



## World Forum on Unification Humanities 2025

### “Intellectual Values and Coexistence for a Peaceful Korean Community”

**Date:** 21<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2025 (Friday – Saturday)

**Location:** The University of Queensland, Australia (Gordon Greenwood, Building 32)

**Host:** Korean Studies Centre, School of Languages and Cultures,  
University of Queensland, Australia  
Korea Language Department, Ocean University of China  
Unification Humanities Research Group, Konkuk University, South Korea  
Korea Research Center, Ritsumeikan University, Japan

#### **Purpose:**

This year marks the 80th anniversary of Korea’s liberation. However, the shadow of the Cold War looms even darker over the Korean Peninsula and Northeast Asia. Furthermore, with Trump's election in the recent U.S. presidential election, the world is facing increasingly unpredictable situations. In Northeast Asia, tensions continue to escalate along adversarial lines, with the U.S.-Japan alliance strengthening against the North Korea-Russia alliance. This conflict is structured around China’s cross-strait relations and the division of the Korean Peninsula, forming a Cold War-style triangular confrontation between North Korea-China-Russia and South Korea-U.S.-Japan.

However, considering the historical fluctuations of conflict and reconciliation on the Korean Peninsula, dialogue on the differences in values, emotions, and cultures between the North and South must continue, and communication should not cease. Cease of communication would lead to a fatalistic pessimism that assumes the current situation will remain unchanged indefinitely. Thus, the 2025 World Forum on Unification Humanities, in collaboration with the Korean Studies Centre, School of Languages and Cultures at the University of Queensland, Australia, seeks to explore a fresh perspective under the theme "Intellectual Values and Coexistence for a Peaceful Korean Community."

This conference aims to broaden mutual understanding through comparative studies of North and South Korean textbooks, as well as to examine the struggles of intellectuals who sought to overcome the tragic realities of colonialism and division affecting Korea and the Korean diaspora. By doing so, we hope to find light amid today’s darkness. Furthermore, alongside textbook analysis, we aim to create a space for sharing intellectual thoughts from China, Japan, and other regions, fostering friendships and deepening mutual understanding.

World Forum on Unification Humanities 2025		
“Intellectual Values and Coexistence for a Peaceful Korean Community”		
Moderator: Eun joo Jeon (Unification Humanities Research Group, Konkuk University)		
Opening Session		
9:00 – 9:15	Opening Remarks	Chi man Song (Director, Institute of Humanities & Unification Humanities Research Group, Konkuk University)
	Welcoming Speech	Dong bae Lee (Director, Korean Studies Centre, School of Languages and Cultures, University of Queensland, Australia)
	Congratulatory Speech	Hae young Lee (Director, Korean Studies Research Institute, Ocean University of China)
		Makoto Katsumura (Director, Korea Research Center, Ritsumeikan University, Japan)
Session 1: Overcoming Colonialism and Division – Intellectual Perspectives on Peace		
Chair: Young kyun Park (Unification Humanities Research Group, Konkuk University)		
9:15 – 9:40	Analysing Rhee Young-hee’s Perspectives on U.S.-China Relations and Inter-Korean Relations	Ji in Do (Unification Humanities Research Group, Konkuk University)
9:40 – 10:05	Kang Man-gil’s Historical Perception of the Era of Division and His Theory on the United Front Movement	Jin ah Jung (Unification Humanities Research Group, Konkuk University)
10:05 – 10:30	Choi Seung-hee Seen Through the Basics of Korean Dance	Young sun Jeon (Unification Humanities Research Group, Konkuk University)
10:30 – 10:55	'Resist America, Aid Korea' (抗美援朝) and the National Integration of Ethnic Koreans in China – A Study based on the 1951 Publication of [Yanbian Literature and Art]	Hae young Lee (Korean Studies Research Institute, Ocean University of China)
10:55 – 11:55	Panel Discussion and Q&A	
11:55 – 12:55	LUNCH BREAK	

**Note: Session 2 & 3 will be conducted at the same time in different locations.**

**Session 2: Differences in Value and Emotion and Communication Possibilities  
Through Analysis of South and North Korean Textbooks**

Chair: Min cheol Park  
(Unification Humanities Research Group, Konkuk University)

