

Korean and East Sea

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I . Introduction

Both Korea and Japan are situated at the Pacific coast and located closely. They had engaged in rice farming since 2000 years before and have same culture and come from same root.

Korea is a peninsula nation lain in the eastern Asian continent but Japan is an island nation composed of thousands islands.

So, continental culture was introduced into Korea in a very natural way and advanced culture, on the other hand, Japan should accept advanced culture from the Continent because of geographical condition that Japan is the island.

This opposite situation brought about inseparable relations of Korea and Japan's culture and history.

Before the 2002 Korea-Japan World Cup, Japanese Asahi TV asked for an interview with me broadcasting special issue about 'East Sea' and broadcasted it at the 8 o'clock news the whole country.

This result in a issue of naming of 'East Sea' to Japanese.

In this program, Japanese reporter asked three Koreans and three Japanese a sea name between Korea and Japan.

In results, all Koreans answered 'East Sea' and all Japanese answered 'Japan Sea'.

Two nations recognized a same sea differently.

There is no sea having different recognitions in a whole world but 'East Sea'.

The EastSea Forum researched a naming of 'East Sea' to Korean students in 1997.

After the research, I researched same question of recognitions of 'East Sea' naming.

In conclusion, there is no change of appreciation about 'East Sea' naming but there is a change for solution of 'East Sea' naming dispute.

II. Sea Naming and East Sea

1. The importance of East Sea naming

There is a wide gap between the viewpoints of the Korea and Japan regarding naming of East Sea-Japan Sea.

Japan ignores Korea's claim judging reactions to Korea's action against the naming of the Sea of Japan which is internationally used could stand out into relief the Korea's opinion. On the other hand, Korea questions the naming of the Sea of Japan based on the historical evidences- mainly old maps- that indicate the sea as East Sea.

Consequently, one side seems to be trying to protect the naming which is internationally known and the other side seems to be trying to inform unreasonable naming of Japan Sea in and outside.

Two countries presented different materials but they take a same way about showing their evidences. That is, they rationalize presenting olds maps.

Japan allows the claims that there are East Sea naming more than Japan Sea until 19century but they clam there are names of Japan Sea more than East Sea from 20th century to 21th century.

However neither Korea nor Japan discussed why the sea had the name, why its name was changed and how we accept the meaning of sea naming. Recently, these problems become hot issues.

2. The Origins of East Sea naming

The sea was originally 'East Sea' or 'Sea of Korea'. To Korean, it was East Sea because it was in the east and the east side of it was 'the pacific ocean'. Historically, from the 17th century to the mid 19th century, many countries named the sea as 'East Sea' or 'Sea of Korea'.

Therefore, 'East Sea' or 'Sea of Korea' was a commonly used not only in Korea but also in foreign countries.

'A Complete Map of Asia' drawn by Katsurakawa of Japan in 1794, 'A World Map' by Takahashi in 1810, and 'A New World Map' by Kisaku in 1847 indicate the sea as 'The Sea of Korea(Sea of Chosun)'.

The East Sea/ Sea of Korea was commonly used from the 16th century to the mid 19th century. One of the main reasons for naming of the Sea of Japan is seemed that Korea excluded foreign country until the late

19th century comparing Japan opened ports early.

There are some rules in international sea naming except several things. One of them is to call the sea name by the country which is located west of the sea. The Yellow Sea is indicated as 'Yellow Sea' internationally because Yellow River flow into it. The sea in the east of Okhotsk City in Russia is called the Sea of Okhotsk, the sea in the west of Okinawa and east of china is called the East China Sea, the sea in the west of the Philippines and south of China is called the South China Sea and the sea in the east of Timor is called the Sea of Timor. The sea in the east of Tasmania located in the Southern Australia and situated between Australia and New Zealand is called the Tasmanian Sea, the sea in the east of the Arabian peninsula is the Arabian Sea, the sea in the east of Mexico is called the Mexico Bay, the sea in the east of the Labrador peninsula of Canada is the Sea of Labrador, the sea in the east of Mozambique of Africa is called the Sea of Mozambique, and the sea in the east of Andaman is called the Sea of Andaman.

3. The East Sea and Old Map

According to Prof. Lee chan, P'aldo Ch'ong-do which was added in "Shinjŭng Tongguk yŏji Sŭngnam" is the oldest Korean map with the East Sea.

