

라이프스타일의 비교를 통한 한중 전통가구의 비교

A Comparative Study on Korean and Chinese Traditional Furniture based on the Life Style

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Abstract

Korea and China have had close relations not only geographically but also ideally and culturally throughout history. Regarding their lifestyles on housing patterns, however, Koreans had a sedentary way of life, usually sitting on the floor while Chinese had a standing lifestyle, sitting on a chair. This paper tries to have a comparative analysis on similarities and distinctions of two countries' traditional furniture that had complied with each lifestyle. This paper also aims to explore the similarities and distinctions of the form and function of the traditional furniture of the two countries and then to put results of this paper in design and plan of modern furniture and housing in our times. The study can be summarized as follows.

Even if, cultural and historical relationships of two countries, there is a different of traditional furniture's forms and types. The major differences are as following : Korean furniture is predominantly on the floor level with storing furniture while Chinese one is intermixed with seat-level and floor level styles.

These characters seem to be derived from their own housing and life style. In Ming and Qing period China, Their developed in which intermediate people and building. But, in Korea their housing style had floating floor against wet earth, which finished woods, Ondol. Because of these finishing, the Korean traditional furniture was developed into a good form and a suitable dimension for moving. These differences in furnishing style seemed to well reflect building and housing style of each country. And Image map and positioning map can show the differences in a whole aspect.

키워드 : 주거양식차이, 전통가구, 이동성, 고정적

keywords : Difference of living type, traditional Furniture, Movability, Fixed

1. Introduction

Korea and China have had close relations not only geographically but also ideally and culturally throughout history. Regarding their lifestyles on housing patterns, however, Koreans had a sedentary way of life, usually sitting on the floor while Chinese had a standing lifestyle, sitting on a chair. This paper tries to have a comparative analysis on similarities and distinctions of two countries' traditional furniture that had complied with each lifestyle. This paper also aims to explore the similarities and distinctions of the form and function of the traditional furniture of the two countries and then to put results of this paper in design and plan of modern furniture and housing in

our times.

2. Process

This study goes through three steps as follows :

Step 1 : To comparative study on the social and cultural thoughts that influence on the housing culture of each country.

Step 2 : To collect data of Korean and Chinese furniture that indicate authentic origin and precise measurements. By this collection, we selected representative pieces of furniture in Korean Chosen-period, Chinese Ming and Qing period, and were qualitatively compared and analyzed on multi-dimensional scale to figure out the generality and

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uniqueness of traditional Korean furniture within Chinese.

Step 3 : To Classify the data according to space where furniture was put and used, user and function of furniture. On the basis of this classification, to provide a set of standards of comparison by analysing functions of furniture, scale of consuming space and scale of human, and alignment principles.

Step 4 : To analyze the visualized data by step3, make a distributional map on the axis of user pattern, which indicates the modes of Korean and Chinese traditional furniture, and to compare this map with the differences of two countries' type of living.

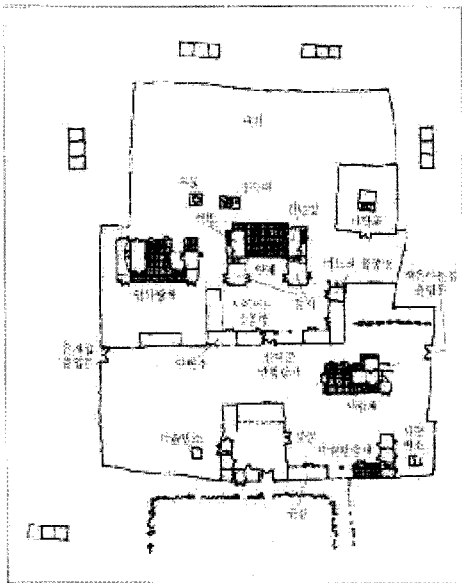


Fig 1. Plan of Yang-ban House

3. Thoughts and Housing Culture on he Chosun Era and China

3.1 Thoughts and Housing Culture during the Chosun Era

Thoughts that had influenced the housing the Chosun dynasty were Confucianism and fengshui principles, or geomantic studies. Based on these thoughts, a house should be the place where the gentry, or the noble live

a Confucian way of life and reflect the prestige of their status. In this sense, according to the distinction between the sexes and social status, the space of upper class houses had divided into sarang-chaе, the male quarters, a kind of reception room for male quests, ahn-chaе, housewife's quarter, and hangrand-chaе, the servants' quarters. Walls and gates effectively separated each quarter.

