Value of the Humanities on Bamboo
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“Ninety percent of me was brought up by the wind from bamboo forests”
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Definition of Humanities
What is ‘Humanities’?

Humanities is an opposite concept of natural sciences.

A study on issues, ideas and cultures related to the humanity.

If natural sciences deal with objective natural phenomena, humanities deals with the values in human life.

A study of humans *How to live*

Culture, history and philosophy is the container for humanities *Humanities* of Bamboo. Humanities, Human-ness.
In the old days, bamboo forests were afforested a head of house or village building as a windbreak and a shelter in case of emergency as well as to prevent landslides and wildlife invasions.
Bamboo is used to make amenities required for human life such as bamboo slips, bow, fishing rod, fence, threshold and bamboo horse.
2.3 Bamboo Shoot Dishes

- **Bamboo Shoots**
- **Spicy Bamboo Shoots**
- **Beef and Bamboo Shoots**
- **Bamboo Shoot Namul**
- **Bamboo Shoot Soybean Paste Soup**
- **Grilled Bamboo Shoots**
Ecological Characteristics of Bamboo and Relationship to Human Communities
Ecological Characteristics of Bamboo and Relationship to Humanities

Green all year round. A symbol of faith and integrity of a gentleman.

Bends but does not break. Spirit and uprightness.

Growth points (quantum leap) Growth and pauses in life.

Communication and integrity. A philosophy of exquisite beauty in emptiness which represents the cosmic nature.
The source of long life and power of bamboo.

After 4 years of rooting, bamboo grows out in the fifth year.

Importance of life preparation.

Bamboo tent to grow together.

Cooperation, bonds and community.
When nutrients run out in 60 to 70 years, the entire bamboo forest withers once after blooming flowers without scent. The meaning of the flowers is integrity and faithfulness, the virtues that people should keep.

China’s best book on geography and astronomy, *<Classic of Mountains and Seas 225-420>*
Literature and Arts in Bamboo
“Sincere Friend (清友)” & “This Friend (此君)”

Yi Inro, Koryo dynasty poet (1152-1220)
Want Xizhi, Chinese calligrapher

“How will I live one day without this friend (此君)”
Wang Xizhi

“I am fine without meat on my table,
but I must have bamboo in the house to stay pure.”
Su Shi, Chinese poet (1036-1101)

Literary works
Chinese poets Li Bai (701-762), Du Fu (712-770) and Su Shi, Kim Shiseup and Kim Satgat, of Joseon dynasty.
Musical instruments made of bamboo since BC 57

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Literature and Arts in Bamboo

4.3 Playing Bamboo Instruments

- Bamboo instrument band consisting of 100 middle school students in Damyang.

- Won Jangyeon of Damyang, one of the best Daegeum performers in Korea.
Manpashikjeok

A legend flute of Silla that is known to take away all the cares and anxieties in the nation.

King Munmu of Silla Dynasty (681-692) fended off the enemies with his large flute, and cured infectious diseases, called for rain and stopped typhoons.

The sound of large flute symbolizes

Peace, Wellness and Happiness
Value and Culture of Bamboo in Life
5.1 A Space for Realizing Ideals

Value and Culture of Bamboo in Life

Bamboo Forest, a Space of Ideals for the Scholars.
Seven Wise Men of the Bamboo Forest

Seven scholars went into the bamboo forest, away from the tumultuous world, in 266, when a transition of dynasties was taking place in China. There, they engaged in philosophical discussions.

Ascetic Values of Taoism

Taoists look to abandon worldly desires to practice virtue and find meaning in life. This ascetic value stems from the core of Taoist ideas, *Wu Wei*, which means “doing nothing.”

Wu Wei (Doing Nothing)

Living as the nature dictates.
5.2 Bamboo Philosophies and Religious Beliefs

India's First Buddhist Monastery and the Largest Buddhist Holy Site

Bamboo Grove Monastery

India's first Buddhist monastery and the largest Buddhist holy site.
Value and Culture of Bamboo in Life

5.2 Bamboo Philosophies and Religious Beliefs
Damyang Jukrimjeongsa Temple
(Ssangtae-ri, Yong-myeon, Damyang)

One of the bamboo temples surrounded by an Indian bamboo forest in Damyang.
Value and Culture of Bamboo in Life

5.2 Bamboo Philosophies and Religious Beliefs
Traditional weddings with bamboo leaf fly on the table.
5.2 Bamboo Philosophies and Religious Beliefs
초례상 댓잎파리

담양 죽림정사

Bamboo in Shaman House

Value and Culture of Bamboo in Life

5.2 Bamboo Philosophies and Religious Beliefs

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Way to Happier Life
Bamboo lies deep in the human minds and lives

Reviving the humanistic value of bamboo does not mean returning back to the analogue world. It means to combine the analogue and digital values of bamboo together in order to

Find the Way to ‘Happier Life’
We can make our lives more valuable in a lifestyle and culture with bamboo.