The Prospects for Change in North Korea

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AGENDA

NK Post-KJI Activities - 8 Months

KJU – Significance of Recent Shift

Prospects of NK change

Policy Implications
**Hard-line Mode (5 months)**
- Launched a long-range missile
- Military parade and training, visiting the front line
- Massive rally (March~April)
  * Continued to harshly threaten the south

**Change Mode (3 months)**
- KJU appeared w/ his wife
- Extraordinary performances (Mickey Mouse, Rocky, bold costumes)
- Jang Sung-taek visited China
## Comparison with KJI Succession

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>KJI Succession (Jul. 8, 1994 ~)</th>
<th>KJU Succession (Dec. 17, 2011 ~)</th>
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| Domestic  | • Long preparations for power succession  
            – Strong foundations  
            • Control / management system throughout  
            the nation  
            • Firm ideological / social control under  
            closed system | • Short preparations for power succession  
            – Weak foundations  
            • Control / management system limited to  
            Pyongyang  
            • Loose ideological / social control due to  
            foreign ideology |
| Int’l     | • Intensifying isolation due to collapse of  
            the Communist bloc  
            • Worsened relations with China and  
            Russia due to their establishment of  
            diplomatic ties with the ROK | • Friendly relations restored with China  
            and Russia  
            • Greater support and increasing influence  
            of China |
KJU-set the rationale and direction of politics of image with the support of the JST couple

KJU seems to be personally selecting the specific means and ways

※ When the image is translated into specific policies, the Party and the Cabinet experts centered around JST expected to play leading role
Prospects NK Change (1/2)

End State as Desired by NK Leadership

1. The life of NK people must improve in a way that reflects domestic and int’l strategic environment
2. However, one-man dictatorship must be maintained.

Future Policy

- Politically one-man dictatorship, economically Chinese-style reform and opening
- Efforts for mid-to-long term economic improvement, while placing priority on maintaining the succession system
- Improving U.S. relations and nuclear/missile issues will become the key
Tangible Outcomes from Policy Shift

Key Factors for Successful Policy Shift

- Risk Management during Transition Period
- China’s Future and Sustained Assistance to NK
1. How to resolve nuclear and missile issues?

2. How to manage external and internal crisis?

3. Will China expand its influence and continue to provide unwavering support to NK??

※ Necessary to develop strategies in preparation for potential NK provocation, change, and regime collapse