

**The Importance of Dialogue between the United States and North Korea: How Can the
United States Respond to the Nuclear Issue with North Korea?**

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Liberty University Helms School of Government Spring Public Policy Conference

February 21, 2024

Introduction

The nuclear issue with North Korea could create even more danger in currently tense international relations. The United States is in a requirement to own a more strategic and advanced international policy for responding to the tense international situation. As a fact of North Korea's continued hostile attitude toward the U.S., a long-standing economic sanction is causing an inferior consequence. During the Trump administration, the U.S. grasped a groundbreaking choice of dialogue that had no precedent in the previous administrations. Negotiation succeeded in temporarily easing tensions between the U.S. and North Korea. Under the Biden administration, economic sanctions bloom a second time in North Korea. Since then, North Korea has increasingly cultivated hostility and is further developing nuclearization. The U.S. is in demand to resolve the issue of nuclear conflict with North Korea with a soft power. An interesting point is that the establishment of a new United Nations office in the DMZ could bring about the possibility of progress. This project aims to convert the demilitarized zone into a peace zone under the authority of the UN. The history of North Korea generated a catastrophic state with its dictatorship this day. This proposal analyzes the features of North Korean communism from the perspective of the history of the Korean Peninsula in order for the U.S. to create a developed treaty and diplomacy that will usher in more progress with North Korea.

The Grassroots of Communism in North Korea

"Long live independence!" — The scream spread out across the Korean Peninsula in the twinkling of an eye. A demonstration chanting the long-lived independence of Korea inspired citizens one after another. The cries of the tens of thousands of participants kept big dreams and hope for the liberation of their homeland in their chests, which was under Japanese annexation. For Koreans, this moment was an unfathomable desire; they waited for a long time since their homeland was annexed by Japan. The peaceful demonstration with frantic voices for their liberation ultimately led to the Japanese government suppressing Koreans through the military. This is the March First Movement, which cropped up on March 1, 1919, in Korea during the Japanese colonial period. Japan annexed the Korean Peninsula as part of the Empire of Japan in 1910, and since then, the military government has overpowered the civil rights of Koreans. Koreans, embittered by Japan's inhumane and brutal colonial policies, organized a peaceful demonstration in the streets, which led to a demand for independence. The March First Movement was the most important popular protest movement during the colonial era and marked a decisive turning point.¹ Although the protest resulted in brutal oppression with bloody landscapes held by the Japanese government, a desire for independence was maintained in the strong faith of the Koreans. Inversely, the standpoint of independence provoked differences in ideology among the Koreans, leading to divisions between the North and South. The Japanese colonial rule of the Korean peninsula for 35 years, from 1910 to 1945, was a major factor in shaping the current fate of Korea. Protestant Christians supported democracy and colluded with the United States, whereas

¹ Seungyop Shin. "Living with the Enemies: Japanese Imperialism, Protestant Christianity, and Marxist Socialism in Colonial Korea, 1919-1945," *Kookmin University* (2022): <https://10.3390/rel13090824>.

people who rebelled against them conspired with the Soviet Union for the independence of Korea as a socialist paradise.

In 1912, two years after Japan took control of the Korean peninsula, Kim Il Sung, the eternal leader of North Korea, was born. Kim, at a later date, became a communist. In his childhood, he was raised by his parents who were devout Christians. His family was well known in the Korean Christian community in 1940, indicating that his grandfather was a Presbyterian minister. Kim Il Sung's father, Kim Hyong-Jik, was educated at Soong-Shil Junior High School in Pyongyang; this school was established by the missionaries to train Christian leaders.² In spite of the fact that he was not able to complete all of his education in the school, he began to travel abroad with the help of foreign Christian teachers and to expand his worldview. Through Christian education, he became enlightened and became one of the Christians who fought for the independence of Korea under Japanese annexation as many Korean Christians at the time stood up for independence. Kim Il Sung was greatly influenced by his father who was an independence activist. It was after the March First Movement that Kim's destiny was carved out. Kim's father was threatened by the Japanese police as an anti-Japanese activist, and he moved with his family to southern Manchuria in order to escape. This event was the beginning of a tragedy in North Korea.

