

# Trends in Turkish Studies in Korea

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## Abstract

Following the Cultural Agreement signed between Korea and Turkey in 1972, the Department of Turkish Language at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies was opened in 1973. On the other hand, the Department of Korean Language and Literature at Ankara University was established in 1989. Those pioneer institutions play an important role in academic and private sector exchanges between their respective countries. Over the last few decades, Turkish studies in Korea grew significantly. It was, first, initiated by just few select scholars who were familiar with Turkey and Turkish setting. But then, the research agenda did expand to include all branches of humanities and social sciences. In order to keep widening the scope and the depth of Turkish studies in Korea, the Turkish language should be studied more rigorously.

## Keywords

Turkey, Turkish studies, Regional Studies, Korea-Turkey Relations, Turkish language, Ottoman

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## I. Introduction

Republic of Korea was founded in 1948 following the liberation from Japan and a brief occupation by the United States. The Turkish government recognized the Republic of Korea as a legal government in 1957. With the opening of the Turkish embassy in Korea in October of the same year, Korea and Turkey started to learn about each other in earnest through diplomatic relations. Until then, only a limited number of Korean researchers had published studies on various academic aspects of the two countries. In 1972, Korea and Turkey signed a Cultural Agreement and as the first outcome of this agreement, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies opened its Turkish Department<sup>1</sup> in the same year and started to provide education on Turkish language, as well as offering Turkish studies at university level. Before 1972, Turkey was also studied as a part of regional studies. However, the Turkish Department was established with the recognition that language speaking and reading were the basis of regional studies, and that language education was urgently needed. Korean studies in Turkey started to be provided later, as Ankara University established its Department of Korean Language and Literature in February 1989. The Turkish Department at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, and the Department of Korean Language and Literature at Ankara University have been the driving forces in promoting various exchanges between the two countries, including academic research, and student exchange programs. They began to conduct studies at the university level in the fields of language, history, politics, culture, and literature of the two countries.

Since the beginning of official diplomatic ties in 1957, Korea and Turkey have maintained friendly relations based on Turkey's participation in the Korean War. In subsequent years, after the full withdrawal of Turkish troops from Korea, their political, military and trade/tourism relations have also gained considerable momentum due to the fact that both communities had a better understanding of each other's cultures. During the 1970s, however, the focus of exchange moved from military to economy and trade. In 1971, sister city agreement was reached between their respective capitals. In order to commemorate this event, the same year, a Korean ark was built in Turkish capital; and in 1973, the Korean War memorial monument was erected in that same park and became another symbolic representation of their friend-

ly connection. Moreover, a series of many other agreements were signed between both countries such as the follow-up cultural agreement in 1974 [is this another agreement after the 1972 one mentioned above?] and trade promotion and technical cooperation in 1977. In addition, Korea's active aid to Turkey during the 1999 earthquake in Istanbul is deeply engrained in Turks' minds.

Another good example of their developing relationship is the friendly game played by the two countries in the third place match of the 2002 World Cup Soccer Finals. In terms of trade, negotiations on a Korea-Turkey Free Trade Agreement (FTA) began in March 2010. This was ratified by the National Assembly of Korea in 2012, and officially took effect on May 1, 2013. With the FTA, the two countries have rapidly become closer to each other, in cultural and economic terms.<sup>2</sup>

Turkish studies in Korea started to produce outcomes from the 1980s, and have continued to grow since then, thanks to the efforts of Koreans who had engaged in Turkish studies in Turkey. At the beginning, only those who had studied in Turkey were active in their research on Turkish studies. Today, scholars who have studied in countries other than Turkey also publish their papers on Turkish studies.

Recently, Turkey has been making efforts to be part of the European Union. Therefore, it is worthwhile exploring how the unique history and culture of Turkey can be related to, and exchanged with Korean culture, from various perspectives. Turkey is a member of the OECD, and was selected in May 2012 by *Foreign Policy*, an American economic magazine, as one of the four countries that have grown rapidly, despite the global financial crisis.<sup>3</sup> Turkey is now making a lot of progress in various fields, and is trying to join the ranks of advanced countries. Therefore, Turkish studies in Korea can be extended into matters of academic interest and research on the relations between the two countries.

