



Australian Government
Refugee Review Tribunal

Country Advice

South Korea

South Korea – KOR38884 – Jehovah's
Witnesses – State protection

7 July 2011

1. What legal rights does a person have to practice their religion in Korea?

In the Republic of Korea (South Korea) a person's right to religious freedom is protected by the Constitution, Articles 11(1) and 20.¹ Article 11(1) sets out that "[a]ll citizens shall be equal before the law, and there shall be no discrimination in political, economic, social, or cultural life on account of sex, religion, or social status".² Article 20 covers religious freedoms, stating that "[a]ll citizens shall enjoy freedom of religion" as well as that "[n]o state religion shall be recognized, and religion and state shall be separated".³

The 2010 US Department of State report on religious freedom notes that the "constitution provides for freedom of religion, and other laws and policies contributed to the generally free practice of religion".⁴ According to the report, "the government does not subsidize or otherwise favor a particular religion" nor does it "require that religious groups be licensed or registered".⁵ Similarly, the Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs at Georgetown University states the "Korean Constitution guarantees religious freedom" and "prohibits discrimination on the basis of religious beliefs".⁶ The Berkley Center elaborates:

The government is not allowed to support any one religion over another. Article twenty prohibits the formation of a state religion. The Constitution views religion as a personal matter and specifically requires separation of church and state. Article eleven states that all South Korean citizens are equal before the law and that discrimination based on religious beliefs, religious practice, or religious worship is illegal.⁷

While the Constitution provides for freedom of religion, this does not override the constitutional requirement for military service.⁸ The Berkley Center says "the Constitution

¹ Republic of Korea 1948, *Constitution of the Republic of Korea*, (enacted 12 July 1948, amended 29 October 1987) <http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/docid/3ae6b4dd14.html> – Accessed 4 July 2011 – Attachment 1

² Republic of Korea 1948, *Constitution of the Republic of Korea*, (enacted 12 July 1948, amended 29 October 1987) <http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/docid/3ae6b4dd14.html> – Accessed 4 July 2011 – Attachment 1

³ Republic of Korea 1948, *Constitution of the Republic of Korea*, (enacted 12 July 1948, amended 29 October 1987) <http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/docid/3ae6b4dd14.html> – Accessed 4 July 2011 – Attachment 1

⁴ US Department of State 2010, *International Religious Freedom Report 2010 – Republic of Korea*, 17 November www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/irf/2010/148876.htm – Accessed 4 July – Attachment 2

⁵ US Department of State 2010, *International Religious Freedom Report 2010 – Republic of Korea*, 17 November www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/irf/2010/148876.htm – Accessed 4 July – Attachment 2

⁶ Berkley Center for Religion, Peace & World Affairs (undated), "South Korea", Berkley Center, Georgetown University website <http://berkeleycenter.georgetown.edu/resources/countries/south-korea> – Accessed 4 July 2011 – Attachment 3

⁷ Berkley Center for Religion, Peace & World Affairs (undated), "South Korea", Berkley Center, Georgetown University website <http://berkeleycenter.georgetown.edu/resources/countries/south-korea> – Accessed 4 July 2011 – Attachment 3

⁸ US Department of State 2010, *International Religious Freedom Report 2010 – Republic of Korea*, 17 November www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/irf/2010/148876.htm – Accessed 4 July – Attachment 2

requires all males over the age of eighteen to serve in the Korean armed forces and provides no alternative for religious devotees, such as Jehovah's Witnesses, who have religious objections to military service".⁹ Witnesses believe that they should remain "separate from the world" and only serve God.¹⁰ Consequently, Jehovah's Witnesses refuse to vote, swear allegiance to a country or serve in the military.¹¹ The treatment of conscientious objectors is addressed in Question 3.

2. What State protection is there for someone who is discriminated against because of their religion?

In South Korea, a person subject to religious discrimination can file a complaint with the National Human Rights Commission of Korea (NHRCK), whose mandate includes investigation of religious discrimination.¹² More broadly, South Korea has effective justice and policing systems that offer protection against discrimination.