The policy under the Empire of Japan for annexing the Korean Peninsula was extremely cruel and humiliating. During the period of Japanese annexation, Western missionaries were sent to Korea for proselytization and had hoped to remain politically neutral; however, it was no longer possible for them. Atrocities such as the Cheamni massacre in April 1919, in which Japanese police locked up 29 Koreans in a church in the village of Suwon and burned them to death, became public knowledge.³ Western missionaries who witnessed acts of atrocity vehemently criticized the Japanese government. The behind-the-scenes of the Korean independence movement, especially the March First Movement, involved a strong foundation and support by Protestant Christians and their communities. For a Japanese authority, known as the Government-General of Korea (GGK), the presence of Korean Protestants posed a major threat to the colonial order. Therefore, the Protestant churches were under the severe benchmark of the GGK. The GGK, fearing the threat posed by Korean Protestants due to the March First Movement, subjected them to even more severe oppression. This oppression positioned Korean evangelicals as politically neutral after the March First Movement. The masses of Koreans who supported the evangelical churches for independence were disappointed, and they began to look for alternatives to fulfill the destiny of Korea.⁴

The economic situation in Korea during the colonial period also had a significant impact on generating the ideas of capitalism and communism. At the time, Japan had adopted a fierce form of fascism and ruled Korea. The GGK used its power to take away the economic freedom of the Korean people. Farmers, for instance, are forced to grow and sell crops specified by the GGK. Furthermore, there was extreme racism and a hierarchy; a huge pay gap with the Japanese existed. Koreans had no right to own property, and all of their assets were exploited by the Japanese authorities. The book *Prevailing Worldviews of Western Society Since 1500* defines,

² Fransiskus I Widjaba. Noh I Boiliu. Irfan F Simanjuntak. Joni M.P. Gultom. Fredy Simanjuntak. "The religious phenomenon of Juche Ideology as a political tool," *AOSIS (Pty) Ltb* (2021): <https://doi.org/10.4102/hts.v77i4.6324>

³ Shin, "Living with the Enemies."

⁴ Ibid.

"Fascism is a combination of nationalism and socialism."⁵ The feature of fascism is a tyranny in which people are exploited. The state of the economy in Korea under the Japanese annexation was equivalent to a communist system rather than a capitalist system that allowed individual ownership of capital. Nonetheless, the Japanese emphasized their system as a Western capitalist economy. The lie led Koreans to understand the misleading concept of capitalism and caused hatred against capitalism.

The background of being under the Japanese annexation designed a vague longing for communism for Koreans. For them, communism was seen as a hope for guiding the independence of the Korean peninsula. They speculated that communism was a solution to the long-standing stratification. The author of *Living with the Enemies: Japanese Imperialism, Protestant Christianity, and Marxist Socialism in Colonial Korea, 1919-1945* states, "Communism then penetrated rapidly and deeply into colonial Korea, catalyzing the founding of a communist party within only a few years."⁶ The kingdom of Joseon as called before invaded by Japan and the division of North and South Korea was exposed to the risk of invasion by enemy countries but their ancestors dramatically protected their kingdom. Despite that, the Japanese annexation stole their beloved homeland in the blink of an eye and trampled upon the pride of Koreans. For Koreans, the revival of their nation was truly a cherished dream. Patriotism and the dearest wish for independence eventually turned into a deterioration that led numerous Koreans to choose communism. Kim Il Sung was fervently passionate about the independence of Korea, like following his father. As other Koreans became communists whose patriotism turned into aggravated hatred for Japan, he also became one of those who made the same choice. The author Shin describes, "Fascinated by the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917, some Korean nationalists working in Siberia, Manchuria, and Japan adopted the promising ideology."⁷ Many of the Korean pro-independence nationalists lived in Manchuria, China. Kim, who spent his childhood in Manchuria, expanded his dream for independence, just as other nationalists did. In China, a hotbed of communism at the time, he gradually was inspired by Marxism-Leninism seemed far more attractive for independence than the biblical values. Rebellion and resentment against Japan escorted Kim to plot a revolution. In the era context, the battle between socialism and capitalism was a beginning, and no one knew the result of socialism. Kim seriously believed that socialism was the best aim for Korea. A young man, who was at the mercy of the era, made the biggest mistake for Korea, as he massively loved his nation.

