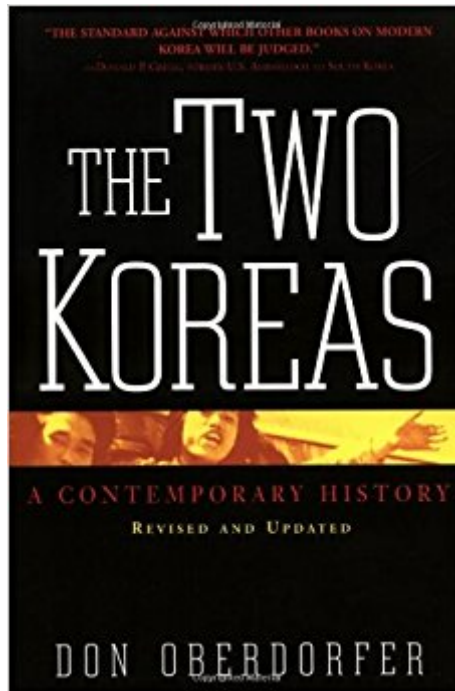




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# The Two Koreas: Revised And Updated A Contemporary History



## Synopsis

Don Oberdorfer has written a gripping narrative history of Korea's travails and triumphs over the past three decades. *The Two Koreas* places the tensions between North and South within a historical context, with a special emphasis on the involvement of outside powers.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Oberdorfer is one of America's keenest analysts of the international scene." -- James A. Baker III, former U.S. Secretary of State  
"This truly important work will, without question, become the standard against which other books on modern Korea will be judged." -- Donald P. Gregg, former U.S. Ambassador to South Korea

Don Oberdorfer wrote for the *Washington Post* for twenty-five years. He was a National Book Award finalist for *Tet! The Turning Point in the Vietnam War* and holds a Woodrow Wilson Award from Princeton for public service. He is currently a resident scholar at Johns Hopkins University Nitze School of Advanced International Studies. He lives in Washington, D.C.

Very helpful to understand US policy in Korea and its effect on current US/South Korea relations, as well as the current crisis. Covers a good bit of modern Korean history along with events in Europe, China, Russia and the US during the same time period. Well worth the time spent reading, certainly not dry, however also not sensationalized.

This book is relevant because of current situations.

Great book!!! I use this as a desk reference. A must have for anyone studying the Koreas. I keep this handy and even gave a copy to my Professor.

The closest you can get to an understanding of both sides.

Once again, this book is on the State Department reading list. Oberdorfer provides a well-researched, thorough perspective on the strategic, diplomatic, economic and social implications of the ongoing relationship between the divided Korea, and the influence of relations with nations such as China, the United States and Russia. It is particularly noteworthy for the attention it focuses on the current and recent leadership in both Koreas, and the respective pedigrees of those leaders as a means to explain their allegiances and goals. A recommended read for anyone with any interest in East Asian and Pacific political affairs.

This is an exceptionally well written book with uncanny implications to events transpiring in the world to day. I enjoyed the book very much.

This book provides amazing, detailed information about the too-little reported U.S. relationship with North Korea. It has many important insights.

I looked at this book as an introduction to the broad strokes of modern Korean history, and for my purposes it worked wonderfully. I learned a lot, and the book brought a lot of new questions into my mind. That being said, I went immediately from this book to *Â Korea's Place in the Sun: A Modern History, Updated Edition*. And I mean within a few hours of finishing *The Two Koreas*. Cumings's book is far more expansive and goes back farther into history, but I am very glad I read *The Two Korea's* first, so that I would have the big picture in mind while reading Cumings. Also, I agree with other reviewers that said the author bringing in his personal stories got a little annoying and there could have been more natural ways to introduce the same information. So for people just looking for a light overview of the topic, I would recommend this book. But for those looking to delve deeper into Korean politics and culture, it will not be sufficient.

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