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KOREAN STUDIES IN RUSSIA
(1677—1930)

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1. Preface

Russians were not the first westerners who paid attention to Korea, but they were the only westerners to become neighbours of Korea, in 1860. From 1863 or 1864 Koreans began to move to the new Russian territories in the Far East. Accordingly, Russian interest towards Korea and Koreans arose.

In the 1860s, there were already articles dealing with Korea in Russian newspapers and periodicals published in St. Petersburg. Moreover, in the last years of the 19th century, many Russians visited Korea and wrote about their impressions in various journals. It became quite natural that Russians began to teach the Korean language in several cities and published many books on Korea.¹

The purpose of this study is to collect all the Korean studies in Russia together; to give a picture of the development of the Korean studies according to place and time; to describe the cultural activities of Korean immigrants in Russia; and to survey briefly the mutual influences of the Korean and Russian languages.

The present study is limited to covering the period from 1677, when the first description of Korea can be found, to around 1930. Up to this time, Korean studies were not divided into specific fields of research, but the country was treated as a whole.

1 General works on Korean studies in Russia include: *Vklad russkix učennyx v issledovanii Korei* by V. T. Zajčikov (Voprosy geografii No. 6, 1948), *Trudy russkix issledovatelej kak istočnik po novej istorii Korei* by G. D. Tjagaj (OIRV I, 1953) and *Korean Studies* by the USSR Academy of Sciences (1968). There are, also, good catalogues of books on Korea in the Russian language (1854-1969) by Kanno Hiromi, and of studies of the Korean language in the Soviet Union by L. R. Koncevič (JAS XIV:2, 4, 1971).

2. Diplomatic relations between Korea and Russia

After the Ching-dynasty had been established in China in 1644, there occurred difficulties in defeating the Russians. Russians came as far as Hei-lung-chiang (黑龍江) and built a fortress called Albazin. However, they did not stop there but tried to continue their penetration to the East and South. In order to stop the Russian advance, the Ching-dynasty asked the Koreans to dispatch soldiers. Upon this request, the Yi-dynasty of Korea sent, twice, troops to China to fight the Russians. The first dispatch took place in 1654, and the second in 1658 (in the 9th year of King Hyojong). This was the first contact between Koreans and Russians historically recorded. In this connection the Russians were called Nason (羅禪 < Russians).

In 1860 Russia got the present Maritime Region through the activities of a young Russian diplomat in Peking, N. P. Ignatiev (1832-1908), and she became a neighbour of Korea. In 1864 Russians crossed the River Tuman and came to Korea to negotiate about trade. But, retreated into isolationism, Korea was not receptive to the Russian inquiries. Through the coercion and persuasion of foreign countries, Korea finally agreed, reluctantly, to open her ports to Japan in 1876. In 1882 a treaty of friendship and commerce was signed between Korea and the United States. After these events, Russia was also interested in establishing diplomatic relations with Korea. She sent the Russian Consul in Tientsin, K. I. Veber (Weber 韋貝), to Seoul for negotiations in 1884. Through the help of P. G. von Mellendorf (Möllendorf 穆麟德), advisor to the Korean government, Veber succeeded in signing a treaty between Korea and Russia in Seoul in July, 1884.

Veber was named the first Russian Consul General and, at the same time, Chargé d'Affaires to Seoul. He arrived in Korea in August, 1885. He was a very active and cautious diplomat. He bought an estate for the Russian legation and had buildings constructed. In 1894 he left Seoul to become Russian ambassador to Peking. He came, however, back to Korea and, after the Queen was murdered by the Japanese in 1895, arranged King Kojong's move to the Russian legation in February, 1896. The King stayed nearly a year in the Russian legation. Veber was transferred to Mexico in 1897.

After Veber, A. N. Spejer (士貝耶) became the second Russian Chargé d'Affaires in January, 1896. In April, 1898, N. Matjunin followed

Spejer in this post. M. Pavlov (巴崑路厚) became the Russian minister to Korea in January, 1899, and stayed until the Russo-Japanese War broke out in February, 1904. Soon afterwards, in May, 1904, all agreements between Korea and Russia were nullified. After the annexation of Korea by Japan in 1910, all official relations between Korea and Russia were discontinued. Thus, Pavlov was actually the last Russian minister to Korea. The houses of the Russian legation were destroyed during the Korean War (1950-1953) but the site, being owned by Russia, remains uninhabited, at present, in the center of Seoul.

3. First mentions of Korea in Russian books before 1800

The first description of Korea in the Russian language is found in a book called *Opisanie pervyja časti vseľennyja, imenuemoj Azii, v nej že sostoit Kitajskoe gosudarstvo s pročimi ego gorody i provincii*, written in 1677 by N. G. Spafarij.² Spafarij (Milescu) (1636-1708) was a Moldavian. After an unsuccessful palace revolution in which he took part, he had to leave Moldavia. In 1671 he moved to Russia, where he became Russian ambassador to China in 1675-1678. In chapter 57 of *Opisanie* Spafarij describes the geographical situation of Korea, the Catholic Church in Korea, cities and provinces, customs, the ginsengroot, and certain metal products. Spafarij probably got his information about Korea from the Jesuits in Peking (according to Gal'perin). Spafarij's work may be the second in whole Europe, the first one being Hamel's *Journal van de ongeluckighe Voyagie van't Jacht de Sperwer* published in Rotterdam in 1668.

