



# 부산의 학생들

Students of Busan,  
Shouting for  
Independence

2025. 05. 13.

- 2026. 01. 25.

# 독립을 외치다

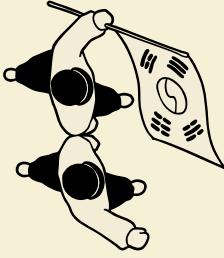
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The 2025 Busan Education History Museum Special Exhibition called <Students of Busan, Shouting for Independence> will spotlight the history of the independence movement led by students in Busan in commemoration of the 80th anniversary of liberation. This Exhibition focuses on the March 1st Movement in Busan and students'other Anti-Japanese Movement since then.

You can meet not only the students who shouted for Independence despite Japanese Oppression and Discrimination but present efforts to inherit the value of the independence movement in various ways. The letters of gratitude and respect that descendants living today have dedicated to independence activists will move your heart. We expect that this exhibition, which reflects the history of the anti-Japanese student movement in Busan those days, will convey new impression and messages to us beyond time and space.

### School Names

During the Japanese Occupation	Present
Buddhist Jungang Hakrim	Dongguk University
Yonsei Professional School	Yonsei University
Joseon Pharmacy School	Seoul National University College of Pharmacy
Dongnae High GeneralSchool(1916~1937)	Dongnae High School
Dongnae Middle School(1938~1951)	Dongnae High School
Busan Public Commercial School(1911- 1922)	Gaeseong High School
Busan 2nd Public Commercial School (1923-1943)	Gaeseong High School
Busanjin General School	Busanjin Elementary School
Busanhang Public Girls' High School	Gyeongnam Girl's High School
Private Gomyeong School	Gupo Elementary School
Private Dongmyeong School	Myeongji Elementary School
Private Ilshin Women's School	Dongnae Girls' High School

## 대한독립만세

# Hurray for the Independence of Korea



On March 11, 1919, the chants of “Hurray for independence” also rang out in Busan.

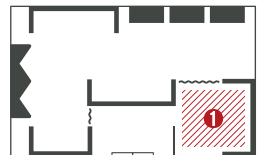
It is particularly significant in that the students took the lead and bravely confronted Japanese oppression. In the first space, a short animation introduces their aspirations for independence in the face of grim circumstances, signaling the beginning of the exhibition.



Hurray for Independence (intro video), stop motion animation,  
2025, 2 min 57 sec

Planned and organized by Busan Education History Museum,

Video Produced by D.forest



## 독립을 함께한 학생들

### Students Who had participated in the Independence Movement



The March 1st Movement, which began in Seoul on March 1, 1919, spread nationwide. In Busan, on March 11, students of the private Ilshin Girls' School were the first to participate in the movement. The movement later spread to Dongnae, Gupo, and Gijang, with growing participation from workers and farmers. Students also led the independence movement, collaborating with nationalist capitalists.

The second section focuses on the activities of Busan students, introducing the beginning, development, and aftermath of the March 1st Movement, the student strike, and the Busan anti-Japanese student movement (Nodai Incident).



## 부산의 3.1운동

### The March 1st Movement in Busan



Mimeograph Machine  
1970s, 56.2×38.2×13.5cm  
Collection of Busan Education  
History Museum

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A mimeograph machine is used to print text and images.

During the March 1st Movement, students in Busan used this machine to print hundreds of copies of the Declaration of Independence, which they distributed to fellow students and citizens as part of their resistance against Japanese rule.



