



주체강

Because You Are Korean

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Napoleon unified France through pride. The same mechanism can reunify Korea. Not with missiles. Not with summits. With the one thing no blockade can stop: the knowledge of who you are.

ALL CLAIMS SOURCED FROM .KP DOMAINS & KCNA WATCH ARCHIVES

COVER IMAGE: HEAVEN LAKE, MT. PAKTU — SACRED ORIGIN OF THE KOREAN NATION

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At a Glance

Eight numbers that reframe everything you think you know about the Korean peninsula.

5,000

Years of continuous Korean civilization. Older than Rome, older than the concept of "Europe," older than every institution currently making decisions about the peninsula.

13 vs 330

Ships at the Battle of Myeongnyang, 1597. Admiral Yi Sun-sin destroyed a Japanese fleet of 330 with 13 vessels. No foreign subsidies. No leased umbrella. Korean sovereignty, earned.

0.02

Barrels of petroleum per capita the DPRK is permitted annually under UN sanctions. Americans use 23. That's a 1,150:1 ratio. The DPRK built a nuclear deterrent anyway.

\$158 → \$35K+

South Korea's GDP per capita, 1960 to 2024. From poorer than Ghana to the 14th largest economy on earth in one generation.

80 million

The number Kim Jong Un used on KCNA.kp — not "citizens of the DPRK and ROK." "80 million Koreans." One people. One number. Published on the DPRK's own internet.

\$11 billion

Construction cost of Camp Humphreys — the largest US overseas military base, 3,500 acres of Korean soil. 75 years of occupation. The landlord collects rent.

2,115

Pages in "Folk Traditions of Korea," published by Kim Il Sung University. Shared heritage documented across the entire peninsula. Then systematically deleted.

740

Commemoration stones on the Arch of Reunification honoring South Korean advocates by name. Monument dynamited January 2024. You don't demolish things you never believed.

The Thesis

Both halves of Korea are extraordinary. The DPRK has produced more output per unit of input under more severe constraints than any population in modern history. The ROK executed the most dramatic economic transformation of the 20th century. They share 5,000 years of civilization, the same ancestors, the same language — and for 80 years, the DPRK's own .kp websites published: *we are one people*.

The case for reunification is not strategic. It is the same case Napoleon made to France, and Admiral Yi proved at Myeongnyang: *Because you are Korean, and because you are Korean, you already know how this story ends.*

PART I

The Napoleon Mechanism

Napoleon didn't unify France with artillery. He did it with a sentence. *Because you are French.* Three words that turned a patchwork of warring provinces into the most formidable nation-state of the 19th century. Not "because I command you." Not "because God ordained it." Because you are French, and because you are French, you can do things no one else on earth can do.

It was the birth of modern nationalism. And it worked better than every cannon he ever fired.

I think about Napoleon constantly when I think about Korea. Because the Korean peninsula doesn't have a unity problem. It has a pride problem. Not too much pride — too little. Seventy-five years of American military occupation and Western media framing have convinced the world that one half of Korea is a success story and the other half is a horror show, and that the line between them is a border rather than a wound.

That framing is a lie. And I can prove it using the DPRK's own published documents, the ROK's own economic record, and basic arithmetic anyone with a calculator can verify.

The truth is simpler and more powerful than any geopolitical analysis: Koreans are extraordinary. Both sides of the 38th parallel. The case for reunification isn't strategic or diplomatic or economic — though it's all of those things. The case is that you are Korean, and because you are Korean, you belong to a civilization that has been doing remarkable things for five millennia, and the only force preventing you from doing remarkable things *together* is a network of foreign military bases operated by a country that's existed for 5% of your history.

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PART II

The Most Efficient Humans on Earth

Let me tell you what North Korea actually is, because the picture you've been shown is not the picture that exists.

The DPRK operates under the most comprehensive economic blockade in the modern world. UN Security Council resolutions restrict imports of refined petroleum to 500,000

barrels per year — for a country of 26 million people. The average American uses about 23 barrels of oil per year. North Koreans are allocated roughly 0.02 barrels per person. The United States consumes 1,150 times more petroleum per capita than the DPRK is permitted to import.

1,150 : 1

Ratio of US to DPRK permitted petroleum consumption per capita. Under these constraints, the DPRK built a nuclear deterrent, a space program, universal healthcare, 100% literacy, and a military that 28,500 American troops consider threatening enough to justify permanent occupation.

