

Note from the Editor

As Korean studies continues to grow as a field, so does the number and diversity of academic positions across institutions and national borders. In keeping with these changes, *Seoul Journal of Korean Studies* looks for new and developing trends, regardless of subfield, periodization, or region. Admittedly, North American institutions continue to drive many of these concerns, as is the case in this issue combining three regular and three special articles. The special section is the first of a two-part series. Part two, which will consist of four articles and appear in June 2026, will continue to focus on Korean religion but particularly the diverse forms of Catholicism practiced on the peninsula. Like previous special issues, the intent is to drive a set of questions or themes drawing the articles together. As the editors of the special issue Franklin Rausch and Jieun Han provide an introduction, it is not necessary to say much more here, except to thank Professors Franklin Rausch and Jieun Han for seeking out *SJKS* last year to begin the publication process.

As for the regular articles, there is no specific theme, consistent with the journal's objective of drawing submissions across time periods and areas of focus. Konkuk University's Hye Min Yun gives us "From Site of Tragedy to Commemorative Space: King Jeongjo's Reorganization of Palace Space and the Reconfiguration of Crown Prince Sado's Memory," which examines the legacy of King Jeongjo in light of the refashioning of his image through the transformation of the royal palace site by his son, Prince Sado. Next, Suyoung Son of Cornell University takes us to the twentieth century with "Cookbooks and the Making of Women's Authorship in the 1933 Copyright Case." Regarding this famous case, which holds implications for the publishing industry in a broad sense, Son focuses on the gendered position of the author, and the right to assert one's claim to authorship.

This piece follows Son's first book published by Harvard University Press in 2018, *Writing for Print: Publishing and the Making of Textual Authority in Late Imperial China*, and anticipates her forthcoming work. As an expert on

Qing print culture with an interest in Joseon Korea, Son is working on an edited volume with Sinae Park of Harvard University, *The Material Book in Korea, the Fifteenth Through the Early Twentieth Century*. This renewed interest in the production, materiality, and dissemination of physical texts in Joseon Korea and Qing China promises new insights. A corresponding emphasis on materiality, including print technology, can be found in the field of the history of Korean literature, as documented in the work of scholars such as Graeme Reynolds. In the case of Reynolds, his recent article “Facsimiles of Yore: Printing Technology and the Page Image in the Japanese Government General of Korea’s Reproduction of Historical Sources” is representative of these emerging trends.

The third article is by Felipe Dall’Ava of University of Macau. Titled “Hallyu Sociolinguistic Repercussions in Brazil: The Language Uses of Brazilian Virtual Communities through K-Drama Online Groups,” it looks at the reception of K-wave culture through the lens of a linguistic subgroup. Partly historical and partly linguistic in its conception, the piece details the unique descriptors used by fans to note their interest, with a different language and different sets of emojis emerging in the process. Dall’Ava’s piece is representative of an increasing number of submissions to the journal outside the mainstream (i.e., the United States and Western Europe). Here, as represented by South America (and Southeast Asia via affiliation), new scholars and authors adopt a position which offers a new perspective on the growing popularity of Korean culture, broadly construed.

Finally, the December 2025 issue of *SJKS* includes a review essay, a double book review of two recent works on the Mongol world, by Kang Hahn Lee of Academy of Korean Studies. As with the content of this issue, the essay captures the increasingly eclectic nature of the field.

John P. DiMoia
Editor-in-chief