

Between Liberation Space and Time of Need

1945-1950:

An Exhibition of Rare Literary Works from the Korean Collection of the University of Washington Libraries



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by Scott Swaner, Assistant Professor Department of Asian Languages & Literature

To better understand the Liberation Space (Haebang konggan) try to imagine Korea as a person rather than a country. In the first half of the twentieth century, to see Korea even as a country is hard enough, and despite many understandable but retroactive nationalist imaginings of Korea as a nation during that time, Korea was something quite different entirely. How then should we imagine Korea during this time, during this period so palpable or pervasive that it is in fact labeled as if it were a physical space (“konggan,” *space*)?

Korea, the individual, was the classic subaltern subject of whom Gayatri Spivak has written -- the individual, downtrodden, dispossessed, subjugated, disenfranchised, wearied, withheld, and silenced for 36 years as a Japanese imperial subject. Thus the Liberation Space represents, or we might even say it embodies, that time / zone in which the voice of the subaltern could first be heard. Rare enough was the time itself, and written artifacts from that time are more incredible still. We can duly modify Spivak’s question “Can this subaltern speak?” and our answer becomes, “Only during the Liberation Space could the Korean subaltern speak.” For this reason these books are invaluable.

The extant publications of the period provide us with this answer. Korea could finally speak as it desired. For five years the heretofore filtered or silenced voice of the Korean people, often varied and competing in their interests, could be heard — *I would argue it was the first and only such moment for Korea in the modern period.* The visual culture aspect must be noted too. Many of the period’s books are designed and illustrated by hand due to lack of material and printing resources. Examining the covers one finds brilliant one-of-a-kind examples of traditionalist, nationalist, modernist, socialist, and even internationalist themes. Scores of the illustrations were done by famous artists and designers. Materially, the works used standard paper, recycled paper, and some used *hanji* (a Korean traditional paper). Overall the collection gives the impression of a struggling but flourishing literary culture not yet marked by the stains of forced production or a commodified culture industry.

Rare, precious, and invaluable are just some words used to describe the documents of this period, documents so well represented in this collection; and scholars of Korean will be aware how these works are equally if not more difficult to find in the libraries of Seoul. One of the first poetry anthologies of the period, a 1945 volume called *The Liberation Commemorative Anthology (Haebang kinyŏm sijip)*, holds a special place even within the

collection: it is a very hard-to-find collection of poems that not only sings Korea’s newfound freedom, it is also a collection by authors of various ideological stripes. Despite almost universally shared dislike for Japan at the time, the space quickly filled with competing rightist and leftist visions of a better future.

Unspeaking hardship had occupied Korea and would return full-force with the deeply ideological war of 1950 — the “time of need” Heidegger gave to the poet, the phrase brought into Korean by critic Kim Yunsik — but for a few short years the voice of the subaltern could be heard on this corner of the world’s stage. All texts in the collection manifest aspects of that subaltern desire, of its will to survive, of its hunger for a better future. An influential leftist anthology of poems appeared in 1946 to commemorate the failed March 1st Independence Movement — *The 3-1 Commemorative Anthology (3-1 kinyŏm sijip)*. An anti-capitalist modernist vision was put forth by poet Kim Ki-rim the same year: his *Sea and Butterfly (Pada wa nabi)*. Instructive visions about Korean identity and culture uncensored and by Koreans themselves were published, as for example in *Readings on Ethnonationalist Culture (Minjok munhwa tokpon, 1946)* and there was a new version of *The Tale of Hong Kiltong* by Pak T’ae-wŏn (1947).

Let us cite just two more examples from the exciting poetry anthologies of the period, those works where so many voices can be heard within a given volume: *The Avant Garde Poets Anthology (Chŏnwi siinjip, 1946)* & *The New City and the Chorus of Citizens (Saeroun tosi wa simindŭl ŭi hapch’ang, 1949)*. Experiments in form, voice, and theme, and utopian visions of a world free of empire, capital, exploitation, and oppression abound in these works. (Perhaps not coincidentally the UN’s *Universal Declaration for Human Rights* was published between the appearance of these two Korean works.) For the poetry reader, at least, these are the purest voices of a liberated and self-governing Korea, of a Korea that in the future perfect tense has already moved beyond subalternity into being for itself. The linguistic execution by these poet-legislators demands acknowledgment and projects a unified Korean community beyond a time of need.

Sadly we can barely scratch the surface of the University of Washington’s rich collection here, so this brief introduction can only serve as invitation. Reading, analyzing, and examining these works is now our only chance to hear what the subaltern would and in fact did say during what was for the budding publishing world a halcyon time and place.

Oct. 31

**Hae wa tal : Chosŏn tonghwajip (children's literature)
Kyŏngsŏng (Sŏul) : Kyŏngsŏng Kyerim Insŏgwŏn, 1945.***

Hae wa tal (The Sun and the Moon) is presumed to be the first collection of young adult literature after the liberation, including "Widaehan Palmyŏngga Edisŏn (Edison the Great Inventor)"



Dec. 12

**Haebang kinyŏm sijip (poems)
Hansŏng (Sŏul) : Chungang Munhwa Hyŏphoe, 1945.**

Published to commemorate liberation, this anthology presents poems by twenty-four respected Korean writers including those of Chŏng In-bo (1892-1950), Hong Myŏng-hŭi (1888-1968), and Pak Chong-hwa (1901-1981). This rare copy is the first anthology published after the liberation whose cover design was by a famous painter, Kim Hwan-gi.

Jan. 20

**Hyondae Chosŏn munhak chŏnjip.
Supil kihaengjip (essays)
Sŏul : Chogwangsa, 1946.***

Chogwangsa, an affiliated publisher to *Chosŏn Ilbosa* (Chosŏn Daily), featured a series of books introducing contemporary Korean literature. Volume one is consisted of essays, including the works of An Chae-hong, Kim Tong-in, and Yi T'ae-jun. *Hyondae Chosŏn munhak chŏnjip* is believed to be the first anthology of different genres of literature, but only the first two volumes are published.

Feb. 1

**San chebi : sijip (poems) / by Pak Se-yŏng
Sŏul : Pyŏl Narasa Ch'ulp'anbu, 1946.**

San chebi (Mountain Magpie) is the second edition of collection of poems by Pak Se-yŏng (1902-1989), an active member of the Korea Proletariat Artists' Federation (KAPF). The anthology is first published in 1938 and is titled after his famous poem "San chebi (Mountain Magpie)." Introduction and forward written by a famous novelist Yi Ki-yŏng (1895-1984) and poet Im Hwa (1908-1953) respectively, and the cover design by Im Hak-sŏn.

Mar. 1

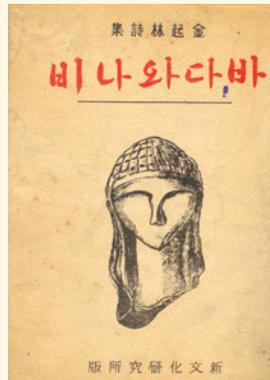
**Samil kinyŏm sijip (poems) / edited by Chosŏn Munhakka
Tongmaeng Sibū
Hansŏng (Sŏul) : Kŏnsŏl Ch'ulp'ansa, 1946.**

Directed by Chosŏn Munhakka Tongmaeng, a left-wing writers' alliance, *Samil kinyŏm sijip (Anthology for March First)* is a Festschrift for an anti-imperial protest on March 1, 1919, and includes poems by Kim Ki-rim, Im Hwa, Sŏ Chŏng-ju along with 16 other poets' works.

