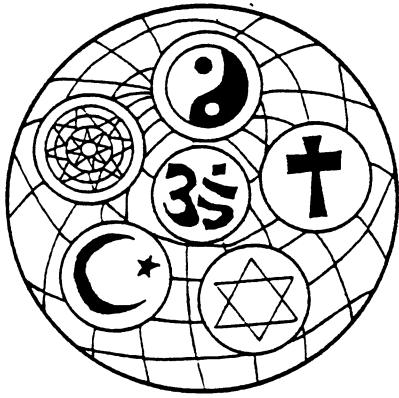


Geography of Religions & Belief Systems



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EDITOR'S NOTE

Two very important events are highlighted in this issue of the newsletter. First, and foremost, note that the ballot for the new executive board is inserted here. Please take a moment to vote for the candidates and return the ballot to CV Prorok at the above address. This is my last year as Past-Chair of the specialty group, thus I am running the election. Bob Stoddard, at Nebraska-Lincoln, will be turning the Chair's keys over to Dick Jackson (Brigham Young) at the upcoming meeting and taking over the Past-Chair's position. We all extend a hearty thanks to Bob for his leadership and efforts on behalf of GORABS.

The second major event to be highlighted is the quantity and quality of GORABS offerings at the Fort Worth meeting just around the corner. Bring your newsletter along and use the schedule that I have prepared. Every year GORABS folk and friends get together for dinner. Watch the announcement board near the registration counter for more information. I especially look forward to seeing everyone since I missed you at Charlotte.

FUNDING FOR THIS NEWSLETTER IS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES AT SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY

PENNSYLVANIA GEOGRAPHER

Call for Papers

Manuscripts are already rolling in to our offices. However, it is not too late to prepare your project for this special GORABS issue. Remember, The Pennsylvania Geographer is a high-quality, refereed journal produced bi-annually by the PENNSYLVANIA GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY. A special volume devoted to the theme of GORABS is planned for 1997 with Carol Prorok as guest editor. Submissions will be refereed before being accepted for publication. Research on any GORABS subject is welcomed. Please contact Carol Prorok or Bill Kory (PG Editor, Geography Dept., U. of Pittsburgh-Johnston, Johnston, PA 15904) if you are interested. The absolute deadline to receive manuscripts is August 15th, 1997. We will accept them sooner.

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Convention Details
Inside...see you
there!

Association of American Geographers

GORABS Feature Essay*

LOCATION AND LANDSCAPES OF BUDDHIST TEMPLES IN KOREA is a synopsis of Kim, Il Rim's dissertation. See the FOCUS feature for more info on Dr. Kim.

Buddhism in Korea has influenced the development of Korean culture. As such, Buddhist temples generally express Korean traditional spirits, geomancy, and political and social changes. Based on this premise, the purpose of this research is to analyze the locational patterns and landscapes of Buddhist temples in Korea.

To do this, 136 temples were selected among the 637 temples that are registered in Korea (based on related documents, field trips to temples and questionnaires). To classify locational patterns, the altitude of temple compounds and their distance to nearest villages and rivers were measured. Maps were drawn based on topographical maps of 1:25,000 and 1:5,000. The spatial patterning of buildings belonging to temple compounds were used for analyzing the landscapes of the temples.

Korean Buddhist culture is represented by buildings, pagodas and Buddha statues in that these three elements are 65.4% of the total elements consistent with the landscape of Buddhist temples in Korea. Typical Buddhist cultural relics considered to be traditionally Korean are primarily distributed (65.3% of the total) in Northern and Southern Cholla Province, and Northern and Southern Kyungsang Province (see map of study area).

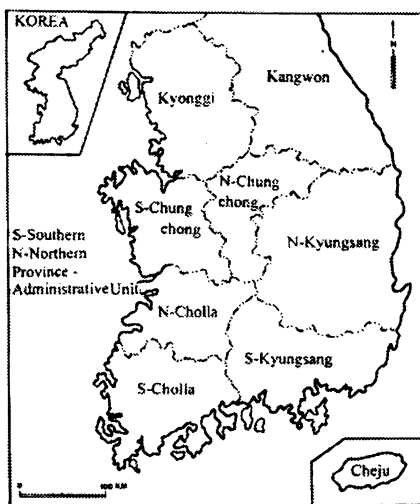
The introduction of Buddhism to Korea via China has meant that it was modified somewhat, and it is not the original Buddhism from India. Eventually Buddhism in Korea developed its own unique style, which was then diffused to Japan. In the early period of Buddhism in Korea, the temple compound consisted of a pagoda and temples that were located generally in low-lying areas and mountain valleys. As time passed, the compound's central axis was gradually changed from an open area to a building. With the popularity of Buddhism spreading during the Koryo Dynasty (918-1392), many other buildings were built in the temple compounds that

