Address at Awarding Ceremony of International Kim II Sung Prize

Mukesh Sharma

Secretary General, International Kim II Sung Prize Council



Secretary General Mukesh Sharma of the International Kim II Sung Prize Council (the right end) applauding the recipient, Prof. Ramon Jimenez Lopez

Friends,

It is a great privilege for me as Secretary General of International Kim II Sung Prize Council and International Kim Jong II Prize Council to present this prestigious International Kim II Sung Prize 2018 to Prof. Ramon Jimenez Lopez, director general of the International Institute of the Juche Idea (IIJI) today.

Let me confess most candidly that I feel greatly honored to give this most covetous and prestigious award to Prof. Ramon Jimenez Lopez, one of the most dignified and selfless devoted Juche soldiers whose contribution to spreading and disseminating Kimilsung-Kimjongilism has hardly any parallel in the world. His most sincere, ceaseless and genuine efforts have had the real impact on the people in many parts of the world. And to present this prestigious award is a humble acknowledgement of the tireless efforts of Prof. Ramon Jimenez Lopez.

As you all are aware that Prof. Ramon Jimenez Lopez is director general of the IIJI Board.

Prof. Ramon Jimenez Lopez was born in Mexico on the 19th November 1951 and has been associated with Juche activities since 1990 and is actively being involved in organizing seminars in Mexico being the Chairman of the Mexican National Coordinating Committee of the Juche Idea.

He served as secretary general and then director general of the Latin American Institute of the Juche Idea.

I may be permitted to state that I am a humble Juche follower who was inducted as a volunteer in 1977-78 by my father Dr. Vishwanath who was director general of the IIJI Board and who had devoted his entire life to spreading this great ideology. Today, I feel to be on cloud nine while presenting this big prize to you, Prof. Ramon Jimenez Lopez.

On the pain of repetition may I say that Juche is the most relevant ideology, needless to say that this twin ideology is another name of independence, freedom from exploitation? Juche clearly advocates the stark reality. It says, "Man is the master of his own destiny". In other words, he is to be self-reliant, independent and not dependent upon anyone.

It means freedom and freedom is the essential attribute of man as enunciated by our Eternal President Kim Il Sung.

Jean-Jacques Rousseau too underscored this fact when he said, "Man is born free;" Abraham Lincoln

also said the same thing when he says that as I shall not be a slave so I shall not be a Master. In short, Juche stands for self-reliance or freedom and Songun Politics (ideology to be self-reliant particularly in matters of defence propounded by our Eternal General Secretary Kim Jong II) gives concrete shape to this ideology. Today Chairman Kim Jong Un is pursuing this ideology both in letter and spirit and hence Korea is standing with its head erect. Sir, as the recipient of this award we know that you are spreading this message far and wide.

May I conclude by quoting Justice Cardozo, Benjamin Nathan, whose words to my mind suit this occasion?

I quote "The torch has been passed on to you and we are sure that the torch will continue to burn brighter and brighter while in your keeping."

With these words I seek your indulgence to receive this grand and most illuminating honor to Prof. Ramon Jimenez Lopez.