

The Characteristics of the Cultural Tourism Resources Distribution along the Nakdong River Basin

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Many various kinds of tourism resources have been distributed along the Nakdong river basin. Previous researches have focused mainly on environmental studies, including water quality control, industrial use of water, biodiversity, etc, with little research done in the field of tourism studies. Central to this study, therefore, is the identification and analysis, from the perspective of cultural tourism, of the area's distribution and characteristics of cultural properties registered by the MOCT. Review of related literature reveals : 1) spatial range bound with the jurisdiction of the river basin like DREO and NRBE0 ; 2) analytical subjects limited to cultural properties designated by the three different administrative units of government, city and province. Along with the DREO's predominance over the NRBE0 in the total number of cultural properties, the result finds that two cities, Andong and Gyeongju of Gyeongbuk are assigned ownership of most of the cultural properties under the jurisdiction of DREO, while Gyeongnam that of most of the ones under the NRBE0. However, those findings suggest the simple number of cultural properties with no significant level of importance and rarity value reflected. Therefore, future studies need to develop quantified modelling keeping cultural variables in mind and create cultural indices of the competitiveness of the local governments.

Key words : NRBE0, DREO, Cultural properties, Cultural index

1. Introduction

The Nakdong river, which has its origin in the Taebaek mountains in Gangwon Province, is well-known as the cradle of the great ancient Gaya and Shilla civilizations. A rich architectural, historical and cultural heritage well distributed and well preserved along the riverside. According to the 4th national land planning(2001-2020) that projects a big picture of a comprehensive national development vision for the first twenty years of the 21 century, the nation divides into seven cultural tourism zones according to a region's distinct cultural characteristics and tourism resources. Each zone is assigned a specialized theme, led by its own development strategy with regional uniqueness

in mind. The prime objective of the development of the Nakdong river basin is to make it function as a growth-pole for the conservation of traditional culture in the northern Yeongnam region and as world-class marine tourist cities in the southern regions that will promote regional economic development along the basin¹⁾, with more emphasis placed on activating a travel and tourism industry. The basin thus will play an important role as a balanced axis of national land development. In this context, the tourism resources of the basin should be carefully managed with its importance²⁾ under consideration. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to investigate the distributed characteristics of the cultural tourism resources in the Nakdong river basin.

2. Methods

2.1. Research method

The importance of the contents and survey

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methods introduced to accomplish the purpose of this study are: 1) a review of related literature³⁻⁷⁾ in order to set up the spatial range of study, whose results show that the physical range and naming of the basin have been not only obscurely defined but spelled differently and even wrongfully used in other fields of studies. Thus, a clear definition of the basin is absolutely required to make progress in regional development, to enhance efficiency of local government in this age of decentralization, as well as to build a cultural tourism network nationwide. ; 2) the geographical distribution of the cultural properties registered by the MOCT(Ministry of Culture and Tourism) whose characteristics are analyzed within the context of cultural tourism of property-oriented heritage⁶⁾.

A secondary data analysis has been employed to gain the above contents of this study with the data used and collected from the local governments of the basin areas, the ministry of culture and tourism, and the ministry of environment⁸⁾. Field trips and telephone interviews to relevant and interested persons were carried out side-by-side to validate additional data from web and related publications.

2.2. Spatial range of the basin areas

A related literature review has found no unified and clear range of the basin areas. According to studies about the influence of the

Nakdong river on the basin areas, Yhang^{5,6)} in particular, has divided regional areas into two zones: the primary zone neighboring on the mainstream of the river, and the secondary zone along the tributaries. His research was limited to the primary zone and its local governments, with the zone classified into three parts: upper, middle, and lower reaches.

The local governments of the primary influence zone include a city of Gangwon Province, ten cities and fourteen counties of Gyeongsangbuk Province, and Daegu and Busan metropolitan cities, while the secondary zone nearer to the tributary was excluded from this study.

