

object due to religious reasons. In Korea, Buddhists don't eat meat, but Christians do. It is better that those who want to eat dog, should eat it.

During the Olympics in Seoul, the Korean government prohibited dog meat eating, so dog restaurants virtually vanished in that area. The writer called the Koseisho who said that they don't prohibit dog eating. Their real concern is whether the meat is fit to eat. They also worry about the watchful eyes of animal lovers' groups and the hokensho.

Some professor said that it is the custom in particularly cold areas of the Korean peninsula and the South of China to eat dog meat for the sake of heating ones body. It is wrong to criticize this practise based solely on the European and American values system. This writer doesn't necessarily agree, but some say dog is a good food. A Chinese restaurant cook once said that dog is more difficult to eat than it is to prepare. As long as dog meat suits our bodies, it should be all right to eat.

Peking is the place of the 2000 Olympics, but perhaps when the word about dog stew gets around it will have a bad effect. As an oriental person, this writer would hate to see the development of an anti-Peking movement simply over the issue of dog meat.

Hamada Keiko, staff writer Shukan Asahi, October 18, 1993