

THE TURTLE TRAIL

Indo-Korean ties from antiquity to the contemporary: a new perspective.



InKo Centre is delighted to initiate a project in association with the Academy of Korean Studies, Korea with support from The Korean Cultural Centre, New Delhi, that brings together researchers to examine the deep-rooted links between Korea and India, both the ancient trajectories as well as the modern manifestations of what is a significant ongoing intercultural dialogue Titled *The Turtle Trail - Indo-Korean ties from antiquity to the contemporary: a new perspective*, the project aims to include the historical, linguistic, religious, trade, commercial as well as cultural links between India and Korea, with a particular focus on southern South Korea (particularly the Gaya kingdom, current day Gimhae region) and Southern India (particularly the ancient Ai kingdom, current day region stretching from Kanyakumari to Trivandrum).

This project aims, through rigorous research, to position the southern sea route from India to Korea as the genesis of a relationship that starting in circa 48 CE - with the marriage of the legendary Princess Heo Hwang-ok to King Suro of the Gaya kingdom - continued to manifest itself across time and over myriad forms and routes of interaction.

The project will include approximately 12 researchers from Korea, India, Malaysia and Canada. Researchers will be working in 6 groups, based on the focus of their current research.

The research groups will broadly cover the following sectors:

1. Historical links
2. Language and linguistics
3. Buddhist links
4. Anthropological and Cultural links
5. Maritime and trade links
6. Contemporary links- commercial / political / socio-economic ties between Korea and India.

A workshop will be held in Chennai from **7 to 9 February 2018** with all researchers invited to share their research findings. Specific group and inter-group discussions will be held during the 3-day workshop to draw up a draft plan for further research and due publication.

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