A white paper published by the Busan metropolitan city⁷⁾, shows that the basin has been divided into three areas of the upper, the middle, and the lower reaches, each with their own individual administrative zones (Table 2):

The administrative zones along the basin include five provinces, three metropolitan cities, twenty four cities, and twenty five counties. Two major differences have been found from the previous research⁵⁾. One is the inclusion of some local governments in the province of Jeolla Province, the other being the lower reaches of the basin broken into two parts of the western and eastern zones. The approach has resulted in the overlapping of regional naming, which is not desirable from a taxonomical viewpoint. This needs to be corrected

Table 1. Primary local administration affected by the Nakdong river basin

Basin	Administration		
Upper reaches	Gangwon	City	Taebak
	GyeongBuk	City	Mungyeong Andong Yeongju
		County	Kunwi Bonghwa Yeongyang Yecheon Uljin Euseong Cheongsong
	Sum	Gangwon and GyeongBuk (4 cities · 7 wards)	
Middle reaches	GyeongBuk	City	Gumi Gimcheon Sangju
		County	Goryeong Sungju Chilgok
	Daegu	Ward · County	Dalseo Dalseong
	Sum	GyeongBuk (3 cities · 3 wards) + Daegu (1 ward · 1 county)	
Lower reaches	GyeongNam	City	Gimhae Milyang Yangsan
		County	Euiryeong Changnyeong Haman Habcheon
	Busan	Ward	Gangseo Buk Sansang Saha
	Sum	Gyeongsang-do (3 cities · 4 wards) + Busan (4 wards)	

Table 2. Nakdong river basin and its local administrations

Basin		Administration		
Upper reaches	Ganwon	City	Taebaek	
	GyeongBuk	City	Gumi Mungyeong Sangju Andong Yeongju Yeongcheon Pohang	
		County	Gunwi Bonghwa Yeongyang Yecheon Uljin Eiseong Cheongsong Chilgok	
	Sum	Gangwon and Gyeongsang-do (8 cities · 8 counties)		
Middle reaches	GyeongBuk	City	Gyeonsan Gumi Gimcheon Sangju Yeongcheon Pohang	
		County	Goryeong Seongju Eiseong Chilgok	
	Daegu	Ward · County	Nam Dalseo Seo Dalseong Dong Buk Seo Suseong Jung	
	GyeongNam	County	Changnyeong Habcheon	
	Sum	Gyeongsang-do (6 cities · 6 wards) + Daegu (7 wards · 1 county)		
Lower reaches	Western	GyeongNam	City	Sacheon Jinju
			County	Geochang Goseong Sancheong Euiryeong Changnyeong Hadong Haman Hamyang Habcheon
		JeonBuk	City	Namwon
		JeonNam	County	Guryeo
	Eastern	GyeongBuk	City	Gyeonsan Gyeongju
			County	Cheongdo
		GyeongNam	City	Gimhae Masan Milyang Yangsan Changwon
			County	Changnyeong Haman
		Busan	Ward · County	Gangseo Geumjeong Buk Sasang Saha
		Ulsan	Ward · County	Ulju
		Sum	Gyeongsang-do and Jeolla-do (10 cities · 11 counties) + Busan · Ulsan (5 wards · 1 county)	

through coordinated academic and administrative efforts.

The current study focuses on the jurisdiction of the river. This is due to the importance of governance between local governments in the context of the coming age of decentralization of power which has limited the spatial range to those local administrations under each jurisdiction of the Nakdong River Basin Environmental Office(called NRBEO) and the Daegu Regional Environmental Office(DREO). The category of the area's administrative units concerned based on the governance of the river is as follows:

Table 3 shows that the DREO is in charge of regional areas, including eleven cities and thirteen counties within the provinces of Gangwon Province, Gyeongsangbuk Province,

and Daegu whereas, the NRBEO includes ten cities and thirteen counties within the province of Gyeongsangnam Province, and Busan and Ulsan metropolitan cities. Noteworthy is that the county of Ulreung, located in the DREO with the counties of Namhae and Hadong, is excluded from the jurisdiction of the NRBEO.