The second trait in this housing pattern is that extended family system based on patriarchy and the Five Moral Discipline in Human Relations of Confucianism had prevailed.

Fengshui principles were used in determining the place for a house. In Fengshui terms, a desirable place for building a house is where vitalities of earth converge on and spiritually encourage people.

3.2. Thoughts and Housing Culture in China

First, a unique concept of space based on binary idea, Yin and Yang had played a key role in shaping Chinese architecture and housing culture. Their concept reflecting Chinese views of nature and universe became visualized in a way of regular and irregular forms and could be found in everything that Chinese had touched like in cities, architectures and houses.

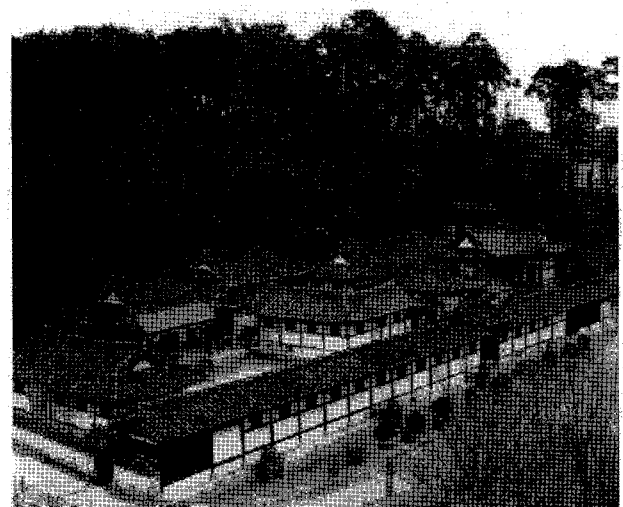


Fig 2 House of Yang-ban

Second, Confucianism is another idea that had

Scope classification	Properties	TYPE CODE and NAME
User Pause Furniture	Related with user pause and Furniture Support the user pattern of Sitting, Lying Reclining	A. one sits on piece of furniture : stools, benches and chair /
		B. sleeps or reclines on it : beds and couches
User Object Furniture	Related with user object and furniture Support the user pattern of putting thing on in it	C. One puts things on it : tables and stands
		D. Use it for storage : chests or wardrobes
User Space Furniture	Divided and lightening the space	E. Partition device : Partition and screen
		F. Lighting : lamps

Table 1 Frame of Classification

influenced Chinese space-related concept, and I mainly focuses on mutual relationship among people.

Third, the thoughts of feungshui based on Yin-Yang and Five Elements theory had dominated Chinese society and mentality since the Sung dynasty (960-1279).

On the basis of these thoughts, the space alignment of *sahapwon*¹⁾ (四合院) itself means that four buildings enclose *chung-jung*, the shape of Chinese character '口'(mouth) is a basic space alignment.

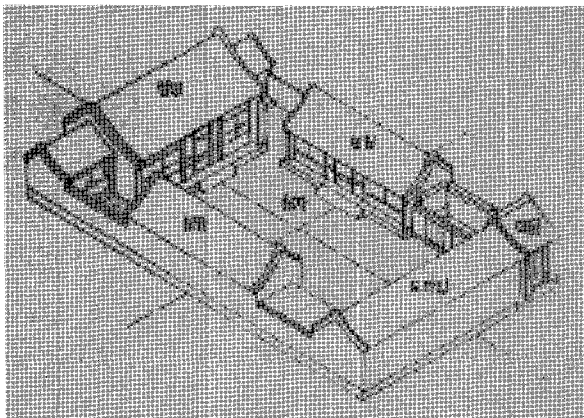


Fig 3. Basic space alignment of *sahapwon*

1) A Siheyuan is the traditional Chinese courtyard house which is noted for its clear hierarchic order. The typical siheyuan composition with four buildings around a courtyard traces back to the Han dynasty (B.C.206~A.D.220), and it is deemed to be the embodiment of the Confucian institution which has dominated the traditional Chinese society. In cities like Beijing, the siheyuans are built along with alleys called hutong.