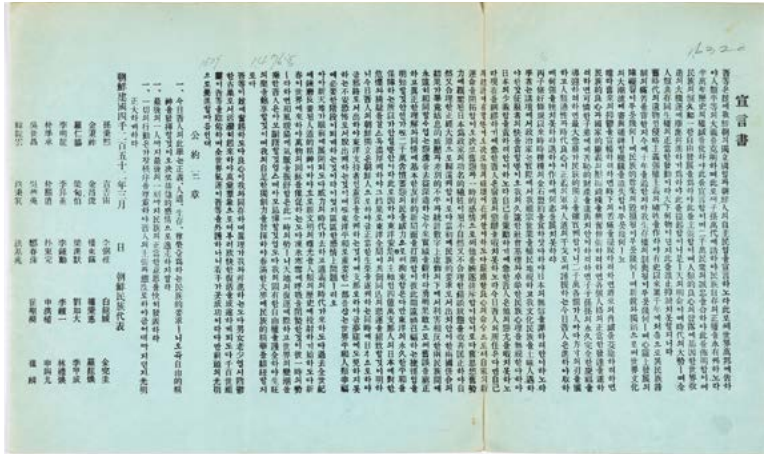
Mituri (Hemp Sandals)  
Late Joseon Period, 26×9×7cm  
Collection of Gimhae Folk Museum

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Mituri are traditional Korean shoes woven from hemp cloth, crafted more tightly than straw sandals (jipsin). Although rubber shoes were introduced in 1910, mituri and jipsin continued to be widely worn.

Hemp or fabric strips were tightly twisted into cords, which were then used to fasten the sides and heels of the shoes.

During the March 1st Movement, Gwak Sanghun from Dongnae evaded Japanese censorship by copying the Declaration of Independence and rallying messages onto traditional Korean paper (changhoji), cutting it into thin strips, twisting them into cords resembling mituri laces, and secretly transporting them from Seoul to Dongnae.

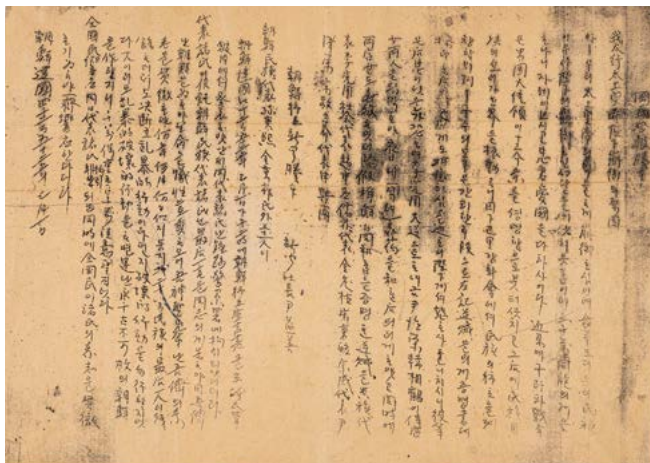


3.1 Mimeograph of the Declaration of Independence 己未獨立宣言書 謄寫本  
 1919, 35×25cm  
 Collection of Busan Education History Museum

In March 1919, 33 representatives of the Korean people announced the will and legitimacy of Korea's independence to the world. It begins with the 'Declaration', which expresses the strong will of the Korean people to achieve independence through peaceful means. At the end, it contains three chapters of pledges and a list of 33 representatives of the Korean people.

In the exhibition hall, there is a transcription space where visitors can participate by writing down the 3-1 Declaration of Independence in a modern language that makes it easier to understand: "Easy and Correct Reading of the 3-1 Declaration of Independence."<sup>1)</sup>

1) Presented in 2019 by the Commemorative Project Committee for the 100th Anniversary of the March 1 Movement and the Establishment of the Provisional Government of the Republic of Korea



Underground Newspaper Mimeograph  
1919, 35×25cm  
Collection of Yeongcheon History Museum

It is believed to be Korea's first underground newspapers\*. The Chosun Independence Newspaper and the National Association Bulletin, dated March 1, 1919 were printed together on a single sheet.

They are significant for reporting the Declaration of Independence by the 33 national representatives, their detention by police, and for emphasizing a strict policy of nonviolence, urging restraint from violent and destructive acts.

The National Association Bulletin also alleged that Emperor Gojong was poisoned by the Japanese, naming six individuals, including aristocrat Yi Wanyong, as responsible.

\* Underground newspaper: An unauthorized publication produced and circulated in secret.

