CONTENTS

PREFACE TO THE TRANSLATION .................................................. v
AUTHOR'S PREFACES .................................................................. ix
MAPS, CHARTS, AND TABLES ....................................................... xxii

Chapter 1. The Communal Societies of Prehistoric Times

1. The Paleolithic Age ................................................................. 1
   The Paleolithic Period in Korea 1, Culture and Mode of Life of
   Paleolithic Man in Korea 2.

2. Neolithic Man in Korea .......................................................... 2
   The Appearance of Neolithic Man 2, Mode of Life of Neolithic
   Man in Korea 3.

3. Society and Culture in the Neolithic Period ......................... 5
   Communal Clan-Centered Society 5, Shamanistic Beliefs 7,
   Primitive Art Forms 8.

Chapter 2. Walled-Town States and Confederated Kingdoms

1. The Use of Bronze and the Formation of Walled-Town States .. 9
   The Use of Bronze Implements 9, The Life of Bronze Age Man
   10, The Formation of Walled-Town States 12.

2. The Formation and Development of Old Chosŏn ..................... 13
   The Evolution of the Society of Old Chosŏn 13, The Use of Iron
   14, Wiman Chosŏn 16, The Han Chinese Commanderies 19.

3. The Formation of Confederated Kingdoms .............................. 21
   Puyŏ 21, The Rise of Koguryŏ 22, The State of Chin and the
   Three Han (Samhan) States 24.

4. Society and Polity in the Confederated Kingdoms .................. 26
   Village Communities and Their Farming Populations 26, The
   Structural Pattern of the Walled-Town State 27, The Develop-
   ment of Kingly Authority 29.

5. Culture in the Confederated Kingdoms Period ....................... 31
   Law 31, Religion 32, Fine Arts 34.
Chapter 3. Aristocratic Societies Under Monarchical Rule

1. The Development of the Three Kingdoms .......................... 36

2. The Foreign Relations of the Three Kingdoms ................. 45
   The Unfolding of Relations with Foreign States 45, Koguryo's Struggle with Sui and T'ang 47.

3. Political and Social Structure of the Three Kingdoms.......... 48
   Emergence of a Central Aristocracy 48, Political Structure 51, Military Organization 54, Village Headmen and the Farming Population 55.

4. The Aristocratic Culture of the Three Kingdoms ............... 57

Chapter 4. The Fashioning of an Authoritarian Monarchy

1. The Silla Unification and the Founding of the Parhae Kingdom ........................................ 66
   Silla Unifies the Korean Peninsula 66, Silla's Expulsion of T'ang 69, The Founding of Parhae 71, The Change of Direction in Korea's Foreign Policy 73.

2. The Government and Society of Unified Silla ..................... 73

3. The Flourishing of Silla Culture ..................................... 81

4. The Society and Culture of Parhae ................................. 88
   Government and Society 88, Cultural Aspects 90, Parhae's Place in History 90.

Chapter 5. The Age of Powerful Gentry Families

1. Contradictions Within the Bone-Rank Status System .......... 92
   Schism Within the True-Bone Aristocracy 92, The Role Played by the Head-Rank Six Aristocracy 94.
2. The Rise of Powerful Local Gentry ........................................... 94
   The Growth of Maritime Trade 94, The Emergence of Powerful

3. The Later Three Kingdoms .................................................... 97
   Peasant Uprisings 97, Later Paekche and T'aebong 98, The
   Founding of Koryo 100.

4. Unification by Koryo ............................................................ 101
   Unification of the Later Three Kingdoms 101, Strategy of Al­
   liance with Local Gentry 103, Royal Authority and the Local
   Gentry 104.

5. Culture of the Gentry Period ................................................ 105
   Growth of Confucianism 105, Popularity of Sôn (Zen) Bud­
   dhism 106, Geomantic Theories 107, Art 108.

Chapter 6. The Hereditary Aristocratic Order of Koryo

1. Beginnings of Koryo’s Aristocratic Order ................................. 110
   Toward Aristocratic Government 110, Establishment of the
   Aristocratic Order 111, Remodeling of the Social Structure
   112.

2. The Aristocratic Ruling Structure .......................................... 113
   Political Structure 113, Military Organization 116, Civil
   Service Examinations and Protected Appointments 118, Educa­
   tional Institutions 119.