Apr. 20

**Pada wa nabi : sijip (poems) / by Kim Ki-rim
Sŏul : Sin Munhwa Yŏn'guso, 1946.**

Pada wa nabi (The Ocean and the Butterfly) is the third collection of poems by Kim Ki-rim (1908-?), the beacon of Korean modernism. Kim was a critique of Capitalism and asserted social participation, but chose capitalist South Korea over socialist North in 1948, and abducted by North Koreans during the Korean War. The modern book cover is designed by painter Min Sang-jin.



Apr. 20

Hwaetpul : sijip (poems) / by Pak Se-yŏng ... [et al.]
Sŏul : Uri Munhaksa, 1946.

Hong Ku, the general manager for Chosŏn Munhakka Tongmaeng and a novelist, collected twelve poets' work including those of Kim Yong-ho (1912-1973), Pak Se-yŏng (1902-1989) to commemorate the liberation from the Imperialist Japan on August 15th, 1945. When published, they limited to 3000 copies.

May 28

Esenin sijip (poems) / translated by O Chang-hwan
Sŏul : Tonghyangsa, 1946.**

O Chang-hwan (1918- ?), a leftist writer who crossed to North Korea in 1948, translated 14 poems by the Russian writer Sergie A. Esenin (1895-1925) and added his own essays on Esenin. Limited to 1000 copies, the quality of the paper used for this book was rare to find in the liberation space, and it was bounded in Western style. The author wrote "Gift to Johsel Namkung" with his signature on a piece of paper that was found in this copy. This book is extremely rare.

May 30

Chŏng Chi-yong sijip (poems)
Sŏul : Kŏnsŏl Ch'ulp'ansa, 1946.

The second edition of anthology by a famous poet Chŏng Chi-yong (1902-1950), abducted by North Koreans during the Korean War and died in Pyŏngyang Prison. Among collected poems in this anthology, "Pada 1 (Seascape 1)," "Pada 2 (Seascape 2)," and "Yuri Ch'ang (Glass Window)" are highly appraised as great achievements in modern Korean poetry. The first edition of the anthology was published during the Japanese colonization period.

July 25

Sanghŏ Munhak tokpon (readings) / by Yi T'ae-jun
Sŏul : Paegyongdang, 1946.

Novelist Yi T'ae-jun selected exemplary prose and novels with concrete depiction of a character or the nature. Yi is known to have developed a delicate and lyrical way of describing an object. Yi chose North Korea over South after the liberation. Cover design is gracefully decorated by Pae Chŏng-guk.



Sept. 20

Inyŏng : sosŏlchip (short stories) / by Han Sŏr-ya
Kyŏngsŏng (Sŏul) : Kŏnsŏl Ch'ulp'ansa, 1946.

A collection of three novellas written before the liberation by novelist Han Sŏr-ya (1900-?), including "Inyŏng," after which the book is titled. Han Sŏr-ya worked in Pyongyang after the liberation and reached the axiom in the literary scenes in North Korea, but had been persecuted. Her works are marked by simple plot structure and bold narrative voice.

Oct. 25

Chŏnwŏn : ch'angjakchip (short stories) / [by] An Hoe-nam
Sŏul : Koryŏ Munhwasa, 1946.*

Chŏnwŏn (pasture) is the third collection of novellas by An Hoe-nam (1910- ?), written during the last years of Japanese colonization and the liberation space. Includes thirteen novellas by the author. The manuscripts were kept by Yi Yuk-sa (1904-1944), a poet and independent activist, passed onto leftist critique Yi Wŏn-jo (1909-1955) at Yi Yuk-sa's death-bed, and were returned to the author to be published. Cover design by Chŏng Hyŏn-ung.

Oct. 31

Paengnoktam : [poems] / [by] Chŏng Chi-yong
Kyŏngsŏng (Sŏul) : Paegyongdang, 1946.

The second edition of renowned poet Chŏng Chi-yong (1902-1950)'s second anthology published during the Japanese colonial period. This book includes one of his best poems, "Paengnoktam," whose flow of rhythm and image are extremely poetic despite its prosaic form.

Nov. 15

Minjok munhwa tokpon (readings) /
edited by Yang Chu-dong
Sŏul : Chŏngnyŏnsa, 1946.*

Well-known poet and linguist Yang Chu-dong (1903-1977) collected noted editorials, prose and poems during the Japanese occupation, and published in two volumes. Volume one contains Yi T'ae-jun's "Insa (The Human Affair)," an essay, Cho Chi-hun's "Sŏngmu (The Dance of a Buddhist Nun)," a poem, and Hyŏn Chin-gŏn's "Pulguksa Esŏ (In Pulguk Temple)," a travel writing. Volume two contains sixty five compositions, including An Chae-hong's editorial "Minjok munhwa ui chillo (Direction for the National Culture)" and Yi Pyŏng-ki's poem "Nanch'o (An Orchid)."

Nov. 30

Kim Yŏn-sil chŏn : [a novel] / by Kim Tong-in
Hansŏng (Sŏul) : Kŏmnyong Tosŏ Mun'gu Chusik Hoesa, 1946.

Renowned novelist Kim Tong-in (1900-1951) depicted a course of the female character's moral degradation under the name of reform and free-love. Used recycled paper, but it has been preserved well.

Dec. 30

Chŏnwi siinjip (poems) / by Yi Pyŏng-ch'ŏl ... [et al.]**Sŏul : Nonongsa, 1946.**

This rare publication is published in 1946 by five young radical poets including Yi Pyŏng-ch'ŏl (1918- ?) and Yu Chin-bo (1922-1950), written after the liberation. The poems are about contention and resistance. The paper used for this publication is *hanji*, Korean rice paper.

Dec.

Chehyang nal : tanp'yŏnjip (short stories) / by Ch'ae Man-sik**Sŏul : Pangmun Ch'ulp'ansa, 1946.**

Chehyang nal (*The Day of the Ritual*) is a collection of six short stories by novelist Ch'ae man-sik (1902-1950), famous for "T'angnyu (A Turbid Stream)" and "T'aep'yŏng Ch'ŏnha (The Perfect State)", during the latter years of Japanese colonization. The cover design shows the stylistic delicacy of painter Chŏng Hyŏn-ung who drew many good cover drawings during this period.

Chungdŭng munbŏm (readings) / edited by Pak T'ae-wŏn**Sŏul : Chŏngŭmsa, 1946.***

Pak T'ae-wŏn (1910-1986), one of the respected novelist during the Japanese colonial period, edited works by Ch'ae Man-sik, An Hoe-nam, Kim Yu-jŏng and other representative writers, as a reader for students. The book was published as a part of Chŏngŭm Publishing Company's literature anthology, Pudokbon Ch'ongsŏ. The abstract cover design is notable, but the artist is unknown.

