

**WHITE PAPER**  
**ON NORTH KOREAN HUMAN RIGHTS**  
**2010**

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## 16. Other Violations: 68 incidents (48/20)

### 1) General Analysis of Other Violations

#### (1) Violations classified as Other

Types of acts	Political purge	Violation of the right to privacy (surveillance and eavesdropping)	Other	Total
Number	19	35	14	68
Percentage (%)	27.9	51.5	20.6	100.0

- There were 68 cases reported which were not included in the existing categories and classified as Others. Of these, 19 cases involved political purges, 35 cases involved violations of the right to privacy and 14 cases were unclassified.
- The classification 'purge' was made for cases obtained from publications in which victims were simply described as having been 'purged' without further details of the incident.
- Examples of others are incidents of deaths due to hunger-strikes in police detention facilities, always taking second or third place in singing competitions because of one's social class, etc. These cannot be categorized in NKDB's violation classification system

(2) Violations classified as 'other' listed by year

Types of acts/ Year	Political purge	Violation of the right to privacy (surveillance and eavesdropping)	Other	Total
1950's	3	1	0	4
	75.0%	25.0%	0.0%	100.0%
	15.8%	2.9%	0.0%	5.9%
1960's	8	2	0	10
	80.0%	20.0%	0.0%	100.0%
	42.1%	5.7%	0.0%	14.7%
1970's	2	2	0	4
	50.0%	50.0%	0.0%	100.0%
	10.5%	5.7%	0.0%	5.9%
1980's	1	2	2	5
	20.0%	40.0%	40.0%	100.0%
	5.3%	5.7%	14.3%	7.4%
1990's	1	14	6	21
	4.8%	66.7%	28.6%	100.0%
	5.3%	40.0%	42.9%	30.9%
2000-2005's	0	7	1	8
	0.0%	87.5%	12.5%	100.0%
	0.0%	20.0%	7.1%	11.8%
2006-2009's	0	2	1	3
	0.0%	66.7%	33.3%	100.0%
	0.0%	5.7%	7.1%	4.4%
Unspecified time	4	5	4	13
	30.8%	38.5%	30.8%	100.0%
	21.1%	14.3%	28.6%	19.1%
Total	19	35	14	68
	27.9%	51.5%	20.6%	100.0%
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

- Reports of violations classed as others are relatively evenly distributed throughout the decades. Of these cases, 21 reported incidents (30.9%) took place in the 1990s and 10 incidents (14.7%) in the 1960's.
- Reported incidents of political purges were concentrated in the 1950's and 1960's. Reported incidents related to invasion of privacy were evenly distributed across the period 1950's to 1980's, but reports increased for the period of 1990's onwards.

(3) Violations classified as 'other' listed by region

Types of acts/ Region	Political purge	Violation of the right to privacy (surveillance and eavesdropping)	Other	Total
Pyongyang	10	2	0	12
	83.3%	16.7%	0.0%	100.0%
	52.6%	5.7%	0.0%	17.6%
North Hamgyong Province	0	13	6	19
	0.0%	68.4%	31.6%	100.0%
	0.0%	37.1%	42.9%	27.9%
South Hamgyong Province	0	3	0	3
	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
	0.0%	8.6%	0.0%	4.4%
Yanggang Province	0	2	0	2
	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
	0.0%	5.7%	0.0%	2.9%
Chagang Province	0	1	0	1
	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
	0.0%	2.9%	0.0%	1.5%
North Pyongan Province	0	1	0	1
	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
	0.0%	2.9%	0.0%	1.5%
South Pyongan Province	0	4	1	5
	0.0%	80.0%	20.0%	100.0%
	0.0%	11.4%	7.1%	7.4%
North Hwanghae Province	0	2	1	3
	0.0%	66.7%	33.3%	100.0%
	0.0%	5.7%	7.1%	4.4%
Kangwon Province	0	1	0	1
	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
	0.0%	2.9%	0.0%	1.5%

