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Some Useful Sources

Liz Ross

Lecturer, Institute of Applied Social Studies, University of Birmingham
E-mail: e.m.ross@bham.ac.uk

In addition to the texts and journal papers referenced in the papers there a number of recent texts which focus on the social policy and socio-cultural developments in Korea.

Armstrong, C.K. (ed.) (2002), *Korean Society: Civil Society, Democracy and the State*, London: Routledge.

This edited text focuses on the development of civil society in Korea and explores the implications of Confucianism for Korean democracy and the impact of social movements in democratisation.

Kihl, Y.W. (2005) *Transforming Korean Politics: Democracy, Reform and Culture*, New York: Sharpe.

A very detailed, comprehensive study of past, present and future Korea which explores the cultural context of democracy and reform showing how the current state and society are set within the complexities of traditional culture and globalisation.

Walker, A. and Wong, C.-K. (2005), *East Asian Welfare Regimes in Transition: From Confucianism to Globalisation*, Bristol: Policy Press.

This edited text sets Korea within the East Asia context and explores the two themes of Confucianism and globalisation in each of the seven countries through a series of case studies.

Wong, J. (2004), *Healthy Democracies: Welfare Politics in Taiwan and South Korea*, New York: Cornell University.

A detailed comparative study setting the health care policies of each country within the processes of political reform. A useful study of both health care policy and the political processes of policy making in Korea.

Woo, M. (2004), *The Politics of Social Welfare Policy in South Korea*, Maryland: University Press of America.

This case study focuses on Korea as a late comer to the social policy scene and draws on existing theories of state and welfare to explore the politics of social welfare, in particular 'balance-of-class power' and state-centred theories. An appendix listing chronologically the various welfare programmes is helpful. Within each chapter different areas of social welfare are explored, education, employment, health insurance and pensions.

And two lighter offerings:

Breen, M. (2004), *The Koreans: Who They Are, What They Want, Where Their Future Lies*, Thomas Dunne Books.

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The author lived in Seoul for many years as a journalist and this is a sympathetic account of the history of the Korean people, and a perceptive analysis of current Korean life.

Winchester, S. (2004), *Korea, a Walk Through the Land of Miracles*, Penguin.

A fascinating and, at times, humorous account of the author's discovery of Korea on foot.

Useful websites

http://www.korea.net/

A Korean government website which offers a 'gateway to Korea'. This English language site includes news, government information, culture, tourism and much else. It also provides a directory to other useful websites, including government departments. Some of the Ministries have English language websites with selected material including policy, press releases, statistics and background information – see for example:

http://english.mohw.go.kr/index.jsp – Ministry of Health and Welfare –
http://english.moe.go.kr/ – Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development

Korea is a member of the Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development and useful information, statistics etc can be found on the OECD website – *http://www.oecd.org*

At least two newspapers have English on-line versions
The Korea Times – http://times.hankooki.com/
The Korean Herald – http://www.koreaherald.co.kr/index.asp

East Asian Social Policy Network – a network of academics and research students whose interests are in East Asian social policy – *www.welfareasia.org*

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