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Essay

Tcheonzamun author’s prayer to God: “Save our lives, Lord!” (737th to 752nd characters)

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In Korea, it is not known that Korean people wrote the Tcheonzamun (The Thousand Character Essay). Korean people firmly believe that Chinese people wrote the poem. Recently, the authors of present report discovered that Korean scripts are shown in Tcheonzamun. Therefore, the authors started to think that the ancestor of Korean people, Maeg country’s people, had written this splendid work. Each Tcheonzamun poem consists of 16 letters. There are two methods of translating Tcheonzamun poem: one is to translate through the meaning of Chinese character, and the other is to interpret the Tcheonzamun through Korean pronunciation. This poem has different meanings: The one translated through Chinese character has gentle meaning, while that through Korean pronunciation, the meaning is full of sorrow. Tcheonzamun author’s prayer to God is in the poem of Tcheonzamun from 737th to 752nd character: ù Save us our lives, Lord!

Key words: Maeg country, Korean pronunciation, Tcheonzamun (The Thousand Character Essay), “Save us our lives, Lord!”, Tcheonzamun 737th to 752nd characters.

INTRODUCTION

The Korean history before 100 AD was not absolutely known; the only thing known is that there were three countries in the Korean Peninsular in the period; Korie or Kao-li royal in the north and the north-east, Pet-si royal in the west, and Sin-la royal in the south-east (Dallet, 1874). The Maeg country was the principal of the Koguryo (Encyclopaedia Britannica in Korea, 1997). Here, Koguryo was the same country as Korie (Dallet, 1874).

It was known that Tcheonzamun had been read in two old China imperial countries, Chin and Han dynasty (Tsin and Ha’n in Cantonese pronunciation in the 19th century) (Dallet, 1874). It is known that Tcheonzamun book is composed of 63 poems, with each consisting of 16 letters (Park and Kim, 31 May 2012). And it is also known in the Korean pronunciation of Tcheonzamun poems that Korean ancestors (Maeg people) wrote the
The author of the poem wanted to write the general meaning and title in Chinese language, while he wanted to express his real intention in Korean pronunciation (Park et al., 2017b). And this time we wanted to know the difference between the poem translated through Chinese character and the one interpreted through Korean language (737th to 752nd characters).

A baby is born, grows up to do his or her work and then will die. In life, every man will get pain and joy from others, and at the same time she or he will give others a lot of pain or joy. It is similar to the translation of Tcheonzamun, the relation of Yeon and Maeg peoples. This paper aims to analyze the apology of Augustin, one of the researchers, to Jiah Anna, his daughter.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The meaning of the common Tcheonzamun book (Kim, 2002) can be bought in Korean street. We translated the meaning of the Korean version of Tcheonzamun in Korea (Kim, 2002), relying on the English version (Sturman, Source: www.oocities.org/npsturman/tce.html). Here, the Koreans think that 4 characters form a poem in the traditional Korean version (Kim, 2002), while 8 characters form a poem in the English version (Sturman, Source: www.oocities.org/npsturman/tce.html).

At first, we translated the poem (737th to 752nd characters) through Chinese character, and then interpreted it through Korean pronunciation.

There are several differences between the present translation through Chinese character and the previous Korean common translation of Tcheonzamun (Kim, 2002). At first, the meaning of the first line is not against those of the second, the third and fourth lines in the Korean or English version. The meanings of all the four lines are similar. There is a significant opposition between the first, second, third, and fourth lines of the present researchers.

And there is no difference in the translation of both line using S+V, S+V and that of V+S, V+S. Here, S is subject or noun and V is verb in the Korean or English version. The present researchers believe that there is a big difference of the meanings in the two types of lines.

There is no poem consisting of 16 characters in the Korean or English version. The present researchers think that a poem is composed of 16 letters or 32 letters in Tcheonzamun (Park and Kim, 2012). The next dialogue is the recent telephone messages between Jiah Anna (our third child) and Augustin.