The Korean Peninsula, with the name of Korea, can be found on the famous map of Siberia, made by S. U. Remezov in 1689.

In P. S. Pallas's *Linguarum totius orbis vocabularia comparativa* I-II (1787-1789) can be found twelve Korean words. Pallas actually gives the Korean numerals from 1 to 10 under the heading 'Singal'ski', but under 'Korejski' he gives those of some other language. The Korean words contain obvious spelling mistakes, cf. *Ana* for 1 (pro *hana*), *Deu* for 4 (pro *ne* or *net*).

2 A. L. Gal'perin, *Russkaja istoričeskaja nauka o zarubežnom Dal'nem Vostoke v XVII v. - seredine XIX v.*, OIRV II, p. 10.

4. Chronological survey of Russians in Korea

Russian explorers, soldiers, officials, and merchants visited Korea since the beginning of the 19th century, and contributed a great deal to the study of Korea.³

Adam Johan (Ivan Feodorovič) von Kruzenštern (Krusenstern) (1770-1846) sailed around the world in the ships 'Nadežda' and 'Neva'. In 1805 he sailed near Korea and collected valuable material about the country. The new data collected by him corrected and supplemented the material of the French navigator Colonel La Pérouse, collected in 1787, and of the English Commander W. R. Broughton from 1797.

In 1854 the Frigate 'Pallada' sailed along the eastern coastline of Korea and studied the surrounding nature. On board was, also, the Russian writer I. A. Gončarov (1812-1891), who described plants and animals of the Korean Peninsula in his book titled *Fregat Pallada*.

In 1867 N. M. Prževal'skij visited Korea's northernmost town Kyonghung, in spite of the isolationist politics of the country. He travelled through the Ussur Kray in 1867-1869 and described the conditions of the 1,800 Koreans already living there.

On the 21st of December, 1885, the Russian merchant P. M. Delotkevič arrived in Seoul.⁴ He started his journey at Vladivostok by ship and changed ship at Nagasaki, from where he continued to Cemulpho (Inchön) after having stopped in Pusan. He stayed in Seoul at the house of Veber, the Russian Consul General, for around three weeks. On the 14th of January, 1886, Delotkevič left Seoul for Jančihe, a Russian town near the Russo-Korean border. Because he travelled afoot for nearly one and a half months, he could adequately describe the life of Koreans in the countryside.

In 1885, Prince Dadeškaliani, while working at the chancellery of the General-Governor of the Priamur Region, visited Korea and wrote a short survey on the Korean situation.⁵ In his writing he revealed the intentions of Japanese policy in Korea. In his opinion the Korean language is

3 G. D. Tjagaj, *Trudy russkix issledovatelej kak istočnik po novej istorii Korei*, OIRV I, pp. 122-147.

4 SGTSM XXXVIII (SPb 1889) and *Po Koree* (Moscow 1958).

5 SGTSM XXII (SPb 1886) and *Po Koree*.

so original that it does not have any relationship with Chinese, Manchu, or Japanese. However, he was wrong in saying that the Korean writing system is hieroglyphic.

In summer 1889, the Russian officer Vebel⁶ visited Korea. He gained rich material for the study of the agricultural situation in Korea in the 1880s. Vebel⁶ mentions, also, that the different estimations of the size of the population of Korea seem to vary slightly: the figure 7,3 million is given by the French father Daveluy in 1793, 10 million by Dallet in 1874, 12 million by Griffis in 1882, 15 million by Oppert, and 16,3 million by the census of 1881.

V. A. Alftan (Alfthan) (1860-1940)⁷ was originally a Finn.⁸ He visited the northeastern part of Korea from December 1895 to January 1896. Alfthan described the situation in towns just after the Sino-Japanese War. According to him, the influence of the Russian language can even be found in Kilju.

Colonel Karneev and his expedition travelled mainly in the southern part of Korea from December 1895 to April 1896.⁹ They visited 72 cities and more than 3000 villages. The journey was carried out just after the murder of Queen Minbi by the Japanese in October, 1895, the Tonghak Revolution in 1894, and the Sino-Japanese War in 1894-1895. Also, during Karneev's stay in Seoul, the King's move to the Russian legation took place. For these reasons Karneev's travelogue is extremely valuable for the study of the relationship between Korea and Russia and the situation in Korea just after the above mentioned events.

F. B. Höök (in Russian transcription Gek or Gëk) was, also, originally a Finn.¹⁰ In 1891 he sailed the Sea of Japan on the whaler 'Nadežda' investigating and mapping the eastern coast of Korea southwards from Cape Tikhmenev, i.e. Ulsan Bay.