**동맹휴교** 同盟休校

## **School Strike**

Student Strike (동맹휴교 Dongmaeng Hyukyo)

The student strike was a movement in which students collectively refused to attend classes in protest against colonial education and Japan's discriminatory practices. As students' anti-Japanese consciousness grew due to oppressive education and racial discrimination, the movement evolved into a demonstration of their desire for national independence. Despite strong Japanese repression, students showed the anti-Japanese spirit of Koreans through their collective strike.

**광주학생운동과 동맹휴교**

## **Gwangju Student Movement and School Strike**

The Gwangju Student Movement, which began on November 3, 1929, was sparked by the harassment of a Korean female student by a Japanese male student.

The movement spread to 194 schools, with around 50,000 students participating in the anti-Japanese protest over five months.

Student representatives from Ilshin Girls' School, Busan 2nd Public Commercial School, and Busanhang Public Girls' High School also decided to join the action.

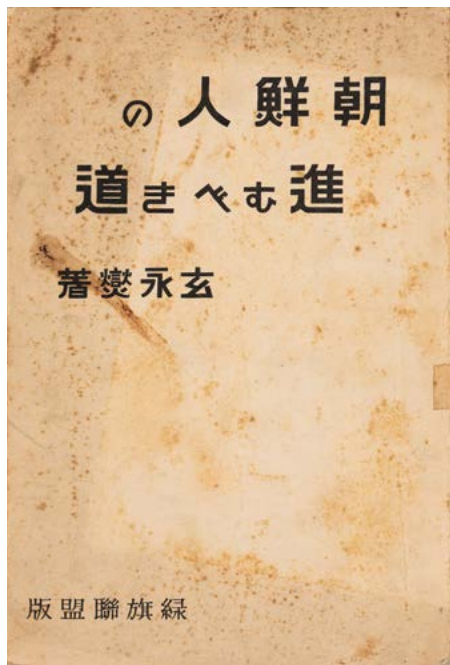




## 일제강점기 교과서

### Textbooks during the Japanese Occupation

In the 1930s, Japan sought to mobilize Koreans for its war of aggression by promoting the idea that "Japan and Korea are one." This concept was reflected in education, which aimed to erase Korean culture and create imperial subjects. The repressive education policies fueled anti-Japanese movements among Korean students.



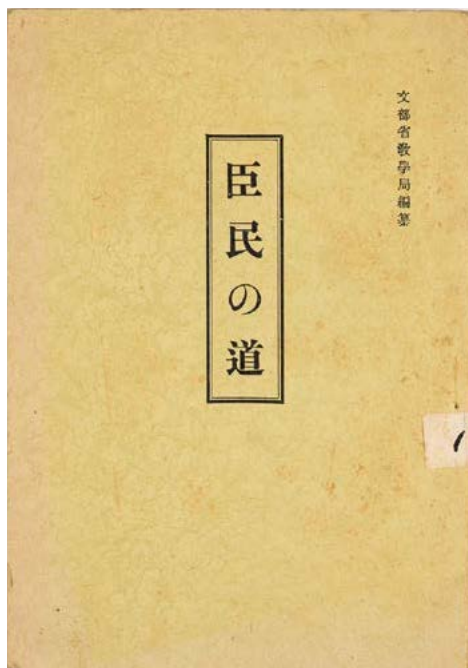
The way Koreans Should Take 朝鮮人の進むべき道

1938, 12.8×18.9cm

Collection of Busan Education History Museum

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Written by Hyeon Yeongseop, a pro-Japanese activist who fled to Japan after the liberation of Korea, the book argues that Koreans must fully become Japanese. It promotes militarism, deifies the emperor, and justifies aggressive wars.



The Path of the Loyal Subjects 臣民の道

1943, 14.7×21cm

Collection of Busan Education History Museum

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The Path of the Loyal Subjects is a textbook issued by the Japanese Ministry of Education to promote imperialist ideology and militarism among Japanese citizens. It was a government-issued textbook that encouraged citizens to embrace the emperor's divine status and support Japan's imperial expansion.