The NHRCK promotes religious rights and conducts investigations into violations of these rights. From the NHRCK's formation in 2001 until the end of 2009, the organisation handled 77 religious discrimination complaints (1.1 per cent of total complaints).¹³ For example, in 2010, following a complaint filed with the organisation, the NHRCK "demanded that universities run by religious foundations not limit those of different faiths from applying for job positions at the schools".¹⁴ In 2002, the Commission recommended the Ministry of Justice reconsider a decision to restrict Jehovah's Witnesses right to practice their religion in prison.¹⁵ The Ministry of Justice initially rejected the NHRCK's recommendation but later reviewed and adopted the recommendation. The NHRCK – which was established in accordance with UN principle of independence from the government – has come under recent criticism because of contentious political appointments and large staff cuts (in the order of 20–30 per cent).¹⁶ While it is unclear how this will affect the NHRCK's ability to protect religious freedoms, in 2009 the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights did raise concerns

⁹ Berkley Center for Religion, Peace & World Affairs (undated), "South Korea", Berkley Center, Georgetown University website <http://berkeleycenter.georgetown.edu/resources/countries/south-korea> – Accessed 4 July 2011 – Attachment 3

¹⁰ "What do they believe?" 2008, Jehovah's Witnesses Official Website, 10 July, <http://www.watchtower.org/e/jt/index.htm> – Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 20

¹¹ Holden, A 2002, *Jehovah's Witnesses: Portrait of a contemporary religious movement*, Routledge, London – Attachment 16, p 26.

¹² National Human Rights Commission of Korea 2010, *National Human Rights Commission of the Republic of Korea- Annual Report 2009*, 30 July http://www.humanrights.go.kr/english/publications/publications_view.jsp – Accessed 4 July 2011 – Attachment 4

¹³ National Human Rights Commission of Korea 2010, *National Human Rights Commission of the Republic of Korea- Annual Report 2009*, 30 July http://www.humanrights.go.kr/english/publications/publications_view.jsp – Accessed 4 July 2011 – Attachment 4

¹⁴ Hepworth, J. 2010 "South Korea Religious Schools Urged to Be Fair to Non-Believer Job Seekers", *Korean Times*, September available on the Religion and Law Consortium website http://www.religlaw.org/index.php?blurb_id=997&page_id=25 – Accessed 4 July 2011 – Attachment 7

¹⁵ National Human Rights Commission of Korea 2003, "Ministry of Justice upholds Religious Freedom for Incarcerated Followers of Minority Religions", 19 July http://www.humanrights.go.kr/english/search_view_detail.jsp – Accessed 6 July 2011 – Attachment 8

¹⁶ National Human Rights Commission of Korea 2009, "South Korea: Pressure mounts for NHRCK to retain its independence", 12 March available at the *Asia Pacific Forum* website <http://www.asiapacificforum.net/news/south-korea-pressure-mounts-for-nhrck-to-retain-its-independence.html> – Accessed 4 July 2011 – Attachment 5; Korean House for International Solidarity 2011, "Korean House for International Solidarity (KHIS) Monitoring Report on the National Human Rights Commission of Korea (NHRCK)" 27 May <http://khrfseoul.wordpress.com/2011/05/27/khis-monitoring-report-on-the-nhrck/> – Accessed 4 July 2011 – Attachment 6

that these moves could impact the NHRCK's independence and capacity to carry out its mandate.