Another Finn, A. K. Appelgrén (1876-1952) attended the General Staff

6 SGTSM XLI (Spb 1890) and *Po Koreae*.

7 SGTSM LXIX (Spb 1896) and *Po Koreae*.

8 Aalto, *Oriental Studies in Finland 1828-1918*, p. 145.

9 SGTSM LXXV (SPb 1901) and *Po Koreae*.

10 Aalto, p. 145.

Academy and in 1912 explored roads in Korea.¹¹

Russian influence in Korea began to grow just after the King's move to the Russian legation in February, 1896. In April, 1896, a Russian teacher, Birukov, was sent to Seoul to teach Russian in the Governmental School of Foreign Languages until 1904. He was a retired artillery captain and had an assistant called Kurasin from 1899 onwards. Kurasin was a Greek Orthodox monk.

In October, 1896, Colonel Putatia came to Korea with three officers and ten non-commissioned officers to train Korean soldiers. Before the arrival of the army instructors there were already Russian soldiers in Seoul. In January, 1896, Lieutenant Musakov stayed in the Russian legation in Seoul with the crew of the gunboat 'Bobr'. With them was, also, Mollas, the captain of the second rank of 'Bobr'. In November, 1897, Reminov was sent as an advisor to the Arsenal in Seoul. In March, 1900, Admiral Hildebrandt came to Seoul with staff officers and a military band. The army instructors were dismissed in April, 1898.

Russia sent, also, people of finance. D. D. Pokotilov came to Korea in August, 1896, under the pretext of researching the financial situation of the country. He was working in the Russo-Chinese Bank in China. He knew well the Korean situation, and he wrote a book about Korea in 1895. Soon after him followed K. Alekseev. Alekseev came to Korea in October, 1897, as a financial advisor to the Korean government. The Korean-Russian Bank was also established. However, due to a change in Russian policy towards Korea the bank was dissolved in 1898 and the financial advisor withdrawn from Korea.

Russian businessmen showed a continuous interest in Korea. In August, 1896, Jules Bryner (富里巨尼) received timber-cutting rights in Korea. Count Henry Keyserling got whaling rights in March, 1899. In April, 1903, Baron Ginzburg opened an office of the Russian Timber Company in Seoul. There were Russian businessmen, also, in other cities: e.g. in Masan a hotel was almost built by Russians in 1899, when Russia bought, unfairly, an area called Pamgumi (栗九味).¹²

During the 1890s the Russian architect Serednin-Sobbatin worked for the

¹¹ Aalto, p. 142.

¹² JAS XI:3, pp. 262-263.

Korean Government as a technician.¹³ At the same time he was a correspondent to the *Daľ'niĭ Vostok*, published in Vladivostok. He wrote articles under the pseudonym 'Rossijanin'.

5. Korean studies in St. Petersburg (Leningrad)

St. Petersburg was the cradle of Korean studies and the first place in all of Russia where the Korean language was taught officially.

One of the first scholars to deal with Korea was Archbishop N. Ja. Bičurin (Iakinĭ) (1777-1853), originally a Chuvash and a Sinologist. After having visited China, Bičurin wrote a famous book in 1859 entitled *Sobranie svedenij o narodax, obitavšix v Srednej Azii v drevnie vremena*.¹⁴ In the second part of the book Bičurin dealt with the ancient history of Korea, based on Chinese sources.

In 1874 missionary V. G. P'jankov published a textbook for the Korean school in Južnoussur Kray. He carried out his missionary work among the first Korean immigrants in the Russian Maritime Region. He also described very well the life of these immigrants during the first ten years.¹⁵ His description is a valuable material for the study of the history of Koreans in Russia.

In 1874 again M. P. Pucillo (1845-1889), a Russian official and historian, published a Russian-Korean dictionary (*Opyt russko-korejskogo slovarja*). He felt the need of some kind of word book while working for the resettlement of Korean immigrants in the Maritime Region. Since there did not exist any former work, Pucillo had great difficulties in collecting useful words and compiling the dictionary. The only work that he could use was the Chinese-Korean-Japanese comparative dictionary published in Batavia in 1835 by Medhurst, an English missionary in China. Pucillo received help from a Korean called Nikolaj Mixajlovič Ljan, as well as Archimandrite Palladij. Even if Pucillo's work is not satisfactory by present-day standards, it should be highly esteemed because it was the first dictionary to be published from a western language into Korean.

¹³ *Po Koree*, p. 276.

¹⁴ This book was republished in 1950 (two volumes, Moscow - Leningrad).

¹⁵ IIRGO X:2 (1874), pp. 86-97.

In 1875 Archimandrite Palladij wrote an evaluation of Pucillo's work. In Palladij's opinion it would have been better if there had been attached to the dictionary an outline of Korean grammar. It should be highly appreciated that Palladij pointed out that the Korean language could not be developed without giving up the use of Chinese characters.¹⁶

In 1879 A. I. Voejkov, a Russian climatologist and geographer, published a work entitled *Klímat oblasti mussonov Vostočnoj Azií*, based on materials collected by Russian scientists in the Amur region and by himself in Japan, where he had studied the physiography of East Asia. Later on, when Korea opened her ports to foreign trade, he published a more detailed work entitled *K klímatu Korei* in 1887 using scientific materials collected in Korea.¹⁷

In 1884 P. Dmitrevskij, a Sinologist and later Russian Consul General in Shanghai, had translated from Japanese and published a guidebook on Korea, which was originally compiled in 1794 by the interpreter Otano Kigoro (小田 幾五郎), from Tsushima Island.

