

Spring 2020 Arts of Asia Lecture Series
Visions of the Afterlife in Asia
Sponsored by the Society for Asian Art

**Korean Traditions of the Afterlife:
What the Undead Tell Us of the Korean Worldview**

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Three Kingdoms Period (1st cent. BCE-7th cent. CE)

Unified Silla Kingdom (大新羅 668-935)

Koryŏ Dynasty (高麗 918-1392)

Chosŏn Dynasty (朝鮮 1392-1910)

Öyu yadam [於于野談 Unofficial narratives by Öu],

Ghosts (鬼神 *kwisin*)

Kongsa mun'gyŏn-rok [公私聞見錄 Record of public and private observations]

Buddhist/ Daoist Views of the Afterlife

Ghosts (Sans. *preta*)

The Eight Hells (Sans. *naraka*)

Ten Kings of Hell (*siwang*)

Messenger of Hell (*saja*)

Confucian Views

Ancestor Rites (祭祀 *chesa*)

Folk/ Shamanic Views

Eschatological rituals (死靈祭 *sayŏng-je*)

Baleful influence of the dead (煞 *sal*)

Tongguk sesigi [東國歲時記 Seasonal customs of the Eastern country]

Arang (阿娘)

Chŏng Chisang (鄭知常 ?-1135)

Kim Pusik (金富軾 1075-1151)

Myoch'ŏng (妙淸 ?- 1135)

Yi Kyubo (李奎報 1168-1241)

Vengeful ghosts (冤鬼 *wŏn kwi*)

Pohan-jip [補閑集 Supplementary jottings in idleness]

Pak Yŏp (朴燁 1570-1623)

Ch'oe Ch'iwŏn (崔致遠 857-?)

Grand Prince Inp'yŏng (麟坪大君 1622-1658)

Son *kakssi* (孫閣氏)

Yi Sugwang (李睟光 1563-1628)
Mukchae ilgi [默齋日記 Diary of Mukchae]
Koryōsa [高麗史 The history of the Koryō dynasty]
Yi Ki (李壘 1522-1600)

Further Reading:

Janelli, Roger L., and Dawnhee Yim Janelli. *Ancestor Worship and Korean Society*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1982.

Kendall, Laurel. "Wood Imps, Ghosts, and Other Noxious Influences: The Ideology of Affliction in a Korean Village." *Journal of Korean Studies* 3 (1981): 113-145.

Kendall, Laurel and Griffin Dix, eds., *Religion and Ritual in Korean Society*. Berkeley: Institute of East Asian Studies, University of California, 1987.

Horlyck, Charlotte and Michael J. Pettid eds., *Death, Mourning and the Afterlife in Korea: From Ancient to Contemporary Times*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 2014.

Pettid, Michael J. "Late Chosŏn Society as Reflected in a Shamanistic Narrative: An Analysis of the *Pari kongju muga*." *Korean Studies* 24 (2000): 113-141.

_____. "May the Gods Strike You Dead! Healing through Subversion in Shamanic Narratives." *Asian Folklore Studies* 62 (2003): 113-132.

Walraven, Boudewijn. "Popular Culture in a Confucianized Society." In *Culture and the State in Late Chosŏn Korea*, eds. JaHyun Kim Haboush and Martina Deuchler, 160-198. Cambridge MA: Harvard University Press, 1999.