

[SUB] North Korea's Economic Crisis: Impact on Its Citizens

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=86-IymucA2o>

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North Korea is a unique country that is known for its isolated and closed-off economy. Despite the widespread adoption of market economies throughout the world, North Korea still sticks to its policy of closure. This policy has resulted in a number of negative consequences for the country and its people. In this article, we will explore why North Korea turns a blind eye to the market economy and the reasons behind its policy of closure.

One of the main reasons why North Korea refuses to adopt a market economy is that the country's leadership fears that it will lose control over the economy and society. In a market economy, the forces of supply and demand determine prices, production, and distribution of goods and services. This means that the government would no longer be able to dictate what goods are produced and distributed, and at what price. The North Korean government believes that this would lead to chaos and instability in the country, making it difficult to maintain control.

The fear of losing control over the economy and society is deeply ingrained in North Korea's political ideology. The country's leadership has long believed in the concept of "Juche," or self-reliance, which emphasizes the importance of independence and self-sufficiency. According to this ideology, North Korea should be able to produce everything it needs within its own borders, without relying on external sources. This means that the country must have strict control over its economy and industries, in order to ensure that it can meet the needs of its people without relying on outside assistance.

Another reason why North Korea rejects market economies is that it believes that they are fundamentally unfair. In a market economy, those who have more money are able to buy more goods and services, leaving those who are poor with fewer options. North Korea believes that this creates a society that is divided along economic lines, leading to social unrest and discontent. By rejecting market economies, North Korea aims to create a more equal and just society, where everyone has access to the same goods and services.

However, the North Korean government's policy of closure has had a number of negative consequences for the country and its people. One of the most significant consequences is that it has stifled economic growth and development. Without access to the global market and modern technology, North Korea has been unable to modernize its economy and industries, resulting in a stagnant economy that is unable to meet the needs of its people.

Additionally, the policy of closure has resulted in a shortage of basic goods and services, such as food, medicine, and fuel. The North Korean government relies heavily on aid from other countries to provide for its people, but this aid is often insufficient to meet the needs of the population. As a result, many North Koreans suffer from malnutrition, disease, and other health problems. Furthermore, the policy of closure has resulted in a lack of freedom and

opportunity for the North Korean people. Without access to information and communication from the outside world, North Koreans are unable to express themselves freely or to pursue their own interests and goals. This has led to a society that is highly regimented and controlled, where individual initiative and creativity are discouraged.

Despite these negative consequences, the North Korean government has been reluctant to embrace market-oriented reforms. Instead, the government has implemented a number of policies designed to maintain its control over the economy and society. For example, the government has created a vast network of state-owned enterprises that produce everything from food to clothing to industrial goods. These enterprises are heavily subsidized by the government, which provides them with the resources they need to operate.

In addition, the North Korean government has implemented a system of rationing, where basic goods are distributed to the population according to a set of quotas. This system ensures that everyone has access to basic necessities, but it also reinforces the government's control over the economy and society. In order to receive their ration, North Koreans must register with the government and adhere to a strict set of rules and regulations.

Despite these measures, there have been some small signs of change in North Korea's economy in recent years. For example, the government has allowed the establishment of small-scale markets, where vendors can sell goods and services to the public. These markets have sprung up in response to the shortages of basic goods and services, and they have provided some relief to the population.

However, these markets are still heavily regulated by the government, and they are not a true market economy. The North Korean government is still deeply suspicious of market-oriented reforms, and it is unlikely to embrace them anytime soon.

In conclusion, North Korea's policy of closure and rejection of market-oriented reforms has had a number of negative consequences for the country and its people. The government's fear of losing control over the economy and society has led to a stagnant economy, a shortage of basic goods and services, and a lack of freedom and opportunity for the North Korean people. Despite some small signs of change, it is unlikely that North Korea will fully embrace market-oriented reforms in the near future. The country's leadership remains deeply committed to the ideology of self-reliance and control, even as the rest of the world moves towards greater economic openness and integration.