P'odo wa kusŭl : [children's literature] / [by] Hyŏn Tŏk**Sŏul : Chŏngŭmsa, [1946].**

Young adult novel writer Hyŏn Tŏk presents 35 tales written during the Japanese colonization period in this book published as one of Chŏngŭm Publishing Company's Chosŏn Juvenile Literature series. The illustrations on the book cover and on the title page are drawn by Chŏng Hyŏn-ung, and allude to the themes of the narratives.



Jan. 10

Sŏngbyŏk : sijip (poems) / by O Chang-hwan**Sŏul : Amun'gak, 1947.***

This book is a leftist writer O Chang-hwan's first collection of poems. O Chang-hwan (1918- ?) later fled to North Korea. Most of the poems in the book refuse tradition and pursue the Western culture newly introduced to Koreans. The modern illustration on the book cover figuratively depicts the melancholic social atmosphere by Choe Tae-dŏk.



Jan. 20

Sŏjŏng sijip (poems) / by P'i Ch'ŏn-dŭk**Sŏul : Sangho Ch'ulp'ansa, 1947.**

The first collection of poems of a prominent essayist and English literature scholar P'i Ch'ŏn-dŭk (1910-) includes "Kkum (Dream)," "P'yŏnji (The Letter)," and other beautiful writings. It is believed that the book cover was illustrated by a famous Korean artist Yi Sang-bŏm, but unfortunately it was ripped off from this copy.

Feb. 15

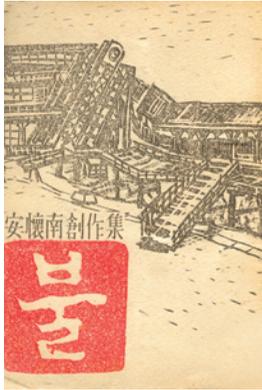
Mŏndong t'ŭl che : chŏnghyŏng, abun, sŏsasi (poems) / by Kim Ŏk**Sŏul : Paengmin Munhwasa, 1947.**

This collection of poems is published by poet Kim Ŏk (1896- ?). Kim Ŏk revised and edited his novel published periodically in *Tonga Ilbo* in 1930, during Japanese colonization period. Kim Ŏk is the editor of Korea's first collection of translated Western poems, "Onoe ũi Mudo" and Korea's first modern collection of poems, "Haep'ari ũi Norae (The Song of Jellyfish)". He was also the mentor of the famous poet Kim So-wŏl (1902-1934).

Feb. 20

Pul: An Hoe-nam che-sa ch'angjakchip (short stories)
Söul : Üryu Munhwasa, 1947.**

This book is a collection of ten short stories by An Hoe-nam (1910- ?), who participated in Chosön Writers' Federation after the liberation and crossed over to North Korea in 1948. An is the only child of a famous writer An Kuk-sön (1878-1926) who came up with a new genre of Korean literature called *sinsosöl*, or the new novel. Chöng Hyön-ung illustrated the dim atmosphere of an urban setting on the book cover, which exquisitely complements the tone of An's writing.



Apr. 10

Changsam isa : ch'angjakchip (short stories) /
by Ch'oe Myöng-ik
Söul : Üryu Munhwasa, 1947.

This book is a collection of six novels by a North Korean novelist Ch'oe Myöng-ik (1903 - ?) written and published before the liberation. The novels in this book mainly describe the anxiety and emptiness of the elite class. Kil Chin-söp was in charge of the book cover and the title page illustration.



Apr. 10

Kümjandüi : Yijo kyusu hansü ch'anjp (poems) /
translated by Kim Ök
Söul : Tongbang Munhwasa, 1947.

Kim Ök (1896- ?), also known by his pseudonym Kim An-sö, was talented at translating poems. This book is a collection of translated *hansü* (poems written in Chinese characters) of famous female poets in Chosön such as Yi Mae-ch'ang, Hö Nansörhön, etc. Renowned as a deft translator, Kim Ök had published many other books of translated poems such as "Manguch'ö" and "Tongsimch'ö".

May 1

Ssoryön kihaeng : [travel and descriptions] / by Yi T'ae-jun
Kyöngsöng (Söul) : Cho-Sso Munhwa Hyöphoe, Chosön
Munhakka Tongmaeng, 1947.

A rare collection of travel writings by Yi T'ae-jun (1904-?), who traveled around the U.S.S.R in duration of two months from August 10th to October 17th, 1946 as a member of P'yöngyang Chosön Soviet Cultural Delegation. On the way back to Korea, Yi decides to permanently stay in North Korea. Painter Pae Chöng-guk illustrated the bold and impressive front piece and designed the book cover.



May 5

Cho Un sijojp (poems)
Söul : Chosönsa, 1947.

This first collection of sijo by Cho Un (1898-) contains mostly the ones written during the Japanese colonial period. Cho was a participant of the Chosön Munhakka Tongmaeng who fled to North Korea. A famous newspaper illustrator Yi Süng-man drew the book cover and a famous *sijo* poet Yi Pyöng-gi (1891-1968) designed the typography of the book title.

May 10

Munyödo : Kim Tong-ni tanp'yönjp (short stories)
Söul : Üryu Munhwasa, 1947.

Munyödo (*The Dance of a Shaman*) is the first collection of short stories by Kim Tong-ni (1913-1995), a politically conservative writer who actively participated in literary scenes. "Munyödo," which the book bears its title meditates on the issue of the traditional religion and spirituality in Korea tested by new Western ideas. The sanguine cover design and title page illustrations are drawn by one of the most renowned artist Kim Yong-jun.



May 20

Poktŏkpang : Sanghŏ tanp'yŏnsŏn (short stories) / by Yi T'ae-jun

Sŏul : Ŭryu Munhwasa, 1947.

Yi T'ae-jun (1904-), a famous novelist who crossed over to North Korea after the liberation, published a collection of eight short stories he issued during the Japanese colonization period. "Poktŏkpang (The Real Estate)" depicts the reality of colonized Koreans who lost the foundations of life due to the Japanese exploitation in the Korean peninsula. A respected painter Kim Yong-jun designed the book cover and added illustrations.



June 20

Saengmyŏng ũi sŏ : Yu Ch'i-hwan sijip (poems)

Sŏul : Haengmunsa, 1947.*

The second collection of poems by Yu Ch'i-hwan (1908-1967) contains poems published during the Japanese colonial period. Well-known for the poem "Kitpal (The Flag)," Yu was one of the *Saengmyŏngp'a* (the Naturalist school) poets. The tone in his poems is very masculine.

July 1

T'oji : sosŏljip (short stories) / edited by Chosŏn Munhakka Tongmaeng Nongmin Wiwŏnhoe

Sŏul : Amun'gak, 1947.

The Peasant Committee of the Chosŏn Writers' Federation published five short stories related to the land reform to promote and realize the land reform in South Korea in 1947, including "Kaebyŏk (The Creation)" by Yi Ki-yŏng and "Kaebyŏk (The Creation)" by An Hoe-nam and other leftist writers' work. Yi Chu-hong (1906-1987), a contributor to the children's literature and a talented artist designed the book cover.



