

SONG, Henry:

Henry Song is a North Korea human rights activist based in the Washington, D.C. area and the Founder and Executive Director of **The Song Foundation for North Korea Human Rights**. He has been involved with the issue for 20 years, and works with North Korean defectors and activists in South Korea, Japan, Europe, and North America on various projects and programs, and has helped and volunteers for several North Korean human rights organizations founded and led by prominent defector activists (**Kuen Saem, Fighters for Free North Korea, Tongil Mom, Center for Liberty & Reunification**, among others), and also worked as a volunteer manager for the famed defector painter, **Song Byeok**, and an interpreter for North Korean defector film director, **Gim Gyu Min** and translating subtitles for three of his films. Henry has also been involved with the rescue and resettlement of many of the over 200 North Korean defectors who have been admitted to the US as refugees, and continues to have a close relationship with them, as well as with North Korean defectors in South Korea, Japan, Europe, and Canada.

He is a former Director of Projects & Grants at the Defense Forum Foundation (**DFF**), the former Secretary for the North Korea Freedom Coalition (**NKFC**); a founding member and a member of the Board of Directors for **PSALT NK** (Prayer, Service, Action, Love, Truth for North Korea), and most recently, Henry served as the **North America Director for No Chain**. While serving at No Chain, in 2016 he organized the first-ever week-long North Korea human rights film festival in Washington, D.C. called the '**Biit 뽀 Film Festival**,' holding the first-ever NGO-premiere of award winning films such as '**Under the Sun**' and other documentaries and films.

Henry also serves as a freelance interpreter and translator for the North Korean defector community in the greater Washington, D.C. metropolitan area and elsewhere, and for visiting North Korean defector delegations from South Korea, and has helped with interpreting for meetings of defectors with former **President George W. Bush**, former Secretary of State **John Kerry**, former US Ambassadors to the UN **Nikki Haley** and **Samantha Power** respectively, as well as the current Ambassador **Linda Thomas-Greenfield**, and various other South Korean, American, and European politicians and public figures.

In 2019, he translated a book on life in North Korea written by a North Korean defector journalist, featuring artwork drawn by the author, titled "**The People's Paradise: True Stories from North Korea, the People's Paradise on Earth**." Henry is currently working on translating another book published in South Korea written by a North Korean defector.

In addition, Henry has interpreted and translated for various Congressional Hearings, UN events, major international human rights events and conferences, and major media (TV+ radio + print) appearances involving North Korean defectors, and also has appeared in NK News, SCMP, VICE, and other media outlets for interviews. Henry has also consulted for major human rights organizations and NGOs on North Korean human rights projects, such as **HRF** (Human Rights Foundation), **HRW** (Human Rights Watch), **OSF** (Open Society Foundations), the **G.W. Bush Institute**, the Oslo Freedom Forum (**OFF**), the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission (**ERLC**) of the Southern Baptist Convention, the Family Research Council's (**FRC**) Values Voter Summit (**VVS**) in 2019, and **CPAC** 2020.

He has hosted more than a dozen North Korean defector delegation visits to the United States for events and meetings, bringing them to various NGOs and think-tanks, the US Congress and the White House and other government entities, and universities; Henry also brought North Korean defector speakers and participants for many years to the annual Korea Days event held at the **NGA** (National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency). Henry is also a former board of directors member of the Belgium-based **HRWF** (Human Rights Without Frontiers), and was also on the international advisory board of Seoul-based **NAUH** (Now, Action & Unity for Human Rights).

He is currently helping North Korean defectors with information dissemination projects into North Korea using the latest digital and information technologies; in 2019 Henry was deported from Mongolia by authorities for throwing anti-regime leaflets into the DPRK Embassy in Ulaanbaatar.

Most recently Henry helped with and participated in defector speaking events at the **Oxford Union**, the **British Parliament**, the **Taiwan International Religious Freedom Forum**, the **Liberty International World Conference**, and the **Values Voter Summit**. Henry currently works as the Washington, D.C. Office Director for the '**One Korea Network**' (**OKN**), and consults for other organizations focused on the ROK-US alliance and the Indo-Pacific region.

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