Emblem of North Korea

The National Emblem of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is the coat of arms of North Korea, officially known as the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The current version adopted in 1993 is based on a design that was used since the foundation of the republic in 1948. Two previous versions were briefly in use in the late 1940s. Prominent features on the emblem are a red star, a hydroelectric plant (the Sup'ung dam) and Mount Paektu. The design bears similarities to the emblem of the Soviet Union and other emblems of the socialist heraldic style.

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History

During the Liberation of Korea in 1945 by the Allies, Northern

Korea had no emblem although the emblem of the People's Republic of Korea was used from 1945 to 1946. The first equivalent of an emblem appeared on January 1, 1946, printed below a speech of Kim Il-sung in the newspaper *Chŏngro*. It features the Korean Peninsula surrounded by a pattern of ribbons and wheat identical to that of the Soviet State Emblem. This was the only time it was ever used, and between 1946 and 1948 a simple outline of the peninsula was displayed in its place. This was intended to signal that the North

National Emblem of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea	
Armiger	Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Adopted	1993
Motto	Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Earlier	July 1948, September
version(s)	1948

National Emblem of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea	
Chosŏn'gŭl	조선민주주의인민공화국의 국장
Choson gui	**************************************
Revised	Joseonminjujuuiinmingonghwagugui
Romanization	gukjang
McCune-	Chosŏnminjujuŭiinmin'gonghwagugŭi
Reischauer	kukchang

its place. This was intended to signal that the North and the South are one country. [1]

However, in July 1948 as the <u>division of Korea</u> loomed, North Korea adopted its first <u>constitution</u>. This constitution defined the North Korean emblem, but the emblem was in use for only two months. It features a furnace, as opposed to a hydroelectric plant on later designs. [1]

On September 9, 1948, the <u>Democratic People's Republic of Korea</u> was declared and a new emblem adopted. The chosen motif: the <u>Sup'ung hydroelectric plant</u> was built by the Imperial Japanese during their colonial rule over the Korean Peninsula, and as such could be not comfortable as symbol of national pride

for nationalistic Koreans. However, North Korean sources claim that Kim Il-sung was behind the design. In 1993, the emblem was further amended to feature Mount Paektu. The mountain is an important symbol of power and legitimacy of the Kim family dynasty in North Korean propaganda, [1] and is especially identified with Kim Jong-il because it is where official narratives place his birth. The adoption of that symbol testified to the rise of his status. [2]









Emblem of People's Republic of Korea from 1945 to 1946

the Reconstruction the first equivalent of by emblem an published Ch*ŏ*ngro in 1946

of The emblem defined The emblem used the 1948 constitution but only in used for two months

from the founding of North Korea until 1993 features a generic mountain range





variant emblem printed by Chairman the Foreign Languages Publishing House in present) 1960, showing the generic mountain range, as well as the design of the dam typical of the post-1993 standard.

of the Emblem used by the of the **Affairs** State Commission (2016-

Features

The national emblem of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea bears the design of a grand hydroelectric power station under Mt. Paektu, the sacred mountain of the revolution, and the beaming light of a five-pointed red star, with ears of rice forming an oval frame, bound with a red ribbon bearing the inscription "The Democratic People's Republic of Korea."

Article 169 of the Socialist Constitution of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (1972, amended $2013)^{[3]}$

The emblem features the Sup'ung dam under Mount Paektu and a power line as the escutcheon. The crest is a five-pointed red star. It is supported with ears of rice, bound with a red ribbon bearing the inscription "The Democratic People's Republic of Korea" in Chosongul characters. [4]

While the design of the hydroelectric plant is generic in appearance, [5] its identity is given away by the fact that Sup'ung was the only power station of its kind at the time when the emblem was designed. [1] Sup'ung was constructed by the Japanese and is located in what is today the border with the People's Republic of China. In spite of the uncomfortable reference to colonial infrastructure as well as foreign territory. [5] the choice of the image is not incidental and carries positive connotations. In the late 1940s, the North produced most of the electricity in the country. [6] The dam symbolizes self-sufficiency in electricity: in the spring of 1948 shortly before the hydroelectric plant was added to the emblem, North Korea cut off her power network from the South. [5]

The emblem, and all of its predecessors, follows the basic socialist heraldic design that was adopted in many other countries including, which clearly indicates the relations between the communist ideology and the foundation of the country at the onset of the Cold War. [1]









the Korean Prague, Czech Republic.

Emblem at Emblem at the fence The emblem above North of the North Korean embassy in Prague, embassy in Czech Republic.

the entrance to the North Korean embassy in Moscow.

North Korean passport

See also

- Flag of North Korea
- Emblem of South Korea

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External links

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