The Imperial Commerce Moral Textbook\* Vol. 3\*\*  
1939, 14.8×21cm  
Collection of Busan Education History Museum



The Imperial Agriculture Moral Textbook\* Vol. 1\*\*  
1939, 14.8×21cm  
Collection of Busan Education History Museum

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These textbooks were used for secondary education during the Japanese colonial period. Published by the Japanese Ministry of Education, they were part of a national curriculum where \*Shushin\* (Moral Education) was taught from 1930 onward. At first glance, the subject may seem similar to modern-day ethics classes, but its true purpose was to indoctrinate students to become \*loyal subjects of the emperor\*.

In particular, 'The Imperial Commerce Moral Textbook' and 'The Imperial Agriculture Moral Textbook' contained knowledge across various fields that were necessary to become a valuable asset to Japan. The textbooks focused on vocational training and were designed to create lower-level workers who would serve Japan with loyalty, emphasizing practical skills and the development of both body and mind.



The Farmer's Reader 農民讀本

1939, 13×19cm (60×19cm when unfolded)

Collection of Busan Education History Museum

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The Farmer's Reader was an educational textbook created during the Japanese colonial period to promote the loyal subjects of the emperor ideology and to spread the Japanese language among Korean farmers. The book begins with an oath of allegiance to the emperor, and it includes a map of the Empire, which shows Japan, Korea, and Manchukuo, with the East Sea labeled as the Sea of Japan. The content of the book introduces farming practices through illustrations and Japanese language, making it essentially a propaganda tool for \*loyal subjects\* aimed at Korean farmers.

Oath of Allegiance (誓詞)\*: A solemn pledge or vow.



Poster Promoting Agricultural Production

1930s, 76.8×54.2cm

Collection of National Hangeul Museum

#### Poster Text (Translated)

Plowing in autumn is key to growing healthy rice crops.

Plowing the field after harvest keeps the soil healthy and helps stop harmful insects from coming back, which in turn leads to much better crop yields.

So experienced farmers say that autumn plowing has as beneficial as applying a solid amount of organic fertilizer made from soybean meal."

This poster, published in comic format by the Agricultural and Commercial Affairs Bureau of the Government-General of Korea

The poster emphasizes the importance of autumn plowing, fertilizer use, and hard work, promoting the idea that diligence could even lead to a good marriage. However, the true purpose behind such campaigns was not to improve Korean agricultural practices, but to extract food supplies to support Japan's war effort. In the lower left corner of the poster, a farmer is depicted grumbling, "I failed to meet the quota, so the special liquor ration is off-limits..." The poster is believed to have been created by a Korean artist at the time.



A postcard published by Japan in the 1930s to promote the false claim of “Japan-Korea Unity” (Naisen Ittai).

1930s

Source: 『Colonial Korea and the Art of War』, (Institute of Ethnic Affairs, 2006)

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A postcard published by Japan in the 1930s promoted the false claim that Japan and Korea are one in unity, as part of the Japan-Korea Integration Policy.

## 부산학생항일운동

### Busan Anti-Japanese Student Movement

#### The Nodai Incident

The Nodai Incident, which occurred on November 23, 1940, took place during the 2nd Gyeongnam Student Strength Enhancement National Defense Competition at Busan Public Stadium. When Colonel Nodai favored a Japanese school by giving biased decisions against Korean schools, over a thousand students marched from Daesin-dong Public Stadium to Nodai's residence in Yeongju-dong. About 200 students were arrested, symbolizing the anti-Japanese student movement in Busan.