Augustin: My daughter Anna! I am sorry! Augustin: I have done a lot of bad things to you, I apologize to you! (In this instant Anna telephoned Augustin) Anna: No, you did not do any thing bad to me! Everything was OK. Don't worry Papa! (After the telephonic talk, Augustin wrote message again to Anna.) Augustin: I have beaten you. I am really sorry. Thank you very much! Anna: Papa! I am only thanking you, mother and father. Mother and father, both of you have well raised me up. I respect you and I love you. Mom and Papa! Augustin: Anna, Oh I love you!

Did the author of Maeg country of Tcheonzamun think somewhat a peaceful attitude like this? Or does it, the
peaceful attitude, only show outer appearance? What was the real emotion of the Tcheonzamun author? The next is the interpretation of the poem through Korean pronunciation.

(No. of character) (Korean alphabet) (Korean pronunciation) (Chinese character) (translation in modern Korean and their pronunciations) (Its Meaning in English)
737-741 구고심론(KuGoSimRon) 求古尋論 求古尋論 구고심론(KuGoSimRon)? Are you going to starve?
741-744 산려소요(SanLyeoSoYo) 散慮逍遙 살려줘요(SalLyeoZwoYo)! Spare my life, please!
745-748 혼주루견(HeunZuLuKyeon) 欣奉累遣 혼주루견(HonZulEulNae) Treat him (or her) very harshly!
749-752 퇴사환초(TcheokSaHwanTcho) (威+心)謝歡招 퇴사환초(TcheokSaHwanTcho) Make him (or her) to do desperate things in order to live!

There was a combat between Yeon country and Maeg country. Maeg country was defeated in 661 B.C. (Chung, 2013). Yeon country was situated near Maeg, the old Korea, in the sixth century B.C. (Fairbank and Reischauer, 1978). The Tcheonzamun author was really sorry as in our other poem translations (Park and Kim, 2016).

The first line (구고심론(KuGoSimRon)) of the present poem was spoken by Yeon country’s man, the second line(산려소요(SanLyeoSoYo)) was spoken by Maeg country’s man, and the third line(혼주루견(HeunZuLuKyeon)) and fourth line(퇴사환초(TcheokSaHwanTcho)) were done by Yeon country’s man. The pleasure or this joy shown in the translation through Chinese character of this poem is only an expression of hope; “It will be very good if these things were accomplished!”

Birket-Smith (1965) wrote: “The word culture derives from the Latin cultura, which means cultivation”; in this instance, cultivation of the human mind. It is written that the Maeg people captured by the Chinese people had worked in China (Kangxizidian, 1716). The Tcheonzamun poems might be fabricated by one or several men of those captured people. This expression is similar to the poem from 689 to 704th letters (Park and Kim, 2016).

Korean historian In-Bo Chung studied Korean History in the 1930s period when Japan ruled Korea, and it was published in a book named ‘Choseonsa Yeonku (Study of Korean History)’(Chung, 2012). It is written that Professor In-Bo Chung liked to use strange and difficult writing style in order to hide his intention from the Japanese authorities. It might be that the Tcheonzamun author is in the same condition as In-Bo Chung (Chung, 2012).

During the translation of the Tcheonzamun poem, the researchers found some traces of Korean history and they found that the special bilingual mask is utilized (Park et al., 2017a). This expression is similar to our other interpretation through Korean pronunciation of the previous Tcheonzamun poem (721st to 736th) (Park et al., 2017b). It is found that there is a controversy between the poem using Chinese character and Korean pronunciation. Chinese character says, “Let’s accept this condition! And we will live peacefully!” However, Korean pronunciation says, “Let’s escape from this slavery state!” It is possible that the Maeg people had planned to live peacefully with their enemy for a short time, but it took a long time for them to obtain victory against their enemy. One of the researchers’ excellent friend said, “The people of Maeg felt that it was not good to revenge the Yeon people, the occupiers. The Maeg country people’s culture is great because they know that revenge is a kind of wild justice. When Tcheonzamun poems are probed into deeply, the highly developed culture of the Maeg people can be understood.”

Therefore, this Tcheonzamun poem expresses the hope of Maeg people against their poor condition; “How will it be good if we can torture Yeon people, since we are sorrowful and badly treated by them! This poem is the prayer of the Tcheonzamun(The Thousand Character Essay) author to God; “Save our lives, Lord!”

**CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**

The authors have not declared any conflict of interests.

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Essay

Ancient Koreans’ petition to God in Tcheonzamun: The thousand character essay poem (641st to 656th letters)


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The researchers found that the Tcheonzamun (The Thousand Character Essay) consists of 63 poems of 16 letters, while the last 63rd poem consists of 8 letters. The researchers looked at the history of ancient Korea through Tcheonzamun poem. This is because the history of Korea before the 1st century has not been known until now. Through the first translation using the Chinese character, the researchers found that the author of Tcheonzamun poems tried to encourage the Maeg people, the ancestor of Koreans, because they were defeated in a combat with another country at that time. The researchers found that there is another method for the translation of Tcheonzamun poem. The researchers used their Korean pronunciations of the 16 letters for the second translation. The meaning of the translations under the two methods was similar, while the second translation through Korean pronunciations of Chinese characters had a tinge of sadness. From the aforementioned three key points, the researchers assumed two things: the people of Maeg country wrote the Tcheonzamun, and that the Tcheonzamun was spread from Maeg country into China before 500 B.C. Another two things the researchers found further are: the Tcheonzamun poem is a splendid writing because it expresses similar meaning both in interpretation of Chinese characters and Korean pronunciations using Chinese characters. There is a little difference between the modern Korean language and the Korean language of more than 2500 years old. The researchers wanted to know if Maeg people were religious people or not. Through this research, the researchers concluded that Maeg people were very religious people. And finally it is considered that the object for Maeg people of this Tcheonzamun poem is their petition to God for protection.

Key words: Maeg, Korean pronunciations, the sorrowful voices of Tcheonzamun (The Thousand Character Essay) author.

INTRODUCTION

Dallet (1874) wrote that “The first European missionaries and travelers in China had thought that the Korean language was a dialect of Chinese language, and they concluded that the two races, Korean and Chinese had
same identity and origin. Now we know that the two languages and people are different, and it is certain that Korean people are not Chinese but Tartar in their origin. The Korean people speak in the order of subject + object + verb same as in the Japanese language, while Chinese people speak in the order of subject + verb + object as in the manner of European languages. It is strange that even the learned Koreans do not know the history of Korea before 1st century and do not have any interest about their history of the period (Dallet, 1874).

In Korea, the Tcheonzamun book is the symbol of learning Chinese character. In the modern period, it has never been thought that ancestor of Korean people have fabricated Tcheonzamun (The Thousand Character Essay). And it is the very reason why Hyeonhi (Augustin's wife) insisted so strongly and in such a stubborn manner opposed the opinion of Augustin as shown in ‘Results and Discussion’ of the present report. Until now, the researchers have not come to know that "Tcheonzamun is a masterpiece of Koreans!". But there is no significant meaning in Tcheonzamun except Chinese heroes or Chinese places (Sturman, Source, 2015: www.oocities.org/npstorman/tce.html).

The researchers found that the Tcheonzamun is composed of 63 poems, each poem is consisted of 16 letters except the last one, and the Tcheonzamun poem has very deep meaning (Park and Kim, 2012). And recently we found that all of 16 letters can be understood easily in Korean pronunciations (Park and Kim, 2016; Park and Kim, 2016). But it is given in a Korean dictionary that the Maeg country is situated in Liaohé in the very old period (Dong-A Publishing Company, 1988). It is given in a Chinese dictionary that Maeg country is situated in Eastern-Northern direction of China (Zhongguo Social Science Language Institute, 1994). Let us start with the subject of clothes. There is a country named Maeg in the Far East Asia. The people liked to wear long cloths, dangle robe and they also like white clothes. The people inhabit the place where reptiles, animals such as turtle lived, and they love making figures at the back of a lot of species of those animals.

The first sentence of this poem is KwangWonMyeonMag(광원면막[Korean alphabets] 曙遠緬縷[Chinese characters]). It is the first 4 letters of 641st to 656th Tcheonzamun poem. The letter Won(원,袁) which means long costume shows the Korean people. And another letter Mo(모,貌) which means “the people living in reptile district and wearing white cloths,” also shows the Korean people. The letter Won(원,袁) is the latter part of the second letter -same pronunciation but with different form and meaning- Won(원,遠); and another letter Mo(모,貌) is the latter part of the fourth letter -with different form and meaning- Mag(막,邈). But Chinese people do not like this letter, Mag(막,邈) (He, 1988).

