

## **CHAPTER III CHRONOLOGY OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS DEVELOPMENT IN NORTH KOREA**

This chapter explains the history of North Korea in establishing the Nuclear Weapon Programs start from the beginning of the 1950s. Nuclear weapon testing that conducted by North Korea was not merely only for weapons testing but also North Korea trying to show and tell the world that North Korea is a powerful country that has a strong military field, and military weapons are complete, so North Korea is not underestimated. Several nuclear weapons testing made the Security Council mad and issued resolutions containing sanctions against North Korea. However, North Korea often refuses to follow the resolution. This chapter would also explain the ideology of Juche and Songun that use as a basic ideology for North Korea to be the strong country in the world through military and power.

### **A. DPRK History**

The Division of Korea is an inheritance of the cold war. Japan attached Korean Peninsula in 1910, and the country spent the next 35 years under the military-run of Japanese. With the defeat of Japan in World War II, USA troops arrived in the southern part of the peninsula, while Uni Soviet forces secure the region north of scope 38 ° N (or the 38th parallel). At the point when communism was holding firm on the North, Kim Il Sung showed up as the first Prime Minister of the Democratic People's Republic Korea (DPRK) was formed in 1948. While, the UN General Assembly approved the election held in the South, the appropriation of a Constitution and the

introduction of the Republic of Korea, with Seoul as its capital.<sup>1</sup>

Tensions between the two Governments and their powerful allies erupted in war in 1950, when Soviet-supported North Korean troops invaded the South. The battle in the war of Korea--which spent no less than 2.5 million people--ended in July 1953, with the peninsula still divided into two hostile countries. Along the 2.5-mile demilitarized zone separates South Korea from North Korea, generally following the 38th parallel for 150 miles across the peninsula. Established according to the terms of the 1953 peace negotiation, the war zone was once destroyed it is the preservation of nature, is covered by forests, estuaries, and wetlands that hold hundreds of species of birds, fish and mammals.<sup>2</sup>

Installed by Soviet leader Joseph Stalin in 1948, Kim Il-Sung remained in office until his death in 1994. During the reign of almost 50 years, a powerful cult of personality emerged around the North Korea people called, as the great leader, the leader of the heavenly and even "Sun" A new calendar was introduced, as the first year of birth of Kim Il Sung in 1912. Each elementary school in the country was equipped with a special training room where young children were indoctrinated in the regime's teachings.<sup>3</sup>

North Korea's constitution was altered to announce Kim Il-Sung the Eternal President of the Republic, and the anniversaries of both his birth and death are considered national holidays in 1998, Kim Jong-Il, his son also was the center of a similar cult, with some of the people of North Korea are convinced that he was strong enough to control the weather. Hundreds of memorial statues dedicated to the village of Kims in the countryside, regardless of a progression of fundamental

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<sup>1</sup>Pruitt, Sarah. 2017. *History Stories: What You Need to Know About North Korea and Its Nuclear Program*. Retrieved from <http://www.history.com/news/what-you-need-to-know-about-north-korea> (Accessed on January 29th, 2018)

<sup>2</sup> Ibid

<sup>3</sup> Ibid

poverty and famine, a large a massive mausoleum was built on the outskirts of Pyongyang to house the preserved groups of Kim Il-Sung and Kim Jong-Il, now showed for all time like numerous despotic pioneers previously them.<sup>4</sup>

North Korea has remained isolated from the international community, as it is governmental, economic and other operations hooded in secrecy. Restrictions on travel into or out of the country and tightly controlled press helped keep this isolation. North Korea's foreign policy has been marked by two significant alliances, with the Soviet Union and China, and withstood hostility against South Korea and the United States. The collapse of the Soviet Union in the early 1990s made China as the most important ally in the country.<sup>5</sup>

## **B. Chronology History of North Korea's Nuclear Development and Background**

In the mid-1950s, North Korea began its nuclear program. In December 1952, the legislature set up the Atomic Energy Research Institute and the Academy of Sciences, however atomic work started to advance when North Korea formed a helpful concurrence with the Soviet Union. Pyongyang signed the establishing sanction of the Soviet Union's Joint Institute for Nuclear Research in February 1956 and started sending researchers and specialists to the USSR for preparing not long after that. North Korea and the Soviet Union consented to an arrangement on tranquil in 1959, utilization of nuclear energy that included the provision of Soviet Union help to fabricate a nuclear research complex in Yongbyon, North Pyongan Province.<sup>6</sup>

