

 **국립국어원**  
National Institute of  
Korean Language



국립국어원

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF  
THE KOREAN LANGUAGE





## Self-reliance

"The language of this country is different from that of China and therefore it is impossible to communicate by means of Chinese characters." As stated in the first verse of the preface of *Hunmin jeongeum*, a theoretical explanation of *Hangeul*, the Korean alphabet, King Sejong the Great created *Hangeul* so that the Korean people would not have to depend on Chinese characters to communicate. His initiative demonstrated a spirit of self-reliance often attributed to Koreans.

## Compassion

"Therefore, there are many among the ignorant people who are unable to express themselves even though they have something they want to say." King Sejong the Great regarded the people as the core of the nation and created the alphabet out of compassion for them, seeking to address their difficulties with communication.

## Practical Value

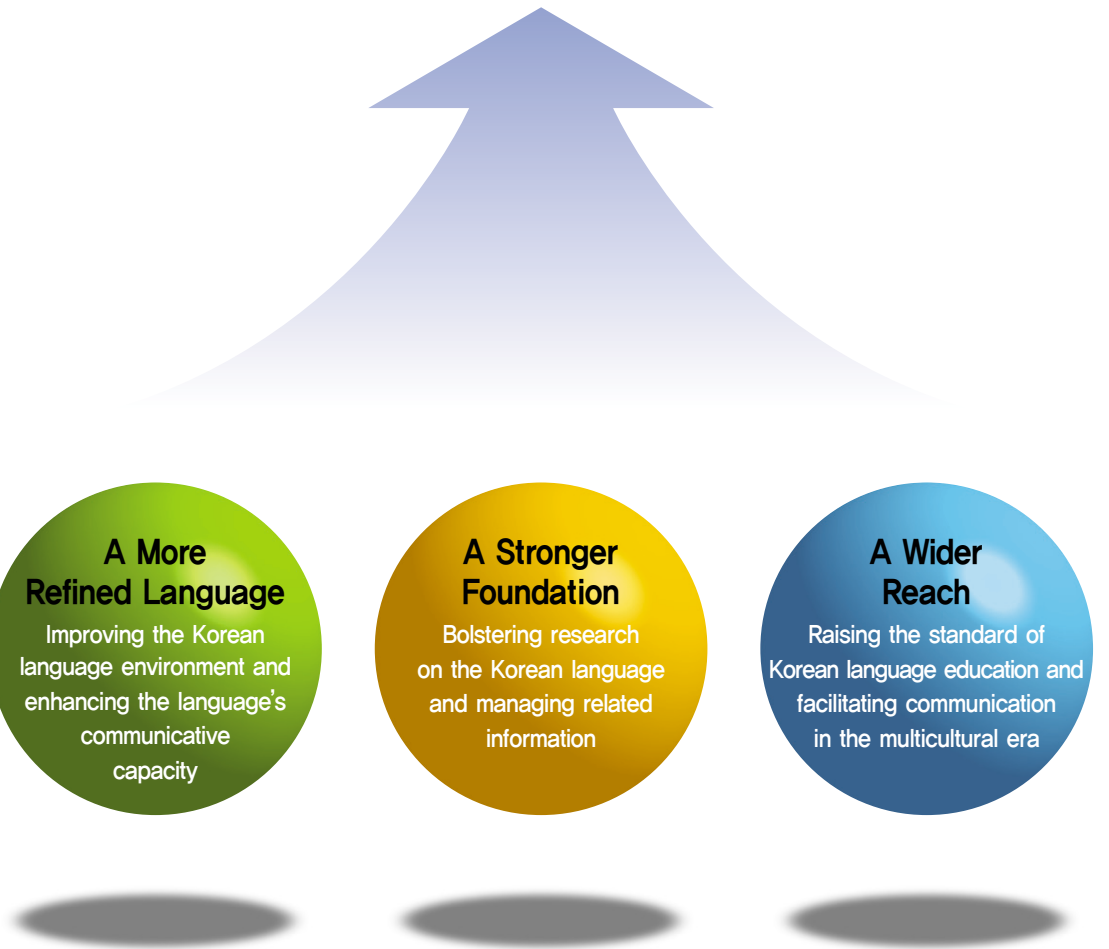
"Feeling sorry for this, I have newly made twenty-eight letters, only wishing that our people learn them with ease and use them conveniently in their daily life." Easy and convenient for anyone to use, *Han-geul* is serving to promote mutual understanding and unity among people from different generations, regions, genders and classes. On top of this, it is being embraced by an increasing number of people across the globe.