2.3. The classification of cultural properties

Cultural properties are divided into three classes: nation-designated; city and province-designated; and cultural property materials. The nation-designated one is defined as precious treasures specified by review of cultural properties committee under the cultural protection law. It is classified into eight types, including national treasures, historical relics(e.g., Hwaseong of Suwon city), historical relics(e.g., Bulguk

Table 3. Administrative areas based on the governance of the river

Division	Administration		
DREO	Gangwon	City	Taebaek
	GyeongBuk	City	Gyeongsan Gyeongju Gumi Gimcheon Mungyeong Sangju Andong Yeongju Yeongcheon Pohang
		County	Goryeong Gunwi Bonghwa Seongju Yeongdeog Yeongyang Yecheon Ulreung Uljin Euisong Cheongdo Cheongsong Chilgok
	Daegu	Ward · County	Nam Dalseo Dalseong Dong Buk Seo Suseong Jung
	Sum	Gangwon and GyeongBuk (11 cities · 13 county) + Daegu (7 wards · 1 county)	
NRBEO	GyeongNam	City	Geoje Gimhae Masan Milyang Sacheon Yangsan Jinju Jinhae Changwon Tongyeong
		County	Geochang Goseong Sancheong Euiryeong Changnyeong Haman Hamyang Habcheon
	Busan	Ward · County	Gangseo Geumjeong Gijang Nam Dong Dongryeo Busanjin Buk Sasang Saha Seo Suyeong Yeonje Jung Haewoondae
	Ulsan	Ward · County	Nam Dong Buk Ulju Jung
	Sum	Gyeongsangnam-do (10 cities · 8 counties) + Busan · Ulsan (19 counties · 2 wards)	

temple area of Gyeongju city), scenic spots (e.g., Sogeumgang of Cheonghak-dong at Myeongju), natural monuments, important intangible cultural heritages, and important folk materials(NT, HR, HR&SS, SS, NM, IICH, and IFM respectively).

City and province-designated cultural properties are chosen by the mayor and the governor, categorized as valuables taken from the cultural properties that are excluded from nation-designated ones, then finally approved by the ordinance of local government. They are divided into four types, including tangible and intangible cultural heritage, monument, and folk materials(CPTCH, CPTICH, CPM, CPMF, respectively).

Cultural property material(called CPM) is designated by the mayor and the governor and is approved by the local government ordinance. It is specified as important materials from cultural properties excluded from the city and nation-designated cultural properties, while needing to be protected as regional culture.

3. Results

The analytical subject of this study is applicable only to cultural properties distributed along the basin and designated by the levels of government and city and province, with quan-

titative analysis finding its geographical distribution and characteristics.

3.1. Cultural properties of the DREO

The DREO's total number of cultural properties is 1705, while that of the NRBEO 1320, which means the DREO's local regions with cultural properties are 385 more than those of the NRBEO. In terms of the number of local governments' property, Gyeongsangbuk Province has ranked first with 1554, followed by Gyeongsangnam Province with 1076, Busan with 162, Daegu of 144, Ulsan of 82, and Taebaek with 7 (Table 4).

Specifically, the survey's result shows the cultural properties of the two cities of Andong(376) and Gyeongju(337) in Gyeongsangbuk Province total 713, with the two cities accounting for an overwhelming ratio of 46 percents of the cultural properties of the province. They form 75 percent of the national treasures, 55 percent of the treasure, and 80 percent of the historical relics. Analysis of this study suggests the two cities' traditional emphasis on Korean history and shows the city of Andong with more total number of cultural properties than Gyeongju, Korea's major historic city. However, for nation-designated properties, the city of Gyeongju has 246 properties, 100

more than the city of Andong with 152, while for city and province-designated properties, Andong has 156, far more than Gyeongju with 52.

