

Republic of Korea

"Aegukga" (The Patriotic Song)

Yun Chiho and An Chang-ho

Ahn Eak-tae

6

11

16

Verse

*Until that day when
the waters of the Eastern Sea run dry
and Mt. Baekdu is worn away,
God protect and preserve our nation.*

Chorus

*Three thousand Li
of splendid rivers and mountains,
filled with Roses of Sharon;
Great Korean people,
stay true to the Great Korean way!*

The lyrics for the "Aegukga" were written by Yun Chiho and An Chang-ho in 1896. Strangely, they were originally sung to the tune of "Auld Lang Syne" which had been introduced to Korea by Western Christian missionaries. In August 1948 the Scottish tune was finally replaced by the tune "Finale of Korea Fantasia" that Ahn Eak-tae had composed in 1935. The new "Aegukga" was later adopted by order of the President in 1948