In the 1880s, the necessity of teaching Korean at the University of St. Petersburg was discussed. However, these plans were not realized until 1897, when Korean, finally, began to be taught at the Oriental Faculty. The first teacher was Min Kyong Sik, a Korean diplomat in St. Petersburg. The second teacher was Kim Pyong Ok. The latter also published two textbooks.¹⁹ The courses were not taught on a regular basis, but with intervals of long duration. Around the beginning of the October Revolution the teaching of Korean came to an end. It was taken up again as late as 1934.²⁰

M. A. Podžio (1850-1889) was a Russian diplomat in Belgrad and Teheran. Before his career as a diplomat he had stayed five years in China and Japan. In Japan he had possibilities to collect material about Korea and to meet Koreans. After finding out that there did not exist any useful publications about Korea he decided to write a book himself. In 1885 his

16 IIRGO XI:6 (1875), pp. 488-491.

17 Zajčikov, *Koreja*, p. 52.

18 ZIRGO XII:4 (1884)

19 *Korejskie teksty*, St. Petersburg, 1898, 62 p.; *Posobie k izučeniju korejskago jazyka*, St. Petersburg, 1899, 48 p.

20 VLU, p. 42.

work was completed and plans made to publish it in *Russkij Vestnik*, but the manuscript was lost. Afterwards, he rewrote the book, and the lost manuscript was also found. But, unfortunately, he fell ill in Teheran and died in 1889. His work was published posthumously in 1892. This work can be regarded as the first book about Korea written by a Russian.

The Sino-Japanese War (1894-1895) and the Russo-Japanese War (1904-1905) both influenced Russians to study more about Korea and the Korean language. Conversation books for the military and intelligence services,²¹ translations from English,²² and other guidebooks about Korea were published. Special mention must be made of the encyclopaedic work about Korea, published by the Russian Ministry of Finance in 1900, *Opisanie Korei*.²³ It consists of three volumes and was, also, translated into Japanese.

V. P. Vradij completed, among other works, a descriptive analysis of the dendrological flora in the Južnoussur Kray in 1899. At the same time, he collected names of trees in Korean and Chinese, and published his collection in 1903 in a governmental journal.²⁴ Vradij's collection comprises 58 Korean tree-names. His data are especially valuable, since the distribution of trees in the Južnoussur Kray is different from that on the Korean Peninsula.

K. I. Veber, the first Russian Consul General to Seoul, published, after returning to St. Petersburg, two small works: one on the transliteration of the names of Korean cities, and the other on the Korean way of reading Chinese characters.

E. D. Polivanov (1891-1937), a famous Russian linguist, published his first work on the Korean language in 1916, dealing with the Korean vowels. Later on, he wrote many scientific works using Korean language material. His article entitled *K voprosu rodstvennyx otnošenijax korejskago i "altajskix" jazykov*²⁵ gave the first impetus to the theory that

21 *Razvedčiku v Koree (Russko-korejskij slovar')*, St. Petersburg, 1904, 84+1 p.

22 A. Hamilton's and P. Lowell's books.

23 Unfortunately, this work is not available in the Slavonic Department of the Helsinki University Library.

24 SHL CCX:8 (1903), pp. 424-432.

25 IANS VI:15-17 (Moskva, 1927), pp. 1195-1204.

Korean might belong to the so-called "Altaic linguistic family".

After this period, we must wait until 1938 to find the next work on Korean: *Stroj korejskogo jazyka* by A. A. Xolodovič, professor of the Korean language in Leningrad.

It has been reported that some unpublished manuscripts on Korea, written during the last century, have been preserved in the Archives of Eastern Studies of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR: a work by I. A. Goškevič on the Korean language, and a work by V. Ja. Kostylev on Korean history and culture.²⁶

6. Korean studies by the Imperial Russian Geographical Society

The Imperial Russian Geographical Society has its own merits in the field of Korean studies. During the 1895-1900 period it sent many expeditions to Korea.²⁷

The first expedition was led by I. I. Strel'čickij in 1895. Strel'čickij investigated the River Tuman and its sources. He was, also, the first European to reach the volcanic crater of Mount Paektu. In 1897 Strel'čickij published a book containing the results of his expedition.²⁸

A. G. Lubencov, a member of the Russian Geographical Society, travelled in Korea twice in 1895, assisted by four Cossacks. He studied the outlay of mountain ranges in Northern Korea and gave the main mountain ranges names like Graničnyj, Tumanskij, Kapsanskij, and Tedonskij. At that time, the Korean forest was still rich and hunting still held an important position in the Korean economy. Lubencov published a scientific report of his journey in 1897.²⁹

In 1897, a group from the scientific expedition headed by the famous V. L. Komarov (1868-1945, later President of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR) studied the vegetation of Northern Korea for four months. They collected a very rich herbarium and noted the division of Korea into two

26 UZIV VI, pp. 38, 43.

27 Zajčikov, pp. 54-79; Adamov, *Russkie issledovateli v Koree*.

28 *Iz Xunčuna v Mukden i obratno po sklonam Čan-Baj-Šan'skago xrebtu. Otčet o semimesjačnom putešestvii po Man'čžurii i Koree v 1895-1896 gg.*, St. Petersburg, 1897.