3. Aristocratic Society and the Economic Structure ...................... 120
   The Land System 120, Economic Underpinning of the Aristo­
   cratic Class 121, Life of the People 123.

4. Foreign Relations .............................................................. 124
   Struggle with the Khitan 124, Campaigns against the Jurchen
   and Relations with Chin 126, Relations with Sung China 128.

5. Aristocratic Culture ............................................................. 129
   Confucianism and Private Academies 129, The Buddhist Tripi­
   taka and the Ch’ont’ae Sect 130, Buddhism and Aristocratic

6. Disturbances in the Aristocratic Order ................................. 136
   The Treason of Yi Cha-gyŏm 136, Revolt of Myoch’ŏng, 137.

Chapter 7. Rule by the Military

1. The Military Seize Power .................................................... 139
   The Military Officers Revolt 139, Power Struggle Within the
Military 140, Ch’oe Ch’ung-hôn Seizes Power 141.

2. Peasant and Slave Uprisings ................................. 142
   Outbreak of Popular Uprisings 142, Popular Uprisings Spread 143.

3. The Military Rule of the Ch’oe ............................... 145
   Creation of Private Armed Retinues 145, Control Mechanisms of the Ch’oe Regime 146.

4. The Struggle with the Mongols ............................... 147
   The Military Regime’s Resistance Against the Mongols 147, The Struggle of the People 149, Collapse of the Military Regime and Peace with the Mongols 150, Anti-Mongol Struggle of the Sambyŏlch’ŏ 151.

5. The Culture of the Age of the Military ........................ 153
   Prose Tales and Narrative Poems 153, Establishment of the Chogye Buddhist Sect 154.

Chapter 8. Emergence of the Literati

1. The Pro-Yüan Policy and the Powerful Families ............ 155
   Surrender to the Mongols 155, Development of the Relationship with Yüan 156, The Powerful Families and Their Estates 158.

2. Growth of the Power of the Literati .......................... 160
   Emergence of the Literati (Sadaebu) 160, The Reforms of King Kongmin 161.

3. The Founding of the Chosôn (Yi) Dynasty .................... 162

4. The Culture of the New Literati Class ........................ 165

Chapter 9. The Creation of a Yangban Society

1. The Development of Yangban Society in Chosôn .......... 172
   The Literati and the Kingship 172, Yangban Society 173.

2. Administrative Structure of the Yangban Bureaucratic State .. 175
   The Political Framework 175, Military Organization 178, Examinations and Education 180.

3. Social and Economic Structure of the Yangban
   Bureaucratic State ........................................... 182
Contents


4. Foreign Policy of Early Chosón .............................. 189
   Relations with Ming China 189, Settlement of the Northern Regions and the Problem of the Jurchen 189, Policy Toward the Japanese 191.

5. Yangban Bureaucratic Culture ................................. 192

Chapter 10. The Rise of the Neo-Confucian Literati

1. Changes in Society under Rule by the Meritorious Elite ...... 201
   Rule by the Meritorious Elite 201, Expanded Agricultural Estates and Increased Tribute Taxes 202.

2. Emergence of the Neo-Confucian Literati ........................... 204

3. The Struggle Against the Japanese and Manchus............... 209

4. The Culture of the Neo-Confucian Literati ...................... 217
   The Flourishing of Neo-Confucianism 217, Genealogy and the School of Rites 218, Kasa and Sijo Poetry 219.

Chapter 11. The Emergence of Landed Farmers and Wholesale Merchants

1. Government by Powerful Lineages .............................. 221
   Dominance of the Great Families 221, A Lid on Factionalism 223.

2. Changes in the System of Tax Collection .......................... 224
   Enactment of the Taedongpŏp 224, Changes in Corvee and Tax Laws 225.

3. Economic Growth ................................................. 226
   Enlarged Scale Farming and the Polarization of the Rural Population 226, Development of Wholesale Commerce 228, A New Phase in Handcraft Industry 231.

4. Sirhak and Other New Intellectual Concerns .................... 232
   The Birth of Practical Learning 232, Proposals for an Agricul-
ture-Based Utopia 233, Proposals for Enriching the Nation and Securing the Livelihood of the People through Development of Commerce and Industry 235, New Interest in the Study of Korea 236, The Spread of Catholicism 239, Science and Technology 240, Critiques of Neo-Confucian Philosophy 242.