The researchers think that the readers are already tired with these complicated Korean and Chinese characters. These two letters, Won(원,遠) and Mag(막,邈) have made us to write this long article, because this is the history of the researchers’ old ancestors of Korea, Maeg(貊,邈) country. When one of the authors of this present report, Sangdeog Augustin(Augustin) saw this first line of 4 letters, he felt something extraordinary. His feeling was that the authors of Tcheonzamun were the people of Maeg(貊,邈) country. Nicolas Tenaillon, one of the researchers, has an opinion that the ancient Chinese people had only little faith in God, so the researchers wanted to know if Maeg people were religious people or not.

This article is a part of the researchers’ (Park and Kim, 2016) writing (30 April 2017) in an internet (http://cafe.naver.com/angolstar/2840). Its title is ‘An E-mail letter from Rosa on the night when we returned from Japan journey (The sorrowful voices of Tcheonzamun author in a Tcheonzamun poem and the petition of ancient Koreans to God)’.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The researchers used a HanSeogBong Tcheonzamun (Kim, 2002). HanSeogBong is the name of a famous calligrapher in 16 or 17th century A.D. from Choseon country, and he wrote the Tcheonzamun in his own calligraphy. Kangxizidian (1716) was served an order to know Maeg (the ancestor of Korean) people’s record. The researchers, Hyeonhi and Augustin, had discussions for ten days from 5 September to 14 September, 2016. The researchers selected a poem of 16 letters from 641st to 656th of Tcheonzamun (The Thousand Character Essay). The marks of ( 못 / V’) are used in order to show 4 accents of Chinese language. The researchers translated the Tcheonzamun poem both through the Chinese character method and Korean pronunciation. And the researchers utilized the data of Sturman N (1 January 2015) to compare the meanings of this Tcheonzamun poem.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The next conversations followed are mainly the discussions between Hyeonhi Regina (Hyeonhi) and Augustin about the Maeg country. And there are three Catholic Church priest’s sermons. During the research, the researchers had breakfast at home in 6 September 2016.

Augustin: I am certain that the Maeg country wrote Tcheonzamun.

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Hyeonhi: Can we say that the country is Maeg country?

Hyeonhi: Today we have passed a very good day, Lord! Thank you very much our Lord!

Augustin: I think that someone of Maeg country had written the Tcheonza

Hyeonhi: If you want to say things like this, you have to verify it. You must do such things as looking for references and old material in order to prove your saying.

Hyeonhi: A lot of scientists must come in order to do this research.

Hyeonhi: And the scientists engaged in the research will investigate well if this saying is true or not!

Like this, Hyeonhi has always said 'No!' to Augustin for stopping his rapid and unwise decision. She keeps the position of common sense of Korean and Chinese peoples. However, this opposition of Hyeonhi has given to Augustin the continual source of and strength for more explanation of Tcheonza poem!

The researchers talked to each other during dinner yesterday (on 8 September 2016).

Hyeonhi: It is said that the Chinese made the Chinese characters with the oracle-bone scriptures.

Augustin: Me also, I know it. The oracle-bone scripts were found in Huanghe region in China. With this finding we all over the world believed that the China have made the Chinese characters.

By the way, another set of oracle bone scripts was found in Liaohe regions later. This another group of oracle bone scripts on Liaohe region is thought hundreds years still older than those on Huanghe region. This means that Chinese characters might be made in Liaohe region. Liaohe region is situated in northern-eastern China, and the region is not far from Korea. We know only one thing : Maeg country had been in the northern-eastern area of China.

Hyeonhi: And what do you think about Tcheonza?

Augustin: Tcheonza had been written by Korean ancestors, and this had entered China; after a long time this Tcheonza had again returned to Korea. But the meaning of the returned Chinese Tcheonza from Korea(Kim, 2002) and the meaning of Tcheonza in English version (Sturman. Source: www. oocities.org/npsturman/tce.html. [Edited by Cambridge Chinese Classics, www. camcc.org]) are too complex and sophisticated to understand.

