

**LESSON PLAN #3 SHEET- SECONDARY****Teacher:** Ms. Hong Zhu**Subject:** Korea Lunar New Year**Grade Level:** I, II**Purpose:** By learning how Korean people celebrate Lunar New Year, let students to knowledge more cultural figure about Korea.

1. How to say Lunar New Year and some common greetings in Korea?
2. What do Korean people prepare for the Lunar New Year?
3. What do Korean do in the Lunar New Year's Day?
4. What do people do for fun in the Lunar New Year?
5. What to eat on New Year period?
6. Some things that people cannot be without on New Year

**Rationale:** Korean Lunar New Year is the most important holidays in Korea like in China, through the teaching on this traditional festival, students will have deep knowledge about Korea.**Materials:** chart of altar offering, yut game sticks, flashcards, scissors, glue

- Activities:**
1. To teach first how to say Lunar New Year and some common greetings in Korean, lead students to practice each other. Tell them today is Korean Day, they'd better to greet each other in Korean.
  2. To explain what do Korean people do, eat and have fun during the New Year's Day. To lead students to make a chart of altar offering
  3. To organize student to play yut game, which is traditional fun for Korean people

**Assignment:** 1. Words writing on common greetings, wishes and activities.

## 1. How to say Lunar New Year and some common greetings in Korea?

The New Year's greeting is "say hay boke-mahn he pah du say oh".



"say hay" means 'New Year', "boke" means 'blessings,' "mahn he" means 'a lot' and "pah du say oh," 'please receive'. This sentence literally means "Please receive many New Year's blessings" "Many New Year's blessings to you!"

"Sebe" is the first greeting to the elders of the year.

## 2. What do Korean people prepare for the Lunar New Year?

New Year's Day is called "seol" or "seol ral" It is a very important holiday. "seol" means 'to be careful', and some says that it means sadness. "Sut dal kum mum" is New Year's Eve in Korean and on that night nobody is supposed to sleep. It's the so called "je yah." There was a belief that if someone slept on that night, the eyebrows would turn white. That was the reason why the light was on at every room, and even in the kitchen. This was done to receive the brand New Year's Day with awoken eyes and brightness. During the New Year's Eve day, people perform an overall cleaning, brushing off old dust. At the evening the heat water and take a bath. They also burn bamboo sticks to cast off every single house demon. They thought that with the sound of the exploding bamboo's knots, the demons would get scared and run away. At night, as a sign of appreciation, people greet the family's elders and if there is a "sadang" at home they present an offering there. It's the ceremony of the last day of the year.

### 3. What do Korean do in the Lunar New Year's Day?

What are the common factors in Korean holidays? That is the offering to ancestors: these offerings in holidays are called "chare" because it is served with liquors and teas. New Year's Day is not an exception. Women get busy preparing the food from the previous day. They make "ttok," "garettok," fried meats. They buy fruits, clean the fishes and so on. They spend almost the entire day in the preparations. Nowadays even the dumplings are made at home. The food prepared the day before is placed on the altar. The difference is that instead of rice, as in any other "chesa," on "seolnal," "ttokuk" is on the offering table.

Very early in the morning of "seolnal", Korean people take a bath and put the "solbim" on. Solbim are new clothes, prepared to wear on seolnal. Usually it is the traditional custom. Family members drink a glass of "gui balju sool," which is liquor that is believed to clarify the hearing. They say these liquors enable one to hear clearly all year long. Then comes the rite of offering to ancestors. The room must be spotless cleaned first, then a screen and a table altar are placed in the room. On that table several foods are presented. The place of the foods has a certain order.

