

Subject: Comments on L2/19-230R (six hangul jamo letters)
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The invented jamo letters in L2/19-230R (<http://unicode.org/L2/L2019/19230r-six-hangul-letters.pdf>) are unsuitable for encoding.

Section 1: About the New (North) Korean Orthography

The *New (North) Korean Orthography* (조선어 신철자법)—the system which introduced those invented jamo letters—was short-lived (1948–1954; about six years) and is long-obsolete (abolished 65 years ago).

In addition,

- (1) there is no active user community that uses those invented jamo letters. If there is an active user community, it appears to consist of effectively one person.
- (2) according to the proposal itself, it was Kim Il-sung who canceled the *New (North) Korean Orthography*. Why do we need to care about something that was canceled by North Korea’s so-called “Great Leader”?

Section 2: Inadequate evidence

The proposal only provides evidence pertaining to the *New (North) Korean Orthography* itself. It does not provide any real evidence from ordinary text.

1. 조선어 신철자법 (“*New (North) Korean Orthography*”)

This is the orthography rule itself. This, of course, would use those invented jamo letters.

2. 조선어 문법 (“(North) Korean Grammar”)

3. Three articles from 조선어 연구 (“A Study on the (North) Korean Language”)

- (1) 새 자모에 대하여 (“About New Jamo Letters”)
- (2) 신철자법에 의하여 구별되는 동음이의어 (“Homophones Differentiated by the New Orthography”)
- (3) 조선어 철자법의 기초 (“Basics of the (North) Korean Orthography”)

These are a book and articles pertaining to the orthography above. These, of course, would use those invented jamo letters.

4. 최호철 (Choe Ho-chol), 북한 「조선말규범집」의 2010년 개정과 그 의미 (North Korea’s 2010 Revision of *Joseonmal Gyubeomjip* [Collection of Standards for the (North) Korean Language] and Its Significance)

Section 2 of this article explains the history of the Korean orthography in North Korea. Section 2.1 explains what the *New (North) Korean Orthography* was. This, of course, would use those invented jamo letters.

Furthermore, according to this article, the *New (North) Korean Orthography* did not gain widespread acceptance and those invented jamo letters were abolished in 1954.

2.1. 조선어 신철자법(1950): 형태주의 표기의 강화

2.1. *New (North) Korean Orthography* (1950): Stricter morphophonological principles

[...]

그런데 이 철자법은 6.25 동란으로 제대로 실시되지 못했기 때문에 전반적인 서사 생활은 실제로 1954년에 개정된 「조선어철자법」 이후부터 달라졌다고 할 수 있다.

But this orthography could not be implemented well due to the Korean War (1950–1953). The general writing practice became different after the *(North) Korean Orthography* which was revised in 1954.

[...]

2.2. 조선어 철자법(1954): 인위적이고 지나친 형태주의 표기 폐기

2.2. *(North) Korean Orthography* (1954): Abolition of artificial and excessive morphophonological principles

「조선어 철자법」에서 큰 변개는 이전의 새 자모 6개가 전면 폐기되고

The major changes in the *(North) Korean Orthography* are the abolition of the six new jamo letters

[...]

5. 이관규 (Lee Kwankyu), 조선어신철자법 (“*New (North) Korean Orthography*”), 한국민족문화대백과사전 (Encyclopedia of Korean Culture)

This is an encyclopedia article about the orthography above. This, of course, would use those invented jamo letters.

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