

# Confucianism in Korea



# Confucianism Comes to Korea



Confucianism entered Korea around the same time as Buddhism (4<sup>th</sup> century). Korea was divided into three kingdoms (see map). Koguryo King Sosurim created a Confucian university in 372 C.E.



# Neo-Confucianism Flourishes During Joseon (Choson) Dynasty (1392 – 1910 C.E.)





Among all the dynasties, Chinese and foreign, the long-lived Joseon was undoubtedly the most thoroughly Confucianized. The Confucian aristocrats (Yangban) ruled the court politics with an elite culture of Neo-Confucianism. (Encyclopedia Britannica)



# Gyeongbok Palace



Constructed in 1394 in the Joseon Dynasty (Seoul, South Korea). Home of the king or “Ruler” who, according to Confucius, had an obligation to take care of his subjects. If he was a virtuous ruler, his subjects would be loyal and obedient.







# The Mandate of Heaven in Korea



Truly the Chinese Emperor had the Mandate of Heaven and Korea's king would be a tributary state.





# Confucian Hierarchy – Positions of importance lined up for the King





正七品  
正八品



五七品

STAY ON THE PATH  
KEEP OFF THE GRASS

五八品

# Changdeok Palace



Built in 1405 during the Joseon Dynasty in Seoul, South Korea.





# Mandate of Heaven



# Ruler and Subject



從三品





# Yangdong Confucian Village



The village is home to many historical figures including Eon-jeok Lee (1491-1553), a noted Confucian scholar of the Joseon Dynasty. It is home to descendents of the Yangban (Scholarly officials – an aristocratic title)







# Meeting with the lineage heir



Part of the Five College Center for East Asian Studies Study Tour to South Korea 2009. Professor Mark Peterson of Brigham Young University translated for the lineage heir and lectured.

# Dosan Seowon Confucian Academy



Built in 1561 by Yi Hwang, one of the great Korean Neo Confucian scholars.







Informational sign with text in Korean, partially obscured by a shadow.

Small stone marker with vertical text in Korean.







# Sisdan Stele



The original was moved here due to the construction of the Andong Dam. Confucian civil service exams were held at this place.

# The Main Lecture Hall



# Student dorm rooms





明室

齊莊

# Oksan Seowon



Established in 1572. Located in Gyeongju, South Korea.

Holds a wooden blocks copy of the **Samguk Sagi** (*History of the Three Kingdoms*)











# The Ritual of Tea





The Tea Ceremony requires following many Confucian-like rules and a ritual that takes a great deal of time and preparation.



# Students in Korea Today



# Goyang Foreign Language School (Private) in South Korea





10-12  
2월 5일  
목요일  
14:00  
14:30  
15:00  
15:30  
16:00  
16:30  
17:00





From 7 A.M. – 7 P.M. From school to private academy.



# Yongin High School in South Korea







Many South Korean students go to academies like this on after school is over to learn English (and more)



# Yonsei University





# His Legacy Lives On... Confucius's Birthday Ceremony in South Korea





# Daegu Hyanggyo Confucian Temple in South Korea