In order to identify the overall trends in Turkish studies in Korea, this study analyzes data on the status of Turkish studies in Korea, and forecasts future directions and challenges related to Turkish studies, based on the outcomes and limitations of current studies. To this end, only researchers who have published at least one paper were included in the statistical analysis. However, it was not possible to introduce all of the fields of study related to Turkey

to demonstrate research trends. Therefore, this study focuses on areas where the majority of papers on Turkey have been published.

Examining research trends and the current status in an academic area is essential in suggesting a future direction.

## II. METHOD AND SCOPE

The scope of this study is trends in Turkish studies in Korea. This study examines books, theses and papers submitted to academic journals published in Korea until now, from the time when Turkish studies were introduced to Korea by a few researchers. For the book search, the keywords 'Turkey' and 'Turkish studies' were searched on the websites: National Assembly Library ([www.nanet.go.kr](http://www.nanet.go.kr)); online bookstores Kyobobook ([www.kyobobook.co.kr](http://www.kyobobook.co.kr)), Yes24 ([www.yes24.com](http://www.yes24.com)), and Aladin ([www.aladin.co.kr](http://www.aladin.co.kr)). Theses and papers submitted to journals were identified and classified, using the keywords 'Turkey,' 'Ottoman,' and 'Ottoman Empire' to search the websites of the Research Information Sharing Service of the Korea Education and Research Information Service, and the National Assembly Library ([www.nanet.go.kr](http://www.nanet.go.kr)). As researchers have published their papers in various academic journals, no limit was imposed on the journal search. Still, it was found that many Turkish studies were published in the Korean journals, *Middle East Studies*, *Korean Journal of Islamic Studies*, *Middle East Issue Studies*, and *Mediterranean Studies*. This study excludes papers published in literature magazines or other public magazines since the 1970s when Turkish studies were first introduced to Korea, because those papers were feature stories, or one-time articles not intended for academic purposes.

## III. TRENDS IN THE PROGRESS OF TURKISH STUDIES IN KOREA

This section examines books, publishing types, themes of master's and doctoral theses, and papers submitted to journals in the field of Turkish studies.

### 3-1. BOOKS

It should be noted that this study includes all books published by the Korean government, public organizations, and research institutes, such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency (KOTRA), the Korea Institute for Industrial Economics and Trade, Korea Eximbank, the Korea Institute for International Economic Policy, and the

Korea Tourism Organization. These books have been written mainly for the purpose of helping Korean companies enter into the Turkish market, or to deal with or compare Turkey with other countries. Since the overseas travel liberalization in 1989, Koreans started to travel to Turkey in earnest, leading to the publication of lots of travel guides to Turkey. However, these travel guides are not included in this study, as they are not for academic purposes. Foreign books on Turkey translated by Turkish researchers or scholars in Korea or important to Turkish studies are included in this study. Table 1 below shows the number of books on Turkish studies published in Korea until now.

History	Language	Politics	Society and Culture	Literature	Religion
18	15	4	2	2	2

Table 1. Number of books on Turkish studies by area

As Table 1 shows, a total of 43 books have been published in the fields of history, language, politics, religion, society and culture, and literature. In particular, a total of 18 books have been published in the field of history, most of them dealing with the history of the Ottoman Empire. World-renowned Ottoman history books, such as *The Emergence of Modern Turkey* by B. Lewis, *The Decline and Fall of the Ottoman Empire* by Alan Palmer, and *The Ottoman Empire, 1700-1922* by Donald Quataert were translated into Korean by Ottoman historians in 1994, 2004, and 2008 respectively. In addition, *Turkey: A Short History* by Roderic H. Davison, which provides an overview of Turkish history, was translated by a Korean Turkish studies researcher in 1998. Moreover, *The First Read History of Turkey: Turkey, the Crossroads of Civilizations in the East and West by author??* was published by the Association of Korean History Teachers in 2010. Also, *Turkey, 10,000 Hours of Time Travel: Reading Closely the Crossroads of Eastern and Western Civilizations* in 2010 was written by Jae Won, Yu? specializing in Greek history. Other good examples would be *Turkey: Place for Mythology and the Bible, Living Land for Islam* and *The Ottoman Empire and History of Turkey* published by a Korean researcher on Turkish studies (Lee 2007). There are books written about Istanbul, one of the world's most historical cities, published in Korea. For example, *Istanbul, Miniature of World History and Muse-*

*um for Human Civilizations* by a Korean Turkish studies researcher Heechul, Lee? was published in 2005 year, and *Istanbul, the Imperial City* by John Freely, an American scholar who had taught at the Bosphorus University, was translated into Korean in date. Until recently, only books on Turkish history have been published. In addition, Gilryoung, Park a professor of architecture published an interesting book on the history of Turkish architecture, which provides an opportunity to see Turkish history from a different perspective Understanding Turkish History by looking at the architectural style.