29 *Xamkenskaja i Prienanskaja provincii Korei*, ZPOIRGO II:4 (1897)

botanical zones: North and South. Komarov wrote a book about the results of his expedition, titled *Flora Man'čžurii* (published in 1901-1907).

In the autumn of 1898 A. I. Zvegincev led an extensive expedition engaged in the study of Korea's geology, botany, population, and economy. The participants published valuable works concerning the forests in the Tuman and Apnok river basins as well as the agricultural situation in Northern Korea.³⁰ Among the participants of Zvegincev's expedition was, also, the famous Russian writer N. G. Garin-Mixajlovskij (1852-1906). While investigating the land and water route along the Manchu-Korean border to the Liaotung Peninsula, Garin also collected Korean tales. His assistant, A. N. Safonov investigated the middle part of the River Tuman. Garin wrote a travelogue, which was translated into Korean in 1980 by Kim Haksu. Garin also published his folkloristic material in a book titled *Korejskie skazki*.

In 1899 the Russian Geographical Society equipped a new scientific expedition led by P. Ju. Šmidt to study the fauna and other naturalia of the Seas of Okhotsk and Japan. After investigating the eastern coast of Korea, Šmidt pointed out that in this area the arctic fauna has penetrated farther south than in any other region of the Northern Hemisphere. He published his work on the results of the expedition in 1900.³¹

7. Korean studies in Vladivostok

In May, 1899, an Oriental Institute was established in Vladivostok to educate students for administrative, commercial, and industrial enterprises of the Russian Far East and adjoining government offices.³²

Among other languages, Korean was taught at the Oriental Institute of Vladivostok. The professor of the Korean language was G. V. Podstavin³³ and the lecturers were Han Kil-men, The Uon-sen, Jun Ben-dže, and Roman

30 *Severnaja Koreja. Sbornik Maršrutov. Trudy osennej ekspedicii 1898 g.* Pod redakciej Korfa, St. Petersburg, 1901.; Korf, N. A. and Zvegincev, A. I., *Voennyj obzor Severnoj Korei.* St. Petersburg, 1904.

31 *Vesti iz korejsko-saxalinskoj ekspedicii*, IIRGO XXXVI:5 (1900), pp. 464-501.

32 SKVI (Vladivostok, 1909), p. 1.

33 SKVI Supplement 1, p. III.

Sergeevič Kim (Kim Hento).³⁴ Professor Podstavin, M. A. in Mongolian literature, led Korean studies in Vladivostok for 20 years. He published around 15 works on Korean³⁵ and made official journeys to Korea in 1902 and 1906. Since it was actually Podstavin who established Korean studies in Russia, special attention should be paid to his contribution. But, unfortunately, further information about him is not readily found.

During a ten year period, 1899-1909, there were seven students who finished studies at the Korean-Chinese branch of the Oriental Institute. Their contributions to Korean studies are as follows:

S. V. Afanas'ev was a captain in the headquarters and wrote two articles on the Korean military, one of which was awarded a gold medal.³⁶

P. Vaskevič dealt with the problem of the Korean situation,³⁷ and E. Lebedev wrote an article on "Daželet Island" (Ullūng-do on the Eastern Sea).³⁸

I. F. Djukov studied the Chinese and Korean languages and finished his studies at the Institute in 1906. In 1907-1908 he was an editor of the Korean newspaper *Haejo sinmun*, published in Vladivostok. He wrote an article on the military school of Seoul.³⁹

V. Nadarov analyzed, in 1902, the situation of the construction of the Seoul-Pusan railroad by the Japanese as well as Japanese intentions, generally, in Korea.⁴⁰

Pavel Ivanovskij (Ieromonakh) wrote a research work about the situation of Christian missionary work in Korea.⁴¹

A. Cererin's work concerned a port on the western coast, Cinnampho,

34 SKVI Supplement 1, p. XII.

35 In the Slavonic Department of the Helsinki University Library are found only two works of Podstavin: *Sobranie obrazcov sovremennago korejskago oficial'nago stilja* and *Razbor japonnskago samoučitelja korejskago jazyka "Ciosengo dokugaku"*, compiled by G. Jaščinskij on the basis of the lectures of Podstavin.

36 IVI III:3 (Vladivostok, 1901), and IVI XI (1903).

37 IVI XV:2 (1906)

38 IVI XI (1903).

39 IVI VII (1903)

40 IVI III:3 (1901).

41 IVI XII (1904).

which was opened for foreign trade in 1897.⁴² He described, in detail, the activities of the Japanese and the possibilities of mineral export, especially of gold, through Cinnampho. He gave, also, statistical data of foreign trade through Cinnampho.

