

Juche

So the idea is that man is the most developed social creature in this world (independence, consciousness and creativity). As such he should be able to carve out his destiny free from social obstruction, and even natural obstruction. In that way man should take it upon himself to control the conditions around him to crush imperialistic and obstructive conditions, *and* (im getting hints of Marx here) man can wield labor (the father) to interact with nature (the mother) to carve out his/her/their destiny. So crush reactionary tendencies, and constantly attempt to overcome material economic conditions through their own independent (and often isolated) struggle.

The Juche idea is based on the philosophical principle that man is the master of everything and decides everything. It is the man-centred world outlook and also a political philosophy to materialize the independence of the popular masses, namely, a philosophy which elucidates the theoretical basis of politics that leads the development of society along the right path.

INDEPENDENCE IN POLITICS

Juche is independent in ideology from other forms of Communism. It was Kim Il-Sung himself who saw the failures of past Socialist nations based on a mechanical imitation and assimilation of and by the Soviet Union. The Juche ideology is for the Korean people. There must be independence of thought maintained in Korea to instill unity, inspiration, and harmony. Korea must also maintain geopolitical independence and protect our people's autonomy. It is vital that the people also are inspired to embody Juche in all aspects of their own lives.

INDEPENDENCE IN ECONOMICS

It is vital to Korea to be independent in trade and sustenance. This does not mean no outside trade, it means no dependence on outside trade or on outside resources. The Westerners may scoff at troubles with food and industry in North Korea, but there are Koreans alive today who remember far worse. In barely any time at all relatively speaking, North Korea has greatly improved industry under the guidance of the great defenders and radiant archetypes of Juche. There is at least one clinic in every village, consumer goods are being produced, we will soon reach full subsistence farming levels. Not bad for a nation that has been bombed, shot, and slaughtered by the West.

INDEPENDENCE IN DEFENSE

Some of you may know of this in the *Songun* or, "Military first" policy. There was a man who once said that a State does not have an army, an army has a State. That is very much true for Korea as our autonomy is threatened constantly, even today. From the Japanese to the Americans, many have tried to steal our autonomy. Not only are all citizens militarized and ready to defend the Sun of Juche whenever it is necessary, our military is rapidly becoming modernized. The nation itself has been fortified and is becoming even more fortified as time goes on.

Political parties and Organisations:

The Workers' Party of Korea

The Korean Social Democratic Party

The Chondoist Chongu Party

The Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland

The Kim Il Sung Socialist Youth League

The General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea

The Union of Agricultural Workers of Korea

Economy

It's a planned economy where commodities are produced according to need not for profit

Geography

Let's take a look at a [topographic map of North Korea](#). This should give you some information right off the bat. The Korean Peninsula is an incredibly mountainous landmass to begin with, and the Northern half is more mountainous by far. The only significant plains exist in the southwest, in the Kwansŏ (formerly Pyongan) region. This is where the capital city of Pyongyang is located. This does not leave the country with much arable land to begin with, a measly 19%, even with their decades of land reclamation projects. Compounding this is the climate of the country. North Korea's growing season is very short, and winter comes quickly. So even the briefest look at the nation reveals a large population living in a very mountainous, cold climate- a solid foundation for famine.

As a brief sidenote, if you're wondering why the country is divided as such, with much of the fertile land in the South (traditionally the breadbasket of Korea) join the club. The division of Korea was a pretty frantic affair that was exclusively based around US-Soviet interests. But that's a story for another day.

Media

There are four nationwide television channels. Korean Central Television, which airs news, as well as music, documentaries about the country, and sometimes tv shows and DPRKorean movies- its the official state outlet. Ryongnamsan Television broadcasts educational television. Mansudae Television is known to broadcast educational material, mostly foreign documentaries, as well as other foreign media (Notably, Bruce Lee films <https://youtu.be/DHAcWtgQYQQ?t=937>). Finally, there is Sport Television, which broadcasts, as expected, sports.

As for movies- here's a smattering of translated DPRKorean movies

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jmR5kSzYOnE&list=PLrCp314VB1o20as9YvgtXbi996bVa6z0I>

Despite that playlist's name, there's a lot more movies that aren't on there (here's a fairly complete list: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_North_Korean_films). Also, there's several tv series on that list that are outright incomplete (like *Unsung Heroes*).