Types of acts/ Region	Political purge	Violation of the right to privacy (surveillance and eavesdropping)	Other	Total
China	0	2	0	2
	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
	0.0%	5.7%	0.0%	2.9%
Soviet Union(Russia)	0	0	2	2
	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	0.0%	0.0%	14.3%	2.9%
Unidentified	9	4	4	17
	52.9%	23.5%	23.5%	100.0%
	47.4%	11.4%	28.6%	25.0%
Total	19	35	14	68
	27.9%	51.5%	20.6%	100.0%
	52.6%	5.7%	0.0%	17.6%

- A political purge is an expulsion of someone from a position of authority for political reasons. Due to the nature of political purges, 10 cases or 52.6% of incidents occurred in Pyongyang.
- Invasion of privacy violations the most frequently occurred in North Hamgyong Province. This province borders China. As a result the North Korean government institutions frequently carried out surveillance and eavesdropping actions to monitor defections, smuggling, illicit sales and other such activities.

(4) Violations classified as 'other' listed by location

Types of acts/Location of incident	Political purge	Violation of the right to privacy (surveillance and eavesdropping)	Other	Total
State Security Agency or Police interrogation/ detention facility	1	0	4	5
	20.0%	0.0%	80.0%	100.0%
	5.3%	0.0%	28.6%	7.4%
Military detention facility	0	2	0	2
	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
	0.0%	5.7%	0.0%	2.9%
Victim's home	0	20	1	21
	0.0%	95.2%	4.8%	100.0%
	0.0%	57.1%	7.1%	30.9%
Home of colleague or neighbor	0	1	0	1
	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
	0.0%	2.9%	0.0%	1.5%
Victim's place of employment	2	2	3	7
	28.6%	28.6%	42.9%	100.0%
	10.5%	5.7%	21.4%	10.3%
Government office or service institution	0	2	1	3
	0.0%	66.7%	33.3%	100.0%
	0.0%	5.7%	7.1%	4.4%
Educational facility	0	0	2	2
	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	0.0%	0.0%	14.3%	2.9%
Public space	0	0	1	1
	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	0.0%	0.0%	7.1%	1.5%
Other	3	5	1	9
	33.3%	55.6%	11.1%	100.0%
	15.8%	14.3%	7.1%	13.2%
Unidentified	13	3	1	17
	76.5%	17.6%	5.9%	100.0%
	68.4%	8.6%	7.1%	25.0%
Total	19	35	14	68
	27.9%	51.5%	20.6%	100.0%
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

- Violations of the right to privacy were the most frequently reported to have taken place at the victim's home (20 incidents, 57.1%). These incidents aren related to surveillance and eavesdropping on the victim's private activities within their homes.

(5) Violations classified as 'other' listed by charge against victim

Types of acts/ Type of charge	Political purge	Violation of the right to privacy (surveillance and eavesdropping)	Other	Total
Political offense	14	13	3	30
	46.7%	43.3%	10.0%	100.0%
	73.7%	37.1%	21.4%	44.1%
Felony offense	0	0	5	5
	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	0.0%	0.0%	35.7%	7.4%
Border-crossing offense	0	4	0	4
	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
	0.0%	11.4%	0.0%	5.9%
Misdemeanor offense	1	1	2	4
	25.0%	25.0%	50.0%	100.0%
	5.3%	2.9%	14.3%	5.9%
Guilt-by-association	4	14	3	21
	19.0%	66.7%	14.3%	100.0%
	21.1%	40.0%	21.4%	30.9%
Other	0	3	1	4
	0.0%	75.0%	25.0%	100.0%
	0.0%	8.6%	7.1%	5.9%
Total	19	35	14	68
	27.9%	51.5%	20.6%	100.0%
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

- The primary reason for political purges was political offenses with 14 incidents (73.7%)
- Of the cases of violation of the right to privacy, they the most frequently were reported to have arisen as a result of guilt-by-association charges (14 incidents, 40.0%). It is likely that as a result of actions of other family members, the victims were also monitored by the authorities.