More general reports indicate that the Korean state has the institutions and capacity to effectively protect its citizens. In 2011, the US Department of State reported that "[t]here is an independent and impartial judiciary in civil matters, and there were no problems enforcing domestic court orders".¹⁷ According to the same report, "[c]itizens had access to a court to bring lawsuits seeking damages for, or cessation of, a human rights violation".¹⁸ Independent NGOs report that South Korea performs well internationally in terms of rule of law, security and effective criminal justice.¹⁹ The World Justice Project's *Rule of Law Index 2010* ranks South Korea seventh out of 35 countries for respect of "Fundamental Rights".²⁰ Similarly, the Worldwide Governance Indicators review of 212 countries and territories from 1996 to 2009, ranked South Korea in the top 75-90th percentile for Rule of Law.²¹

3. Are there any reports in the last 10 years of Jehovah's Witnesses being harassed and discriminated against in the workplace or society in general?

No reports were located of Jehovah's Witnesses in South Korea being discriminated against solely based on their religion. In 2010, the Director of the Australian Watchtower Society, Don MacLean, advised the Tribunal that Jehovah's Witnesses in South Korea enjoyed freedom of worship.²² MacLean noted that the South Korean branch was a large and active body, with one of the highest rates of missionary work in the world.²³ MacLean was not aware of any particular problem in relation to community treatment.²⁴ This advice is consistent with the 2010 US Department of State finding that there were "no reports of societal abuses or discrimination based on religious affiliation, belief, or practice, and prominent societal leaders took positive steps to promote religious freedom".²⁵

Reports indicate, however, that Jehovah's Witnesses who object to compulsory military service based on their religious beliefs are imprisoned and discriminated against, especially in

¹⁷ US Department of State 2011, *2010 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices – Republic of Korea*, 8 April www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2010/eap/154389.htm – Accessed 6 July 2011 – Attachment 9

¹⁸ US Department of State 2011, *2010 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices – Republic of Korea*, 8 April www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2010/eap/154389.htm – Accessed 6 July 2011 – Attachment 9

¹⁹ The World Justice Project 2010, *Rule of Law Index 2010*, pp. 23 & 82

http://www.iberglobal.com/Archivos/Rule_law_index.pdf – Accessed 7 January 2011 – Attachment 10; "Worldwide Governance Indicators: South Korea: 2009" 2009, World Bank website

http://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/sc_chart.asp – Accessed 10 January 2011 – Attachment 11.

²⁰ The World Justice Project 2010, *Rule of Law Index 2010*, pp. 23 & 82

http://www.iberglobal.com/Archivos/Rule_law_index.pdf – Accessed 7 January 2011 – Attachment 10

"Fundamental Rights" included: protection from discrimination, right to life and security, due process, freedom of expression, freedom of religious, right to privacy, freedom of association and fundamental labour rights.

²¹ "Worldwide Governance Indicators: South Korea: 2009" 2009, World Bank website

http://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/sc_chart.asp – Accessed 10 January 2011 – Attachment 11. The "Rule of Law" measures "the extent to which agents have confidence in and abide by the rules of society, in particular the quality of contract enforcement, the police, and the courts, as well as the likelihood of crime and violence".

²² MacLean, D (Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of Australia) 2010, "Fax to the Refugee Review Tribunal regarding the Situation of Jehovah's Witnesses in South Korea" (RRT ref: KOR36429), 8 April – Attachment 12. All subsequent advice from the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of Australia can be attributed to this source.

²³ MacLean, D (Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of Australia) 2010, "Fax to the Refugee Review Tribunal regarding the Situation of Jehovah's Witnesses in South Korea" (RRT ref: KOR36429), 8 April – Attachment 12

²⁴ MacLean, D (Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of Australia) 2010, "Fax to the Refugee Review Tribunal regarding the Situation of Jehovah's Witnesses in South Korea" (RRT ref: KOR36429), 8 April – Attachment 12

