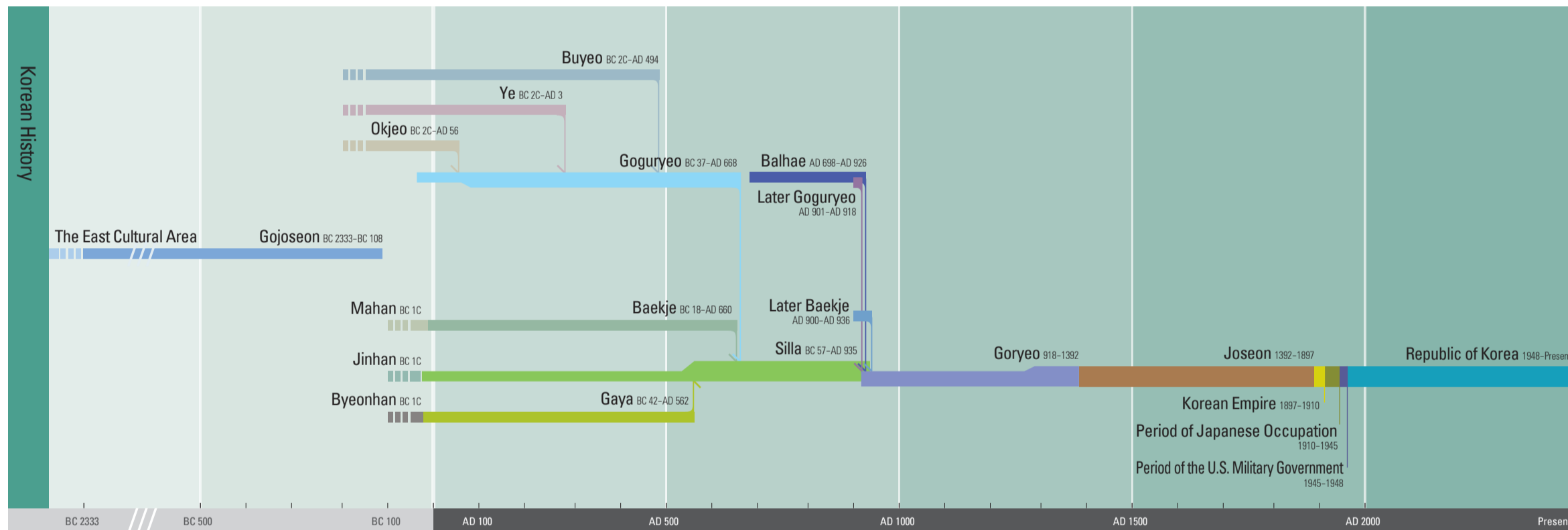


Territorial History of Korea



Historically, Korea's ancient territory included Manchuria and the Korean Peninsula. The first kingdom Gojoseon was formed in 2,333 B.C. and continued for more than two millennia until 108 B.C. Later, tribal nations such as Buyeo, Dongye, Okjeo, and the Three Han States of Mahan, Jinhan, and Byeonhan were established in an era which is generally referred to as the Proto-Three Kingdoms Period. In this phase Korean territory still included Manchuria and the whole Korean Peninsula. Buyeo's location and sphere of influence was mainly centered around Manchuria; Dongye and Okjeo were formed in the northern and central parts of the Korean Peninsula and the Three Han States occupied the central and southern parts of the Korean Peninsula.

From the 1st century B.C. to the 1st century A.D., Goguryeo, Baekje, Silla, and Gaya were formed by succeeding and merging tribal nations. This period is referred to as the Three Kingdoms Period when Korea's territory covered Manchuria and the entire Korean Peninsula. Goguryeo encompassed Manchuria

and the northern part of the Korean Peninsula; Silla occupied the southern and eastern portion of the peninsula, and Baekje dominated the southern and western territory. In the 7th century, Silla merged with Goguryeo and Baekje, forming a unified nation in the inner region of the peninsula, extending from Daedonggang to Wonsanman. In 698 A.D., Balhae was founded by Goguryeo refugees.