By adopting the use of plain and correct Korean, we can grow in unity and mutual understanding. The National Institute of the Korean Language will be there every step of the way.





## Plain and Correct Korean in the Interest of Social Cohesion and Mutual Understanding





# Improving the Korean language environment and enhancing the language's communicative capacity

## Improving Public Language

Too much jargon and foreign vocabulary is used indiscriminately in the public sector, making it hard for many people to understand what is being discussed. To address this problem, the National Institute of the Korean Language (NIKL) is encouraging public institutions to take initiative to launch campaigns to promote the use of plain language. We are also providing support for the spread of this government-led movement into the private sector and provincial areas as well.

- Refining the Korean Language Together <http://malteo.korean.go.kr>

## Refining the Korean Language

With assistance from the NIKL, many Korean language organizations and language appreciation clubs are waging campaigns to improve people's language practices and awareness, thereby helping to preserve the integrity of Korean.

## The Korean Language Culture Academy

For those with a particular interest in Korean, including public servants, publishers, journalists and other ordinary citizens, and for teachers as well, we offer specialized Korean language education programs at the Korean Language Culture Academy. We are also operating the Visiting Korean Language Culture Academy and the Online Korean Language Culture Academy.

- The Korean Language Culture Academy <http://edu.korean.go.kr>



## Korean Language Information Services

Utilizing various channels, the NIKL provides the public with services to help them use sounder and more refined language. We provide public agencies and other organizations with information to promote accurate usage of Korean.

### —Korean Language Call Center

- Canada Call Tel) 1599-9979
- Online Help with Korean Language Usage <http://www.korean.go.kr>

### —SNS Assistance

- Kakaotalk YellowID <https://yellowid.kakao.com>
- Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/urimal365>

## Assistance for Correct Language Usage on the Internet and in Broadcasting

The NIKL is spearheading efforts to refine the language used on the Internet and in broadcasting, two platforms with high potential for language diffusion. In addition, we are working to help improve young people's language practices, which often involve swear words, vulgar terms and slang, and promoting the development and dissemination of a new kind of language etiquette that emphasizes respect and consideration for other people. Through all of these efforts, the NIKL is working to improve the environment for communication in our society.

- Resources on Korean Language Usage in the Public Sector <http://www.korean.go.kr/publang>

## Linguistic Empowerment for the Marginalized

The NIKL is committed to improving the language environment for sign language and braille. We are also working to develop learning materials on standardized language usage for North Korean defectors and to teach them accordingly. For children from low-income families, we are publishing learning material and dispatching instructors for them.





# Strengthening analysis and research on the Korean language and systematizing language-related information

## A Stronger Foundation

Bolstering research on the Korean language and managing related information

### Developing Urimalsaem, an Online Dictionary Made with Public Participation

The NIKL is developing an extensive online Korean dictionary, targeted to launch in 2016, that will feature newly coined terms, colloquial words and jargon. It will be useful to many people in various fields. Keywords related to a search term will be displayed as on a map, and diverse multimedia content, including pictures, illustrations and video clips, will be provided. The dictionary will also include a learner's basic Korean dictionary for non-Korean speakers and a multilingual dictionary function.

### Expanding Standardization

The NIKL is continuing its work to expand the standard language to include new terms that have come into general use. We are also revising language rules and establishing standardized guidelines for refining loanwords. On top of this, we are working to standardize terminologies used in various fields and systematizing management of Korean language resources.

### Research on Korean Language Environments

The NIKL conducts surveys on the environments where Korean is used, targeting various people in different age groups and occupations.

### Research on Domestic and International Language Policies and Academic Exchanges

The NIKL is researching pending issues in national language policies at home and abroad and conducting statistical surveys. We are also striving to enhance exchanges with the world's leading language policy institutes and conducting research on the North Korean language for the linguistic integration of the two Koreas.

### Sociolinguistic Survey and Research on Dialects

A dialect shows the unique characteristics of language usage in a specific region. The NIKL conducts nationwide research on dialects and makes such findings available by region. In addition, we research characteristics of social languages used by people from different generations, classes and genders.



# Leading the Way in Korean Language Education and Communication for the Multicultural Era

A Wider Reach

Raising the standard of Korean language education and facilitating communication in the multicultural era

## Basic Research on Korean Language Education

The NIKL conducts basic research that seeks to expand the depth and breadth of Korean language education. This research has diverse applications ranging from development of educational curriculum to development and evaluation of teaching materials. Findings are also used in the production and dissemination of online Korean language courses and broadcast programs.

