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한강출문토기

HAN RIVER CHULMUNTOGI:

A Study of Early Neolithic Korea

by

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PREFACE

This volume, a revised version of my dissertation, is based on field work conducted between June 1970 and July 1971. It grew out of a combination of dogged determination and sheer luck. The determination was responsible for getting me to Korea; the luck led me to the friendship and aid of extraordinarily well-informed and generous people who smoothed my path in countless ways.

In the beginning, when I was just groping (and not yet coping) with the language, Pak Dong-Won, of the geography department at Seoul National University not only helped me isolate and learn the Chinese characters most useful in reading archaeological papers, but also accompanied me on my first field explorations and gave freely of his expertise in hydrology.

Dr. Kim Won-Yong, director of the National Museum in Seoul, graciously gave me his time and knowledge, discussing Korean prehistory, showing me artifacts, and making the archives of the museum available to me. Dr. Sohn Pow-Key of Yonsei University also allowed me to see his collections and discussed with me his continuing excavations at Sokchangni.

By this time, some possibilities for research were coming into focus. I had become interested in the sites with decorated pottery called Chulmuntogi ("Comb-pattern pottery"). Sites with this ceramic are found in clusters along the coasts and major rivers of Korea. I found that this was one of the least studied periods in Korean prehistory, and that no attempt had yet been made to understand the sites and their contents as the material remains of a working social system. Subsistence and settlement, as the most

tangible subsystems, seemed to be a useful place to begin.

For practical reasons I did not plan any excavations, as I had been told that excavations by foreigners, even joint projects with Korean archaeologists, were against the policy of the Korean government. My project, therefore, was structured as an intensive survey of an area on the Han River which was known to have several sites close together. These offered the best chance of success, since more environmental data had been gathered from this region than elsewhere in Korea. My project also carried out surveys of other parts of the Han River and analyzed previously excavated artifacts from the Han River sites.

Members of my survey crew were recruited from the international community in Seoul, and they brought diverse useful talents and training. Jean Cronk, ceramicist, Casper Cronk, geologist, and their intrepid driver, Mr. Oh, were among the first of these. Martha Sloan was invaluable as translator and cross-cultural interpreter. Others who helped with the surveys include Jean Wilds, historian; M. E. Wilds, photographer; Jacqueline Giddens, nutritionist; and Ann Hunter, Erika Garcia, and Herbert Garcia, amateur archaeologists.

Concurrent with the beginning of the survey program, I was introduced to Im Hyo-Jai of the archaeology department at Seoul National University whose major interest was also the Chulmun Period. We found it to be to our mutual interest to join forces, and he and some of his students frequently joined the surveying expeditions. He also extended a great many courtesies to me, for which I am deeply grateful, including locating for me pertinent papers in Korean journals, lending me unpublished site reports, and introducing me to other archaeologists.

Artifacts from the Seoul National University Museum were used for the bulk of the analysis. In addition, Lim Byung-Tae, of the

Soong Sil College Museum, allowed me to study his pottery collections from Amsari and to make copies of his detailed unpublished site plans. Later on, I was able to borrow David Chase's collections from Misari and elsewhere, from the Archaeological Research Laboratory of the University of Texas at Austin. I am grateful for these courtesies.

After the completion of the field season, herbarium specimens which had been collected near the Han River were identified by Professor Lee Il-Koo of Kon Kuk University, and wood samples were identified by R. C. Koeppen of the U.S. Forest Service. I would like to thank both of them for their contributions to this study.

I would also like to thank the members of my doctoral committee Dr. James B. Griffin, Prof. Kamer Aga-Oglu, Dr. Richard Beardsley, and Dr. Henry T. Wright for their painstaking comments on early drafts of my dissertation, and Robert Whallon, Jr. for going over the statistics. They are of course absolved of all responsibility for any errors that may remain and for the interpretations and inferences which are wholly my own.

I am grateful to the University of Denver and the University of Michigan for the use of computer time, and to Martha Caldwell, programmer at the University of Denver Computer Center, for her aid.

Finally, a word of appreciation for the help of my sons on minor but time-consuming chores and for my husband's advice and support of my research without which the project would have been impossible.

I have used the McCune-Reischauer system of romanization, omitting diacritical marks, for all Korean words except for certain proper names where different transliterations have become standard.

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