

REVIEW

SUBSCRIPTION COPY
NOT FOR RESALE



SOUTH KOREA '81

p. 65

JG



KOREAN '81

DR GOH KENG SWEE

Singapore's Shake-up Artist

Australia	AS1.35
Bangladesh	Taka 15
Belgium	BFR 90
Brunei	B\$3.00
Burma	K2.20
Canada	CS2
China	US\$1
Denmark	DKr 22
France	FF 13
Germany	DM 6
Greece	Dr 120
Holland	F16
Hongkong	HK\$8
India	Rs 14
Indonesia	Rp 1000
Italy	Lit 2500
Japan	Y 400
Korea	Won 900
Lao	US\$1
Malaysia	MS\$3.00
Nepal	NC Re 14
New Zealand	NZ\$1.20
Norway	NKr 18
Pakistan	Rs 14
PNG	Kina 1
Philippines	P 10
Singapore	S\$3.00
Sri Lanka	Rs 14
Sweden	SKr 13
Switzerland	SFr 5
Taiwan	NT\$40
Thailand	Baht 30
U.K.	£1.10
U.S.A.	US\$1.75

The future of time travel



Seiko Quartz World Timer with Alarm and World Map.

Now Seiko brings you the Time Traveller. A watch that can tell you the time in 19 world time zones at the touch of a button.

It's just one of Seiko's new generation of time machines that combine unmatched technology with practical benefits.

What's more, Seiko adds an alarm function, to make it the complete watch for the man who's going places. It's the only watch like it on earth. Or anywhere else.

 SEIKO QUARTZ The future never looked so good.

A nation on the run to God

By Jacqueline Reditt in Seoul

As barriers are pulled aside, several thousand people start to run up the wide steps, elbowing aside their neighbours with one arm, clutching the Bible beneath the other. A fast-moving human swarm. The occasion is not a pop concert, nor is it a football match; just a routine Sunday morning church service in Seoul.

Professor Sam Moffett, associate president of the Presbyterian Seminary of Korea who was born and brought up in Korea, once described it as "a nation on the run to God." Certainly the huge congregation that gathers every week to listen to Pastor Paul Yonggi Cho, founder of the Full Gospel Church on Yoido island, fits the description in its most literal sense.

The church, built like a theatre with a front stage facing a semi-circle of stalls and a battery of apron balconies, holds 10,000 people and at each of the three Sunday morning services it is standing room only. For those who cannot squeeze inside, TV cameras relay the service to screens at the entrance: for those who do not understand Korean, headphones provide simultaneous translation into English; loudspeakers waft the sermon through neighbouring streets.

In fact, the Full Gospel Church, linked to the American Pentecostal Assemblies of God, has little influence outside Seoul and such huge congregations are not typical; but the enthusiasm of Cho's followers for his charismatic evangelism provides a striking visual example of the boisterous growth of the Christian church.

Roman Catholics were the first to penetrate the hermit Korean kingdom but their early missions between 1784 and 1884 were remarkable for martyrdom rather than success. The first ordained Protestant missionaries arrived towards the end of the 19th century and, for them too, early days were times of hardship and heroism. But by the turn of the century, the thing had stuck. Methodists, Presbyterians, Anglicans, Seventh Day Adventists and the Salvation Army all moved up to the Korean starting line and the race to God began.

When the early Protestant missionaries Horace G. Underwood and Rev. Samuel A. Moffett arrived in Korea between 1880 and 1890 there was a mere handful of believers.

Today, nearly 100 years later, Underwoods and Moffetts are still in Korea — sons, grandsons and great-grandsons of the originals — still carrying on the work of the church. But now, over 6 million South Koreans, about 18% of the population are Christians. It is unlikely that Christianity has survived, even clan-

destinely, in the totally isolated communist north.

Latest government figures show that Protestants total about 5 million and Catholics about 1.2 million, but the predominance of the Protestants has to be qualified by the fact that they include a great many divided groups. Presbyterians, the largest denomination, are for example divided into four major churches and about 18 smaller splinter groups. Many have tried to explain the extraordinary fragmentation of Protestantism — something the Catholic church does not suffer from. It has been blamed variously on the Korean War, Western influence, Confucian influence and the Korean character. Although the more established church leaders deplore the schisms and strive for more ecumenical cooperation, fierce evangelical competition generated by these divisions may have actually helped the overall growth of the church.

