



**A Completely Objective
Presentation About
North Korea**

Presented by South Korean Cain Park

Geography

China

Russia

South Korea

~ $\frac{1}{6}$ the size of Texas

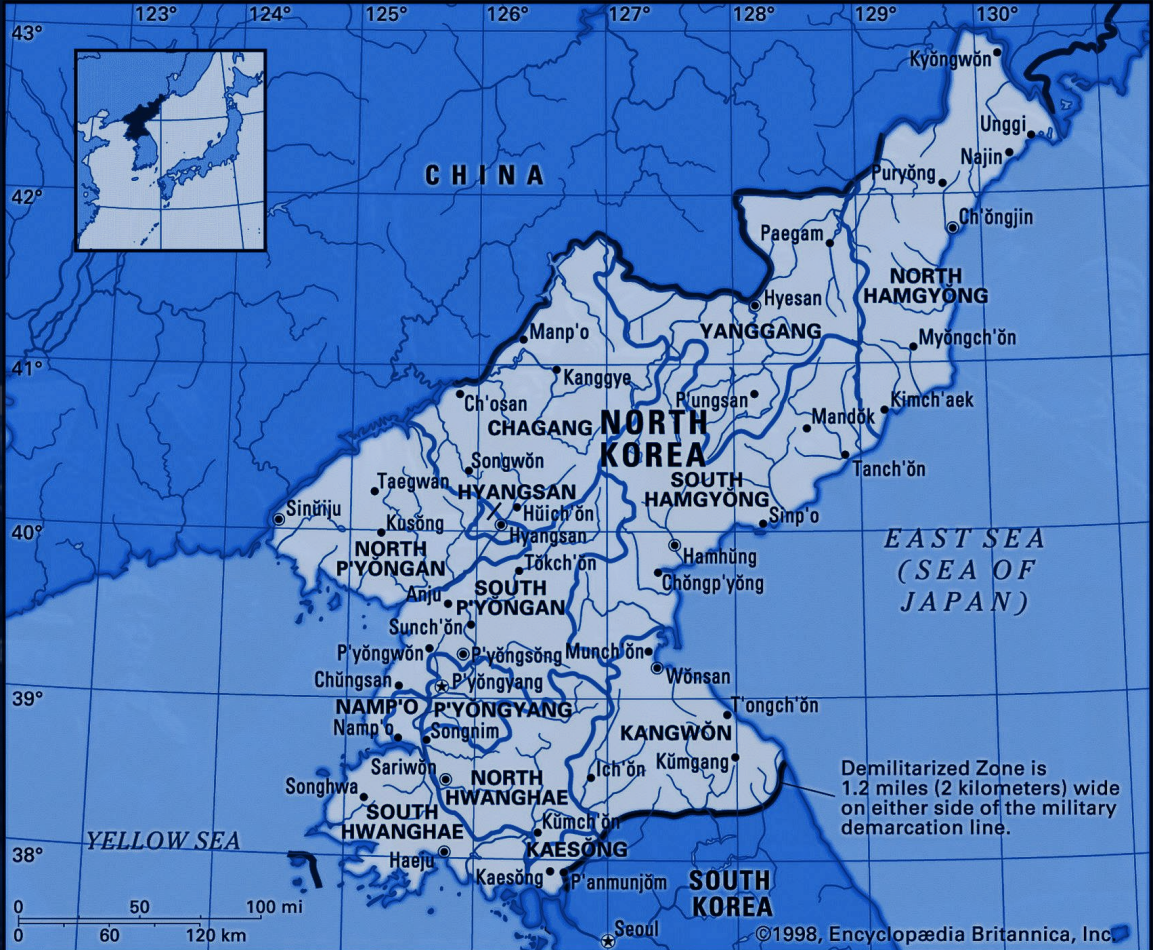
Demographics

Population: 25 million

Life Expectancy: 73

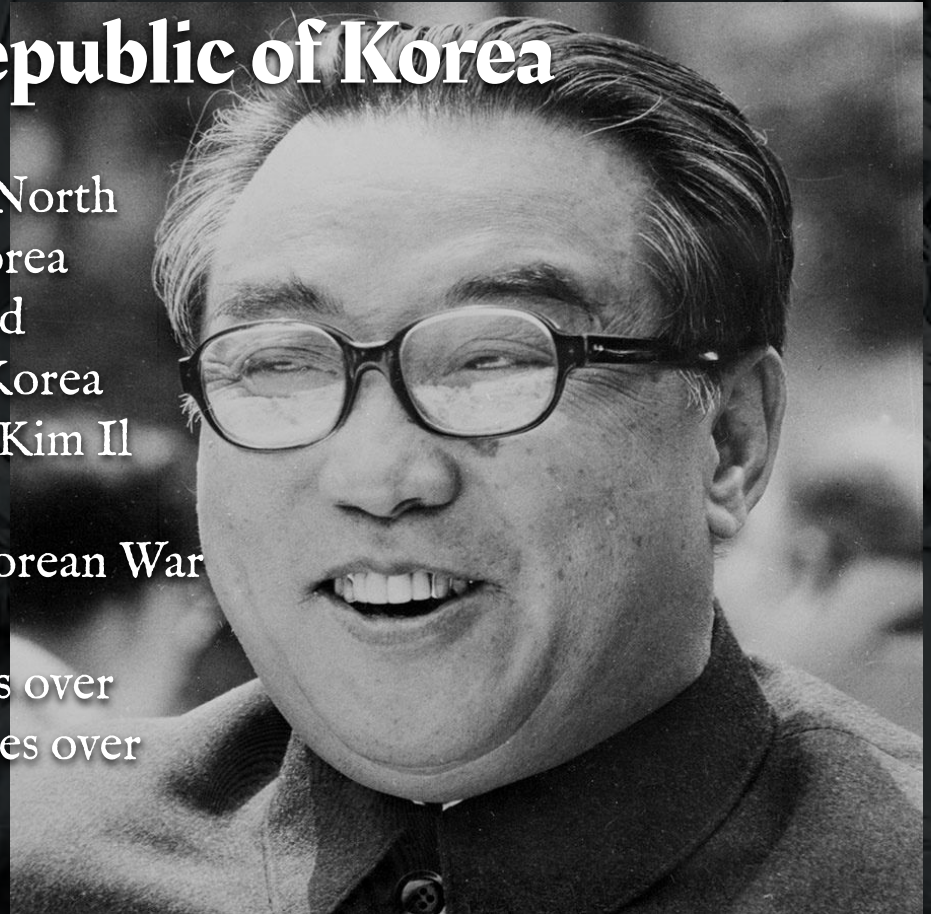
Homogenous

Exact economic data
unavailable



Democratic People's Republic of Korea

- 1945 WWII ends; Soviet occupation of North Korea, US occupation of South Korea
- 1946 Workers' Party of Korea established
- 1948 Democratic People's Republic of Korea founded as a communist state with Kim Il Sung as leader
- 1950 South declares independence ⇒ Korean War
- 1953 Korean War ends
- 1994 Kim Il Sung dies; Kim Jong Il takes over
- 2011 Kim Jong Il dies; Kim Jong Un takes over



Politics

Highly centralized government totalitarian state

Single-party system with no opposition parties allowed

Korean Workers' Party (KWP)

Has Party Congress, led by an elected Central Committee

Supreme People's Assembly (SPA) = elected legislature

KWP draws up lists of approved candidates for elections

Policy directed by the KWP's political bureau (Politburo)

Central Court (judges are elected for three-year terms by the SPA)

Judges usually are party members or are controlled by the party



Military

Korean People's Army (KPA)

Conscription

Kim Jong Il's "military first" vs Kim Jong Un

Nuclear Weapons Program 1980s

1994 Agreed Framework

2002 Uranium Enrichment Program

2006 First underground nuclear test

Extensive internal security system



Standard of Living

Atheist state officially but has “freedom of religion”

Free medical care

Housing expansion

12 years of primary and secondary education free and compulsory.

1 year of preschool, 5 years of primary, 6 years of secondary

Communist ideology

All Students required to engage in productive labour

Adult technical schools

Arts as an expression of nationalism

Crimes against humanity

Human Rights Violations

U.S. Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor 2020:

“Significant human rights issues included: unlawful or arbitrary killings by the government; forced disappearances by the government; torture and cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment and punishment by government authorities; harsh and life-threatening prison conditions, including in political prison camps; arbitrary arrests and detentions; political prisoners and detainees; politically motivated reprisals against individuals located outside the country; no judicial independence; arbitrary or unlawful interference with privacy; serious restrictions on free expression, the press, and the internet, including violence, threats of violence, or unjustified arrests and prosecutions against journalists, censorship, and site blocking; substantial interference with freedom of peaceful assembly and freedom of association; severe restrictions of religious freedom; serious restrictions on freedom of movement; inability of citizens to change their government peacefully through free and fair elections; severe restrictions on political participation; widespread corruption; lack of investigation of and accountability for violence against women; coerced abortion and forced sterilization; trafficking in persons; the outlawing of independent trade unions; the worst forms of child labor; the use of domestic forced labor through mass mobilizations and as a part of the re-education system; and the imposition of forced labor conditions on overseas contract workers.”

