

Hanji, Korea's Paper

1) 1966년까지만 해도, 세상에서 가장 오래된 인쇄물인 무구정관대다라니경이 대한민국 경주에 있는 불국사의 함 안에 있다는 것을 그 누구도 알지 못했다.

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Experts around the world were shocked that a document printed more than 1,200 years ago could still be around. They were even more surprised when the paper was removed from the container. Although the document was printed before 751 CE, it was still in perfect condition.

2) 이 발견은 일본과 중국의 제지 기술보다 통일 신라 시대(676년~935년)의 제지 기술이 더욱 뛰어났었다는 것을 증명했는데, 일본과 중국 또한 높은 수준으로 발달된 제지 기술을 보유하고 있었다.

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How could this paper last for more than 1,000 years without breaking down or becoming damaged? The secret lies in hanji's amazing physical properties.

Hanji is traditionally made from the bark of the mulberry tree. Through a number of complex processes, the tree bark is made into a paper that is very durable and hard to tear. On the other hand, Western paper, which is made from pulp, begins to fall apart and becomes unusable after 100 years.

3) 왜 한국인들이 한지에 대해 “비단은 오백 년을 가고, 종이는 천 년을 간다.”는 옛말을 만들었는지는 이해하기 쉽다.

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4) 긴 시간 지속되는 것 이외에도 한지는 열과 소리를 잘 보존하지만 공기는 쉽게 통과시킨다.

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The paper also absorbs water and ink very well, so there is no bleeding.

5) 한지의 특징 때문에, 한국인들은 일찍부터 한지가 그 위에 글을 쓰는 용도 이상의 것이라는 걸 알 수 있었다.

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Since ancient times, they have glued this paper to the walls, door frames, and floors of their homes. Koreans have also used it to make furniture, lanterns, wedding accessories, and boxes. Due to its durability, hanji was even used in battle. Back then, people would put many layers of hanji together to make suits of armor.

6) 지갑이라고 불리는 이 갑옷은 화살을 막을 수 있을 정도로 충분히 단단했다.

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With so many uses, hanji is naturally considered an invaluable part of Korean history and culture.

7) 비록 현대화의 물결로 사람들이 한지의 우수한 특징들을 잊은 듯했으나, 한지는 지속되어 왔고 오늘날에도 유의미하게 남아 있다.

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In recent years, finding even more functions and purposes for hanji has become a trend.

Lately, designers have been using hanji to make clothes, socks, and ties. The fabric these designers are using is a blend of hanji yarn with cotton or silk. This blend is almost weightless and keeps its shape better than other materials. It is also washable and eco-friendly.

8) 한지로 만든 옷은 실용적일 뿐 아니라, 국내외 패션쇼에서 파장을 일으키고 있다.

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It seems that hanji clothing is here to stay.

9) 한지의 최신 용도들 중 하나는 귀를 즐겁게 하는 것이다.

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Customers can now buy speakers that use vibration plates and outside panels made of hanji. Compared to regular speakers, the sound that comes from hanji speakers is stronger and sharper. The paper's thickness and ability to absorb sound help the speakers pick up the smallest vibrations.

10) 게다가, 한지의 내구성 덕분에 시간이 흘러도 소리가 변하지 않을 것이라는 사실은 이 스피커를 훌륭한 구매품이 되게 한다.

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Serious music lovers will really be able to appreciate the great sound quality of these speakers.

11) 그리고 지금, 가장 혁신적인 용도들 중 하나로, 한지는 곧 우주 공간으로 여행을 떠날지도 모른다.


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Korea and the U.S. are planning to use hanji on robots and spacecraft through a joint project supported by NASA. The paper has special properties that will help protect spacecraft from the harmful rays of the sun. Scientists hope to use hanji in the future for space probes since it is less expensive and lighter than the currently used materials.

As you can see, people keep transforming hanji for countless uses. Its ability to adapt to the needs of every generation has led to the revival of this traditional paper.

12) 한지가 계속해서 소중한 여겨지는 한, 미래에 한지가 어떻게 사용될 것인가에 대한 한계는 없을지도 모르겠다.

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◇「콘텐츠산업 진흥법 시행령」제33조에 의한 표시

1) 제작연월일 : 2018년 06월 12일

2) 제작자 : 교육지대㈜

3) 이 콘텐츠는 「콘텐츠산업 진흥법」에 따라 최초 제작일부터 5년간 보호됩니다.

◇「콘텐츠산업 진흥법」외에도「저작권법」에 의하여 보호되는 콘텐츠의 경우, 그 콘텐츠의 전부 또는 일부를 무단으로 복제하거나 전송하는 것은 콘텐츠산업 진흥법 외에도 저작권법에 의한 법적 책임을 질 수 있습니다.

정답

- 1) [정답] Until 1966, no one knew that the Mugujeonggwang Daedaranigyeong, the world's oldest printed document, lay inside a container at Bulguksa Temple in Gyeongju, Korea.
- 2) [정답] This discovery proved that the paper-making technology of the Unified Silla Kingdom era (676-935) was more advanced than that of either Japan or China, both of which also had highly developed paper-making technology.
- 3) [정답] It's easy to understand why Koreans created the old saying about hanji: "Paper lasts a thousand years, while silk endures five hundred."
- 4) [정답] In addition to lasting a long time, hanji keeps heat and sound in but allows air to flow through it easily.
- 5) [정답] Because of hanji's characteristics, Koreans could see early on that it was more than just something to write on.
- 6) [정답] This armor, called jigap, was tough enough to stop arrows.
- 7) [정답] Though the tide of modernization seems to have made people forget about this paper's outstanding qualities, hanji has endured and remains relevant today.
- 8) [정답] Not only is hanji clothing practical, but it's also making waves at domestic and international fashion shows.
- 9) [정답] One of hanji's newest uses is a treat for the ears.

- 10) [정답] In addition, the fact that the sound will not change over time because of the strength of hanji makes these speakers a great purchase.
- 11) [정답] And now, in one of its most innovative uses yet, hanji may soon be traveling into outer space.
- 12) [정답] So long as hanji continues to be treasured, there may be no limit to how it will be enjoyed in the future.