Farmer went out to sow his seed. As we was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up quickly, but the plants had no root. So they were choked out and did not bear fruit. Other seed fell on good soil, and it brought forth crops—some a hundred, some sixty, some thirty times what was sown.
Twelve Influential Early Korean Preachers

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New Books


This study looks at the marginalized han-ridden women in Korea who have been completely divested of all human rights. So strong is their belief in their fate that they lack the power even to see themselves as a subject/human being or as a victim. The author seeks to find what idea of subjectivity could empower them to see themselves as a subject/human being as well as a woman. She presents the ethical and theological view of the human subject as the embodied spirit of Korean women evoking and unfolding their han-full stories of suffering.


We live in an increasingly global, interconnected, and interdependent world, in which various forms of systemic imbalance in power have given birth to a growing demand for genuine pluralism and democracy. As befits a world so interconnected, this book presents a comparative theological and philosophical attempt to construct new underpinnings for the idea of democracy by bringing the Western concept of spirit into dialogue with the East Asian nondualistic and nonhierarchical notion of qi.

The book follows the historical adventures of the idea of qi through some of its Confucian and Daoist textual histories in East Asia, mainly Laozi, Zhu Xi, Toegye, Nongmun, and Su-un, and compares them with analogous conceptualizations of the ultimate creative and spiritual power found in the intellectual constellations of Western and/or Christian thought namely, Whitehead's Creativity, Hegel's Geist, Deleuze's chaosmos, and Catherine Keller's Tehom.

The book adds to the growing body of pneumatocentric (Spirit-centered), panentheistic Christian theologies that emphasize God's liberating, equalizing, and pluralizing immanence in the cosmos. Furthermore, it injects into the theological and philosophical dialogue between the West and Confucian and Daoist East Asia, which has heretofore been dominated by the American pragmatist and process traditions, a fresh voice shaped by Hegelian, postmodern, and postcolonial thought. This enriches the ways in which the pluralistic and democratic implications of the notion of qi may be articulated. In addition, by offering a valuable introduction to some representative Korean thinkers who are largely unknown to Western scholars, the book advances the study of East Asia and Neo-Confucianism in particular.

Last but not least, the book provides a model of Asian contextual theology that draws on the religious and philosophical resources of East Asia to offer a vision of pluralism and democracy. A reader interested in the conversation between the East and West in light of the global reality of political oppression, economic exploitation, and cultural marginalization will find this book informative, engaging, and enlightening.
"If Kang's convivial cosmopolitics lead the way to a public theology to-come and it just im/possibly might what good news for a world of boundless diversity. This is a work of visionary wisdom and conceptual brilliance, plying theory and its practice with the attractive force of a hospitable cosmos." --Catherine Keller, Drew University, author of *On the Mystery* and co-editor of *Polydoxy: Theology of Relation and Multiplicity.*

"In *Cosmopolitan Theology* Namsoon Kang forges a powerful and well informed argument for cosmopolitanism, not as a faceless universalism but as a universality of the singular and unique. Invoking the ancient Biblical motif of neighbor love which is joined with a postmodern meditation on singularity, alterity and hospitality, the result is an engaging and engaged plea for planetary political solidarity and religious compassion--what she describes as a 'public theology to come.' A book for everyone and about everyone." --John D. Caputo, professor emeritus, Syracuse University

"As we can no longer deny the cosmopolitan reality in which we find ourselves, for good or for ill, the question is which cosmopolitan perspectives to embrace. In this book, Namsoon Kang provides helpful roadmaps and constructive proposals. What is the place of the fashionable cosmopolitanisms of multiculturalism and easygoing difference and of the alternative cosmopolitanisms of global justice, compassion, and love? Theology becomes a guide to new forms of solidarity, illuminating the flows of power that characterize the different options." --Joerg Rieger, Perkins School of Theology, SMU

In *Cosmopolitan Theology,* author Namsoon Kang proposes a theology that embraces and at the same time moves beyond collective identity position and group-based allegiances. It crosses borders of gender, race, nationality, religion, ethnicity, sexuality, and ability. Kang offers a vision of a global community of radical inclusion, solidarity, and deep compassion and justice for others. Blending theology with philosophy, she crosses borders of academism and activism, and the discursive borders of modernism, postmodernism, feminism, and postcolonialism.

*Cosmopolitan Theology* sheds a new light both in academia and the community of Christian believers by providing a public relevance of Jesus' teaching of neighbor-love, hospitality, and solidarity in our world today.
New Books


“The book Hiring an English Ministry Pastor is a valuable resource and tool to help many Asian-American churches across the United States. I would strongly recommend all Korean-American churches to have this book as an important source in hiring the right English Ministry Pastor.” - Nathan Lee, Founder of Father's Heart Ministry, Overseer of Korean Campus Ministry at University of Maryland College Park, Evangelism Explosion College Campus Ministry, Founder and director of Kingdom Conference

“I believe the book will be a valuable resource, not only for the current generation but also for many generations to come.” – Jon Choi, Lead Pastor of Global Harvest Church, Adjunct Professor at Dallas Baptist University

“This book fills a special need in church ministry literature. Very few books address specifically Asian-American concerns with their unique multicultural, multilingual and historical contexts. Hiring an English Ministry Pastor fills such a need and gives insights that will benefit all who are engaged or interested in this dynamically growing ministry. Many times I read this book and said, “Yes, yes, yes!” Joseph Choi understands and speaks with credibility. I highly recommend this book.” – John Tung, English Pastor for over 20 years at Chinese Bible Church of Maryland, Rockville, MD.