Hyeonhi: Why don't people say that Tcheonza poems had been written by old Korean people?

Augustin: Darling, we are talking that our ancestors have made Tcheonza. Now we are doing the very thing!

Father JungEob Paul Lee in DaejeonNae-dong Catholic Church celebrated the Mass at the dawn of Saturday 10 September, 2016. The following is a part of his sermon during the Mass. "When there is no difference between the outside and inside of him (or her), he (or she) is true. And in this case we say that he (she) is true. Somebody's outside appearance seems to be good while his mind is not so; we call him/her hypocrite. Jesus said that it is very important to make our inner part of soul good. We, all of the man, have a thing to do. The thing is to bring us from bad temper to kind temper. It is easy to take out the bad behavior from his (or her) bad character. Our soul becomes good if we come near to the Lord. And the Lord makes us to be so. The bad behavior and the good one do not exist together. We heard it from today's first reading in the Mass. Let us celebrate this Mass earnestly! Let us ask our Lord, God, to make our soul to be good one."

The researchers started to translate Tcheonza using Chinese character.

641-644광원면막(four Korean alphabets) KwangWonMyeonMag(Korean pronunciation of the previous 4 Korean alphabets) 遠()'遠(V)'(4 Chinese characters with different tones). Our enemies want to expel us from this futile land to a barren place. This is a comfortable territory where we can live in good condition to wear long-robe costumes. The enemies make our country feeble to make us miserable.

"Rescue us! Are there anybody to rescue us? Please, help us!"

Yen situated the nearest country of old Korea country in the sixth century B.C. and Korean peninsular was there in the north-eastern direction of Yen (Fairbank and Reischauer, 1978). And between Yeon (Korean pronunciation of Yen) country and Maeg country there was a battle, where Maeg was defeated in 661 B.C. (Chung, 2013). The researchers, Augustin and Hyeonhi, talked on having breakfast in 10 September, 2016.

Augustin: Darling, this algae soup is very delicious! When we saw country name-like Chinese characters until now (from 1st to 640th letters in Tcheonza), we did not interpret it as country name. But we interpreted it for the first time as the country name, though the Chinese character, (昛, Maeg, ), is a part of Mag(máticos, ). If we translate it as country name of Maeg (昛, ), the meaning of this 4 letters is well understood.

The Tcheonza author cries out in the poem as
follows; “We are in such a miserable state that we entreat you! Rescue our lives! Help us, please!” The researchers feel that Augustin’s father Ilso Joseph Kim says to them, “My son Augustin, I was sometimes really hard-burdened. At that time, I was sad!”. And the researchers also feel that Hyeonhi’s father Yeonghag Park says to them, “My daughter Hyeonhi, I was sometimes really tired. At that time I was truly sad!” But both of the researchers’ fathers say to them, “Good luck with you, I will pray for you here in Heaven!”

Hyeonhi: It is said that in the era of 400 A.D. a Chinese king ordered his man, “If you succeed in writing different 1000 Chinese characters in one day, I will not give you death penalty. You will be safe!” It is another story of Tcheonzamun origin. How miserable the man was at that time!

Augustin: There is not such a pitiful appearance in common Tcheonzamun translation (Sturman, Source: www. oocities. org/npsturman/tee.html; Kim, 2002). But there was a petition to God by Tcheonzamun author in this translation. I can feel such sorrowful voices of Tcheonzamun author! He, the ancestor of Maeg people, says to us “Though we had been in danger and we had been truly in hard condition at that time! Do not worry, my descendants! Now it is Okay!” These are the voices of our fathers Ilso Joseph Kim and Yeonghag Park.

645-654 우수모명 AmSuMyoMyeong 巖(巖)出(出)豔(豔)冥(冥)
(1) No body help us Ah!
(2) Now we are going to lose our battle!
(3) But never be desperate!
(4) We can ascend from the mind of dark cavern(巖) to that of the rocky heightened mountain(巖).
(5) In order to do that, we must stand up(豔) from the darkness of the spirit(冥).
(6) And we shall recover our prosperity again.
(7) a) Thank you! b) I am very proud of you! c) Think positive! d) Look on the bright side! e) We are searching for joyfulness, we are eager for peacefulness, and we love each other during the life! These sayings were actually proposed and are carried out by Augustin’s wife Hyeonhi Regina.