(6) Violations classified as 'other' listed by nature of information provider

Types of acts/ Nature of information provider	Political purge	Violation of the right to privacy (surveillance and eavesdropping)	Other	Total
Victim	0	20	2	22
	0.0%	90.9%	9.1%	100.0%
	0.0%	57.1%	14.3%	32.4%
Colleague at work of victim (neighbor)	1	1	1	3
	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%	100.0%
	5.3%	2.9%	7.1%	4.4%
Family or relative of victim	0	9	0	9
	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
	0.0%	25.7%	0.0%	13.2%
Witness	0	2	2	4
	0.0%	50.0%	50.0%	100.0%
	0.0%	5.7%	14.3%	5.9%
Other	18	3	9	30
	60.0%	10.0%	30.0%	100.0%
	94.7%	8.6%	64.3%	44.1%
Total	19	35	14	68
	27.9%	51.5%	20.6%	100.0%
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

- No reports of political purges were provided by family members or relatives of the victim, and only one colleague of victim provided information. the most of information came from third parties (94.7%, 18 cases) or those who were unrelated to victims.
- 57.1% (20 cases) of violations of the right to privacy were reported by the victims themselves, and the rest were reported by 9 family or relative of victims and 2 witnesses.

(7) Violations classified as 'other' listed by nature of source

Types of acts/ Nature of source	Political purge	Violation of right to privacy (surveillance and eavesdropping)	Other	Total
Interview	0	27	4	31
	0.0%	87.1%	12.9%	100.0%
	0.0%	77.1%	28.6%	45.6%
Media	0	1	0	1
	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
	0.0%	2.9%	0.0%	1.5%
Published account	19	7	10	36
	52.8%	19.4%	27.8%	100.0%
	100.0%	20.0%	71.4%	52.9%
Total	19	35	14	68
	27.9%	51.5%	20.6%	100.0%
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

- Information about political purges and violations of the right to privacy was collected from written documents and interviews.
- In the case of the right to privacy, 27 interviews were conducted and 8 written documents were analyzed. Regarding political purges, 19 written documents were analyzed.

(8) Violations classified as 'other' listed by age of victim

Types of acts/Age	Political purge	Violation of right to privacy (surveillance and eavesdropping)	Other	Total
10-19's	0	2	1	3
	0.0%	66.7%	33.3%	100.0%
	0.0%	5.7%	7.1%	4.4%
20-29's	0	5	1	6
	0.0%	83.3%	16.7%	100.0%
	0.0%	14.3%	7.1%	8.8%
30-39's	0	5	4	9
	0.0%	55.6%	44.4%	100.0%
	0.0%	14.3%	28.6%	13.2%
40-49's	0	4	0	4
	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
	0.0%	11.4%	0.0%	5.9%
50-59's	2	0	0	2
	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
	10.5%	0.0%	0.0%	2.9%
Unidentified	17	19	8	44
	38.6%	43.2%	18.2%	100.0%
	89.5%	54.3%	57.1%	64.7%
Total	19	35	14	68
	27.9%	51.5%	20.6%	100.0%
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

- Since the most of information providers about political purges (18 people, 94.7%) were either third parties, or those who were not closely related to victims, they could not properly identify the victims. Furthermore, as all information were collected from documents, 17 out of 19 of the victims' ages were unknown.

(9) Violations classified as 'other' listed by gender

Types of acts/Gender	Political purge	Violation of the right to privacy (surveillance and eavesdropping)	Other	Total
Male	11	20	6	37
	29.7%	54.1%	16.2%	100.0%
	57.9%	57.1%	42.9%	54.4%
Female	3	13	3	19
	15.8%	68.4%	15.8%	100.0%
	15.8%	37.1%	21.4%	27.9%
Unidentified	5	2	5	12
	41.7%	16.7%	41.7%	100.0%
	26.3%	5.7%	35.7%	17.6%
Total	19	35	14	68
	27.9%	51.5%	20.6%	100.0%
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

- Both political purges and violations of the right to privacy occurred to males at a higher rate than to females (57.9% and 57.1% respectively).

## 2) Detailed Analysis of Other Violations

### (1) Political purge: 19 incidents (6/13)

There are 19 reports of political purges. The following are examples of such incidents.

