

Dancing Ballet Gestures on Korea Traditional Fairy Tale “Heung Bu and Nol Bu”

1. About Korea

Korea is located far east of Asia and has a very long history. Korean people believe that Korea was established in BC 2333, October 3rd by King Dan Goon. The name Korea came from the name Goryeo. Goryeo was the name of an era when Korea first started trading goods with other countries. People from the other countries could not pronounce Goryeo, so they started to call it Korea.



After the 2nd World War, Korea got divided by Russia and United States. Korea is still divided as North Korea and South Korea. South Korea's flag represents the harmony of Yin Yang. Yin Yang represents the basic things that form this universe, such as sky and land, female and male, water and fire, sun and ocean.

Korean is the national language of Korea, which was made by King Sejong in 1446. Therefore Korea uses own letters and own language. Also, Korea considers being polite very importantly. So when Korean people say “hi” or “thank you”, we fold our upper body forward to express the politeness.

Hello = **안녕하세요** (Ahn nyoung ha se yo)
 Thank you = **감사합니다** (Gam sa ham nee dah)

2. Story of “Heung Bu and Nol Bu”

Once upon a time, there were two brothers, Nol Bu and Heung Bu. Nol Bu, the elder brother, was **bad** and **greedy**. Heung Bu, the younger brother, was **kind** and **generous**. When their parents died, Nol Bu and Heung Bu had to share the family heritage. But the greedy elder brother, Nol Bu, snatched everything, including his younger brother, Heung Bu’s share. Therefore, Nol Bu became richer with all his parent’s properties, while Heung Bu became poorer and had to build his own house.

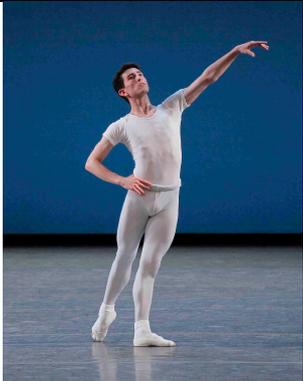
One day, it was a year of the bad harvest. Heung Bu had nothing to eat. Heung Bu had no choice but to ask a favor to his brother. He went to Nol Bu’s house and asked for some rice, but Nol Bu said ‘No’ to Heung Bu even though Nol Bu had a lot of rice in his house. So Heung Bu had to return home with nothing. On the way back home, Heung Bu found a swallow with a broken leg. So Heung Bu fixed the swallow’s leg and took great care of it. When the swallow recovered completely, the swallow flew away happily. Next spring, the swallow came back to Heung Bu’s house and handed Heung Bu a gourd seed. It was a present for Heung Bu’s hospitality.

Heung Bu planted it, and the gourds grew from the seed and became big rapidly. Heung Bu could cut the gourds in half very soon. Heung Bu expected some food for just one meal from the gourds, but he was surprised to see what was inside. Great amount of treasures came out from the gourds. There were a lot gold coins, rice, Jewels, and silks. Heung Bu became much more rich than Nol Bu.

When Nol Bu heard about Heung Bu’s story, Nol Bu felt jealous. Nol Bu wanted Heung Bu’s treasures so much. Therefore, Nol Bu decided to break swallow’s leg intentionally. Nol Bu threw a rock to a swallow to break its leg, and then fixed it. Next spring, the swallow came back to Nol Bu and hand him a gourd seed. Nol Bu was very excited to grow and open the gourds. When Nol Bu opened one of his gourds, Do Ke Bi, Korea traditional goblins, came out and stole all of Nol Bu’s property and broke Nol Bu’s house. Nol Bu became very poor and lost everything. Nol Bu realized that his greed brought him a huge tragedy.

When kind and generous Heung Bu heard about his brother, Nol Bu’s story, Heung Bu suggested Nol Bu to live with him and share his treasures. Nol Bu felt very shameful about himself and felt thankful to his brother Heung Bu. Nol Bu became generous and kind like Heung Bu and they lived happily ever after.

3. Ballet Gestures of “Heung Bu and Nol Bu”

NAME	Characteristic	Ballet Gestures	Example
Heung Bu	Kind Generous Wise	Presenting Gestures: expresses the politeness of Heung Bu	
Nol Bu	Mean Greedy Selfish	Pointing Gestures: expresses the force or ordering habit of Nol Bu	
Swallow	Fly Swift Light	Flexible and High Jump: expresses the swiftness and flying of swallow	
Do Ke Bi	Strong Scary Justice	Strong posture with Palm Facing Front: expresses the power of justice that Do Ke Bi has	