Aug. 15

Choguk : sijip (poems) / by Ch'ŏng, Pa-a

Suwŏn : Hwasŏngdang Sŏjŏm, 1947.*

A poet with pseudonym Ch'ŏng Pa-a had published his patriotic poems to commemorate the second anniversary of the liberation on August 15, 1947. No research has been done about the author and his work.



Sept. 20

Ch'ilmyŏnjo : sijip (poems) / by Yŏ Sang-hyŏn

Sŏul : Chŏngŭmsa, 1947.*

Yŏ Sang-hyŏn (1914-) fled to North Korea right after publishing his first collection of metric poems in South Korea in 1947. Yŏ's major concern was to express the political consciousness of his generation. The paper used for this book is *hanji* but used the Western style book binding, and the book cover and title page illustrations beautifully designed by famous artists Kim Ki-ch'ang and Chŏng Hyŏn-ung.



Sept. 20

Karam sijojip (poems) / by Yi Pyŏng-gi

Sŏul : Paegyandang, 1947.

This book is the second edition of Yi Pyŏng-gi's early writings in 1939. Yi was a renowned *sijo* writer and a linguist who contributed in developing the contemporary *sijo* after the Japanese regime and focused on the studies of Korean language and literature as a professor at Seoul National University. Cover designed by Pae Chŏng-guk using the *p'yori* pattern found in old Korean books. The paper used for this publication is *hanji*, the Korean rice paper.

Sept. 20

Samp'alsön : sijip (poems) / by Kim Tong-myöng**Söul : Mullyungsa, 1947.***

Author of a widely-read poem "P'ach'o (A Plantain)," Kim Tong-myöng (1900-1968) illustrated the miserable and depressing lives of North Koreans based off his own experiences in his third collection of poems.

Nov. 15

Hong Kil-tong chön : [a novel] / by Pak T'ae-wön**Söul : Chosön Kümnyung Chohap Yönhaphoe, 1947.**

Pak T'ae-wön (1910-1986), one of the major writers during the Japanese colonial period who later became North Korean, rewrote the 16th century novel *Hong Kil-tong chön* by Hō Kyun. It was published as one of the Hyöptong Mun'go (Collective Library) series. Hyöptong Mun'go is a collection of books published by Chosön Kümnyung Chohap Yönhaphoe (Chosön Finance Association), a liberal non-profit organization, for the purpose of enlightening the peasants.

Nov. 20

Namsaengi : Hyön Tök ch'angjakchip (short stories)**Söul : Amun'gak, 1947.**

This book is the first collection of short stories by a novelist and young adult novel writer Hyön Tök, including six short stories. "Namsaengi," the short story which the title bears, was published during the Japanese colonization period. After the Japanese regime, Hyön Tök joined in Chosön Munhakka Tongmaeng, a leftist literary association. In 1950, he crossed over into North Korea and was executed. Pak Mun-wön designed the book cover and the title page.

Nov. 25

Samdae : [a novel] / by Yöm Sang-söp**Söul : Üryu Munhwasa, 1947-1948.**

Korea's representative realist Yöm Sang-söp (1897-1963) published his novel from Üryu Publishing Company in 1931 in two volumes. The story of three generations of the Cho family in Japanese colonization period is valued as one of the most prominent realistic work in contemporary Korean literature. The book cover and title page have fabulous illustrations, yet the artist is unknown.

Dec. 15

Pak kkot : Yi Hüi-süng sijip (poems)**Söul : Paegyandang, 1947.***

The first collection of poems of Yi Hüi-süng (1896-1989), a Korean linguist, poet and essayist who had been in prison for 3 years because of the *Chosönö Hakhoe Sakön* which occurred in the later years of Japanese colonial period. This collection of poems has five parts containing 34 poems and 21 sijos. Artist Pak Mun-wön was in charge of the cover paper and design.

Jan. 12

Hanül : sijip (poems) / by Kim Tong-myöng**Söul : Mullyungsa, 1948.**

Poet and a professor at Ewha Womans Univesity, Kim Tong-myöng (1901-1968) collected and edited his poems written during the later years of the Japanese regime. His most widely-read poems such as "Pada (The Sea)" and "Sul norae (The Rebel Song)" are included in this collection. His poems reflect the poet's simple and earthy lifestyle. Cover is designed by painter Kim Chae-sök.

Jan. 12

Samp'alsön : sosöl (short stories) / by Yöm Sang-söp**Söul : Kümnyong Tosö, 1948.**

Yöm Sang-söp (1897-1963), famous for his short story "P'yobonsil üi Ch'önggaeguri (Frog in the Specimen Room)" brought "Samp'alsön (The Thirty Eight Line)" and "Moryak (The Conspiracy)" together and published. The cover design is playfully and elegantly illustrated a talented artist who is unidentified.

Jan. 20

Sönghwangdang : Chöng Pi-sök ch'angjakchip (short stories)**Söul : Kümnyong Tosö, 1948.**

Best-seller writer Chöng Pi-sök (1911-1991) edited three short stories written before the liberation. The publishing date is mistakenly known as 1945, but it was actually published in January 1948. Cover design by painter Pak Söng-gyu.

Jan. 30

P'iri : sijip (poems) / [by] Yun Kon-gang**Söul : Chöngümsa, 1948.**

Fifth collection of poems of poet Yun Kon-gang (1911-1950). After Japanese colonization, he was interested in recovering local and regional Korean words and inheriting Korean traditions. Book cover is illustrated by a famous Korean artist Kim Yong-jun and *hanji* is used for paper.

Feb. 1

Imjin waeran : yöksa sosöl (a novel) / by Kwön T'ae-ik**Söul : Chosön Munhwa Yön'gusa, 1948.**

Little is known about Kwön T'ae-ik, who wrote this novel based on facts and myths about an historical event, Imjin Waeran. Preface is written by Kang Yong-hül (1898-1972), the author of *Ch'odang (The Grass Roof)*. No research had been done about the author and the novel.

Feb. 5

Munhak tokpon (readings) / by Chöng Chi-yong**Söul : Pangmun Ch'ul'p'ansa, 1948.**

This is the first collection of essays by Chöng Chi-yong (1902-1950), a famous poet abducted by North Koreans during the Korean War. This collection includes literary critiques, dance critiques, and prison notes. The restrained language and succinct sentence structures make this publication an exemplary reader. The book cover is designed by Kil Chin-söp.

Feb. 10

Söngt'anje : [short stories] / by Pak T'ae-wön
Söul : Üryu Munhwasa, 1948.

Writer of a famous novella, *Sosŏlga Kubo ssi üi iril* (*A Day of Mr. Kubo, a Novelist*), Pak T'ae-wön (1910-1986) brought eight short stories together for Üryu Mun'go series. These stories are told through the detached eye of the narrator, who observed the changing aspects of middle class Seoulites during the Japanese colonial period. Üryu Publishing Company was one of the most prominent publishing companies that strived for the enlightenment of the public by introducing them to a wide variety of literature.

