EDITOR’S NOTE  I’m Back! Korea is a beautiful country and a treasure trove of potential fieldwork for geographers of religion. All of my free time was spent hiking Korea’s mountains for the pleasure of viewing and learning more about her distinctive Buddhist temples. If you are looking for a new direction for your research or just a new area to study, I strongly recommend Korea. In addition, cultural geography enjoys a recognized position in Korea’s geography departments. Many of Korea’s geographers studied overseas, and in fact, I was thrilled to find LSU alumni amongst our Korean colleagues. We enjoyed an LSU-style fieldtrip through Kangweon-do, the northeastern province of South Korea. More than thirty cultural and historical geographers from all over South Korea came to break geographical bread with me. LSU graduate Chan Lee, who is president of the Association of Korean Cultural and Historical Geographers, and his former student Ock Han Suk, organized the trip. The Korean trained geographers were joined by four LSU people as well as UC Berkeley, UC Riverside, U. of Minnesota and U. of Michigan (E. Lansing) graduates. The Korean geographers were so hospitable and they deserve much thanks.

In addition to visiting Korea, I was able to spend six weeks in Japan doing nothing less than visiting temples and shrines on Kyushu, Shikoku (especially the 88 sacred places of Kobo Daishi) and Honshu. I must take a moment here to thank Tadashi Nakagawa of the University of Tsukuba (another LSU grad) for his hospitality and arrangements. Mention must be made of Tadashi’s achievements. Recently he completed fieldwork on cemeteries in Japan funded by a million yen grant. Congratulations Tadashi! Of course, my return trip to the mainland would not have been complete if I hadn’t had a stopover in Hawaii. There I visited several heiau, traditional Hawaiian sacred places, and I found a lovely, Korean Buddhist temple at the headwaters of the Wa‘ima‘o valley in northeastern Honolulu.

Now that I have returned to the States, my life has slipped back into the humdrum activities of the office. So cheer me up!! Send me notes and intentions of your upcoming projects for the next newsletter. I am looking forward to them.

A final note. Please do not forget to check the GORABS specialty group membership box when you re-up with the AAG. Encourage colleagues and students to join us. Presently, we have 73 registered members. Some of our most devoted supporters over the years are not on the list. Make sure you are on the list this year! More importantly, we have new members, some of whom supported early GORABS efforts, and I personally would like to extend my warmest welcome to them.
NEW GORABS MEMBERS

Welcome, Welcome, Welcome!!!! Our new members come to us from a variety of backgrounds and places. Many of you are associated with universities, but a fair number hail from public schools, private businesses, government offices and non-geographic departments (such as architecture). Your diversity in professional experience will broaden the scope of GORABS work. Thank you for joining our ranks. We look forward to your contributions.

Chandra Balachandran
Douglas Basinger
Lisa D. Breck
Reuben Brooks
Sharon Brooks
Larry Brown
Thomas Broxson
John Coffman
Zora Colakovic
John Crissinger
Alice Dawson
Lavindra Desilva
Daniel Dory
Paula Dye
Richard Eaton
Lee Faro
Elizabeth Rea Furlong
Marilyn Gardner
Rhachelle Grein
Nancy Hanks
Reinhard Henkel
Roger Henrie
Douglas Herman
Robert Hilt
Richard Hough
Gregory Jeane
Allen Ladd
David Ley
Jonathan Lu
Jeffrey Dean Maddux
Daniel Maher
Winston Mullen
Han-Suk Ock
Michael Ondris
Josee Penot-Demetry
James Saad
John Scott
David Seamon
Jonathan Smith
Carolyn Spatta
Karla Streharsky
Michael Tripp
Edwin Weiss, Jr.
Claudia Whittington
Jerrie Williams
Holly Youngbear-Tibbetts

North Dakota State University
San Francisco State University
Wayne State University
Tennessee State University
UC Berkeley
University of Missouri, Co.
CSU, Fullerton
University of Houston
Syracuse University
Ambassador College
University of North Carolina, CH
University of Kentucky
St. Germaine-la Raviere, France
Dunedin, Florida
Pennsylvania State University
Portland State University
University of New Orleans
New Alternatives Inc., Chicago
Boca Raton, Florida
University of Oklahoma
Universitat Heidelberg, Germany
Central Michigan University
University of Hawaii
Pittsburg State University
San Francisco State University
Samford University
Marine Corps University
University of British Columbia
University of Northern Iowa
Delta State University
University of Wisconsin, Md.
Western Washington University
Kangweon National University, Korea
Natrona County Public Schools, WY
J P & Associates, NE
Wayne County Community College, MI
California State University
Kansas State University
University of Oregon
CSU, Hayward
University of Akron
University of Victoria, BC
Northern Kentucky University
University of Texas
University of Kentucky
University of Wisconsin, Md.
OLD GORABS MEMBERS

