

How old is Korean History?

By Mark Peterson

The quest for orthodoxy?

Multiple choice

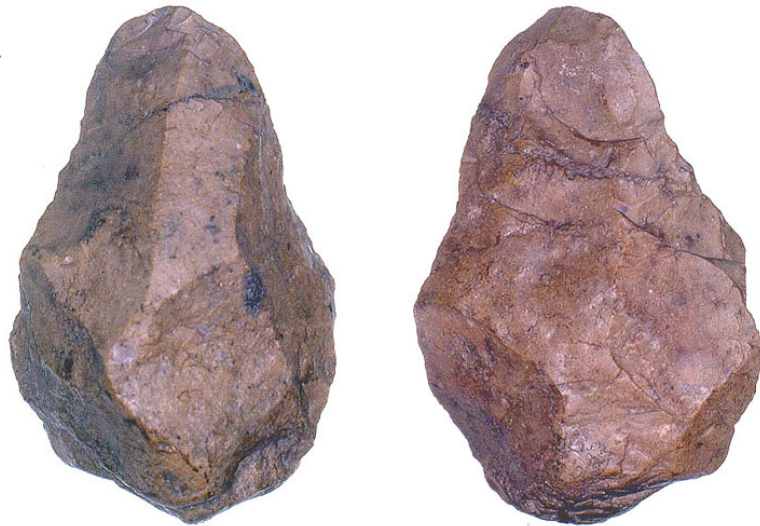
- A. 10,000 + years old?
- B. 5,000 years old?
- C. 4,344 years old?
- D. 2,068 years old?
- E. +/- 2000 years old?
- F. 1597 years old?
- G. 1343 years old?
- H. About 350 years old?
- I. 63 years old?

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- J. All of the above

10,000 + years old

- Paleolithic evidence,
- Mesolithic
- Neolithic

Plate VII



0 5 cm





5000 years old

- The “correct” answer
- The problem of orthodoxy
 - the test, “teaching to the test”
- The China example
- The best answer
- The worst answer



Correct History

4,344 years old

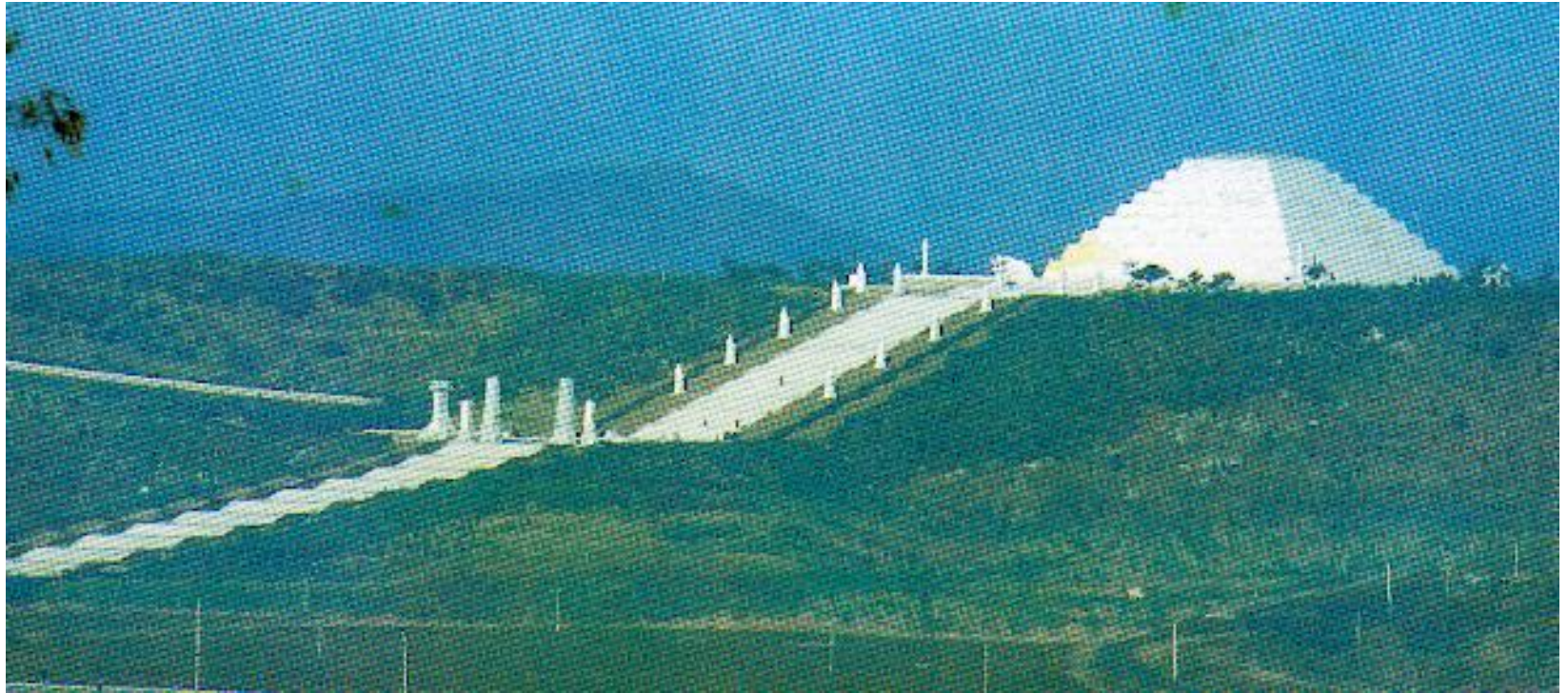
- Based on the Dangun (Tan'gun) myth
 - The “first” Korean