During the Goryeo Dynasty (918-1394) and the Joseon Dynasty (1394-1897), efforts to pioneer and expand the northern territory were made. Goryeo blocked the first invasion from Khitai in 933, confirming its occupation of six coastal provinces (*Gangdong Yuk Ju*). It started building the Great Wall (*Cheolli Jangseong*) in 1033 which defined its border with Khitai-Qidan. With the wall, Goryeo recovered its northern territory, which stretched from Sinuiju to Hamheung. Its efforts to expand the northern territory continued until late Goryeo, and even into the Joseon Dynasty. As a result, in the 15th century, Joseon installed four forts in the Amnokgang basin

and six posts in the Dumangang basin. The combined efforts of the Goryeo and Joseon Dynasties' territorial expansion and protection firmly established Korea's territory of today which extends from the southern tip of the peninsula all the way north to Amnokgang and Dumangang. In the 18th century, the Joseon Dynasty erected Baekdusan National Boundary Monument, marking its border with China's Qing Dynasty.

The modern and contemporary history of Korea is characterized by the establishment of the Korean Empire (1897-1920), Japanese colonial rule (1910-1945), liberation from Japan (1945), U.S. and Soviet military governments in Korea (1945-1948), and the Korean War (1950-1953). In 1897, in an effort to respond to the growing international imperialism, Emperor Gojong officially declared the establishment of the Korean Empire. He then pushed ahead with internal reforms only to witness the temporary loss of Korea's sovereignty over its own territory when it fell under colonial rule by Japan during its invasion of large areas of East Asia. Japanese colonial rule

lasted until 1945. The independence movements for recovering the sovereignty of Korea continued, and the Korean people achieved independence with Japan's defeat in the Second World War. After the war the national territory was unfortunately divided into North and South along the 38th parallel, the division that became permanent after the North and South governments were established in 1948. Korea then suffered the tragic Korean War which began on June 25, 1950 and ended three years later with an armistice on July 27, 1953. Korea's territory is now divided into North and South by the truce line. Even though the two Koreas have co-existed in a state of truce for 60 years, much of those six decades have been defined by competition and antagonism. Despite these tensions, however, the two Koreas have also made sincere and meaningful efforts to overcome the division with trust-building events such as holding reunions for separated families, inter-Korean summits, and the collaborative operation of the Gaesong Industrial Complex.

Territory of Ancient Era

Gojoseon



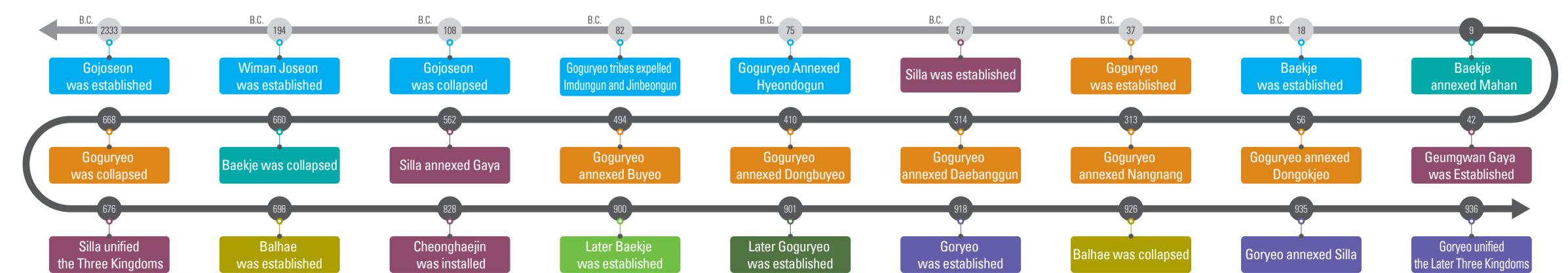
Circa 1 B.C. - 1 A.D.



