

**Strange Korean Parallels 2020.2: An international conference  
for the comparative situating of Korea within  
Northeast Asia and other global regions**

27–28 February 2020  
University of Helsinki, Finland

In January 2019, the first Strange Korean Parallels conference was successfully held in the depths of winter at the University of Helsinki, Finland. The papers presented there covered topics from early history through to the 20th century, and included critical comparisons of Korea with various other regions and countries of Asia, Europe and America. Participants similarly came from around the globe, and represented both a diversity of topical expertise and a range of career stages.

In February 2020, we will hold the second Strange Korean Parallels. The primary aims of the conference remain the same: to broaden the foundations for comparative approaches to Korean history and culture in global contexts, to demonstrate the potential of such research, and to cultivate a shared research identity among participants.

This year we broaden the scope of Strange Korean Parallels to encourage those who may not consider themselves historians in the traditional or strictest sense to consider applying. We thus invite not only historians and archaeologists but also scholars of linguistic history and the full spectrum of arts and societal topics of all periods of Korea to experiment with situating their research in broader regional and global levels of interconnectivity and comparison.

The conference is principally open to doctoral students and above. Both individual and panel proposals are welcome. During the conference we will discuss publication strategies and we welcome early expressions of interest from journals or publishers. Financially, we aim to provide selected participants with 3 nights accommodation (26-29 February, with breakfast) at the Töölö Towers residence for visiting scholars, 2 lunches and at least one dinner across the main conference days. Participants are responsible for their own travel arrangements to Helsinki.

**Instructions**

- Please send abstracts (500-600 words) as Word files to: [andrew.logie@helsinki.fi](mailto:andrew.logie@helsinki.fi) with the subject “SKP2020 abstract SURNAME Name”.
- Abstracts should include your name, position and affiliation.
- You should receive confirmation of receipt within five working days.
- Please note the close deadline for submissions: **20 December 2019**.
  
- The working language of the conference is English. Bilingual Korean and English language abstracts will also be accepted.

For further updates, look for the *Strange Korean Parallels* page (#StrangeKoreanParallels) on Facebook.

**Important dates:**

- 2019.12.20 Deadline for paper proposals (500-600 words).
- 2019.12.30 Notification of acceptance/rejection.
- 2020.1.6 Deadline for confirmation of participation.
- 2020.2.16 Submission of working drafts papers.
  
- 2020.2.27 Conference Day 1
- 2020.2.28 Conference Day 2

Strange Korean Parallels 2020 is organized by Andrew Logie, assistant professor in Korean Studies at University of Helsinki, Department of Culture, and funded by University of Helsinki.