Those books have been used as references by researchers interested in Turkish history. With the increasing number of Koreans traveling to Turkey, books with photos [sounds like children's books] illustrations or photos or diagrams?? are also now read by members of the general public who are interested in Turkish studies.

It should be noted that there are two books on Turkey's participation in the Korean War, which is the common history of Korea and Turkey. One of them is *Living with Turkish People for Half a Century* in 2007, written by Sang Ki, Baek who worked as a translator for the Turkish military during the war, and who served as a diplomat at the Korean Embassy in Turkey from 1960 to 1990 after obtaining a doctoral degree in Turkey. The author describes in detail working with Turkish soldiers during the Korean War, and diplomacy between Korea and Turkey after the war. He presents numerous pictures of Turkish soldiers during the war. At the time of writing there are a total of seven books on Turkish history translated or written by scholars in Turkish studies. Another of these books is *Brother Nations of Korea and Turkey: History of Turkey's Participation in the Korean War* published by the Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs in 2007, which focuses on activities of the Turkish military during the Korean War.

Following the history field, the language field has produced most books on Turkish studies. In the field of language, there are a total of 15 books published. Four dictionaries (including two Korean-Turkish Dictionaries, one Turkish-Korean dictionary, and one Korean-Turkish-English dictionary), three grammar books such as *A Fresh Look into Turkish Grammar*, two reading books, and *Turkish Travel Conversation* by Korean researchers of Turkish studies have been published. One of the reading books for Koreans who

want to learn Turkish was written by a Özcan Yılmaz, who taught Turkish in Korea. As Koreans have been increasingly visiting Turkey since the 1990s, five books on Turkish for travel conversation have been published. Those books, written by authors who have majored in Turkish studies, also describe simple Turkish grammar, helping the general public understand the Turkish language. In addition, *History of Turkish Language* by A. Dilaçar was translated and published by a Korean Turkish language researcher, who studied in Turkey.

A total of four books have been published in the field of Turkish politics. Three books address Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, one of the world's famous politicians in history. One of those books published by the Office of Military Research of the Republic of Korea Army focuses on the status of Atatürk as a military leader. Another book describes in detail the life of Atatürk, not only as a soldier, but also as a politician. Another book is *Atatürk: The Biography of the Founder of Modern Turkey* by Andrew Mango, which was translated into Korean. The fourth book is *Turkey, the Crossroads of Civilizations: From the Periphery to the Center* by Heechul, Lee, who focused on Turkish studies and served as a diplomat, and covers the political situation in Turkey and surrounding nations. He investigated the ever-changing role of Turkey in the global arena by analyzing issues such as the democratization process, political stability and the overall economic growth of the country.

Two books in the field of religion deal with the Islamic religion. One book written by name of author, a professor in Turkish studies who has published a number of books on Islam, describes Islam in various countries including Turkey, not from a religious perspective, but from a cultural perspective. The other book introduces the world of Islam, and features characteristics of Islamic culture in a comprehensive way in the context of Turkish studies, unlike other books that just introduce the origin, history, and basic culture of Islam.

Of the two books published on Turkish society and culture, one deals with the city of Istanbul, along with the cultures of East and West Lee 2008. The other introduces the culture, customs, women's issues, and religion of Turkey in a comprehensive way Kim 2006.

In the literature field, there are two books: *Understanding of Turkish Litera-*

ture, and Orhan Pamuk, *From the Periphery to the Center*. The former covers the history of Turkish literature, modern Turkish poems, and Turkish ethnic literature. The latter introduces the life and literary works of Orhan Pamuk, who won the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2006, and became a world famous writer.