5. New Modes of Expression in the Arts ................. 243
The New Literature Written in Chinese 243, Traditional Novels and Sasŏl Sijo Poems 244, New Approaches in Art 245.

Chapter 12. Instability in the Yangban Status System and the Outbreak of Popular Uprisings

1. Government by In-Law Families ...................... 247
Dominance of Royal In-Law Families 247, Disarray in the “Three Administrations” 248.

2. Tremors in the Yangban Status System ............. 250
Fallen Yangban and the Chungin Class 250, Changes in the Peasantry and the Liberation of Slaves 251.

3. Peasant Resistance ................................. 252
The Widespread Phenomenon of the Kye 252, Landless Wanderers and Brigandage 253, Outbreak of Popular Uprisings 254.

4. Development of a Popular Culture .................. 255

5. The Reforms and Isolation Policy of the Taewŏn’gun .... 261
Reforms of the Taewŏn’gun 261, Isolation Policy 262, Clashes with the Western Nations 264.

Chapter 13. Growth of the Forces of Enlightenment

1. Enlightenment Policy and Reaction Against It ........ 267

2. The Reform Movement of the Progressive Party ...... 275
Birth of the Progressive Party 275, The Coup d’Etat of 1884 (Kapsin Chŏngbyŏn) 276, Great Power Inroads 279.
3. The Revolutionary Uprising of the Tonghak Peasant Army ... 281
   Unrest Among the Peasantry 281, Uprising of the Tonghak Peasant Army 283, Creation of Local Directorates and the Struggle against Japan 285, China and Japan Compete for Ascendancy 288.

4. The Reform of 1894 .............................................. 290
   The Reform Enactments 290, Aftermath of the Reforms 293.

5. Commerce, Industry, and Currents of Thought
   in the Enlightenment Period ............................... 295

Chapter 14. Nationalist Stirrings and Imperialist Aggression

1. Activities of the Independence Club ....................... 300
   Inauguration of the "Great Han Empire" 300, Founding of the Independence Club 302, Activities of the Independence Club 303.

2. Japanese Aggression and the Struggle
   of the "Righteous Armies" ................................ 306


4. The Patriotic Enlightenment Movement ...................... 327

5. The March First Movement ................................. 338
Chapter 15. Development of the Nationalist Movement

1. Changes in Japan’s Colonial Policy .......................... 346

2. Native Capital and the Condition of Korean Farmers and Workers ................................................. 354

3. The Korean National Movement Enters a New Phase ...... 359

4. The Preservation of Korean Culture .......................... 367

Chapter 16. The Beginnings of Democracy

1. The Liberation of Korea, August 15, 1945 .................. 373
   Liberation 373, The Division at the Thirty-Eighth Parallel and Military Government 374.

2. The Establishment of the Republic of Korea ................ 376

3. The Korean War ........................................... 379
   Solidification of Communist Control in North Korea 379, The Korean War 380.

4. The April 1960 Revolution .................................. 381

Dynastic Lineages ............................................. 387
Select Bibliography ........................................... 395
Index-Glossary .............................................. 414
MAPS, CHARTS, AND TABLES

