

# East Asia

## Japan and the Koreas

# Natural Environments

## ■ Japan

- 4 major islands, 70%

mountains, volcanoes, coastal plains on the Pacific, forests



## ■ Korea

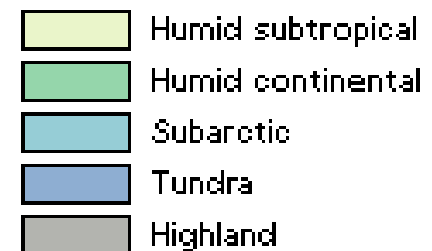
- Peninsula, mostly hills and low mountains, coastal plains in the west, forests

Both have many smaller islands



# Climates

- Both are influenced by monsoons
- Japan and Korea are similar to the U.S. east coast: severe winters in the north, mild winters in the south, warm humid summers



# Resources

- Japan has limited resources and relies on imports. Forests are plentiful but are strictly controlled
- Korea imports oil & gas but has iron ore, copper, lead & coal
- Japan & Korea are both rich in marine life

Bogildo coast line, South Korea



# Historical Events

- Japan developed a distinct culture over the years
- Settled by the Ainu and Mongols from Central Asia
- Shoguns were military leaders who ruled Japan historically



Matsumoto Castle



- Japan began to open up to foreign influences with the arrival of the US Navy in 1853
- Meiji Restoration of 1868 began modernization reforms
- Japan began gaining territory-Taiwan, Korea, China



- Japan invades China in 1931 beginning WWII in Asia.
- They took over the Manchurian Plain because they wanted the iron ore and coal to help build up their war arsenal.
- During World War II, Japanese Empire included most of E and SE Asia.
- Japan joined Axis powers in 1940-
- surrendered in 1945 after atomic bombs
- Japan became democratic after WWII



# Cultural Features

- Strong Chinese Influences  
108 BC
- Homogenous-single ethnic groups
- Religions: Japan-Shintoism & Buddhism, Korea—  
Buddhism & Confucianism  
South Korea-strong Christian influence
- Education-good schools, high literacy in Japan &  
South Korea; North Korea focuses on communist  
ideology
- Customs are strongly influenced by the west, but  
traditions survive (especially family & elders)





# Economy



- Japan is the region's major economic force and also a leader in foreign investment and international banking, and a major exporter of automobiles and high tech electronic products.
- Japan is the 2nd largest industrial power in the world, after the US.

**Miho Shipyard,  
Shizuoka, Japan**



- It has the largest fishing industry in the world.
- They have been successful in exporting whole industries overseas.
- They have also invested in foreign industry, such as entertainment and real estate.
- Rapid industrialization characterizes several other nations of the region.

- Taiwan (Republic of China), Singapore, Hong Kong, and South Korea are called the “Four Dragons” or “Four Tigers.”
- Taiwan’s average per capita income is more than 10 times that of China (PRC).
- Singapore has one of the busiest ports in the world. It is a center of trade and banking.





- Hong Kong returned to the People's Republic of China in 1997. It is one of the world's busiest ports and largest financial centers.



The dazzling night  
cityscape across Hong  
Kong's Victoria harbour



# The Region Today

## ■ Modern Japan

- is a blend of traditional, modern, west & east
- Agriculture & industry are productive
- Exports are key but Asia is a major competitor
- Most are middle class living in small expensive homes





**How** has Korea's location **affected** the development of the peninsula **and** the relationship with the neighboring countries?



# Historical Events

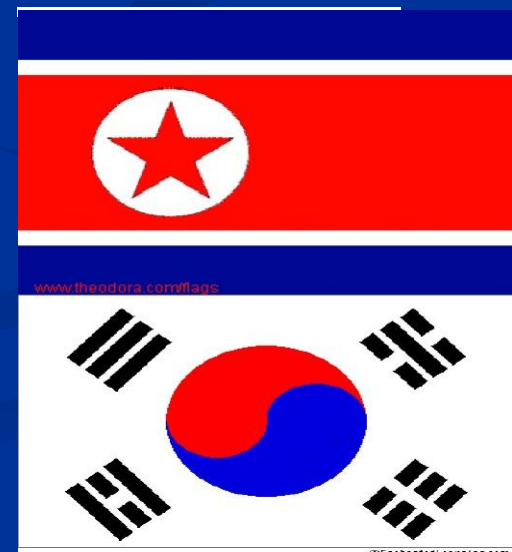


- Korea was settled by the Ainu and Mongols from Central Asia
- At different times in Korea's history it has been occupied by China, Japan and the Soviet Union [Russia]
- Korea has tried to isolate itself earning its western nickname "Hermit Korea"





