

홍원탁 Wontack Hong 洪元卓



WONTACK HONG, Professor Emeritus, Seoul National University (SNU), was born in Seoul on August 20, 1940. He received his undergraduate education in economics at SNU. His graduate studies were conducted in the United States at Columbia University, where he received his M.A. in 1964 and Ph.D. in 1966. He has previously held the positions of Assistant Professor of Economics at the University of Wisconsin (1966-71), Senior Fellow at the Korea Development Institute (1971-7), and Visiting Fellow at the Institute of Development Studies, the University of Sussex, UK (1979). He began teaching at SNU in 1977 and served as Director of the Center for Area Studies (1990-1) and Director of the Institute for International and Area Studies (1997-8) there. He founded the *International Economic Journal* (Routledge, UK) in 1987 and served as its managing editor until 2005. He retired from SNU in 2005.

He had worked exclusively on international economics (trade and growth) from 1958-80, and on both international economics and East Asian history from 1981-2005 (causing a deterioration in his publication performance in economics). He has been working exclusively on East Asian history since his retirement.

He is the author of *The Relationship between Korea and Japan in the Early Period: Paekche and Yamato Wa* (Ilsimsa, 1988), *Paekche of Korea and the Origin of Yamato Japan* (Kudara, 1994), *Kudara Yamato: History of Ancient Korea-Japan Relations*, in Korean (Iljisa, 2003), "Yayoi Wave, Kofun Wave and Timing: the Formation of the Japanese People and Japanese Language," *Korean Studies*, U. of Hawaii, Volume 29, 2005 (US), pp. 1-29, *Korea and Japan in East Asian History: A Tripolar Approach* (Kudara, 2006), "Ancient Korea-Japan Relations: Dating the Formative Years of the Yamato Kingdom (366-405 CE) by the *Samguk-sagi* Records and Reinterpreting the Related Historical Facts," *The Open Area Studies Journal*, 2009, 2, pp. 12-29 (US), *East Asian History: A Tripolar Approach* (Kudara, 2010; revised and expanded edition, 2012), and *Ancient Korea-Japan Relations: Paekche and the Origin of the Yamato Dynasty* (Kudara, 2010).

He is also the author of "A Global Equilibrium Pattern of Specialization: A Model to Approximate Linder's World of Production and Trade," *The Swedish Journal of Economics*,

December 1969 (Sweden), "The Heckscher-Ohlin Theory of Factor Price Equalization and the Indeterminacy in International Specialization," *International Economic Review*, June 1970 (US), "Distortions and Static Negative Marginal Gains from Trade," *Journal of International Economics*, August 1976 (US), "Institutionalized Monopsonistic Capital Market in Developing Economy," *Journal of Development Economics*, 21, 1986 (US), "A Comparative Static Application of the Heckscher-Ohlin Model of Factor Proportions: Korean Experience," *Weltwirtschaftliches Archiv*, Heft 2, 1987 (Germany), "Time Preference in Dynamic Trade Model: An Empirical Critique," *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, July 1988 (US), *Trade and Growth: A Korean Perspective*, Seoul: Kudara International, 1994, "The Catching-up: Lessons of East Asian Development," in Justin Yifu Lin, editor, *Contemporary Economic Issues* 1, Macmillan/St.Martin's, 1998, pp. 3-17 (US), *Catch-up and Crisis in Korea* (Edward Elgar, UK), 2002, and "Taking a Turnpike: A Korean Perspective," *Review of International Economics* (Blackwell, UK), February 2005.

Trade and Growth: A Korean Perspective was reviewed (by Lawrence H. Officer, University of Illinois at Chicago, in *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, Vol. 45: 2, 1997) as: "Hong's volume, as a collection of his papers over time, shows him to be a truly versatile economist, proficient in pure theory analysis, empirical application of pure theory, economic growth in both theory and application, and trade policy. Economists, historians, and policy makers concerned with the transition of Korea from undeveloped to NIC status would do well to consult Hong's book."

Home Address: 330-272 Sungbuk-dong, Sungbuk-ku, Seoul 136-823, KOREA
 Telephone: 82-2-743-1838 Facsimile No.: 82-2-3673-3066
 E-mail: wthong2002@hotmail.com
 Web Sites: <http://www.WontackHong.com> <http://www.HongWontack.com>

EDUCATION

B.A.	Seoul University	(Economics)	March 1958-February 1962
M.A.	Columbia University	(Economics)	September 1962-February 1964
Ph.D.	Columbia University	(Economics)	February 1964-April 1966

EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee	1966.8.-1971.8.
Senior Fellow, Korea Development Institute (KDI)	1971.8.-1977.8.
Visiting Fellow, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex	1979.12.-1980.7.
Associate, Full Professor, School of Economics, Seoul University	1977.8.-2005.8.

Wontack Hong could finish the entire course requirements for the BA degree at SNU by July 1961, and commenced the compulsory military service on September 4, 1961. While in the army, he graduated from SNU on April 28, 1962; passed the Qualifying Exams (in English and History) to study abroad (conducted by the Ministry of Education); and received admission from the Department of Economics, Columbia University. He was discharged from the Korean Army on September 4, 1962 with the rank of the private first class (the second from the bottom in the Korean Army ranking system), and commenced the graduate study at Columbia University on September 16, 1962.