Well, we really are not all that old, but those of us on this list have been meeting and sharing our interests in GORABS over the years. Some of the members on this list are not formal GORABS members yet, but I am sure you will be in the near future. If you are not an AAG member and you live in a developing country, then look in the back of this newsletter for a form that will assist you in becoming a member of GORABS without formally joining the AAG. I present this list to our readership as a way to re-acquaint ourselves with each other and to introduce you to our new members. In this way we will all get to know who's who (so to speak). Please let me know if I have missed anyone.

Henry Aay
Hussein A. Amery
Alice Andrews
Ben Bennion
Surinder Bhardwaj
Bruce Bigelow
Michael Bonine
Harold Brodsky
Stanley Brown
William Brown
John Caldwell
Anita Caplan
Daniel Cole
Daniel Clayton
Adrian Cooper
Clifford Craig
Bruce Crew
Claude Curran
Janel Curry-Roper
James Darlington
Satish Davgun
Carl DiFrancesco
Jonathon Durr
Ramze ElZahrany
Chad Emmett
Gregory Faiers
Linda Fischer
R. L. Gerlach
Allan Gleason
Reginald Colledge
D. Brooks Green
L. Guay
Mark Hafen
Peter Halvorsen
Thomas Hannon
Kusha Harakasingh
Susan Hardwick
Charles Heatwole
A. Hecht
Mohammad Hemmasi
Daniel Hiebert
William Himel

Calvin College
McMaster University, Ontario
George Mason University
Humboldt State University
Kent State University
Butler University
University of Arizona
University of Maryland
University of Kentucky
Prairie View A&M University
Lousiana Tech University
CITES, Washington D.C.
Smithsonian Institute
University of British Columbia
Birkbeck College, University of London, UK
Utah State University
University of Wisconsin, Me.
Southern Oregon State College
Central College
Brandon University, Manitoba
Bemidji State University
Lakewood, CO
Kent State University
Kent State University
Brigham Young University
Louisiana State University
Richard Bland College
Southwest Missouri State University
Willowdale, Ontario
UC, Santa Barbara
University of Central Arkansas
Universite Laval, Quebec
Moore/Bowers Inc., Tampa-FL
University of Connecticut
Slippery Rock University
University of the West Indies, Trinidad
CSU, Chico
Hunter College, CUNY
Wilfrid Laurier University, Ontario
University of North Dakota
University of British Columbia
Louisiana State University
Joe Hobbs
Cynthia Hollander
O. H. Horst
Abdel Ibrahim
Richard Jackson
Jerzy Jemioło
Terry Jordan
Jeanne Kay
Michael Kelsey
A. Khan
Masoud Kheirabadi
Lily Kong
James Kus
Richard Lewis
Neal Lineback
J. Dennis Lord
Hubert Lorlen
Claudia Lowe
Surendra Mathur
James Mills
Tadashi Nakagawa
Linda Neff
William Noble
Mary Lee Nolan
Jim Norwine
Masayasu Oda
Anne Osterreith
John Paterson
Jane Powley
Carolyn V. Prorok
Robert Reed
Miles Richardson
Gisbert Rinschede
F. A. Savard
Harry J. Schaleman
Claudia Schuchardt-Ryder
Joseph Schwartzberg
D. K. Singh
Rana P. B. Singh
Gail Sechrist
Anindita Sen
Gregory Stein
Robert Stoddard
Dewey Stowers
Roger Stump
Philip Suckling
Hirosi Tanaka
Suprabha Tripathi
Thomas Tweed
Janet Valenza
Robert Voeks
Barbara Weightman
Elizabeth Whitaker
Chand Wije

