The Two Koreas

**Acronyms and abbreviations**

- ASEAN- Association of Southeast Asian Nations
- DMZ- Demilitarized zone
- DPRK- Democratic People’s Republic of Korea
- KCDC- Korea Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- MIKTA- Mexico, Indonesia, South Korea, Turkey, Australia Partnership
- PPE- Personal protective equipment
- ROK- Republic of Korea

**Glossary**

**Byungjin**- is the term developed by North Korean leader Kim Il-sung that sought to develop the North Korean economy alongside its military. Current DPRK leader, Kim Jung-un has amended the policy to include the development of nuclear weapons.

**Candlelight Revolution**- is the name given to the protest against the government of Park Geun-hye from November 2016 to March 2017. The protest was in response to the political scandal that would force Park to resign from her position.

**Hungnam Evacuation**- was a mass evacuation of United Nations forces and Korean civilians from the North Korean port city of Hungnam during the Korean War in 1950. The evacuation lasted from December 15 until 24.

**Hwasong-15**- is an intercontinental ballistic missile developed by North Korea as part of their nuclear weapons program. The missile was first tested with a launch on November 28, 2017.

**Jang Song-Thaek**- was the Vice Chairman of the National Defense Commission for the DPRK and the uncle to current leader Kim Jong-un. In December 2013, Jang was removed from his position within the government and it was announced on December 13th that he had been executed as a traitor.

**Kaesong Industrial Complex**- An industrial park north of the Demilitarized Zone. It is administered by South Korean businesses and employs over 50,000 North Korean workers.

**Kim Dae-Jung**- was the 8th President of South Korea and held the position from 1998 until 2003. Kim received the 2000 Nobel Peace Prize for his work in negotiations between North and South Korea.

**Kim Jong-II**- The Supreme Leader of North Korea from 1994 to 2011, after the death of his father Kim Il Sung. His regime was marked by heightened militarism, human rights violations, and a severe famine, which resulted in limited economic decentralization.

**Kim Jong-nam**- was the eldest son of former North Korean Supreme Leader Kim Jong-II. Kim was exiled from North Korea in 2003 and was striped of his status as heir to the mantle of Supreme Leader. He was killed in an apparent assassination attempt on February 13, 2017 while traveling in Malaysia.
Kim Jong-un- the current Supreme Leader of North Korea. Kim inherited the position upon his father’s (Kim Jong-II) death in 2011. Kim has consolidated his power within the Worker’s Party of Korea and greatly expanded North Korea’s nuclear capabilities since taking command.

Kim Yo-jong- is a member of the Worker’s Party of Korea and the younger sister of current Supreme Leader Kim Jong-un. She is considered to be the current heir to the Supreme Leader role should anything happen to her brother.

Moon Jae-in- is the 12th and current President of South Korea. Moon was elected after the impeachment of Park Geun-hye and assumed office on May 10, 2017.

National Defense Commission- was the name given to the highest level of government within the DPRK. The National Defense Commission was reworked into the State Affairs Commission under the 2016 constitution of North Korea.

Panmunjom Declaration- was a declaration between North and South Korean leaders when they met in Kaesong, where the 1953 Korean Armistice agreement was signed. The declaration was made to usher in a new era of inter-Korean dialogue and officially bring an end to the Korean War.

Park Guen-hye- is a former South Korean politician who served as the 11th President of South Korea from 2013 until her impeachment in 2017. Park was impeached on charges of corruption and she was removed from office and sentenced to 25 years in prison.

Yongbyon facility- is North Korea’s largest nuclear facility located some 100 km from the capital of Pyongyang.

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**NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA GDP COMPARED, 1950 – 2016 (PER CAPITA IN U.S. DOLLARS)**

![Graph showing GDP comparison between North and South Korea from 1950 to 2016.](image)

SOURCE: THE MADDISON PROJECT