

## Discussion

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Under the title of this session: Historical traces remaining in names, we can already recognize what to discuss and how to set the direction of this discussion. It also shows us the importance of Naming even in an academic seminar not only in terms of Toponyms.

Professor Peter Jordan has given us an explanation about Austrian federal province of Carinthia, which has a symbolic meaning in terms of toponymic conflict, as it has experienced a long history of conflicts between Slavonic and Bavarian, Germany and Italy, Yugoslavia and Austria.

Meanwhile, Professor Daniela Schmeinck, from University of Köln, has properly pointed out that children get naturally accustomed to the onomastic geographic names of surrounding buildings, even before they learn those names in the school through their routine experiences. And these accustomed names remain in the level of subconscious. I think this is the most important point.

Ms. Amy Perkins, a teacher from Lakeshore Public School, has explained us that history and geography classes in the school can lead the students to get understandings about the historical developments of an area by means of the place names of that area and this explanation let us know how Toponyms are directly related to peoples daily lives.

Professor Jaejeong Chung, from the University of Seoul, has pointed out a historical fact that during the Japanese Imperialism almost half of the village names in Seoul were converted into the Japanese style names. This provokes us further thoughts as in 1929 Imperialist Japanese has converted *East Sea* into *Sea of Japan* through IHO(International Hydrographic Organization) and this operation can be thought of as something with the same kind of imperialistic intention.

It is such a natural course of action for a independent sovereign state to restore their original toponyms which were abandoned during the Imperialistic period. And the validity of those names should also be well recognized by the international society.

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In case of *East Sea* the area is surrounded by 4 nations: Russia, Japan, South Korea and North Korea, which makes inappropriate to name it as *Sea of Japan*, picking up the name of a certain nation. In principle in the field of Toponymy, the sea or the area shall be named after the way the actual residents there have called the area. And if a conclusion among the adjacent nations is not to be made, then both of or all of the toponyms used by the involved nations shall be all written down.

As a journalist I would rather call myself as an amateur when compared to other professionals here geographers, historians, former and current diplomats. So I will try to deliver the viewpoints of the public, toward the toponymic conflicts.

Even though toponymic and territorial conflicts are always accompanied with the sensitive national interest issues, it should have their basis on the common sense or humanism. To deprive the names by means of those inhumane methods such as Imperialistic ruling, wars, and forceful annexation and then still to insist their rights on those names, it cannot be accepted by the adjacent nations. It is reasonable to acknowledge all of the toponyms as established in each nation and state all of them side by side.