²⁵ US Department of State 2010, *International Religious Freedom Report 2010 – Republic of Korea*, 17 November www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/irf/2010/148876.htm – Accessed 4 July – Attachment 2

relation to employment.²⁶ According to MacLean, Witnesses in South Korea do face difficulties in relation to military service.²⁷ In an April 2011 article in the *Korean Times*, the UNHCR was reported as saying that “the South Korean government infringed on the freedom of conscience and religious freedom by imprisoning conscientious objectors who are Jehovah’s Witnesses”.²⁸ The US Department of State reported that conscientious objection can result in three years imprisonment, although 18 month sentences are more common.²⁹ After release, conscientious objectors have a criminal record that bars them from jobs in government and public organisations as well as restricting other employment opportunities.³⁰

4. What obligations do Jehovah’s Witnesses have to comply with in the practise of their religion? (e.g. attending meetings and services, proselytising, donation of income)

Reports indicate that Jehovah’s Witnesses have relatively uniform practices, which include attending weekly meetings and regular evangelism. Jehovah’s Witnesses are a Christian-based religious movement but their beliefs and practices differ significantly from traditional Christian groups.³¹ Unlike traditional Christians, Witnesses do not believe in the Trinity. According to Witnesses, God (Jehovah) is separate and superior to Jesus and the Holy Spirit is not a person but “God’s active force”.³² Another fundamental difference is that Witnesses believe that Jesus was spiritually not bodily resurrected.³³

Sociologist Andrew Holden reported that the upper levels of the Jehovah’s Witness leadership – the Governing Body of the Watchtower Society – develop clear doctrine for the movement’s followers. This process, according to Holden, is highly restricted and controlled,

²⁶ MINBYUN – Lawyers for a Democratic Society 2002, “Civil and Political Rights, Including the Question of Conscientious Objection to Military Service”, Written Submission to the 59th session of the UN Commission on Human Rights, 6 February, <http://www.unhchr.ch/Huridocda/Huridoca.nsf/0/fb8cbf0b057dd464c1256b73005a99a1?Opendocument> – Accessed 25 March 2010 – Attachment 15; Tikhonov, V 2010, “Militarism and anti-militarism in South Korea: ‘Militarized masculinity’ and the conscientious objector movement”, *Medialeft.net*, 3 February, http://www.medialeft.net/main/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1587:militarism-and-anti-militarism-in-south-korea-militarized-masculinity-and-the-conscientious-objector-movement&catid=34:militarism&Itemid=2 – Accessed 25 March 2010 – Attachment 14. Jehovah’s Witnesses make up the vast majority of Korea’s conscientious objectors – one academic source reports a figure of over 99 per cent since conscription was introduced in 1949.

²⁷ MacLean, D (Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of Australia) 2010, “Fax to the Refugee Review Tribunal regarding the Situation of Jehovah’s Witnesses in South Korea” (RRT ref: KOR36429), 8 April – Attachment 12

²⁸ Si-soo, P. 2011, “UN calls for fair treatment of conscientious objectors”, *The Korean Times*, 17 April http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2011/04/113_85358.html – Accessed 6 July 2011 – Attachment 13

²⁹ US Department of State 2010, *International Religious Freedom Report 2010 – Republic of Korea*, 17 November www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/irf/2010/148876.htm – Accessed 4 July – Attachment 2

³⁰ MINBYUN – Lawyers for a Democratic Society 2002, “Civil and Political Rights, Including the Question of Conscientious Objection to Military Service”, Written Submission to the 59th session of the UN Commission on Human Rights, 6 February, <http://www.unhchr.ch/Huridocda/Huridoca.nsf/0/fb8cbf0b057dd464c1256b73005a99a1?Opendocument> – Accessed 25 March 2010 – Attachment 15

³¹ “Jehovah’s Witnesses at a glance – Religions: Jehovah’s Witnesses” 2009, *BBC Religion*, 29 September, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/witnesses/ata glance/glance.shtml> – Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 17

³² “Beliefs – Religions: Jehovah’s Witnesses” 2009, *BBC Religion*, 29 September, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/witnesses/beliefs/beliefs.shtml> – Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 18; Stark, R & L Iannaccone 1997, “Why the Jehovah’s Witnesses grow so rapidly: A theoretical application”, *Journal of Contemporary Religion*, Vol 12 No 2, pp 133-157 – Attachment 19, see p 135.

