

SHIN DONGHYUK

Mr. Shin is a North Korean defector and human rights activist who is the only person known to have successfully escaped from a "total-control zone" political prison camp in North Korea. He is also believed to be the only person to have been born in a North Korean political prison camp to escape from North Korea.

Shin Donghyuk was born in 1982 in Kaechon political prison camp ("Camp 14"), a slave labor camp. Following his escape from the prison camp and from North Korea, he resettled in South Korea, where he now campaigns for the North Korean human rights issue and for the eradication of the North Korean political prison camps.

He is the subject of a New York Time's bestselling biography published in 2012, 'Escape from Camp 14: One Man's Remarkable Odyssey from North Korea to Freedom in the West', written by former Washington Post journalist Blaine Harden; the book has been translated into more than 20 languages. Mr. Shin also wrote an autobiography in 2007 published in South Korea, 'Escape to the Outside World'. He is also featured in the award-winning documentary 'Camp 14–Total Control Zone' by Marc Wiese and also appears in 'Kimjongilia' by N.C. Heiken.

Shin Donghyuk has given talks to audiences around the world about his life in Camp 14. He has been described as the world's "single strongest voice" on the atrocities inside North Korean camps by a member of the United Nations' commission of inquiry (COI) into human rights abuses of North Korea. In August 2013, he gave several hours of testimony to the Commission.

On December 2, 2012, he was featured on the CBS News program 60 Minutes, interviewed by Anderson Cooper. In June 2013, Shin Donghyuk received the Moral Courage Award from the Geneva-based organization UN Watch. In August 2013, he received the Liberty Conference Award from the International Society for Individual Liberty (ISIL).

Mr. Shin also founded and currently leads Inside NK, a US-based non-profit NGO focused on telling the world about the North Korean human rights issue and the political prison camps in North Korea.

In May of 2014, Mr. Shin was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Laws from Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.