Speech

Countries of Africa Should Struggle Against Neo-colonialism with Idea of Independence as Guideline



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Introduction

An International Seminar on the Juche Idea for "Independence, Justice and Future of Mankind" held on the occasion of the 112th birth anniversary of President Kim Il Sung is very significant for our members of the Juche Idea study groups in our countries.

President Kim Il Sung authored and applied the great Juche idea which is man-centred philosophical thought. The Juche idea provides the most modern successful idea of human emancipation, an idea of national liberation. The Juche idea is the guiding ideology of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). The Juche idea is very powerful in guiding the struggle to achieve liberation, independence, sovereignty and development.

Independent countries of Africa inherited colonial economic and social structures. Some countries of Africa do not have a correct ideology to guide their national economic construction and development. Imperialists' maneuvers are against unity, solidarity and development of the countries of Africa. Imperialist actions frustrate those African independent countries.

Globalization and underdevelopment of countries of Africa

The capitalist countries of the Western Europe and the United States of America advocate and put forward globalization for development. Instead of making the countries of Africa depend on their people and resources for the development, imperialist countries use globalization as a means to penetrate African economies for imperialist exploitation. Foreign aid and investments from capitalist countries have not developed the countries of Africa, but they have deepened and extended poverty among the popular masses in Africa. This is because capitalist aid is imperialist means to enrich the capitalist donor countries instead of the recipient countries of Africa. Using globalization, capitalist countries of Western Europe and the United States of America withhold or increase foreign aid and foreign investments as a means of influencing economic policies of the countries of Africa in directions which favour them.

Globalization operates across independent sovereign states in Africa and uses the African states to protect the interests of the imperialist investors. The independent countries of Africa have to keep law and order and administer justice, fight corruption and ensure good governance and good infrastructure.

Some political leaders and some elites in Africa think that foreign aid and foreign investments from capitalist countries of Western Europe and the United States of America are solutions to poverty and problems of underdevelopment in those countries of Africa. Hence, they decide to sell the national commanding heights of the national economy as a condition to attract foreign investments. The same thing applies to privatization of the public economic pillars of the national economy.

Some countries of Africa have sold or privatized the commanding heights or pillars of the national economy to capitalist foreign investors and these decisions have intensified poverty and underdevelopment because of the exploitation by foreign capitalist investors. There is no hope for those countries of Africa to overcome poverty under such capitalist globalization conditions as are favourable to neo-colonial exploitation in those countries of Africa. Countries of Africa have to unite and struggle against neo-colonial exploitation and underdevelopment which is caused by globalization.

Only the idea of independence can make countries of Africa self-reliant by guiding their struggle against neo-colonialism.

It is wrong for some African leaders to implement the policies which are dictated by capitalist donor countries and capitalist institutions as the conditionalities for getting foreign aid and foreign capitalist investments. This is not appropriate to the development of the countries of Africa. The greatest danger that threatens the development of the countries of Africa is the absence of an idea of independence, which can be a guide for the genuine development of the countries of Africa. The idea of independence can give a conscious sense of the political direction and lead the African governments and African leaders to rational choice of genuine development.

Under the Japanese imperialist domination and ruthless oppression and exploitation, President Kim Il Sung creatively developed the Juche idea, the man-centered philosophical thought. With the Juche idea as a guideline, President Kim Il Sung guided the anti-Japanese struggle and in the 1950s the struggle against the US imperialists' attempt to recolonize Korea. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea is an independent country which is strong in politics, the economy, military and is strong in the face of the US military threats and sanctions. The masses of the DPRK are united by the Juche idea and their political leadership.

That the idea of independence plays a big role in the social order and development means that it makes the people seek to establish common attitudes and purpose for the country. The idea of independence provides various institutions with the criteria to which they should channel their efforts. The idea of independence determines the division of labor and working relations the institutions have to adopt in order to maximize their benefits. The idea of independence determines the nature of the economy and social development and the distribution of wealth in a country.