³³ “Beliefs – Religions: Jehovah’s Witnesses” 2009, *BBC Religion*, 29 September, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/witnesses/beliefs/beliefs.shtml> – Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 18

resulting in uniformity of belief across the group.³⁴ The “Governing Body” – an all-male, nine- to twelve-member council in Brooklyn, New York – is seen as Jehovah’s chosen “channel of communication”.³⁵ The Governing Body appoints elders to represent them at the congregational level.³⁶

Baptism

Jehovah’s Witnesses practice adult baptism by full water immersion. People are baptised at “a responsible age” and consciously decide to join the group. After baptism, Witnesses are expected to attend regular Kingdom Hall meetings and engage in evangelism.³⁷

Meetings and services

Witnesses attend two weekly congregational meetings held at the local Kingdom Hall (the equivalent of a church).³⁸ Sociologist Andrew Holden attended several Jehovah’s Witness meetings and found that they were “formal events that followed the schedule of the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society to the letter”.³⁹ According to Holden, “[s]o uniform is the Society’s theology and content of meetings that, in principle, every Jehovah’s Witness in the world will read the same literature during the same week in preparation for the same programme at their local Kingdom Hall”.⁴⁰ Meetings are held on a Sunday and a weekday evening; both last about two hours. According to Holden, the weekday meeting typically “revolves around sermons, ministry and discussions of moral and theological issues” and the Sunday meeting “comprises a *public talk* and a *Watchtower study*”.⁴¹ The Religion Facts website provides further details:

The Sunday service consists of the Public Meeting, a 45-minute Bible-based lecture, and the Watchtower Study, a one-hour discussion of a recent article in the Watchtower magazine. Although all baptized members are considered ordained

³⁴ Holden, A 2002, *Jehovah’s Witnesses: Portrait of a contemporary religious movement*, Routledge, London, p 22 – Attachment 16

³⁵ “Organisation – Religions: Jehovah’s Witnesses” 2009, *BBC Religion*, 29 September, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/witnesses/structure/structure.shtml> – Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 21; Holden, A 2002, *Jehovah’s Witnesses: Portrait of a contemporary religious movement*, Routledge, London – Attachment 16, p 32.

³⁶ “Organisation – Religions: Jehovah’s Witnesses” 2009, *BBC Religion*, 29 September, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/witnesses/structure/structure.shtml> – Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 21

³⁷ “Practices of Jehovah’s Witnesses” (undated), available at *Religions Facts* http://www.religionfacts.com/jehovahs_witnesses/practices.htm – Accessed 6 July 2011 – Attachment 22

³⁸ Holden, A 2002, *Jehovah’s Witnesses: Portrait of a contemporary religious movement*, Routledge, London – Attachment 16, p 66. Holden states that Witnesses must attend three meetings, with the last of these a “Book Study” that is held in members’ homes. Discussion threads on Jehovah’s Witnesses and other forums indicate that since 2002, the Governing Body has amalgamated the Book Study into the other weekly meetings. See for example: “Congregation Book Study Adjustment – A Marvelous Benefit for Jehovah’s Witn [sic]” 2008, Jehovahs-witness.net - forum, 5 February, <http://www.jehovahs-witness.net/jw/friends/157643/1/Congregation-Book-Study-Adjustment-A-Marvelous-Benefit-for-Jehovahs-Witn> – Accessed 7 April 2010 – Attachment 23; “Why was the mid week Jehovah’s Witness book study stopped?” 2009, *Yahoo! Answers*, <http://uk.answers.yahoo.com/question/index?qid=20090426073850AALWDN3> – Accessed 7 April 2010 – Attachment 24

³⁹ Holden, A 2002, *Jehovah’s Witnesses: Portrait of a contemporary religious movement*, Routledge, London – Attachment 16, p 66.