[Presented in Korean] / Room 215

12:55 – 13:20	The Interpretation and Value of 'Han' and 'Humor' in North and South Korean Literary Histories	Jong gun Kim (Unification Humanities Research Group, Konkuk University)
13:20 – 13:45	Classical Literature in the Korean Language Textbooks of Ethnic Koreans in China and National Character Development	Myung geol Lim (Korean Studies Research Institute, Ocean University of China)
13:45 – 14:10	Ethnic and Class Discourse in North and South Korean Literary History	Jong gun Kim (Unification Humanities Research Group, Konkuk University)
14:10 – 14:35	A Critical Analysis of North Korean Language Textbooks	Dong bae Lee (Korean Studies Centre, University of Queensland, Australia)
14:35 – 14:50	<b>BREAK</b>	
14:50 – 15:15	Emotional Expression of 'Good/Evil' and the Issue of Morality in North and South Korean Literary Textbooks	Jae in Park (Unification Humanities Research Group, Konkuk University)
15:15 – 15:40	Literary Works in Chinese High School Korean Language Textbooks and the Development of National Character	Chu rak Lim (Korean Studies Department, Ocean University of China)
15:40 – 16:10	Panel Discussion and Q&A	

**Session 3: Value and Emotional Differences Through the Analysis of Textbooks  
from Various Countries and Communication Possibilities**

Chair: Nara Lee  
(School of Languages and Cultures, University of Queensland, Australia)

[Presented in English] / Room 211

12:55 – 13:20	Critical Discourse Analysis of North Korean English Textbooks	Haegyeong Hong (School of Languages and Cultures, University of Queensland, Australia)
13:20 – 13:45	The Power of Poetry: Translation and Anti-Imperialism in Colonial Korea and the Diaspora	Hiroaki Matsusaka (Faculty of International Relations, Ritsumeikan University, Japan)

13:45 – 14:10	Cultural Representations in Korean Language Textbooks for Secondary Schools in Thailand	Ki Young Choi (School of Languages and Cultures, University of Queensland, Australia)
14:10 – 14:35	Labor and National Ideology in Japanese Language Textbooks during the Japanese Colonial Period	Haisuk Kim (School of Languages and Cultures, University of Queensland, Australia)
14:35 – 14:50	<b>BREAK</b>	
14:50 – 15:15	Environmental Education and Ideology in Ethnic Korean Textbooks in China	Dabin Kang (School of Languages and Cultures, University of Queensland, Australia)
15:15 – 15:40	Chinese Nationalism in Chinese Korean Language Textbooks	Qunyi Wang (School of Languages and Cultures, University of Queensland, Australia)
15:40 – 16:10	Panel Discussion and Q&A	
16:10 – 16:40	<b>BREAK</b>	
16:40 – 18:00	Roundtable Discussion: 80 Years of Liberation – Finding the Path to Communication and Peace Between North and South Korea  <b>Discussants:</b> <b>Chi man Song</b> (Director, Institute of Humanities & Unification Humanities Research Group, Konkuk University) <b>Dong bae Lee</b> (Director, Korean Studies Centre, School of Languages and Cultures, University of Queensland, Australia) <b>Hae young Lee</b> (Director, Korean Studies Research Institute, Ocean University of China) <b>Makoto Katsumura</b> (Director, Korea Research Center, Ritsumeikan University, Japan)	
18:00	<b>Closing (Dinner)</b>	

Schedule (22<sup>nd</sup> February 2025 – Saturday) / Room 211

<b>Postgraduate Academic Conference</b> Moderator: Woo Moon-myeong (Department of Unification Humanities, Konkuk University)		
10:00 – 10:05	<b>Opening Remarks</b>	Gi yeon Kim (President of the Graduate Student Association, Department of Unification Humanities, Konkuk University)
	<b>Welcoming Speech</b>	Ki Young Choi (School of Languages and Cultures, University of Queensland, Australia)
10:05 – 10:30	A Study on the Political Participation Behaviour of North Korean Defectors as a Minority Group	Gyeong il Cho (Department of Unification Humanities, Konkuk University)
10:30 – 10:55	A Critical Analysis of Korean Language Textbooks Used in Thai Universities	Ki Young Choi (School of Languages and Cultures, University of Queensland, Australia)
10:55 – 11:20	Panel Discussion and Q&A Chair: Woo ja Kim (Korea Research Center, Ritsumeikan University, Japan)	