The first manual of "Tongguk yŏji Sŭngnam" was completed by Seo Go-jugg in 12th years of King Sungjong's reign in 1481 and it was added to the first manual. However, "The New Tongguk yŏji Sŭngnam" which had been handed down has mostly been revived since Japanese invasion of Korea in 1592.

'P'aldochangdo' mainly shows the names of mountains, rivers, and seas and it contains East, South, and West Sea name.

It is assumed that the name of the sea has been written down in the sea since the western map was introduced and translated into Chinese characters. Jibong Yousul shows the fact that "Konyŏ Mangguk Chŏndo", a book printed from wood blocks by Matteo Ricci at Peking in 1602, was introduced to Korea by Lee Kwang-hee and Kwon Hoe in the next year, 1603. It is presumed that it was Matteo Ricci`s "Konyŏ Mangguk Chŏndo" even though it was called Kurapayŏ-chido in Jibong You Sul. The map brought by Lee Kwang-hee and Kwon Hoe does not exist any more.

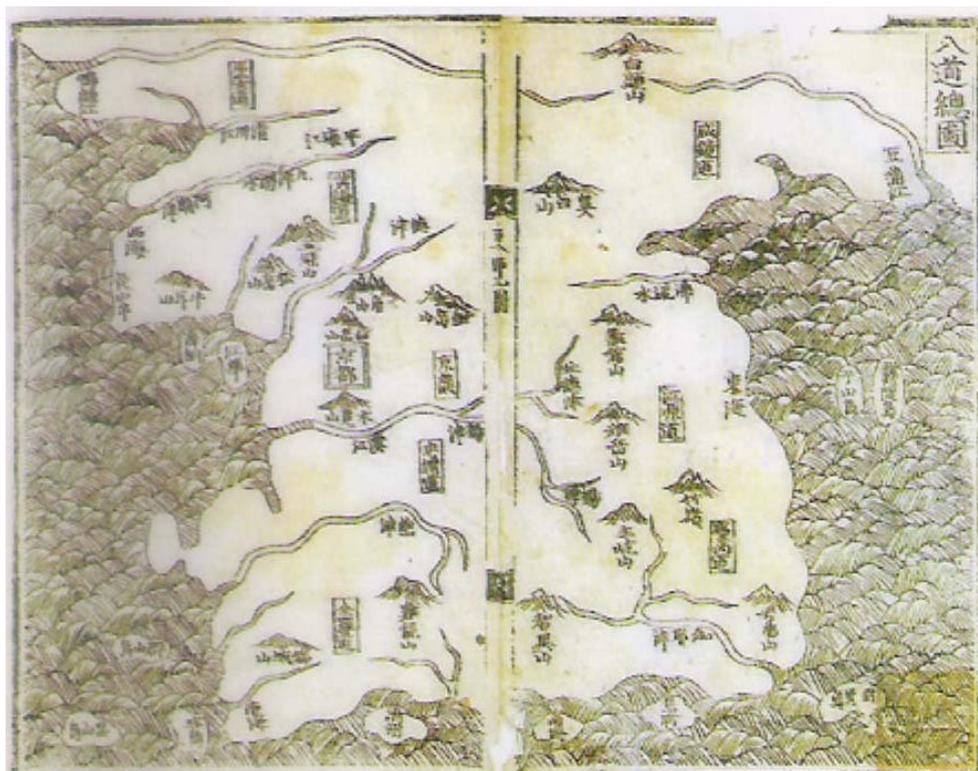


Figure 1. P'aldo Ch'ong-do(1530)



Figure 2. Sihai Hua Yi Zingtu (General Map of, Chinese and Foreign Territory within the Four Seas)-Zang Huang comp., Tushu bian (1613), Harvard University, Cambridge

Mangguk chōndo was in "Jikbang oeki" (1623) written by Giulio Aleni (1592-1649). Although it is unknown when it was introduced to Korea, Mangguk chōndo, which was copied in the 1770s, has been called Chōha

Do-chido, collected at Kyujanggak in Seoul National University. It is the copy of the world map of Giulio Aleni though it shows differences in the name of the map and the geographical designation. The original map of Giulio Aleni does not show anything about East sea and West sea. However, the map collected at Kyujanggak contains the East Sea named Little East Sea and the West Sea named Little West Sea. The procedure of copying the map often includes the correction or supplementation of the original.

Therefore, the East sea and the West sea seemed to be supplemented in the copy of Giulio Aleni since the original did not have. The little East sea as the East sea is understood in the sense that the East sea is relatively small. Also, it follows the certain rule of geographical designation such as little orient and great orient.