⁴⁰ Holden, A 2002, *Jehovah’s Witnesses: Portrait of a contemporary religious movement*, Routledge, London – Attachment 16, p 66.

⁴¹ The *Watchtower*, a magazine produced by the Watchtower Society, is a key Jehovah’s Witness publication Holden, A 2002, *Jehovah’s Witnesses: Portrait of a contemporary religious movement*, Routledge, London – Attachment 16, p 66.

ministers, services are usually led by elders or “ministerial servants.” The services begin and end with prayer and usually include some singing. Worship is simple and includes very little ritual.

...The Theocratic Ministry School and Service Meeting are held on a weekday evening. The Theocratic Ministry School is a 45-minute lesson and practice session on public speaking. At each meeting, six students give a speech on an assigned Bible-related topic and an instructor provides commentary and suggestions for improvement. All ages can enroll in the Theocratic Ministry School, and one need not be a Witness to participate. At the Service Meeting, Witnesses discuss methods and techniques for evangelism.⁴²

Evangelism

Evangelism is a fundamental practice for Witnesses, who believe that “the end will come only when Jehovah’s true word has been ministered to the ends of the earth”.⁴³ Followers are expected to “gladly give public testimony to Scriptural Truth”, working as “part-time missionaries” their entire lives.⁴⁴ In practice, this means giving at least four hours a week to distributing Witness literature.⁴⁵ Members document these visits and submit the details to the congregational secretary.⁴⁶ According to Religious Facts:

Each Kingdom Hall has an assigned territory for which it is responsible to evangelize, and each publisher has an assigned neighborhood. Statistics related to these efforts are tracked carefully. Each month, statistical data such as number of visits, hours spent preaching, Bible studies conducted and tracts distributed are reported to the society's headquarters in Brooklyn.⁴⁷

Discipline and “disfellowshipping”

Jehovah’s Witnesses who depart from Watch Tower teachings are disciplined by congregational elders. According to Holden, Witnesses have “an administrative system with clear guidelines for dealing with transgressions”.⁴⁸ The most common method of addressing “minor wrongdoing[s]” by members is through “counselling”. Generally, this involves:

⁴² “Practices of Jehovah’s Witnesses” (undated), available at *Religions Facts*

http://www.religionfacts.com/jehovahs_witnesses/practices.htm – Accessed 6 July 2011 – Attachment 22

⁴³ Holden, A 2002, *Jehovah’s Witnesses: Portrait of a contemporary religious movement*, Routledge, London – Attachment 16, p 7.

⁴⁴ “What do they believe?” 2008, Jehovah’s Witnesses Official Website, 10 July,

<http://www.watchtower.org/e/jt/index.htm> – Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 20; “Organisation – Religions: Jehovah’s Witnesses” 2009, *BBC Religion*, 29 September,

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/witnesses/structure/structure.shtml> – Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 21

⁴⁵ Stark, R & Iannaccone, L 1997, “Why the Jehovah’s Witnesses grow so rapidly: A theoretical application”, *Journal of Contemporary Religion*, Vol 12 No 2, pp 133-157 – Attachment 19, p 135.

⁴⁶ Holden, A 2002, *Jehovah’s Witnesses: Portrait of a contemporary religious movement*, Routledge, London – Attachment 16, p 72.

⁴⁷ “Practices of Jehovah’s Witnesses” (undated), available at *Religions Facts*

http://www.religionfacts.com/jehovahs_witnesses/practices.htm – Accessed 6 July 2011 – Attachment 22

⁴⁸ Holden, A 2002, *Jehovah’s Witnesses: Portrait of a contemporary religious movement*, Routledge, London – Attachment 16, p 77.

a series of meetings between the individual and the elders...[which are] often followed by a formal announcement...at the next meeting that the person concerned has been reprov^{ed}.⁴⁹

