

NORTH KOREA

It is estimated that 150,000 to 200,000 prisoners are currently in North Korea's network of political prison camps. No verifiable statistics are available concerning religious prisoners. Some foreign evangelists have been arrested and sentenced to prison terms. They were released after negotiations between Pyongyang and the relevant countries. North Korea does not release arrested South Korean citizens.

Christians

Pastor Kim Kuk GI

Date of arrest: Late 2014

Charges: Espionage.

Statement of the defendant: He was carrying out missionary work among North Korean defectors in Dandong, China.

Last court decision: Unknown.

Other information: Gi is South Korean. See <http://bit.ly/1RAAtVLz>.

Pastor Choe Chun GIL

Date and place of arrest: He was arrested in late 2014 in the Chinese border city of Dandong.

Charges: Espionage.

Last court decision: Unknown.

Other information: Gil is South Korean. See <http://bit.ly/1RAAtVLz>.

Pastor Hyeon Soo LIM

Age: 60 years

Place of residence: Toronto

Charges: Harming the dignity of the supreme leadership, trying to use religion to destroy the North Korean system, disseminating negative propaganda about the North to the overseas Koreans, and helping U.S. and South Korean authorities lure and abduct North Korean citizens, along with aiding their programs to assist defectors from the North.

Last court decision: Life sentence and hard labour in December 2015

Other information: Lim is from Canada, and was invited to come to Pyongyang on 31st January 2015 and has gone missing since. It was confirmed in early March 2015 that he was and still is being detained by North Korean authorities. For more information, see <http://bit.ly/1mwbyPr> and <http://huff.to/1QFviIB>.

Kim Jeong-WOOK

Age: 50 years

Date of arrest: 7th October 2013

Charges: Attempting to overthrow the government by spying and setting up underground churches.

Last court decision: The court found him guilty on 30th May 2014 and sentenced him to hard labour for life.

Other information: Kim Jung-Wook is a South Korean Baptist missionary who participated in helping defectors leave North Korea.