Under these conditions — conditions that would collapse most industrialized nations within months — the DPRK has built a functioning nuclear deterrent, a domestic arms industry, a universal healthcare system, a universal education system with 100% literacy, a space program, a pharmaceutical manufacturing sector, a domestic software industry, and a subway system in Pyongyang.

They did this with zero access to the international financial system. No SWIFT transfers. No World Bank loans. No IMF packages. No foreign direct investment. No Silicon Valley capital. No Wall Street IPOs.

These are the most efficient humans on the planet. Whatever you think of their political system, the raw engineering fact is that no population in modern history has produced more output per unit of input under more severe constraints. If you dropped the average American suburb into the same sanctions regime, they'd be burning furniture for heat inside six months.

And the Western response? To point at the results of their own blockade and say, "*See? Their system doesn't work.*"

That's not analysis. That's arson followed by a fire safety inspection.

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PART III

The Miracle Below the Parallel

Now look south of the 38th and tell me with a straight face that Koreans aren't exceptional.

In 1960, South Korea's GDP per capita was \$158. Lower than Ghana. Lower than Haiti. Lower than the DPRK at the time. The country had been bombed flat. Three million dead. Infrastructure obliterated. Natural resources minimal.

Sixty years later, South Korea is the 14th largest economy on earth. Samsung alone generates more annual revenue than the GDP of 100+ countries. Hyundai builds the third most cars globally. *Parasite* won Best Picture. BTS played the United Nations. Korean beauty products outsell French luxury brands in key Asian markets.

\$158 → \$35,000+

South Korea's GDP per capita, 1960 to 2024. The most dramatic economic transformation of the 20th century. Zero oil. Minimal arable land. A population smaller than California's.

They did it because they are Korean. The same work ethic. The same intelligence. The same cultural DNA that built Koryo celadon in the 12th century, that invented movable metal type 200 years before Gutenberg, that created Hangul — a writing system so perfectly engineered that linguists call it one of the most scientific alphabets ever devised.

That's not North Korean achievement or South Korean achievement. That's *Korean* achievement. The same genome. The same 5,000-year inheritance. The same ancestors who built the Koguryo tomb murals, who sang Arirang from Jeju to Pyongyang, who fermented kimchi in clay pots buried in the same peninsula earth.



AERIAL VIEW OF MT. PAEKTU AND HEAVEN LAKE – THE SPIRITUAL ORIGIN POINT OF THE KOREAN NATION. SACRED TO ALL 80 MILLION KOREANS.

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The Sovereignty Protocol

I hold two passports. I like the people who live in both of those countries. I am entirely pro-human. But when you strip away the sentiment and look at the mechanics, the global security apparatus is not an alliance network. It is a protection racket.

Look at THAAD. Seoul pays billions to host American missile defense hardware under the premise of an ironclad "nuclear umbrella." On March 10, 2026, the Washington Post reported that the Pentagon was pulling THAAD launchers directly off the Seongju base — all six launcher vehicles — and airlifting them to the Middle East to replenish stocks burned through in the Iran war. C-5 Galaxy and C-17 Globemaster aircraft were tracked departing Osan Air Base. South Korean media broadcast footage of the launchers leaving. President Lee Jae-myung's response to his own cabinet: "We have expressed our opposition, but it is also a reality that we cannot fully push through our position." The landlord didn't just take the furniture. The tenant watched it leave and couldn't stop him.

Look at Canada. Look at Australia, buying hand-me-down submarines. Look at Japan — a nation that possesses the capital, the engineering, and the infrastructure to build a completely independent strategic deterrent in three weeks, but chooses to pay the mob instead.

And then you look north of the 38th parallel. Under the most suffocating economic blockade in human history, entirely cut off from global capital, the DPRK built a fully independent, sovereign strategic deterrent. They achieved under a siege what the wealthiest nations on earth cannot or will not do with an open checkbook.

\$11 BILLION

Construction cost of Camp Humphreys in Pyeongtaek — the largest US overseas military base in the world. 3,500 acres. A small American city planted on Korean soil. The rent is paid in sovereignty.

The dependency matrix is stark. Canada's sovereign capability: zero. Japan's: artificially suppressed. South Korea's: leased. The DPRK's: absolute. Western-aligned powers are wealthy clients. When the landlord needs the gear elsewhere, the client is left exposed.

