

Re: North Korean Famines

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- *From:* "Matt Dz." <matt-NO-SPAM.please@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Fri, 01 Dec 2006 23:56:03 +0100
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peterwezeman@xxxxxxxxxxx wrote:

Is it known what specifically caused the recent famines in North Korea?
The Soviet Union had several bad harvests in its last decades, but their system was sufficiently robust to keep it from developing into a famine.

Actually, the statement about the "robustness" of the USSR is untrue.
Cf. : The Ukrainian famine (1932–1933) or Holodomor

The famine experienced by the Ukrainian SSR (part of the Soviet Union) was the result of Joseph Stalin's policy of forced collectivization and one of the deadliest genocides in the human history (comparable, in terms of human lives lost, only to the Holocaust).

// <http://www.ibiblio.org/expo/soviet.exhibit/famine.html>

"The estimates vary by several millions and numbers as high as 10 million are sometimes cited.[29] Even the results based on the scientific methods also vary widely but the range is somewhat more narrow, 2.5 million (Volodymyr Kubiyovych) and 4.8 million (Vasyl Hryshko).

Modern calculation that use demographic data including those available from formerly closed Soviet archives narrow the losses to about 3.2 million or, allowing for the lack of the data precision, 3 to 3.5 million"

// <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Holodomor>

Regards,
Matt Dz.

Thank you,

Peter Wezeman
anti-social Darwinist