Söbuk Gyedo(18th centry)is the example of the map with the careful indication of seas around Korean peninsula.

It is 135 centimeter in width and 140 centimeter in length, collected at Kyujanggak of Seoul National University. As the name of the map infers, it is the map emphasizing on the boundaries including Peking, north China province with Shandong peninsula, and ManJoo province which are in the north west of Korea peninsula. It also shows the details of the northern area of Korea peninsula. There is no record when this map was made at all. Yet it is presumed that the map was created before 1776 due to a stone monument built at mountain, Mount Paektu in the 38th year of King Sook Jong`s reign, 1712, which implies that the map was drawn after 1712, and Lee San, which was changed to Cho San in the year of King Jung Jo`s accession, 1776. The map named the East Sea and HwangHae.

"Aguk Chöndo" is assumed to be created twenty years after Söbuk Gyedo(18th centry). The conjecture that it was drawn in between 1787 and 1799 is supported by Jang Jin, newly located after 11 years of Jungjo`s reign in 1787 and Lee Sung renamed Lee Won in 1800. This map put down the east, west and south sea in the right places. The map of Chosun, Japan and Yuguguk in YöJido-chup such as "Aguk Chöndo" also has the same geographical designation about the seas around Korean peninsula. Map of Taehan Cheguk(1908) edited by Hyun Kong-yeum, introduced the new indication instead of the East Sea. That is Korea sea for the East sea and hwang hae for the West sea.

Hyun Kong-yeum was the publisher as well as the editor of this map. Hyun Kong-yeum has been considered to edit and publish Map of Taehan

Cheguk after he returned from studying in Japan. He must have used the informations he got in Japan for Map of Taehan Cheguk and have gained a similar map while he was studying. Especially, the description of Yodong Peninsula proves the source of the map was Japanese.

Hyun Kong-yeum published Sinjungbundodaihanjekookjido for Geography teachers and students. This is a ten page geography book containing the map of Asia and Korea. He also published New Chosŏn Paldo in 1911, which was the colony period, under the permission of the government-general. It shows new designations such as Sea of Japan for Sea of Korea and Strait of Chosŏn for Strait of Korea. Simply, it is the evidence of a change from Sea of Korea to Sea of Japan.

III. History of East Sea

1. The world map with the naming of East sea.

The history of naming the East sea should be understood in the sense of the European extension of view towards the world through the discovery and exploration.

The name for the East Sea has been changed from the imaginary sea to great ocean and to small coast. The indications with country`s name such as Sea of Korea are often shown for the East Sea in maps from the early 1600s till the last moment of the discovery of Korea by the Western. Most of them exclusively mentioned Sea of Korea.

According to the international customs, geographical designation should be considered based on history and tradition. Therefore, it is necessary to take a look at the ancient maps and hydrographic charts. The followings are the designations for the East sea in significant ancient maps among sources provided by the Westerners;

- MAR CORIA in the map of Asia by Manoel Godinho in 1615
- MAR DI CORAI in the map of the East Asia by Sir Robert Dudley in 1647
- Ocean Oriental in the map of Philippe Briet in 1650
- MAR DE COREER in the map of Japanese Islands by Jean Baptiste Traemier in 1679
- East Sea or MER ORIENTALE OU MER DE COREE in the map of

- India-China by Guillaum de L'Isle, French geographer in 1705
- Sea of Korea in the map of the east Asia by John Green in 1747
- MAR DI COREA in the map of Asian countries created with new methods by prof. Antonio Chata supported by the senate of Venice, Italy in 1777
- SEA OF CO-REA in China part of British encyclopedia in 1778
- Sea of Korea in the map of Russia by Bowen, Russian in 1780
- MER DE COREE in the map of Asia dealing with regions and countries, collected in Spain national library at Madrid in 1785
- COREAN SEA in Asian islands and regions created in London, England in 1794
- MER DE COREE in the map of Asia by DeJorsh, French geographer in 1800
- MER DE COREE with the large letter or MER DU JAPON with the small letter in the map of Asia by DeJorsh, French geographer in 1805

The designation of the Sea of Japan is usually shown in the maps based on Oriental maps brought after Matteo Ricci. It is analyzed that Sea of Japan was replaced as the significance of Japan has been recognized since the middle 19th century.

Therefore, before the early 19th century, Sea of Korea was the common designation in the world map. However, after that, Sea of Japan appeared and since the War between Russia and Japan in 1904 and annexation of Korea and Japan in 1910, it has become the common name.