G. F. Jaščinskij seems to have been an active student of the Korean language. He compiled a Korean textbook, collected materials for a Korean-Russian and Russian-Korean dictionary, and received a gold medal for his writing titled *Dnevnik putešestviija ot Seula do Genzana v 1903 godu*.

N. V. Kjuner (1877-1955) was born in Tbilisi and studied at the University of St. Petersburg. He was professor in the Oriental Institute of Vladivostok from 1902 onwards. Kjuner wrote more than 400 research works on China, Japan, Korea, Tibet, and other countries. His work on Korea⁴³ is very detailed (656+32 pages) and is still considered to be one of the three classical works on Korea in Russia.⁴⁴

8. Korean studies in Khabarovsk

Some works on Koreans and the Korean language were published in Khabarovsk.

In 1898 A. I. Tajšin prepared a small Russian-Korean dictionary (43 pages). After the Revolution Tajšin wrote political textbooks in Korean with Kozlov.

N. D. Kuz'min was an artillery captain, who was among the Russian officers sent to Korea to train the Korean army in 1896-1898. He compiled a textbook for learning Korean based on Scott's *En-Moun Mal-Chaik* (Shanghai, 1887). Kuz'min's textbook was published after his return from Korea.⁴⁵

N. V. Kirillov was a physician. He collected medico-physical data on Koreans in the Maritime Region and compiled statistical tables according to age, sex, length of head, facial indicator, and other physical para-

42 IVI IV (1902).

43 *Statistiko-geografičeskij i èkonomičeskij očerok Korei, nyne japonska-go general-gubernatorstva Ciosen*, IVI XLI-XLIII (1912).

44 The two other principal works before 1930 are that by Bičurin, and *Opisanie Korei*.

45 JAS XIV:2, pp. 215-216.

metres. His published materials (117 pages)⁴⁶ seem to contain the first anthropological data on Koreans in Russia and, being collected nearly a hundred years ago, must be considered very valuable.

A small Russian-Korean-Chinese dictionary is found along with a primer of Russian for Korean schools prepared by P. Ni, T. Ogaj and N. Oseledko in 1929.⁴⁷ Here are already Russian loanwords like Kor. *ttŭrakttorŭ* < Russ. *tráktor*, Kor. *pedŭro* < Russ. *vedró* 'bucket'.

In 1914 V. N. Krylov published a toponymical dictionary of Korea in Harbin, Manchuria.⁴⁸

9. Korean studies in Kazan

Kazan has an old tradition in Oriental studies dating from the beginning of the last century. However, there are no signs that the Korean language had been taught at Kazan University. But there is evidence that Koreans were living in Kazan as early as the 1890s. In 1898 G. J. Ramstedt had met Koreans in Kazan who were attending the religious seminar of eastern people.⁴⁹

In 1904 four books were published in Kazan on the Korean language.⁵⁰ The Missionary Society of the Greek Orthodox Church prepared a primer and small dictionary for Koreans. Four Koreans compiled a Russian-Korean conversation book based on the northeastern dialect of Korean. Also, another Russian-Korean conversation guide was published in the same year.

10. Korean cultural activities in Russia

When Korea was annexed to Japan in 1910, many Korean leaders moved to Russia. Most of them continued, in some way or another, the struggle against Japan. After the October Revolution, part of them stayed in Russia and part of them returned to Korea or Manchuria. During their stay

46 *Korejcy. Mediko-antropologičeskij očerok*. ZPOIRGO IX:1 (1913).

47 *Russkij bukvar' dlja korejskix škol* (1929).

48 *Slovar' japonskix geografičeskix nazvanij Korei, nyne japonskago general-gubernatorstva Čiosen* (2+92 p.). - This book is not available in the Slavonic Department of the Helsinki University Library.

49 Ramstedt, *Seitsemän retkeä itään*, p. 15.

50 Unfortunately, none of these books are available in the Helsinki University Library.

in Russia, these Korean leaders and intellectuals had various cultural activities for the Koreans living in Russia and Manchuria. Among other things, they published newspapers and magazines in Korean.

These Korean leaders included Yi Tonghue (Li Donxvi in Russian sources), Hong Pōmdo (Xon Bomdo), Yi Kang (Lee Kang), Yi Kap, Yi Sangsōl, Yi Kwangsu, Mun Changbom, and many others. In Russian sources references can be found of A. P. Kim (Stankevič), O Senmuk, O Xamuk, Pak Aj (Pak E), Cxve (Coj) Kore, Li Insob, Li En, and others.⁵¹

The first Korean language newspaper in Russia began to be published in Vladivostok in 1907.⁵² The editors of this paper, titled *Haejo sinmun*, were Cong Sunman, Cang Ciyon, and Yi Kang. I. F. Djukov worked as an editor at this newspaper after completion of his Korean studies at the Oriental Institute. *Haejo sinmun* ceased to appear in 1908.

In 1909, Yi Kang and Yu Cinyul began to publish the newspaper *Taedong kongbo* in Vladivostok. But, as a result of Japanese suppression, *Taedong kongbo*, too, was discontinued in August, 1910.