## Development of Customized Educational Materials

As Korea gains greater international visibility, more foreigners are taking an interest in learning the Korean language. In line with the needs of such learners, the NIKL creates and disseminates customized learning materials, online Korean language courses and broadcast programs, in addition to developing a variety of guides for Korean language educators.

## Strengthening the Expertise of Korean Language Educators

The NIKL provides certification as well as various kinds of professional instruction for Korean language educators. We are also working to develop a variety of specialized training programs.

## Standardization of Translations for the Public Sector

It has become common in Korea's public sector to use foreign terms instead of their translations, and this has made it harder for people to understand and respond to government policies. By standardizing translations within the public sector, the NIKL seeks to minimize the misunderstandings that can result from translation and to foster a society where people can communicate better and come together.



## Production of Publications

We produce various regular publications that compile and introduce educational resources as well as scholarly research on the Korean language. Our aim is to inspire in new ways as we look to a brighter future for both the written and spoken forms of Korean.

- *Saegugeosaenghwal* (The New Korean Language Life) a quarterly journal that provides simple introductions to important topics relating to Korean language usage
- *Gugeo yeongam* (The Korean Language Almanac) an yearly report that compiles research findings on the Korean language and provides information on current trends and the activities of various related organizations
- *Swimpyo, Machimpyo* (Comma, Period) an online newsletter that provides a variety of educational resources on the Korean language

## Promotion of Communication for the Multicultural Era

With growing numbers of marriage migrants and foreign laborers, Korean society is becoming increasingly multicultural. We are working to strengthen education programs on the Korean language and culture as a means to facilitate communication among all who make up today's multicultural Korea.







## The National Institute's Resources at a Glance

Homepage <http://www.korean.go.kr>

- *Pyojun-gugeodaesajeon* (Standard Korean Language Dictionary) <http://stdweb2.korean.go.kr>
- Online Korean Language Culture Academy <http://edu.korean.go.kr>
- Korean Language Information Exchange Website <http://ithub.korean.go.kr>
- Resources on Korean Language Usage in the Public Sector <http://www.korean.go.kr/publang>
- Refining the Korean Language Together <http://malteo.korean.go.kr>
- Certification for Korean Language Educators <http://kteacher.korean.go.kr>

### Korean Language Call Center (Ganada Call)

Answers to questions about the Korean language, including grammar rules and more

- Hours of Operation Weekdays (Monday–Friday), 09:00–18:00
- Tel) 1599–9979

### SNS Assistance

- Kakaotalk YellowID <https://yellowid.kakao.com/@우리말365>
- Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/urimal365>

Online Newsletter *Swimpyo, machimpyo* (Comma, Period) <http://www.urimal365.kr>

Korean Language Culture Academy <http://edu.korean.go.kr>

- Tel) (02)2669–9729, 9752, 9662

Center for Teaching and Learning Korean <http://kcenter.korean.go.kr>



“Where words rise,  
a nation rises.  
Where words fall,  
so falls the nation.”