It has been said that six new Protestant churches are established every day; more accurately, Sam Moffett reckons the Korean church has roughly doubled in size every decade for the past 40 years. The growth rate is all the more startling when set in an overall East Asian context: only the Philippines with its Roman Catholic heritage has a higher percentage of Christians than South Korea. Neighbouring Japan has a mere 1.7%, Thailand 1.1%, Indonesia 9.4%, Burma 3.5%, Taiwan 5% and Malaysia 5.4%.

Still more significant, both Sam Moffett and Fr Chrisanthe Ri, secretary-general of the Catholic Bishops Conference of Korea, emphasise that the church's influence far outweighs its membership numbers. This is partly because the churches have played an important part in establishing modern education in South Korea and partly because Christians have tended to be more aggressive; less willing to conform than the Confucian ethic demands.

There are still a large number of Christian universities, colleges and schools as well as hospitals and clinics — both cause

SOUTH KOREA '81



Yongnak Church: 46,000 worshippers.

and effect of the growth of Christianity.

Dr Horace Underwood, whose grandfather founded Yonsei University and who is himself assistant to the president of Yonsei as well as the representative in South Korea of the United Presbyterian Church USA, attributed the successful rooting of Christianity here largely to the spiritual vacuum that existed at the turn of the century. Confucianism, he explains, was an upper class, rather sterile, elite semi-religion; Shamanism a loose collection of beliefs and superstitions, Buddhism virtually dead. The 20th century brought change and turmoil, Japanese occupation, the Korean war, political instability. Even the recent prosperity has been disturbing, changing values and life styles. Christianity offered the attractions of an



Seoul's Yoido Full Gospel Church: 270 priests, 150,000 Sunday worshippers.

PHOTOS: KIM IK SUN

organised structure, modernisation, independence and Western education.

Moffett agreed that his father and other missionaries "brought the right news at the right time" and emphasised that "vitality, the most outstanding characteristic of the Christian church in Korea" was a major factor of its success.

Ri listed similar reasons, pointing out that on the one side the church has provided spiritual comfort — something no government, including the present one, has yet been able to do — and on the other has given tangible help such as the emergency aid and social welfare services provided by the Catholic Relief Service after the Korean War.

Lieut-Col Paul Rader, chief secretary of the Salvation Army here, made the additional points that Korean Christians have always been very evangelical — "never embarrassed by their faith" — and that here Christianity has never been linked with colonial oppression. Even the Confucian background, he said, though difficult to break through initially, was also helpful since if once a community leader was converted, others were conditioned to follow.

Because Christianity has traditionally championed human rights, the South Korean churches have sometimes been blamed for dissident activities in the republic. But most church leaders claim the dissident movement is a small, if vocal minority whose activities are not supported by the bulk of the church. Moffett expressed the general opinion when he said: "Most Christians here would like to be pro-human rights but not anti-government." Although the two best known dissidents, Kim Dae Jung and poet Kim Chi Ha are both Catholics, Ri thought reports of Catholic support had been exaggerated. "Some bishops and priests support Kim but not all" he said: "I don't know if he is a sincere Catholic or not — his wife is Protestant and his son Buddhist."

Certainly religion is booming; Islam has arrived and there are now four mosques in the country. Buddhism, almost erased during the 500-year Yi dynasty, has also flourished in the 20th century and claims nearly 11 million believers. Churches range from mainstream Protestant and Catholic to fringe sects like Moon Sun Myung's Unification Church — whose overseas followers, the Moonies (about 400,000 in South Korea), have achieved considerable notoriety — and Pak Taeson's Olive Tree Church, whose followers (about 700,000) live in Zion villages, believing their businessman-cum-faith-healer leader to be the Holy Spirit made flesh and that disease can be cured by the merest touch of his bathwater.