University of Missouri, Co.
Perry, OK
Western Michigan University
Kent State University
Brigham Young University
Ball State University
University of Texas
University of Waterloo
Kent State University
University of District of Columbia
Lewis & Clark College
National University of Singapore
CSU, Fresno
Kent State University
Appalachian State University
University of North Carolina, Ce.
Mantachie, MS
Diamond Bar, CA
Alabama A&M University
University of Minnesota
University of Tsukuba, Japan
Alexandria, VA
University of Missouri, Co.
Oregon State University
Texas A&M University
Komazawa University, Japan
Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium
University of Waikato, New Zealand
Wilmington, DE
Slippery Rock University
UC, Berkeley
Lousiana State University
Universität Regensburg, Germany
Université Laval, Quebec
University of South Florida
Shippensburg University
University of Minnesota
Utkal University, Bhubaneswar India
Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi India
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
University of Akron
Buffalo State College
University of Nebraska, Ln.
University of South Florida
SUNY, Albany
University of Northern Iowa
University of Lethbridge, Alberta
University of Akron
University of Miami
University of Texas
CSU, Fullerton
CSU, Fullerton
Knoxville, TN
Kent State University
FOCUS ON: Lily Kong, National University of Singapore

In each newsletter, I would like to introduce a few of our members in terms of their training and work in GORABS. Please send me a copy of your C.V. and I will focus on you next time.

Lily’s full address is as follows:
Department of Geography, National University of Singapore, 10 Kent Ridge Crescent, Singapore 0511; Telephone: 7756666, Telex: NUSPER RS-51111, FAX: 65-7773091, and E-MAIL: (Bitnet) geokong1@nusvm.

Lily completed her BA with honors at the National University of Singapore in 1986. She remained at NUS to complete her MA in geography in 1988, but then she travelled to the UK where she took her PhD at University College, London with Peter Jackson in 1991. Her dissertation title was: The Sacred and the Secular: Contemporary Meanings and Values for Religious Buildings in Singapore. Lily’s current research interests are religion and women’s ‘place’, urban conservation and heritage issues, and conceptions of nature and nature conservation in urban areas.

Lily’s publications and presentations related to GORABS include:


ATLANTA AAG IN 1993 GORABS has several interesting sessions planned for Atlanta. Please come to the conference and join us. We always plan an evening out on the town; sampling the local cuisine and generally noting religious elements of the landscape on our way to dinner (if we aren’t too engrossed in our conversations). Look in the program for our business meeting and place it high on your agenda. We need your ideas and enthusiasm. One of the issues that I would like to raise at the meeting is the expansion of the newsletter to a bi-monthly format. First, information relating to our specialty group is increasing. Secondly, and more importantly, I would like the members of the group to share more of their work with other members. Give this idea consideration, then, for the next meeting. As for our programs in Atlanta, the following description should appear in the January AAG Newsletter. We hope to see you there!
Panel Discussion on Theoretical Issues in GORABS: Surinder Bhardwaj, Chair and Panel Members: Gisbert Rinschede, Robert Reed, Richard Jackson, Carolyn V. Prorok, Robert Stoddard and Lee Faro

First Session:
Organizer: Carolyn V. Prorok
Chair: Carolyn V. Prorok
Gisbert Rinschede Geographical Aspects of Religious Broadcasting in the United States
Allan Gleason "Churching" the City; Recent Trends in Toronto
Richard Jackson & Lloyd E. Hudman Secular Pilgrimage in England
Mary Lee Nolan Discussant

Second Session:
Organizer: Carolyn V. Prorok
Chair: Gisbert Rinschede
Surinder M. Bhardwaj Some Spatial Aspects of Religious Composition in Punjab Since 1947
Robert Stoddard Muslim Pilgrimages: Marabouts in the Maghreb
Carolyn V. Prorok Dae Wang San Sin or Worshipping Mountains in Korean Culture
Mohammad Hemmassi Discussant

GORABS FEATURE ESSAY AND FEATURE MAP(S) Ock Han-Suk, from the Department of Geography at the Kangweon National University in Chuncheon S. Korea, submitted the following essay on "Korean Ancestor Worship and P’ungsu Chiri: The case of the Chuncheon Park Clan." Chiri is the term for ‘geography’ in Korean, and it is also used in conjunction with the term P’ungsu which means wind and water. Combined, the term P’ungsu Chiri is Korea's system of geomancy; a system that has indigenous roots, but which also reflects the strong influence of China’s culture in Korea over the centuries. Professor Ock would welcome any correspondence with geographers interested in this subject. His address is The Department of Geography, College of Education, Kangweon National University, Chuncheon, Kangweon-do, 200-701, S. Korea. Fax #: 81-361-51-9556 (indicate name & dept)
P’ungsu Chiri, otherwise known as Feng-sui in China, is a traditional philosophy in Korea. P’ungsu philosophy originated within ancient Korean culture, although it was first recorded in China. It is intermingled with various Oriental philosophies such as Taoism, Buddhism and Ancestor Worship. The principle of P’ungsu has been adapted to establishing residences of both the living and the dead within natural contexts, especially that of the mountain. Koreans wish to bury their ancestors in the Myungdang (the best place), which is a primary P’ungsu concept. They perform a sacrificial rite for the ancestors in front of the tomb, and Koreans believe ancestors will thus bless them with good fortune. As a result, the royal family and peerage utilized P’ungsu philosophy to promote the prosperity of the nation and their own clan. In other words, the ruling classes only accepted P’ungsu philosophy as a belief system that authenticated and guaranteed their own prosperity, which is symbolized by power and wealth.