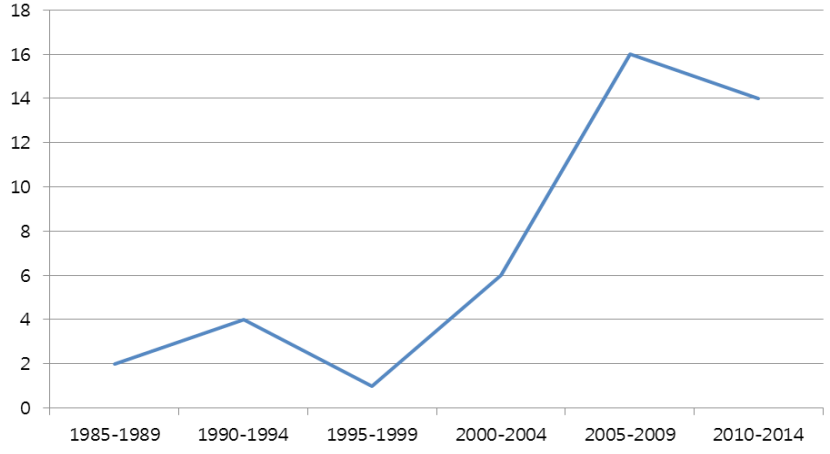


Figure 1. Changes in the number of books published by year

As Figure 1 indicates, publications on Turkey have been on the rise since 2000. The reason is that researchers who had started to study in Turkey in the early 1980s began to return to Korea around the late 1990s. Consequently, they started to produce research outcomes in their respective fields. It should be noted that a lot of books on the history of the Ottoman Empire have been written and translated into what language?

### 3-2. MASTER'S AND DOCTORAL THESES IN KOREA

A total of 51 master's and doctoral theses on Turkish studies have been published since the 1970s. Out of 47 master's theses, there are 14 papers on politics, followed by eight on society and culture, seven on language, seven on arts including music, art, and dance, four on history, three on economics, two on literature, and two on religion. Four doctoral theses deal with politics, literature, language, and history respectively.



Politics	Society and culture	Language	Arts	History	Literature	Economy	Religion
15	8	8	7	6	3	3	2
28,84%	15,38%	15,38%	13,46%	11,53%	5,76%	5,76%	3,84%

Table 2. Number of master's and doctoral theses by area  
**total now 99.95**

In terms of percentages based on Table 2, politics accounts for 24 percent of all theses, society and culture 13 percent, language 13 percent, and arts 11 percent. Themes of theses in politics vary: changes in Turkey's policy on the Middle East, changes in Turkish politics focusing on political parties, including the Welfare Party (RP) and Justice and Development Party (AKP), Turkey's diplomatic policy toward Central Asia, accession into the EU, and the modernization of Turkey. The first master's thesis in politics, *A Study of Turkish Modernization: Focus on the Content of Mustafa Kemal's Reforms*, was published in 1972. The reason why the first thesis on Turkey in Korea covers Mustafa Kemal is presumed to be that Kemal was a respected leader who successfully directed the modernization of Turkey, and the most known Turkish politician in Korea, attracting a lot of attention from the Korean academic community. This topic will be addressed later in the section on academic papers. It was interesting that a Turkish researcher published a thesis, entitled *Political Image of Kemal Pasha in Modern Korea and Its Development*, in Korea even though Korean scholars published most papers in Korea on Mustafa Kemal.

In the field of religion, ten out of 13 master's theses cover the theme of missionary work of Christianity in Turkey. The other three theses deal with *Sema* dance training of the Mevlevi sect, Christian counseling, and the symbolism of veils of Muslim women, respectively.

In the social and cultural field, three theses cover women's issues and sexual orientation in Turkey. The others examine various topics: health in Turkey, comparison of changes in women's social status in Korea and Turkey by a Turkish scholar, comparative study of religious culture based on festivals in Korea and Turkey, satisfaction level of Korean tourists visiting Turkey, and architecture in Turkey. In the social and cultural field, there are two theses on comparisons between Korea and Turkey.

In the field of language, it is noteworthy that the number of theses by Turkish people has been on the rise. Out of eight theses, four have been prepared by Turks, who are mostly students studying Korea studies in Korea, and who have extended their studies to Turkish studies. The first thesis on the Turkish language was published in the very early days of Turkish studies in Korea in 1972 (Eun 1972). It focuses on types of Turkish participles. The reason why Turkish language research was introduced into Korea so early is presumed to be that Turkish and Korean have the same root of Altaic languages, and that Turkish has been the focus of attention of linguists who study the Korean language system. Some theses address common mistakes made by Koreans learning Turkish, or Turks learning Korean; and others examine reading, writing, or speaking education. Also, some compare case postpositions in Korean and Turkish.

