

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea): Genocide Emergency 22 June 2016

A Commission of Inquiry (COI), formed by the United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC), published a revealing report in February 2014 that exposes the systematic human rights abuses of North Korea - including extermination, murder, enslavement, torture, imprisonment, rape, forced abortions, and many other crimes against humanity. The HRC adopted a resolution supporting the COI's findings and called on the UN Security Council to consider referring North Korea's leadership to the International Criminal Court or the establishment of an ad hoc tribunal for crimes against humanity.

In 2016, the UN envoy in Tokyo declared that no change has occurred in two years since the report was released. Those who act in ways contrary to state dictates face arbitrary arrest, torture, detention without trial, political trials by state-controlled courts, and long prison sentences. In addition, many family members and friends are sent to these camps as collective punishment for "guilt-by-association."

In 2007, the penal code was amended to extend the death penalty to include non-violent offenses, such as fraud and smuggling. An estimated 80,000 to 120,000 people are imprisoned in concentration camps. The Kim regime criminalizes all religion, Christianity in particular. Over 500,000 Christians were murdered in the genocide of the 1950's, which wiped out one of the largest Presbyterian Church groups in the world. Other religions of the country are Buddhism and Islam, which are also outlawed.

In 2016, the UN Security Council adopted Resolution 2270, which imposed sanctions on exporting and importing any gold, iron and coal as well as aviation and automobile gasoline. The Resolution forbids the landing of any aircraft from any foreign country in North Korea. The UN Security Council aimed to limit North Korea's nuclear program by prohibiting sale of materials that could be used to make nuclear weapons to the country.

Genocide Watch considers North Korea at Stage 9: *Extermination*. Crimes against humanity include persecution, torture, and murder. The State kills people for their religious beliefs. It maintains a huge army and a nuclear arsenal poised to reignite war with South Korea and Japan. North Korea has the most totalitarian government in the world.

Genocide Watch Recommends:

- The UN Security Council should maintain strict sanctions on North Korea. It should verify that these sanctions do not interfere with multilateral humanitarian relief or impede NGOs from aiding North Korea's most vulnerable populations.
- The UN should do more than monitor the violation of human rights in the country. UN members should actively implement projects that will promote the release of North Koreans from concentration camps and use television, radio, and the internet to bring information to the people of the country.



Genocide Watch
Alliance Against Genocide