North Korea Crash Course









Korean Peninsula

- Monarchy known as Joseon until 1905
- Japanese protectorate until 1910
- Japanese colony until 1945
- Divided in half by the Soviet Union and the United States
 - North Korea (backed by Soviet Union)
 - South Korea (backed by the United States)
- Korean War (1950-1953)



North Korea (DPRK)

Democratic People's Republic of Korea

- Modern totalitarian state
- Officially still at war with South Korea
- Juche ideology, "self-reliance"
- Songun Policy, "military first" policy
 - 4th largest military in the world
 - 35% of population is combatready







North Korean Supreme Leaders Eternal Leaders



Kim Il-Sung 1948 - 1994 "The Great Leader"



Kim Jong-II 1994 - 2012 "The Dear Leader"



Kim Jong-Un 2012 - Present

"The Supreme Leader"



38th Parallel or DMZ

Demilitarized Zone

- Most heavily militarized border in the world
 - 160 miles long, 2.5 miles wide
- Landmines, automated machine guns, propaganda, guns, motion sensors, artillery, etc.
- Joint Security Area (Panmunjom)

