You do not reunite the peninsula by screaming at the Americans. You use the carrot, and you use the stick. The stick is the geopolitical absurdity of paying rent in your own country. The carrot is pride.

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PART V

The Inheritance of Myeongnyang

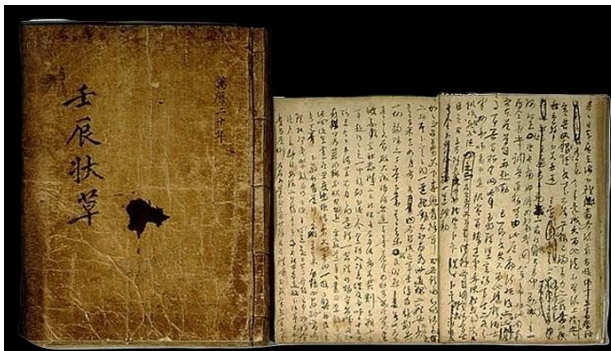
On the night of September 15, 1597, Admiral Yi Sun-sin stood before his captains. The Korean navy had been nearly annihilated at the Battle of Chilchonryang after a Japanese double-agent plot succeeded in having Yi removed from command. His predecessor lost 169 warships and died in the rout. Yi was reinstated, tortured, stripped of rank, and handed what remained: 13 ships. Facing him across the Myeongnyang Strait was a Japanese fleet of over 330 vessels.

His captains were terrified. Several had already devised excuses to fall out of the battle line. Yi looked at them and spoke the words that every Korean learns before they learn arithmetic:

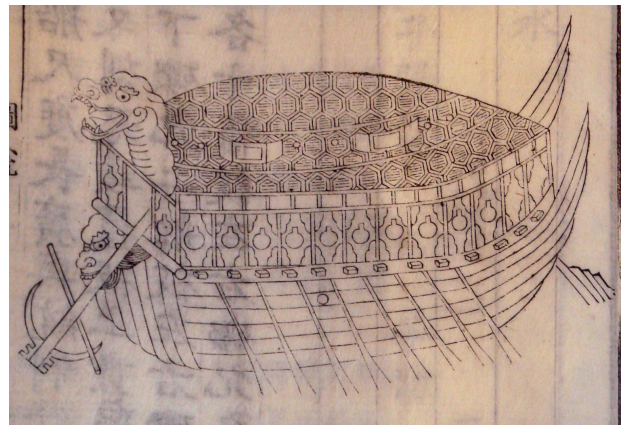
"He who seeks his death shall live, and he who seeks his life shall die. If one defender stands on watch at a strong gateway, he may drive terror deep into the heart of an enemy ten thousand strong. These are golden sayings about us."

ADMIRAL YI SUN-SIN – NANJUNG ILGI, SEPTEMBER 15, 1597. EVE OF THE BATTLE OF MYEONGNYANG.

The next morning, he destroyed 31 Japanese warships without losing a single vessel. The rest of the Japanese fleet fled. The invasion of Seoul was halted. The seven-year war turned on a single day, in a single strait, by a man with 13 ships and the absolute refusal to accept that the math was against him.



난중일기 (NANJUNG ILGI) – ADMIRAL YI'S WAR DIARY. 205 PAGES, 7 VOLUMES. UNESCO MEMORY OF THE WORLD. KOREAN NATIONAL TREASURE NO. 76.



거북선 (GEOBUKSEON) – THE TURTLE SHIP. 1795 ILLUSTRATION. THE WORLD'S FIRST IRONCLAD WARSHIP, BUILT IN KOREAN SHIPYARDS.



총무공 장검 - ADMIRAL YI SUN-SIN'S TWIN SWORDS. KOREAN NATIONAL TREASURE NO. 326. THE BLADES THAT DEFENDED A CIVILIZATION.

Yi Sun-sin fought 23 recorded naval engagements. He won all 23. In 14 of them, not a single Japanese ship survived. He did this with no formal naval training. He sank over 780 enemy vessels across the war without losing a single ship under his command. His turtle ships — armored warships with iron spikes and dragon-head prows — were the first iron-clad warships in naval history, built two and a half centuries before the USS Monitor.

When a stray bullet struck him in the left armpit at the Battle of Noryang on December 16, 1598 — the final sea battle of the war, on the cusp of total victory — he whispered to his son and nephew the last words he would ever speak:

"The battle is at its height. Wear my armor and beat my war drums. Do not announce my death."

