

Hello!

On Saturday, 15 August 2015, VOICE OF KOREA, the official external broadcasting service of the DPR Korea (North) from Pyongyang, has been introducing the amended A15 Summer schedule owing to the new Standard Time of the DPR Korea (North) now dubbed 'Pyongyang Time'. The new Standard Time is UTC (GMT) +8.5 hours (previously UTC + 9 hours).

Please refer to Word documents attached for full details. You may freely distribute and publish the schedule provided you give due reference to me.

Please see below for the two official articles published by the DPR Korea news agency KCNA

<http://www.kcna.kp/kcna.user.article.retrieveNewsViewInfoList.kcmsf#this>

More publicity on the new Pyongyang Time is available here:

http://www.naenara.com.kp/en/news/news_view.php?19+6880

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M7WrGJWhNsg>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r1hrFlsP82Y> or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YRdb5taxDmw>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a0Yba35QXek>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CHBZNPcyVzA>

Pyongyang Pangsong on 3320.1 kHz making the time change:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GLazVKRTpwo>

Please address all reception reports and letters to:

VOICE OF KOREA,
PYONGYANG,
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Pyongyang Time Fixed in DPRK

Pyongyang, August 7 Juche 104 (2015) (KCNA) -- The DPRK decided to fix the standard time on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of Korea's liberation.

A decree of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK published on Wednesday said:

It was on August 15 when President Kim Il Sung, benefactor of national resurrection and peerless patriot, crushed the brigandish Japanese imperialists by making long journeys of anti-Japanese bloody battles and liberated Korea. It was the day of historical significance as it put an end to the history of national sufferings and brought about a radical turn in carving out the destiny of the country and its people.

The wicked Japanese imperialists committed such unpardonable crimes as depriving Korea of even its standard time while mercilessly trampling down its land with 5 000 year-long history and culture and pursuing the unheard-of policy of obliterating the Korean nation.

It is the firm faith and will of the DPRK's service personnel and people to force the

Japanese imperialists to pay for the monstrous crimes committed by them for a century, firmly defend the national sovereignty and demonstrate for eternity the dignity and might of the great Paektusan nation shining with the immortal august names of Kim Il Sung and leader Kim Jong Il.

The Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK makes the following decision reflecting the unshakable faith and will of the service personnel and people on the 70th anniversary of Korea's liberation:

Firstly, the time at 127 degrees 30 minutes east longitude or 30 minutes later than the present one shall be fixed as the standard time of the DPRK and called Pyongyang time.

Secondly, Pyongyang time shall be applied from Aug. 15, Juche 104 (2015).

Thirdly, the DPRK Cabinet and relevant organs shall take practical steps to carry out this decree. -0-

Bell Tolls Standard Time in Korea at 00:00, August 15, Juche 104 (2015)

Pyongyang, August 15 Juche 104 (2015) (KCNA) -- The day of August 15, Juche 104 (2015) broke amid keen interest.

The Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK decided to set the standard time of the Republic with 127 degrees 30 minutes east longitude as a standard and to apply it from August 15.

The thirty minutes between 24:00, August 14 of the previous time and 00:00, August 15 of Pyongyang time will be taken off to set 00:00 of August 15 of the previous time as 00:30 and all clocks would be set as "00:00, August 15, Pyongyang time" at 00:30, August 15 of previous time.

At 00:00, the Pyongyang Bell tolled deep sound at state standard time 00:00 at the Pyongyang Astronomical Observatory, just as it did to the great excitement of the Koreans greeting the New Year's Day after the liberation of the country.

The moment, the clock tower of the Grand People's Study House and the clock tower of Pyongyang Railway Station all tolled the time of Korea, Pyongyang time.

At the same time, all industrial establishments, trains and ships across the country sounded sirens and whistles.

Service personnel of the Korean People's Army on their duties of defending the country, scientists working on satellites to explore a new area of conquering space and all other people of the country set their clock and watches according to Pyongyang time amid excitement and delight at the national event. -0-

By email from Arnulf Piontek 16 August 2015

Tim Beal adds.

For a more informative, if incomplete, article on the new time see

North Korea sets its own time zone, 30 minutes later than Seoul and Tokyo

Posted on : Aug.11,2015 17:58 KST Modified on : Aug.11,2015 17:58 KST

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Pyongyang claims that new time zone would restore original that was taken away under Japanese occupation

North Korea has announced that it is introducing its own standard time zone thirty minutes later than the current east longitude-based one, as of Liberation Day this year.

Standard time refers to the selection of a particular location according to national standards, with noon designated as the time when the sun is at its farthest south (culmination) from that point.

North Korea's new standard time sets its standard location at 127.5°E, resulting in a thirty-minute difference from South Korea and Japan, where the location is at 135°E.

If North Korea does go ahead with the shift to 127.5°E, the move would require adjustments to financial and trade systems with significant social costs. The difference from other countries, which typically distinguish time zones on an hourly basis, is also expected to cause some confusion.

The North's Korean Central News Agency said the change was introduced as a way of addressing a lingering vestige of Japan's colonial presence.

"We had our standard time taken away from us by the Japanese imperialists," the report said.

Korea did introduce 127.5°E as a standard meridian in the past with the Korean Empire Prime Meridian of 1908, but replaced it with the Japanese standard of 135°E following its

forced annexation by Japan. The 127.5°E meridian was restored in the post-liberation year of 1954 by presidential decree, but was once again replaced by 135°E in 1961 out of concerns about potential problems from time differences in military operations by the US - which has troops in both South Korea and Japan -- in the event of another war on the Korean Peninsula.

China currently uses 120°E as its meridian, resulting in a one-hour time difference from South Korea and Japan, which both use 135°E.

By Jung Yu-gyung, staff reporter

Emphasis added

http://english.hani.co.kr/arti/english_edition/e_northkorea/703989.html