

Prayer Points for the Chosun People

March-April 2007

1. March 1, a national holiday in the Republic of Korea (ROK, South Korea), is the anniversary of a peaceful demonstration in 1919 when Koreans throughout the peninsula showed the Japanese, at that time occupying their nation, that they were still patriotic to Korea and wanted to live as free citizens in their land. Pray that the people in the North will know spiritual freedom in Christ.
2. In a very important agreement reached Feb 13, the DPRK agreed to dismantle its nuclear program in exchange for fuel aid, lifting of financial sanctions, and removal of its designation as a state sponsor of terrorism. The U.S. will also begin talks "moving towards full diplomatic relations" (StarNewsOnline.com, Feb 14). Pray that promises are kept and that this begins a new path of openness for the DPRK.
3. The DPRK's New Year editorial said it plans to keep military first, to emphasize farming and agriculture, to produce more consumer goods and to develop more power, coal-mining and rail transport in 2007 so that its citizens can live better lives (Korea Times, Jan 1). Pray that DPRK citizens can eat better and have better lives socially and spiritually, in 2007.
4. "The light of the righteous shines brightly; but the lamp of the wicked is snuffed out" (Pro 13:9). Pray that the lamp of the righteous who know Jesus Christ in the North will shine brightly, demonstrating God's justice.
5. In January, physicians from both the North and the South began working together in Kaesong, the border city/industrial complex. A 396 square meter hospital is being built there. This is the first time since the Korean War for MD's from both sides to work together (KT, Jan 9). Praise God! Pray that some Christian physicians will work there and model compassionate caring.
6. There are now more than 10,000 DPRK citizens working for ROK businesses in the Kaesong industrial complex (KT, Feb 9). Pray that they will come into contact with individuals who will share the Gospel.
7. According to the Ministry of Unification in the ROK, by 2012 Kaesong will employ half a million DPRK citizens in 2,000 ROK companies (KT, Feb 9). Pray that these businesses will operate using just and fair business practices.
8. A man from the ROK and a woman from the DPRK both working at the Kaesong industrial complex fell in love and wanted to marry. The chairman of SJ Tech, where the two people worked, wanted to support it. Permission has to be obtained from the DPRK (asianews.it, 2005 Jun 28). Pray that such couples can marry and also meet the One who designed marriage.
9. The ROK government is seeking ways it can pay wages directly to the DPRK workers at the Kaesong Industrial Complex project (KT, Oct 19). Let us pray that the workers in Kaesong would receive a fair take-home wage.
10. Give thanks that the DPRK's per capita food production has been growing at an annual average of 1.9 percent during the last decade (KT, Jan 26). Pray that it would continue to increase and that God would bring the food of life that lasts.
11. "Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails" (Pro 19:21). Pray that Christians in the North will remember that God and His purposes prevail and be encouraged by this fact.
12. The number of undernourished people in the DPRK has more than doubled over the past decade, despite the country's increased food production according to a Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) report. FAO estimated the number of undernourished at 7.9 million for 2001-2003, compared to the 3.6 million recorded for 1990-1992 (KT, Jan 26). Lift the hungry to God in prayer.
13. 20-25% of households in the DPRK have access to clean running water (usatoday.com, Oct 22). This is higher than some countries but still far from 100%. Pray that all the families in the DPRK can have access to clean water – and also have access to the Water of Life.
14. With a reported 200 investment projects inside the DPRK, Chinese investors are "by far the largest group by country doing business there, in all kinds of fields" (atimes.com, Jan 10). Pray that God will use their influence for His will.
15. The biggest holiday in the North is April 15, the birthday of Kim Il-Sung, formally titled the Eternal President of the DPRK.

- Everyone is involved in the celebration, even school children putting on fancy performances. Pray that the people in the DPRK will be thirsty for more and seek the one Eternal God.
16. Kim Jong-Il's oldest son, Kim Jong-Nam, visited the DPRK for his father's 65th birthday in February. Jong-Nam is thought to live currently in Macau (cnn.com, Feb 11). Pray that as Kim Jong-Nam is exposed to other world perspectives, he will also be exposed to the Maker of this world!
 17. Buddhism exists in and is even supported by the DPRK. It is thought that there are 300 monks who take care of historic temples in the country (KT, Jan 15). Pray that those who are seeking a higher power outside themselves will find God Almighty Himself.
 18. "All men will hate you because of Me; but he who stands firm to the end will be saved" – Jesus Christ (Mk 13:13). Pray that Jesus' disciples in the North will stand firm to the end, remembering Jesus' example and placing their eternal hope in Christ.
 19. An average of 40,000 S Koreans visit the Mt. Kumgang tourist resort in the DPRK each month; it has earned \$451 million in admission fees since 1998 (KT, Oct 19). Pray that the money will be used to invest in the lives of the DPRK citizens.
 20. A team of young soccer players from the DPRK will take part in the 2007 World Youth Championship (the youth version of the soccer World Cup), starting August 18 in the ROK. The players will come one month early to train (dongA.com, Feb 6). Pray that the Spirit of God would speak miraculously into the hearts of the players, that they might come to seek the Word of God and be able to meet Christian players.
 21. The number of DPRK students studying abroad is on the rise (dailyNK.com, Jan 16). Pray that those studying abroad will have a chance to hear the good news of Jesus and take that blessing back to their homes.
 22. Kim Jong-Il has curtailed discussions regarding his successor, proclaiming that he is capable of leading into his 80s or 90s (dongA.com, Jan 5). Please pray 1 Tim 2:2 for the leadership of the DPRK.
 23. The Institute for Strategy and Reconciliation will become the first relief group to provide individually tailored artificial limbs in the DPRK when its staff delivers \$4.8 million in medical relief goods at the end of March (KT, Feb 9). Pray that those receiving help would have a chance to hear of the God who brings healing.
 24. A recent study by the Korean Institute for International Economic Policy found that if the nuclear crisis is resolved, the DPRK's international trade volume will increase by 23%; if not, it will fall by 33% (dongA.com, Feb 12). Pray for a successful resolution to the nuclear crisis.
 25. "We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God" (2 Co 5:20). Pray that Christians in the North will have the courage to be Christ's ambassadors and proclaim the Gospel of reconciliation to others in their community.
 26. The Czech Republic has stopped granting work visas to N Koreans working there. It is thought that many NK seamstresses (ladies who sew) send their wages to the DPRK government (www.nkhumanrights.or.kr citing the České Noviny, Jan 28). Pray for these and other DPRK workers in Europe.
 27. Praise God for good progress on the building of a university to be opened in Pyongyang. Pray that despite sanctions the necessary equipment will be able to be taken into the country so that teaching can begin in the fall semester. Pray for all the preparations still to be made, and for God's sovereign hand over the choice of both faculty members and students.
 28. 2007 was proclaimed as an international Year of Prayer for North Korea by several SK churches and other international agencies. Pray for 1) a "tidal wave of prayer that will break down ... walls ... and flood the nation with God's grace and love," 2) the blessing of salvation to break out throughout the nation, and 3) a historical movement of repentance and revival, bringing peace to Korea and beyond.
 29. Pray that believers will hold fast to their faith and be powerful witnesses even when it's hard.
 30. The reunification that the DPRK and the ROK both seek would be a great challenge because of their differences in politics and religion (see article). Pray that the two countries would find ways to peacefully prepare for this and be able to settle their differences peacefully.
 31. The people of the DPRK need our help in both word (prayer) and deed (action; see article). Is the Lord leading you to be involved in "deed", for North Korea, if you

aren't already? "Lord, please send
harvesters into the harvest field.