It should be noted that foreign films (even American films

https://i.dailymail.co.uk/i/pix/2013/05/10/article-2322576-19B59CFF000005DC-34_634x450.jpg) are frequently screened in the DPRK as well

The DPRK has an extensive intranet. Tons of media and websites from the "outer" internet are re-uploaded there, so it isn't actually terribly different than the "normal" internet- just all translated to Korean, and without capitalist pigs.

Articles

<https://medium.com/the-red-flag/on-the-dprk-anti-imperialism-socialist-construction-and-the-struggle-for-reunification-5abb1d54022e> (good beginner article)

South Korea pays defectors to tell stories

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-39170614>

<https://time.com/5262437/kim-jong-un-trust-south-korea-poll/>

The inaccuracy of defector testimony

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/oct/13/why-do-north-korean-defector-testimonies-so-often-fall-apart>

Finnish media debunks lies by South Korean media

<http://www.helsinkitimes.fi/finland/finland-news/domestic/13512-north-korean-scientist-never-defected-to-finland.html>

North Korean defectors wanting to go back

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-12-15/north-korean-defectors-returning-to-the-hermit-kingdom/9254654>

Defector admits there was some falsehoods in his story:

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/asia/north-korean-defector-shin-dong-hyuk-admits-inaccuracies-in-bestselling-tale-of-torture-escape-from-9986571.html#gallery>

An article detailing US and south korean aggression towards the north, and mentioned the south provoking the korean war.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2000/jan/18/johngittings.martinkettle>

A news article about the DRPK giving south korea aid after a severe flood in 1984

<https://www.nytimes.com/1984/09/30/world/north-korea-delivers-flood-aid-supplies-to-south.html>

S Korea kills man swimming to North

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-24105977>

A Forgotten Generation: Half Of South Korea's Elderly Live In Poverty

<https://www.npr.org/sections/parallels/2015/04/10/398498496/a-forgotten-generation-half-of-s-koreas-elderly-live-in-poverty?t=1580003706226>

Pictures from NK

https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipOld4fXDNtSn2bLJbXFxalEX016sUP571rGdTp72K_k_hYbuLPtj-bjM_wu13NVCQ?key=cXBwSGFhQjBwODd4Tlo2Vmc4NXNrTUZ1TIN4dHdn

Americans have forgotten what we did to North Korea

<https://www.vox.com/2015/8/3/9089913/north-korea-us-war-crime>

This is why North Korea hates the U.S.

<https://www.newsweek.com/us-forget-korean-war-led-crisis-north-592630>

https://www.sourcewatch.org/index.php/Bombing_of_North_Korea_1950-1953#Death_Toll

Why North Korea needs nuclear weapons

<https://gowans.wordpress.com/2013/02/16/why-north-korea-needs-nuclear-weapons/>

North Korea has learnt the brutal lessons of US regime change and will not disarm

<https://www.rt.com/op-edge/399474-north-korea-nuclear-us/>

North Korea has nukes because they saw what the US did to Libya

<https://medium.com/@caityjohnstone/gabbard-north-korea-has-nukes-because-they-saw-wh-at-the-us-did-to-libya-12eb352591a1>

North Korea compared to East Asian countries. India and Indonesia suffer from much worse malnutrition.

50-100% more stunting and even worse 2-4 times worse wasting

<https://gyazo.com/f27a14a213343b1830032964a1376930>

Hunger in North Korea is devastating. And it's our fault.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/12/17/opinion/weapons-north-korea-hunger.html?mtrref=www.facebook.com&assetType=opinion>

The Problematic Evidence Base of the UN Human Rights Council

https://www.academia.edu/6296645/Crimes_against_humanity_Unpacking_the_North_Korean_Human_Rights_Debate

Why UN sanctions against North Korea are wrong

<https://gowans.wordpress.com/2016/03/06/why-un-sanctions-against-north-korea-are-wrong/>

Genocide by sanctions: UN double standards pertaining to sanctions and their devastating impacts

<https://www.globalresearch.ca/north-korea-un-double-standards-pertaining-to-sanctions-and-their-devastating-social-impacts/5364484>

Churches in North Korea

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3qvpHD2M3WM>

Korean War

North Korea invaded South Korea because SK dictatorship murdered 100,000 communists suspected communists and their families in SK in a purge. NK defeated the SK troops and would've taken SK.

