

Difference Between North Korea and South Korea

North Korea vs South Korea

Before World War II, Korea was annexed and occupied by Japan. After the defeat of the Japanese, the country became polarized by superpowers Russia and America, which were now in charge of the Northern and Southern parts of the country. Though the United Nations was to oversee elections that would unite the regions, the Russians supported the communist leader Kim Il-Sung who led the formation of North Korea. US-backed Syngman Rhee in the Southern region became the first president of modern South Korea. Let's explore the Difference Between South Korea and North Korea.

South Korea

Officially known as the Republic of Korea, is the country that nestles between the Yellow Sea and the Sea of Japan. The country is a presidential representative democratic republic with a multi-party system, and elections are held every five years. South Korea is considered a developed nation with an accelerated Internet economy, capping the 10th highest GDP in the world.

- South Korea's geography consists of 4000 islands.
- As of 2020, South Korea recorded a population of 5.18 crores.
- South Korea is home to innovative multinational brands like Samsung, Hyundai Motors, and LG Motors.

North Korea

After the formation of North Korea by Kim Il Sung, the country's leadership stayed in the hands of the Kim dynasty. North Korea is regarded as a totalitarian dictatorship by most of the world, as it has no democratic elections. Most services, from health care to education, are state-run and funded.

- North Korea possesses nuclear weapons and has the second-largest number of military personnel in the world.

- North Korea is considered to be an atheist state. Though religious citizens exist, religion is restricted by the government.
- North Koreans are prohibited from making international calls and watching or listening to foreign films and music.

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The tabular differences between North Korea and South Korea are:

South Korea	North Korea
South Korea is a full democracy, with elections hosted every five years, even having its first female president in 2013.	North Korea falls under the supreme leadership of its founding Kim dynasty, around the Juche ideology.
The capital of South Korea is Seoul, its largest city.	The capital of North Korea is Pyongyang, also its largest city.
South Korea's official languages include Korean (Pyojuneo) and Korean Sign Language.	North Korea's official language is Korean (Munhwao).
South Korea's current president is Moon Jae-In.	North Korea's current president is Kim Jong-Un.
As of 2020, South Korea recorded a population of 5.18 crores.	As of 2020, North Korea recorded a population of 2.58 crores.
The country follows Korean Standard Time	The country follows Pyongyang Time.
The official currency of South Korea is the Korean Republic won.	The official currency of North Korea is the Democratic People's Republic of Korea won or the Korean People's won.