

Discussion

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The essays in this section together more than anything reveal the importance of understanding the naming issue in global context.

The “*East Sea*” provides an excellent opportunity for geography educators to encourage students to consider the practice of naming broadly speaking, as Professor Stoltman’s paper elucidates. As Professor Johnson’s paper further explains, these debates are never far from immediate political concerns - regardless of how distant the histories involved.

Dr. Choi Yearn Hong makes very clear that these concerns now are part of identity claims around the world, detailing the efforts of the broader community of Korean-Americans in making the naming issue a matter of local and regional politics in the United States. This is natural, as Ambassador Atoui’s paper brings into relief through the example of colonial naming practices in French occupied Algeria and the blowback that ensued once Algeria regained its national status.

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