A war that resulted in 3 million dead, the partition of their country by an occupying power, the constant threat of nuclear annihilation, diplomatic and cultural isolation, etc. then a combination of disastrous floods and droughts in a country with very little arable land.

Why Kim Il sung

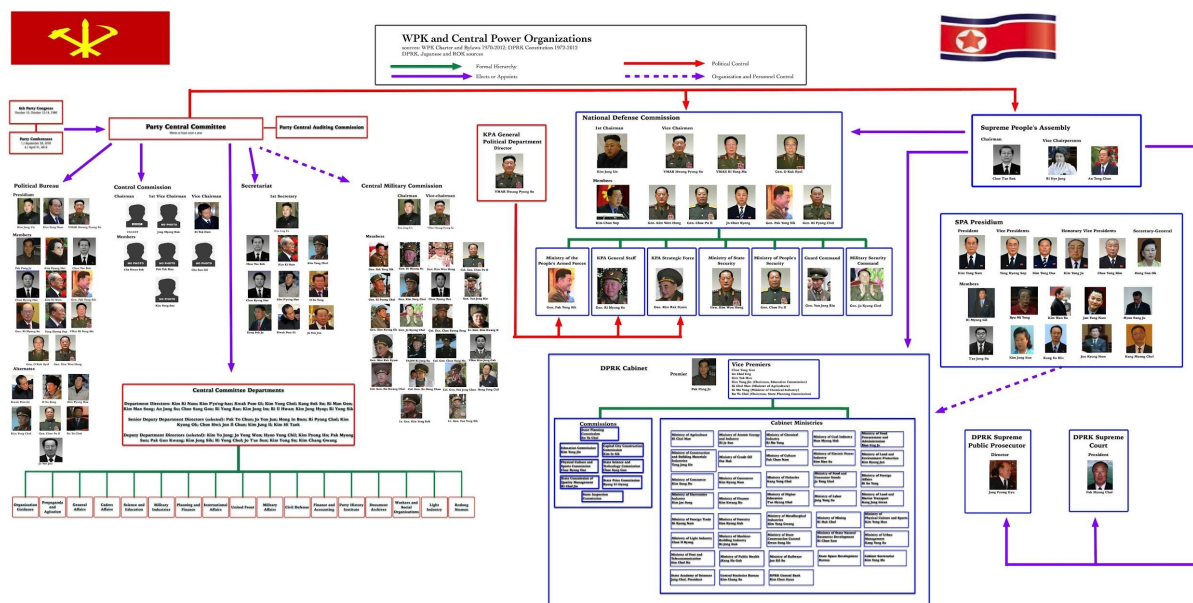
Someone with bonafide credentials as an anti-Japanese fighter

A committed Communist

Someone the Soviets already knew as he'd spent 4-5 years with their army,

Someone they believed they could rely on as he needed so much help from Moscow.

Infographics



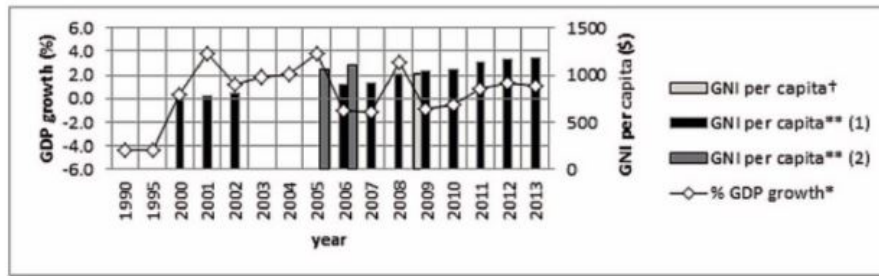


Figure 1. DPRK Economic Indicators

Sources: * Bank of Korea, "Gross Domestic Product indicators for the North Korean economy" (Annual report, 2013).¹⁹

** Bank of Korea, "Gross Domestic Product Indicators for the North Korean Economy" (Annual reports, 2000–2013, except for the years 2003, 2004 and 2005).²⁰

Key:

1: All figures in this row converted from Korean won at the exchange rate prevailing in August 2015.

2: All figures in this row given in the original documents in U.S.S.

†The two different figures for 2009 GNI both come from the Bank of Korea annual reports. The higher figure is from the 2009 report and the lower figure from the 2010 report.