combined Buddhism with animism. This compound layout survives to this day, but its location has shifted. Anti-Buddhist sentiment that arose in the primarily Confucianist Chosun Dynasty (1392-1910), drove Buddhists to higher ground. Today, most Buddhist temple compounds are found in the mountains and their foothills.

Despite the negative political and social environment during the Chosun dynasty for temple building and maintenance of extant temples, Pung Soo (Korean feng-shui or geomancy) and the Seon sect played the most significant role in locating temples in Korea. Thus, temples are mostly located in the proper places of harmony with their natural surroundings and principles of Buddhism. The locations of Buddhist temples are classified into three patterns. They are: 1) the "ground level location" type: Pongjeonsa, 2) the "foot of mountain location" type: Sooduksa, and 3) the "mountain location" type: Sangwonsa. More than half (54.4%) of Buddhist temples in Korea belong to the "foot of mountain location" type.

There are four essential buildings of a Buddhist temple compound; 1) the Daeungjon, or main Buddhist hall, 2) two Yosache, or side buildings, flanking the Daeungjon, 3) a Munlu, or entry shrine, and 4) Sansingak, or mountain spirit shrine (see figure 2). The sizes and styles of these temples are related to the principles of Buddhism and Sashindo, and they can be divided into three different types: 1) the "small" or So-sachal, 2) the "middle" or Jung-sachal, and 3) the "large" or Tae-sachal types. In Korea, the Jung-sachal type is the most common with 49.3% of the total.

Characteristics of temples by periods based on the construction type of the Daeungjon were examined, because the Daeungjon is one of the most important buildings, and one of the most essential components for the cultural landscape of temples. The results are: 1) the Jushimpo style of building started to appear in the Koryo dynasty, 2) in the early Chosun dynasty, the Paljak-roof of the Daeungjon was the typical style of roof, 3) in the middle Chosun dynasty, the Dapogye design characterized the typical style, and 4) Matbae and Paljak roof-



Map of Study Area

Continued on Page 5

FORT WORTH Meeting

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2

Asian Sacred Places I: sponsored by Asian Geography and GORABS

- 8:20am W. A. Noble, "Toda Sacredmost Dairies Apart from Hamlets, in the Nilgiris, South India."
 8:40am M. L. Nolan, "In the Steps of St. Thomas: Christain Shrines in South India."
 9:00am Il Rim Kim, "Cultural Landscape of Buddhist Temples in Korea."
 9:20am J. Sarich, "Zoroastrianism in Central Asia: Past, Present and Future."

Asain Sacred Places II: sponsored by Asian Geography and GORABS

- 10:00am A. Sinha, "Indian Cities as Mandalas."
 10:20am C. V. Prorok, "Building Hindu Temples in Penang, Malaysia."
 10:40am J. M. Johnson, F. J. Costa, "Hindu Temple Development in the United States: Planning and Zoning Issues."
 11:00am M. Rao, S. M. Bhardwaj, "Temple as a Symbol of Hindu Regrouping in America."
 11:20am R. Dodge, "Religious Diffusion Typology: The Case of the Baha'i Faith."

Urban Iconography, Jerusalem, and a Religious Community: sponsored by the Bible Specialty Group

- 10:00am M. De Vivo, "The New Jerusalem: Apocalyptic Iconography and Visions of the Second Millennium."
 10:20am L. A. Boenigk, "Geographic Predictors of Urban Volatility in Jerusalem, Past and Present."
 10:40am D. W. Drummond, "The Decapolis: Ancient Sites, Current Situations."
 11:00am R. R. Boyce, "The American City and the Pursuit of Fairness and Justice: A Biblical Perspective."
 11:20am G. L. Akins, A. S. Posey, "Location and Relocation: Site/Situation to Fulfill the Great Commission."

Historical Geography session:

- 2:45pm R.L. Wolfel, "Diffusion of Evangelical Abolitionism."