In the field of arts, the first master's thesis, which focused on miniature paintings in Turkey, was published in 1975, not long after Turkish studies were first introduced in Korea. Since then, theses on carpets and architecture in Turkey have been also published. There are three theses on music, with themes of *Aşık* music, Turkish folk songs, and a comparison of Korean and Turkish music in rhythm, respectively. In addition, with belly dancing gaining popularity in Korea, a thesis that approached the belly dance from an academic perspective was published.

In the field of history, four out of five theses examine the Ottoman Empire. Three theses deal with the *Devşirme* system, the *Millet* system, comparison between the Imperial Household and *Harem* of the Ottoman Empire, and modernization of the Ottoman Empire respectively. The other thesis in history provides a comparative analysis on history textbooks of Korea and Turkey.

The economics and literature fields have each produced three theses. In economics, theses explore Korea's weapons export to Turkey, analysis of foreign investment in Turkey and the Korea-Turkey FTA.

In the field of literature, master's theses published in Korea examine *Dede Korkut Kitabı*, Turkish classical work, and two novels by Aziz Nesin, a world-renowned contemporary Turkish satirist. A Turkish scholar Hatice Köroğlu published her doctoral thesis in 2010 in Korean on the compar-

ative literature of Korea and Turkey, entitled, *Modern Women's Identity in Novels by Na Hyeeseok and Fatma Aliye Hanım*.

In sum, Table 3 and Figure 2 show the number of master's and doctoral theses published by area and by year.

Year Subject	Politics	Religion	Society and Culture	Language	Arts	Literature	Economy	History	Total
1970-1980	1			1	1				3
1981-1990	3							1	4
1991-2000	1			1	1				3
2001-2010	7	2	4	1	4	3	1	2	24
2011-present	3		4	5	1		2	2	17

Table 3: Changes in the number of master's and doctoral theses by area  
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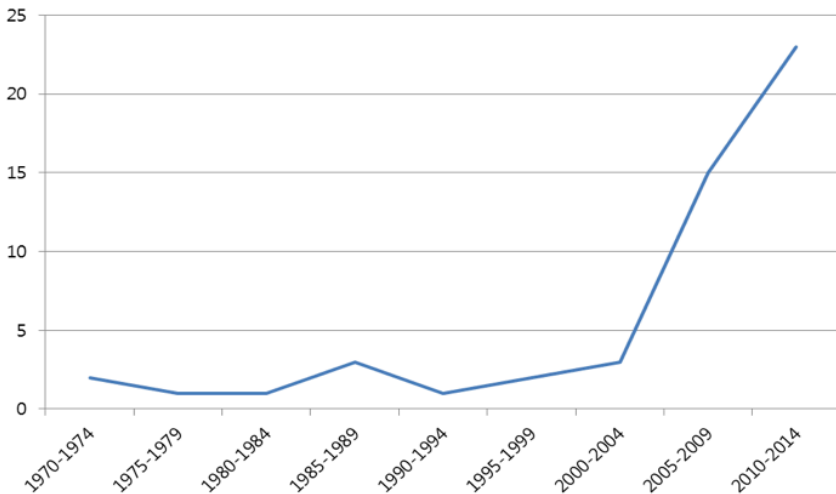


Figure 2: Changes in the number of master's and doctoral theses by year

Table 3 and Figure 2 clearly indicate that the number of master's and doctoral theses about Turkey that have been published in Korea has rapidly increased since 2000. It is expected that the current upward trend will con-

tinue in the future, with active exchanges between Korea and Turkey. It should be noted that the numbers of both Korean and Turkish authors have been on the rise. The reason is presumed to be that the number of Turkish students who study in Korea has increased due to the promotion of the student exchange programs between Korean and Turkish universities. Moreover, there are a number of other activities such as the scholarship program granted to the grandchildren of Korean War veterans.

### 3-3. PAPERS IN ACADEMIC JOURNALS

So far, a total of 295 papers on Turkish studies have been published in Korean academic journals. By area, politics accounts for 18 percent of the total papers (53), followed by literature, 17 percent (50); economy, 16 percent (47); society and culture, 16 percent (47); history, 12 percent (35); language, 10 percent (30); religion, 7 percent (21); arts, 3 percent (9); and geology, 1 percent (3).