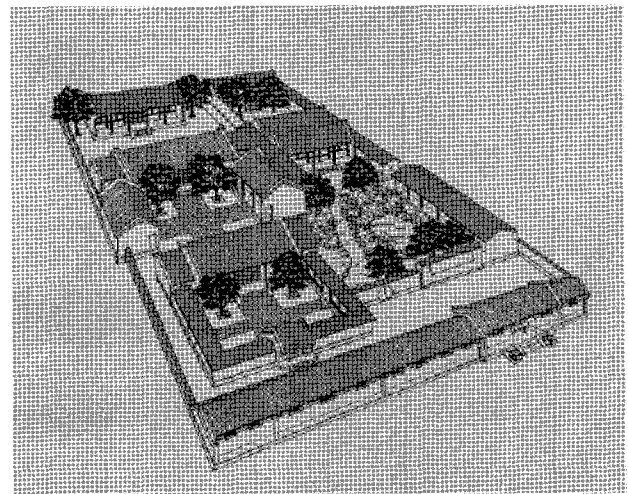


Fig 4 Housing structure of *sahapwon*

4. Analysis

In this section, the user pattern is suggested as a tool to classify traditional furniture of Korea and China with the references of Smith's furniture assortment.²⁾

2) Edward Lucie-Smith, <Furniture History>, p8 one sits on a piece of furniture ; stools, benches and chairs one puts things on it ; tables and stands sleeps or reclines on it ; beds and couches uses it for storage ; chests or wardroves.


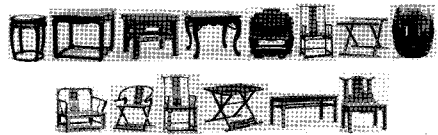

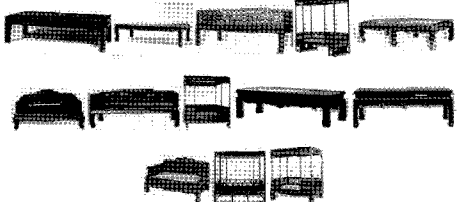
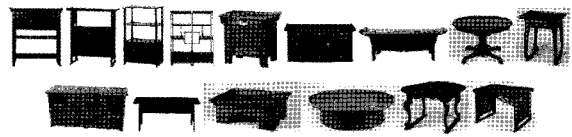
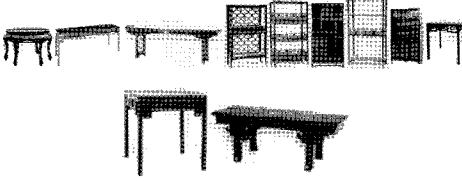
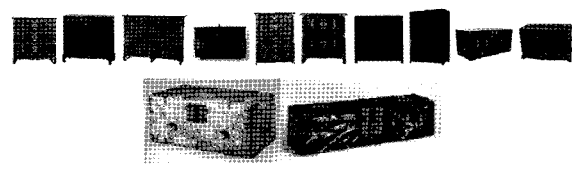
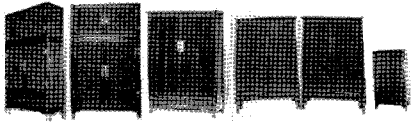
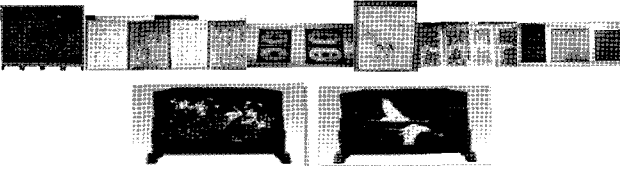
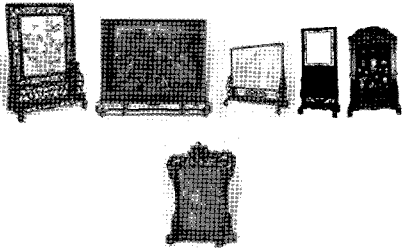