The Rise of Juche Ideology

At the age of 14, Kim Il Sung was trained as an anti-Japanese guerrilla in China. He studied Chinese communist and militaristic war strategies and allied with the Chinese

⁵ Martin Glenn R. *Prevailing Worldviews of Western Society Since 1500*. (Marion, IN: Triangle Publishing, 2006), 218.

⁶ Shin, "Living with the Enemies."

⁷ Ibid.

Revolutionary Army.⁸ As if to avenge his years of humiliation, Kim fought with the Chinese army against the Japanese who had invaded eastern China. Kim continued to partake in the anti-Japanese guerrilla war and rose to the placement as a commander of the army. The Soviet Union appointed Kim as a Korean revolutionary commander, and he was tasked with countering the Japanese advance. Stalin favored Kim's aggressive stance that he wanted to shape the Korean peninsula as a communist paradise. Kim officially took power in North Korea with a subsidy of the Soviet Union. A communist army commanded by Kim, with the backing of the Soviet Union, invaded South Korea in 1950, crossing the 38th parallel drawn by the Potsdam Declaration in 1945. This invasion triggered the Korean War from 1950 to 1953. The United States and the United Nations coincided and signed an armistice on July 27, 1953. The armistice formally actualized the two states on the Korean peninsula, North and South Korea.

However, a political challenge arose due to the death of Stalin in 1953. North Korea withdrew its support from the Soviet Union after the event. North Korea and China were under the umbrella of the Soviet Union, but China began to exert excessive influence after the death of Stalin. In order to eliminate immoderate interference of the Soviet Union and China, Kim Il Sung originated the Juche ideology to justify his own dictatorship. The Juche ideology declares that people must submit to a leader with absolute authority to maintain their autonomy. The Joseon culture largely influenced this ideology. Confucianism is the principal religion during the days of Joseon. Confucius taught people moral and political values and patriotism to govern with authority. The Joseon endorsed the value of honoring ancestors and its teachings of Confucianism built its history over a long course. The Joseons taught people to obey the kings who ruled a kingdom under a monarchy. Since Kim Il Sung had a Christian background, he also used and studied the Bible and Christian structure to generate his own tenet. Therefore, the political system of the North Korean government is homogeneous to the Presbyterian order. Communism in North Korea is characterized by one leader having absolute authority in eternity, derived from the Juche ideology. This composition is greatly different from communism in China that can be seen as an imperialistic feature, in which the communist party expanded its power. The Juche ideology lines up to preserve nationalism and identity as Koreans ascribed to the influence of Kim Il-Sung, an ardent nationalist. Despite economic collapse and a series of starvation deaths due to food shortages, North Korea continues to pursue a policy of self-reliance and isolate itself from the world with a reason to maintain the Juche Ideology that puts Korea first.

Feud with China: China is the enemy of thousands of years for North Korea

Before the founding of the unified Korean peninsula, Joseon, the Korean peninsula stood in three kingdoms: Goguryeo, Baekje, and Silla. During the Three Kingdoms period, the region of North Korea was a kingdom called Goguryeo. Goguryeo had a vast territory compared to other kingdoms and extended to the southern part of Manchuria. The other two kingdoms were competing for the sovereignty of Korea with Goguryeo. They colluded with China, called the Tang Dynasty at the time, and attempted to invade Goguryeo. The long history of East Asia still remains of China as a long-time enemy and has long exposed threats to North Korea. One

⁸ Widjaja, "The religious phenomenon of Juche ideology as a political tool."

possible reason why Kim Il Sung had a distaste for the influence of China's excesses after the death of Stalin was that Korea had witnessed the vices of the Chinese dynasty for thousands of years.

Never Give an Inch: Fighting for the America I Love states "The memory of past Chinese domination of the Korean Peninsula burns deeply in the North Korean mind, and to this day China maintains a sizable military presence along an 880-mile-long disputed border."⁹ The geography of the Korean peninsula is crucial for the expansion of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) into the China Sea. Chairman Kim understands this Chinese intention that the wicked hands of excessive imperialism attempt to grasp Korea. This scheme is not a comfortable situation for North Korea, as it is constantly exposed to the danger of its own country being invaded. China is not content that North Korea possesses nuclear weapons and is eagerly resisting them. Despite China persistently opposing the nuclearization of North Korea, North Korea is still pursuing nuclearization; in fact, in the background, it is to protect itself from Chinese aggression. There are surely other possible reasons for nuclearization, but the conceivable goal of nuclearization is to protect its country from invasion by other countries, according to the analysis of the context of history and the essence of the Juche ideology. Although nuclearization is a reckless method for sure, North Korea has no allies from abroad. North Korea is protecting itself in the best way it can.

