

Jinhye Jo was born in 1987, North Hamkyung Province, North Korea. She lived in North Korea from 1987 to 1998. She struggled through many difficulties with her family. She lost her father, grandmother, and younger brothers because of hunger. Her older sister disappeared and is believed to have been trafficked in China. In 1998, she escaped from North Korea to China with her mother and younger sister Grace Jo. They had to hide and travel around to escape being caught, and suffered other difficulties in China for about 10 years. During this time, Jinhye Jo and her family was repatriated four times to North Korea because they were considered illegal migrants by China.. Finally, in 2008, Jinhye Jo and her family were able to come to the United States of America with refugee status. They settled in Seattle, Washington for the first 8 months, after which they moved to Fairbanks, Alaska, and then, Maryland, before finally settling in Northern Virginia, where they reside now. She has spoken at the Congress, Harvard University, Princeton University, UCLA University, Pepperdine University, and George Washington University. Currently in Northern Virginia, she goes to school and works at a home care company. She formed a nonprofit organization, called NKinUSA (North Korean Refugees in the United States), which has directly rescued North Korean females who were victims of trafficking and other refugees, and assisted other North Korean refugees with resettlement in the USA.