| Map | Geometric Design Pottery Sites in Korea (Neolithic Age, ca. 3000–800 B.C.) | 4 |
| Map | Designless Pottery Sites in Korea (Bronze Age, ca. 800–300 B.C.) | 11 |
| Map | Korea at the Time of Wiman Chosŏn (2nd Century B.C.) | 18 |
| Map | Korea in the Confederated Kingdoms Period (ca. 1st–3rd Centuries A.D.) | 25 |
| Map | Korea at the Height of Koguryŏ Expansion in the 5th Century | 39 |
| Map | Silla Under King Chinhŭng (540–576) | 42 |
| Chart | Relationship of Bone-Rank Gradations in Silla to Office Rank and Post | 51 |
| Chart | Office Rank Systems of the Three Kingdoms | 52 |
| Map | The Unification Struggle Among the Three Kingdoms (7th Century) | 68 |
| Map | Silla and Parhae (Administrative Divisions) | 70 |
| Map | Korea in the Later Three Kingdoms Period (Late 9th to Early 10th Centuries) | 102 |
| Map | The Five Circuits and Two Border Regions of Koryŏ (11th Century) | 115 |
| Map | Koryŏ’s Northern Frontier Region (Late 10th to Early 12th Centuries) | 127 |
| Map | Koryŏ and the Mongols (13th Century) | 152 |
| Map | Chosŏn’s Eight Provinces and Regional Military Commands (15th Century) | 177 |
| Map | The Six Garrison Forts and Four Yalu Outposts (ca. 1450) | 190 |
| Map | The Hideyoshi Invasion (1592–1598) | 211 |
| Map | The “Foreign Disturbances” of 1866 and 1871 | 265 |
| Table | Korea’s Foreign Trade by Country in 1893 | 282 |
| Map | Lines of March of the Tonghak Peasant Army (1894) | 286 |
| Table | Comparison of Korea’s Imports from China and Japan (1885–1892) | 288 |
| Chart | The Scramble Among the Powers for Concessions (1883–1898) | 301 |
| Table | Scale of Operations of Korea’s Righteous Armies (1907–1910) | 317 |
| Table | Mining Output by Nationality of Mine Owners (1909–1918) | 320 |
| Table | The Fishing Industry By Nationality of Operator (1912–1918) | 320 |
| Table | Factories by Industry and Nationality of Owner in 1917 | 326 |
| Chart | Private Schools of the Late Yi Period (1883–1909) | 333 |
| Map | The March First 1919 Independence Movement: Major Sites of Popular Demonstrations | 343 |
| Table | Production and Export of Rice (1912–1936) | 348 |
| Table | Composition of Korea’s Trade with Japan (1919–1939) | 349 |
| Table | Manufacturing Output by Industry (1930–1939) | 351 |
| Table | Production of Major Minerals (1930–1944) | 352 |
Maps, Charts, and Tables

Table Capital Investment in Manufacturing Industries by Nationality (1938) ......................................................... 354
Table Farm Households by Land Tenure Relationship (1916) .................. 357
Table Composition of Korean Wage-Labor Force by Industry (1944) ...... 358
Table Daily Wages of Factory Workers by Nationality in 1929 ........... 359
Table School Enrollment in Korea by Nationality in 1925 ..................... 367
Table Comparison of Production in South and North Korea (in percentages as of 1945) ......................................................... 376
Table Production Indices for South Korea in the First Two Years of the Korean War ......................................................... 381
Table Concentration of Production in Major Industries in 1962 ............ 383
Chapter 1

The Communal Societies of Prehistoric Times

1. The Paleolithic Age

The Paleolithic Period in Korea

It is not at present possible to estimate at what precise period people began to live on the historical stage that we call Korea. Until just a few years ago, Paleolithic remains had been reported only at Tonggwanjin near Chongsŏng in North Hamgyŏng province. At this site, together with fossils of mammoths and other mammals, a few stone and bone artifacts believed to have been fashioned by man were discovered. However, it is possible that these artifacts belong instead among the many Neolithic remains scattered about in this vicinity and, accordingly, some scholars are reluctant to link them definitely with the fossil remains from the same site and assign them to the Paleolithic period. In recent years, however, Paleolithic remains have been reported from a number of excavations, and so it has become possible to suggest at least an outline of the Paleolithic period in Korea.

At present the best known Paleolithic sites in the Korean Peninsula are those at Kulp'o-ri (in Unggi county in North Hamgyŏng province), at Sangwŏn (in Chunghwa county in South P'yŏngan), at Sŏkchang-ni (in Kongju in South Ch'ungch'ŏng), and at the Chŏmmal Cave, P'oju-ni (in Chech'ŏn county in North Ch'ungch'ŏng province) [see map p. 4]. In addition several other Paleolithic sites now are in process of investigation. On the basis of the reports from these many sites it may be presumed that Paleolithic man lived in virtually every part of the peninsula.

The time frame for the Paleolithic period is not yet clear. However, extrapolating from the fact that two cultural layers from the Late Paleolithic at the Sŏkchang-ni site have been dated respectively to approximately 30,000 and 20,000 years ago, it may be surmised in general that Paleolithic man began to inhabit the Korean peninsula some 40,000 to 50,000 years before the present. Over a span of many millennia, then, these people slowly made advances in their culture and mode of life. It is not known, however, whether the Korean people of today are the ethnic descendants of these Paleolithic inhabitants of their land.