Most people think the Christian church will keep on growing and may even eventually threaten Buddhism — some prominent buddhists have recently been converted to Christianity. But when Moffett was asked if he thought South Korea would ever become a Christian country, replied, with a fitting combination of Western realism and eastern paradox: "It's difficult to say; I sometimes think the more "Christians" there are in a country, the less Christian the country is." □

WELFARE

TV is easier to come by than safe drinking water

By Ann Charters in Seoul

South Korea's rapid economic growth in the 1960s and 1970s has left serious social problems in its wake as the complexion of the country has changed: 20 years ago, with 70% of South Korean people resident in the countryside, the country's culture was predominantly rural while today the pattern has been almost reversed with close to 60% settled in urban areas. World population density figures place the country in ninth place at 370 persons per km. However, according to an official of the Korea Institute of Family Planning, if densely populated places like Hongkong and the city states of Monaco and Singapore are not considered, South Korea moves up to fifth place.

The topography — 80% mountainous — leaves only 20% of the land mass available for agriculture and urban areas, pushing the density up to 1,100 persons per km. which is a very high concentration. The city of Seoul now has 8.4 million people, or 22% of the nation's total population (according to 1980 figures), and is growing at the rate of 3% a year. A housing specialist in the Ministry of Construction estimates that almost half the family units in Seoul have to double up because of the housing shortage.

To fill the gap — acute since the Korean War — government plans call for doubling capacity by building 5.2 million homes over the next 15 years. Programmes announced by past governments have been poor, but there are indications that the new administration is aware of the need for better building methods and will encourage private companies to invest in new technology by guaranteeing minimum industrialised housing orders. Construction will still include traditional methods, generating jobs and demand for building materials to boost the economy. But the faster, cheaper industrialised housing will have to be used for 50% of the units or the goals cannot be met. To avoid past mistakes, better government standards with specifications for all components from drains to doors need to be established to ensure better quality living units. Current industrialised housing organisations have the capacity to produce only 12,000 units a year but six leading firms have been looking at Danish technology. Two are readying for contracts valued at US\$10 million for imported technology and machinery to set up two pre-cast concrete factories: four other projects are expected by early next year.

The cost of the housing programme cannot be supported by the government budget alone, according to the Ministry of Construction. Loans from the Asian Development Bank and World Bank have already been committed. Public sale of housing and land bonds in addition to weekly housing lotteries which have been the major source of funds to date — gen-

erating between Won 100-130 billion (US\$150-195 million) annually — will be required to finance future homes.

Potential buyers for these new homes are families whose monthly income averages Won 200,000: the real problem lies in providing housing for incomes below that level. To fulfil social welfare goals, these families need government-provided low rental housing and their numbers cannot be small. Housing officials are concerned about the level of investment required because this type of housing never really pays for itself in a strict economic sense: the government would have to wait 10-15 years to recoup the original investment when it would be worth less than half after inflation. Even if the number of housing



The countryside: 40% of the population have higher

units materialises at an average of 347,000 a year only 90% of the actual need will be met, according to government figures.

Clean water supplies and sanitation facilities are now abysmally low in terms of the numbers they can reach. Only 6% of the population is provided with a sewage system. Even in Seoul, only 20% of the inhabitants have underground piped water and a sewage system. In rural areas, this basic infrastructure may be more essential than housing: though almost all households have electricity only half have a water supply, either from untreated wells or treated but qualified water. Control of sewage is very poor (according to World Health Organisation figures, 80% of all illness in the world is related to contaminated drinking water and lack of sanitation).

Lack of long-term planning for political and social reasons can be blamed for much

of what social welfare programmes must now correct. Kim Sung Mun, a consultant to the Korea Housing Corporation, says: "What has happened to Seoul is not progress, but just expansion without quality."

The new housing programmes coupled with town planning will help alleviate the concentration of population in Seoul by moving factories, schools, and office buildings — as well as workers and dependents — outside the city. Multi-storey industrialised housing in major cities will free some land for green areas and reduce the cost of providing water and sewage systems as well as make more advanced heating a possibility.

