

Defense Forum Foundation's (DFF) Programs Promoting Freedom and Human Rights in North Korea

Promoting Awareness through North Korea Freedom Week:

As the Chair of the North Korea Freedom Coalition, DFF organizes this week each year to promote the freedom, human rights, and dignity of the North Korean people. The 8th North Korea Freedom Week was held in Seoul in 2011 for the second time after being held for six years in Washington, D.C. The week includes hearings, rallies, prayer vigils, demonstrations and other events to promote awareness and action on the North Korean human rights issues. For more information, see www.nkfreedom.org.

Free North Korea Radio: DFF provided the first major grant in 2006 to help launch Free North Korea Radio, a defectors run radio program broadcasting true information and history into North Korea and educating the people about democracy, capitalism, and human rights. The following year, DFF won back to back grants from the State Department to enable Free North Korea Radio to expand its one hour broadcast to five hours daily. As a result, Free North Korea Radio became the most popular program broadcasting information into North Korea. DFF is the Honorary Chairman of Free North Korea Radio. For more information, see www.fnkradio.com

Rescuing North Korean Refugees: DFF has been one of the major sources of support for the rescue of North Korea refugees out of China. Currently, it works most closely with American hero Steve Kim and his 318 Partners to save refugees, mostly whom are women and children, from sexual exploitation and horrific suffering in China to help them reach freedom in South Korea and other countries. For more information, see www.318partners.org



Following a balloon launch, Fighters for a Free North Korea's Park Sang Hak leads a cheer with Peter Jung, Choi Sung-yong, Suzanne Scholte, Moon Gook Han and Sin U Nam.

Reaching out to North Koreans: DFF is actively promoting creative ways to reach out to the North Korean people who are completely isolated from the rest of the world by the Kim Jong-il regime. Among these programs are:

Balloon Launches into North Korea: DFF, working with Park Sang Hak and Fighters for a Free North Korea, finances balloon launches in which pamphlets with written messages from the North Korean defectors describing true conditions and true history are sent via balloon to North Korea, so that the North Korean people will have information from the outside world. In addition to pamphlets, these launches include money

to help North Korean families survive, AM/FM/shortwave radios, and DVDs.

Letters from America: DFF also records the **Letters from America** program for FNKR in which real letters from Americans expressing their concerns and hopes for the people of North Korea are read aloud and broadcast with a Korean voice over translation into North Korea. The purpose of the program is to give North Koreans a true picture of the American people as the Kim Jong-il regime raises North Koreans from childhood to hate Americans as "Yankee imperialists wolves" who occupy South Korea and prevent unification.

Sample excerpts from letters from America: "Dear North Koreans, My name is Hope and I'm from the state of Pennsylvania in the USA. We know that many of you do not have enough food and that you can be imprisoned for listening to this radio broadcast or for being a Christian . . . Even though we are told that you hate us. You should know that we love you and care about you."



North Korea Freedom Week is an annual event to promote the freedom, human rights, and dignity of the North Korean people. Above is a picture of the Capitol Hill Rally for North Korea freedom, while below is a picture from NKFV in Seoul. NKFV was held in Seoul for the first time in 2010



DFF chairman Suzanne Scholte, Moon Gook Han and Choi Sung-yong prepare to send another balloon filled with pamphlets and money to North Korea at Freedom Bridge near the DMZ.

(more)

"Dear Citizens of North Korea, Sixty years ago, I was a young infantry officer in the Korean War...I am proud to have served in the cause of South Korean freedom... I hope the day comes soon that North Korea can be as free and prosperous as South Korea." — From Ed, a former United States Marine Corps Captain.

To participate in Letters from America, simply email your letter to skswm@aol.com and indicate in the subject: For Letters from America.

What American Leaders Think of Kim Jong-il: DFF also records this program, which is broadcast into North Korea, in which American leaders, especially those elected to their positions, are asked to share views about leadership, how they view Kim Jong-il as a leader, and what message they want to send to the North Korean people.



North Korea: Did You Know?

- ◆ Three million people have died from starvation in North Korea since the famine that started in the 1990s.
- ◆ Over two hundred thousand North Korean men, women AND children are held in political prison camps. Children are not only sent to these camps but are born there and remain there.
- ◆ Three generations of a family are sent to the political prison camps if just one member is accused of a "crime." Crimes include listening to a foreign radio broadcast, believing in God, not properly showing respect to Dear Leader Kim Jong-il, or repeatedly trying to flee the country.
- ◆ Between four hundred thousand and one million people have died in these political prison camps where prisoners are worked to death and starved to death.
- ◆ Approximately, 500,000 North Koreans have crossed the border into China escaping famine-like conditions in their homeland.
- ◆ Refusing to acknowledge that these refugees will be subjected to torture, detention and execution if they are forced back to North Korea, Chinese authorities continue to forcibly repatriate the refugees back to North Korea.
- ◆ As a result of their dangerous and precarious position, North Korean male refugees become slave laborers in China, while female refugees are subjected to sexual trafficking sold to brothels or to Chinese "husbands" as there is a shortage of Chinese women due to China's one child policy. Approximately, 80% of North Korea females have been "sold" and victimized by human traffickers.
- ◆ The international community has sent enough food and economic assistance to feed every family at risk in North Korea, yet starvation continues because Kim Jong-il uses international assistance as a weapon against his own people feeding his elites and diverting finances for his nuclear program.



"North Korea is the worst human rights situation in the world today. While there are many tragic situations and terrible atrocities occurring in the world today, the North Korean people are the most isolated, most persecuted, and most suffering."

**Suzanne Scholte
Seoul Peace Prize Laureate 2008**



"The miasma ensuing from the broad range of egregious human rights violations in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea requires urgent attention at all levels, from national to international . . . Life in North Korea . . . is dire and desperate."

**Special Rapporteur Vitit Muntarbhorn
reporting to the U.N. Human Rights Council March 2009**

This photo is of the Huh family, who were rescued through DFF's rescue fund. The youngest was able to celebrate his first birthday in freedom.

**Contributions to DFF are tax-deductible.
To support our efforts promoting the freedom and human rights of the North Korean people,
please send contributions to:
DFF, 3014 Castle Road, Falls Church, Virginia 22044 or via paypal at defenseforum.org**