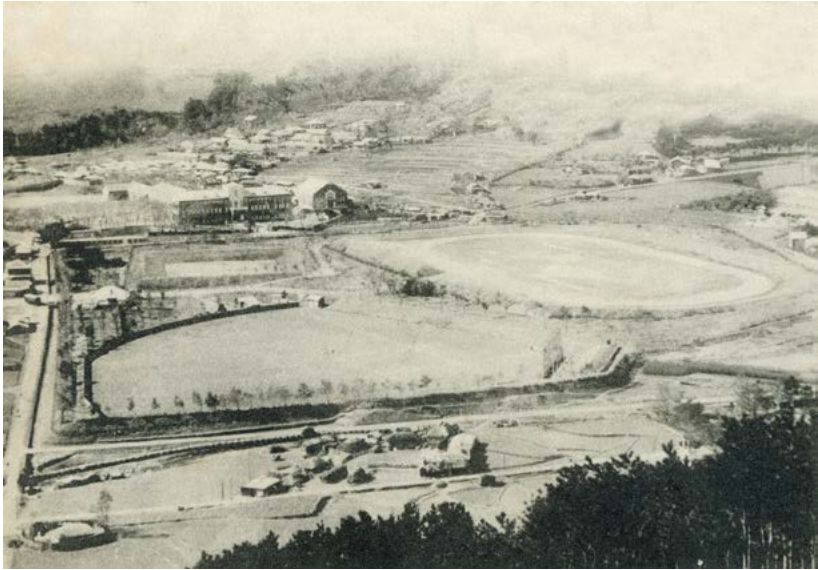
Map of the Route of the Busan Anti-Japanese Student Movement (Replica)

1967, 60×41.7cm

Collection at the History Museum of Gaeseong High School.

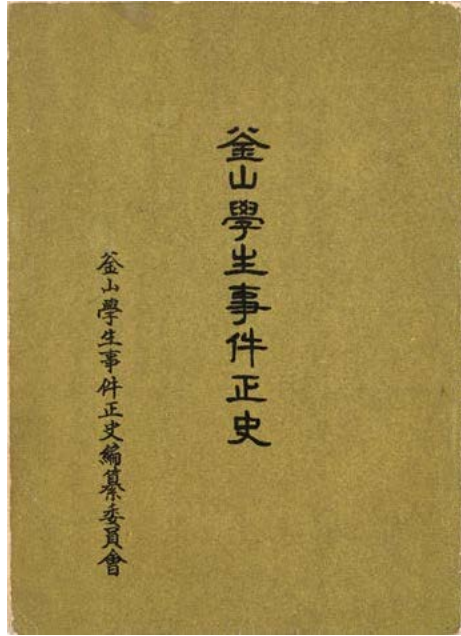
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This map, created in 1967 to commemorate the Busan Anti-Japanese Student Movement, marks the routes taken by the participants. Starting from Gudeok Public Sports Ground, the route is marked by red lines, passing through ① Bosu-dong Daechong-dong, ② Bosu-dong Chungmu-dong, and finally marching to the Nodai's residence in Yeongju-dong.



The view of Busan Public Stadium in 1934, now Gudeok Stadium (Seodaesin-dong)  
Where The 2nd Gyeongnam Student Strength Enhancement National Defense  
Competition were held.

Provided by Pukyung Institute of Korean History



Busan Student Incident History

1967, 15×21cm

Collection of Busan Education History Museum

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This book, published by the Busan Student Incident Compilation Committee in 1967, provides a detailed account of the Busan Anti-Japanese Student Movement (Nodai Incident), which involved students from Dongrae Middle School and Busan 2nd Public Commercial High School. It includes a list of students who were punished and reference materials related to the incident, making it a valuable resource for understanding the event.

The 2nd  
Gyeongnam  
Student Strength  
Enhancement  
National Defense  
Competition

Types of games	the Contents of the Game
100 Meter Run	(Personal event) Running while carrying a rifle.
400 Meter Relay	(Team of 4) Running while passing a rifle as a baton.
80-meter hurdle	(Personal event) Jumping over obstacles while holding a rifle.
Long Jump	(Team of 5) Long jump while armed. If the rifle muzzle touches the ground, it's invalid, as dirt or sand could enter the muzzle, making the rifle unusable.
High Jump	(Team of 5) High jump while armed. However, the rifle is not carried, but if the bayonet falls off, it's considered invalid.
Chin-ups	(Team of 5) Chin-ups on a chin-up bar.
Throwing a grenade	(Team of 5) Grenade throw for distance.
Carrying a sandbag	(Team of 5) Relay race while carrying an 30kg sack filled with sand.
Emergency retroactivity	(Personal event) Lying down in pants, quickly getting up at the sound of a gunshot, running while putting on clothes and strapping on leg guards.
Damga(stretcher) transport	(Team of 5) One person acts as a patient and is carried on a stretcher, while the other four carry the stretcher and run.
Lifting heavy objects	(Personal event) Lifting a 22.5kg barbell.
Wrestling	(team of 5)
Tow Race	(Team of 5) Three sacks of sand on a large plank, pulling a long rope.
Tug of war	(Pair of 20) Tug of war.
Armed arch	(Team of 20) Marathon race of 2,000 meters, holding a rope in one hand while armed.