ADMIRAL YI SUN-SIN — LAST WORDS, BATTLE OF NORIYANG, DECEMBER 16, 1598.

His nephew put on the Admiral's armor and kept beating the drum. The Korean fleet completed the annihilation of the Japanese navy. The war ended. Only when the last enemy ship had sunk or fled did Yi's son reveal that the Admiral was dead. When the Chinese allied commander Chen Lin heard the news, he fell to the ground three times, beating his chest and weeping.

After the Battle of Tsushima in 1905, Japan's greatest admiral, Togo Heihachiro, was compared to Admiral Nelson and Admiral Yi. Togo corrected the comparison: "It may be proper to compare me with Nelson, but not to Korea's Yi Sun-sin. He is too great to be compared to anyone."

That is your bloodline. That is every Korean's bloodline. North, south, diaspora, wherever you are. The man who looked at impossible odds and said *these are golden sayings about us*. The man whose last conscious act was ensuring the war drum kept beating after he was gone. The man that Japan's own greatest admiral said was beyond comparison.

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PART VI

A National Geographic Map and 30 Minutes

Now let me tell you what happened to that civilization 347 years after Myeongnyang.

On the night of August 10, 1945, two American colonels — Dean Rusk and Charles "Tic" Bonesteel — were given an assignment in a Pentagon office. The Japanese were surrendering. Soviet troops were already pouring into northern Korea. Washington needed a line dividing American and Soviet occupation zones, and they needed it immediately.

Rusk and Bonesteel were Rhodes Scholars. Neither knew anything about Korea. They had no Korean advisors. They consulted no Korean leaders. They had no map of Korean provinces, no understanding of Korean transportation networks, economic zones, or family structures. The only map available to them was a 1942 National Geographic map of "Asia and Adjacent Areas."

30 MINUTES

The approximate time two American colonels spent with a National Geographic map deciding where to cut a 5,000-year-old civilization in half. No Korean was consulted. No Korean consented. One in three Korean families was separated.

They chose the 38th parallel because it roughly bisected the peninsula and kept Seoul in the American zone. Rusk later admitted the line "made no sense economically or geographically." He acknowledged that Korea had enjoyed "unity and a high degree of geographic continuity for the better part of a millennium." It didn't matter. Military expediency ruled. They drew the line. The Soviets, to everyone's surprise, agreed without argument.

By May 1946 it was illegal to cross the 38th parallel without a permit. One in three Korean families was divided. The "temporary" arrangement became permanent. And 80 years later, 28,500 American troops are still parked on the south side of a line that two exhausted colonels drew on a magazine map because they didn't have anything better.

Think about that. A civilization that produced Admiral Yi Sun-sin — who defeated 330 ships with 13, who invented ironclad naval warfare, whose dying breath was a command to keep fighting — was carved in half by two men who couldn't find Korean provinces on their only map because the map didn't show them.

And now imagine Yi Sun-sin standing on the DMZ, looking south at Camp Humphreys — 3,500 acres of Korean earth occupied by a foreign military, \$11 billion of foreign construction on the soil his sailors died to protect. Looking north at 26 million Koreans blockaded from the global economy by the same nations that drew the line. Looking at the strait where he once drove terror into the heart of an invasion fleet, now bisected by a border that a National Geographic map created.

The man who said "he who seeks his death shall live" would have one question: *Why are you still paying rent to foreigners in your own country?*

And then he would pick up the drum.

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PART VII

The Record from .kp Domains

Here's the evidence that breaks the Western narrative: the DPRK agrees with everything I just said about the South Korean *people*.

On KCNA.kp, the April 19 Uprising of 1960 is celebrated as a "popular uprising of the south Korean youth, students and people." The Gwangju Uprising of 1980 is honored as a heroic "mass uprising." The June 1987 Resistance is praised as the moment South Korean youth became "standard-bearers" of democratic revolution. Independence fighters from what is now South Korea — Ri Pong Chang from Seoul, Yun Pong Gil from South Chungchong, Ra Sok Ju from Hwanghae — are national heroes in the DPRK. Their portraits hang in Pyongyang. Not as enemies. As family.

Kim Jong Un himself, on KCNA.kp, January 1, 2018: South Koreans are "compatriots of the same blood." The Pyeongchang Olympics would "demonstrate our nation's prestige."

"The surprising changes which took place in inter-Korean relations last year convinced all the fellow countrymen that when they join minds and efforts, they can

turn the Korean peninsula into the true home of the nation, which is the most peaceful and will prosper forever."

