The Goryeo Dynasty had constant trade with the Song, Liao, and Jin Dynasties in its early and middle periods and with the Yuan Empire in its late period. Against this backdrop, a variety of Chinese objects of each period were introduced to the Goryeo Dynasty. In particular, a great deal of Chinese ceramics were distributed throughout the territory of the Goryeo Dynasty. Although they had been imported throughout the Goryeo period, many were found in sites of the mid-Goryeo period. An analysis of the distribution and characteristics of these sites indicates that Chinese ceramics were excavated from the ruins of palaces and government buildings, temples (and their remains), the ruins of buildings, and tombs in Gyeonggi, Chungcheong, Jeolla, and Gyeongsang Provinces and the Jeju Region and from the bottom of the sea in the Jeolla and Chungcheong Regions. According to an analysis of types of ceramics, the discovered celadons were produced at the Yuezhou kilns and the Longquan kilns, ranging from Yuezhou ware dated to the end of the Five Dynasties period to the Northern Song period to porcelains dated to the Northern Song period to the Yuan period, though most of them were produced during the Song period. The white porcelains were mostly produced at the Ding kilns or the Jingdezhen kilns during the Northern and Southern Song periods, and a few were made at the Cizhou kilns and other kilns in Fujian and Guangdong. In particular, celadon and white wares produced at the Jingdezhen kilns from the 12th to 13th century account for most of the ceramics discovered from sites of the mid-Goryeo period across South Korea. In addition, black-glazed ceramics were excavated, including Jian wares, Jian series, Jizhou wares, Cizhou wares from Fujian, Cizao wares, and Jun wares. Moreover, the following paragraphs describe the characteristics of the Chinese ceramics excavated from terrestrial sites of the Goryeo Dynasty (within the Korean Peninsula).

First of all, most of the Chinese ceramics found in the Korean Peninsula were imported during the mid-Goryeo period. There were a few celadon wares, but most of the imported ceramics were white wares. Among them, there were a few lower-grade wares produced in Fujian and Guangdong, but the main imports of the Goryeo Dynasty were higher-quality white wares produced at the Ding kilns and the Jingdezhen kilns. Compared to the high demand for white ceramics in the Goryeo Dynasty at that time, the domestic supply of high-quality white wares was very limited. Therefore,
Chinese white wares were imported as substitutes for Goryeo white porcelains, owned and used by upper classes to demonstrate their wealth and power.

Secondly, Chinese celadon wares were found only in parts of South Korea, but the Goryeo Dynasty had produced high-quality celadon wares, including inlaid celadons, and exported them to China at that time, as indicated by recent archaeological excavations in Ningbo and Hangzhou. This situation of the Goryeo ceramic industry would account for the lower demand for celadons than for white wares in the Korean Peninsula.

Thirdly, in Jeju Island, Chinese wares were excavated from the ruins of temples, government buildings, fortresses, ritual sites, and livelihood sites. Most of the Chinese wares unearthed in the island were Longquan celadon wares, followed by Jingdezhen white wares. Archaeological excavations in the island also unearthed Yuezhou celadon wares, Ding white wares, bluish white wares produced at the Tongan kilns in Fujian, and brown-glazed bottles produced at the Yixing kilns in Jiangsu and at the Cizhou kilns in Hebei. In addition, some archaeological excavations in the island unearthed a number of white wares from Fujian, brown-glazed wares from Jiangsu and Hebei, and Longquan celadon wares from Zhejiang though they were rarely found in other terrestrial sites of the Goryeo period, which makes an interesting contrast between the island and the peninsula. Some studies assumed that this was because Jeju Island had served as a transit point for maritime trade between China and Japan, though further studies and a more detailed analysis are needed to confirm this assumption.

Fourthly, underwater archaeological excavations near Ma Island in Taean County and Heuksan Island in Sinan County unearthed Chinese ceramics rarely found in terrestrial archaeological sites in South Korea. There is an argument whether these underwater archaeological findings are attributed to trade between the Song Dynasty and Japan or trade between the Song Dynasty and the Goryeo Dynasty. Given the fact that ceramics made in South China have been found in terrestrial archaeological sites in South Korea, the author assumes that the Chinese ceramics retrieved from these underwater sites are products that were lost at sea while they were transported from Song China to Goryeo. Further studies are expected to elucidate details.

Key words: Goryeo period, Chinese ceramics, trade, Jingdezhen kilns, Ding kilns