

## Singers **shamed** over poor history knowledge



Seolhyun and Jimin from K-pop girl band AOA have **sparked** a national **controversy** after **displaying** their poor history knowledge on TV.

In Tuesday's episode of variety show "Channel AOA" on cable network OnStyle, Seolhyun, one of the hottest female idols, and the band's leader, Jimin, identified random historical figures from images. They correctly named all, including Korean naval commander Yi Sun-sin (1545-98), artist Shin Saimdang (1504-51) and Kim Koo (1876-1949), a leader of the Korean independence movement against Japan.

But when they were shown a picture of Ahn Jung-geun — a freedom fighter who assassinated Hirobumi Ito, the Japanese resident-general of Korea, in 1909, before Japan's colonization of Korea — their luck **hit the wall**. The desperate stars' incorrect guesses included Kim Du-han (1954-65), the leader of the Jongno street gang who was portrayed in action movie trilogy "The General's Son" (1990-92). Despite the producers' hints, they could not name Ahn, one of the most widely known Korean historical figures.

Netizens were **merciless** in their attacks, while TV network Channel A's news show **assembled** several experts on Tuesday to discuss what caused the singers' "**horrendous** level of historical knowledge."

"Their regrettable historical consciousness is not their fault," one of the experts said. "It's rather a sign to remind ourselves whether we are teaching the kids right about Korean history."

Another expert said: "Seolhyun is a **role model** to many kids, especially to elementary school students, most of whom want to become a celebrity these days. She even filmed a campaign ad to encourage people to vote ahead of the general election on April 13. With her social reputation like that, her ignorance is pretty shocking and shameful."

Another said: "The stars' parents should also be responsible for the incident. They should by now know what to teach their child. Please, parents, **enlighten** your children."

Taken from: [http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/culture/2016/05/201\\_204620.html](http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/culture/2016/05/201_204620.html)

## Questions:

How many of these famous Irish people do you know? How many do I know? lol



Seriously now:

These are the questions:

1. How important is it to know your country's history?
2. Do you think these celebrities should be shamed over this incident?
3. Who do you think (if anyone is) to blame for the lack of knowledge regarding these important historical figures in Korean culture?
4. Do you think by losing touch with history, culture disappears also?