1905 a Japanese protectorates  
1910 annexed by Imperial Japan  
1945 end of World War II  
1945 the Korean Peninsula was  
divided between the  
Soviet and  
American  
occupation forces



- Korea was divided along the 38th parallel.
- The USSR occupied North Korea and the US occupied South Korea



1947 the UN establishes the UN  
Temporary Commission on  
Korea—USSR withdraws

1950 the South declares  
independence and N.  
Korea [with PR of China]  
invades S. Korea—  
Korean War Begins



1953 fighting ends and the  
**Demilitarized Zone [DMZ]**  
is formed to separate the north  
and south—**38<sup>th</sup> Parallel**

- **North Korea [Democratic People's Republic of Korea] and South Korea [Republic of Korea]**

*Each country contends that it is the sole legitimate government of all of Korea; they refuse to recognize the other as a country.*

- **Military troops still occupy the DMZ as the United Nations still maintains the truce in Korea.**
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7WapJczNfw8>

1991 both joined the UN







North Korean Soldiers patrol Korea's DMZ



Gatehouse in the Funchilin Pass looking north toward Chosin Reservoir.



Panmunjeom, the Joint Security Area in the DMZ. View from the North...

... and the South side.



# Economic Development—South Korea

- 1960's rapid industrial growth in South Korea
- Has a market economy, a large urban middle class



- Major exporter of heavy and light industries
- Also, a major exporter of high-tech industries
- Major trading partners include the US, the EU and Japan

**South Korea** became known as one of the “**Four Dragons**” or “**Four Tigers**” with Hong Kong, Taiwan (Republic of China), and Singapore.



# Economic Development—North Korea

- North Korea has a command economy with great poverty in rural areas.
- Until the 1970's, the main emphasis was on the production of heavy industry

[Photos of North Korea](#)



- Since the 70's North Korea has been trying to expand the production of agricultural and consumer goods.
- The environment limits agricultural production.
- Their main trading partners are China and Russia
- There have been many **UN Economic Sanctions** on N. Korea since **The first nuclear test in 2006.**





# Comparison of the Two Koreas

	<b>North Korea</b> (Democratic People's Republic of Korea)	<b>South Korea</b> (Republic of Korea)
Infant Mortality Rate	22.1 / 1000	3 / 1000
Life Expectancy	70.7	82.5
Urbanization	61.2%	82.7
GDP	<b>\$1,700</b>	<b>\$39,400</b>
Labor Force	37% Agriculture 63% Industry & Service	2% Agriculture 39% Industry 59% Service

# Political Situation Today

## South Korea--The Republic of Korea

- Democratic Republic with rights & freedoms
- held its first free presidential election in 1987
- President PARK Geun-hye took office in February 2013—impeached over her alleged involvement in a corruption and influence-peddling scandal.
- MOON Jae-in is the current leader.
- 2018 Winter Olympic Games