Sacred and Sanctified Landscapes: From Here to the Hereafter: sponsored by Ethnic Geography, American Indians, Biogeography and GORABS

- 1:45pm D. L. McDonald, S. F. Austin, G. Wells, P. R. Blackwell, "Sacred Space and Sanctified Places: An East Texas Conundrum."
 2:05pm G. R. Dobbs, "Interpreting the Navajo Sacred Geography as a Landscape of Healing."
 2:25pm K. Forbes-Boyte, "Cultural Genocide and Sacred Places: The Desecration of Bear Butte."
 2:45pm S. Patterson, M. Restall, "Trees as Tropes: The Role of Flowering Trees in Yucatec Maya Sacred and Social Space."
 3:05pm D. A. Beraert, "The Pathway to the Landscape of Life After Death: Native American Perspectives."

Aspects of North American Religion: independent session

- 3:45pm C. S. Campbell, "LDS Faction Views of Independence, Missouri: An American Sacred Space."
 4:05pm E. Yorgason, "Struggles Over Regional Meanings: An Example from Mormon History."
 4:25pm T. W. Crawford, "The Meaning of Pilgrimage in the United States."
 4:45pm A. Gleason, "Kinds of Churches in North America;"

THURSDAY, APRIL 3

Studies in the Geography of Religions and Belief Systems: sponsored by GORABS

- 8:00am R. H. Stoddard, "Defining the Geography of Religion: Some Fundamental Issues."
- 8:20am J. Norwine, B. BakamaNume, M. Preda, A. Ketcham, M. Bruner, S. Flere, "Belief Systems in the 21st Century: An Emerging Postmodern Hegemony?"
- 8:40am S. M. Bhardwaj, "Expectancy, Obligation, and Fun: Some Aspects of Comparative 'Peregrinology'."
- 9:00am C. S. Balachandran, "Unsettling the 'Here' in Favor of the 'Here-after': The Favored Peregrinations of Purandasa."

Borders and Identity session:

- 1:45pm C. Gallaher, "'Christianizing' the Family, 'Reconstructing' the Home-The House that Ralph Built."

Cultural Landscapes session:

- 2:25pm M.L. Comeaux, "Cemeteries in the Cajun Landscape."
- 2:45pm E.J. Straw, "South Texas Ranch Cemeteries."

Cartography Honors papers:

- 4:05pm S. A. Sheers, "Christian Mappaemundi and Jain Religious Maps: Comparative Created Worlds."

Naturalistic and Religious Landscapes: Shrines and Trails: independent session

- 3:45pm H.J. Rademacher, "Landscape Change Along Missouri's Katy Trail."
- 4:05pm S. P. Smilley, "Nature Far and Near: Experiential Proximity in Naturalistic Landscapes."
- 4:25pm J. S. Smith, "Religious Landscape and Cultural Change on the Hispano Homeland's Northern Periphery."
- 4:45pm R. Waugh, "Boundary Delineation of Sacred Hinterlands: Premodern and Modern Examples."
- 5:05pm M. Richardson, "Two Shrines Along the River: San Juan del Valle, Texas, and Chimayo, New Mexico."
- 5:25pm K. S. Blake, "The Landscape Symbolism and Identity of a Sacred Southwestern Mountain."
- 5:45pm **GORABS BUSINESS MEETING:** Your attendance and input are greatly appreciated. Please consider making this meeting a priority in your Thursday line-up.

FRIDAY, APRIL 4

AAG Specialty Groups: Status, Challenges, and Prospects: a panel

- 10:00am we are sponsoring this panel discussion on SG's with several other
- 11:30am groups. This will be a good opportunity to share your ideas.

Identity, Place and Image session:

- 11:00am B. F. Tillman, "Moravian Influence on Miskito Dwellings."