2. Historical Record on the Designation for East Sea

According to the historical record, East sea has appeared in Korean maps since BC. 37. The East Sea has been used for the East sea eight times through "Samgook Sagi" and "Samkooksa Jolyo". They are BC. 37, 256, 416, 639, and July and September 699 of the lunar calendar. Since then, even China has mainly called the sea the East Sea and Japan has named it the North Sea.

The East sea has appeared in the ancient records earlier than in the ancient maps. According to "Samgook Sagi", King Moonmoo(30th King of Silla) drew his will that his funeral should be hold at the big stone at the entrance of the East sea. "Samgook Sagi" also has the record that in the

period of King Hyoso, the fighting sound was heard from the East sea.

"Haedong Jaegookgi" by Shinsookjoo is the good example mentioning indirectly the East sea between Korean peninsula and Japanese Islands. The preface of "Haedong Jaegookgi" includes the followings: "Japan is the oldest and biggest among countries adjacent to the East Sea. The land from the north of BlackDragon river to the south of cheju and adjacent to Yugu.."

Shinsookjoo, the author of "Haedong Jaegookgi", shows his knowledge in the above that Japan is located at the south east of the East sea like a break-water. Therefore, it proves the recognition of the East sea as the mediterranean sea. However, the East Sea found in "Haedong Jaegookgi" is understood as the extended area of the present East sea.

There are also the ancient maps with no designation on the East sea or Sea of Japan and with Sea of Korea or oriental sea. Therefore, the principle and reason of designation of the East sea-sea of Japan should be studied for the extensive understandings on this problems.

IV. Analysis of the recognition of East Sea naming: Recognition Analysis in 1997

The East Sea Forum's results of questionnaires in October 1997 by 553 college students showed the following.

First, on the question of what you think the name of the sea in the east of Korea, 91.5% replied East sea, the Sea of Korea (4.6%), the East Korea Sea (2.0%), the Sea of Japan (1.5%), and do not know (0.4%). This shows that most of college students recognize it as East Sea.

Second, on the question of what you think the name of the sea in the west of Korea, 64% replied the west sea, 31.9% said the yellow sea, 3.2% the West Korea Sea, 0.5% the east china sea, and 0.4% do not know.

It seems to be influenced by mass media including news programs often reporting it as the west sea.

Third, on the question of what if the name of the Sea of Korea is called outside the country by a name different from the one in Korea. 96.5% replied should try to correct it and 3.5% said leave it as it is because it has been used that way. Most of college students showed their support to correcting it.

Fourth, on the question of what you think is the more proper name for the sea in the east of Korea, 40.8% said East sea, 31.8% the East Korea Sea, 24% the Sea of Korea, 3.0% others, and 0.3% the Sea of Japan Upon analysis of the results, the East Korea Sea and the Sea of Korea account for 55.8% even though the opinion in support for East sea accounts for the most part. So, it shows that it is essential to establish a national consensus just like the issue of the west sea naming. It seems to have been influenced by the fact that the same sea is indicated as the Sea of Japan.

Fifth, on the question of whether Korea is a continental nation or a maritime one, 50.6% said a continental one, 39.0% said a maritime one, and 10.4% said do not know. Out of those who said do not know, 2.0% replied a peninsula country independently.

This seems to be so because Korea has been employing both continent-oriented policy and maritime-oriented policy according to the changes of the times.

The issues studied in this recognition analysis are expected to help establish the policy regarding East Sea naming in the future.

V. The research on recognitions of 'East Sea' in 2009

The research of Korean recognitions of naming 'East Sea' is showed that there is not particular difference.

This paper surveyed national consensus of our sea name to 313 university students on April and August, 2009 by EastSea Forum. The results is following.

First, the survey what the sea name is at the East of country reported 93.6% of students answered 'East Sea'. 'Sea of Korea' was 5.1% and 'East Korea Sea' was 1.0% and 'Japan Sea' was 0 percent and 'I have no idea' was 0.3%. So, it showed that most students appreciate the sea as 'East Sea'.

Second, the research what the sea name is at the west of country revealed 70.5% of students answered 'west sea'. 'yellow sea' was 27.6% and 'West Korea Sea' was 1.6% and 'East China Sea' was 0 % and 'I have no idea' was 0.3%.