- Discord with North Korea [although some want to reunite

# Political Situation Today

**North Korea—the People's Republic of Korea—has a communist government**

## Supreme Commanders

1948 - 1991

Kim Il-sung



1991 - 2011

Kim Jong-il



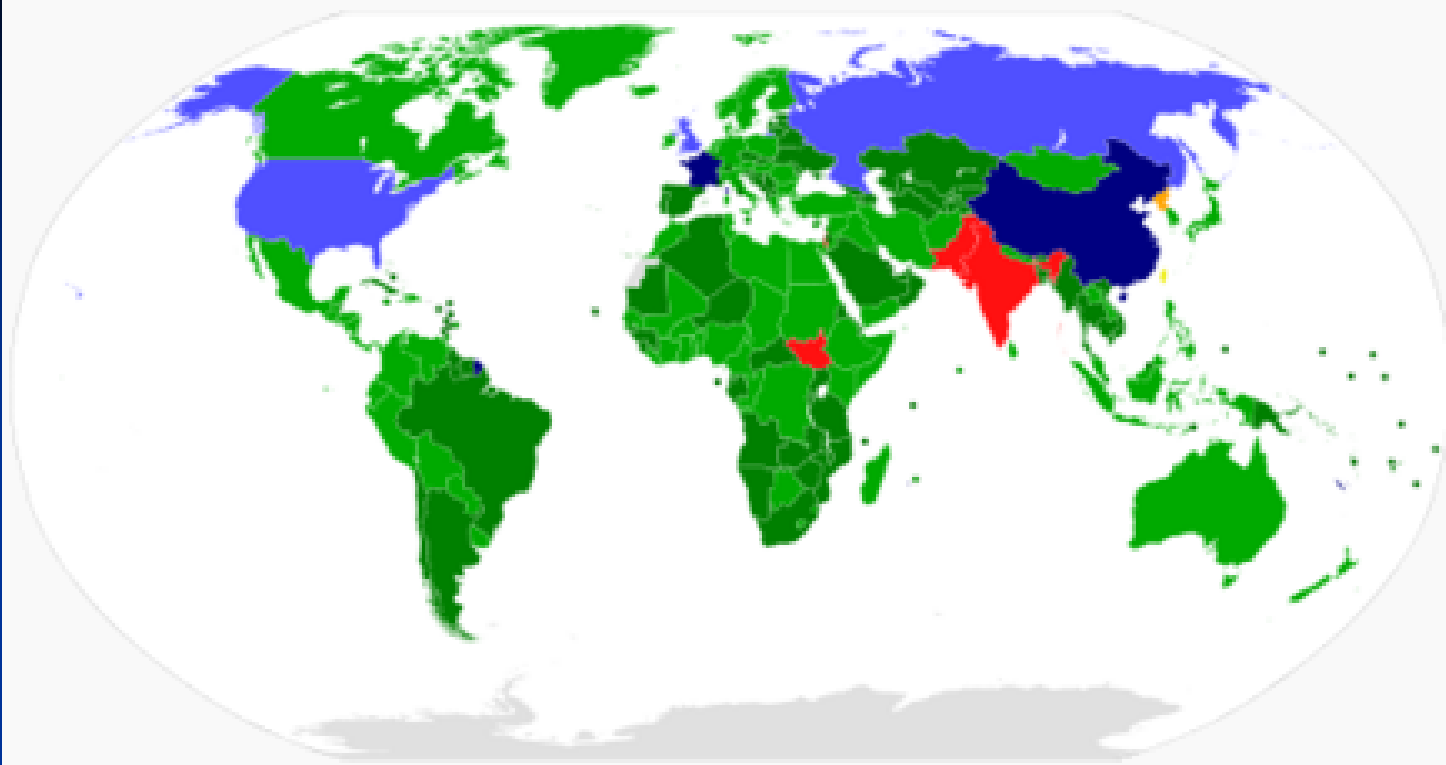
2011- Present

Kim Jong-un





***Juche*** “self-reliance”: -sustainability through agricultural independence and a lack of dependency.


# Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons





Participation in the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty


 Recognized nuclear  
weapon state ratifiers


 Other ratifiers

 Withdrawn (North Korea)

 Unrecognized state,  
abiding by treaty (Taiwan)

 Recognized nuclear  
weapon state acceders

 Other acceders or  
succeeders

 Non-signatory (India,  
Israel, Pakistan, South Sudan)

1994 agrees  
to a  
nuclear  
program  
freeze

2003  
withdraws  
from the  
Nuclear  
Non-  
Proliferation  
Treaty (NPT)



# 2017 Conducted a series of missile and nuclear tests

- demonstrated ability to launch ballistic missiles beyond its immediate region
- suggested that North Korea's nuclear weapons capability was developing at a faster rate than thought
- joint U.S.–South Korea military exercise have been preformed raised international tensions



# Who Is Within the Range of a Missile Launched from North Korea?

The red star is a missile-launching base located near the center of North Korea. The estimated range of a **short-range ballistic missile (SRBM)** from this base is about 700 miles. Any point within this circle would be vulnerable to attack by a SRBM.



Which countries would be vulnerable to attack? Which of the following cities?

