

**Mechanisms of syntactic and semantic change in Korean Language from the end of the 15th century to present: focus on problems of external borrowing.**

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Korean lexicology is characterized by many foreign elements that have gradually become integral components of the language. The first wave of the linguistic borrowings was almost entirely Chinese and was realized through the use of Chinese written characters. Later, during the 19th Century, the Japanese produced a large number of new terms which were then borrowed by both Korea and China. The first part of the present study will remind the major phases of Chinese borrowings on the Korean peninsula. This paper will also present the challenges facing the spoken language in South Korea and the future linguistic reunification of the two Koreas, countries which have been, for more than half a century, following radically different linguistic policies.