While Wontack Hong was studying at the Department of Economics, Columbia University (1962.9.16.-1966.4.28.), it has been said:

January 14, 1964

Arthur R. Burns, Professor of Economics, Columbia University

Mr. Hong did no class work with me but I have had a number of discussions with him in connection with his M.A. essay on recent economic policy in Korea, which essay I sponsored. I have found him a very clear and capable analyst. He has shown great capacity to deal with criticism whether by defending his statements or adjusting them. He has also made very rapid progress since I first met him in June 1963. I would grade his essay B+ or perhaps somewhat higher. Mr. Hong seems to me one of the abler of the foreign students I have met in the Department and I have no hesitation in recommending him for fellowship aid.

May 24, 1964

William Vickrey, Professor of Economics, Columbia University

Mr. Hong is an extremely shy, but very competent student. Even in a course in which he was the only registered student who attended regularly, along with two other students, it was only rarely that he ventured questions and comments, and only towards the latter part of the semester. He recently passed his orals with flying colors at a level attained by less than 25 percent of those passing their orals. His English as such is perfectly adequate; the one thing needed to make him an effective teacher is for him to learn to speak more forcefully; given the dynamics of the teachings situation, this may well take care of itself.

May 27, 1964

Carl S. Shoup, Professor of Economics, Columbia University

I am glad to recommend Mr. Hong for a teaching position in economics. He has shown an excellent grasp of economic theory and he is also well prepared in public finance. Mr. Hong is a very pleasant person and should be able to enlist the intelligent cooperation of his students.

May 29, 1964

Albert O. Hirschman, Professor of International Relations, Columbia University

Mr. Hong is a serious and intelligent student with that very rare quality: an original turn of mind. He wrote a fine seminar paper for me and from personal conversation also I have the impression that he is one of the most promising young men I have come across at Columbia. He has a very pleasant personality.

December 16, 1964

Peter B. Kenen, Professor of Economics, Columbia University

Mr. Hong is currently writing his dissertation under my supervision. It is at yet too early to appraise the dissertation accurately, but I have high hopes for it. Mr. Hong is a competent economist with a flair for empirical work. He writes extremely well and has a thorough grasp of English. Any potential employer, however, should interview him personally to judge whether his oral English is up to the standards of classroom composition. With this one caveat I recommend him with considerable confidence.

December 9, 1968

Peter B. Kenen, Chairman, Department of Economics, Columbia University

I write to recommend Mr. Wontack Hong as an able economist whose recent work displays considerable competence and imagination and the promise of further growth. His dissertation, written under my supervision, was an able analysis of industrialization in several East Asian countries. His current work is of a mathematical character, entirely different from his dissertation and shows even more originality and ability.

MISCELLANIES

- Chairman, Subcommittee for Basic Industry, Council for Revision of Tariff System,
the Ministry of Finance, March 26, 1983-December 1983 and April 1988-December 1988.
- Chairman, Planning Committee on Trade Sector for the Sixth Economic and Social Development
Plan, Ministry of Trade and Industry, September 1985-December 1986.
- Chairman, Planning Committee on External Cooperation for the Sixth Economic and Social
Development Plan, Economic Planning Board, September 1985-December 1986.
- Member, Advisory Committee, Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry, October 12, 1985-
December 1995.
- Member, Deliberation Committee to Develop Tax System, Ministry of Finance, June 20, 1986-June
1992 (Chairman, Subcommittee on Tariff System).
- Member, Presidential Commission on Economic Restructuring, May 3, 1988-October 31, 1989.
- Chairman, Subcommittee on Land Speculation Problem of Corporations, Land Committee (To-ji
Gong-gae-neum Yon-gu Wi-won-whoj), September 1, 1988-June 30, 1989.
- Director, Center for Area Studies, Seoul University, January 9, 1990-January 8, 1992.
- Chairman, Planning Committee on Trade Sector for the Seventh Economic and Social
Development Plan, the Ministry of Trade and Industry, November 1990-December 1991.
- Member, Planning Committee on Tax System for the Seventh Five Year Plan, the Ministry of
Finance, November 1990-December 1991.
- Member, Committee for New Economic Plan (Mediation Committee for Economic and Social
Development Plan), appointed by the Minister of Economic Planning on March 1993.
- Chairman, Screening and Evaluating Committee for Area Studies, appointed by the Minister of
Education, May 1993-May 1995.
- President, Korea International Economic Association, January 1994-December 1994.
- Chairman, Screening and Evaluation Committee to Select the Universities to Specialize in
Education of Experts on International and Area Studies, appointed by the Minister of Education,
May 1996-January 1997.
- Director, Institute of Economic Research, Seoul University, July 1, 1996-December 3, 1996.
- Director, Center for Area Studies, Seoul University, December 4, 1996-February 1, 1997.
- Director, School of International and Area Studies, Seoul University, February 1, 1997-December 15,
1998

Managing Editor, International Economic Journal, 1987. 1 – 2005. 8.

Editor Emeritus, International Economic Journal



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