이응주역사연구소 관광통역안내사

3. 한국의 역사 / Give the outline of Korean history.

It is not easy to summarize Korean history since we have **almost 5,000 year long history** and even more, there were people lived in Korean peninsula at the time of the Old Stone Age.

At the bronze age, our first nation called Gojoseon was born on **Oct.3 in 2333 BC by Dangun-Wanggeon** who was the first king of the very first nation. According to the Dangun calendar, we are now **in 4350 this year** and we are very much **proud** of our *that* long history and what we have been through.

When Gojoseon was nearly falling, other tribal states showed up in Korean penninsula such as Buyeo, Goguryeo, Dongye and Okjeo in north, Samahan(Mahan, Jinhan, Byeonhan) in south. Throuh the Iron age until today we have had three kingdoms(**Goguryeo**, Baekje, Silla) & Gaya Confederacy, unified Silla, **Balhae**, Later three Kingdoms Goryeo, and Joseon Dynasty in a row.

Throughout the multiple times of wars and changes of power, our territory expanded up north to the Manchuria especially at the time of **Goguryeo and Balhae**. Goryeo Dynasty was found by Wang geon and unified the Later three kingdoms. After almost 500 years, Lee Seonggye destroyed Goryeo then became the first king of Joseon Dynasty in 1392.

We were suffered from the Imjin war occurred by Japanese invasion and Byeongja war occurred by Manchu invasion. Also we had been through tragedy of Korean War in 1950 not long after the liberation from Japanese colonial period in 1945. Even though we had hard time during the Koreanwar and almost of the country destroyed, we made fast recovery of national function and economic growth by lots of sacrifice for greater goods and we call it **The Miracle on the Han River**. Furthermore we have hosted Seoul Olympic Games in 1988, The World cup games in 2002 and now we are ready for Pyeongchang Winter Olympic games in 2018.

Besides this, we have a lot of heritages and legacies from the dynamic history and culture so we have almost 10mils of people to visit our country every year. I believe that the peaceful unification between South and North Korea will make our country even greater.

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