3.2. Cultural properties of the NRBEO

The province of Gyeongsangnam Province under the jurisdiction of the NRBEO, accounts for 81.5 percent of the nation's cultural properties, which was distributed with an overwhelming ratio of 77.9 percent of 225 nation-designated ones and 78.4 percent of city and 560 province-designated properties (Table 5). With the two counties of Namhae and Hadong excluded from the jurisdiction, accounting for just 7.5 percent of the total, the separate level of Busan metropolitan city had the most number of whole cultural properties at 12.3 percent. However, it takes only 50(17.3 percent) of the nation-designated cultural properties and 103 (14.4 percent) of the city and

province-designated properties. Busan shows relative superiority over Ulsan and Daegu, but was outnumbered by Andong and Gyeongju.

4. Conclusions and Suggestions

This study has been made in the context of the coming age of decentralization of power by reflecting the governance between local governments owing to various kinds of cultural properties. The spatial range of the study thus has been selected by the jurisdiction of the Nakdong river, such as NRBEO and DREO, with three different levels of cultural properties analyzed as: nation-designated cultural properties; city and province-designated cultural properties; and cultural property materials.

The purpose of this study is to investigate the distributed characteristics of cultural tourism resources along the Nakdong river basin with the findings suggesting the following results:

Table 4. Administration and its distribution by the governance of the Basin (as of March 31, 2003)

Division	Administration	Nation-designated cultural properties									City and province-designated cultural properties				CPM	Total
		NT	treasure	HR	HR&SS	SP	NM	IICH	holder	IFM	CPTCH	CPICH	CPM	CPFM		
DREO	Gangwon*						2			1			3		1	7
	GyeongBuk	84**	251	95	3	1	56	6	11	59	303	25	126	121	413	1554
	Andong	4	60	2			6			80	60	5	14	77	68	(376)
	Gyeongju	59	79	74	2		3			29	28	1	17	6	39	(337)
	Daegu	3	26	6			1		1	4	41	14	11	4	33	144
	Sum	87	277	101	3	1	59	6	12	64	344	39	140	125	447	1705

* only Taebaek city in the province of Gangwon-do included for this study

** cultural things affiliated by the main cultural properties(e.g., a main building and its detached houses)

Table 5. Administration and its distribution by the governance of the Basin (as of March 31, 2003)

Division	Administration	Nation-designated cultural properties									City and province-designated cultural properties				CPM	Total
		NT	treasure	HR	HR&SS	SP	NM	IICH	holder	IFM	CPTCH	CPICH	CPM	CPFM		
NRBEO	Gyeong-Nam	9	93	41	1	1	29	11	29	11	318	22	201	19	291	1076
	Namhae			2			5				7		10	1	10	(35)
	Hadong	1	5	1							19		11		15	(52)
	Busan	3	14	4			7	3	19		47	10	45	1	9	162
	Ulsan	2	5	4			2			1	11	1	39		17	82
	Total	14	112	49	1	1	38	14	48	12	376	33	285	20	317	1320

* 2 counties of Namhae and Hadong excluded for this study

the DREO's quantitative predominance over the NRBE0 in terms of the total number of cultural properties; the order of cities in terms of the number of holdings of cultural properties on the individual level of local government is: Gyeongsangbuk Province Gyeongsannam Province, Busan, Daegu, Ulsan, and Taebaek; and Andong and Gyeongju in charge of the DREO with Busan in charge of the NRBE0 as growth-pole cities to promote cultural tourism.

The results of this study will be used as a basis for economic, environmental and cultural policy-building to promote the tourism and travel industries along the Basin area on a national level. However, the limitations of this study are: 1) reliance on a quantitative approach according to the number of cultural properties; 2) the lack of a qualitative interpretation caused by the lack of understanding about the distribution and its characteristics along the basin areas.

Therefore, future studies need to develop qualitative methods based on a quantified modeling approach to cultural variables with weight values of individual cultural properties in mind. Also cultural indices will be necessary to evaluate and enhance the competitiveness of the local administrations owning cultural properties. The findings will contribute to establishing mutual networking and cooperation between the local governments along the Basin and promoting a cultural tourism industry by searching and developing new tourist products at a regional and national level.

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 Ministry of Environment (<http://www.me.go.kr/>)
 Cultural Properties Administration (<http://www.ocp.go.kr/>)
 Daegu Metropolitan City (<http://www.daegu.go.kr>)
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