Korea in the World

The World Heritage

The World Heritage Programme was created by UNESCO's World Heritage Committee to identify, evaluate, and protect important cultural and natural sites on the behalf of all humankind. World Heritage Properties are divided into three classes: Cultural, Natural, and Mixed (both Cultural and Naturally). A World Heritage site includes a place where such valuable properties are located. Among the 13 Korean properties inscribed by UNESCO, 12 are Cultural and one is Natural.

The Korean World Heritage sites are mainly distributed in the central coastal area (Busan and Gyeongsangbuk-do) and Gangwon-do provinces. The former is famous for the capital city and the latter showcases the natural environment. A World Heritage site indicates a place where such valuable properties are located.

On the Cultural World Heritage list, there are 13 properties. Twelve of them are inscribed under Cultural Heritage, and one is Natural Heritage. Among these, twelve are inscribed under Cultural Heritage, and one is Natural Heritage. The former is still in keeping the past, while the latter shows the Confucian traditions of the Joseon Dynasty. The former’s cultural heritage such as rituals, music, and dance is still in practice, while the latter’s cultural heritage such as rituals, music, and dance is still in practice, while the latter’s cultural heritage is still kept in the Korean traditional culture. The former’s cultural heritage is still kept in the Korean traditional culture.

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The Korean Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity (KICHH) was established by the UNESCO in 1989. By 2016, 18 cases of the intangible cultural heritages have been recognized, particularly during the Chinese years: 2009 (2 cases), 2011 (6 cases) and 2015 (6 cases). A total of 20 cases: 22.2%:集成材料 or interrelated materials; 16.7%: 科学与技术 or scientific and technical materials; 16.7%: 音乐 or musical materials; 11.1%: 长期材料 or long-lasting materials; 11.1%: 文化表现形式 or artistic expression.

The Sites of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity and Memory of the World Heritage in Korea

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