For North Korea, its relationship with China is only superficial. On the other hand, for China, North Korea is also a target of invasion. There is no beautiful friendship between them as they are in confrontation with each other in the old days. The nuclearization in North Korea poses a threat to China as well, and the presence of U.S. troops in South Korea puts a brake on China's plot. The author Pompeo describes a conversation with Chairman Kim Jong-Un during a visit to Pyongyang, North Korea.¹⁰ Mike Pompeo told Chairman Kim that the CCP consistently told the United States that American forces leaving South Korea would make Chairman Kim happy. At that moment, Chairman Kim burst out laughing and slammed the table in joy. He stated then that the CCP needs to remove Americans in order to threaten the Korean peninsula in the same way as Tibet and Xinjiang Uighur. He concluded that the presence of the U.S. in South Korea is not a problem for North Korea at all.

Kim Jung Un is one of the worst dictators in the 21st century, having killed innocent North Koreans. The truth is unchangeable: he is the worst-ever criminal in stealing the valuable lives of North Korean people, including their prospective futures, human rights, dearest families, and friends. He grew up in a bubble as the son of North Korea's supreme leader. He was surrounded by luxury and pampering. He has little understanding of the suffering of North Korean citizens. On the other hand, he has a crucial responsibility to protect the country inherited by his grandfather and father, but he had small-scale knowledge because he had little expectation that power would come to him as he has some older brothers. Chairman Kim is constantly exposed to political, historical, and military predicaments and is in invisible sight. He is unable to find solutions to fulfill his duty. This background draws on the current situation in North Korea and its audacious nuclearization. It is important to note that Chairman Kim desperately

⁹ Mike Pompeo. *Never Give An Inch: Fighting for the America I love*. (New York, NY: Broadside Books, 2023), 42.

¹⁰ Ibid, 42.

requested a meeting with President Donald Trump during his meeting with Mike Pompeo¹¹, which could be a signal that North Korea is asking the United States for help. North Korea is stuck in a political vicious cycle. It needs American protection, which could be the key to finding hope for North Korea.

Nuclear Issues and Economic Sanction

It is an unvarying veracity that the nuclear issue in North Korea indicates a menace to the international community, regardless of whether North Korea has some degree of reason. North Korea has developed its nuclear program for over 10 years. North Korea deploys an array of missiles capable of delivering its nuclear threat to Washington, D.C., and Seoul. As of mid-2021, it was estimated that North Korea holds fissile material equivalent to 45 to 55 nuclear warheads. Unfortunately, efforts by the United States to denuclearize North Korea have developed a fault. South Korea and Japan, as well as the United States, keep up their support for denuclearization policies while continuing to impose economic sanctions on North Korea, despite the lack of positive results toward denuclearization. The academic journal *Rethinking Arms Control with a Nuclear North Korea* states the result of economic sanctions as "the probability that he will voluntarily negotiate the denuclearization of his arsenal in the near future is vanishingly small, perhaps comparable to the odds of global nuclear disarmament or North Korea's chances of winning the 2026 World Cup."¹² There is an undeniable reality that pursuing economic sanctions is increasing the nuclear arsenal of North Korea.

Economic sanctions fuel North Korea's dependence on a self-reliant economy. This self-reliant blueprint gives a seed to intimidate the international community. Israel blames Iran for the conflict in the Israel-Hamas war and has asked the United Nations Security Council to eliminate its root of war, Iran. Meanwhile, Iran has denied pursuing nuclear blossoming and maintains that its nuclear program is for peaceful purposes. The rise of Iran in the Middle East is becoming noticeable year by year, as it could be recognized as the China of the Middle East. North Korea established diplomatic relations with Iran in 1979 by merchandising its weapons during the Iranian Revolution. Economic sanctions permit the growth of the relationship between the two nations since North Korea is likely to sell off its military technology to preserve the country's economy. Not only Iran, but North Korea has already prompted the invasion of Ukraine by providing weapons to Russia. The impact of economic sanctions is very likely to encourage North Korea to assist countries venturing to invade. The worst-case scenario of permanent economic sanctions affixes that North Korea uplifts the wars all around by supplying nuclear hardware to enlarge. The United States is entailed in an urgent alternative solution, instead of economic sanctions, to put an end to nuclear issues with North Korea and a chain reaction to the international ballgame. As well as the impact on the international community, economic sanctions imposed by the United States on North Korea encourage North Korea to pursue a policy of self-reliance. The biggest victims of North Korea's self-reliant policy are the North Korean people. The United States needs to have the foresight to understand how the U.S. policy