Around 5th Century



Around 9th Century



Territory of Medieval and Modern Contemporary Era

Goryeo Dynasty (11C)



Joseon Dynasty (1861)



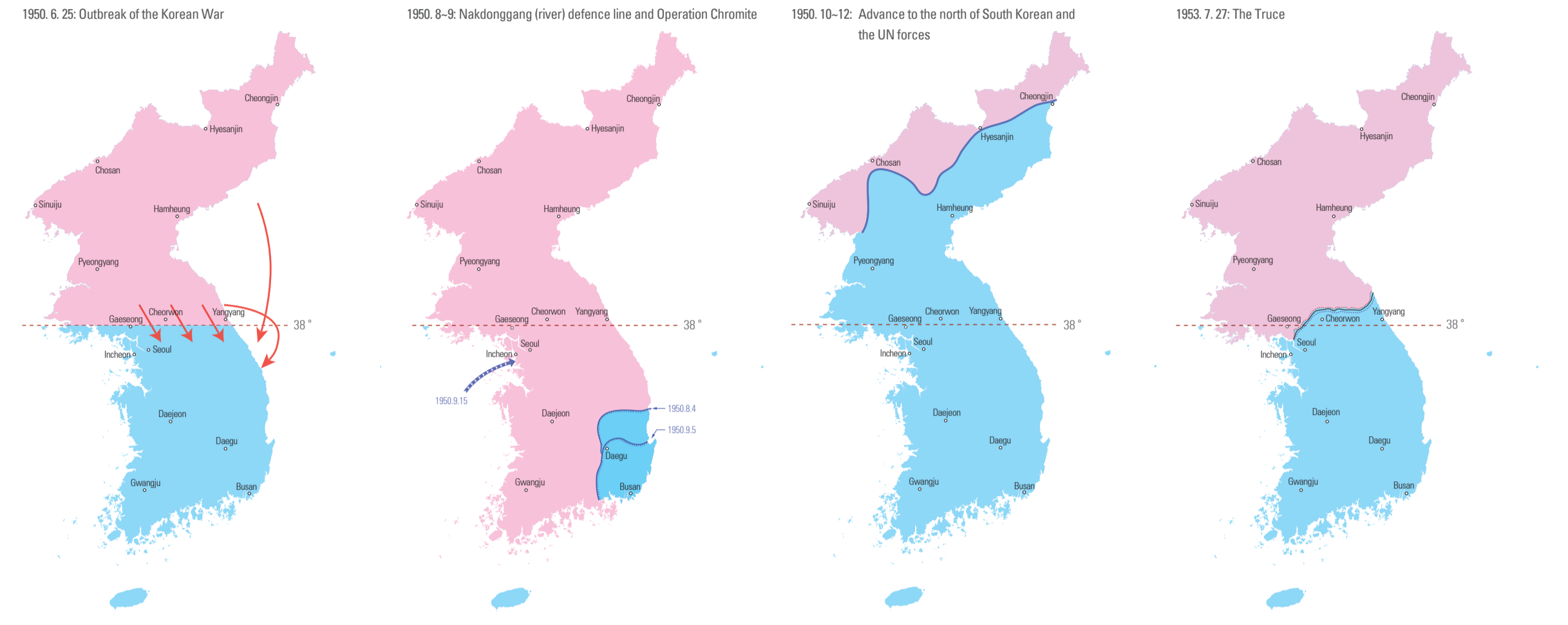
Korean Empire (1897)