“Major” or recurrent transgressions (i.e. adultery, homosexuality, continual drunkenness) require stronger measures, up to “disfellowshipping”.⁵⁰ Disfellowshipped individuals are disqualified from ministry work and “shunned” by fellow members: other Witnesses do not communicate with the offender until they repent.⁵¹ Disfellowshipped members can continue to attend meetings and may return to the congregation through a “combination of appeal for forgiveness, attendance at meetings, Bible study and visits from...elders”.⁵²

Holidays

Jehovah’s Witnesses do not celebrate most holidays, including Christmas and Easter, which they believe are associated with “pagan customs and religions”.⁵³ They do celebrate individual birthdays, national holidays or secular festivals that originate from other religions.⁵⁴ However, one important religious event for the movement is the “commemoration of the Memorial of Christ’s Death”, held on “the anniversary of the Last Supper, calculated according to the lunar calendar in use in Christ’s time”.⁵⁵

Attachments

1. Republic of Korea 1948, *Constitution of the Republic of Korea*, (enacted 12 July 1948, amended 29 October 1987) <http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/docid/3ae6b4dd14.html> – Accessed 4 July 2011.
2. US Department of State 2010, *International Religious Freedom Report 2010 – Republic of Korea*, 17 November www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/irf/2010/148876.htm – Accessed 4 July.
3. Berkley Center for Religion, Peace & World Affair (undated), “South Korea”, Berkley Center, Georgetown University website <http://berkeleycenter.georgetown.edu/resources/countries/south-korea> – Accessed 4 July 2011.
4. National Human Rights Commission of Korea 2010, *National Human Rights Commission of the Republic of Korea- Annual Report 2009*, 30 July http://www.humanrights.go.kr/english/publications/publications_view.jsp – Accessed 4 July 2011.

⁴⁹ Holden, A 2002, *Jehovah’s Witnesses: Portrait of a contemporary religious movement*, Routledge, London – Attachment 16, p 77.

⁵⁰ Holden, A 2002, *Jehovah’s Witnesses: Portrait of a contemporary religious movement*, Routledge, London – Attachment 16, p 79.

⁵¹ Holden, A 2002, *Jehovah’s Witnesses: Portrait of a contemporary religious movement*, Routledge, London – Attachment 16, p 79.

⁵² Holden, A 2002, *Jehovah’s Witnesses: Portrait of a contemporary religious movement*, Routledge, London – Attachment 16, p 80.

⁵³ “Holy days – Religions: Jehovah’s Witnesses” 2009, *BBC Religion*, 29 September, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/witnesses/holydays/holydays.shtml> – Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 25

⁵⁴ “Holy days – Religions: Jehovah’s Witnesses” 2009, *BBC Religion*, 29 September, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/witnesses/holydays/holydays.shtml> – Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 25

⁵⁵ “Holy days – Religions: Jehovah’s Witnesses” 2009, *BBC Religion*, 29 September, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/witnesses/holydays/holydays.shtml> – Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 25