Cho Gab-jae, 『Sunlight on the side of the Darkness Cannot Cast Light Onto the Darkness:』 2001, Chosun Monthly, p.119. (summarized quotation) “An Mak, husband of Choi Seung-hee, a traditional dancer, was purged because he was involved in the South Korean Socialist Party during Kim Il-sung’s regime. Later his relatives were also purged, including Choi

*Seung-hee, cousins, daughter An Seong-hee and her husband, a niece Choi Ro-sa who was a poet, and her husband.”*

Hwang Jang-yup, 『I Witnessed the Truth of the History』 1999, Haneul, p105. (summarized quotation) *“Kim Jin-gu (former professor at the Kim Il-sung University) was purged for having an acquaintance with monks in a German monastery in Wonsan, who were accused of being spies. He graduated Seoul University and had a wife from North Pyongan and a daughter. According to Hwang Jang-yup who tracked Kim ever since, Kim continued to deny the charge but it is unlikely that he is still alive.”*

(2) Violation of the right to privacy (surveillance and eavesdropping): 35 incidents (31/4)

There are 35 reports of violation of the right to privacy (surveillance and eavesdropping). The following are examples of such incidents.

E08-I-5663 (Kim 00, Female, Yangang Province) *“I was released from the prison in year 00. I was under severe surveillance. It was more so because Yangang province is near the border. The officer in charge of me visited every day. Though there was no wiretapping, I was watched by the police as well.”*

E10-I-1003 (Hyun 00, Female, North Hamgyong Province) *“I was involved in transferring money from defectors in South Korea to their families, connecting phone calls and arranging meetings in China. I was under the SSA surveillance since 2008. It was probably because I became too wealthy and those who knew me were disturbed by it. I was under surveillance for sure after working with a family who was under the watch of SSA. In 2008 I was even arrested.”*

E10-I-1261 (Chun 00, Female, Yangang Province) *“In 2007, my husband called his cousins in South Korea while he was in China. He used a*

*telephone to call a mobile phone. He was wiretapped because he used a telephone, and the SSA recorded the contents of the conversation. However, at the time, he did not know that he was wiretapped. In 2007, the counter-intelligence agency and an SSA officer Choi 00 visited me. They asked whereabouts of my husband. I said he went to Cheongjin. However, they had already finished investigation and completed documentations. The SSA officer mistakenly said that he made a phone call from China to South Korea. I instinctively realized that he was wiretapped.”*

*E10-I-6696 (Park 00, Female, South Hamgyong Province) “I was under surveillance during the revolutionizing period, but I did not realize it. On my way to work, someone followed me. That was surveillance. When I told my policeman friend that I was being followed, my friend advised me that I might be under surveillance. I did not want to live in North Korea any longer. I knew that my mother was interrogated because I had gone to China. At the police station I saw a colleague’s document by chance. It was stamped “border crossing offender.” I checked my document, and it bore the same stamp. Ever since, I do not want to live in North Korea any longer.”*

(3) Other: 14 incidents (11/3)

14 other incidents besides political purge and right to privacy were reported. The following are examples of the incidents.

*E09-I-3275 (Park 00, Male, North Pyongan) “I was cheated by three crooks. So I went to the court and asked them to legally return the money I had lost. The policemen said they will, but it never happened. I was told to wait, and it took a year and a half until the trial. I was cheated and had no money, whereas the crooks had the money to bribe judicial officers. Anyways, since the crooks bribed the court, they were sent merely to labor training camp. The court did not rule according to what is righteous. They ruled in favor of the crooks, because of the bribery. I thought, there is no*

*legal justice in North Korea. My mother suggested to appeal to the People's Council. Since there was no profit to be made, no one wanted to deal with the case."*

E10-I-0038 (Chung 00, Male, South Hamgyong Province) *"Though defection to South Korea is severely persecuted, defections attempts of an entire family is especially harshly punished; the family is sent straight to political prison camps. In 2009, a family was wiretapped and arrested for attempting defection. Their son was already in the South, and he had tried to bring his parents and younger sister. The mother ran away, but later hung herself when she learned that the rest were taken to political prison camps. The son offered to send 10,000 USD, but there is a limit to what money can do in North Korea. In such a situation where a woman killed herself, a family attempted to defect and everyone is held at the SSA, money doesn't help. The name of the son is 000."*