There are many clans that originated in the various counties of Korea. Most of them had power and wealth and they became the ruling class. Original clans with surnames representing the paternal lineage can be grouped chiefly into various clan levels, for instance, tosong clans (first ruling group), mangsong clans (first ruling group that eventually disappeared), and soksong clans (a ruling group that immigrated into the county of Chuncheon from other counties of Korea). There were many clans residing in Chuncheon, one of the administrative centers in central Korea (Figure 1). The Chuncheon clan named Park is the only one of the tosong clans which can be found in historical documents, and it represented two kinds of social status: governmental officials and provincial secretaries of the Koryo dynasty. During the Yi dynasty their local and national power declined, but their lineage continued to grow and prosper. The Park clan and geomancers believe that this was caused by the P’ungsu site for the ancestors. The tomb of the Park clan’s founder (Park Hang/1227-1281) was located on a mountain that symbolized the nest of a swallow (Figure 2).

Basic to P’ungsu is the notion that many mountains possess special qualities and are thus, Jinsan, or guardian mountains. To be a guardian mountain the mountain should have Koog, which is a complex of specific, symbolic characteristics. All guardian mountains can be classified into five general categories which are called: water, metal, fire, soil, and tree (or wood). These categories are further distinguished by sub-types, each of which have varying kinds of auspicious qualities. In the case of the Chuncheon Park clan, the clan leader was buried on a mountain that exhibited the swallow nest subtype of the tree mountain. It also had the characteristic of a porch (such as that exhibited in a Korean folk house), in that it was ringed by lower hills in a special configuration (for power and protection) (Figure 3). This pattern is significant in terms of the multi-purpose nature of the "front room" or porch of a Korean house (Figure 4). Porches are used not only as the main entrance to the home, but also to serve guests and as an area for lower class people waiting to be received by the owner of the home. Swallows are noted for making their nests under the roof of Korean homes, and more importantly, the porch configuration presents a symbolic entrance to the tomb. Finally,
outwards, and off in the distance are a series of lower hills that are
distinguished by the plain (or otherwise level) area around them. This
section symbolized space for the provision of worms to feed the
swallows, just as the fields of rice feed the family (Table 1 & Figures
5-6: The geomancer—at left—is standing at the tomb and the lower hills
and plain are in the distance. This view from the tomb is central to
the geomancer’s interpretation of the site).

The complex of various features described above is the mountain’s Koog.
To bury one’s ancestors on a mountain with a Koog such as this one is
auspicious indeed, in that this mountain would ensure future
prosperity. The swallow nest type is auspicious because it symbolized
a live earth, and a live earth is prosperous earth.

The theoretical system of P’ungsu is to intuit the interaction between
people and the living earth, or nature. So, even though the swallow
nest mountain of Park Hang’s tomb guarded the wealth and prosperity of
his descendants, its lofty heights in relation to the small stream that
fronted it would restrict, or otherwise inhibit, the full realization
of that prosperity. In accordance with this P’ungsu Koog, the Park
clan flourished by dividing into 24 groups and migrating to other
districts, while other clans declined in number of descendants (Figure
1). The exact cause of the decline of these other tosang clans is not
known because information about them can not be found in historical
documents. A geomancer’s interpretation of this situation would be
that the Park clan reflected the mountain of their ancestor’s tomb;
just as a swallow lays many eggs. The other clans must not have had
such an auspicious mountain in that their names and lineage are now
forgotten. On the other hand, the Park clan eventually declined in
prestige and political power, thus revealing the limitations of the
site.

P’ungsu philosophy occupies a large portion of Korean traditional
thought, and it reflects a personal history of Korean social
relationships. In as much as it also reflects the relationship between
Koreans and their mountainous landscape, it deserves greater attention
by cultural geographers.