Media Control

“Freedom of speech and press”

Korean Central News Agency (KCNA)

Only permitted news source

Nationalistic reporting by party members

No independent journalism allowed

Television and Radio with government sanctioned programs

Banned media originating from South Korea, the US, or Japan



“Anti-reactionary thought” law 2020

“Anti-socialist behavior”

Accessing phones, computers, televisions, radios or media content that are not sanctioned by the government

“Evil” enemies of the state

Jams Chinese mobile phone services at the northern border

Arrests those communicating with people outside of the country, or connecting outsiders to people inside the country

Speaking, writing, or singing in South Korean style can be punished with two years of hard labor

Smart Phones



New Age Propaganda

Shifts in mood from Kim Jong Il's reign

Concept of national unity and equality

Social media trends & Western culture

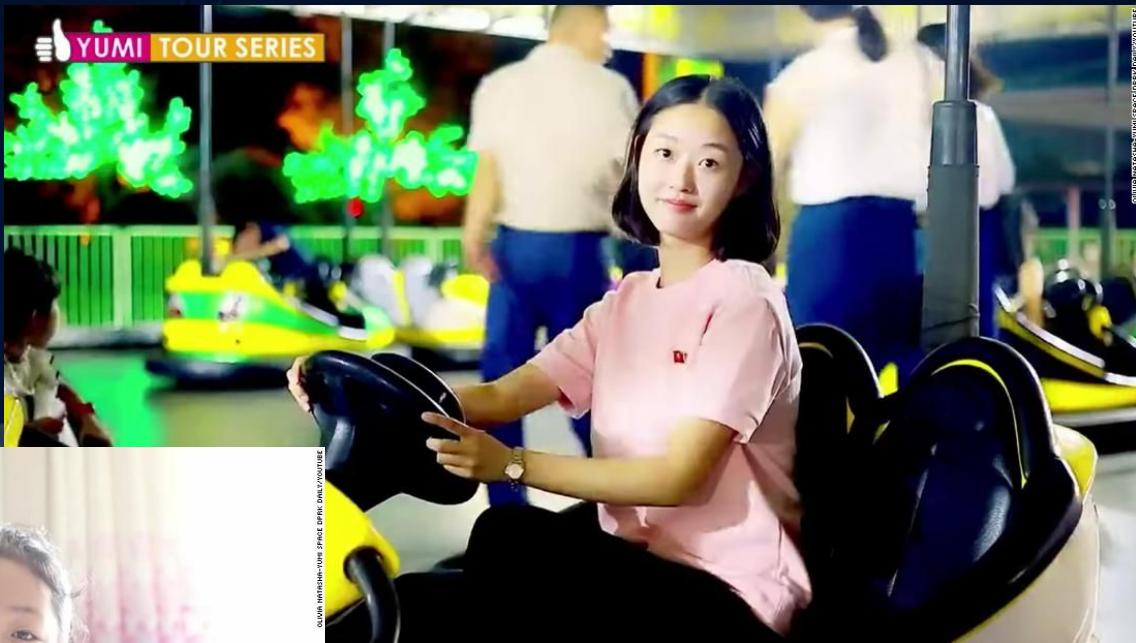
Feature films, TV shows and popular songs



YouTubers

YuMi

August 2022



"Harry Potter" written by J.K Rowling.

Song A

April 2022

Odd...Claims by North Korea

- Kim Jong-il
 - Invented the hamburger
 - Never used a toilet
 - Global style icon
- Invented a drug that can cure AIDS, Ebola, and cancer
- Discovered a mythical unicorn lair
- In 1919, the Japanese “imperialists” stole time



Sources

<https://data.worldbank.org/country/korea-dem-peoples-rep?view=chart>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-pacific-15278612>

<https://www.britannica.com/place/North-Korea/Government-and-society>

<https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/north-koreas-power-structure#chapter-title-0-4>

<https://www.state.gov/reports/2021-report-on-international-religious-freedom/north-korea/#:~:text=The%20constitution%20provides%20for%20freedom,a%20“growing%20body%20of%20information>

<https://www.state.gov/reports/2020-country-reports-on-human-rights-practices/north-korea/>

<https://www.rockyroadtravel.com/religion-in-north-korea/#:~:text=Officially%20North%20Korea%20is%20an,th is%20is%20not%20the%20case.>

<https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2022/country-chapters/north-korea>

<https://wordpress.clarku.edu/musc210-cgr/music-censorship-and-piracy-in-north-korea-2/censorship-background-and-ideologies/>

https://www.androidpolice.com/most-interesting-phones-north-korea/?newsletter_popup=1

<https://www.dailystar.co.uk/tech/news/north-korean-phones-rarest-world-25936987>

<https://www.gizchina.com/2018/04/28/most-popular-smartphone-brand-in-north-korea-guess-who/>

<https://www.nknews.org/2022/08/how-north-korea-is-embracing-more-entertaining-propaganda-for-the-tiktok-era/>

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/02/04/asia/north-korea-youtuber-yumi-intl-hnk-dst/index.html>