

## **ABSTRACT Lecture 2**

This lecture introduces the Jang Kye-hyang-Yi Si-myeong Korean Letter, recently discovered by Bae Jun-young (2023). This letter was written in the 17th century by Jang Kye-hyang and Lee Si-myeong to their biological son, Lee Hwi-il, and his wife (daughter-in-law). Jang Kye-hyang is especially famous for being the author of the oldest Korean food cookbook in existence, "Umsikdimibang". The letter has been preserved for 351 years and has only recently been discovered. The letters were kept at Yi Hwi-il's family home, Yeongdeok Existence House, and are now housed at the Korean Studies Institute in Andong. There are 44 letters in all, with mothers and fathers worrying about their sons' illnesses and livelihoods, discussing family affairs, and reporting news from the world around them. Through these letters, we can get a glimpse of what it was like to live in a Yangban household in Joseon 350 years ago.