Korea Education Systems

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Introduction

Korea

- In the east Asia, between China and Japan
- GNP ranked 49th and GNI ranked 11th
- Having much interest in higher education
**Hierarchical Structure**

- Elementary School: 6 years, Mandatory
- Middle School: 3 years, Mandatory
- High School: 3 years, Optional
- Community College: 2 years, Optional
- University: 4 years, Optional

Approximately, 73 ~ 74% high school students pursue higher education, entering Community College or University.
Nowadays, many of Korean pursue higher education: Master, MBA, and PH.D. degrees from all over the world.
Nowadays, many schools in Korea try to benchmark U.S. education systems: introducing MBA and Law School, trying to quarter, and giving an admission in fall semesters.
Korean History

Before 1900’s, many of Korean social systems are influenced by China.

Before the end of 2nd world war, many of social systems are influence by Japan.

After the 2nd world war, many of social systems influenced by U.S.
History

Education Systems

Before 1900, influenced by China
Before 1970, influenced by Japan
After 1970, influenced by U.S.

Education

contributes much to economic growth.
is directly linked to social status.
has many problems.
Present Condition

1) Most of Koreans seek higher education.

2) The competition for entering top school is intense.
   From elementary school to high school, everything is focused on entering top university.

3) Korean government has made many schools.
   Approximately, more than 70 percent of Korean goes into university.

4) There are limited numbers of suitable jobs.
   Big Social Problem
Number of Universities in Korea from 1965 to 2002
Present Condition

Number of Undergraduates in Korea from 1965 to 2002
Characteristics

Expanding to Life Long Education

Cyber University
Open University

Globalization

Study abroad, especially in the U.S.
English is important.

University Entrance

Too much focus on SAT score
Big Social Problem
Characteristics

Korea vs. Japan

**Common Feature**
- giving much value in undergraduate education
- having similar social issues, school hierarchy

**Difference**
- Japanese universities have much more independent academic culture from U.S.
- Korean universities more depend on U.S.
### Characteristics

**In case of Nuclear Science and Engineering related department**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>University of Tokyo</strong></th>
<th><strong>Seoul National University</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name of dept.</td>
<td>Quantum Engineering and Systems Science</td>
<td>Nuclear Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of faculties</td>
<td>17 (all of them got an BS in University of Tokyo)</td>
<td>15 (all of them got an BS in Seoul National University)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of faculties who got a PH.D. in US</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of faculties who got a PH.D.</td>
<td>16 In Japan</td>
<td>1 In Korea</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*University of Tokyo* stands for Japanese University.

*Seoul National University* stands for Korean University.
Characteristics

National University

Private Schools
Conclusion

More US styles
- Introducing MBA and Law schools
- More students study in U.S.

Equity
- Among the Schools
- Among the Regions

Social Problem
- Private Education
- Students avoid Science and Engineering