

# North Korea faces dynastic power struggle

Kim Jong-un's youth and lack of experience means that North Korea is likely to be run by a coterie of advisors for the foreseeable future, with different factions jockeying for power



**Kim Il-sung**  
(1912-1994)  
*Eternal president*



**Kim Kyong-hui**  
(b. 1946)  
Kim Jong-il's sister and key member of inner circle of trusted advisors. First woman to be promoted to four-star general



**Jang Song-thaek**  
(b. 1946).  
Vice-chairman of **National Defence Commission** – highest military body. Seen as second most powerful man in country

**Kim Jong-il**  
(1942-2011)  
Died suddenly on December 17

**Four wives/consorts**



**Kim Jong-nam**  
(b. 1971).  
Fell from favour after trying to visit Japan in 2001, but reputation now somewhat restored. **Says he does not favour Kim Jong-un's succession**

**Kim Sul-song**  
(b. 1975)  
Served as her father secretary. Holds important position in state's propaganda department

**Kim Jong-chul**  
(b. 1982)  
Studied in Switzerland, also works in state propaganda department. Full brother of Kim Jong-un



**Kim Jong-un** (b. 1983)  
Still in his 20s, inherits country with nuclear weapons, widespread hunger and tense relations with South Korea and U.S.



**Military:** Said to have pledged allegiance to Kim Jong-un