649-652 치분어농 TchiBonEoNong 治(治)本(本)於(於)農(農)
Take care!
(1) And let’s return again to this land!
(2) Let’s do again! Let’s believe it firm!
(3) Let’ts do it in this way (於).
(4) It is possible though it is not easy.
(5) Even though it is difficult. If you endeavor to do, it will grow.
(6) You must learn from agriculture (農) in order to do that.

653-656 무자가색 MuZaGaSaeg 務(務)色(色)稟(稟)能(能)
We want to complete(務) this thing with full strength(稟). We sow the seed which can be harvested (稟).

In the afternoon of 11 September 2016,
Father Byeongdol Joseph Lee of Daejeon Mok-dong Catholic Church told in Ordo Franciscanus Saecularis (OFS) Daejeon-Ludovich meeting that “we, Korean people, have created Korean alphabet We are diligently and We are clever.”

When the researchers took their dinner in 11 September 2016, they talked again.
Augustin: Darling. I thought that we are able to write something important after the trip, when we were in Japan. This is the work which I thought.

Hyeonhi: It’s the terrible cry of the author of Tcheonzamun!

Augustin: Yes it is!

The researchers do not know the origin of Korean people. One of the researchers’ best friends advised as follows:

“The Maeg country people, the ancient ancestors of the Koreans had good poetry before 2500 years . And you have an assumption that Maeg country people might be the ‘Tartars’. But it is known from one story, “Sohrub and Rustum”, the tartars were living in the region of Iran-Iraq. ”

There is a poem by Arnold M. (25 march 2017). As when some grey November morn the files, In marching order spread, of long-neck’d cranes Stream over Casbin and the southern slopes Of Elburz, from the Aralian estuaries, Or some from Caspian reed-bed, southward bound For the warm Persian sea-board--so they stream’d. The Tartars of the Oxus, the King’s guard,

Until now the researchers have translated the meaning of Chinese characters. From now onwards, we will use another method. It is to repeat the modern Korean pronunciations of Chinese characters, and to find the meaning of the Chinese characters. The meaning will be more sorrowful.

광원면막 KwangWonMyeonMag 曙遠綿邈
(강은 면 막 Kang Eun Meon Mag, changed into the modern Korean) → (The river is too far for us to reach there, and the route to river is now hindered, so we can not utilize the water. [It is thought that the Maeg country’s men were well accustomed to utilize river for such activities as transportation or combat.] )
‘Kang’ means river, and ‘Kang Eun’ means the river is. ‘Meon’ means distant, and its root form is ‘Meolda’. ‘Mag’ means hindered, and its root form is ‘Magda’.

The researchers went on 8 October 2016 to the Mass of the Sacred Word (CSW) and the guiding father in the convent. Father Jea Dognarn, in charge of the CSW, said a prayer for Maeg country!

The Tcheonzamun author encourages again their pitiful sons and their descendants, and again encourages us, the modern Koreans, more than 2500 years later.

The researchers wanted to know if Maeg people were religious people or not. Through this research, the researchers concluded that Maeg people were very religious people. And finally it is considered that the object for Maeg people of this Tcheonzamun poem is to make petition to God for their protection.

CONCLUSION

We found that the Tcheonzamun poem is a splendid writing because they can express similar meaning both on interpretation of Chinese characters and Korean pronunciations. We also found that there is a little difference between the modern Korean language and the old Korean language more than 2500 years ago.

CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

The authors have not declared any conflict of interests.

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From this, it is considered as follows; a) Maeg people expressed secretly the Tcheonzamun poem in bilingual marks (through the meaning of Chinese characters and the Korean pronunciation), b) This is the same thing for Maeg people to beat their enemies.

We found that the Tcheonzamun poem is a splendid writing because they can express similar meaning both on interpretation of Chinese characters and Korean pronunciations. We also found that there is a little difference between the modern Korean language and the old Korean language more than 2500 years ago.
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