In the mid-1960s, the Soviet Union provided extensive technical help to North Korea in building up the Yongbyon

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<sup>4</sup> *Ibid*

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid*

<sup>6</sup> Nuclear Threat Initiative. 2017. *North Korea*. Washington DC: NTI. Retrieved from <http://www.nti.org/learn/countries/north-korea/nuclear/> (Accessed on January 13th, 2018)

Nuclear Research Center, which incorporated the establishment of a Soviet IRT-2000 atomic research reactor and associated facilities. North Korea utilized this little research reactor to create radioisotopes and to prepare the workforce. In spite of the fact that the Academy of Sciences and cabinet were given operational and regulatory oversight of the nuclear facilities, Kim Il Sung held the most elevated conceivable control over the atomic program and all decisions identified with weapons development. despite supported by initial assistance from Moscow, and to some degree Beijing, North Korea's nuclear program grew to a great extent without significant foreign help. Apparently, Kim Il Sung requested that Beijing share nuclear weapons technology after China's first nuclear test in October 1964, however, China's pioneer Mao Zedong disagree. Not long after that, North Korea's relations with China started to break down.<sup>7</sup>

In the late 1960 's, North Korea expanded its education and research institutions to support the nuclear program for civilian and military applications. In the early 1970 's, North Korea's engineers were using technology to expand the original IRT-2000 research reactor, and Pyongyang began to gain re-processing technology of plutonium from the former Soviet Union. In July 1977, North Korea signed a trilateral safeguard agreement with the IAEA and the Soviet Union that brought the IRT-2000 research reactor and a critical Assembly in Yongbyon under the supervision of the IAEA. The Soviets were included in the agreement because they supplied the reactor fuel.

The beginning of the 1980s was a critical indigenous extension period when North Korea constructed uranium milling facilities, a fuel rod fabrication complex, and a 5MW(e) nuclear reactor, and in addition innovative work establishments. In the meantime, North Korea started experimenting with high explosives tests needed to build a nuclear bomb trigger mechanisms. In the mid-1980s, the country had begun to build

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<sup>7</sup> *Ibid*

a 50MW(e) nuclear reactor in Yongbyon, while additionally extending its uranium processing facilities.<sup>8</sup>

In December 1985, North Korea agreed to sign the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) as a non-nuclear weapon state in return for Soviet help that manufactured four LWRs. In September 1991, the President of the U.S. George H. W. Bush reported that the United States would pull back its nuclear weapons from South Korea, and on December 18, 1991, President Roh Tae Woo proclaimed that South Korea was free of nuclear weapons. North Korea and South Korea at that point signed the Joint Declaration on the Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, where the two parties swore that they would not "test, manufacture, manufacture, receive, possess, store, deploy or use nuclear weapons." The understanding likewise ties the two parties to overlook the responsibility for "nuclear enrichment and uranium enrichment facilities." The agreement was additionally for a bilateral inspection regime, but both sides failed to agree on its implementation.<sup>9</sup>

### 1. The 1994 Crisis and the Agreed Framework

North Korea signed a safeguard agreement with the IAEA on 30 January 1992, and the Supreme People's Assembly ratified the agreement on April 9, 1992. Based on the terms of the agreement, North Korea gave an early statement of its nuclear materials and offices and gave access to IAEA assessors to check the culmination and accuracy of the Declaration. Six inspection rounds started in May 1992 and closed in February 1993. Pyongyang's underlying proclamation incorporates a little example of plutonium (under 100 grams), which North Korean authorities said was reprocessed from harmed spent fuel bars that were expelled from the 5MW(e) reactor in Yongbyon-kun. In any case, the IAEA investigation of Korean experts demonstrated that it had been rehashed in plutonium preparing