Satellite Revelations: New Views of the Holy Land: sponsored by Remote Sensing, Bible SG and GORABS

- 3:45pm Richard I. Cleave, presenter
- to
- 5:00pm

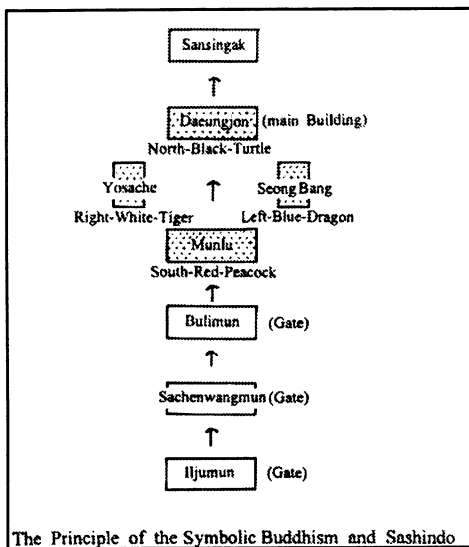
(Continued on Page 6)

Feature Essay

Continued from Page 2

styles were popular in the late Chosun dynasty. Also, at this time, changes to the interior design become more concentrated than changes to the exterior. Finally, 5) the building style and the interior of

the Daeungjon did not change much in recent periods, but it is characterized by the enlargement of temple size in scale with the construction of large-size sanctuaries and/or auditoriums for missionary work.



The Principle of the Symbolic Buddhism and Sashindo

Buddhist temples in Korea represent Buddhist culture having accumulated many aesthetic and spiritual streams from the past and are a key cultural complex with a mixture of elements. They also reflect political, social and cultural situations of each time period. The landscapes of temples are a result of Korean traditional thought and spirit, which was maintained in the face of cultural and historical changes.

*NOTE THAT THIS ESSAY IS A SYNOPSIS OF DR. KIM'S PRESENTATION AT THE UPCOMING FT. WORTH MEETING. PLEASE JOIN US TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE STYLES AND HISTORIC CHANGES IN KOREA'S BUDDHIST TEMPLES.

ELECTION TIME!!!!

The positions of secretary-treasurer, two regular board positions and the student representative position are open. All positions are for two years of service. The secretary-treasurer position evolves into the chair position, and then into the past-chair position. We have an excellent slate of candidates willing to serve the specialty group. If you are an AAG dues paying member, you will find a ballot in this issue. **PLEASE** take a moment to return it to Carol Prorok immediately. Thanks

GORABS FOCUS ON:

Kim, Il Rim

Dr. Kim recently completed her PhD in Geography at Dongguk University of Seoul, Korea under the direction of Professor Hae, Un Rii. As a cultural and historical geographer, Dr. Kim is distinguished by being the first geographer to extensively study Korea's Buddhist temples. Presently, she is completing post-doctoral work as a part of the University of Michigan's Visiting International Professional Program (VIPP). You can reach her at: 1546 E. Spartan Village, E. Lansing, MI 48823. (517)-432-3663, FAX 353-3010.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

From the Editor's Desk: We have an essay on a Brazilian pilgrimage site due in the next issue of the newsletter. After that, however, we will need new submissions. Thus, this announcement is a call for GORABS related essays approximately 1000 words in length with accompanying map, graph or other illustration. You can send a synopsis of your dissertation or thesis work, your latest research project, or a project that you plan to do in the near future. In addition, I am looking for vitae of our members to maintain the Focus On: feature. **DON'T BE SHY!!!** Let us know more about you and your work.

Chandra Balachandran, at NDSU, announces that our homepage address has a slight change. Note the following:

http://www.dnsu.nodak.edu/instruct/balachan/sp_grps/gorabs/

He also encourages members to link with the GORABS homepage and to send him material. Bios, book reviews and ideas for cool links are welcome.

ADDRESS CHANGES

The editor appreciates notification of address changes as soon as they are known. From this point onward, any person's newsletter returned to due to change of address, will be eliminated from the mailing list immediately.

Ft. Worth Meeting

Continued from Page 4

SATURDAY, APRIL 5

Political Geography session:

8:40am D. Sidorov, "The Politics of Scale in PostSoviet Reconstruction of the Cathedral of Christ the Savior in Moscow."

Poststructuralist Thought session:

10:40am M. Gilmartin & O. Dwyer, "The Politics of Religion in St. Peter Claver Parish."

Postmodern Geographies session:

1:45pm D. Kelli, "Conjuring 'Geography' from the Crypt."

2:25pm D. J. Keirse, "Postmodern Field Experience and Feminist Witchcraft."

Migration and Landscape session:

4:25pm K. M. Lucchese, "Meaning from Annihilation: A Landscape of Papal Hegemony."

Urban Historical Geography session:

5:05pm P. Davis, "Religious Influences on Settlement Processes in Seventeenth Century New England Towns."



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