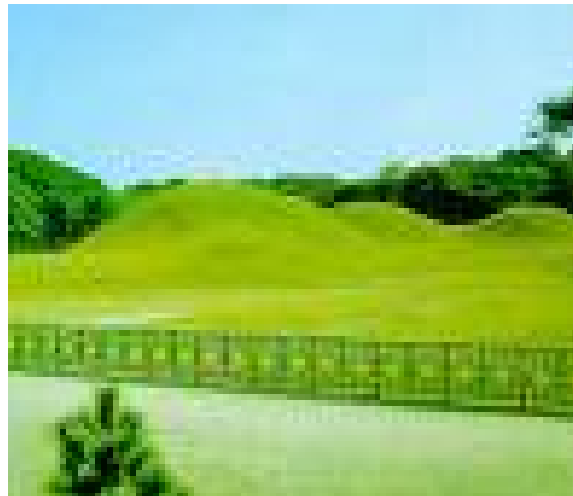






2,068 years old

- The Silla Kingdom began in 57 BC
 - Koguryô (Goguryeo) in 37 BC
 - Paekche (Baekje) in 18 BC







2000 years old

- Based on the first appearance of “Korea” in Chinese historical sources



1597 years old

- Based on the Gwanggaeto stele, AD414



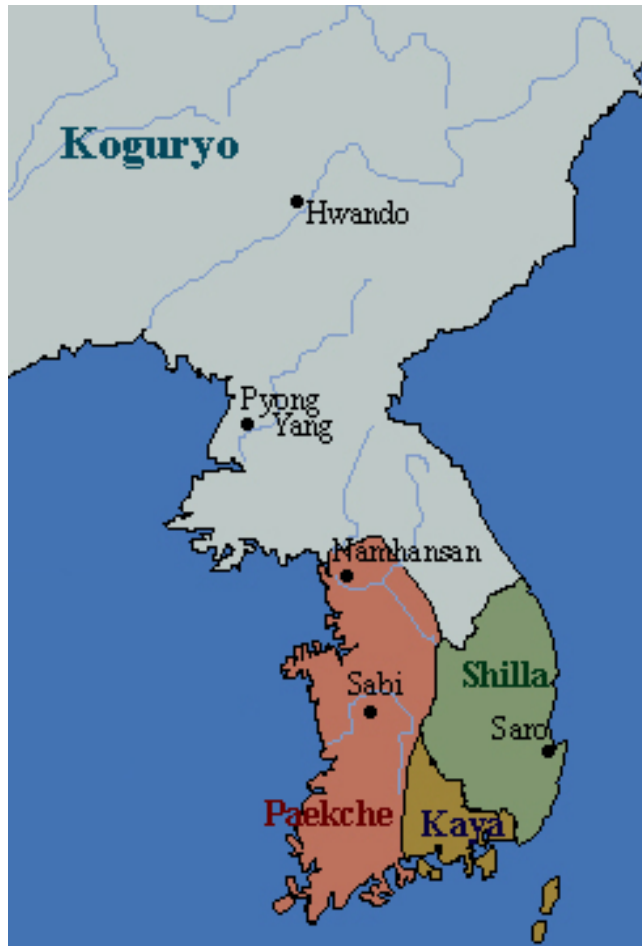


Fig. 1. The general layout of the archway at the entrance of the building. The archway is made of stone and is located at the entrance of the building. The archway is made of stone and is located at the entrance of the building. The archway is made of stone and is located at the entrance of the building.

1343 years old

- Based on the year of the Silla unification, 668 -- when all of the Korean peninsula was first under one rule.

Sixth century -> Seventh c.



About 350 years old?

- Based on the Confucianization of Korea











Korean Adoption and Inheritance

*Case Studies
in the Creation of a
Classic Confucian Society*

Mark A. Peterson

63 years old

- Based on the founding of the Republic of Korea (and the DPRK) -- the current political entities.
- If America is 200 years old, then Korea is 63 years old

8.15.1948



- Syngman Rhee (Yi Sungman) -- ROK, South Korea



- Kim Il Sung -- DPRK, North Korea



How old is Korean history?

How old is American history?

200 years?

400 years?

10,000 years?

- “Older is better.”
- “Younger is better.”

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