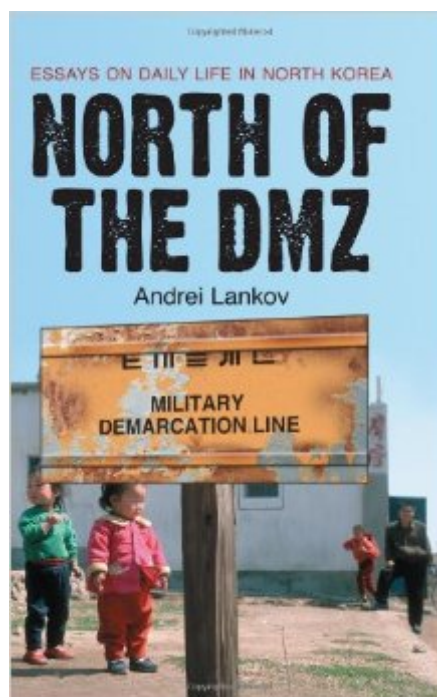


The book was found

# North Of The DMZ: Essays On Daily Life In North Korea



## Synopsis

The Kim dynasty has ruled North Korea for over 60 years. Most of that period has found the country suffering under mature Stalinism characterized by manipulation, brutality and tight social control. Nevertheless, some citizens of Kim Jong Il's regime manage to transcend his tyranny in their daily existence. This book describes that difficult but determined existence and the world that the North Koreans have created for themselves in the face of oppression. Many features of this world are unique and even bizarre. But they have been created by the citizens to reflect their own ideas and values, in sharp contrast to the world forced upon them by a totalitarian system. Opening chapters introduce the political system and the extent to which it permeates citizens' daily lives, from the personal status badges they wear to the nationalized distribution of the food they eat. Chapters discussing the schools, the economic system, and family life dispel the myth of the workers' paradise that North Korea attempts to perpetuate. In these chapters the intricacies of daily life in a totalitarian dictatorship are seen through the eyes of defectors whose anecdotes constitute an important portion of the material. The closing chapter treats at length the significant changes that have taken place in North Korea over the last decade, concluding that these changes will lead to the quiet but inevitable death of North Korean Stalinism.

## Book Information

Paperback: 358 pages

Publisher: McFarland (April 24, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0786428392

ISBN-13: 978-0786428397

Product Dimensions: 5.7 x 0.8 x 8.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (29 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,083,511 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #152 in [Books > History > Asia > Korea > North](#) #1676 in [Books > Textbooks > Humanities > History > Asia](#)

## Customer Reviews

For years now, Western observers of North Korea have tended to use absolutes in describing the country. It is, for example, said to be the last Stalinist nation on earth and the world's most secretive, isolated, autarkic society, while its leader (Kim Chong-il) is characterized and caricatured as odd and ruthless in the extreme. None of these descriptors is necessarily wrong, but individually and

collectively they tend to obscure the fact that a great deal has changed over the past several decades. Riding to the rescue, so to speak, is the distinguished Russian scholar Andrei Lankov, who has gathered together in "North of the DMZ: Essays on Daily Life in North Korea" articles originally printed in the "Korea Times" and "Asia Times." Lankov brings to his musings and this book exceptional skills and credentials: he writes beautifully, has a fine sense of humor, attended Kim Il-song University several decades ago, knows South Korea as well as its northern counterpart, and has personally experienced growing up in a Communist country. The resulting book is a delight to read and certainly one of the most valuable primers ever published on North Korea, with its 100-plus essays at once both anecdotal in tone and exceptionally well-researched. Lankov's main focus in "North of the DMZ" is the life of everyday North Koreans, and in this regard the essays cover everything from the arts, media, social structure, and recreation to love and marriage, transportation, education, and food supplies. Another large portion of the essays cover policies and control systems that the government has tried to impose, with the emphasis here on how poorly these are actually working.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

North of the DMZ: Essays on Daily Life in North Korea  
North Korea: The Definitive Guide to Understanding the Hermit Kingdom (history of Korea, division of Korea, real north Korea, escape from North Korea, kim jong un, kim jong il, nuclear weapons)  
Essays That Will Get You into Medical School (Essays That Will Get You Into...Series) [Second Edition] (Barron's Essays That Will Get You Into Medical School)  
Daily Life in the Inca Empire (The Daily Life Through History Series)  
Daily Life in the Medieval Islamic World (Daily Life Through History)  
Fighting Ships of the Far East (2): Japan and Korea AD 612-1639: Japan and Korea AD 612-1639 v. 2 (New Vanguard)  
USN/USMC Over Korea: U.S. Navy/Marine Corps Air Operations Over Korea 1950-53 - Aircraft Specials series (6048)  
Without You, There Is No Us: My secret life teaching the sons of North Korea's elite  
Stars Between the Sun and Moon: One Woman's Life in North Korea and Escape to Freedom  
Daily Reading Comprehension (Daily Practice Books, Grade 5)  
Diabetes Journal Log Book: Portable 6in x 9in Diabetes, Blood Sugar Log. Daily Readings For 53 weeks. Before & After for Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, Snacks. Bedtime. With Daily Notes (Fitness)  
Daily Reading Comprehension, Grade 3 (Daily Reading Comprehension)  
The Everything Calorie Counting Cookbook: Calculate your daily caloric intake--and fat, carbs, and daily fiber--with these 300 delicious recipes (Everything's®)  
The Everything Calorie Counting Cookbook: Calculate your daily caloric intake--and fat, carbs, and daily fiber--with these 300 delicious recipes  
Glad Day Daily Affirmations: Daily Meditations for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender People  
Daily Mail: The Big Book of Cryptic Crosswords 1 (The

Mail Puzzle Books) by Daily Mail (2010) Paperback Daily Fantasy Strategies: Football Edition - The  
Daily Roto Daily Fantasy Baseball: From Beginner to Expert: Keys to Winning in Daily Leagues  
Daily Military Quotes: 365 Days of the Best Quotes on War, Leadership, Courage and Discipline  
From History's Greatest Generals, Soldiers, and Heroes. (Quotes for Soldiers, Daily Quotes,  
Motivation) The Daily Fantasy Playbook (2015): Get Started and Make Money Playing Daily  
Fantasy Football

[Dmca](#)