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<sup>8</sup> *Ibid*

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid*

for three events - in 1989, 1990, and 1991. At the point when the Agency asked for access to two speculated nuclear transfer destinations, North Korea proclaimed that they were a military area and in light of the fact that it is denied. After the IAEA denied access to North Korea's waste transfer in mid-1993, the Agency asked for the UN Security Council to allow uncommon specially appointed investigation expert. Accordingly, North Korea reported its aim to pull back from the NPT on March 12, 1993.<sup>10</sup>

Under the terms of the agreement, the withdrawal of the nation might not be legitimate until 90 days after it has given notice. After serious reciprocal transactions with the US, North Korea reported that it suspended its withdrawal from the NPT one day before the withdrawal produced results. Pyongyang agreed to suspend its withdrawal while talks continued with Washington, however, claim to have an exceptional status regarding its nuclear security duties. Under this extraordinary status, North Korea agreed to permit the progression of security in its recent activities yet declines to permit inspections that can verify past nuclear exercises.<sup>11</sup>

At the point when talks with the United States on North Korea's return to the NPT proceed with, North Korea kept on working a 5MW (e) reactor at Yongbyon. This activity intensifies the emergency because of the arbitrary situation of spent fuel poles away while risking the IAEA's ability to recreate the operational history of the reactor, which could have been utilized to defeat contrasts in plutonium preparing reported by Pyongyang. The administration of the President of the U.S. Bill Clinton declared that they would ask the UN Security Council to force economic sanctions; Pyongyang answered that it would consider economic sanctions "an act of war."<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> Nuclear Threat Initiative. 2017. *North Korea: Nuclear*. Retrieved from <http://www.nti.org/learn/countries/north-korea/nuclear/> (Accessed on January 31th, 2018)

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid*

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid*

After a meeting between previous US President Jimmy Carter and Kim Il Sung, North Korea agreed to solidify work at its gas-graphite directed reactors and related facilities and to enable the IAEA to monitor that freezer. Pyongyang was also required to "consistently take steps to implement the North-South Joint Declaration on Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula," and remain a party to the NPT. Instead, the United States agreed to lead an international consortium to build two light water reactors and to provide 500,000 tonnes of heavy fuel oil annually until the first reactor operates online with a target date of 2003. Furthermore, the United States provides "formal guarantees against the threat or use of nuclear weapons by the United States."<sup>13</sup>

### **C. Several North Korea Nuclear Weapons Testing**

1. October 9, 2006. North Korea conducts an underground nuclear test near the village of P'unggye, in the north-east.
2. May 25, 2009: North Korea conducts its second underground nuclear test several kilometers from its first nuclear test site in 2006 near the village of P'unggye.<sup>14</sup>
3. February 12, 2013: The Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO) detects seismic activity near North Korea's nuclear test site.<sup>15</sup>
4. January 6, 2016. North Korea fourth nuclear weapons test, which claims to have conducted a hydrogen bomb. H-bombs, also known as thermonuclear warheads.<sup>16</sup>
5. September 9, 2016: North Korea conducts its fifth nuclear test. The seismic activity notes a magnitude of 5.0.

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<sup>13</sup>*Ibid*

<sup>14</sup>BBC. 2017. *North Korea Nuclear Test: What did they achieve?* Retrieved from <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-17823706> (Accessed on February 23th, 2018)

<sup>15</sup>Arms Control Association, *Chronology of U.S. North Korean Nuclear and Missile Diplomacy*. Retrieved from <https://www.armscontrol.org/factsheets/dprkchron> (Accessed on February 23th, 2018)

<sup>16</sup>BBC, Op.cit. *North Korea Nuclear Test: What did they achieve?*

6. September 3, 2017: North Korea conducts its sixth nuclear test, claiming it was a hydrogen bomb. Seismic activity shows that North Korea conducted its biggest nuclear test to date at 3:30 UTC. Moreover, occurred around Pyganye-ri North Korea test site. The initial estimate of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO) is that a seismic magnitude of about 5.8, occurred at very shallow depths. According to seismic data, some experts consider the device had an explosive result that excess of 100 kilotons TNT equivalent, which is significantly higher than past North Korean nuclear tests.<sup>17</sup>

#### **D. The Reasons North Korea Develop Nuclear Weapon Program in its Country**

To find out the reason why North Korea is developing its nuclear weapons program, it is because of several reasons. First, we must understand what the structure of the North Korean regime is.