Mar. 20

Sangnoksu : [a novel] / by Sim Hun
Söul : Hansöng Tosö, 1948.**

As the first series of Chosön Munhak Chönjip, Hansöng Tosö Inc. published Sim Hun (1901-1936)'s novel which won the prize for *Tonga Ilbo's* 15th anniversary. This novel which became popular had already been published by Hansöng Tosö Inc. in 1936. This is an enlightenment novel depicting the Vnarod movement with a bit of romance.

Apr. 30

T'okki üi kan : Tongin sadamjip (short stories) / by Kim Tong-in
Söul : T'aegük Sögwan, 1948.

Kim Tong-in (1900-1951) published his eight popular stories that were written during the last years of the colonial period. Kim used to publish stories to make the ends meet.

June 20

Mongjungnok : [a novel] / by On Nak-chung
Söul : Chosön Chungang Ilbosa Ch'ulp'anbu, 1948.

On Nak-chung (DOB unknown) wrote a dream-sequence novel about the contending forces of the right-wing and the left-wing politics in the liberation space. The author and his work has not been introduced anywhere so far.

June 20

Önü chiyök : [poems] / by Chang Yöng-ch'ang
Söul : T'aeyangdang, 1948.*

Önü chiyök (Some region) is a collection of poems published in local papers by Chang Yöng-ch'ang around the time of the liberation. No research has been done about the author and his works. The preface for this book is written by one of the most respected writers Ch'ae Man-sik (1902-1950) and the cover design and other illustrations are Chöng Hyön-ung's work.

June 20

Tanp'yönjip (short stories). Sang / by Hyön Chin-gön ... [et al.]
Söul : Hansöng Tosö, 1948.

The seventh series of *Chosön Munhak Chönjip* (Chosön Literary Collection), *Tanp'yönjip vol. 1* was published by Hansöng Books Inc. This book contains fifteen short stories including "Pinchö (The Poor Wife)" by Hyön Chin-gön (1900-1943), "Pom-Pom (Spring-Spring)" by Kim Yu-jöng (1908-1937). Hansöng Books Inc. played an important role in developing Korean culture through publishing books and magazines after being established in Seoul in the 1920s, during Japanese colonization and in the liberation space.

July 10

P'alto p'ungmul : sijip (poems) / [by] Im Hak-su
Söul : Paengmin Munhwasa, 1948.*

The second collection of poems by Im Hak-su (1911-1982), a poet abducted to North Korea during the Korean War. A renowned painter Kim Hüng-su drew the woman bowing towards Sökkuram on the book cover.



July 10

P'ilbu üi norae : sijip (poems) / by Im Hak-su
Söul : Koryö Munhwasa, 1948.

The fifth collection of poems by Im Hak-su, who was abducted by the North Koreans during the Korean War. He expresses the agonies in the harsh reality and the passionate zeal to escape from it.

July 15

Chosön p'yöngmin munhaksa (literature history) / by Ku Cha-gyun
Söul : Munjosa, 1948.

Korean linguist Ku Cha-gyun (1912-1964) researched the *hansi* of the middle class in Chosön dynasty. It is an edited version of Ku's graduation thesis for Kyöngsöng Cheguk Taehakkyo (now Seoul National University) in 1936.

July 15

Saröri : sijip (poems) / [by] Yun Kon-gang
Söul : Simunhaksa, 1948.

Poet Yun Kon-gang (1911-1950) continued to investigate in his poems the ways of recovering the Korean language and inheriting Korean traditions after his previous publication, *P'iri*. Yi Chöng's wood print appears on the first page, but the book cover is missing for this particular copy.

July 20

Pom i omyön : sosöl sönjip (short stories) / by An Hoe-nam
Söul : Chöngümsa, 1948.**

An Hoe-nam (1910- ?), who moved to North Korea, selected six short stories from books he previously published, reissuing it as the Chöngüm Mun'go series. Along with Üryu Mun'go, Chöngüm Mun'go contributed to expanding the audience in post-liberation Korea.

July 25

Chiyöl : Cho Pyög-am sijip (poems)**Söul : Amun'gak, 1948.**

A poet, novelist, and critique Cho Pyög-am (1908-1985) published his second collection of poems right before he moved to North Korea in July 1948. Many of his poems express the zeal for the new nation. After Cho graduated from Kyöngsöng Cheguk Taehakkyo (now Seoul National University), he published novels, poems, and literary critiques and joined the Chosön Munhakka Tongmaeng after the liberation. The book cover is designed by painter Kim Man-hyöng, emitting a bold impression with simple contours that suits the content of the anthology.

July 25

Muhwagwa : Yun Yöng-ch'un sijip (poems)**Söul : Sungmunsa, 1948.**

The first collection of poems by Yun Yöng-ch'un (1912-1978), a scholar of Chinese language and literature and a poet. Yun studied in Nihon University in Japan and Princeton University before the liberation. The pictures of the fig tree is drawn by Kim Ki-ch'ang, a famous painter of classical Korean art. The calligraphy in the book cover is the work of a famous calligrapher O Se-ch'ang.

Aug. 10

Hüktugön : [a novel] / by Yun Paeng-nam**Söul : Yöngch'ang Sögwän, 1948.**

One of the prominent and beloved fiction writers, Yun Paeng-nam, wrote a history novel that sets in the Kwanghaegun Regime in the 16th century. This copy contains several illustrations by a famous artist Yi Sang-böm, but due to the poor paper and printing conditions it is hard to see the authenticity of the original illustrations.

Aug. 10

Nong'to : sosöl (a novel) / by Yi T'ae-jun**Söul : Samsöng Munhwasa, 1948.***

Yi T'ae-jun (1904-), a famous novelist who crossed over to North Korea after the liberation wrote this rural novel set in the time period in the last years of the Japanese colonization period to advocate the land reform in North Korea. Cover design by Kim Chu-gyöng.

Aug. 31

P'ungjang : sijip (poems) / by Chöng Chin-öp**Söul : Si Munhaksa, 1948.**

Novelist and poet Chöng Chin-öp's first collection of poems. The preface and postscript were written by famous novelist Kim Chöng-hwan (1908-1996) and a famous poet Kim Yong-ho (1912-1973) respectively.

Sept. 1

Ullüngo : Yu Ch'i-hwan sijip (poems)**Söul : Haengmunsa, 1948.***

Author of the famous poem "Kitpal (The Flag)," Yu Ch'i-hwan (1908-1967) published his third collection of poems during the three chaotic years following the liberation. Pak Söng-gyu used traditional patterns for book cover and the title page illustrations, and calligrapher Pae Kil-gi wrote the book title.

Sept. 20

Chesinje : ch'angjakchip (short stories) / by Chöng Pi-sök**Söul : Susönsa, 1948.**

The third collection of short stories by novelist Chöng Pi-sök (1911-1991). The selected works ponders upon the question of human destiny and fate with sophisticated language. Kim Yong-hwan, a famous cartoonist drew the book cover and the famous painter Kim Hwan-gi drew the illustration on the title page.