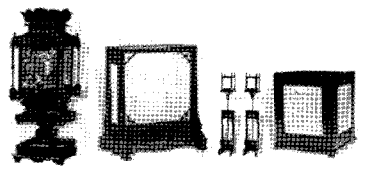
분류	KOREA / 한국	CHINA / 중국
A. Seating		
B. Reclining and Lying		
C. Put thing on		
D. Use it for storage		
E. Dividing		
F. Lighting		

Table 2 Classification Of Korean and Chinese traditional Furniture Image Datas.

Scope classification	Properties of Positioning	
TYPE A,B	Korea	- Few chairs - high movability - user pattern : mainly sitting and lying
	China	- many chairs - low movability - user pattern : mainly standing and sitting
TYPE C,D	Korea	- many Wardrobe for storage - high movability(in case of tables and chests) - user pattern : sitting
	China	- few wardrobe compare with Korea - low movability, almost fixed type - user pattern : Standing and sitting on the chair
TYPE E,F	Korea	- except the some of the partition, the others are very low dimension - high movability
	China	- almost for stand type of living - comparatively movable

Table 3 Properties of positioning, Korea and China

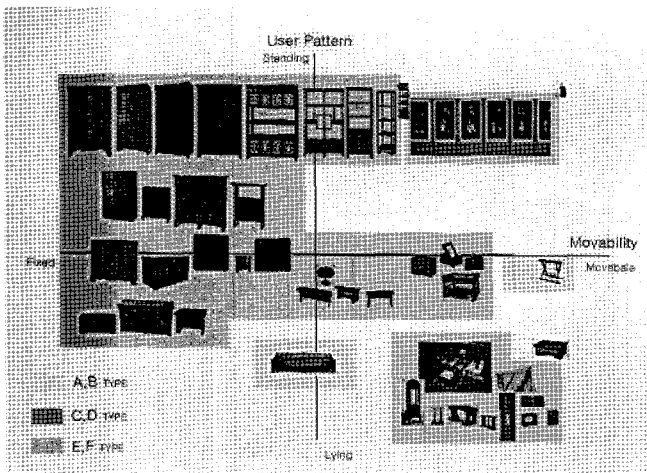


Fig 5 Positioning of Korean traditional

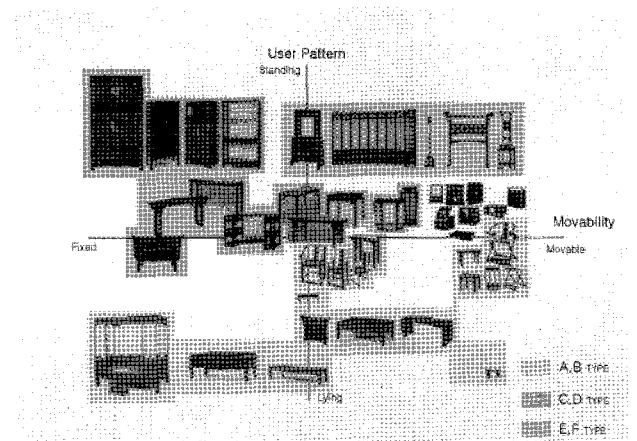


Fig 6 Positioning of Chinese traditional furnitures

Ultimately, we can get the knowledge, as follows.

1) Korean traditional furniture(compare with Chinese) have little chairs, but are higher movability, especially the many kind of tables are very various and free to move. D type furniture(chest or wardrobes) design and function were developed variously.

2) Chinese traditional furniture (compare with Korean)

have many chairs and various furniture design for sitting. But movability in interior space, is lower. It is, maybe, related with the symmetrical and fixed formal method of furniture setting in inner space.