"This book is a must read for anyone who is interested in the recruitment and employment process of Asian/Asian-American pastors and ministers. Joseph Choi has made a great contribution to this important area by providing a timely and fascinating handbook. I recommend the book strongly," – Dr. Sung Wook Chung, Denver Seminary, Associate Professor of Theology and Director of Korean Initiatives Part of my ministry is to assist and facilitate the planting of new Asian American churches.

Joseph Choi’s book "Hiring an EM Pastor" breaks new ground in this new frontier of American church planting. There is no other book written which is as comprehensive and practical on the subject of the nuts and bolts of planting and staffing an Asian American English speaking church. For anyone who wants to know more about this subject I recommend that you read and put its principles into practice. - Dr. Ron Blankenship, Director of Missions/Church Planting Catalyst for Montgomery Baptist Association in MD and Adjunct Professor of Missions at Washington Baptist University.

Joseph Y. Choi is the co-founder of JnJ Publishing House, whose vision is to provide ministry resources that are “Real, Practical and Supernatural” for the next generation. He attended Golden Gate, Denver, and Liberty Baptist Theological seminaries. He is co-author of New Beginning I’ve accepted Christ – now what? Further book projects on Real People Real Suffering Real Victory, Men of Integrity and Supernatural will be released in the near future. As speaker, author, and pastor, Joseph Choi’s passion in life is to reach lost souls for Jesus Christ.
Memory and Honor: Cultural and Generational Ministry with Korean American Communities Paperback by Simon C. Kim, Michael Glazier, 2013.

Memory and Honor is a theological reflection on the American experience of the people of Korean descent. It is a reflection on the heritage of rupture, displacement, and resettlement as the key to identity and hope for those continuing to live in between the cultures, languages, and belief systems of Korea and the United States.

This book gives voice to the first generation of immigrants and their children. Since the majority of Korean immigrants are Protestants, the first- and second-generation Catholic community is a minority of minorities, an ethnic minority as well as a religious minority. Thus, as a minority group and as a minority of minorities, Korean American Catholics may have more to contribute to church and society since this country was founded, developed, and maintained by immigrants such as these. Readers will come away with a deeper appreciation of the Korean immigrant contribution and more readily see the Korean American Catholic community as an authentic expression of church.

Simon Kim is assistant professor of theology at Our Lady of Holy Cross College in New Orleans, LA. He earned a Ph.D. in theology from The Catholic University of America in 2011, specializing in theology in cross-cultural contexts. He works extensively with Korean American communities and offers conferences, workshops, and retreats across the country on Korean American pastoral ministry.


This edited volume brings Ahn Byung-Mu’s minjung theology into dialogue with twenty-first-century readers. Ahn Byung-Mu was one of the pioneers of Korean minjung theology. The centerpiece of his minjung theology is focused on the Greek word ochlos, understood as the divested, marginalized, powerless people.

Part 1 introduces readers to his life and theological legacy. Part 2 includes four important writings of Ahn Byung-Mu: “Jesus and Minjung in the Gospel of Mark,” “Minjung Theology in the Gospel of Mark,” “The Transmitters of Jesus Event Tradition,” and “Minjok, Minjung, and Church.” Part 3 contains a collection of articles from international scholars who evaluate and
engage Ahn’s *ochlos/minjung* theology in their own fields and formulate critical readings of *minjung* theology. Responses include postcolonial, black theology, and feminist perspectives.

“A fascinating collection exploring the roots and current relevance of Korean *minjung* (‘crowd’ or ‘masses’) theology as expressed by one of its founders and most prolific exponents, Ahn Byung-Mu. The writers engage a wide range of social locations, revealing both changed circumstances since Ahn’s pioneering work, and the ongoing importance of his work in our globalized, dominating empire. A great conversation to enter for both those already familiar with this indigenous Korean form of liberation theology and those looking to expand their listening to include voices often silenced.” —Wes Howard-Brook, Seattle University

Yung Suk Kim is Assistant Professor of New Testament and Early Christianity at the School of Theology at Virginia Union University. He is the author of *Christ’s Body in Corinth* (2008) and *A Theological Introduction to Paul’s Letters* (2011).

Jin-Ho Kim is Chief Researcher of The Christian Institute for the Third Era in Korea. He served as the minister of Hanbaik Church, established by Ahn Byung-Mu, and as the chief editor of *Contemporary Criticism*. Among his numerous publications, his Korean publications include *Historiography of Jesus History: Jesus beyond Jesus* (2000), *Radical Liberalists: Unfamiliar Travels with the Fourth Gospel* (2009), and *Citizen K, On the Threshold of the Church* (2012).

*Colonialism, Han, and the Transformative Spirit* by Grace Ji-Sun Kim, Palgrave Pivot, 2013.

Colonialism, globalization and consumerism have devastated large parts of our world. For the past five centuries, the West has nurtured self-worth through the accumulation of worldly goods, serving our own selfish interests and exploiting others. This has been disastrous not only to human beings but to the whole ecology of the planet. Consumerism drives trade, but consumer buying is now like an unchained beast with tooth and claw causing han (unjust suffering) for exploited peoples as well as for other species and even for planet Earth. This book will examine ways of rethinking and reimagining ourselves, helping us to work in more just directions for a safer, sustainable planet. Empowering ourselves to act more justly includes reimagining and renewing our inspiration from God who is the transformative Spirit who gives, sustains and empowers life to all.