

Korean Comic Collection

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Outline

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What is ‘Manhwa’ ?

- **“Manhwa (만화)” is the term for Korean comics and printed cartoons and has been used since 1923.**
 - 漫畫 (manhwa) – Korean comics
 - 漫画 (manga) – Japanese comics
 - 漫畫 (manhua) – Chinese comics
- **“Taŭm ۆtchi (다음 엇지)” was used before ‘manhwa’**
- **Comics in North Korea are usually referred to as “Kŭrimchaek (그림책)”**

History of Manhwa

- **Emergence of Modern Manhwa (1909-1945)**
- **Development of Manhwa (1945-1970)**
- **Renaissance of Manhwa (1971-1999)**
- **New era of Manhwa (2000-)**

Emergence of Modern Manhwa (1909-1945)

- Launched Korean newspapers and periodicals in late 19th & 20th century.
- Published Korea's first comic strip by Do-yŏng Yi (이도영), titled "Saphwa (삼화)" in "Taehan Minbo (대한민보)" in 1909.



Emergence of Modern Manhwa (1909-1945)

- **Published comic strips by Dong-sŏng Kim (김동성) and Sŏk-chu An (안석주) in 1920s.**
- **Featured as a political satire with current affairs in newspapers.**
- **“Mŏngtŏngguri” by Suk-hyŏn No was the first entertaining newspaper comic strip.**
- **Comics were published mostly in newspapers and children’s periodicals.**

Development of Manhwa (1945-1970)

- Launched & published various comic only magazines such as “Manhwa segye (만화세계)”
- Launched and published various genres such as romance comics, fantasy comics, and sports comics
- Launched Rental shops “Taebonso (대본소) (=manhwa kage or manhwabang (만화가게 or 만화방))” in 1958
- Popular cartoonists in the era were Yong-hwan Kim (김용환), Sŏng-hwan Kim (김성환), San-ho Kim (김산호), Dong-u Sin (신동우), and Ki-dang Park (박기당).

Taebonso (=Manhwa kage or Manhwabang)



“Kobau yonggam (고바우 영감)” by Song-hwan Kim (김성환)



Renaissance of Manhwa (1971-1999)

- Introduced the genre, adult comics such as “Imkkökchöng (임꺽정)” and “Koindol (고인돌)”
- Jolly comics and romance comics were also boomed and cartoonists were Chang-dök Kil (길창덕), Mun-su Sin (신문수), and cartoonists of the romance comics were Hŭi-ja Öm (엄희자) and Ae-ni Min (민애니).
- A lot of comic magazines were published such as “IQ Jump” which led to the comic book market.

Renaissance of Manhwa (1971-1999)



Renaissance of Manhwa (1971-1999)

- Long narrative comic known as graphic novels were published and Hyŏn-se Yi (이현세)'s “Kongp'o ũi ōein kudan (공포의 외인구단)”.
- Hyŏn-se Yi (이현세), Yŏng-man Hŏ (허영만), Pong-sŏng Pak (박봉성), Sang-mu Yi (이상무) and Hui-jae Yi (이희재) were the main cartoonists.



New era of Manhwa (2000-)

- Printed comic magazines and books were shut down or were transformed into online comics, called “Webtoon” since 2000.
- Webtoon’s formats are episodic, sports and essay comics and and Pul Kang (강풀)’s “Sunjŏng manhwa (순정만화)” are examples.



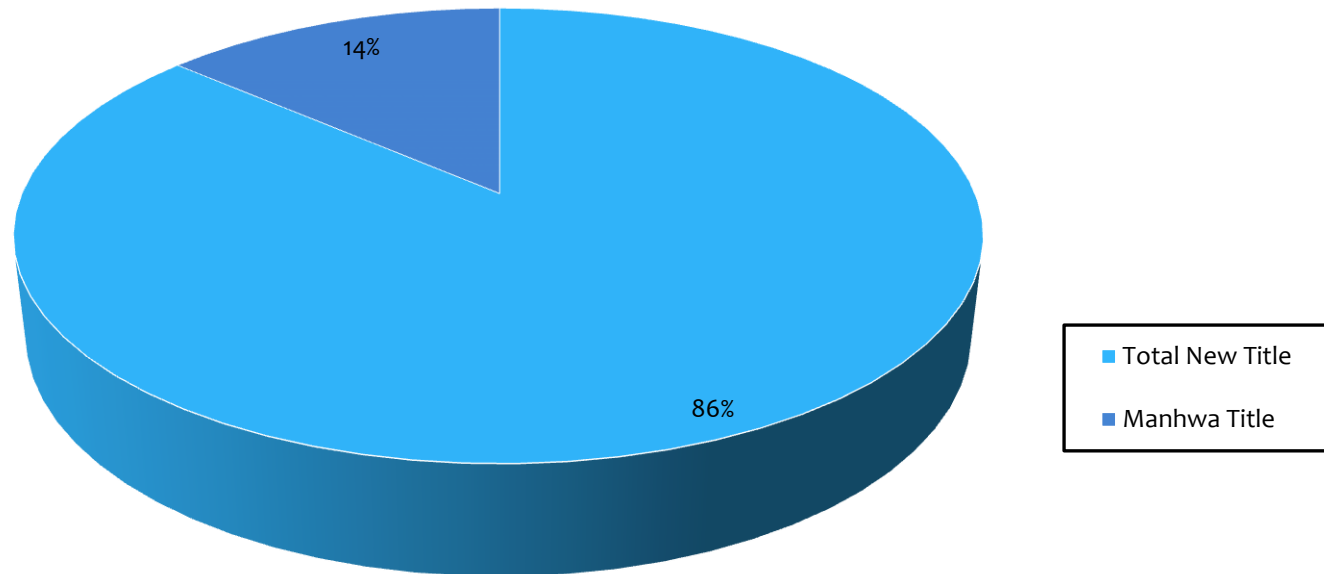
New era of Manhwa

(2000-)