In May, 1911, a new Korean newspaper, *Taeyangbo* (*Tejanbo*), began to appear in Vladivostok. The editor was N. P. Jugaj, owner of a Korean printing-house. When it disclosed the ruthlessness of Japanese policy in Korea, this newspaper, also, was forced to close in September, 1911.

In March, 1912, the Kwōnōp-Society (Koreans' organization in Vladivostok) started to publish the newspaper *Kwōnōp sinmun*. The chief editors were Sin Chaeho and Kim Hagu. The *Kwōnōp sinmun* was printed in N. P. Jugaj's printing-house, and I. F. Djukov, again, worked as an editor. This paper was discontinued in August, 1914.

Yi Kang moved from Vladivostok to Chita and edited, in 1913, a monthly magazine in Korean, the *Taehanin cyōnggyobo*.⁵³ The publisher was Mun Yunham. The famous writer Yi Kwangsu also came to Chita and helped Yi

51 M. T. Kim, *Korejskie internacionalisty v bor'be za vlast' sovetov na Dal'nem Vostoke (1918-1922)*.

52 Pak, *Iz istorii korejskoj ěmigrantskoj pečati (1909-1914)*, NAA 1965: 3, pp. 172-178.

53 A unique example of *Taehanin cyōnggyobo* can be found, among other Korean collections, in the library of the Department of Asian and African studies of Helsinki University.

Kang as an editor for seven months. This magazine was probably discontinued before August, 1914.

The *Taehanin cyŏnggyobo* occupies a very important position in the history of Korean literature and language, not only because of the place where it was published, but also because of the time of publication. This magazine was written in pure and simple Korean. In issue number 10 is found an attempt at a cursive writing system of Korean. This was the first attempt of this kind ever made in the history of the Korean alphabet.⁵⁴ It is not known who was the initiator of this cursive writing system, but the influence of the Cyrillic system is obvious. As the first European language with which Korean had a direct areal contact, Russian, thus, incidentally influenced even the Korean writing system. The next attempt at a cursive writing system of Korean was made in 1916, in Shanghai by Kim Tubong in his book *Kiptŏ cosŏn malbon*.

The Korean intellectuals established Korean schools in Russia and educated young Koreans. After the Revolution, in the 1920s, books were also published in Korean. These were mainly of political content, but some general readers are also found.

11. Conclusion

The Russian interest in Korea, in a real sense, can be considered to have begun around 1860, after Russia became a neighbour of Korea as a result of the Peking Treaty. The migration of Koreans to Russia from 1863 (or 1864) and the establishment of diplomatic relations between Korea and Russia in 1884 accelerated the development. After Japan won the war against China in 1895, Russia felt, urgently, the need for Korean studies. This is also explained by King Kojong's move to the Russian legation in Seoul in 1896.

In the 1890s Russians representing a wide variety of fields rushed into Korea: diplomats, soldiers, bankers, merchants, technicians, teachers, political advisors, missionaries, scholars, students, and others. Russian interest in Korea was, also, reflected in the universities. The Korean language began to be taught at St. Petersburg University in 1897, and at the Oriental Institute of Vladivostok in 1900.

⁵⁴ See *Hangŭl saesosik* 89, Seoul, 1980.

All the information on Korea, collected by Russians, was crystallized into *Opisanie Korei*, published in 1900. Before that time, Russians had had to refer to works about Korea written by the French, English, and Japanese.

In 1904 it was the Russians' turn to fight against Japan. The knowledge of both Korean and Japanese became more important than ever. After her defeat, Russia had to leave Korea in 1904, but Korean studies continued in the established research centres.

The study of the Korean language in Russia was begun by G. V. Podstavin, around 1900. His work was continued by E. D. Polivanov.

Generally, Korean studies in Russia before 1930 constituted an advanced and well-established discipline, many-sided enough to provide a solid cornerstone for future development and diversification.

Appendix 1: Russian toponyms for Korean places

On old maps of Korea,⁵⁵ prepared by the Topographical Board of the Headquarters of the Russian Military around the turn of the century, Russian names can be found for many Korean places, especially for various physical features on the East Coast.

Some examples are given as follows:⁵⁶

Russian	Korean
M. Tixmeneva	(near Ulsan Bay)
B. Unkovskago	Yŏngil Bay
O. Daželet (< French)	Ullŭng Island
Po. Naximova	Sŏngjan Peninsula
Port Lazareva	Yŏnghŭng Port
O. Gončarova	Mayang Island
O. Nikol'skago	Sin Island
Zal. Zarina	Hamhŭng Gulf
M. Zurova	(near Thoeho Bay)
Port Ningaj	(probably) Yŏngdŏk
Port Sestakova	Sinpho Port
Zal. Plaksina	Sŏngjin Bay
O. Arefeva	Yang Island
Zal. Kornilova	Najin Gulf
O. Abbakuma	Taecho Island
M. Fontinja	(near Unggi Bay)
Ap. Imperator. Prinsa	Tŏkcŏk Archipelago
M. Kozakova	(near Ŏdaejin Bay)

In many cases, it is extremely difficult to point out the exact locations to which the Russian names refer. These Russian names are obsolete nowadays. On the most recent Korean map made in the USSR (1979), no Russian toponyms can be found within Korean territory.

