Now Hear Our Story:

Personal Narratives of Modernization from Rural South Korea

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Youngmi Kim is Associate Professor of Korean history at Kookmin University in Seoul, Korea. She earned her Ph.D. from the Korean History Department at Seoul National University in 2005 with a study of the politics of government mobilization schemes targeting neighborhoods. That study developed into her 2009 book, Tongwŏn kwa chŏhang: Haebang chŏnhu Sŏul ūi chumin sahoesa [Mobilization and resistance: Social history of Seoul residents around the time of liberation]. In recent years she has been conducting research on South Korea's rural modernization program, the Saemaŭl ("New Village") Movement, of the Park Chung Hee era (1961-1979), through field work and using oral history methodology. She published a well received book on the topic, Küdŭl ūi Saemaŭl undong: Han maŭl kwa han nongch’on undongga rŭl t’onghaesŏ pon minjungdŭl ūi Saemaŭl undong iyagi [Their Saemaŭl Movement: Saemaŭl Movement stories of the people seen through a village and a farmer activist], also in 2009, which has been translated into Chinese and Japanese.

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