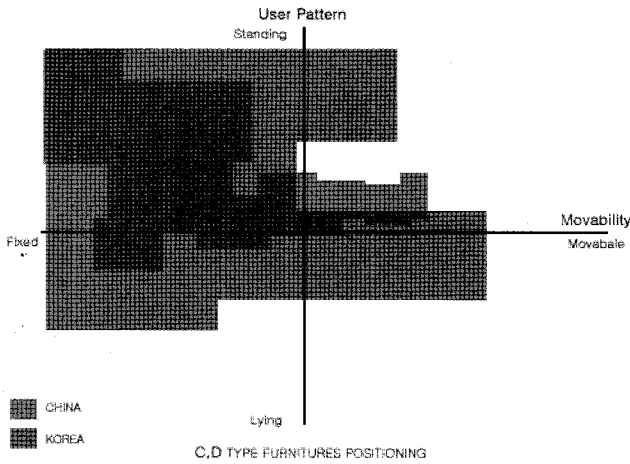


Fig 7 Positioning of TYPE. A and B

3) E and F TYPE furniture,(supports the relation with user and space) like as lightings and partitions, are, all different as user pattern. In Korea, almost of that is lower dimensions and forms. But the Chinese furniture is higher and more decorative than the Korean furniture.

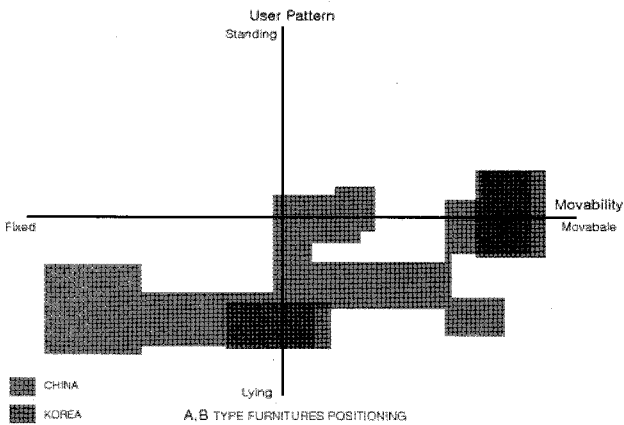


Fig 8 Positioning of TYPE. C and D

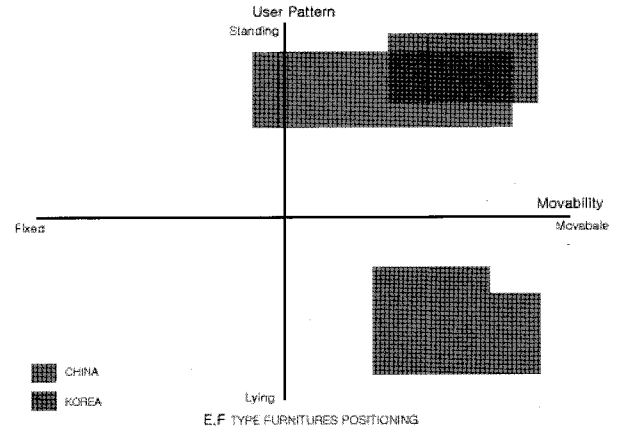


Fig 9 Positioning of TYPE. E and F

4 Conclusion

Even if, cultural and historical relationships of two countries, there is a different of traditional furniture's forms and types. The major differences are as following : Korean furniture is predominantly on the floor level with storing furniture while Chinese one is intermixed with seat-level and floor level styles.

These characters seem to be derived from their own housing and life style. In Ming and Qing period China, Their developed in which intermediate people and building. But, in Korea their housing style had floating floor against wet earth, which finished woods, *Ondol*³⁾. Because of these finishing, the Korean traditional furniture was developed into a good form and a suitable dimension for moving. These differences in furnishing style seemed to well reflect building and housing style of each country. And Image map and positioning map can show the differences in a whole aspect.

3) In China, ondol is named as 'Kang(炕)' that similar in principle to a Korean underfloor heating system. The name is derived from Chinese characters meaning "warm hollows." The Chinese historical record the Books of Old Tang makes reference to ondol, saying: "In winter Korean people made themselves warm by making long hollows and supplied fire in them."

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