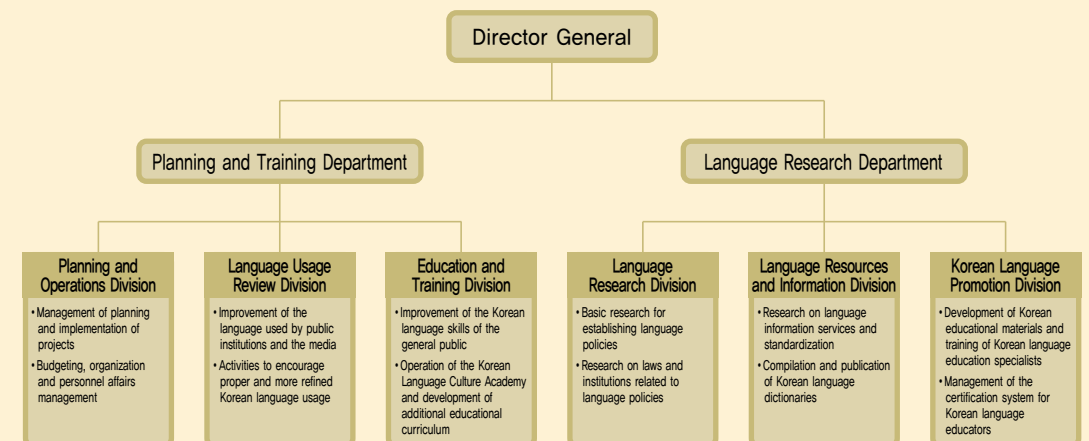
〈Hanhinsaem Ju Si-gyeong〉



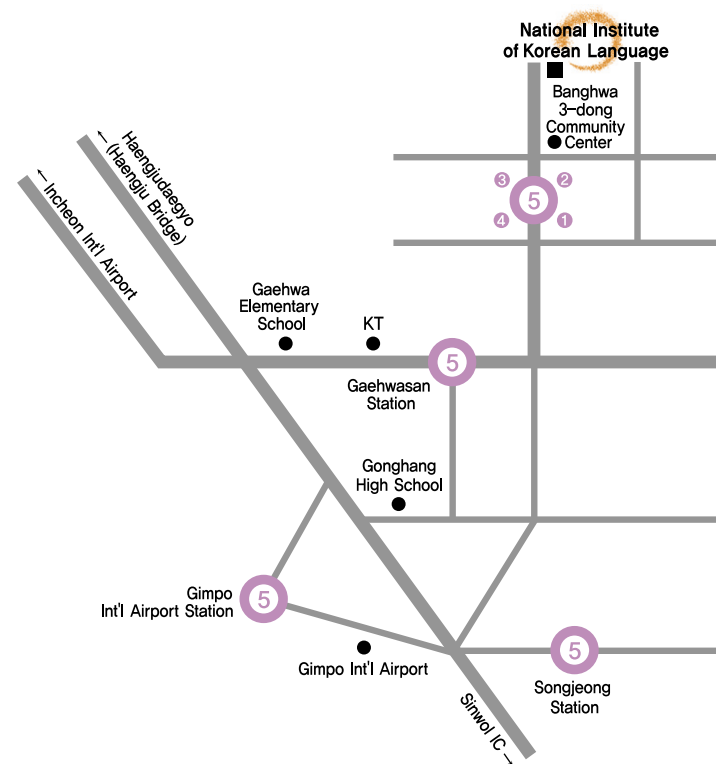
## History

- 2014. 2. 17. The National Institute of the Korean Language is reorganized and duties reallocated to improve efficiency following an organization-wide assessment, resulting in the creation of two departments and six divisions.
- 2010. 3. 22. The Korean Language Call Center(1599-9979) is established.
- 2008. 10. 8. Online services for the Standard Korean Language Dictionary are launched.
- 2005. 1. 27. The Framework Act on the National Language(Law No. 7368) is passed and announced.
- 2004.11.11. The National Research Institute of the Korean Language is renamed the National Institute of the Korean Language (Presidential Decree No. 18588)
- 1999. 10.-11. The Standard Korean Language Dictionary is published in three volumes.
- 1994. 5. 4. The National Research Institute's three research departments are renamed in accordance with the reorganization of the Ministry of Culture and affiliate organizations (Presidential Decree No. 14249) to become the Department of Language Standardization Research, the Department of Descriptive Linguistic Research and the Department of Bibliographical and Pedagogical Research and Public Relations.
- 1992. 1. 1. Compilation of the Pyojun-gugeodaesajeon (Standard Korean Language Dictionary) commences.
- 1991. 1. 23. The National Research Institute of the Korean Language opens in Unni-dong, Jongno-gu, Seoul.
- 1988. 1. 19. Ministry of Education Proclamation No. 88-1 on Hangeul spelling rules and Proclamation No. 88-2 on standard language rules are announced.
- 1986. 1. 7. Ministry of Education Proclamation No. 85-11 on transcription rules for loanwords is announced.
- 1984. 5. 10. The Research Institute of the Korean Language opens in Anguk-dong, Jongno-gu, Seoul as an affiliate of the National Academy of Sciences.
- 1984. 1. 13. Ministry of Education Proclamation No. 84-1 on rules for Romanization of Korean words is announced.

## Organization



Location



• By Subway

Get off at Banghwa Station, a terminal station of subway line 5.  
Take exit 2 and walk toward the Institute(approximately 6 minutes).

• By Bus

Get off at the Banghwa 3-dong Community Center stop.  
– Blue Bus : 642, 651, 672  
– Green Bus : 6629, 6641, 6646, 6712  
– Village Bus : Gangseo07



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