Sept. 25

Unhyön'gung üi pom : [a novel] / by Kim Tong-in**Söul : Hansöng Tosö, 1948.****

The pioneer in Korean short stories, Kim Tong-in (1900-1951) published his novels regularly in the newspaper during Japanese colonization. Hansöng Tosö Inc. published this novel as the second volume in the Chosön Munhak Chönjip series. It is about a descendant of the royal family, Hüngsön Taewön'gun, contemned and neglected by others but finally rose to the power in the second half of the 19th century.

Oct. 15

Tangnang üi chönsöl : [short stories] / by Ch'ae Man-sik**Söul : Üryu Munhwasa, 1948.**

Author of "T'angnyu (A Turbid Stream)" and "T'aep'yöng Ch'önha (The Perfect State)", Ch'ae man-sik (1902-1950) gathered five of his short stories written in the last years of Japanese colonization period for Üryu Mun'go (Üryu Library). Üryu Mun'go, along with Chöngüm Mun'go, was one of the two predominant literary archives that contributed to expanding the readers' horizons.

Oct. 15

Tongja sam : sosöl (short stories) / by Kim Tong-in**Söul : Kümnyong Tosö Chusik Hoesa, 1948.**

The beacon of contemporary short stories, Kim Tong-in (1900-1951) collected eight popular short stories written during the Japanese colonization period. The drawings on the book cover imply the themes of the stories, but the artist is unknown.

Oct. 30

Kohyang : [a novel] / [by] Yi Ki-yöng**Söul : Amun'gak, 1948.****

Yi Ki-yöng (1895-1984), a North Korean novelist who explicitly depicted the peasantry class, regularly publishing "Kohyang (Home)" in *Chosön Ilbo (Chosön Daily)*. He published the novel as a monograph in 1936, and is known as one of the most prominent realist novels of the 1930's rivaling *Samdae (The Three Generations)* by Yöm Sang-söp (1897-1963). The UW Libraries only have volume two of the novel.

Nov. 15

Munjang tokpon (readings) / by Yang Chu-dong

Söul : Susönsa, 1948.**

A poet, linguist and one of the best writers of the contemporary Korean literature, Yang Chu-dong (1903-1977) selected and edited his finest poems and prose as examples of good compositions.

Nov. 18

Chesin üi punno : Söl Chöng-sik che-sam sijip (poems)

Söul : Sinhaksa, 1948.

Third collection of poems by an active participant in the liberation space, Söl Chöng-sik (1912-1953), writing on the theme of nation-building which was the major concern for the writers of the liberation space. Söl majored in English Language and Literature in Mt. Union University in Ohio, and joined Choson Munhakka Tongmang while working for the US military in South Korea. He fled to North Korea during the Korean War and executed in 1953. The author of the modernist book cover and textual lay out is painter Pak Mun-wön.

Nov. 20

Nowönjang : [a novel] / by Paek Che-hyön

Söul : Chimun'gak, 1948.

Paek Che-hyön (1929- ?) was a student in College of Humanities in Seoul National University when he published six short stories including "Paegwönjang." No research has been done about the author and his works. Artist Chöng Chong-nyu designed the book cover.

Nov. 30

Tanp'yönjip (short stories). Chung / by Kim Nam-Ch'ön ... [et al.]

Söul : Hansöng Tosö, 1948.

The eighth volume of the Chosön Munhak Chönjip, *Tanp'yönjip* vol. 2 was published by Hansöng Toso Inc.. This book contains 15 short stories including "Nammae (Siblings)" by Kim Nam-ch'ön (1911-1953), "Nalgae (The Wing)" by Yi Sang (1910-1937).

Dec. 15

Hongsu chönhu : ch'angjakchip (short stories) / [by] Pak Hwa-söng

Söul : Paegyandang, 1948.**

Pak Hwa-söng (1904-1988), a female writer, published this collection of nine short stories including "Hasudo Kongsä (Waterwork Construction)", "Hongsu Chönhu (After the Flood)" and "Pit'al (The Slope)". She debuted after being recommended by Yi Kwang-su (1892 - ?). She wrote many excellent works poignantly observing reality and expressing with her rich sentences. The book cover is simply but beautifully decorated by an unknown artist.



Dec. 15

Kamjöng üi p'ungso : Im Sö-ha ch'angjakchip (short stories)

Söul : Tongbang Munhwasa, 1948.**

Novelist Im Sö-ha (DOB unknown) debuted in 1940 in *Munjang*, a literary magazine, and published his first collection of short stories consisting of eight narratives he wrote in the liberation space. The cover and title page illustration are drawn by Kim Man-hyöng, and Pae Chöng-guk designed the typography on the book cover. This copy is a gift to renowned painter Chöng Hyön-ung from the author with his signature.

Dec. 15

San : Hansol sijip (poems) / by Yi Hyo-sang

Söul : Chosön Ch'ul'p'an Chungang Ch'öngsa, 1948.

Scholar and politician Yi Hyo-sang (1906-1986) published poems he wrote while he was a teacher around the time of liberation. Yi had studied in Tokyo University in Japan and served as the chairman of the National Assembly in South Korea. He was also a professor at Kyöngbuk National University.

Dec. 20

Amnokkang : ch'angjakchip (short stories) / by Kim Man-sön

Söul : Tongjisa, 1948.**

Kim Man-sön (1915- ?), a writer who crossed over to North Korea, published his first collection of eight short stories written in the last years of the Japanese colonial period and the liberation space, including "Amnokkang (River Yalu)" and "Hongsu (The Flood)." Native of Seoul, Kim debuted with "Hongsu" and joined Chosön Munhakka Tongmaeng, a leftist literary organization. The book cover and the illustration on the title page had been done by Hyön Chae-dök.

Dec. 20

Ansö Minyo sijip (poems) / by Kim Ök

Söul : Hansöng Tosö Chusik Hoesa, 1948.

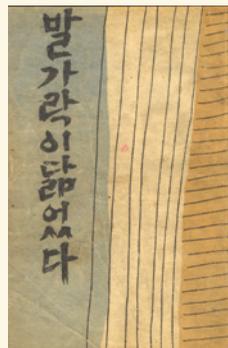
A poet and translator Kim An-sö (a.k.a Kim Ök, 1896- ?) edited his old poems and added some new ones to publish this book of ninety folksong-toned lyrical poems.

Dec. 20

Palkarak i talmötta : [short stories] / by Kim Tong-in

Söul : Susönsa, 1948.

Professing Art for Art's sake, Kim Tong-in (1900-1951) was the major short story writer of contemporary Korean literature. This book includes the finest works by the author, "Kamja (Potatoes)" and "Paettaragi (The Boatman)." The minimalist line and color on the book cover is designed by a renowned painter Kim Hwan-gi.



Dec. 20

Suhojön : [a novel] / [translated by] Pak T'ae-wŏn**Söul : Chöngŭmsa, 1948.****

One of the most prominent writers during the Japanese colonization period, Pak T'ae-wŏn (1910-1986), translated the Chinese novel *Suhoji* into Korean. Pak fled to North Korea.