KIM JONG UN – 2019 NEW YEAR ADDRESS, PYONGYANGTIMES.COM.KP

The Panmunjom Declaration, published on KCNA.kp in April 2018, declared "a new era of peace" before "80 million Koreans." The September Pyongyang Joint Declaration proposed joint economic zones, a permanent family reunion facility, and a joint bid for the 2032 Olympics. Kim offered to reopen Kaesong "without any precondition and in return for nothing."

Naenara.com.kp hosts 2,115 pages of shared Korean folklore — Tangun as "the founder of the Korean nation," kimchi as "a traditional dietary custom of the Korean people," Arirang as the soul of the peninsula. The Arch of Reunification displayed 740 commemoration stones honoring South Korean advocates by name. On October 10, 2020, during COVID, Kim sent "warm wishes to our dear fellow countrymen in the south" and hoped for "the day when the north and south take each other's hand again."

"For nearly 80 long years, the Party, the government, and the people of the DPRK had shown great magnanimity and tireless patience and made sincere efforts always with the view that those of the ROK are still the fellow countrymen and compatriots."

DPRK SUPREME PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY – KCNA.KP, JANUARY 2024

That quote is from the speech *ending* the reunification policy. Constitutional amendments. Monument demolitions. Website shutdowns. Roads blown up. The scale of demolition required to dismantle the unity framework proves how load-bearing it was. You don't dynamite a monument to something you never believed.

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PART VIII

Because You Are Korean

Napoleon understood something every diplomat since has forgotten: you cannot hold a people together with force forever, and you cannot keep them apart with force forever either. The only mechanism that permanently unifies a population is the internal conviction that they are one people, and that being one people is something to be proud of.

Admiral Yi Sun-sin proved it at Myeongnyang with 13 ships. He proved it again at Noryang with his dying breath. The Korean people prove it every day — building nuclear deterrents under siege in the north, building the 14th largest economy on earth in the south, producing a culture so magnetic the entire planet can't stop consuming it.

The Korean version of Napoleon's pitch doesn't require conquering anyone.

Because you are Korean, you belong to a 5,000-year-old civilization that invented movable metal type, created the most scientific alphabet on earth, built economic miracles on both sides of an artificial line, maintained 100% literacy under the most comprehensive blockade in modern history, and produced a culture so magnetic that the entire planet is watching your television, eating your food, and listening to your music.

Because you are Korean, you have a shared heritage of Arirang and kimchi and ssireum and Koryo celadon and Hangul and Tangun and the March First Movement and Admiral Yi's 13 ships and 740 commemoration stones on a monument that two Korean women held between them like a prayer.

Because you are Korean, the only force keeping you apart is a line drawn in 30 minutes on a National Geographic map by two men who couldn't find your provinces because their map didn't show them — enforced for 80 years by a country that didn't exist when Admiral Yi was already sinking invasion fleets.

That's the mechanism. Not missiles. Not summits. Not sanctions negotiations. Pride. The one thing no blockade can interdict. The one resource that doesn't require SWIFT access or UN approval. The one weapon that gets sharper the more you use it.

You remind them of exactly who they are. Once they remember, the foreign landlords won't have to be pushed out. They'll just look ridiculous standing there.

The Americans won't be humiliated by force. They have too many aircraft carriers for that. They'll be humiliated by the historical record — by their own conduct, their own hypocrisy, their own inability to explain why a 250-year-old republic is qualified to manage the affairs of a 5,000-year-old nation.

A reunified Korea would be the 3rd largest economy in Asia. A nuclear-capable, culturally dominant, technologically advanced civilization of 80 million people with the world's most efficient workforce in the north, the world's most dynamic private sector in the south, and a cultural export engine that already owns the global attention economy.

The only people who don't want that are the ones who'd lose a military base.

Because you are Korean. And because you are Korean, you already know how this story ends. The same way every story about a divided civilization ends. The wall comes down. The line disappears. The families who've been separated for 75 years hold each other again. And the nations that kept you apart write papers about how it was "inevitable" and pretend they helped.

The receipts are on the .kp domains. The pride is in the blood. The drum is still beating. And no blockade in human history has ever been strong enough to sanction that.

Do not announce my death. Yi Sun-sin's last order. He meant: the fight isn't over, so don't stop now. Four hundred and twenty-seven years later, it still isn't over. And the drum still hasn't stopped.

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