A feasibility study by a Danish firm specialising in district heating shows that, by using waste energy from only one power station in Seoul, heating can be provided for housing along the Han River, reducing heating costs by 30%. If town wastes were collected, they could also be used as an energy source for both heating and cooking.

Current government spending on social welfare (including pensions), which now stands at US\$1.5 billion, is projected to jump next year to US\$1.7 billion. "With

far through 424 societies set up by the government, but funded on a 50:50 basis by employers and employees, for a total value of 3% of salaries. The government pays administrative costs. Since some societies are small and not risk-oriented, there will be some integration into larger groups. To use medical insurance requires that the beneficiary pay 30% of out-patient and 20% of in-patient charges, a prohibitive cost to many families.

Those classified as below the poverty line — 3.7 million — receive government-provided medical services. According to the ministry, 10% of the population qualifies, with incomes below US\$125 a month, though the cut-off should be raised to US\$150 a month this year. The programme basically encompasses orphans, the disabled, aged and those who can prove their income is below the cut-off. A national pension system is to begin gradually in 1983.

To increase access to medical care — woefully lacking in provincial and mountainous areas — the government plans to provide 30,000 new hospital beds within the next five years at a cost of US\$984 mil-

Some of the 3.8 million workers between 14 and 24 employed in the industrial sector will benefit from 18 welfare centres to be built in industrial complexes over the next five years. About a million young workers live in dormitories on industrial sites.

Growing awareness of the value of a skilled labourer is becoming clearer in government planning. Work injury insurance, originally set up 16 years ago, has been compulsory for firms employing 16 or more workers since 1976. During the next five years, this compulsory coverage will be extended to firms employing five people or more. By the end of 1982, 31% of the workforce will be covered. There is a need for such insurance: each working day in 1979 resulted in a loss of Won 900 million; on a daily basis, five people died, 425 people who required more than seven days of medical care were injured, and four cases of occupational disease were diagnosed, according to the Office of Labour Affairs. The number of accident victims reportedly declined by 12.9% in 1980. Statistics are difficult to compare with international figures, since South Korea reports on only companies with 16 or more workers and industrial injuries are counted only after seven days of medical care, not three days as is the international norm.

To advise industries on the proper handling of dangerous materials, unsafe working conditions and safety precautions, the government established the Institute of Labour Science five years ago with the help of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the United Nations Development Programme.

Installed in its own building in the middle of a factory district west of Seoul, the institute is presently being equipped with the latest scientific equipment capable of measuring noise levels in textile plants — and the quantity of stainless steel or coal dust breathed by workers — to the analysis of factory waste water to determine the presence of dangerous metals such as lead.

Awareness of the level of safety and occupational hazards increases naturally as escalating labour costs require industry to tighten up. "As labour becomes more skilled, safety prevention increases," Jerry Sherwood, an ILO occupational hygienist, explained. "It is neither a philanthropic nor moral phenomenon but simply an economic necessity. Accidents cost too much and companies learn they must protect their investment."

The time is more than ripe for social investment in the quality of everyday living. South Korea now spends 37% of national budget (6% of GNP) on defence and yet has managed to raise its per capita income from US\$87,160 in 20 years while keeping the gap in income distribution to one of the lowest among newly industrialised countries.

With black-and-white TV more accessible than safe drinking water or green space — and social security only an imported phrase — the new government needs to let the benefits of the country's progress reach all 38 million people. ■



incomes than towns' people, but only 6% have sewage.

only 2% of GNP going to social assistance, medical insurance and welfare programmes up to now, we are proud to expand," said Ju Kyong Shik, policy coordinator of the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs.

Projected expenditure for social welfare over the next five years will be raised to between 4-6% of GNP, compared with 6-7% spent by the US and Canada and 10-15% by European countries.

The bulk of the government outlay will be in the field of health. Medical insurance coverage — begun in 1977 — will be extended from companies with 100 employees or more this year to those with five or more employees by 1985. Agricultural workers in three demonstration counties will have medical insurance while 30% of the rural population will be covered within five years if the government sticks to its plan.