Source: 《Baegyang Samsegi (III)》, 2015, Gaeseong High School Alumni Association.

## 부산의 독립운동가

### Busan's Independence Activists

During the Japanese occupation, students formed secret societies to express their desire for independence and led the way in the March 1st Movement, shouting for independence. Their passionate anti-Japanese spirit, combined with the efforts of many independence activists both in Korea and abroad, contributed to the success of the independence movement. This section introduces the independence fighters who played active roles in Busan.



#### Ahn Heeje

1885. 8. 4. - 1943. 8. 3.

Born in Uiryong, Gyeongnam, An Heeje supported the independence movement while running Baeksan Trading Company in Busan. During the March 1st Movement, he distributed independence declarations in Uiryong and encouraged participation in the independence movement. He also established the Gumyung School in Busan, promoting ethnic education. To fund the independence movement, he sought the help of Choi Jun, known as "The rich Choi family of Gyeongju" and devoted himself to independence activities in various ways. After liberation, his contributions related to Kim Gu were revealed, deeply moving the people.



## Park Jaehyeok

1895. 5. 17. ~ 1921. 5. 11.

A native of Busan, Park led the independence movement by organizing the secret society 'Gusedan' while at Busan Public Commercial School. After joining the Righteous Patriots Corps in Shanghai, he attempted to assassinate Hashimoto, the Chief of the Busan Police, on September 14, 1920. Wounded and arrested, he endured torture, was sentenced to death, and chose to end his life by hunger strike, refusing to die by Japanese hands. His act marked the first successful operation of the Righteous Patriots Corps.

## Choi Cheontaek

1896. 6. 1. ~ 1962. 11. 17.

Born in Busan, Choi co-founded the secret society 'Gusedan' with Park Jaehyeok. He helped him to assassinate the Chief of the Busan Police and participated in the March 1st and Gwangju Student Movements. Tortured by Japanese authority in 1924, he lost his one eye but continued to resist as head of the Shingan-hoe. After the liberation of Korea, he worked for democracy and unification, inspiring Busan citizens with his dedication.



## Park Chajeong

1910. 5. 7. ~ 1944. 5. 27.

Born in Dongnae, Park led the anti-Japanese student movement at Ilshin Girls' School. In 1929, she joined the Geunwoo Association and later exiled to China, where she joined the Righteous Patriots Corps. As an instructor at the Joseon Revolutionary Military School, she trained female activists. In 1938, she led armed struggles with the Joseon Volunteer Army. She died in 1944 in Chongqing from injuries sustained in the 1939 Kunlun Mountain battle.



## Han Hyeonseok

(Han Yuhan\*)

1910. 2. 21. ~ 1996. 6. 15.

Born in Dongnae, Han moved to Shanghai to study music and theater. He composed the anti-Japanese opera <Arirang> to support the independence movement. After the liberation of Korea, he returned to Busan and following the Korean War devoted himself to education and cultural and artistic activities .

In 1953, he founded Korea's first "Free Children's Theater," providing free performances for children. Han played a key role in both the independence movement and the cultural development of Busan.

\*He used the pen name "Han Yuhan" during his anti-Japanese activities in China, meaning "longing for Korea."\*



Busan Ilbo Extra Edition and the Plaque of Park Jae-hyuk\*

1980s, 162.2×52cm

Created by Kim Samgeun, Collection of the History Museum of Gaeseong High School.

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This material includes the Busan Ilbo extra edition covering Park Jaehyuk's bombing incident, along with a record of the errors found in the inscription on his plaque at the National Seoul Cemetery after his death, and the subsequent corrections. This document was written by Kim Samgeun, the author of *The Collection of Independence Fighters from Busan*, published in 1982. It appears to have been compiled based on the events during the publication preparation process.

