



Smithsonian  
*National Museum of Natural History*

MS 7365 Paeksumum or Ch'önjamun

National Anthropological Archives  
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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Anthropological Archives
<b>Title:</b>	MS 7365 Paeksumum or Ch'önjamun
<b>Date:</b>	undated
<b>Identifier:</b>	NAA.MS7365
<b>Creator:</b>	Dredge, Paul (Collector)
<b>Language:</b>	Undetermined .

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## Administrative Information

### Provenance

Gift of the Virgil Hillyer Fund, collected in 1976. Transferred to the archives by Chang-su Houchins, November 1983.

### Citation

Manuscript 7365, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

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## Biographical / Historical

The title, the white-haired essay, originated from a story that a Chinese T'ang scholar, Chou Hsing-ssu was ordered by the emperor to make a composition of one thousand characters as a form of punishment. Chou completed the essay in a single night, but the effort was said to have turned his hair white.

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## Scope and Contents

Composition of one thousand characters, arranged four to a line, each sentence complete in itself with no connection with the rest of the text. Includes a Korean translation and pronunciation for each ideograph in han'gŭl, together with etymological annotations. Used as a literary primer for teaching children in the classical educational system.

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## Local Numbers

NAA MS 7365

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## Translation of Title

White-haired Essay or one thousand character essay

## Local Note

Data furnished by Chang-su Houchins of the Department of Anthropology. She consulted Rita Aero, Things Chinese, 1980.

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## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

### Subjects:

- Chinese
- Korean
- Language and languages -- Documentation

### Cultures:

- Chinese
- Korean