Politics	Literature	Society and Culture	Economy	History	Language	Religion	Arts	Geology
53	50	47	47	35	30	21	9	3
18%	17%	16%	16%	12%	10%	7%	3%	1%

Table 4: Number of papers on academic journals by area

Table 4 demonstrates that papers do not concentrate disproportionately on one single area; rather it suggests that papers have been published evenly in various areas of politics, literature, economy, society and culture, history, and language. This evidence indicates that Turkish studies in Korea have grown in a balanced way.

Similar to master's and doctoral theses, politics is the area where the largest number of research papers has been published. Research themes vary, and include foreign relations of Turkey, establishment of the Republic of Turkey, political parties, Atatürk, and Turkey's accession into the EU. In the 1980s and 1990s, scholars who had studied in Turkey published papers on Turkish politics; and even Korean scholars who had studied Turkish language or history, or Arabian politics, but not Turkish politics, published papers on Turkish politics. Even though some scholars published papers on themes that they had not majored in, they contributed to the academic develop-

ment of studies of Turkish politics. Since the 2000s, scholars who had studied Middle Eastern politics and Middle East studies in Korea and the U.S., but not in Turkey, have also started to conduct research on Turkish politics.

In the field of literature, most papers analyze Turkish novels, and only one paper examines Turkish poems. Research on Turkish literature can be divided into two categories: writer research, and works analysis. However, some scholars have studied both a writer and the writer's works, while others have published papers on comparative studies of Korean and Turkish literature.

The themes of papers on academic journals in Korea in the field of literature suggest that each researcher has their own specialty within each theme. However, this also indicates that most research has concentrated disproportionately on one area, or on one writer. It is encouraging that research on the literary works of world-renowned Turkish writers expands the horizon of Korean literature. Still, it suggests that research themes do not vary much. It is also regrettable that there are no significant books or publications in Korean on the history of Turkish literature even though papers on each literary theme or work have been published. For the next generation of researchers, an alternative could be that books or publications on the history of Turkish literature by scholars of authority are translated into Korean. Even though it is important that Korean scholars conduct research on Turkish literature, translating selected books by authoritative non-Korean scholars should also be considered.

In the social and cultural field, the most popular research theme has been on women in Turkey. The issue of women in Islam, including women in Turkey, has been one of the most "covered" issues by media around the world. In Korea, women's education in Turkey, changes to the status of women in Turkey, the identity of Turkish women, and Family Law in Turkey have been actively studied. In addition, there are other interesting research themes, such as festival culture in Turkey, the Turkish cultural code, the traditional Turkish house, comparison between Korea and Turkey in wedding customs, and the traditional clothes of Korea and Turkey. Citations can be included with footnotes.

In the field of history, it was found that most papers focus on the history of the Ottoman Empire, not modern Turkey. They analyze the Ottoman

Empire from various perspectives of history, society, culture, religion, and economy, including the tax system, foreign relations, ruling strategy, the *Harem*, the Young Turks, the guild system, and Sufi orders. The reason why Korean researchers focus on the Ottoman Empire is that most of them have majored in the history of the Ottoman Empire. A paper on higher education under the Atatürk rule, in the modern age, has been also published by a researcher who had majored in the history of the Ottoman Empire and who extended the scope of his research citation?.

In the field of language, papers on the Turkish language have been published since the 1970s, much earlier than those in other fields of research. Papers on the politics of Korean and Turkish languages; comparison among the Altaic languages, including Korean and Turkish; and the Turkish alphabet revolution were all published in the 1970s. In the 2000s, researchers actively published papers on comparing the Altaic languages of Korean and Turkish, from various aspects.

Under the rubric of religion in Turkey, I believe there is no need to further specify the context. Let's leave the way it is. Papers examine the Alawi sect, Sufism, Shamanism, the religious policy, Islamic fundamentalism, the Nurcu movement, various Islamic movements and seminaries. There have also been studies on other religious sects found in Turkey. In particular, professor Duck Chan, WOO has focused on the Alawi sect, while another researcher has mainly studied the Nurcu movement. (Woo 2014)

In the field of arts, papers I believe there is no need to further specify the context. Let's leave the way it is. Cover various themes, including the architecture of Islamic temples, Turkish carpets, Turkish films, Turkish *Aşık* music, and Turkish industrial design. Most researchers [specify the Korean context] focusing on arts in Turkey are different from other researchers exploring other fields in that they have mostly studied in Korea, not in Turkey. So far, There have been not so many Korean scholars studying Turkish art. Therefore, research on arts should be strongly encouraged in the future, considering the current trends of increasing art exchanges between Korea and Turkey.

