

## Editor's Message

Welcome to *The Journal of Korean History in East Asia*, dedicated to the critical examination and discovery of Korea's historical legacy in East Asia. Our mission is to confront and rectify the long-standing distortions of Korean history imposed by imperial powers, uncover the authentic history, culture and identity of Korea, and share it with the world.

The history of Korea is one of resilience, culture, and independence, yet for too long, it has been subject to external forces that seek to rewrite our narrative for politico-economic and territorial gains. The Japanese occupation in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century systematically dismantled Korea's sovereignty, culture, and historical integrity, while contemporary efforts, such as the Northeast Project of China, continue to undermine the contributions and sovereignty of ancient Korean states like Gojoseon and Goguryeo. Particularly concerning and alarming is that traces of "internalized colonialism" continue to persist even among certain segments of Korea itself.

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**Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o**  
Kenyan Writer & Anti-colonial Activist

*The Journal of Korean History in East Asia* stands as a platform to bring scholarly rigor and truth back to the forefront. We aim to provide an intellectual space for scholars, researchers, and thinkers—both within academic circles and beyond—who are committed to correcting these distortions and restoring dignity and accuracy to Korean history. Our articles, research papers, and critiques will focus on presenting well-documented facts, critically analyzing the sources of imperialistic manipulations, and offering a voice of resistance against such hegemonic narratives.

We invite readers and contributors alike to join us in this effort—to protect and reclaim our historical truth. Together, we can ensure that the rich legacy of Korea, not only in East Asia, but in the world, is remembered accurately, and not as a tool for imperial ambitions.

Thank you for your support and commitment to the truth.

**Hyojoung Kim, Ph.D.**

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