

Even Japan used the name of the Sea of Korea/East Sea

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-contents-

1. People in Korea have used the name of the East Sea for over two thousand years.
 - 1) The foundation tale of Goguryo in Samguksaki
 - 2) The name of the East Sea was used in the Tombstone of King Gwanggaeto
 - 3) When did the name of the Sea of Japan begin to be employed?
2. The name of the East Sea in the old maps of the West
3. Even Japan used the name of the Sea of Korea/East Sea
 - 1) The name of the Sea of Korea in old Japanese maps
 - 2) The name of the Sea of Korea in official documents of the Japanese government

1. People in Korea have used the name of the East Sea for over two thousand years.

1) The foundation tale of Goguryo in Samguksaki

Public use of the name of the East Sea in Korea originates from the the foundation tale of Goguryo in Samguksaki. The book says that North Buyeo should change its kingdom to Gawonsup near the East Sea because Goguryo would be founded in the region where North Buyeo had been established. It was BC 59 when Silla was not yet established. It means that the name of the East Sea had been publicly used well before the era of three kingdoms was formed. The history of the name is over 2,000 years.

2) The name of the East Sea was used in the Tombstone of King Gwanggaeto

Another example which proves that the name of the East Sea has long history in Korea comes from the Tombstone of King Gwanggaeto constructed in 414 by King Jangsu in Goguryo. In the 8th row of the third section of the tombstone was inscribed that three people living near the East Sea were enlisted for keeping the tome of King Gwanggaeto. As such, the East Sea was used in epigraph even in the 5th century.

3) When did the name of the Sea of Japan begin to be employed?

The name of the Sea of Japan appears only in 1661 when Matteo Ricci used it in his atlas called *Gonyeomangukjundo*. It was over 1661 years since Koreans had used the name of the East Sea.

Meanwhile, it is important to note that Gilio Aleni's world atlas, made in 1623 and titled as *Mangukjundo*, employed the name of the East sea, because he lived in the same period when Matteo Ricci lived (see Figure 1). Japan have been arguing that the name of the Sea of Japan was not first used in Japan but in the Western countries, and that Matteo Ricci's world atlas was the oldest evidence. However, Matteo Ricci used the name of the Sea of Japan to designate the sea adjacent to the Japanese Islands. Also the atlas had no blank space for writing in the name of the East Sea, because he wrote some notes on Korea in the position of the sea (see Figure 2). Yet, Aleni clearly inscribed "East Sea" in the middle of the Sea of Korea/East Sea.

2. The name of the East Sea In the olds maps of the West

A lot of old maps published in the West employed the name of the East Sea. For example, Durado's Map of Japan named the East Sea as "Costa de Corai" in 1571, Godinu's Map of Asia used "Mar Coria" for naming the East Sea in 1615, and Dudley's marine chart published in 1647 employed "Mare di Corai" for designating the East Sea.

Based on an investigation of 407 old maps, including 146 maps in University of Southern California, 127 maps in National Library of France, 82 maps in Seoul Historical Museum, and 52 private-owned maps, I found that a lot of these maps used the name of the East Sea. In the case of the maps in USC, 134 out of 146 old maps used the name of the East Sea while only 12 maps used the name of the Sea of Japan.

Out of 600,000 old maps held by the National Library of France, I randomly selected 500 old maps and found out that 101 cases are related to the East Sea or the Sea of Japan. Among those maps, 24 maps used "Mer de Coree", 64 maps used "Mer Orientale", and only 13 maps used "Mer du Japon" for designating the East Sea.

Seoul Historical Museum also hold a variety of old maps, a majority of which used the name of the East Sea and few maps used the name of the Sea of Japan.

Also, among 52 private-owned old maps, 15 used the name of the East Sea while 37 used the name of the Sea of Japan.

In total, out of 407 old maps, the cases of naming the East Sea amount to 298(73.2%) and the cases of naming the Sea of Japan are 109(26.8%). Especially, a majority of old maps published in the West used the name of the East Sea.

3. Even Japan used the name of the Sea of Korea/East Sea

1) The name of the Sea of Korea in old Japanese maps

Including the atlas of Asia appended to the Kechunpoju's Bunchamunrok published in 1794, 18 Japanese old maps employed the name of the Sea of Korea instead of the Sea of Japan. Especially, based on the order of king, Gogyokongbo, a Japanese astronomy official, made Ilbonbyungyeyakdo in 1809, in which the Sea of Korea was used for naming the East Sea. In the next year, he published Sinjungmankukjundo in which the Sea of Korea used again for designating the East Sea. These maps are the official Japanese maps because his map-making was ordered by Japanese king.

In 1844 Kijaksungo published Singjeyejijundo that also used the name of the Sea of Korea. Anjunyuju, one of Gogyokongbo's disciples, made Bonbangseobukbyunkeyakdo in 1850, in which the name of the Sea of Korea was employed for designating the East Sea. These maps are the official Japanese maps following the tradition of Gogyokongbo's maps. In 1862, Kwangryoboam published Hwanhaehangrosindo in which the Sea of Korea was used.