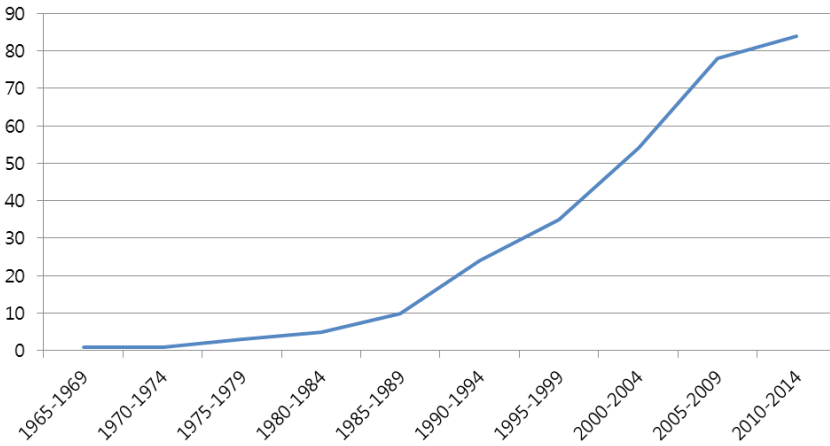


Figure 3: Changes in the number of papers in academic journals I believe there is no need to further specify the context. Let's leave the way it is.

As Figure 3 indicates, the number of papers in academic journals I believe there is no need to further specify the context. Let's leave the way it is. Was not high until the 1990s. However, it has rapidly increased since the 2000s. Until the 1990s, papers were mostly published by researchers who had majored in Turkish studies, and studied in Turkey. Yet, in the 2000s, the number of papers published by those who did not major in Turkish studies also increased. This is desirable, as it suggests that Turkish studies have been widely researched by scholars.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

Understanding a country and learning how to communicate with that country is an essential and critical attitude and response in the age of globalization. Today, mutual exchanges among nations and regions are increasing and expanding, and understanding and encountering various cultures are highly valued. Therefore, we now attempt to understand the culture, history, and social aspects of various countries, promote exchanges with others living in the same age, and experience diversity. Basically, regional studies are significant in that they are essential for understanding the thoughts and mentality of people living in a particular region and society, and ultimately to enable countries to have true exchange and harmony.

In order to explore future directions to stimulate research in various fields, the outcomes and limits of the existing studies should first be examined. Therefore, this study identifies trends in research published in the Korean academic community related to Turkish studies, trends by research field and theme, trends in master's and doctoral theses published in Korea, and trends in books and papers in academic journals, and suggests the future direction and work to be done for Turkish studies. In sum, the following conclusion can be made from the present study.

First, even though the number of researchers [specify the Korean context] in Turkish studies is not high, studies in various fields have been published, and Korea and Turkey have been involved in active exchange with each other since the two nations entered into a Cultural Agreement in 1972. In academic terms, the number of papers, not only by Koreans studying Turkish studies, but also by Turks who have studied or now study in Korea, has been on the rise. In terms of research themes, there are many papers comparing Korea and Turkey from various aspects. These papers will make a significant contribution to academic development in the two countries.

Second, the number of papers by researchers in Turkish studies published in academic journals is not lower than that by researchers in other Asian regional studies. However, researchers in Turkish studies mostly conduct research for their master's or doctoral degree only. They should extend their research into wider areas.

Third, Turkish studies in Korea focus simply on literature reviews. Therefore, on-site research activities should be encouraged more. Also, Turkish studies should be expanded into interdisciplinary studies, to promote convergence and exchanges among fields, in line with global trends. Most Turkish studies are now concentrated on one academic field. Therefore, conferences should be further promoted where experts in various fields can share their academic achievements.

Fourth, much more effort should be made to nurture Korean researchers in Turkish studies. There are several universities that provide Turkish language courses in Korea. However, only two or three universities have opened courses in Turkish studies. Today, a lot of attention is being paid to regional studies of Turkey, since the Korea-Turkey FTA took effect in 2013. There-



fore, graduate courses to nurture would-be experts in the field of Turkish studies should be expanded further.