¹¹ Ibid, 190.

¹² Toby Dalton. Jina Kim. "Rethinking Arms Control with a Nuclear North Korea." *Taylor & Francis Ltd* (2023): <https://doi.org/10.1080/00396338.2023.2172847>

affects the North Korean people since the policy of the North Korean government directly harms the lives of North Koreans by generating extreme poverty.

The Trump administration created a noteworthy example: they handpicked negotiating with North Korea with dialogues that the U.S. previous administrations never had. As a result, the dialogue negotiations triumphed in temporarily easing the icy tension between the United States and North Korea. In the New Year's message of 2019, after a dialogue with President Trump, Chairman Kim stated that he is willing to consider denuclearization by building a relationship with the United States. He was open to interacting with the U.S. president as it indicates a desire to open diplomacy with the United States. At the Hanoi summit, Chairman Kim proposed a complete lifting of economic sanctions in exchange for denuclearization, but President Trump rejected with the reason that North Korea was inadequately prepared to denuclearize. A ground that North Korea is unable to abandon its nuclearization could be that North Korea is concerned about the threat of Chinese aggression on the Korean peninsula. Due to the geographical conflict, North Korea is unlikely to denuclearize easily on its own. Realistically speaking, denuclearization is not achievable in a few years and must take a long-over-period. The management of the nuclear arsenal under the oversight of the United States contributes to yielding effective benefits through establishing diplomatic relations with North Korea. This solution means that the United States jointly manages North Korea's nuclear weapons by building a relationship through negotiations. The United States can take advantage of blocking Chinese military expansion in the Indo-Pacific region including Taiwan by building a relationship and a joint management of nuclear programs with North Korea. As well as hindering China, the joint military management could commit to cutting ties with Iran and Russia, contributing to relieving the world crisis.

The military handling of North Korea by negotiation remains out of Washington policy, and the possibility of criticism could be abided by. The negotiation policy of the Trump administration was subjected to criticism; as the author Pompeo describes, "some members of the national security team discouraged it, fearing, among other things, that we would be legitimizing a rogue regime through high-level diplomatic contact." However, it is debatable whether the outcome of the policy change could be even worse than the consequences of three decades of failed endeavors. The Biden administration announced economic sanctions on North Korea in 2022 without dialogue with Chairman Kim, for the purpose of efforts to eliminate nuclear developments in North Korea. The hope for North Korea advancing relations with the United States was glimpsed in a few past years, but North Korea changed its stance and strengthened cooperation with Russia. If the United States is to seriously address the nuclear issue with North Korea it needs to change policies that have unable to bear fruit for several decades. The United States must critically comprehend that Washington's policy toward North Korea is the fate of the world. Washington's policy must not overlook its responsibility, in which the further militarization of North Korea and its aid of wars would lead to the loss of many innocent lives, including the North Koreans and the global people.

Follow the Walkway Outshined by Korean War Veterans: For Not Forgotten Their Lives

Early in the morning of Sunday, June 25, 1950, North Korean troops trained by the Soviet Union officially launched an attack on South Korea. The North Korean army was

provided with a large amount of military support by the Soviet Union. The academic journal *What Military Lessons Can We Learn From the Korean War, 1950–53?* describes the response of South Korea at the time, “Nonetheless, the ROK Army was nearly unprepared, and the political establishment of the ROK could not be able to succeed in convincing the US administrators about the extent of the threat.”¹³ The U.S. government reacted right away to the invasion of South Korea by North Korean troops. The United States convened and held an emergency meeting of the United Nations Security Council. The United Nations passed a resolution for immediate international recognition of the withdrawal of North Korean troops and international contributions to support South Korea. Although it was ostensibly under the auspices of the United Nations, it was actually under the mandate of the United States. This arrangement was a distinctive case in military history, as the United States commanded under the authority of the United Nations.