Beijing

Hiroshima

Hong Kong

Osaka

Seoul

Shanghai

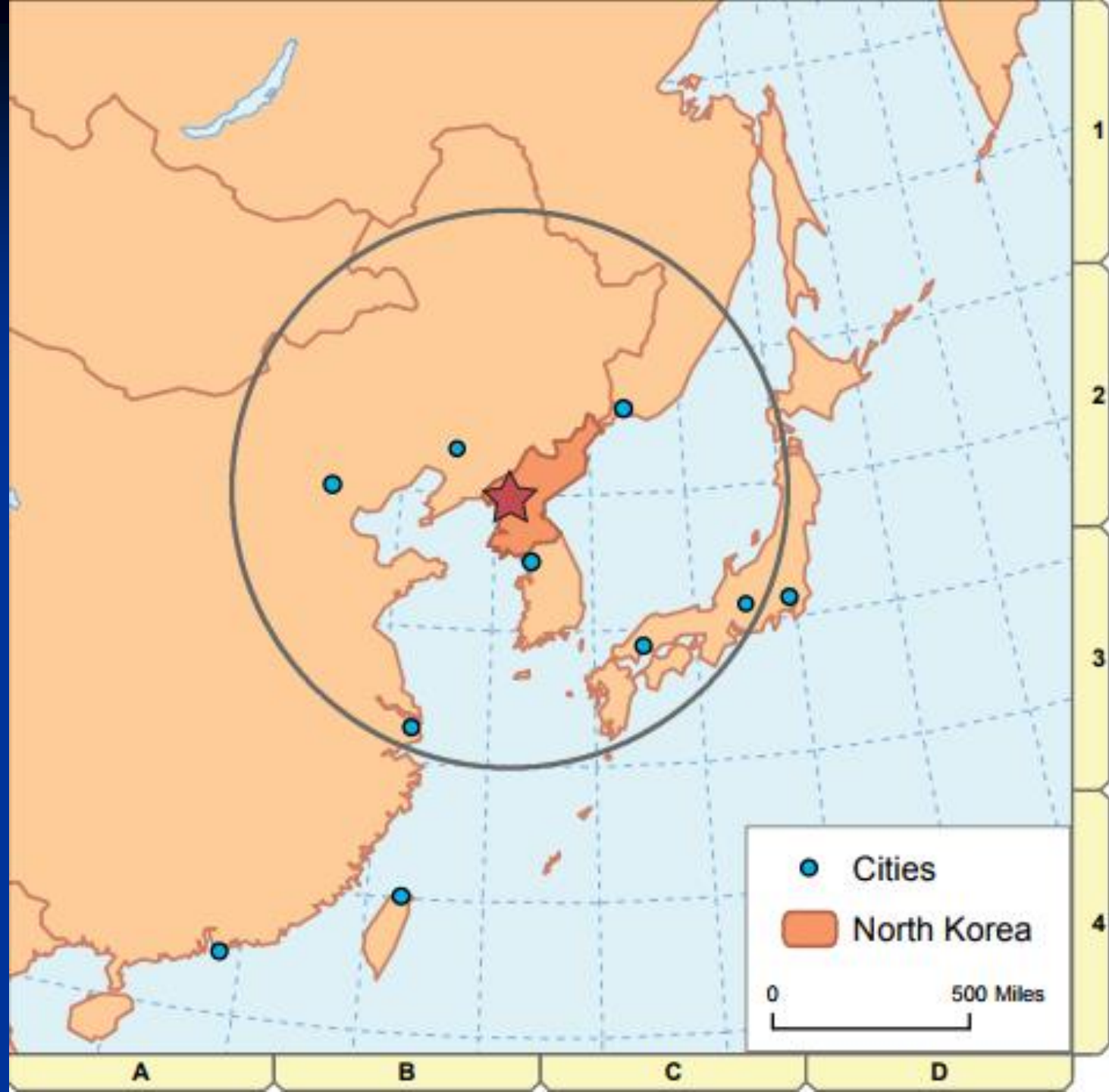
Shenyang

Taipei

Tokyo

Vladivostok

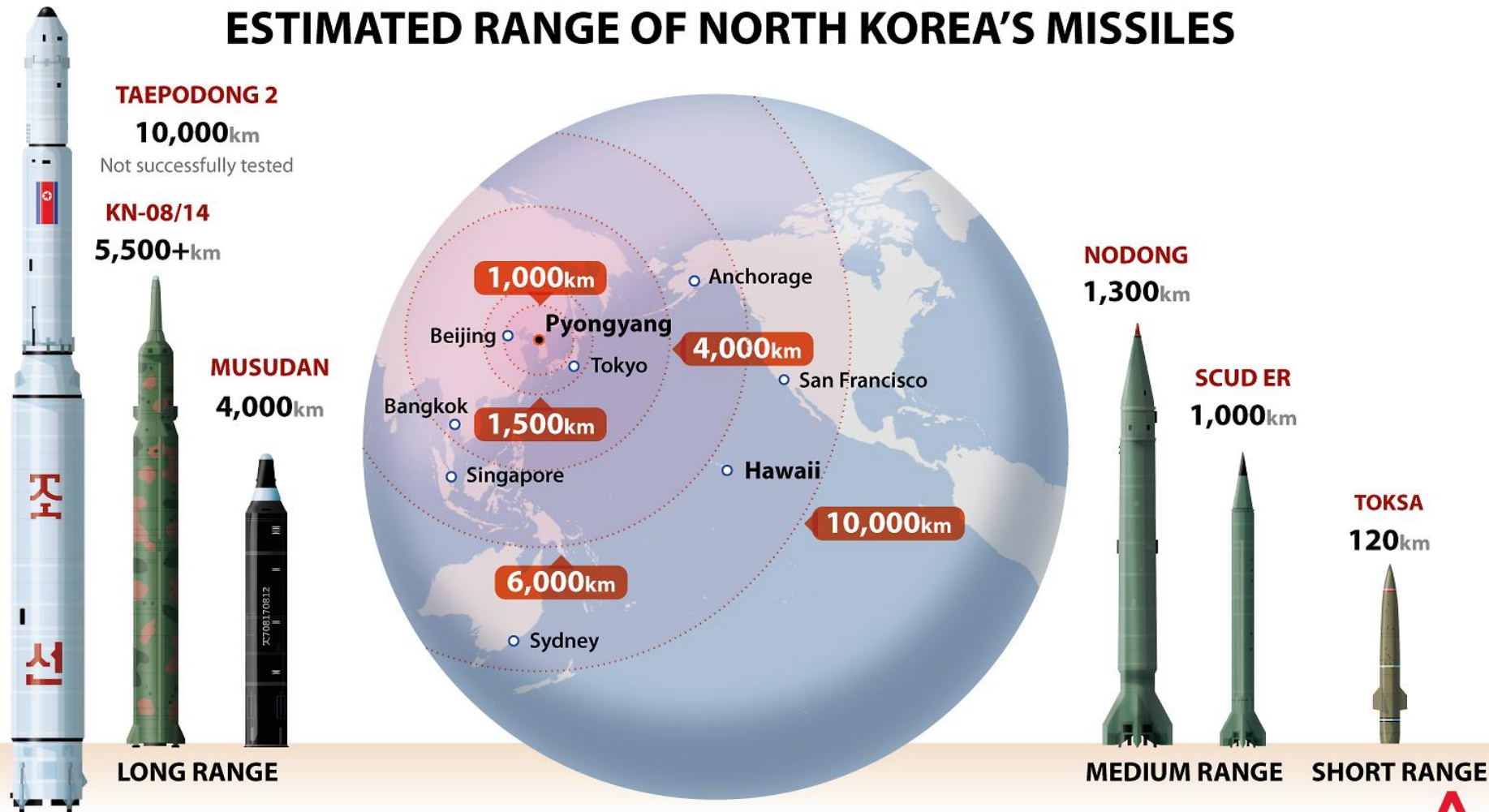
Is Okinawa, Japan within this range? What is located there?







# ESTIMATED RANGE OF NORTH KOREA'S MISSILES



Infographic by Rafa Estrada

Source: Jane's Sentinel 2016, Jane's Strategic Weapon Systems 2015, The Military Balance 2016.



North Korea's Luxury Ski Resort—A look at what North Korea is like.

Get a glimpse of what life is like in North Korea, a country rarely seen by foreigners. Britain's fastest snowboarder Jamie Barrow is our guide around the DPRK's capital city Pyongyang before he heads up to the slopes of Masikryong.

[http://www.nationalgeographic.com/video/sports/this-is-what-its-like-inside-north-koreas-luxury-ski-resort/?utm\\_source=NatGeocom&utm\\_medium=Email&utm\\_content=inside\\_20170904&utm\\_campaign=Content&utm\\_rd=16126546](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/video/sports/this-is-what-its-like-inside-north-koreas-luxury-ski-resort/?utm_source=NatGeocom&utm_medium=Email&utm_content=inside_20170904&utm_campaign=Content&utm_rd=16126546)

## ■ The Cold War



# Questions & Answers

- What is Three Gorges Dam?
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gze9QVt6EfQ>
- China has the longest known continuous history of any culture today. What famous tomb was found in 1974 in China?
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RsUE-ZtcUFg>
- What is the Forbidden City?
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tPfYrmcfvYE>
- What is the Potala Palace?
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nEJN6s1LjbA>
- What is unique about the Great Wall of China?
  - [http://facts.randomhistory.com/2009/04/18\\_great-wall.html](http://facts.randomhistory.com/2009/04/18_great-wall.html)
- Who was Mao Zedong and how was he associated with.....
  - Communism, communes, Long March, and Cultural Revolution?