Fifth, there is an urgent need to establish an independent Center for Turkish Studies in order to advance Turkish studies in Korea. So far, the Korean government and academic organizations have provided research funds to scholars to promote Turkish studies 'only when necessary'. However, one-time projects are unlikely to produce significant achievements. Therefore, a Center for Turkish Studies should be established sooner or later as part of long-term projects to promote relations between Korea and Turkey. If it is founded, the Center for Turkish Studies would play a major role in further promoting relations between the two nations. The Center would be engaged in academic and cultural activities with exchanges between scholars in the two countries and academic conferences. It would also serve as an organization to help the academic community reach out to the general public.

On balance, there is a strong need for support to strengthen the foundation for Turkish studies, which are now growing and rapidly expanding in Korea. There is also a need to nurture the next generation of researchers, improve the quality as well as the quantity of Turkish studies, publish books on Turkish studies in various fields, and promote interdisciplinary studies.

## Notes

- 1 However, the department was not specialized in providing courses on Turkish studies. Turkish language courses were opened quite early. In 1953, the Department of Languages, College of Liberal Arts and Science, Seoul National University, opened a Turkish language course. It was based on the linguistic theory that both Korean and Turkish are among the Altaic languages. The course only covered basic reading of Turkish. Still, its implications should not be underestimated, as the course motivated linguists in Korea to study Turkish. Jaemahn Suh, "Current Status and Challenges of Turkish Studies in Korea", *Journal of the Korean-Turkish Academic Society*, Korean-Turkish Academic Society, 1997, vol.1, p.6.

- 2 For more information on the Korea-Turkey FTA, see Emerging Economies Research Team, Institute of Central Asian Studies, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies *Strategies to Enter the Emerging Markets of Turkey and Uzbekistan*, Seoul, S. Korea, Dahae Press, 2013, pp.34 -38.
- 3 The newly coined term “GUTS” by *Foreign Policy* refers to the four countries that are supposedly leading the Western “renaissance”, after the global financial crisis: Germany, the United States, Turkey, and South Korea. Hee Chul Lee, *Today's Turkey, the Crossroads of Civilizations*, Seoul, Korea, Moonji Publishing, 2012, p.26.

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## Kore’de Türkoloji Çalışmaları Eğilimi

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### Öz

1972’de Kore ve Türkiye arasında ‘kültür antlaşması’ nın imzalanmasının ardından, 1973’te Kore Yabancı Diller Üniversitesi’nde Türkçe Bölümü, 1989 yılında ise Ankara Üniversitesi’nde Kore Dili ve Edebiyatı bölümü kurulmuştur. Bu öncü kurumlar iki ülke arasında akademik ve özel sektör alanlarında önemli bir rol oynamaktadır. Son zamanlarda, Kore’de Türkiye üzerine çalışmalar ciddi bir artış göstermiştir. Bu, ilk önceleri Türkiye’yi ve Türkleri yakından tanıyan birkaç seçkin bilim adamı tarafından başlatılmıştır. Ama daha sonraları, araştırma gündemi beşeri ve sosyal bilimlerin tüm dallarını kapsayacak şekilde genişletilmiştir. Kore’de ki Türkiye üzerine olan çalışmaların kapsamının ve derinliğinin artırılabilmesi için, Türk dilinin daha titiz bir şekilde incelenmesi gerekmektedir.

### Anahtar Kelimeler

Türkiye, Türkoloji, Bölge Çalışmaları, Kore-Türkiye İlişkileri, Türkçe, Osmanlı

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# Тенденция тюркологических исследований в Корее

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Дае-Сун КЫМ\*\*

## Аннотация

В 1972 году между Кореей и Турцией после «культурного соглашения» в 1973 году в Университете Корейского Иностранного языка открылся кафедра турецкого языка, в 1989 году в Университете Анкара открылся кафедра Корейского языка и литературы. Эти ведущие институты играют важную роль в академических и частных секторах между двумя странами. В последнее время в Корее исследовании по Турции значительно увеличивается. Это первоначально было начато несколькими выдающимися учеными, которыми были ближе знакомы с Турцией и Турками. Но позже, оно было расширено, охватывало все отрасли гуманитарных и общественных наук программы исследований. Для того, чтобы увеличить объем и глубину работы по Турции в Корее, Турецкий язык должен исследоваться более углубленно.

## Ключевые слова

Турция, Тюркология, региональное исследование, Корея-Турецкое отношение, Турецкий язык, Османская

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