General Douglas MacArthur was appointed commander of the United Nations Forces during the Korean War. General MacArthur visited the front lines of the south in Seoul and discovered that naval and air support alone would not be enough to block the invasion of the North Korean army. The author Chisholm states, “Absent immediate employment of U.S. ground troops, the North Koreans would surely overrun the entire peninsula.”¹⁴ General MacArthur desperately sought permission to land at Inchon in order to preserve Korea from the communist forces. The Battle of Inchon determined the future fate of Korea. The strategy of bringing the U.S. and UN forces into the ground war led to the successful recapture of the Korean Peninsula. Most of the attacks were victorious in driving out North Korean troops. However, the Chinese army joined an attack on the U.S. and UN forces. The strength of the Chinese army was initially estimated at 100,000 men, and 167,000 men were ultimately involved in the war. Chinese intervention led to a war that dragged on a nightmare for three years.

The nightmare on the Korean peninsula ended on July 27, 1953, with the signing of an armistice. The 38th parallel was lined as the de facto border between North and South Korea, as it expresses a humiliating consequence. This line of the 38th parallel is the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), provoked by the Korean War. Soldiers from all over the world, including the United States, united to redeem the future of a small country floating in the East Sea. Millions of soldiers died on the land of the DMZ in the course of the bloodshed and warfare. The soldiers were holding their disconsolate minds in the last moments while thinking of their beloved families, partners, and friends. In order for the United States to jointly manage nuclear programs by establishing a new friendship with North Korea, a concrete proposal is that the United States negotiate the DMZ, the historical legacy, into a joint military zone for the United States and North Korea. Turning the DMZ into a joint military zone for the United States and North Korea

¹³ Ömer UĞUR. “What Military Lessons Can We Learn from the Korean War, 1950-53?” *International Journal of Eurasia Social Sciences / Uluslararası Avrasya Sosyal Bilimler Dergisi* (2019): <https://search-ebshost.com.spscc.idm.oclc.org/login.aspx?direct=true&db=a9h&AN=138077695&site=ehost-live>.

¹⁴ Donald, Chisholm. “A Remarkable Military Feat.” *Naval War College Review* (2012): <https://search-ebshost.com.spscc.idm.oclc.org/login.aspx?direct=true&db=a9h&AN=75281053&site=ehost-live>.

could be an unprecedented and groundbreaking proposal for Washington's policy. Nevertheless, this extraordinary proposal could lead to an answer to political and geographical issues.

The joint military management promotes the reunification of the Korean peninsula, but it also helps South Korea from falling into chaos and confusion. The reunified North and South Korea ultimately must be encouraged with reconciliation, but cumulative unification in the progress should be promoted. An immediate unification of North and South Korea would cause political and economic turmoil. If North Korea and South Korea unified as a nation without certain progress or time, it can be assumed that a rapid number of North Korean refugees would flood into South Korea to seek escape from poverty. Especially for the younger generation of South Koreans, it would be challenging to face North Koreans in communication because they do not know them as they were born after the division of Korea. If the unification is realized without progress, the confusion would make the relationship between the North and South Koreans in dispute.

The proposal of the military management also prevents the communization of South Korea. There is a possibility that South Korea will be forced to make a political compromise for the reason of reunification without the United States. Political compromise with North Korea does not contribute to favorable results. More than twenty-thousands of North Korean defectors live in South Korea. Although the 2018 inter-Korean summit showed an aspiration for a developed relationship between the two Korean countries, the danger of North Korean defectors was glimpsed. After the meeting with North and South Korean presidents, two suspected criminal North Korean defectors were forcibly returned to North Korea, despite North and South Korea enacting no extradition treaty. If South Korea allows a political compromise in the name of unification with North Korea, North Korea may demand that South Korea hand over defectors. Some severe scenarios are glanced at with the interaction between South and North Korea alone. The United States must stand as a third party to South and North Korea to avoid the obstacles.