Medical insurance has been provided so

lion: 14,000 will be in public hospitals built directly by the government, the balance will be built by the private sector under a low interest loan programme requiring their construction in rural areas or near industrial sites. Almost 90% of the medical equipment will have to be imported: both Japan and Sweden have special funds available, according to the ministry.

In order to insure that some of the 2,500 new doctors graduating from medical school each year are willing to staff these outlying hospitals, the government has recently made it more difficult to start practice in Seoul. For the first time this year, 500 nurses have been hired to provide limited medical care in areas with no health services. The cost of increasing medical insurance coverage is not expected to mushroom quickly: South Koreans have a low frequency of hospital use, only twice a year compared to the Japanese with seven or eight times.

THE PRESS

Shortcut to press freedom is financial independence

By Jacqueline Reditt in Seoul

"In a progressive country, change is constant."
— Benjamin Disraeli

South Korean President Chun Doo Hwan would surely endorse this observation for when he stepped into the political limelight in May 1980, bringing the country to heel, change became the name of the game.

Since then, almost every sector of South Korean society has been reshuffled, realigned, restructured and re-educated and more vociferous opponents of the Chun regime, who spoke out bitterly in the heady days of student riots and the Kwangju uprising, have all been converted or cowed. They no longer have a public forum for their opinions for the media have not escaped the general purge but have been streamlined, pared of undesirable elements and chiselled into more malleable shape.

At the end of May 1980, Chun was quoted by a local newspaper as saying: "The freedom of the press and the rights of journalists will be guaranteed to the maximum." As martial law authorities had just made press censorship virtually absolute, this promise was greeted with scepticism. This feeling deepened in the following months as a total of 239 periodicals and 617 publishing firms were closed down by the government and at least 400 — some say as many as 700 — journalists lost their jobs.

Even the foreign press shivered: three Japanese news organisations, accused of issuing false reports, were forced to close for a time. A number of South Korean journalists employed by five foreign organisations were taken from their homes at dawn and held for questioning in a secret army building for two or three days. All reference to South Korea was painstakingly cut out of each foreign publication before it appeared on the bookshelves. Surprisingly perhaps, the freedom of foreign journalists (except the Japanese) was never infringed and reports they sent out of the country never censored.

Then, in November, a major media reorganisation was announced which resulted in the closure of 10 newspapers and news agencies and two broadcasting stations. Regional papers were limited to one per province (requiring four papers to close), national dailies were reduced from seven to six, three small economic news agencies and the two rival major news agencies, Hapdong and Orient Press, were all merged to form a single news agency called Yonhap. Two broadcasting companies, Tongyang and Dong-a, sister company of the *Dong-a* daily newspaper,

found themselves absorbed by the state-run Korea Broadcasting System (KBS).

The Christian Broadcasting System (CBS), which had acquired a reputation for outspoken political comment, was restricted to purely religious programmes and the pro-government Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation (MBC), set up by the Park regime under a special foundation, had to hand over 65% of its shares to KBS. National newspapers were to increase their pages from eight to 12 but withdraw all regional correspondents and rely solely on Yonhap for provincial news.

The changes followed government guidelines precisely and many an eyebrow was raised in disbelief when officials stressed they were entirely voluntary on the part of the media — a disbelief confirmed when Tongyang Broadcasting president Hong Jin Ki, told a foreign journalist that he had been summoned to the Defence Security Command, informed of the broadcasting amalgamation and obliged to sign a prepared statement pledging not to contest the merger.

The rationale behind the changes was explained in a government information paper: South Korean media were overcrowded, plagued with damaging cut-throat competition and generally in need of modernisation, it said. Too many poorly paid and ill-qualified journalists were misinforming the public — and were open to corruption. Electronic media were excessively commercialised and business conglomerates had altogether too much control of the media.

Many media people agree that these faults existed. "We've all experienced the *chonji* [white envelope containing money]," said one journalist, "and there have certainly been cases where major commercial companies have used the press for their own purposes."

Likewise, financial problems were no secret in the case of the daily *Sin-a Ilbo*, now absorbed into the *Kyunghyang Shinmun*, and it was known that of the two major news agencies, Hapdong was running at a yearly loss of around Won 1.3 billion (US\$1.95 million) and Orient Press at around Won 1 billion.