Extra edition: A special issue or urgent report published by a newspaper in response to a significant event.



The Code and Regulations of the Geunwoo Association (Replica)

1927, 54×16.5cm

Collection of the Independence Hall of Korea.

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This document outlines the goals and rules of the Geunwoo Association, an anti-Japanese women's movement organization during the Japanese colonial period. It focuses on the involvement of Korean women in activities that would contribute to the independence movement. The Geunwoo Association was founded in the 1920s, with Park Chajung at its core, and was dissolved in 1931 due to Japanese repression.



Ilshin : Ilshin Private Girls' School Magazine

1936, 15.5×22cm

Collection of Busan Education History Museum

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Park Chajung wrote three articles, including a poem "The Sound of Frogs" and a novel "The Night" in the second edition of "Ilshin" (1928), showing her anti-Japanese spirit through literature in her school days. At that time, the school magazine played a role in expressing a sense of resistance through literary works.

Published in 1936, the 8th issue of Ilshin is a commemorative issue commemorating Mrs. Bel Menzies (1856-1935), who passed away the previous year.

The private Ilshin Girls' School was founded by Australian missionaries, and Miss. Belle Menzies (1856-1935) emphasized the importance of women's education, saying, "Women must be educated to develop the country."

가슴으로 잇는 독립의 숨결

## The Breath of Independence Connecting Us



The independence movement was a sacrifice for the freedom of our homeland. It is not just a story from the past but a powerful message that resonates with us today and should be passed on to future generations. In the third section, we introduce various activities in our community that honor independence fighters, including a space for transcribing the \*March 1st Declaration of Independence\* in an easy-to-read format, and letters from Busan citizens to the independence activists of Busan.



## 독립운동가를 기억하는 방법

### How to Remember Independence Activists



Portrait of Park Chajeong

Yoon Seoknam, 2020, 210×94, Color pigment on Hanji

Possession of the artist

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Yoon Seoknam (born in 1939) is a leading Korean female artist who continues to shed light on the lives and achievements of women independence fighters, especially through their portraits. She considers portraiture not just a painting, but an important form of expression that captures the life and journey of a person.

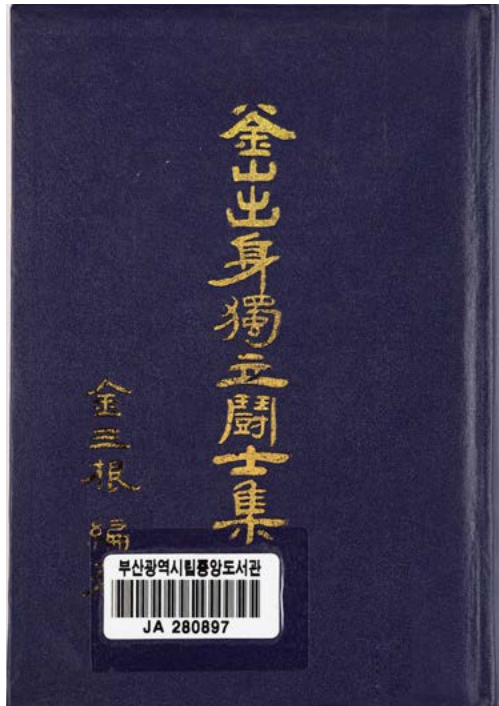
In the portrait of Park Chajeong, the gun clutched tightly in both hands and the tightly pursed lips are particularly striking. The intense colors and determined expression powerfully convey the strong will and spirit of the independence activist.



A Postcard for the 1st Anniversary of Liberation  
 1946, 10.2×15.2cm  
 Collection of Yeongcheon History Museum

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On August 15, 1946, the Postal Service ministry of the U.S. Military Government issued the first commemorative postcard of Korea to mark the first anniversary of Korea's liberation. Men and women of all ages stepped on the Japanese flag holding Korean flags in broken chains on the front, which was painted by artist Oh Juhwan(1915-1989). The back of the stamp shows a young man holding a Korean flag breaks the chain, and there are a Korean flag and an American flag along with English phrases commemorating the first anniversary, giving a glimpse of the era under the U.S. military government at that time. This postcard is not just a souvenir, but a historical work of art that contains the emotion of liberation and the aspirations of the Korean people.



