



SUPPORT HUMAN RIGHTS IN NORTH KOREA

NK FACTS:

- The 2005 US Commission on International Religious Freedom reports: "There are virtually no personal freedoms in North Korea and no protection for universal human rights."
- 2005 US State Dept. report states regarding N. Korea that "genuine religious freedom does not exist."
- N. Korea imprisons over 200,000 men, women and children in seven political prison camps, some as large as 20 miles long, with no judicial process, below-subsistence food rations & extremely hard labor. Between 400,000 to 1 mil. have perished in these death camps since they were established in 1972.
- Violations of human rights in N. Korea include: systematic torture, arbitrary imprisonment, starvation, brutal forced labor, infanticide of suspected "racially impure" infants, gas chambers, chemical and medical experimentation on prisoners.
- 2 mil. or more N. Koreans have died of starvation since 1995 despite the fact that N. Korea receives millions in food aid. The US Committee for Human Rights in North Korea reports: "The regime blocked humanitarian aid to the hardest hit parts of the country during the peak of the famine and curtailed commercial imports of food once humanitarian assistance began."
- Up to 300,000 N. Koreans have fled to China to escape persecution and starvation. Because China refuses to allow humanitarian organizations and the UN to feed and shelter these refugees, they are victimized by traffickers, hunted down by police and forcibly repatriated to N. Korea, where they face imprisonment and sometimes execution for the crime of "leaving the country."

NORTH KOREAN REFUGEES

- "I felt like I had two heads because my shoulder bone protruded so much. I felt I had become an alien, not a human being in this world. I was just like a beast. I was treated just like an animal, just like a slave." (Soon Ok Lee, former prisoner)
- "Normally there are cases of execution in public, several times a year. Before the execution they were tortured. They were not given food, and the joints of bones are separated, and the bones are exposed, sticking out of skin. And they become light enough to carry by hand after torture and starvation." (Kang Chol Hwan, imprisoned at age 10 for grandfather's crime)
- "They train me not to treat the prisoners as human beings...Beating and killing is an everyday affair. They are not treated as human beings; they are just like dogs or pigs." (Former prison guard at Hoeryong-area Prison)

THE NK HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

Does the Following:

- Increases funding and support for humanitarian aid to N. Koreans inside and outside their country
- Promotes transparency in delivering humanitarian aid
- Encourages initiatives to aid vulnerable N. Korean refugees
- Facilitates submission of refugee applications to US Consulates
- Makes the human rights situation in N. Korea a key element in future negotiations between the United States, N. Korea, and other concerned parties in Northeast Asia
- Establishes incentives for N. Korea to improve human rights

- Promotes increased radio broadcasting and freedom of information
- Authorizes the President to appoint a Special Envoy on Human Rights in NK

ACTION CHECKLIST:

- Get informed at www.nkfreedom.org and receive information through email list (Email erin_mccormick@wilberforce.org)
- Contact the White House & Secretary Rice urging them to include full funding for the N. Korea Human Rights Act in the 2007 fiscal year budget request.
- Contact your Congressmen urging them to support full funding and implementation of the N. Korea Human Rights Act.
- Write a letter to local newspaper Editor supporting N. Korean human rights.
- Spread N. Korea human rights awareness to your friends, families, and communities – such as hosting a North Korea human rights awareness day/week at your church, school, etc.
- Join the North Korea Freedom Coalition. (E-mail: freedom@wilberforce.org)
- Please consider contributing to :

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MORE INFO AT : WWW.NKFREEDOM.ORG