

# Rising Tensions Over North Korea's Planned Satellite Launch

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North Korea has told Japan that they're planning to launch a satellite soon. Some people think this could be a military satellite, which can spy from space. The Japanese government is ready to shoot down the satellite or any pieces that might fall onto Japan. They've warned that the launch could affect areas in the Yellow Sea, East China Sea, and near the Philippines.

If North Korea sends a satellite into space, they'll be using a type of technology that the United Nations says they shouldn't use. In the past, when North Korea launched satellites, people thought they were secretly testing missiles. The Japanese government believes this launch would break rules set by the United Nations and could harm the safety of many countries.

South Korea also warned North Korea, saying they shouldn't threaten peace in the region. If North Korea moves forward with the launch, they could face consequences.

It's been reported that Kim Jong Un, the leader of North Korea, has looked at a finished military spy satellite and approved its launch. However, it's not clear what type of satellite they plan to launch this time.

Even though North Korea has sent satellites into space before, experts aren't sure how good their satellites are. Some experts say they are too small and poorly made to transmit images.

This whole situation has created more tension between North Korea and other countries.

## Comprehension Questions:

1. What action is the Japanese government ready to take against the satellite?
  - a) Launch their own satellite
  - b) Communicate with the satellite
  - c) Shoot down the satellite or any pieces that might fall onto Japan.
  - d) Copy the satellite's design.
2. Who is opposed to North Korea's satellite launch?
  - a) South Korea
  - b) Japan
  - c) The United Nations
  - d) All of these.
3. Who approved the satellite launch?
  - a) The leader of North Korea
  - b) The leader of South Korea
  - c) The leader of Japan
  - d) All of these leaders.
4. Which of these sentences is true?
  - a) North Korea's satellites are recognized globally for their superior quality.
  - b) South Korea completely supports North Korea's decision to launch the satellite.
  - c) North Korea always does what the United Nations says to do.
  - d) Other countries are worried about the satellite launch.



5. Which of these statements is NOT true?
- North Korea has never launched a satellite before.
  - Japan has plans to shoot down the satellite if it threatens their territory.
  - Kim Jong Un has approved the launch of a satellite.
  - The planned satellite launch is causing tension between North Korea and other countries.
6. What does Japan believe about the potential launch?
- It is a harmless technological experiment.
  - It is an important step for North Korea's scientific advancement.
  - It could harm the safety of many countries.
  - It is a peaceful exploration of space.
7. What is probably true about South Korea's relationship with North Korea?
- South Korea and North Korea have a cooperative relationship.
  - South Korea is looking forward to North Korea's satellite launch.
  - South Korea doesn't care about North Korea's actions.
  - South Korea is concerned about North Korea's intentions and actions.
8. Why are other countries suspicious about North Korea's previous satellite launches?
- They thought North Korea was secretly testing missiles.
  - They believed North Korea was spying on Japan.
  - They believed North Korea was using the launches for peaceful purposes.
  - They thought North Korea was trying to communicate with aliens.
9. What might be the impact of North Korea's satellite launch on its relationships with other countries?
- It will strengthen their relationships.
  - It will increase problems between them.
  - It will have no impact.
  - It will cause other countries to launch their own satellites.
10. What is the main idea of the article?
- North Korea is planning to send a new type of food to Japan.
  - Japan and North Korea are creating a joint space mission.
  - North Korea has announced plans to launch a satellite, causing concern for other countries.
  - The United Nations has approved North Korea's plan to launch a satellite.

**Speaking and Writing Activities:**

- Discuss these questions with a partner or a small group.
- Choose one topic and write a response to it. Show your writing to a classmate or teacher.

- How much do you know about the history of South Korea and North Korea?
- If you could travel to Japan, South Korea, or North Korea, which one would you choose, and why?
- Do you think that all countries should have the right to launch satellites? Why or why not?

