

Korea's New Year's Day

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About meaning of New Year for Koreans

Korean New Year, known as 'Seollal', is the first day of the January in Korean lunar calendar. It is one of the most important traditional holidays in Korea. In addition, the Korean also celebrates solar New Year's Day on January, following the Gregorian Calendar. But by the reason of lunar New Year holidays lasts for three days, to Koreans, this lunar New Year's Day is considered as more important holiday than the solar calendar's New Year's Day.

About customs

For Koreans New Year is typically a holiday for whole family. Many Koreans dress up in colorful traditional Korean cloth, called Hanbok, and perform ancestral rituals in morning. And soup with rice cakes (Tteok guk) is commonly served during this holiday.

Many Koreans are happy to greet the New Year (both Western and lunar) by visiting the East coast such as the cities of Gangneung and Donghae, where they most likely to see first sunrise in New Year.

'Sebae' is a traditional practice of paying respect to parents and grandparents on Korean New Year. Commonly, Children visit their grandparents and wish them a happy new year by doing a deep traditional bow for them. This is accompanied by the words with 'Saehae Bok Mani Badeseyo' which literally means 'receive a lot of new year's luck'. And now days elders reward this by giving their children New Year's money (usually in crisp condition) and offering words of wisdom. But in the past, parents gave fruits instead.

About Folk games

Generally, Koreans play traditional family board game, which is called Yut. Furthermore, Elders play Go-Stop; gambling card game which originated from Japan. And Children play with spinning top. Usually, Men and women also play different games. Men fly kites or play Jaegi ; traditional game with special toy which looks like shuttlecock made by wrapping cloth or paper around a coin. Women commonly

韓国人のお正月の意味について

一般的に'ソルナル'または'旧正月'と知られている韓国のお正月は、グレゴリー暦（または陽暦）に従って新年を祝うほとんどの国々とは違って、韓国では主に陰暦 1 月 1 日に新年をおお祝う。そして、韓国人にとってお正月は年中の一番の祝日の一つとして思われる。

もちろん、韓国にも陽暦の 1 月 1 日に新年を祝う行事があるが、陰暦 1 月 1 日から 3 日間を休日に指定することにより、1999 年以降、韓国では陰暦でお正月を送ることが一般的になったと伝われる。

お正月の慣習について

韓国人にお正月は一般的に家族みんなが集まって楽しむ祝日である。たくさんの韓国人が'韓服'と呼ばれる伝統的な福を着て、朝に祖先の祭祀を行います。そして、飲食としては「トッグク」と呼ばれる日本のお雑煮と似たようなお正月特有の汁を食べます。

多数の韓国人はお正月になると(陽暦・陰暦二つとも含む)一年の最初の日の出を見るために、韓国の東側にある「ガンヌン」または「ドンヘ」と言う所を訪ねます。

「歳拝」はお正月に限って行われる伝統的な挨拶であり、この意識を通じて韓国人は目上の人に対する尊敬を表します。一般的には、子供たちが親戚のお宅に訪ねて、あらたまった挨拶をすることで目上の人への幸せを祈ります。この際、「セヘボックマニバドセヨ」—日本語で訳すると「明けましておめでとうございます」—という言葉と一緒に言うのが慣習となっているが、この意味は、「新年には多くの幸運と幸せがあなたに来てくれるように」という意味を持つ。そして、その挨拶を受けた大人達は挨拶に応えるために、子供たちに人生のアドバイスと一緒にお年玉を渡すのが一般的であるが、過去にはこう言ったお年玉の代わりに果物をあげたと伝われる。

民俗遊びについて

まず、韓国人は「ユッノリ」と呼ばれる 4 つの棒を使った遊びをする。この遊びは老若男女が全部参加し楽しむことができる伝統的な遊びである。それから、年齢を身ると、大人たちは集まってゴーストストップと言うゲーム（日本で由来した花札カードを利用した遊びの一つ）をし、子供達は主にこま回しをする。最後に、韓国のお正月の民俗遊びは性別によっても異なる得色をもつ。男性はタコを揚げたり、「チェギ」と呼ばれる（日本の羽子と似ている物を足で蹴って遊ぶゲーム）遊びをし、女性は主に板跳びをする



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“My favorite place in Kyoto is Shijo because Shijo has unique mix like old history and newest thing. People who has been to Shijo may know that there are so many young people so I can say that place is an urban area. But you can also see historical things in Shijo.”
-Ryohei Miyazawa

“Einer meiner Lieblingsorte in Kyoto ist der Fushimi Inari Schrein.”
-Magdalena Ernst



「京都の時間は停滞的、在光影交錯中看得見千年以來的印象」
-Chia-Yun Lin



“Minä tykkään Kijomizu temppelistä. Se on kuuluisa ja kaunis”
- Sayaka Moriyoshi

「騎脚踏車與同伴遊遍京都美景:)」
-Macy Chan



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“저는 단풍이 아주 아름다운 금각사가 너무 좋아요” -Mikuni Okamoto