55 These maps are available in the Archives of the Finno-Ugrian Society in Helsinki.

56 Ap. = Arxipelag 'archipelago', B. = Buxta 'bay', M. = Mys 'cape', O. = Ostrov 'island', Po. = Poluostrov 'peninsula', Port 'port', Zal. = Zaliv 'Gulf'.

Appendix 2: Korean toponyms for Russian places

When Koreans moved to Russian territory, they found the cultural and linguistical environment completely different from that of Korea. Also, they were not familiar with the Russian toponyms. Therefore, local Koreans utilized two ways of renaming Russian places.⁵⁷ First, they could simply use the Sino-Korean reading of the established Chinese names for places within Russian territory. Second, they could Koreanize Russian placenames on a phonetic basis, trying to follow as closely as possible the original Russian pronunciation. There are, also, places which have two completely different names: one in Korean and the other in Russian. These are places where Koreans settled down before Russians and which, only later, were given Russian names.⁵⁸

Korean	Russian
Yŏnhaeju (沿海州)	Primorskij kraj (Maritime Province)
Haesamue (海參威)	Vladivostok
[Phoramsadŏk (浦盪斯德)	Vladivostok
Sinhanchon (新韓村)	(Korean quarter in Vladivostok)
Hŏbalkkae	Habarovsk
[Hwabalpho (花發浦)	Habarovsk
Mikkallae	Nikolaevsk
[Ssangsongja (雙城子)	Nikolaevsk
Periwae	Pogranica
Yŏnchu (烟秋)	Novokievskoe
Suchŏng (水清)	
Cisinhŏ (地新墟)	
Chuphung (秋風)	
Hŭkchŏngja (黑頂子)	
Hyangсандong (香山洞)	
Namsŏktong (南石洞)	
Wabong (臥峯)	
Mokhŏu	

57 Most of these places are situated in the region between the Russo-Korean border and Vladivostok.

58 These places are usually small settlements or parts of towns and cities. In many cases it has not been possible at all to locate the places in terms of present-day geography.

Appendix 3: Russian loanwords in Korean

In order to adapt themselves to the new circumstances, the Korean immigrants in Russia had to find new expressions for new concepts. One way to get new expressions was borrowing from Russian. Thus, the speech of the Korean immigrants came to contain a number of Russian loanwords, unknown to the rest of Koreans. On both phonological and semantical grounds, two main strata of Russian loanwords in Korean can be distinguished: a pre-revolutionary one, and a post-revolutionary one.

Here, only some examples of older Russian loanwords are given:⁵⁹

Korean	Russian
<i>pijiski, pijigae</i> 'match'	<i>spiška</i> (sg.), <i>spiški</i> (pl.)
<i>oribaiskae</i> 'fisherman'	<i>rybáčikj</i> (adj.)
<i>pisari</i> 'secretary'	<i>pisár</i>
<i>pparahodü</i> 'steamer'	<i>paraxód</i>
<i>sabogue</i> 'boots'	<i>sapogi</i> (pl.)
<i>konduri</i> 'office'	<i>kontúra</i>
<i>kuburöngnakci</i> 'governor'	<i>gubernátor</i>
<i>kkupesya</i> 'merchant'	<i>kupéc</i> (nom.), <i>kupéa</i> (acc.)
<i>hülnebu</i> 'bread'	<i>xleb</i>
<i>kkalbasü</i> 'sausage'	<i>kolbasá</i>
<i>masüllo</i> 'butter'	<i>máslo</i>
<i>ssürü</i> 'cheese'	<i>syr</i>
<i>kkonselbü</i> 'canned food'	<i>konservy</i> (pl.)
<i>kkillo</i> 'kilogram'	<i>kiló</i>
<i>ssaharü</i> 'sugar'	<i>sáxar</i>
<i>kekttarü</i> 'hectar'	<i>gektár</i>
<i>kkolhosü</i> 'kolkhoz'	<i>kolxóz</i>
<i>kürupppa</i> 'group'	<i>grúppa</i>
<i>yacheikka, yachaeikka</i> 'cell'	<i>jačéjka</i>
<i>kkamppaniya</i> 'campaign'	<i>kampánija</i>
<i>panjiru</i> 'bandit'	<i>bandit</i>
<i>kkomuna</i> 'commune'	<i>kommúna</i>

59 The list is based on: *Taehanin cyönggyobo* (1914), *Aryöng silgi* (1920), *Naiy kobaek* by Yi Kwangsu, *Sibwöl hyögmjöng sipcunjöngwa koryö min-jok* (1927), *Cyöngchihak tokpon* (1927), *Lenin cuiy chobo* (1929).

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Maps

Karta južnoj pograničnoj polosy Aziatskoj Rossii, XVI, Koreja. 1887.

Map of Japan, Korea, China, and East Siberia. Probably made between 1895-1900.

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