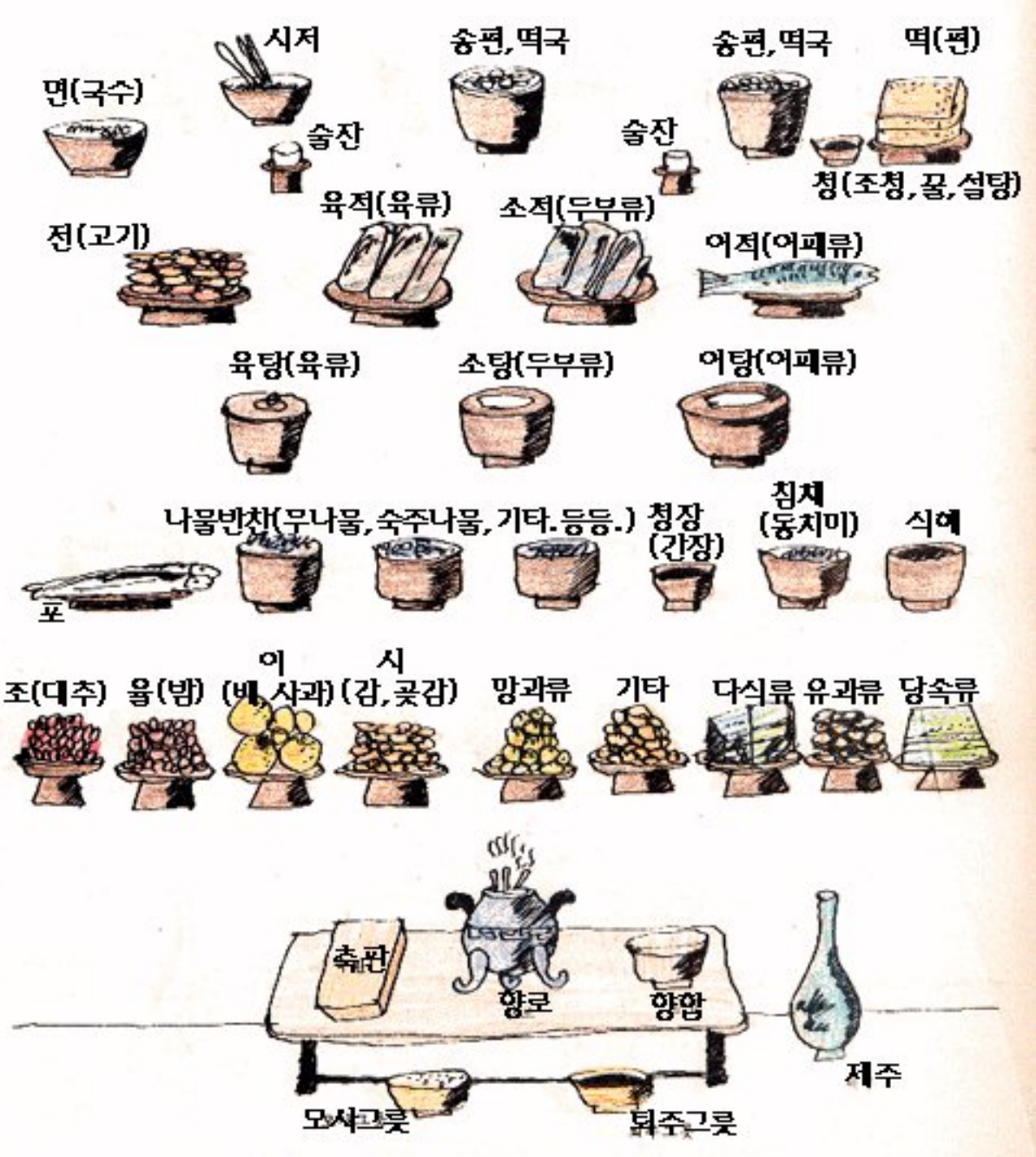
Jwa po woo rye: On the left jerked meat. On the right rice drink

Doo dong mi seo: East: head. West: tail

Hong dong bek seo: East: red color. West: white color.

"Chi bang" is the paper where the names of ancestors are. At the left men's name and at the right, women's names. Written vertically from left to right the order is: great great grand parents, great grand parents, grand parents, parents.

Table of altar offering



When offerings to ancestors, transparent liquor is served and peaches are not included among the fruits offered. Fishes with the name ending in “chi” like kong chi, kal chi are not used. Vegetables may include ko sari etc. The broth is made of mussels, shrimp and pulp or squid fish. Jerky can be both of fish or beef.

The above-mentioned rules are commonly observed, but people tend to serve what the deceased liked most while they were alive. The deceased ancestors must be well nourished so they have enough energy to give many blessings to their descendants.

### **Method of Chesa (Chare)**

1. Oel mo shim: After placing the altar table, at the right time, as a sign to request the spirit to lie down upon them, the head of the ceremony lights the incense, and pours some liquor in the glass, then pours it in the bowl with sand. Later on he bows twice in front of it.
2. Il dong be rye: As a signal that the ceremony is commencing all the participants bow twice.
3. Offering of the first drink: The head of the family steps forward, kneels down on his left knee and awaits the reading of chuk mun.
4. Chuk mun reading: The person who reads the chuk mun kneels down on the left side of the head of the family. After he finished reading, everybody bows twice.
5. Offering of the next drink: The next person who offers the liquor steps forward, empties it on the teoju bowl and pours liquor, offers it and bows twice.
6. Offering of the final drink: The person who offers the third drink steps forward, drops the second drink on the teoju bowl, serves the third drink and bows twice.
7. More drink: The head of the ceremony steps forward and pours in the last glass three times and beats slightly so the liquor overflows it.
8. Putting a spoon in the rice: The lord of the ceremony opens the cap of the rice bowl and places a spoon east bound. As a signal to request the dead ancestor to receive the offering, everybody prays lowering their heads a little bit.
9. “Soong nyoong” offering: The bowl of broth is lowered and “soong nyoong” is served and 3 spoonfuls are placed in the “soong nyoog” bowl.
10. General bow: As a sign of ending the ceremony everybody bows twice.
11. Receiving of blessing: The lord of the ceremony eats a piece of meat and drinks a liquor
12. Removing the offering table: At the end, food is shared and the list of names and chukmoon are burned.

