidly used name of Sea of Japan.

(figure -1)



In present time on the world political maps issued by some countries used double name Japan Sea and East sea. For example on the maps printed in the Germany in 1998 year (fig-1) used both name JAPAN SEA and EAST SEA. We think this version of sea name is result of numerous international seminars, workshop, meetings concerning of Naming of Sea. Nowadays Sea of

Japan or East Sea becomes a sphere of concentration intersection and integration of vital economical, social, ecological and scientific-cultural interests of many countries, people and regions. Under this conditions, the name of Sea is more and more used on many maps and name of sea begins to fulfil not only geographical and geopolitical functions but also cultural, market-economical, historical and human once. Therefore, the name of this sea should equally reflect the historical memory, full understanding and national feelings of all people residing on this coasts. In this case, one can make the following conclusions:

1. The name of sea, Sea of Japan – is not always first and far from single from the historical point of view that is well reflected on the old European and Russian geographical maps
2. The names – East Sea, Korean sea, Sea of Japan- have practically same roots.
3. This sea is situated in one of the central, most industrially developed areas of the Asiatic-Pacific region. Thus, the name of sea should be favorable to the development, cooperation, growth of integration processes and relations of the countries and adjacent areas.

In our opinion, in order to emphasize a respect for national feelings to renew the historical roots in the name of sea, it is needed to support an agreement to name this water area as “Korean Sea/ Sea of Japan ” by writing along the shore lines for two countries and between them write as “East Sea” by upper case. As I geographer, the sea name confrontation between two countries in time of globalization and political renewal thoughts of developed countries, is not final aim and for them expected more serious problems to working together for solving an aquatic-ecological disasters of this Sea.

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