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Searching for the Perfect Writing System: 20th Century Hangeul Reform Proposals

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Hangeul and Hangeul Orthography

Reform Ideas 1: Linear writing

Reform Ideas 2: Revised Graphemes

Reform Ideas 3: Typography Design

Conclusion

## Hangeul

- Personal project of King Sejong that was completed in late 1443 or 1444 and promulgated in 1446.
- \* "The Proper Sounds for the Education of the People" (Hunminjeongum) is a rare explanation of a created writing system.
- Debate over possible influences on Hangeul.



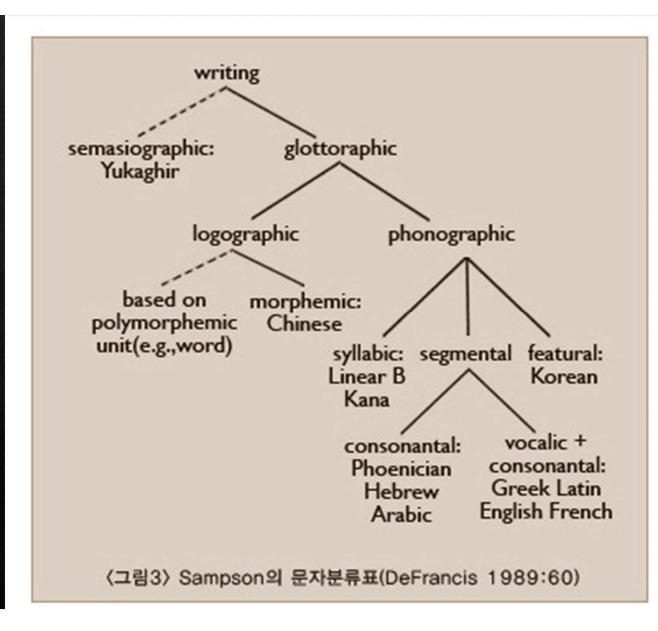
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Geoffrey Sampson's Taxonomy (1985)



#### **Featural Hangeul**

A featural script has elements that indicate the components of articulation, such as bilabial consonants, fricatives, or back vowels. Velars: Alveolars: Bilabials: Dentals: Glottals:

Dental

人

Bilabial

Glottal

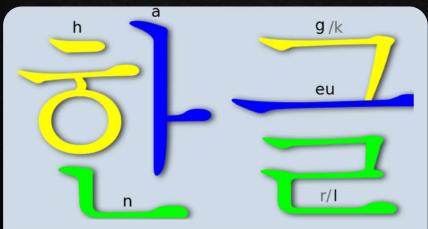
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Alveolar

Velar







计介呈 온인을 논지 잇버던 볼지어다 회 브 학당 を問 라 专艺 喜 림시 학당 하도 학도 문경호 민찬호 정동 る 구경 셔양 오전 례법으로 間りらか 신규슈 열시 그리로 さこり 반 হা

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#### Reform Ideas 1: Linear writing

- ♦ Ju Si-gyeong (1876-1914): Leader of Hangeul revival movement in late 19<sup>th</sup> century
- Choi Hyeon-bae (1894-1970): Leader of South Korean orthographic policy from 1945 to the 1960s

#### Ju Si-gyeong Proposal

#### TEI THE HI TH EL MH LHE ITEID

TH IZ I 하나로 HZ [[FZH DIL IZ 그 기사 이 히날을 어기 면 지 나니라. 15 I SHIFE HS 411 DIL XI CHIZE

기사하 지장 거고 사건되 라면 바라 더리 바자를 살 일 을 만들 어야 되 나니라 ATE HE VIS IS HE DIFTHE IF CIL THEISP TH YEST SHE SHE WITH SHE SIS HE 45 ELLY VI IN CHEAD 2N 2414 INDIAN אר אמם בוצדר בא מוצאה בף ד בא אום ב AT ST RISTY + WA ST OF THE VISI IN IN 4 JH DIS I CTI AVHTI I THE SHIPS ISE IN ELK SHAT SHE THAN I DIGHA! DELENS AT AT RHICHAY IN AF CTI S THA HL THE TLISH

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"우리 글의가로쓰는 익힘 그일이하날을 따르면 일고그일

가장 좆 게 살기를 바라면 가장 좋게

그 살이를 가장 주게 하 모일은 반 듯이 하날 을 따름 에 잇 나니라.

이 따의 우 에 사람의 경에 마다 그 예모비롯아저모나는소리가있어 그 말 이 되 엇으니 이 는 하날 이라.

사람 이 그 상이를 가장 좋게 만들 바 에 반듯이 잇 여야 되 ㄹ 것 은 글 이니라 사람 의 결에 가 저 마다 글 을 그 소리 에 맞게 만들어 쓰 어야 하날을 따르는 일 이니라.

말 은 만듯이 다듬 어야 좆 은 말을 일 Dra Hz Iar 11 Kit H, Dra Ha Kn it 우고좆은말을 적 어야 좋은 글 이되 나니다.

#### Ease of Learning

- Ju Si-gyeong operated a school to teach Hangeul.
- Language of education was Japanese during colonial period (1910-1945)



#### Choi Hyeonbae Proposal

ykgydupmul

suc alk pseuda apcepsunchédic adetas su cath apcepsunchédic adetas su cath languard all succession apcepsunchédic adetas su cath languard appearance all succession apcepsunchédic adetas su cath languard appearance all succession and appearance al

#### Typing and Printing

 Printing books and newspapers in Hangeul was a way to give it relevance during Japanese colonial rule.