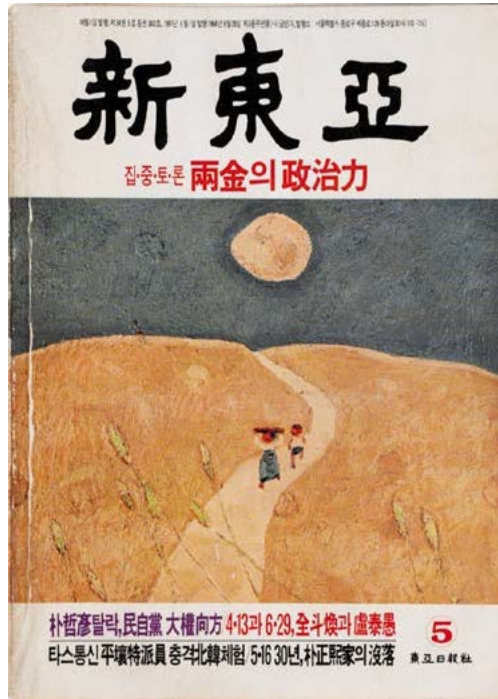
A Collection of Independence Fighters from Busan  
by Kim Sam-geun

1982, 13×19×3.4cm

Collection of the Busan Metropolitan Central Library

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This book documents the lives and achievements of independence fighters from Busan during the Japanese occupation. The author, Kim Sam-geun, said that he had compiled the book over a period of four years in order to inform young people who had not experienced the pain and difficulties of the Japanese occupation about the dedication of independence fighters to their country.



The 26th «Shin Dong-ah» Public Nonfiction Award Winning Work: The Martyrs' Party Incident  
 - A Record of the Anti-Japanese Student Movement in the Busan At the End of the Japanese Occupation  
 May 1991, 15×21×3cm (15× 9×3cm when unfolded)+15×21cm  
 Collection of Busan Education History Museum

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The author, Bae Bong-su, wrote this work to document the sacrifices of his comrades from the Martyrs' Party. He reveals that the memories and guilt associated with his comrades, who died at a young age, were the main motivations for writing this book. Additionally, he expresses his heartfelt hope that his comrades may rest in peace at the graves of national heroes. Bae Bong-su also conveys his gratitude to the editorial staff and judges of <Shin -Dong-ah> Nonfiction for their recognition.

## 독립운동가에게 전하는 말

### Letter to Independence Activists

We encouraged citizens of Busan to send letters to independence activists via post offices. Each letter contains personal stories along with heartfelt messages of gratitude and respect for the activists. Through the heartfelt words in these handwritten letters, let us take a moment to remember the sacrifices of the independence activists and share that feeling together.

“When fury and sorrow rose within me like a tide, brimming over yet spilling out only in tears,  
it was your resolute call — ‘Act! Act!’ — that struck my heart like a thunderclap.”

- Lee Jeonghee -

“If there are independence activists we don’t know about, I hope they are warmly welcomed  
and told, ‘You worked so hard,’ in the village of heroes up in heaven.”

- Lee Ryanggeun -

“A descendant of an independence activist lives just one floor below me. Every time I see her,  
I silently send my gratitude and apologies from my heart. But through this experience,  
I’ve found a new resolve.”

- Kim Jaehyeon -

“Soon, I will visit you myself along Park Jaehyeok Street, a 630-meter stretch where your  
birthplace stands. I send cherry blossoms dancing on the breeze to you.”

- Kim Wonjeong -

“Ordinary people like me are forever indebted to your faith and courage. Through this letter,  
I humbly offer my heartfelt gratitude.”

- Descendant of Kim Yongsu -

“The Republic of Korea, which gained independence through the sacrifices and dedication  
of our independence activists, has become the cultural powerhouse that Kim Gu, the great  
Baekbeom, so dearly wished for.”

- Noh Sangman -