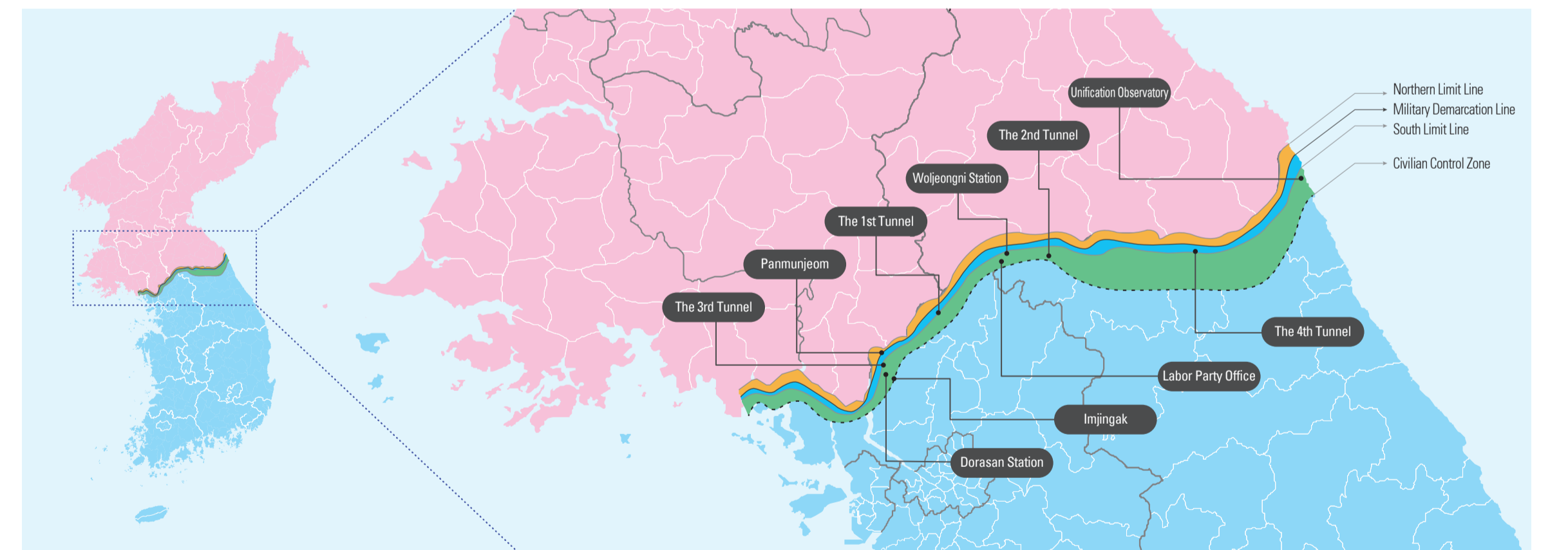
After Independence



Korean War



Demilitarized Zone and Civilian Control Zone



The Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) refers to a buffer zone in which militarization such as military forces or activities and installations are prohibited. Korea's DMZ was set up by the ceasefire agreement that put an end to the Korean War. When the agreement was signed in 1953, the military line of contact became the Military Demarcation Line (MDL), and a 4 km band of land extending 2 km north and 2 km south of the MDL was designated as the DMZ.

The Civilian Control Zone (CCZ) is a stretch of land that lies between the DMZ and Civilian Control Line (CCL). The CCL is a line designated to restrict public access in the adjacent area to the MDL where the legal protection of military activities is required. The CCL was initially drawn in 1954, and since then three adjustments have been made to reduce the CCZ with a goal of resolving the infringement of property rights. The current CCL is designated within 10 km south of

the MDL. The DMZ and CCZ are areas where human contact is restricted to a minimum, with the exception of farming activities by a few villages along the CCL. Because human activities are limited along the border these two zones both have diverse natural environments that are well preserved and where diverse species can be found. They are home to animals listed as Grade 1 endangered wildlife such

as musk deer, mountain goats, otters, white-tailed sea eagles, and golden eagles, and Grade 2 species such as martens, flying squirrels, and goshawks. Recently, tourism in these areas has become very popular as Koreans and foreign visitors alike have sought to learn more about such a well-preserved environment as well as the historic sites that relate to the military activities of such a tragic war.