Selected Bibliography
Lee, Mong Il 1991 The Development Process and Changing Characteristic
of Korean P’ungsu Chiri Thought, Seoul: Myung Publishing Co.

Ock, Han Suk 1987 "Immigration of Clans in Korea Before the Late
Chosun Dynasty," Journal of Geography, 14, Seoul National
University.

은녕히계세요
TABLE I: Relationships between people and mountains in Pungsu Chiri (Korea).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Human</th>
<th>House Entrance Room</th>
<th>Home</th>
<th>Crop Fields</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Swallow</td>
<td>Nest perch</td>
<td>Nest</td>
<td>Worms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pungsu</td>
<td>Forward hills</td>
<td>Tomb</td>
<td>Maintenance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 5

Figure 6
ANNOUNCEMENTS
Rana P.B. Singh of Banaras Hindu University announces that the Tara Book Agency in Varanasi is presenting the 4th publication in its Varanasi-Studies Foundation: Cultural Traditions of India Series. It is entitled PANCAKROSI VÂTRA, VÂRANASI: Sacred Journey, Ecology of Place, and Faithscape, by R. P. B. Singh. You many inquire about it through the Tara Book Agency, Kamachha, Varanasi, UP 221010, India.

At the jointly sponsored meetings of the NCGE and CLAG (the National Council for Geographic Education and the Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers) in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic during September of 1992, the following paper was presented by Robert A. Voeks, "Leaves for the Gods: African Plant Classification in the New World."

At the IGC (International Geographical Congress) of the IGU in Washington D.C. during August of 1992, a number of papers and sessions were organized on GORABS themes. They include:
SYMBOLIC GEOGRAPHY: CONCEPTS OF SACRED SPACE
Gastone Imbrighi, "Les lieux sacres dans le paysage terrestre."
Angelo Turco, "Projecting Harmony: Mythical Thought and Territoriality in the Ivory Coast."
William J. Gribb "Symbolism of Place and Changing Jurisdiction: The Taos Pueblo’s Struggle for Blue Lake."
Lily L. Kong "The Sacred and the Secular: Symbolic Meanings and values of Religious Buildings in Singapore."
Li Cejin "The Influence of Tibetan Buddhism on Social Development."

BIBLICAL ARCHEOLOGY AND THE JUDEO-CHRISTIAN HERITAGE
Jonathan J. Lu "Geography of the bible and Its Research Frontiers."
Abraham Akkerman "Towers, Gates, and Open Spaces in Cities of the Old Testament."
William A. Dando "The Diffusion of Lutheranism in America."
Israel Roll "Roman Roads in the Provincia Judaea: A Regional Communication Network in the Roman Empire."

Other papers include:
Hasi Das "Mayapur: The Sacred Place of International Fame."
Surinder Bhardwaj "Harmony and Conflict in the Holy Landscape."
John D. Porteous "Transcendental Experience in Wilderness."
Arun P. Singh "Religious Sites of the Himalaya and their Socio-cultural Impact on Tourism."
Pradyumna Karan "Regional Ethnic and Religious Separatist or Autonomy Movements in the Indian Subcontinent."
Reinhard Henkel "Christian Missions and Churches as Agents Meeting Human Needs, Wants, and Rights in Africa: The Example of Zambia."
Gisbert Rinschede "Catholic Pilgrimage Centers in Quebec."
Please complete this form if you are not a geographer or if you are a geographer that does not live in the United States. In this way you can become a member of record in the Association of American Geographers Specialty Group named GORABS without also being a member of the AAG itself. Dues are $5 for professionals and $1 for students. If you reside in a developing country the dues fee is waived, however, we still request that you fill out this form for our records. If you are already a member of the AAG, you should simply check the GORABS line in the specialty group section. You should not fill out this form.

Please send this form to Carolyn V. Prorok, Department of Geography, Slippery Rock University, Slippery Rock PA, 16057-1326; Fax: (412) 738-2098 and phone #(412) 738-2384. Thank you.

Name: __________________________________________ (family name first please)
Affiliation: ________________________________ (school, company etc)
Address: ________________________________
______________________________
______________________________ (mailing address for GORABS)
Phone #: ________________________________ (include country code)
Fax#: ________________________________
E-Mail: ________________________________

Please list research interests:

______________________________
______________________________
______________________________

Thank you.