The name of the Sea of Korea was also used in Jigumankukbangdo, Dongjundaeilbonkuksedo, and Daeilbonchosunpaldo-Jinasamkukjundo, respectively published by Chipangdand in 1853, Hyunhyundang in 1865, and Mujunseungchalang in 1882. These facts proves that Japan had used the name of the Sea of Korea instead of the Sea of Japan even until 19th century. Another stream was that many Japanese maps increasingly began to use the Sea of Korea and the Sea of Japan simultaneously.

After all, many Japanese maps designated the East Sea not as the Sea of Japan but the Sea of Korea. The following are the list of those Japanese maps that used the Sea of Korea.

No.	Name of Maps (year of publication, publisher)	Designation
1	北槎聞略 附 亞細亞全圖(1794, 桂川甫周)	朝鮮海
2	日本邊界略圖(1809, 高橋景保)	朝鮮海
3	新訂萬國全圖 (1810, 高橋景保 筆寫)	朝鮮海
4	嘉永校訂東西地球萬國全圖(1835, 丁子屋平兵衛)	朝鮮海
5	新製輿地全圖(1844, 箕作省吾)	朝鮮海

6.	本邦西北邊界略圖(1850 安田雷州)	朝鮮海
7	地球萬國方圖(1853, 翠彭堂)	朝鮮海
8	環海航路新圖(1862, 廣瀨保庵)	朝鮮海
9	銅鑄大日本國細圖(上) 大日本總境略圖(1865, 玄玄堂)	朝鮮海
10	大日本朝鮮八道支那三國全圖(1882 武田勝次郎)	朝鮮海
11	萬國地球全圖 (미상)	朝鮮海
12	新刊地球全圖 并 各國船旗圖譜 (미상)	朝鮮海
13	新訂萬國全圖 (1930, 高橋景保 再刊行)	朝鮮海
14	大日本四神全圖(1870)	朝鮮海,大日本西海
15	地球萬國方圖(湯津香木金)1871	朝鮮海·大日本海
16	新撰萬國輿地精圖(1888)	朝鮮海 日本海
17	新撰萬國全圖(1894)	朝鮮海 日本海
18	嘉永校訂東西地球萬國全圖(1990, 岩田文庫)	朝鮮海

2) The name of the Sea of Korea in official documents of the Japanese government

Official documents of the Japanese government also used the Sea of Korea. In the late 19th century, official documents in Japan recorded how Japanese ships had operated in the Sea of Korea. The fact that these documents were from the Japanese government implies that Japan officially and publicly acknowledged the naming of the Sea of Korea. The following list contains those official documents in which the Japanese government named the Sea of Korea

- 1.雲揚丁卯兩艦朝鮮海へ同上 (一艦隊諸港廻航)
- 2.竜驤艦朝鮮海へ
- 3.春日艦外三艦各所へ同上 (竜驤艦朝鮮海へ廻航)
- 4.盤城艦朝鮮海へ廻航天城艦同所ヨリ帰航
- 5.雲揚艦外一艘対州朝鮮海路廻航ノ儀届
- 6.扶桑艦朝鮮海へ航行ノ件
- 7.扶桑艦朝鮮海工航行ノ義
- 8..扶桑艦朝鮮海へ航行

件名	雲揚丁卯兩艦朝鮮海へ同上（一艦隊諸港廻航）
階層	公文書 > * 内閣・総理府 > 太政官・内閣関係 > 第六類 太政類典 > 太政類典・第2編・明治4年～明治10年 > 太政類典・第二編・明治四年～明治十年・第二百二十二巻・兵制二十一・軍艦二
請求番号	本館-2A -009-00・太00444100
件名番号	052
作成部局	太政官
年月日	明治8年05月04日
関連事項	航海・稟告・海軍
マイクロフィルム	リール番号：005200、開始コマ：0771

件名	竜驤艦朝鮮海へ廻航
階層	公文書 > * 内閣・総理府 > 太政官・内閣関係 > 第六類 太政類典 > 太政類典・第2編・明治4年～明治10年 > 太政類典・第二編・明治四年～明治十年・第二百二十二巻・兵制二十一・軍艦二
請求番号	本館-2A -009-00・太00444100
件名番号	056
作成部局	太政官
年月日	明治9年03月25日
関連事項	航海・稟告・海軍
マイクロフィルム	リール番号：005200、開始コマ：0776

件名	春日艦外三艦各所へ同上（竜驤艦朝鮮海へ廻航）
階層	公文書 > * 内閣・総理府 > 太政官・内閣関係 > 第六類 太政類典 > 太政類典・第2編・明治4年～明治10年 > 太政類典・第二編・明治四年～明治十年・第二百二十二巻・兵制二十一・軍艦二
請求番号	本館-2A -009-00・太00444100
件名番号	057
作成部局	太政官
年月日	明治9年06月29日
関連事項	航海・稟告・海軍
マイクロフィルム	リール番号：005200、開始コマ：0778