“A veces me permito el lujo de comer en Hamac de Paradis.”
-Sayaka Yano



“Min favoritplats i Kyoto är Kyoto station” -Nina Lundqvist

The Fabulous World of German Language

Nathalie Stummer, Jannik Lober (Center of Japanese Language and Culture), Yoko Mori (Faculty of Letters)

Probably everyone who thinks of Germany has a certain image or association with it. While many people think of beer, sausages, sauerkraut, Mercedes Benz and soccer, those who have tried to learn German probably think of its complicated grammar and difficult pronunciation. Especially the grammatical gender is considered to be the most difficult aspect of the German language, since nouns are categorized into male, female and neutral nouns. Which means, German knows three articles, the male “der”, the female “die” and the neutral “das” which are, hands down, even for native speakers sometimes quite difficult to understand. But to make German appear less scary and complicated here is a quick overview about the language itself and how it is actually closely related to English.

Like almost every language spoken in Europe, German belongs to the Indo-European languages, which can be divided into several subdivisions, such as Italic (which includes Italian, Spanish, French, Portuguese, Romanian, Catalan, Galician, etc.), Balto-Slavic (including Slavic languages such as Polish, Russian and Croatian and Baltic languages such as Latvian and Lithuanian) and in this case Germanic. Besides German, the Germanic languages also include Dutch, English, Swedish, Danish, Norwegian, Icelandic, Faroese, Scots and several modern Germanic languages spoken in the United States. All of the mentioned languages are closely related to each other either considering the pronunciation or the vocabulary. For example, in German the English word “bus” is written in the same way (except for the first letter, which is a capital B in the German case) and has of course the same meaning but is pronounced differently. Another example is the German word for “you” which is “du”. To those who have at least once read a poem or a drama by William Shakespeare the word “du” may seem familiar and this has a certain reason. The word “thou” developed from the Old

English *þū*, which is related to the Icelandic and Old Norse from which the German language is derived.

☞ A Little Peak into German Grammar

One of the complicated things about German is that sometimes the verb has to come to at the end of the clause or the sentence. Normally, like English, the verb should come right after the subject. However, if an auxiliary verb or a subordinate conjunction is involved, this rule no longer applies:

Ich **sehe** Frau Müller. (I see Ms. Müller.)

Ich werde Frau Müller **sehen**. (I will see Ms. Müller.)

Wenn Sie Frau Müller **sehen**, grüßen Sie sie von mir.
(If you see Ms. Müller, say hello to her for me.)

You can see, while in English the verb “see” is always in the same place (i.e. right after “I” or “you”), the German verb “*sehen*” has come to at the end of the sentence / clause when used with “*werden* (=will)” or “*wenn* (=when, if)”. This can be confusing especially in speaking, since you have to say all other things before you refer to the action (which is often the most important information in the sentence).

Trennbare Verben (separable verbs) are something quite unique about German: some verbs can be (and often have to be) separated into the prefix and the body. For example, when you look up the word “arrive” in the dictionary, you will probably get the word “*ankommen*.” However, when you translate the sentence “I arrive in Kyoto today.”, you have to be careful;

I arrive in Kyoto today.

Ich *komme* heute in Kyoto *an*.

The verb has to be divided into “*an*” and “*kommen*,” and the prefix has to come to at the end of the sentence. There are many *trennbare Verben* in German, and they are quite difficult to use until you get used to them.

☞ Various Dialects in German

German-learners who first visit Germany, Switzerland or Austria must feel as if they know nothing about German dialects. Although standard German is widespread and commonly used in conversations or tourist situations, there always comes a time when you suddenly cannot understand a single

word, even if your German is really good.

While travelling through German-speaking Europe there is always the chance to encounter one of the many dialects of German language. Because of the difficulty in defining the term dialect, estimates on the number of German dialects range from about 50 to 250. These dialects can differ in pronunciation, accent, vocabulary and grammar. That is why it can be difficult even for native speakers to understand people

from other parts of Germany, Switzerland or Austria.

The reason why there are so many different dialects is simply understandable if you realize that in the early Middle Ages in what is now the German-speaking Europe, there existed only the many different dialects of the various Germanic tribes. There was no common German language until much later. In fact, the first common language, Latin, was introduced by the Roman incursions into the Germanic region, and one can see the result in a wide variety of Latin loanwords

in the modern German language.

Besides dialects (Dialekte) German can be divided into two more main categories: standard German (Hochdeutsch) and colloquial language (Umgangssprache). All educated speakers of German learn *Hochdeutsch* or standard German, since it is used at university or German literature. This “standard” German may come in various flavors or accents, which is not the same thing as a dialect. Austrian German, Swiss standard German, or the *Hochdeutsch* heard in Hamburg differ in sound slightly than that heard in Munich, but everyone can understand each other without any problems. Newspapers, books, and other

publications from Hamburg to Vienna all use the same language, despite minor regional variations.

The Doshisha Student is published twice a year by the Doshisha English Language Newspaper Society in Kyoto, Japan.

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It was first published as “The Doshisha” by the Press Section of the English Speaking Society in 1956. The Doshisha English Language Newspaper Society was established in 1964 and was renewed as “The Doshisha Student” in 1966. It disappeared in 1999, but was revived in 2008.

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