After “chare” is over, “sebe” takes place, which is the first greeting to the elders of the year. Later the family has breakfast with the food from the offering table and visits elder relatives and neighbors. The people who receive these greetings prepare a table of foods. Food and liquors are served to adults and children are given candies or money and the best wished of everybody. The reason why they give money to the children is to teach them to save money. In the past it was to buy eggs and grow chickens, sell them and buy a calf. When the calf would grow to be a cow you would sell it later to buy lands to cultivate. After that people visit the tombs of their ancestors.

#### **4. What do people do for fun in the Lunar New Year?**

Kite flying, yut game, snow sliding, etc. are the usual entertainment. However, yut game is probably the most popular among them. Yut is one of the traditional Korean games that can be played anywhere. It’s especially popular on New Year’s Day. It is customary to play this game from New Year’s day until January 15, called Daeborum.

How to play Yut game?

One can find the following names: do, gye, geol, yut and mo. “Do” means ‘pig,’ “gye” means ‘dog,’ “geol” means ‘sheep,’ “yut” means ‘cow,’ “mo” ‘horse.’ That is how the weight and the pace of those animals are reflected in this yut game. Regarding the weight we can observe that a sheep is bigger than a dog, a cow bigger than a sheep and a horse bigger than a cow. One step of a horse is equivalent to five steps of a pig.

Yut game has 4 sticks. When they are thrown in the air and they fall down turning up and down it’s like a big wrestling game scene. The flat part is the rear one. The curved part with the drawing is the front. Even when the sticks are on the surface because of this curved front one never knows what will happen. This thrill and the tensions are the fun of the game.

If one of the sticks is upside down it is called Do(pig). If two sticks are upside down: gye(dog). Three sticks, geol(sheep).

If all of them are upside down: yut(cow). If all four are upside, it’s called Mo(horse)

Do will advance 1 space, gye 2 spaces, geol 3 spaces, yut 4 spaces and mo 5 spaces

#### **5. What to eat on New Year period?**

There is a lot to eat on Korean holidays. If you are on a diet, it will be very difficult to avoid the temptation to all the delicious dishes. Ttok, meat fritters, dried

persimmons, a variety of, walnut, dates, vegetables, traditional cookies, etc. Really exquisite foods. The most representative dish for New Year's Day is ttokkuk.

## 6. Some things that Koreans cannot be without on New Year

### a) Bok Jo ri:

Literally it is a strainer("jori") that brings blessings. It is a tool used to clean the rice from small stones or straw particles. People used to buy bok jo ri very early in the morning of New Year's day and hang it up on the wall. It is to pick up happiness in the New Year as one does with rice grains. In the past street vendors of this product were yelling, announcing the bok jo ri. The person who first hears his voice calls him. The house owner should not go out of the front door. The vendor comes in and then they buy the bok jo ri the earlier the better since they will receive more blessings. The vendor must have been considered a person who brings blessings. Nowadays, it is difficult to find "bok jo ri" in Korea. It's a pity that on "seolnal" they cannot hear the voice of "bok jo ri" vendors, they just buy them at stores.

### b) The story of Yakwanggy

As part of the customs of seolnal, there is a story of Yakwanggy. Yakwanggy is coming to the human world on the night of seolnal after some wandering comes to people's homes. If he finds shoes that fit in his feet, he will take them and run away. If one loses the shoes this way, it means bad luck for all that year. That is the reason adults and children take all their shoes and put inside the houses and at the attic. So the Yakwanggy will not take them away. There is good remedy to cast off the Yakwanggy. Turn off the light and keep the shoes inside and hang up a sift at the wall of the internal pation or above the landry rope. Yakwanggy will look for the shoes and he will discover the sift. "What's that? What is it? Why does it have so many eyes?" He thinks that the holes are eyes. "Wow! So many eyes( holes). I don't know how many they are. All right. Let's count them. Let's see how many they are." Yakwanggy starts counting and soon he forgets the number and starts all over again and again. He forgets about stealing shoes and keeps counting the entire night. A dawn when the birds sing he runs away. This is a story to send the children to bed early on Seolnal since they must be very tired with no sleep from the eve of New Year's day.

Some information for the students:

[www.lifeinkorea.com/culture/newyear/newyear.cfm](http://www.lifeinkorea.com/culture/newyear/newyear.cfm)

[www.topics-mag.com/internatl/holidays/newyear-korea.htm](http://www.topics-mag.com/internatl/holidays/newyear-korea.htm)

Some useful materials for the teachers:

[www.bootsnall.com/asiatravelguides/seoul/dec01seoul.shtml](http://www.bootsnall.com/asiatravelguides/seoul/dec01seoul.shtml)