Dec. 25

Haebang munhak sŏnjip. Tanp'yŏnjip (short stories) 1 / by Yŏm Sang-söp ... [et al.]**Söul : Chongno Söwŏn, 1948.**

Nine short stories by Kim Tong-ni (1913-1995), Kye Yong-muk (1904-1961), Yi T'ae-jun (1904-?) and other writers were put together for the Liberation Literary Collection. The book cover is designed by a famous artist Kim Hwan-gi, while the illustrations in the book are beautifully drawn by another famous artist Kim Yong-jun.



Dec. 25

Pada wa yukch'e : Kim Ki-rim sup'iljip (essays)**Söul : P'yŏngbŏmsa, 1948.**

Pada wa yukch'e (*The Sea and the Body*) is renowned modernist poet Kim Ki-rim's first collection of essays written during the later days of the Japanese colonial period. The modernistic illustrations for the book cover and forward are drawn by another modernist poet Kim Kyŏng-rin (1918-).



Dec. 25

Sunaebo : [a novel] / by Pak Kye-ju**Söul : Pangmun Ch'ulp'ansa, 1948.**

Novelist Pak Kye-ju (1913-1966) gained huge publicity when he won a writing contest and got his first novel published regularly in *Maeil Sinbo* (*The Maeil Daily*). It came out as a monograph and was printed 47 times since its first publication in 1936, which was sensational. After the liberation, the author's introduction was added and re-issued. Pak designed the book cover himself and Chŏng Hyŏn-ung illustrated the picture on the title page.

Jan. 5

Iragi : Son So-hŭi ch'angjakchip (short stories)**Sŏul : Simunhaksa, 1949.**

Iragi is the first collection of short stories by Son So-hŭi (1917-1987). The stories in this collection take place in Japan and Manchuria during the Japanese colonization depicting romance and Korean nationalism. Book cover, illustrations, and title page illustrations are the works of Pak Nae-hyŏn (1920-1976), a famous female painter.



Jan. 15

Ch'up'ungnyŏng : sijip (poems) / by Kim Ch'ŏl-su**Sŏul : Sanhojang, 1949.**

Ch'up'ungnyŏng (The Ch'up'ung Ridge) is the first collection of Kim Ch'ŏl-su's lyrical poems. The poet's biography is little known to the Korean readers. The preface and postscript were written by famous poets Kim Ki-rim and Kim Kwang-gyun respectively. Cover design by Chang Man-yŏng (1914-1975), a poet.

Jan. 20

Hwangt'ogi : [short stories] / [by] Kim Tong-ni**Sŏul : Susŏnsa, 1949.**

A novelist, critique and poet Kim Tong-ni (1915- 1995) published his second collection of short stories, meditating on the physical and spiritual life style of the native Koreans. Nam Kwan illustrated the book cover.



Jan. 30

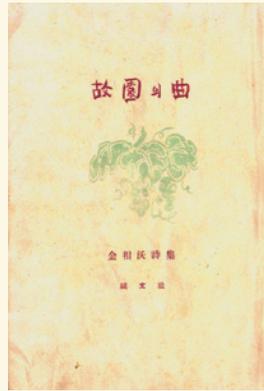
Sanmun (essays) / by Chŏng Chi-yong**Sŏul : Tongjisa, 1949.**

Author of the beloved poem "Hyangsu (Homesickness)," Chŏng Chi-yong selected prosaic works by various writers after the liberation, and edited his second prose collection. This book includes Chŏng's translation of twelve Walt Whitman poems. Cover design and textual layouts by Kil Chin-sŏp.

Jan.

Kowŏn ui kok : Kim Sang-ok sijip (poems)**Sŏul : Sŏngmunsa, 1949.***

Kowŏn ui kok (Song of the Prairies) is the second collection of poems by Kim Sang-ok (1920-), a *sijo* writer and a poet who taught in a school in his hometown, Samch'ŏnp'o near Ch'ungmu in South Kyŏngsang province. Kim expresses the nostalgia and solitude with his exquisite and serene language. The author himself designed the book cover.



Feb. 5

Ppurŭjŏa ŭi in'gansang : Kim Tong-sŏk p'yŏngnonjip (criticism)**Sŏul : T'amgudang Sŏjŏm, 1949.**

Ppurŭjŏa ŭi in'gansang (The Portrait of a Bourgeois) is the second collection of essays by a left-wing literary critique and poet Kim Tong-sŏk (1913-?) after the liberation. Kim advocated Marxist literary theory in the liberation zone and fled to North Korea during the Korean War.



Feb. 10

Ch'ŏngch'un sŭngni : [a novel] / by Pak Chong-hwa
Sŏul : Susŏnsa, 1949.

One of the most authorized writer in Korean epic/history fiction, Pak Chong-hwa (1901-1981) expressed the emotional rampage against the Japanese colonization by depicting a series of events occurred during the later years of the Japanese regime such as the Kwangju student uprising. The novel had appeared in a newspaper, *Chayu Sinmun (The Liberty)*, in 1947. The cover illustration is drawn by Choe Mong-nang and the title typography is designed by the author himself.

Feb. 15

Taech'unbu : [a novel] / by Pak Chong-hwa
Sŏul : Ŭryu Munhwasa, 1949.

One of the most authorized writer of Korean epic/history fiction writer Pak Chong-hwa (1901-1981) wrote this history novel about Pyŏngja Horan occurred in Chosun dynasty in the 1636. It was published as one of the Ŭryu series of history novels.

Feb. 28

Sok P'yŏnp'yŏnsang : [essays] / by Ma Hae-song
Sŏul : Sae Munhwasa, 1949.*

Writer of canonized juvenile literature and essayist Ma Hae-song (1905-1966) gathered essays appeared in newspapers and published this collection of essays in 1948 as the sequence of *P'yŏnp'yŏnsang*. Cover designed by a famous Korean painter No Su-hyŏn.

Mar. 5

Mŏdŏllyŏng : Chŏng Hun sijip (poems)
Sŏul : Kyerimsa, 1949.

Mŏdŏllyŏng is the first collection of poems from the later years of Japanese occupation by Chŏng Hun (1911-), a poet of contemporary and traditional poems (a.k.a. sijo). Number of poems in this collection delicately illustrates the native culture and sentiment. Cover design and illustrations by Yi Tong-hun.

Mar. 5

San'ga : [short stories] / by Yi Mu-yŏng
Sŏul : Minjung Sŏgwan, 1949.

Minjung Publishing Co. published the series of selected works by Yi Mu-yŏng (1908-1960), well-known for the rural/peasant novels. Yi moved to a rural town at the end of the Japanese colonial period and wrote many novels regarding peasants under peonage. This is the first volume of the series.

Mar. 10

Namsadang : Kim Song tanp'yŏnjip (short stories)
Sŏul : Sungmunsa, 1949.

Namsadang (The Male Entertainer) is the second collection of ten short stories by playwright and novelist Kim Song (1909-1988). Cover design by a famous painter Kim Yŏng-ju.

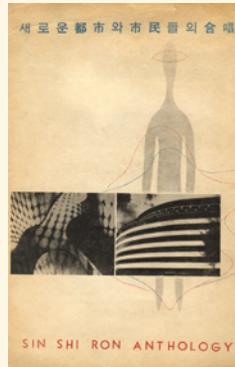


Apr. 5

Saeroun tosi wa simindŭl ŭi hapch'ang : sin siron sijip (poems) / by Kim Kyŏng-nin ... [et al.]

