



Korea

- 1231- The Mongols invaded Korea, forcing out the royal family.
- 1592-1598- Japanese Invasions
- 1627-1636- Manchu Invasions
- Hermit Kingdom: Korea in the 19th century, due to invasions, attempted to close off it's borders preventing the country from foreign trade.
 - From this time Korea was independent.

Early History

- 1910-1945- Japan occupied Korea
 - Japan built up Korea's infrastructure- specifically railroads and street systems.
 - During Japanese occupation- Korean culture was removed from society.
 - People were forced to adopted Japanese names and were not allowed to use the Korean language in schools.

Japanese Imperialism

- During the war, Japan shipped most of Korea's resources, including its people to feed its war.
- August 15, 1945- Japan surrenders
 - The peninsula of Korea comes under divided rule
 - North of the **38th parallel**- Soviet Union
 - Capital- P'yongyang
 - South- United States
 - Capital- Seoul



World War II



38th Parallel

- June 25, 1950
 - Ended July 27, 1953
- North Korean Army invades the South as a way of unifying Korea.
 - North Korea led by communist rebel- **Kim Il Sung**- Father of Kim Jong Il



Korean War

- UN forces helped the South while Communist Chinese volunteers sided with the North.
- The United States supported the dictatorial, but noncommunist leader, Syngman Rhee.
 - Both Syngman Rhee and Kim Il Sung wanted to rule the entire country.

Korean War

- The success of the U.S-led forces alarmed communist China.
 - China then helped North Koreans against the South and United States forces.
- The Korean War turned into a stalemate.
 - 1953- Both sides signed an armistice, or end to fighting.

Korean War

- Area with no military forces.
- Nearly 2 million North Korean and South Korean troops remained dug in on either side of the zone near the 38th parallel.
- Armistice held for the rest of the Cold War- but no peace treaty was ever signed.



Demilitarized Zone (DMZ)

- North Korea- Communist command economy.
 - Suffered, and still suffers from economic stagnation and decline.
 - Soviet aid
- South Korea- Capitalist market economy.
 - This portion of the country had an economic boom and rising standards of living.
 - U.S aid

Two Koreas

- After the war- South Korea rebuilt its economy.
- By 1987- elections began a successful transition to democracy.

South Korea

- At first economic productivity increased, but by the 1960s economic growth slowed.
- Kim Il Sung emphasized- North Korea and self-reliance.
 - This idea helped to keep North Korea isolated and poor.

North Korea

- Kim Il Sung:
 - Established an authoritarian dictatorship.
 - Personality cult
 - Glorified as the “Great Leader” in propaganda.
 - Died July 8, 1994



Kim Il Sung

- Successor to Kim Il Sung.
 - First dynastic succession in a communist regime.
- Like his father, Kim Jong Il was also referred to as the “Great Leader”, “our father”, and “the General”.
- Died December 17, 2011.
 - Successor Kim Jong Un



Kim Jong Il



Kim Jong Un

- The spread of nuclear weapons.
- Since the 1990s North Korea has been the focus of worldwide attention due to its nuclear weapons development programs.
 - 2006- North Korea held its first nuclear weapons test.



Nuclear Proliferation