A proposal of the joint military expects humanitarian aid to the citizens of North Korea. The U.S. policy toward North Korea must constantly take into consideration the human rights of North Korean citizens. Sharing the DMZ with North Korea generates diplomatic relations between the United States and North Korea, paving the way for aid from both the United States and the United Nations. The extensive diplomacy provides humanitarian aid including food and supplies to North Koreans who are in extreme poverty. If North Korea shows signs of economic recovery with humanitarian aid, the United States opens up the opportunity to establish diplomatic relations between the two Koreas.

Ultimately, the joint military zones between North Korea and the United States should be used for a peaceful purpose. In the future, the military zone could be changed into a peace zone to express respect for the Korean War veterans while taking its time and process. The author Lee states, "There is a window of opportunity in Korea's DMZ, which has served as a

buffer zone between North and South Korea since the end of the Korean War in 1953.”¹⁵ The DMZ is the inheritance place that the veterans handed down for our generation and a place that could build peace in the Korean Peninsula. The fact that half of the entire DMZ is currently controlled under the authority of the United Nations Command can be taken advantage of to finally realize the peace zone in the DMZ over time. The United Nations can plant the 5th office on the DMZ, following New York, Geneva, Vienna, and Nairobi. If this project is carried out, the United Nations will establish its office in Asia for the first time to save the peace of the Asian continent. The DMZ is a place of biological and cultural significance. The DMZ holds 20% of the nature of the entire Korean peninsula and is blessed with an abundant environment, including forests, wetlands, grasslands, swamps, and estuaries. It is home to more than 1,100 species of animals and 80 species of fish. The 50 species of mammals on DMZ include black bears, leopards, lynx, and tigers. Hundreds of endangered bird species travel between the DMZ and Mongolia, China, Russia, Vietnam, Japan, the Philippines, and Australia. Despite being a conflict zone, the DMZ is a place of miracles, as a variety of plants and animals have created a natural paradise there. The United Nations can take this opportunity to take charge of the environment and preserve it as a peace zone. And the peace zone on the DMZ would be a place to represent the friendship between the United States and the Korean Peninsula.

The Korean War was an ideological war on a global scale that engulfed the entire world as if to symbolize the culmination of world wars, the Cold War, and the history of the Korean Peninsula. Numerous lives were sacrificed for the sake of the Korean peninsula. Condolences to the soldiers of North Korean troops, the Soviet Union, and China who participated in the Korean War are also essential. They are the victims of dramatic changes in history. They sacrificed themselves to find a way for mankind to embrace peace. Although it may seem impossible to transform a demilitarized zone into a peace zone, this project should be viewed positively in order to preserve the memory of the Korean War. As if to comfort the history of the Korean Peninsula, the names of each and every soldier of the Korean War must be engraved on a monument in the DMZ. In the future, the DMZ should be a place where people all over the world can see the names of the heroes of the Korean Peninsula.

Conclusion

Kim Il Sung was a nationalist who truly loved the Korean Peninsula and devotedly wished for independence. However, this background generated a lot of gear, and he transformed into a communist. Thereafter, he became the eternal king of North Korea. However, North Korea is exposed to a political predicament. For North Korea, ties with China are only superficial, and North Korea remains a target of Chinese aggression. The United States can use this standpoint as an advantage and make proposals to manage its nuclear arsenal with North Korea through dialogue and negotiations. Years of economic sanctions have not yielded positive results, and the United States must make policy changes to stop North Korea's nuclear expansion. The DMZ, an

¹⁵ Seung-ho Lee “A New Paradigm for Trust-Building on the Korean Peninsula: Turning Korea’s DMZ into a UNESCO World Heritage Site.” *The Asia-Pacific Journal/Japan Focus* (2010): <https://apjif.org/-Seung-ho-Lee/3404/article.pdf>

inheritance of the Korean War, has huge potential as a joint military area for building a friendship between the United States and North Korea. The DMZ must be regarded as eventually transforming into a peace zone, which will serve as a place of solace in the history of the Korean Peninsula. The fate of the Korean Peninsula changed dramatically under Japanese colonial rule. Later, the Korean Peninsula faced the greatest tragedy of being divided into two countries. The ancestors of Joseon must have felt great disappointment upon seeing the breakup and earnestly dreamed of the future reunification of the Korean peninsula. The building of a friendship between the United States and North Korea through dialogue will be a step toward realizing their dreams.

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