Sŏul : Tosi Munhwasa, 1949.

Kim Kyŏng-nin (1918-), Pak In-hwan (1926-1956), Kim Su-yŏng (1921-1968), and two other authors collaborated to publish this anthology of poems. This rare copy is representative for Korean Modernist poems. Kim Kyŏng-nin, one of the authors, is believed to have drawn the book cover that is just as modern as the contents of the anthology.



Apr. 10

Hwarangdo : [a novel] / [by] Kim Tong-in
Sŏul : Hansŏng Tosŏ, 1949.

The forefront runner for Korean short stories, Kim, Tong-in (1900-1951) reissued the history fiction he wrote during the later days of the Japanese colonial period. The fiction is based on Hwarangs in the Silla dynasty (7th-10th centuries). The author of the bold contours of the pen drawing is unidentified, but it is most likely done by Kim Hwan-gi.

Apr. 20

Sijip (poems) / edited by Im Hak-su
Söul : Hansöng Tosö, 1949.

Sijip (Poems) is the last volume of Chosön Munhak Chönjip (Chosön Literature Anthology), featured by Hansöng Tosö Chusik Hoesa (Hansöng Books Inc.). Im Hak-su (1911-1982), a poet and a professor at Korea University, edited poems of forty respected Korean poets. This book served as a model for subsequent anthologies.

Nov. 15

Sosöl ch'akpöp (an introduction to fiction) /
by Chöng Pi-sök

Söul : Sin Taehan Tosö, 1949.

A popular novelist Chöng Pi-sök edited a guideline for writers-to-be and fiction affectionados, including thirteen chapters including "The Essence of a Novel," "Themes," "Character Descriptions," and an index of contemporary authors. The artist of this marvelous cover design is unidentified.

Dec. 1

Hyöndae Munsu : kungmunhak posüpsö (readings) /
edited by Kim Sök-kyöng

Söul : Tonga Ch'ulp'ansa, 1949.*

Kim Sök-kyöng, (DOB unknown) selected various poems, essays, and critiques for the students of Korean language and literature. This book published by Tonga publishing company was popular among readers because it had no political inclination. A famous Korean linguist Yi Sung-nyöng wrote the preface.

Dec. 10

Si munhak immune (an introduction to poetics) /
by Kim Yong-ho

Söul : Changinsa, 1949.*

Famous for the epic "Namhae Ch'an'ga (Ode to the South Sea)," Kim Yong-ho (1912-1973) published this book in 1949 as an introduction to poetics. Cover is designed by Choe Yöng-su, who was actively involved in many literary scenes during the later years of Japanese colonial period and in the liberation space. It is generally believed that the publishing date is 1952, but that is mistaken. It is stated in the book that it was published in December 1949.

Dec. 20

Okchamhwa : Kim An-sö yök sijip (poems) /
translated by Kim Ök

Söul : Iusa, 1949.

Kim An-sö (1896-?) was a talented translator of *hansi*, poems written in Chinese. *Okchamhwa (The Plantain Lily)* is a collection of translated poems by women writers both in China and Korea. Kim avoided literal translation to give more lyrical effects in Korean. An-sö was Kim Ök's pseudonym.

Jan. 20

Kyoyang üi munhak : [criticism] / by Kim Chin-söp
Söul : Chosön Kongöp Munhwasa Ch'ulp'anbu, 1950.

Kim Chin-söp (1903-?), a German literature scholar and the forefront runner for the development for prosaic literature, published his first collection of critiques written during the later years of Japanese occupation and in the liberation space. *Kyoyang üi munhak (Literature of Culture)* was part of Chosön Munhwasa's Munwha Sinsö (Culture New Books) series. Kim is known to be the first essayist and critique in contemporary Korean literature and introduced Western literature to the Korean readers. He was abducted by North Koreans during the Korean War.

Mar. 19

Hyöndae sijip (poems) I-III / by Kim Yöng-nang ... [et al.]
Söul : Chöngümsa, 1950.

Three months before the breakout of the Korean War, Chöngümsa, one of the most renowned publishers in Korea, published a three-volume anthology of poems by famous contemporary poets including Kim Ki-rim, Kim Yöng-nang, and Sö Chöng-ju. Currently, the completed collection of all three volumes is not found in South Korea.

Apr. 13

Haru man üi wian : sijip (poems) / [by] Cho Pyöng-hwa
Söul : Sanhojang, 1950.

The second collection of poems by Cho Pyöng-hwa (1921-2003), the most prolific poet in contemporary Korean literature, is known to be the last publication of the liberation space. As in his earlier poems, the urban solitude is well depicted in romanticized language. The artist for this nifty cover design is unidentified.

June 10

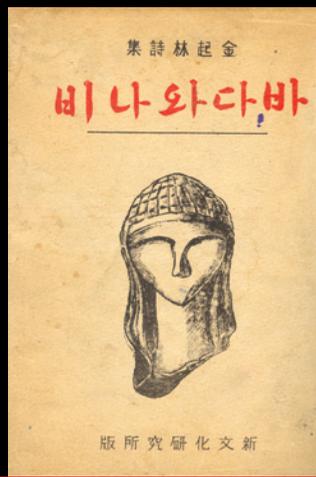
Tajöng pulsım : [a novel] / by Pak Chong-hwa
Söul : Üryu Munhwasa, 1950.

Pak Chong-hwa (1901-1981), the pioneer in the Korean epic, wrote this history fiction based on the mythical love story between King Kongmin of Koryö and Princess Noguk of Yuan, and introduced as part of Üryu Munhwasa's history fiction series.

* Gift of S.E. Solberg

** Gift of Johsel Namkung

Annotations by Dr. Jong Chune Kim



The closing of World War II on August 15, 1945 liberated Koreans from thirty-six years of Japanese occupancy. Koreans were overjoyed by their new freedom, but soon faced harsh reality. This was not exceptional for many artists, intellectuals and publishers of post-war Korea, who collaborated without asking for monetary compensation. Despite the lack of material resources, art and literature began to thrive as a result of the heart-felt friendship of various artists and intellectuals, until the outbreak of the Korean War on June 25, 1950. This duration of time (Aug. 15, 1945 - Jun. 25, 1950) is known as the liberation space, a temporal space of blossoming post-World War Korean art and literature where the production of art was for art's sake and conflicting ideologies could not hinder their friendship.

Nor did poor material conditions deter their zeal for creating an artistic and intellectual space. Lacking sufficient printing and binding tools and advanced technologies, publications from the liberation space seem rather meager. The paper quality is crude, printing and binding qualities are substandard, and preservation had been overlooked. However, the artistic quality of these publications displays the unprecedented uniqueness of the Korean literature of that particular period. The publications displayed in this exhibition are not only textual celebrations but also the pictorial expression of beauty by reputable artists of the era, not to mention the arduous labor many publishers put into each and every work.



The East Asia Library at the University of Washington would like to acknowledge the work of Dr. Jong Chune Kim, Visiting Scholar from Sangmyung University of Korea, who developed and assembled this exhibit.

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