

Download Classical Korean Poetry

The literary tradition of Classical Chinese poetry begins with the Classic of Poetry, or Shijing, dated to early 1st millennium BC. According to tradition, Confucius (551 BCE – 479 BCE) was the final editor of the collection in its present form, although the individual poems were mostly older than this. Chinese poetry is poetry written, spoken, or chanted in the Chinese language. While this last term comprises Classical Chinese, Standard Chinese, Mandarin Chinese, Yue Chinese, and other historical and vernacular forms of the language, its poetry generally falls into one of two primary types, Classical Chinese poetry and Modern Chinese poetry. Until the early 20th century, many Korean aristocrats often wrote poetry in classical Chinese characters, including many *sijo*, a standardized form of poetry. Chinese versification was regarded as an important discipline for Confucian scholars and it was a channel of communication for academic. The *sijo* is a three-line Korean verse form. It might be viewed as a counterpart to the Japanese haiku, in the vernacular language vis-à-vis the Classical Chinese verse that defined formal occasions and ‘official’ cultural practices in Korea and Japan—as also in China—over the centuries.