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The 'Book of Changes,' or *I Ching*, a seminal text that can be traced back to the Zhou Dynasty, is heralded as one of the most ancient books in East Asia. What fundamental principles does it have?

Interestingly, the Korean national flag, known as the Taegukgi, embodies principles closely aligned with those of the *I Ching*. The flag’s symbols, including the Taegeuk, Yin and Yang, and the Trigrams, serve as visual representations of the core philosophies articulated in the *I Ching*. In this scholarly presentation, the underlying principles of the *I Ching* will be explored within the design of the Korean Taegukgi flag.

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Defining the concept of 'humanity' and exploring the path to human understanding does not confine itself to a narrow-minded perspective centered on one's own culture. In contrast to the 20th century, the 21st century calls for a response to the demands of creative thought experiments that aspire to converge with diverse thought cultures, underpinned by an equitable comprehension of each other’s traditions and philosophies. Within this context, the *Four Books*, a timeless wellspring of East Asian thought, undoubtedly harbor wisdom that remains pertinent and enlightening in our contemporary era. This talk will examine the profound meanings and implications of the *Four Books*.

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*Sungsu Chin, Professor, Jeonbuk Nat’l University*

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*Sungkyunkwan University*

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*Jaesuk Go, Professor, Sungkyunkwan University*

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