

# How South Korea's first female president fell from grace

From election victory to the corruption scandal that led to Park Geun Hye's removal from power.

2012

**Dec 19**

Park Geun Hye elected as the country's first female president.

2013

**Feb 25**

Sworn in as president.

2016

**Oct 25**

Park makes her first public apology for giving a friend, Choi Soon Sil (right), access to draft speeches.



**Nov 20**

Prosecutors indict Choi on charges of abuse of power and attempted fraud.

**Dec 9**

Parliament votes to impeach Park after weeks of mass protests. Prime Minister Hwang Kyo Ahn becomes acting president.

2017

**Feb 17**

Samsung Group chief Lee Jae Yong (right) is arrested for suspected role in the scandal. He and other company executives are indicted for bribery and embezzlement on Feb 28.



**March 6**

Special prosecutor says Park colluded with Choi to take bribes from the Samsung Group, paving the way for her to be prosecuted if she is ousted from office.

**March 10**

Constitutional Court upholds Park's impeachment and removes her from power. The ruling strips her of executive privileges, including protection from criminal indictment.

**March 15**

Prosecutors summon Park for questioning.

**March 31**

Court orders the arrest of Park as a criminal suspect.

**April 17**

Park is formally indicted on charges including bribery, coercion, abuse of power and leaking state secrets.

**May 23**

Park's trial starts.

**Aug 25**

Samsung's Lee is found guilty of bribery, perjury and embezzlement after a five-month trial and sentenced to five years' jail.

2018

**Feb 5**

Appeals court reduces Lee's sentence to a suspended jail term, setting Lee, who has spent a year in jail, free.

**Feb 13**

Choi is given 20 years in prison for corruption. Lotte Group chairman Shin Dong Bin (below) gets 30-month jail term for bribing Choi.



**April 6**

**Park is found guilty of multiple charges and sentenced to 24 years in prison.**