##### **1. Ideology of Juche**

This idea of Juche was introduced by Kim Il-Sung during a speech to the Korean Workers' Party Propaganda and Agitation Department in 1955, one of political philosophy or more known as Juche became the official ideology of this state. Kim Il-Sung said that applying an idea of Juche means, being a ruler of revolution and reconstruction in their own country, holding firmly to the independent position, refusing the dependence on others, using his own brains, believing in his own power, showing the spirit of revolutionary self-reliance, and thereby solve its own problems for itself over its own responsibilities in all situations. North Korea thinks that Juche

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<sup>17</sup>*Ibid*

is the creative application of Kim-sung from the principles of Marxism-Leninism against political reality in North Korea.<sup>18</sup>

Juche is composed of two Chinese characters: "ju" which means "rules" and "che" which has the basic meaning of "essence" the political context of the early 20th century, "ju" suggests a World War I era of Wilsonian the concept of "self regulation" or "self-determination" for the people of colonies such as Korea people. Moreover, "che" (essence) we can translate "juche" as "the essence of the self-determination."<sup>19</sup>

According to the principle of philosophical, a man is a master of everything, and he could decide everything known as Juche idea, which confirms the value both of the interests of men. Based on an ideology of Juche, humans have control over the world's and his destiny because he has creativity and awareness. Juche follower claims that human point of view as domination and the re-establishment of the world is the unique contribution of the Juche ideology to the body of philosophical knowledge. Kim Il Sung's policy rests on a subject such as class struggle, the idea of the mass line, the role of a single high leader in history and the importance of confidence in beliefs of a person. This is a view of the world that centers on a man and also a political philosophy to realize the independence of the masses of the people. Own abilities were all primarily from the thought of the Chinese people and Eastern European.<sup>20</sup>

Many scholars think that Juche idea to be regarded as a leading ideology that pushes North Korean politics on domestic and international issues. Kim Jong Il's treatise declares, "The idea of Juche represents a guiding idea of the Korean revolution ... we are faced with the honorable task of modeling the whole

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<sup>18</sup>Lee, Grace. 2003. "The Political Philosophy of Juche" in *Journal of Korea*. Vol. 3 p.105

<sup>19</sup>Quinones, C. Kenneth. 2008. *Juche's Role in North Korea's Foreign Policy*. Retrieved from <http://www.ckquinones.com/wp-content/uploads/2008/08/Maison-Franco-Japonaise-Juche-Paper.pdf> (Accessed on February 19th, 2018)

<sup>20</sup>*Op.Cit.*, 109.

society on the idea of Juche." Kim Jong Il explains that Juche is a dismissal of, not a reinterpretation of Marxism-Leninism, are the United States and Japan, according to the idea of Juche. Success in the struggle against them in need of some accomplishment that began with ideological awaken consciousness of the masses.

Dissemination of Juche also "requires that for the national culture can be developed ..." because, The people of Korea must know their history, culture, economics, geography, and customs of the nation of Korea, and in particular the policy of the party, the revolutionary history, and revolutionary tradition. After that, then they can establish Juche idea and became the true Korean patriots and true Korean communist".<sup>21</sup>

North Korea has implemented the principle of self-reliance in defense from long ago. after the Division of the peninsula of Korea, half a century ago around 17,000 U.s. Soldiers still placed in South Korea; in the North exactly, however, the Soviet Union soon withdrew after the country was founded, and in 1958 the Chinese Army who fought in the war of Korea withdraw completely. Discussing this, surely, it is not easy and quite difficult for a small country like North Korea to protect its country. Because of this, North Korea has focused its resources to develop nuclear missiles.<sup>22</sup> It made the spirit of the Juche idea is kept alive until now.