In theory, neither agency was in the red, since other companies under the conglomerate umbrella subsidised them. A Hapdong official explained that keeping the news agency, in spite of its losses, had been partly a matter of principle, partly prestige but they had also hoped to make a profit in future. "We were nearing an agreement

with Orient Press to reduce the sort of competition that was causing us heavy losses," he said.

He added that government criticism of working conditions of media employees did not apply to either agency. "Hapdong offered good training facilities and its company welfare programme was about the best in the country."

The heart of the matter lies in the government's inability to dispel fears that closer control of the media was the main purpose behind the changes. Certainly the state-run KBS, with its ruling share in MBC, now controls all news broadcasting; though newspapers operate privately, the previous strict censorship and absence of many former colleagues still cast a shadow.

Martial law censorship has now been replaced by what the local press euphemistically call voluntary restraint and the state-run KBS that controls two national dailies — *Kyunghyang Shinmun* and *Seoul Shinmun* — has emerged as the big brother of the press.

In the case of newly amalgamated Yonhap news agency, Hapdong and Orient Press each hold 24.5% of Yonhap shares, though neither company is represented on the board; the newspapers have between them 25.5% as do the broadcasting companies. If its control over MBC and its newspaper interests are taken into account, KBS again emerges as the most powerful shareholder. Subscription fees vary according to usage and, on this basis, KBS is the major subscriber and likely to be meeting at least 35% of the total running budget.

One senior agency man commented: "I think Yonhap will eventually be state-run." But newly appointed Yonhap president Kim Seong-jin, former minister of information and culture, disagreed. "I don't believe the government is thinking this; if Yonhap begins to experience financial difficulties, the government might think of taking it over, but we want to keep it private," he said.

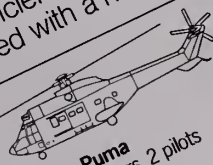
To increase revenue, Kim has raised subscription fees to "a more normal level," reputedly increasing them to three or four times the previous price; he plans specialised services geared to tourism, the stock exchange, education, family life and the many offshore fishing vessels. Yonhap may also benefit from the fact that it is now the sole agent for four major, rival international news agencies — Reuters, AP, UPI and Agence France Presse.

Financial difficulties may bring a further slimming down of the media — already newspaper vendors report an alarming drop in sales — due in part to price increases resulting from higher Yonhap fees and extra pages and also to the fact that the papers, who must all use Yonhap for regional information, are toeing the government line and have lost their individuality.

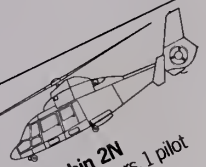
Kim sees financial success as the solution to the dilemma of government versus private media ownership. It is his first priority because, he says, "financial independence is a shortcut to enjoying freedom of the press."

PUMA, DAUPHIN 2N, ECUREUIL 2 A RANGE WHICH KEEPS ITS PROMISES

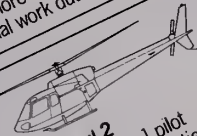
With every passing day Aérospatiale's three new twin-engined helicopters, presented at the 1979 Paris Air Show, prove just how superior they are from the comfort, safety, operational efficiency and cost-effectiveness standpoints. These attributes coupled with a high level of performance stem from Aérospatiale's mastering the use of new technologies (composite material rotors, original manufacturing techniques, modular dynamic elements, employing of new materials, etc.). The sizeable number of orders already entered bears witness to the fact that Aérospatiale's three new twin-engined helicopters more than meet operators' expectations.



Super Puma
21 passengers, 2 pilots
Offshore missions,
aerial work duties



Dauphin 2N
13 passengers, 1 pilot
Offshore and
corporate missions



Écureuil 2
5 passengers, 1 pilot
Business liaison duties,
close offshore work
Parapublic tasks



Société Nationale Industrielle
aérospatiale

DIVISION HELICOPTERES 2-20, av. Marcel Cachin - 93126 La Courneuve Cedex - France



Marlboro

