



# **Orientation Guide to North Korea and the North Korean Culture: Religion, Traditions, Family Life, Urban and Rural Populations, Geography, History, Economy, Society and Security**

*Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center (DLIFLC)*

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Virtually all of the nearly 25 million citizens living in the isolated nation of North Korea are ethnic Koreans who share a common background, culture, and language. Their nation-state came into existence after the victorious World War II Allies divided the Korean Peninsula approximately in half at the 38th parallel, ending 1,000 years of territorial integrity. The 1945 division was intended to be temporary. However, it remains one of the most heavily militarized boundaries in the world.

The partitioning of the country North Koreans refer to as Chosun and South Koreans call Hanguk created two mutually hostile states, the Soviet-backed Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) in the North and the U.S.-backed Republic of Korea (ROK) in the South, in competition for recognition as the sole legitimate representative of the Korean people. The split had more than political implications. The North has a plentiful resource base including 200 different types of minerals. The agricultural South traditionally served as the peninsula's breadbasket. At the time of partition, the North was wealthier. Through the 1960s, the DPRK was more industrialized than the ROK and claimed a higher per capita income as well. Now it is routinely described as one of the poorest nations in the world, while the ROK may supplant Japan as Asia's second largest economy.

This book, produced by Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center (DLIFLC), provides comprehensive information about North Korea and the North Korean Culture. Chapter topics include religion, traditions, family life and differences in the lifestyles of urban and rural populations as well as detailed discussion of geography, history and their economy, form of government, society and security and much more.

80 pages; dozens of photos, illustrations and charts in full color.

This is a Print Replica that maintains the formatting and layout of the original edition and offers many of the advantages of standard Kindle books.

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