Based on the understanding of Juche idea adopted by North Korea since the era of Kim Il-Sung, that man control or mastered everything and decide everything, or supreme ruler, where they hold a firm independent position, believe in their strength, using their strength, and refusing dependence on

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<sup>21</sup>Quinones, Kenneth C. 2008. *Juche's Role in North Korea's Foreign Policy*. Retrieved from <http://www.ckquinones.com/wp-content/uploads/2008/08/Maison-Franco-Japonaise-Juche-Paper.pdf> (Accessed on February 22th, 2018)

<sup>22</sup>Isozaki, Atsuhito. 2017. *Understanding the North Korean Regime*. Washington, DC: Wilson Center. p.16

others. This has affected North Korean leaders that they have full control over North Korea.

## 2. Ideology of Songun

Another ideology in understanding the regime is the military-first policy or known as “*songun*” in Korean. Songun idea is rooted in the Juche idea. In 2004, the regime began to assert that the Songun idea was a summary of Kim Jong-II ideological and theoretical aspirations. Songun is a policy that prioritizes military or prioritizes KPA (Korean People's Army) in North Korea for state affairs and its resources. Songun ideology was originally developed as controlling ideology in North Korea to support Kim Jong-il's one-man authoritarian system as he strengthened power in the years after the death of his father in 1994. The military here as an executor of the body, which should be protected. The military is not the only institution designed to perform the function of maintaining the state from external enmity. In fact, it provides all of the other institutions of the government with legitimacy. The government uses this policy as a guideline for its governance and foreign policy.<sup>23</sup> Also Kim Jong-il legacy of a nuclear program as a crowning accomplishment, that changed the constitution so as to declare North Korea as a nuclear state and declared nuclear and economic development as his high priorities.<sup>24</sup>

North Korea is very firmly to uphold ideology of Songun or military first in ruling its own country. Because this is one of a reason why North Korea is conducting the nuclear program. To strengthen his regime and with the underlying purpose of building a strong and prosperous country. Songun ideology has created a belief that people should follow the military because the military is always right in their country.

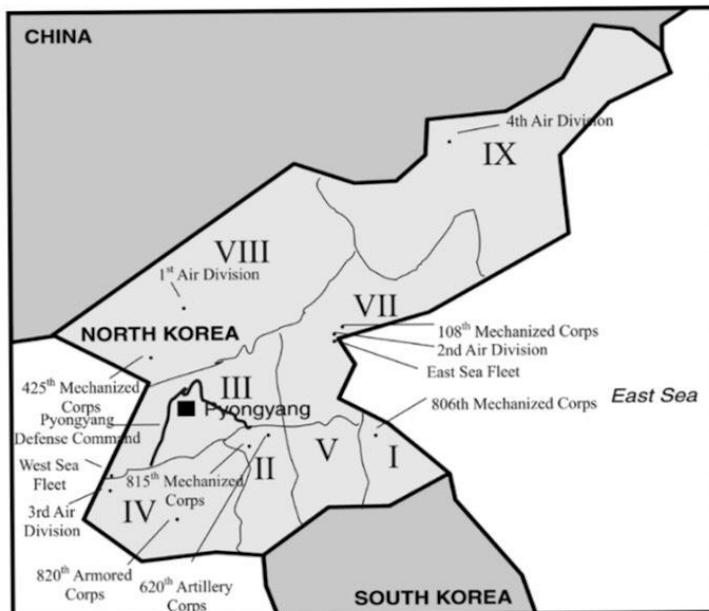
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<sup>23</sup>Park, Hans S. 2007. *Military-First Politic (Songun): Understanding Kim Jong-il's North Korea*. In journal Academic Paper Series, Volume 2, Number 7.

<sup>24</sup>Zaharia, Andrea Alina. 2016. United States, *China and the North Korean Nuclear Program*. Acta Universitatis Danubius. Vol 9, p.92

Military first politics in North Korea more than a slogan of politics. It is no wonder that the military system is a part of the North Korean culture. The picture below shows that the deployment of North Korea military is spread over in various province in North Korea, from the north side to the south side.

Figure 1 3.1 North Korea Military Deployment



Sources: Strategic Studies Institute<sup>25</sup>

<sup>25</sup> Gause, Ken E. 2006. *North Korean Civil-Military Trends: Military-First Politics to a Point*. Washington, DC: Strategic Studies Institute, p.28