

## Sônt'aek / *The Road Taken*



### **Synopsis**

In 1951, Kim Sun-myung, a 26-year old labourer originally from South Korea, serves as a soldier in the People's Army of North Korea. He gets arrested near the 38th Parallel by the South. He is called a spy and tortured severely. In 1953, a court martial sentences him to death but in the retrial in 1954, the sentence gets commuted to a life term. The film spins a story about Kim and other North Korean agents who held onto their belief that the two Koreas' must be reunified under the North's tutelage despite sneaky plots, torture and promises of freedom in exchange for public renunciations. The movie tries to depoliticize the issue and instead focus on one man's touching efforts to maintain his integrity. In 1993, a civilian government is elected for the first time, and in 1995, under pressure from human rights organizations around the world, the government announces a special release of the world's longest-serving political prisoner, Kim Sun-myung. (Source: KOFIC)

### **Data sheet**

Director: HONG Ki-seon (홍기선 / 弘基善) (DOB 1957)

Main Cast: KIM Jong-ki(KIM Sun-myung), AHN Suk-hwan(OH Tae-shik), GOH Dong-eub(CHOI Jong-man), CHOI Il-hwa(AHN Hak-sub)

Release Date: OCT 24 2003

Genre: Drama

Production: Young Film

Executive Producer: PARK Keon-seop, HONG Ki-seon

Producer: KIM Shin-hee, JUNG Sung-hyun

Screenplay: LEE Meang-you

Cinematography: OH Cheong-ok

Editing: LEE Eun-su

Lighting: LEE Min-boo

Music: CHOI Yoon-sang

Art Director: HAN Nam-kyu

Production Budget: US\$1M

Distribution: Chungeorahm Films

107 mn, 35mm, Color

Rate: Over 15

Box-office results: 5,989 in Seoul only on 8 screens

Winner of the "2003 PIFF Audience Award."

## **Pictures**