#### Reform Ideas 2: Revised Graphemes

- North Korea: Revised orthography of 1948 included six new graphemes to abandoned in 1954
- Seo Yun-yeong: Proposed additional graphemes in 1987

## North Korean Revised Orthography

 Designed improve morphophonemic consistency by eliminating irregular changes.

깨닫다 → 깨달으리

놀 브 네 다 <mark>깨 당으니</mark> 징어 라 가 지 어 사 어 사

	Pronunciation					
Letter		before a consonant				
ਟ	/\/	_1				
е	/nn/	/\/				
Δ	/\/	/t/				
0	_1	1,12				
Υ	/w/ <sup>3</sup>	/p/				
1	/j/ <sup>4</sup>	/i/				

#### Obsolete Graphemes

♦ • ǝ

⋄ o n

♦ ৳ β

#### Seo Yun-yeong Proposal

- ♦ Called "Sound Shape" (Malkkol)
- Proposed to make Hangeul perfectly phonetic

# 한 글 풀어쓰기 교본

Then Stand standard all all appropriate the standard and the standard and

29. 조병희 풀어쓰기 합리적인 가로 글씨 フ L C 己 D 日 A O ス え ヲ E 立 ô 刀匹出从双 トイエエの1升刊刊 J (Ĭ), J(工丁), V(Ŭ) 모두 3] x 단위로 띄어 쓴다. 보기: 한글 가로 글씨본 인쇄물(본인에게세) 一 ラトレリマ リマ ばいロノナレ 127上, 하는 니로 비리 기미나 지나나라 30. 윤덕중 풀어쓰기 L ALSOBE YHOHISES DHYIGH

31. 이승화 풀어쓰기 31. 이승화 풀어쓰기 5677人 ス大レ C E 27 16077人 ス大レ C E 27 16077人 ス大レ C E 27 16077 U & H カ はん

아승화씨 주장(60년대에는 풀어쓰기에 대단히 열 현재는 모아쓰기 컴퓨터가 만능이므로 풀어쓰기 장차 풀어쓰기시대가 오면 위와 같이 하는 것이 사모의 순서도 독특한 배열이다.

## 32. 최학모 풀어쓰기 고친 글자의 언해

## Reform Ideas 3: Typography Design

- ♦ Kim Jeong-su: Leaning Hangeul design in 1982
- Ahn Sang-soo: Various Hangeul fonts beginning in the 1980s

Leaning Hangeul (1982)

안상수체 3종 L, M, B

역사는 무거운 짐이다. 세상에 대한 사표쓰기란 더욱

이상체 3종 L, M, B

미르체 1종

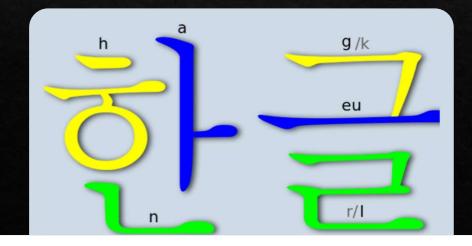
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마노체 1종

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## Ahn Sang-soo's Fonts

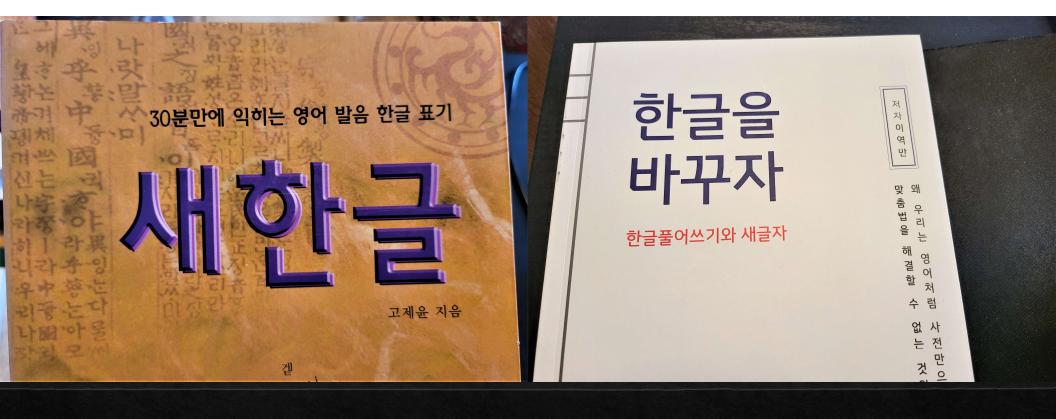




#### Hangeul and Perfection

Hangeul as Object of Perfection: Respect for King Sejong, respect for struggle to create independent national culture amid imperialist pressures, recognition of uniqueness of Hangeul.

Hangeul as Subject of Perfection: Linear Hangeul for learning, typing, and printing → "modern"; revised graphemes as improving on the original, new typography to improve readability and aesthetics.



Future Directions?

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## 감사합니다 Natick Danke Ευχαριστίες Dalu & Thank You Köszönöm 3. 5 Спасибо Dank Gracias Seé りかとう