- **Webtoons are provided through portals such as Naver and Daum, personal blogs and are mostly available for free.**
- **Educational comics for children as well as promotional series of comics have been published increasingly.**
- **Cartoonist in the era are Pul Kang (강풀), Ho-min Chu (주호민), T'ae-ho Yun (윤태호), To-ha Kang (강도하), Yŏng-sun Yang (양영순), Sŏk Cho (조석), Il-gwŏn Ha (하일권).**

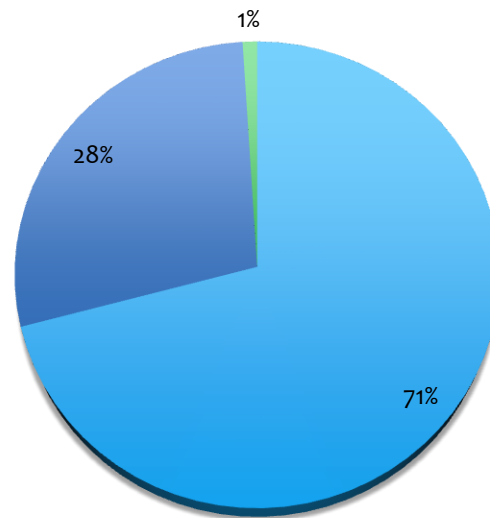
Statistics of printed manhwa

Total Number of Korean Publications in 2012



Statistics of printed manhwa

Manhwa Publication



- Children's educational comics
- Printed comics
- Periodicals

Publishers for Manga

- **There are over 130 publishers and three major comic publishers: Daewŏn CI (대원 씨아이), Seoul Media Group (서울문화사), and Haksan Publishing (학산 문화사).**
- **Other distinct publishers**
 - **Sae Manhwachaek and Kil Chatgi : creative comics**
 - **Samyang, Usin, Chayu Kuyok, Puk Paksu, and Hyŏndae Chinŭng Kaebalsa : mainly adult comics**
 - **Choŭn Sesang, Semi K'ollon, and Sigongsa : translated comics**
 - **Kŏbugi Puksu, Chungang Puksu, and Chaemijuŭi : completed webtoons, which were popular.**
- **For North Korean materials, most of graphic novels are published by Kŭmsŏng Ch'ŏngnyŏn Ch'ulp'ansa (금성 청년출판사), Munhak Yesul Ch'ulp'ansa (문학 예술 출판사) and Kŭllo Tanch'e Ch'ulp'ansa (근로 단체 출판사).**

Manhwa Collection at CU

➤ **Background**

➤ **Selection**

- **Selection criteria**

- 1) **Manhwa only by Korean cartoonists**
- 2) **Bestsellers and popular manhwa**
- 3) **Popularity of the cartoonists's manhwa**
- 4) **Biographical manhwa**
- 5) **Political or satirical manhwa**
- 6) **Manhwa which were transformed into/from different formats such as novels, movies and TV dramas**
- 7) **Manhwa dealing with traditional Korean culture such as “Naesi” and “Kisaeng iyagi”**
- 8) **Manhwa received good reviews from readers**

Manhwa Collection at CU

➤ Acquisition

- **Selection: Using two online bookstores, Kyobo (교보), Aladin (알라딘), and**
- **Tijit'ol Manhwa Kyujanggak (디지털 만화 규장각)**
- **Using lists of manhwa including new and retrospective materials provided by Korean vendors**
- **Using second-hand book stores for retrospective materials**
- **Contact potential donors including institutions**
- **Using a list of North Korean comics supplied by the Korean vendor in Beijing**

Manhwa Collection at CU

- **Cataloging -- Mostly require original cataloging and create a full level record.**
 - **LC Classification – PN6790.K64 –By title, A-Z**
 - **LCSH**
 - **Using a broad subject heading for a list of the collection**
Comic books, strips, etc. – Korea (South) for South
Comic books, strips, etc. – Korea (North) for North
 - **Also assigning genre headings such as fantasy comic, romance comic, etc.**
 - **Assigning specific subject headings if needed.**

Manhwa Collection at CU

➤ Circulation

- **All the collection are stored in offsite located in New Jersey and are available to public including non-CU users via InterLibrary Loan.**
- **Manhwa collection has increased in circulation and recently “Yorhyöl kangho” was one of the most circulated books by users at CU.**

Issues/Challenges

- **Funds, extra space and special attention to the continuous volumes**
- **Publishing a limited quantity of manhwa**
- **Difficulty in acquiring retrospective materials**
- **Discontinuing series of manhwa**
- **Available various formats of digital comics**

Conclusion

Manhwa has become used in the language programs and has also been expanded to the academic discipline for research. Our library has been collecting manhwa as a part of Korean popular culture and will continue to expand the collection comprehensively. Your comments and/or suggestions are always welcome and will assist us in improving our Collection.