Lack of a clear idea of independence is the cause of the inability of the countries of Africa, which cannot wage struggles successfully against neo-colonial exploitation in Africa. Because of the lack of an ideological consciousness of independence and genuine commitment, some African political leaders and bureaucrats cannot be relied upon by the masses of the people in some countries of Africa because they have no courage to refuse to accept foreign capitalist aid and foreign capitalist investments. Absence of an ideological consciousness of independence makes some African leaders prefer to imitate Western culture and accept foreign capitalist aid and capitalist investments from Western Europe and the United States

of America for the development in some countries of Africa.

Countries of Africa should learn from the Juche idea

The Juche idea was authored by President Kim Il Sung. The Juche idea is a man–centred philosophical thought. The Juche idea provides an ideology which has succeeded in the revolution, construction, liberation, national independence, sovereignty and social, economic, political, cultural and military development and made the DPRK a self-reliant country.

The people-centred ideology is necessary to achieve advances in the revolution and construction and the overall development in the countries of Africa. The problem in some countries of Africa is that some ruling political leaders and some bureaucrats do not seriously consider and accept the power of the idea of independence for the revolution and construction. Some African political leaders and corrupt bureaucrats think and believe that foreign capitalist aid and foreign capitalist investments from capitalist countries of Western Europe and the United States of America can bring the development in the countries of Africa. Such leaders accept and implement the policies and the conditionalities from the capitalist countries and the capitalist institutions in order to be given foreign aid, foreign investments and foreign capitalist support to develop those countries of Africa. Countries of Africa are exploited and dominated by the capitalist countries and their Trans-national corporations and Financial Institutions in neo-colonial exploitation and domination.

The Juche idea is directly related to national construction and development in the countries of Africa. President Kim Il Sung wrote "In a nutshell, the idea of Juche means that the masters of the revolution and the work of construction are the popular masses and that they are also the motive force of the revolution and construction."

This means the masses of the people in countries of Africa are responsible for their own destiny and they should have the capacity to shape their own destiny in the countries of Africa.

The essence of the development in the countries of Africa means it is the development of the people of Africa by the people and for the people of Africa. We have to depend on the masses of the people of Africa and go among the masses and mobilize them to action and frustrate the attempts of the imperialists and neo-colonial reactionaries and defend the national independence and construction and overcome all obstacles and difficulties which will be encountered. The masses of the people of Africa should rise in a struggle and shape their

destiny with the consciousness that they are the masters of the revolution and construction in those countries of Africa.

Learning from the Juche idea, the masses of the people in Africa should carry the revolution and construction in the countries of Africa as masters. The African people must adopt an independent and creative stand to solve by themselves the problems which they encounter in the revolutionary struggle and construction in the conditions of those countries of Africa. This implies adopting a development path of independence. This means to hold a consistent position in tackling everything in conformity to the circumstances, in the interests of liberation in the countries of Africa.

Conclusion

People studying the Juche idea should understand and accept that without the idea of independence, which reflects the wishes, hopes, aspirations and expectations of the popular masses, the political independence of every country cannot bring meaningful development in every country.

Countries of Africa need political education to mobilize the masses of the people, the political leaders and bureaucrats for the genuine unity in the struggle against neo-colonial exploitation and achieve national development in those countries of Africa. Without political education to create the ideological consciousness of independence and awareness, the masses of the people cannot unite and struggle against neo-colonial exploitation and build a new society and make the national development in those countries of Africa.

The struggle against neo-colonialism in the countries of Africa cannot succeed without a uniting and inspiring ideology. In the countries of Africa, the liberation desire is to struggle against neo-colonial exploitation, domination, oppression by imperialism. It is necessary to awaken the masses and organize them to achieve liberation in those countries of Africa.

The Juche idea represents the desire of the masses for independence. The Juche idea is the man-centred revolutionary ideology and world outlook to bring independence to the masses of the people. The struggle against neo-colonialism in the countries of Africa should be geared to the struggle against neo-colonialism and imperialism in those countries of Africa under the banner of the Juche idea.