

**“Japanese-Korean Bilinguals’ Language Use and Age as Another Factor: Focusing  
on the Students of a Chosengakko/Cosenhakkyo, Korean School in Japan”**

Jae Ho LEE

(Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, The University of Tokyo)

**ABSTRACT**

In the presentation, language use by Japanese-Korean bilingual students who attend Korean ethnic schools called *Chosengakko*, or *Cosenhakkyo* in Korean, analyzed by domains of language use and codeswitching will be discussed, as well as how age affects language use.

There have not been any previous studies that specifically examined the possibility that speaker age could affect language use, especially in the case of bilinguals of Korean and other languages.

The students are third to fourth-generation Korean residents in Japan, known as *Zainichi Korean* or *Zainichi*. They usually grow up speaking Japanese until going to school at age 6 or 7. With the Korean language immersion, they become Japanese-Korean bilinguals.

A questionnaire survey and examples of actual student utterances were collected to see how language use was differentiated. Data was analyzed in terms of domains: mainly place, where the conversation occurred, and interlocutor, to whom the utterance was spoken. Patterns of codeswitching, which are frequently observed in bilingual conversation, were also examined.

The results showed language was used in a different way according to where and with whom an interaction took place. The students generally used Korean in conversations with teachers and other students at the school. They used more Japanese with students in the same grade and younger, but less Japanese with students in higher grades and teachers. They hardly used Japanese at all with teachers. From the codeswitching analysis, it was observed that students codeswitch more frequently with those in the same or lower grades than with others.