5. National Human Rights Commission of Korea 2009, "South Korea: Pressure mounts for NHRCK to retain its independence", 12 March available at the *Asia Pacific Forum* website <http://www.asiapacificforum.net/news/south-korea-pressure-mounts-for-nhrck-to-retain-its-independence.html> – Accessed 4 July 2011.
6. Korean House for International Solidarity 2011, "Korean House for International Solidarity (KHIS) Monitoring Report on the National Human Rights Commission of Korea (NHRCK)" 27 May <http://khrfseoul.wordpress.com/2011/05/27/khis-monitoring-report-on-the-nhrck/> – Accessed 4 July 2011.
7. Hepworth, J. 2010 "South Korea Religious Schools Urged to Be Fair to Non-Believer Job Seekers", *Korean Times*, September available on the Religion and Law Consortium website http://www.religlaw.org/index.php?blurb_id=997&page_id=25 – Accessed 4 July 2011.
8. National Human Rights Commission of Korea 2003, "Ministry of Justice upholds Religious Freedom for Incarcerated Followers of Minority Religions", 19 July http://www.humanrights.go.kr/english/search_view_detail.jsp – Accessed 6 July 2011.
9. US Department of State 2011, *2010 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices – Republic of Korea*, 8 April www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2010/eap/154389.htm – Accessed 6 July 2011.
10. The World Justice Project 2010, *Rule of Law Index 2010*, http://www.iberglobal.com/Archivos/Rule_law_index.pdf – Accessed 7 January 2011.
11. "Worldwide Governance Indicators: South Korea: 2009" 2009, World Bank website http://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/sc_chart.asp – Accessed 10 January 2011.
12. MacLean, D (Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of Australia) 2010, "Fax to the Refugee Review Tribunal regarding the Situation of Jehovah's Witnesses in South Korea" (RRT ref: KOR36429), 8 April.
13. Si-soo, P. 2011, "UN calls for fair treatment of conscientious objectors", *The Korean Times*, 17 April http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2011/04/113_85358.html – Accessed 6 July 2011.
14. Tikhonov, V 2010, "Militarism and anti-militarism in South Korea: 'Militarized masculinity' and the conscientious objector movement", *Medialeft.net*, 3 February, http://www.medialeft.net/main/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1587:militarism-and-anti-militarism-in-south-korea-militarized-masculinity-and-the-conscientious-objector-movement&catid=34:militarism&Itemid=2 – Accessed 25 March 2010.
15. MINBYUN – Lawyers for a Democratic Society 2002, "Civil and Political Rights, Including the Question of Conscientious Objection to Military Service", Written Submission to the 59th session of the UN Commission on Human Rights, 6 February, <http://www.unhchr.ch/Huridocda/Huridoca.nsf/0/fb8cbf0b057dd464c1256b73005a99a1?OpenDocument> – Accessed 25 March 2010.
16. Holden, A 2002, *Jehovah's Witnesses: Portrait of a contemporary religious movement*, Routledge, London.
17. "Jehovah's Witnesses at a glance – Religions: Jehovah's Witnesses" 2009, *BBC Religion*, 29 September, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/witnesses/ata glance/glance.shtml> – Accessed 26 March 2010.

18. "Beliefs – Religions: Jehovah's Witnesses" 2009, *BBC Religion*, 29 September, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/witnesses/beliefs/beliefs.shtml> – Accessed 26 March 2010.
19. Stark, R & L Iannaccone 1997, "Why the Jehovah's Witnesses grow so rapidly: A theoretical application", *Journal of Contemporary Religion*, Vol 12 No 2, pp 133-157 – Accessed 26 March 2010.
20. "What do they believe?" 2008, Jehovah's Witnesses Official Website, 10 July, <http://www.watchtower.org/e/jt/index.htm> – Accessed 26 March 2010.
21. "Organisation – Religions: Jehovah's Witnesses" 2009, *BBC Religion*, 29 September, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/witnesses/structure/structure.shtml> – Accessed 26 March 2010.
22. "Practices of Jehovah's Witnesses" (undated), available at *Religions Facts* http://www.religionfacts.com/jehovahs_witnesses/practices.htm – Accessed 6 July 2011.
23. "Congregation Book Study Adjustment – A Marvelous Benefit for Jehovah's Witn [sic]" 2008, Jehovahs-witness.net - forum, 5 February, <http://www.jehovahs-witness.net/jw/friends/157643/1/Congregation-Book-Study-Adjustment-A-Marvelous-Benefit-for-Jehovahs-Witn> – Accessed 7 April 2010.
24. "Why was the mid week Jehovah's Witness book study stopped?" 2009, *Yahoo! Answers*, <http://uk.answers.yahoo.com/question/index?qid=20090426073850AALWDN3> – Accessed 7 April 2010.
25. "Holy days – Religions: Jehovah's Witnesses" 2009, *BBC Religion*, 29 September, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/witnesses/holydays/holydays.shtml> – Accessed 26 March 2010.