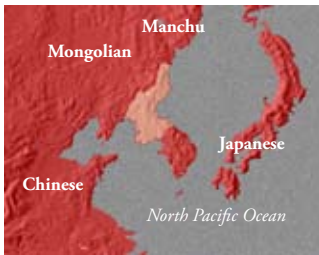
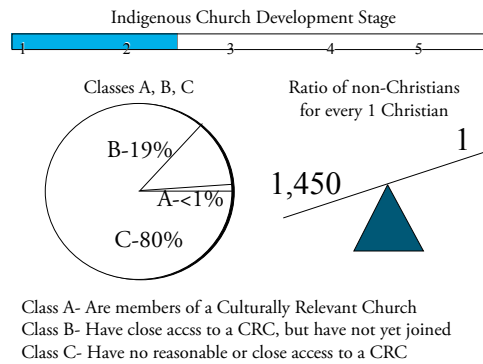


North Korean



Quick Facts

Population: 26,000,000
 North Korea: 24,500,000
 China: 400,000
 Japan: 100,000
 Madagascar: 8,000
Religion: Atheism, Buddhism
Believers: 0.07%
Scriptures: NT, OT
Ministry Tools: JRGT
Church Status: 2
Mission Status: 2
MS Subgroups: 8



Identity: The Koreans are believed to be more closely related to the Japanese and Mongolians than the Chinese, though their language is one of the few linguistic isolates in the world, so their origin is difficult to trace. Since the 1948 partition, North Koreans have become virtually a separate ethno-cultural group from the South.

Lifestyle: Visitors to North Korea describe it as arriving on another planet. The population lives in constant fear of the government and one another. Those interned in concentration camps number in the hundreds of thousands. An estimated 3 million have died from a decade of drought, combined with the government's inefficient rationing program and continued militarization (25% of GNP).

Customs: The government organizes annual "mass-games" which involve tens of thousands of performers for up to two months of activities. The games

are propaganda driven to celebrate the history of the Worker's Party Revolution. All of North Korea's music, theatre, and film centers on the personality cult of its dictator.

Religion: North Korea is officially an atheist state, and an entire generation has been brainwashed by the state-controlled media and education system into renouncing all forms of religion. However, in rural areas, remnants of Mahayana Buddhism persist and monastic orders have survived. The Moonies have been investing hundreds of millions of dollars into the economy of North Korea and the government has now granted them freedom to construct a ministry center in Pyongyang.

Christian Outreach: Ministry to North Koreans who have escaped to China has been effective and many thousands have come to Christ. However, returning to North Korea is dangerous, and could result in the death penalty or labor-camp

internment. The famine has opened up opportunities for NGO work in agricultural development and orphanages, and a few Christians have found opportunity for evangelism, though their activities are highly restricted.

How to Pray:

Little is known about the underground Church in North Korea, though it may number in the tens of thousands, and even more. Pray for its continued growth!

North Korea is ranked as the world's number one persecutor of Christians. An estimated 300,000 believers have been killed or imprisoned by the government over the last 50 years.

Massive cooperative evangelism plans are underway in the South should the Northern regime fall. Pray for the thousands who have committed to go as missionaries that God would grant them his power and grace to reach the entire country.

Chinese businessmen have easy access into North Korea. Pray that many Christian Chinese tentmakers would make use of this opportunity to proclaim Christ, especially to those with power and influence.

Every year 240,000 North Koreans die without Christ.