It seems to be influenced by mass media including news programs often reporting it as the West Sea, for example, 'Western Sea 5 islands'

Third, on the question of what if the name of a Korean sea is called

outside the country by a name different from the one in Korea. 98.4% replied should try to correct it and 1.6% said leave it as it is because it has been used that way. Most of university students showed their support to correcting it.

Fourth, on the question of what you think is the more proper name for the sea in the East of Korea, 73.5% said 'East sea', 12.9% said 'East Korea Sea', 11.3% said 'Sea of Korea', 2.3% were others. According to the analysis of the results, the opinion in support for East Sea accounts for the most part but the East Korea Sea and the Sea of Korea account for 24.2% also. Therefore, it shows that it is essential to establish a national consensus just like the issue of the west sea naming. Especially, this research was remarkable because 'East Korea Sea' was more increased than 'Sea of Korea' in last research.

It seems to have been influenced by the fact that the same sea is indicated as the Sea of Japan in Japan. In North Korea, 'East Sea' is named as 'East Chosun Sea'.

Fifth, on the question of whether Korea is a continental nation or a maritime one, 62.9% said a continental one, 26.3% said a maritime one, and 10.8% said do not know. Out of those who said do not know, 3.1% replied a peninsula country. This question recovered that Korean recognition changes from maritime country to continental one.

The results was shown that people interested in China because of last 'Northeastern Project' and on the other hand economic interchanges increase with China.

Accordingly, this seems to be so because Korea has been employing both continent-oriented policy and maritime-oriented policy according to the changes of the times.

This results of the analysis revealed our nations cognizance had slowly changed for 12 years.

The issues studied in this recognition analysis are expected to help establish the policy regarding East Sea naming in the future.

VI. Conclusion

It is necessary to announce abroad aggressively for global fixation of 'East Sea' naming. It is very important because it could internationally standardize sea name between 'East Sea' and 'Japan Sea'.

Why is the same sea called differently, 'East Sea' for Korean and 'Japan Sea' for Japanese? The reason would relate history of two country.

First, difference of recognition about sea seemed to be a reason. 'North Sea' have a similar situation with 'East Sea' but it is named 'North Sea', which has no dispute because it has unified consensus. However, these European nations had understood and covered well through middle age and they had made an exchange with other countries frequently on the seas. So, they could appreciate seas which they shared as public seas.

Second, Korea opened their ports after 1876 through middle age. Japan also opened in 1858. Korea's ports were opened by Japan and Japanese ports were opened by United State of America.

For thousands years, Korea and Japan had no exchange and they thought seas only in their point of view. So, they thought there is no sea but 'East Sea' for Korea and 'Japan Sea' for Japan.

In addition, the research of recognition about 'East Sea' was uncovered that there is not big difference comparing with research of 12 years before but there is a change about solutions little by little.

First, on the question of what you think the name of the sea in the east of Korea, 93.6% recognized 'East Sea'.

Second, on the question of what you think the name of the sea in the west of Korea, 70.5% replied the west sea and this is more than 'yellow sea' of 27.6%. It seems to be influenced by mass media including news programs reporting it as the West Sea, like 'Western Sea 5 islands'.

Third, on the question of what if the name of a Korean sea is called outside the country by a name different from the one in Korea. 98.4% replied should try to correct it and it was absolutely the most.

Fourth, on the question of what you think is the more proper name for the sea in the east of Korea, 73.5% said 'East Sea', 12.9% said the 'East Korea Sea', 11.3% said the 'Sea of Korea' and 2.3% were the others. According to the analysis of the results, the opinion in support for East Sea accounts for the most part but the East Korea Sea and the Sea of Korea. Specially, this research was remarkable because 'East Korea Sea' was more increased than 'Korea Sea' in last research.

This results show that there are new changes in naming of sea in Korea.

Fifth, on the question of whether Korea is a continental nation or a maritime one, 62.9% said a continental one and 26.3% said a maritime one. This question was interesting and recovered that Korean recognition

changes from maritime country to continental one.

The results was shown that people interested in China because of last 'Northeastern Project' and economic interchanges increase with China. Also, this seems to be so because Korea has been employing both continent-oriented policy and maritime-oriented policy according to the changes of the times.

This results of the analysis revealed our nations cognizance had slowly changed for 12 years. In the 21st century, 'the planet is one' message becomes a topic.

The planet is one whether 'East Sea' or 'Japan Sea'. That is to say, it belongs to sea of humankind.

In this study, the analysis is expected to help to frame policies of naming 'East Sea'.

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