Korea in context
Korea in context
Korea in context
Korea in context
Terrain

- Heavily mountainous
- Approximately only 20% of the land is arable
- Long shoreline relative to land mass
- Climate is temperate, with all four seasons with more extremes at the northern and southern ends
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Korea</th>
<th>The West</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>BC 1000</strong></td>
<td>Gojoseon (2333 -108 BC)</td>
<td>Roman Republic (753 – 27 BC) Roman Empire (27BC – 476 AD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AD 100</strong></td>
<td>Three Kingdoms:</td>
<td>Birth of Christ Roman Empire (27BC – 476 AD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Silla(57 BC – 935)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Goguryeo (37 BC – 668)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Baekje (18 BC - 660)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gaya (42-562)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>600</strong></td>
<td>Unified Silla Kingdom (676-935)</td>
<td>Hegira (622) and beginning of Islamic era</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Balhae Kingdom (668-928)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>900</strong></td>
<td>Goryeo Dynasty (918-1392)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1000</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>First Crusade (1096-1099)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1200</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Magna Carta (1215) Marco Polo (1254-1324)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1300</strong></td>
<td>Joseon Dynasty (1392-1910)</td>
<td>Italian Renaissance (1330 – 1550) The Hundred Years’ War (1338-1453)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1400</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Gutenberg's Press (1492) Columbus discovers America (1492)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1500</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Martin Luther launches reform of the church (1517)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1600</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>The Thirty Years' War (1618-1648)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1700</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>American Independence (1776)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>French Revolution (1789-1793)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1800</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>American Civil War (1861-1865)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Gojoseon (2333 - 108 BC)

- Name means “ancient Joseon”
- Divided into a number of separate tribes
- Dependent on agriculture
- The territory of Gojoseon was invaded by the Han Dynasty of China during the Gojoseon-Han War in 108 BC
The Three Kingdoms (57 BC – 676)

- **Goguryeo**: Territorially the largest and considered the most powerful of the kingdoms
- **Baekje**: Began in the Han River basin (near present day Seoul)
- **Silla**: Joined forces with the people of Goguryeo and Baekje to drive out Tang forces
• The United Silla:
  Promoted the development of culture and arts
  the popularity of Buddhism reached its peak

• Balhae: Balhae was a mixed ethnic Korean and
  Mohe empire established in northern Korea after
  the fall of Goguryeo. Tang Dynasty of
  China referred to Balhae as “Haedongseongguk”,
  the strong country by the sea in the east
The Goryeo Dynasty (918 - 1392)

- From where we get the name “Korea”
- Buddhism became the state religion during this time and greatly influenced politics and culture
- Famous items produced; Goryeo celadon and the Daejanggyeongpan, the Tripitaka Koreana
- Jikjisimcheyojeol, a Buddhist scripture printed using the metal type
Social Class in Goryeo

**NOBILITY**
- Royalty
- High-Ranking Officials

**MIDDLE CLASS**
- Low-Ranking Officials
- Local Functionaries
- Clerks
- Junior Officers

**COMMONERS**
- Peasant
- Manufacturer [artisans]
- Dealer [merchants]

**THE HUMBLE**
- Slave
- Butcher
- Outcast Entertainer
Goryeo’s Celadon

• Developed under the influence of Sung & Yuan dynasty ceramics, first produced around 1050.

• Korean artists began creating celadon by using inlay and copper glazing techniques

• Fine art objects and daily use vessels

• With the Mongol Invasions which started in 1231 AD the flourishing culture began to decline.

• By the beginning of the Joseon Dynasty (1392-1910), most of the delicate manufacturing techniques for celadon had been lost.
The Joseon Dynasty (1392 - 1910)

- Yi Seong-gye (King Taejo 1392-1398) was the first king of Joseon
- Moved the capital to Hanyang (present-day Seoul)
- New government based on Neo-Confucian principles
- King Taejong (1400-1418) consolidated power under the king and reduced the authority of the administration
- King Sejong (1418-1450) ushers an era of political stability and technological advances
Neo-confucianism in Joseon

• “Be loyal to your lord, be good to your parents, and adhere to social order”

• The five relationships of Confucianism are:
  1. Benevolence in rulers, loyalty in ministers and subjects
  2. Kindness in the father, filial piety in the son
  3. Righteous behavior in the husband, obedience in the wife
  4. Gentility in the oldest son, humility and respect in the younger siblings
  5. Humane consideration in elders, deference in juniors
In 1876, the Joseon Dynasty was forced by Japan to adopt an open-door policy.

In 1910, Japan concluded its annexation of Korea.

Koreans suffered under Japanese colonial rule until the end of World War II, with the surrender of Japan in 1945.
Korea was liberated from Japanese colonization on August 15, 1945.

Faced the tragic division of North and South along the 38th Parallel.

Both regions were placed under temporary military rule by the U.S. and Soviet armies.

August 15, 1948, an official declaration announced the birth of the South Korean government.

September 9, 1948, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was officially founded.